Sept. 20, 1971 R. H. MAURER 3,605,160

COMBINED TOOTHBRUSH RACK AND CLEANER

Filed March 25, 1969

Fig. 1

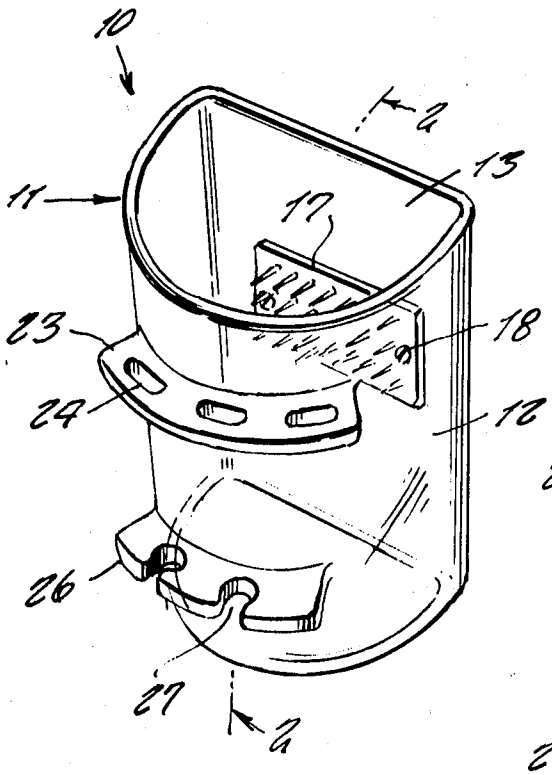
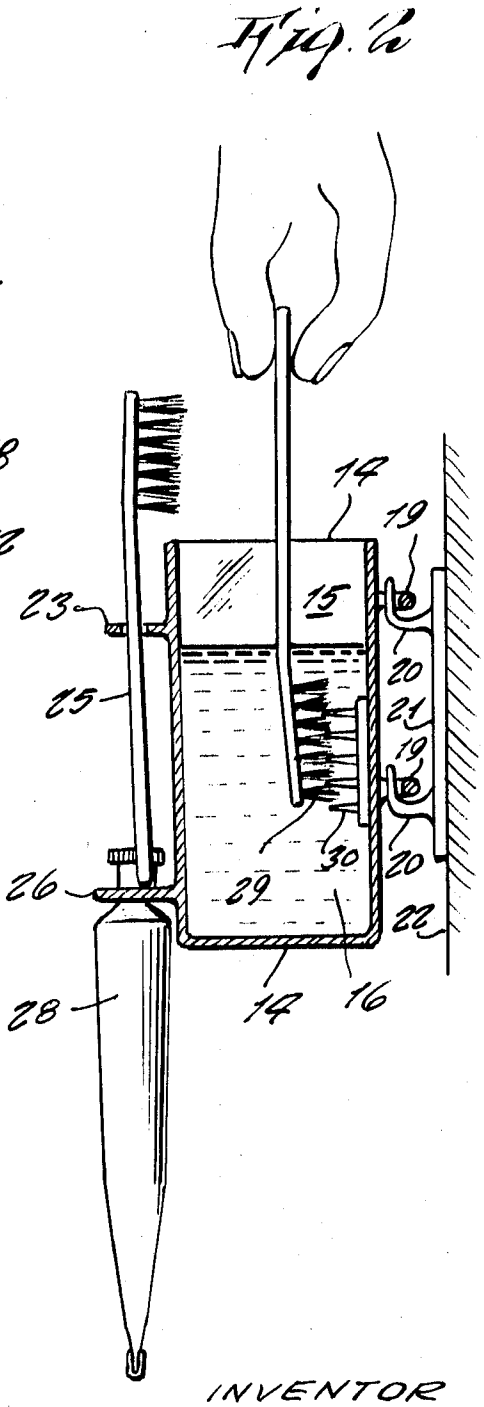


Fig. 2



INVENTOR

RUEBEN H. MAURER

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COMBINED TOOTHBRUSH RACK AND CLEANER

Rueben H. Maurer, 3733 Edgefield Ave. NW.,
Canton, Ohio 44709

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A device for cleaning a toothbrush, the device comprising a plastic vessel or glass having a plastic brush secured to an inner side wall thereof, against which a tooth brush may be stroked during cleaning operation, the plastic vessel including means for supporting a plurality of tooth brushes and tooth paste tubes, the vessel further including means for mounting the same to a vertical wall of a bathroom.

