

J. W. PATTERSON.
 SANITARY APPLIANCE.
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1,171,973.

Patented Feb. 15, 1916.

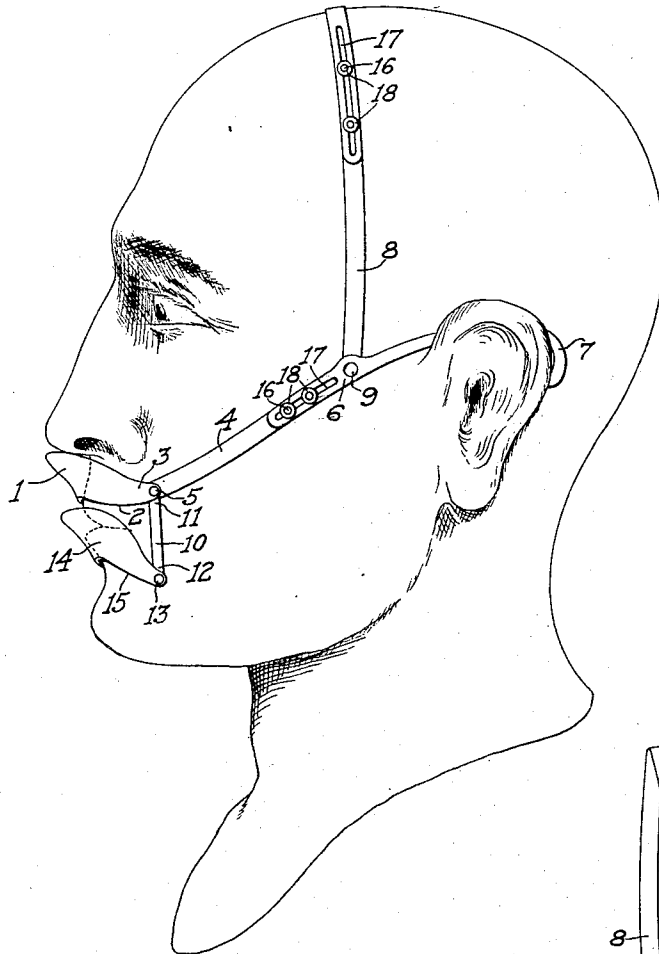


Fig. 2.

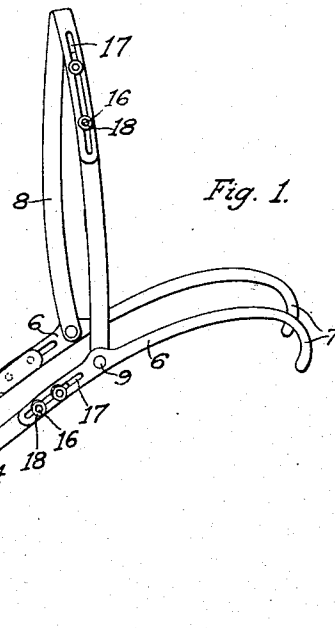


Fig. 1.

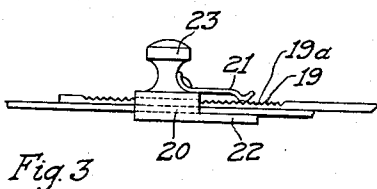


Fig. 3.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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SANITARY APPLIANCE.

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Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN W. PATTERSON, a citizen of the United States, and resident of the city of New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Sanitary Appliances, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to appliances or devices that are conducive to sanitary protection.

People of certain occupations, such as doctors, barbers, dentists, etc., find it objectionable and unsanitary to have their breath directed against the face of the patient or person upon whom they operate, and the principal object of my invention is to provide improved means for remedying this objection.

In carrying out the invention, a device is provided which is worn by the operator, and comprises an upper breath deflector which fits below the nose of the wearer along the upper lip, and a lower breath deflector which fits below the mouth. Said deflectors have configurations that direct the breath from the nose and mouth of the wearer to the sides of his face and away from the face of the person operated upon. The deflectors are hingedly held and can be thereby adjusted angularly, and links connecting the upper and lower deflectors enable adjustment of the deflectors laterally with relation to each other, whereby they may be set to fit the wearer and to deflect the breath exactly as desired. Suitable adjustable strapping devices extend from said deflectors for properly securing them in place.

This appliance may be also used by chemists, and others engaged in similar work, to avoid breathing the fumes which issue from the various substances involved in certain processes.

Other objects and advantages will hereinafter appear.