This invention relates generally to tooth cleaning devices. More specifically it relates to devices for maintaining tooth brushes in a clean condition.

A principal object of the present invention is to provide a device for the purpose of cleaning tooth brush bristles and removing therefrom any foreign particles that may be caught among the bristles.

Another object of the present invention is to provide a tooth brush cleaner which includes a plastic vessel or glass containing a plastic brush therewithin and against which the bristles of a tooth brush may be stroked during cleaning operation.

Yet a further object is to provide a tooth brush cleaner which provides support means for a plurality of tooth brushes.

Still another object is to provide a tooth brush cleaner which provides support means for a plurality of tooth paste tubes.

Other objects of the present invention are to provide a tooth brush cleaner which is simple in design, inexpensive to manufacture, rugged in construction, easy to use and efficient in operation.

These and other objects will be readily evident upon a study of the following specification and the accompanying drawing wherein:

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of the present invention, and

FIG. 2 is is a cross-sectional view taken on the line 2—2 of FIG. 1 and shown in operative use.

Referring now to the drawing in detail, the reference numeral **10** represents a tooth brush cleaner, according to the present invention wherein there is a plastic vessel or glass **11** which includes a semi-cylindrical side wall **12** adjacent a flat side wall **13**, the lower edges of the walls **12** and **13** being adjacent a semi-circular bottom wall **14**. The upper edges of the semi-cylindrical side wall **12** and flat wall **13** define an opening **14** into a central compartment **15** of the vessel into which water **16** may be placed.

A plastic brush **17** is secured by means of screws **18** to the inner side of the flat wall **13** as shown.

A pair of eyelets **19** are integrally formed on the rear side of the flat wall **13**, each eyelet engaging a hook **20** extending from a base plate **21** affixed to a vertical wall **22** of a room.

On the outer side of the semi-cylindrical wall **12** there is integrally formed an upper flange **23** having a plurality

of openings **24** therethrough for the purpose of receiving and storing tooth brushes **25**. The lower ends of the tooth brushes **25** rest against an upper side of a lower flange **26**, the flange **26** being provided with a pair of notches **27** for the purpose of receiving and supporting a plurality of tooth paste tubes **28**.

In operative use, in order to clean a tooth brush, a quantity of water **16** is placed into the glass or vessel so as to fully cover the plastic brush **17**. A person then merely rubs the tooth brush bristles **29** against the teeth **30** of the plastic brush **17**, thus removing from the tooth brush any foreign particles captured among the bristles. Thus a means is provided for maintaining tooth brushes in a clean and sanitary condition. The water **16** may then be removed from the vessel by simply lifting the vessel off the hooks **20** and tipping the same over.

What I now claim is:

1. In a tooth brush cleaner adapted to clean a tooth brush, the combination of a plastic vessel, a plastic brush supported within said vessel, said vessel being adaptable for receiving a quantity of water therewithin so to submerge said plastic brush, and said tooth brush for being cleaned in operative use being placed within said vessel with the tooth brush bristles being positioned against said plastic brush and being moved thereagainst so to remove any foreign particles from the tooth brush bristles, said plastic vessel comprising a semi-cylindrical side wall and an adjacent flat wall, said semi-cylindrical side wall and said flat wall at their lower edges being adjacent a semi-circular bottom wall, the upper edges of said semi-cylindrical and said flat wall defining an opening to a central compartment into which said water is receivable, and said plastic brush including a plurality of plastic projections against which said tooth brush bristles are frictionally moved, and said plastic brush being secured to an inner side of said flat wall by means of screws.

2. The combination as set forth in claim **1** wherein a pair of rearward extending eyelets are integrally formed on a rear side of said flat wall, said eyelets being receivable over a pair of hooks integral with a flat base that is securable to a vertical wall.

3. The combination as set forth in claim **2** wherein an outer side of said semi-cylindrical wall is provided with an upper flange having a plurality of openings therethrough for purpose of receiving tooth brushes in a stored condition; a lower end of said tooth brushes being supported upon an upper side of a lower flange, said lower flange being provided with a plurality of notches in a forward edge thereof for purpose of receiving a plurality of tooth paste tubes and supporting the same therefrom.

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DANIEL BLUM, Primary Examiner

U.S. Cl. X.R.

15—104.92, 142; 312—206