In the accompanying drawings,—Figure 1 is a general perspective view of the sanitary appliance. Fig. 2 is a view showing the appliance as it appears when worn by the operator. Fig. 3 is an enlarged view showing a preferred means for adjusting the length of the holding straps.

An upper breath deflector 1 has its lower edge 2 formed so that it fits along the upper

lip of the wearer, Fig. 2, and extends therefrom upwardly and obliquely in a suitable configuration whereby the breath issuing from the nose is directed toward the sides of the wearer's face and away from the person operated upon. As the extremities 3 of said deflector are fixed straps 4, swivelly held thereto at 5, and straps 6 adjustably fastened to straps 4 and forming a continuation thereof terminate in the form of hooks 7, which fit behind the ears of the wearer, and in this way secure the deflector 1 in place. Auxiliary holding straps 8 are pivotally fixed to straps 6 and 9, and extend therefrom over the head of the wearer and have their ends suitably fastened.

Downwardly extending links 10 have their extremities 11 fixed pivotally to the pivot-joint at 5, and to the lower extremities 12 of said links is hinged at 13 a lower breath deflector 14, which is similar in general to the upper deflector 1. The lower edge 15 of deflector 14 is formed to fit below the lower lip of the wearer and said deflector extends therefrom in a suitable configuration whereby the breath from the wearer's mouth is directed similarly as affected by the upper breath deflector 1. The hinging of deflector 1 and link 10 at 5, and of deflector 14 at 13 is tight, so that said deflectors may be disposed in any angular position and their exact adjustment according to the requirements of the wearer thereby affected. When desired, the deflector 1 and particularly the deflector 14 may be swung downwardly out of the way and thus maintained temporarily inoperative or out of use for permitting the wearer to speak freely or expectorate, or for other such purposes.

To fit the particular user, adjustment of the straps 4, 6, and 8, which are of metal or other suitable material, may be done by means of bolts 16 on the end of one of the straps passing through a slot 17 provided on the end of the cooperating strap, and nuts 18 threading over said bolts to tighten the straps where adjusted.

As a preferred means for adjusting said straps, the end of one of the straps is provided with a toothed portion 19, Fig. 3, and a metal band 20, within which the extremity of the cooperating strap is fixed, has a spring-detent 21 which engages with any one of the teeth 19^a, and the pressure of said detent holds the straps by forcing them

pressingly against an extension 22 forming part of the band 20. To adjust the straps, the operator grasps the knob 23 forming part of the band 20, and draws the extremity 5 of the cooperating strap away from said knob, whereupon the straps remain held where adjusted.

The deflectors 1 and 14 may be made of celluloid or other suitable material, and preferably of such material that will impart 10 to the deflectors a certain degree of flexibility, whereby the configuration of the deflectors may be somewhat modified, if desired, to vary the direction of the deflection 15 of the wearer's breath. When flexible material is used a reinforcement wire 24, Fig. 1, may be fixed along the upper edges 25 of the deflectors to maintain the curvature thereat constant.

It will be evident that by means of all the aforesaid adjustments the deflectors may be 20 set to the exact position desired and the breath of the wearer thus properly diverted away from the person operated upon, and 25 that the deflector may be temporarily swung out of the way when desired without unstrapping.

Variations may be resorted to within the scope of the invention, and portions of the 30 improvements may be used without others.

Having thus described my invention, I claim:—

1. A sanitary appliance having the combination of a breath deflector for the nose, a 35 breath deflector for the mouth, links connecting said deflectors, and adjustable straps

for maintaining said deflectors upon the wearer.

2. A sanitary appliance having the combination of a breath deflector for the nose, 40 a breath deflector for the mouth, links connecting said deflectors, said deflectors being pivotally mounted with said links for angular adjustment, and means for securing said 45 deflectors to the wearer.

3. A sanitary appliance having the combination of a breath deflector for the nose, a 50 breath deflector for the mouth, said deflectors being configured to direct the breath of the wearer to the sides of the wearer's face 50 and away from the person operated upon, means for securing said deflectors to the wearer, links holding one of said deflectors connected to said securing means, and said 55 latter deflector being pivotally mounted for angular adjustment.

4. A sanitary appliance having the combination of a breath deflector for the nose, a 60 breath deflector for the mouth, said deflectors being configured to direct the breath of the wearer to the sides of the wearer's face and away from the person operated upon, 65 straps for securing said deflectors extending therefrom, and said deflectors being pivotally mounted for angular adjustment.

Signed at the city of New York, in the county of New York, and State of New York, this 24th day of October, A. D. 1914.

JOHN W. PATTERSON.

Witnesses:

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Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."