J. MOORE.

PAD FOR ARTIFICIAL TEETH.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 16, 1908.

1,050,561.

Patented Jan. 14, 1913.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.

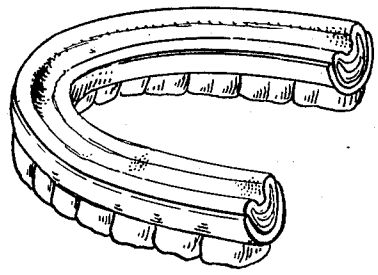


Fig. 2.

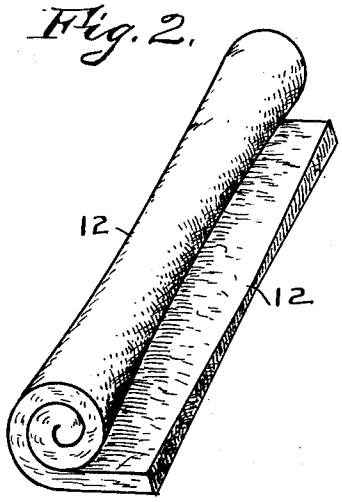


Fig. 4.

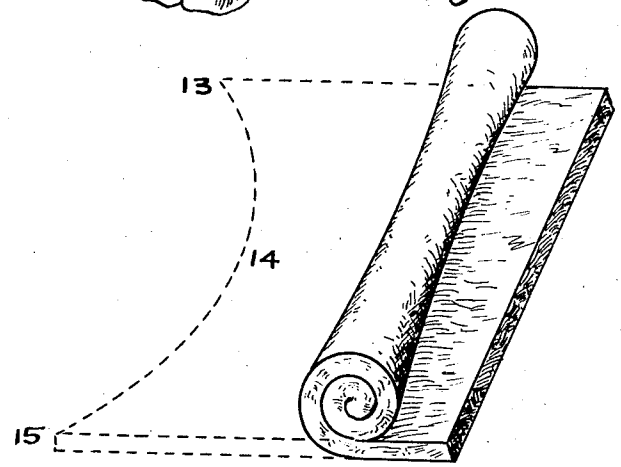
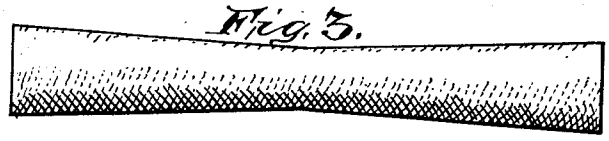


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES:

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 5.

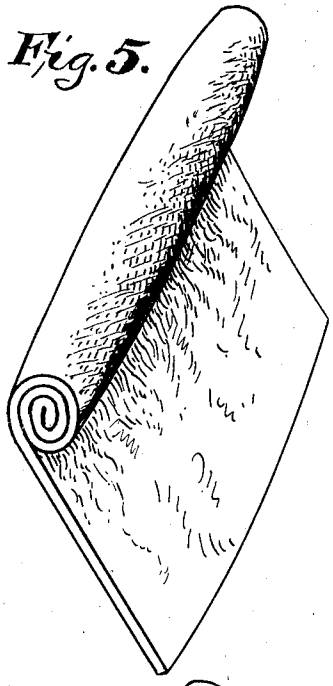


Fig. 6.

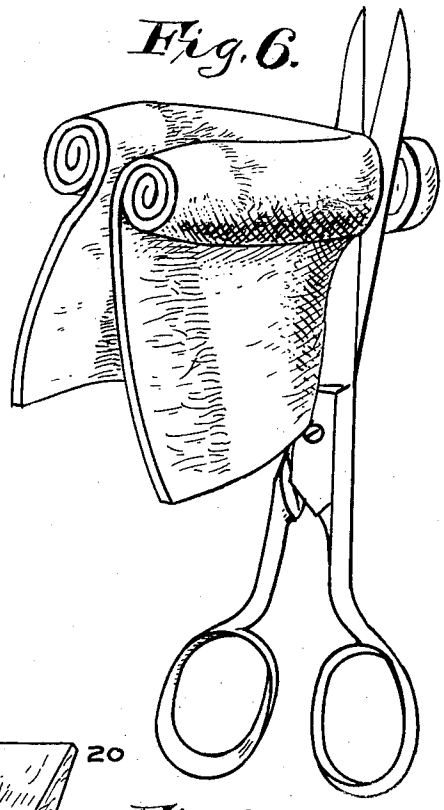


Fig. 7.

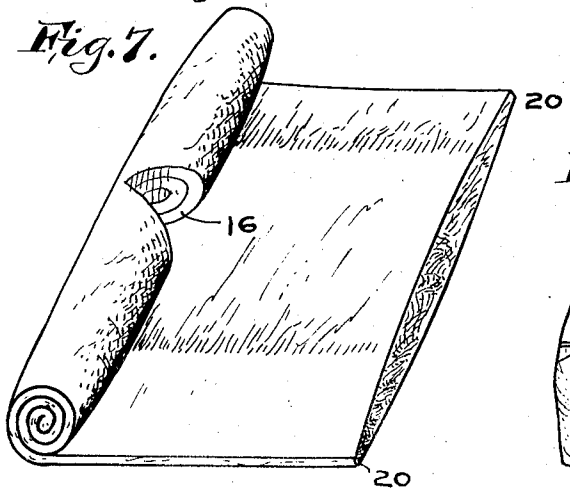
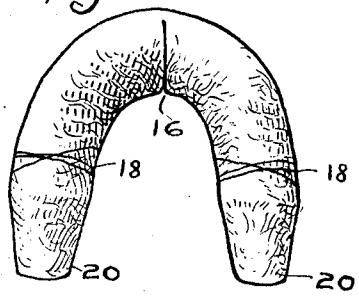


Fig. 8.



WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN MOORE, OF INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA.

PAD FOR ARTIFICIAL TEETH.

1,050,561. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Jan. 14, 1913.

Application filed June 16, 1908. Serial No. 438,840.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN MOORE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Indianapolis, in the county of Marion and State of Indiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Pads for Artificial Teeth, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in dentistry, and has special reference to means for affording relief to those who are obliged to make use of artificial teeth, but whose gums are so tender that the pressure of the plate against them causes great discomfort, and such continual annoyance and pain that the artificial teeth become a torment and nearly useless for mastication, causing the wearer to remove them at every convenient opportunity and prohibiting him from sleeping with such teeth in his mouth.

The object of this invention is to provide an improved form of cushion to be interposed between the plates and the gums so as to relieve the pressure and remove the discomforts above referred to.

I accomplish the objects of my invention by the means illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view in reverse or upside-down position, of a plate with artificial teeth for the lower jaw, supplied with my improved cushion. Fig. 2 is a perpective view of a nearly finished cushion or pad formed from a layer of cotton specially prepared of varying thickness, the same being thinnest at the middle of the pad. Fig. 3 is a side view of same in its completed form. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of a nearly completed pad formed from a roll of cotton of uniform thickness throughout, and illustrating by dotted lines the manner of notching the roll to make the pad thinner at its middle portion than at its ends. Fig. 5 is a perspective view of a partially completed pad for the lower jaw, said pad being at the stage where a V-shaped notch is to be removed from the middle of the pad. Fig. 6 is a perspective view showing the manner in which the V-shaped piece is cut away. Fig. 7 shows the same after the V-shaped piece has been removed, and Fig. 8 represents the completed pad bent to conform to the shape of the lower plate.

Like characters of reference indicate like parts throughout the several views of the drawings.

My invention consists in providing a cushion or pad of soft elastic material and of peculiar shape between the gums and the plates of artificial teeth, and in practice I have found after years of experimenting, that cotton such as is in general use for surgical purposes, is well adapted for my use when properly rolled and prepared.

It is necessary that the pad be pliant and shaped to conform readily to the shape of the plate and lie on it smoothly and without wrinkles so as to be comfortable and thoroughly protect the gums from any soreness due to pressure and direct contact with the plate. At the same time the pad must be of sufficient solidity and toughness to retain its place and prevent displacement and spreading out after being worn awhile, or during mastication.

I am fully aware that cotton has been used for various purposes in dentistry for many years, but it has not been prepared or applied in the manner shaped and for the purposes here shown and described.

I prefer to have the pad made from strips of specially prepared cotton for the lower plate, of varying thickness so as to admit of the roll being fitted evenly at the curve at the front of the plate. I have found from experience that it is necessary to have the pad thinner where it bends around the curve, to keep it from wrinkling which causes discomfort to the wearer.

In the formation of the pad shown in Figs. 2 and 3, the strip of cotton from which the pad is rolled is made thinner toward its middle 12, with the result of decreasing the diameter of the pad at its middle as shown in Fig. 3. This weakens the pad and reduces the thickness where the bend is to be made in conforming it to the lower plate, as shown in Fig. 1, which prevents bunching and wrinkling of the pad at the bend.

Substantially the same effect is produced with a strip of uniform thickness, as shown in Fig. 4, by forming a notch shown at 13—14—15, in dotted lines in Fig. 4. This notched end is rolled in first so as to be at the center of the finished pad and it produces the formation shown in Fig. 3. I have also used the strip when all of one thickness and overcome the bunching and wrinkling at the bend by cutting a V-groove 16 (see Fig. 7) when the roll was about three quarters of proper thickness. The manner of removing the material to form

the V-groove or notch 16 is clearly illustrated in Fig. 8. This notch will allow the pad to be curved to fit the plate smoothly.

In bending the pad to the lower plate it should be first thoroughly saturated with water to facilitate the operation and I frequently wrap a piece of thread 18 around the pad before placing it in the plate, to insure its retaining its proper form.

Experience has taught me that the lower jaw at the ends of the plate which holds the artificial teeth is more sensitive than at other portions which makes it advisable to have the roll thinner at those points to prevent unnecessary pressure and to assist in keeping these ends of the pads in position. This thinning of the ends is shown at 20. When not made thinner in this manner the bulky and stiff ends of the pad have a tendency to work out from between the gums and the plate

The pad or cushion can also be impregnated with any desired extract or solution which will make its use still more soothing and pleasant to the wearer.

Having thus fully described my invention what I claim as new and wish to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

1. A pad or cushion to be worn between the gums and lower plate of artificial teeth comprising a roll of cotton reduced in thickness at its middle portion to facilitate the bending of the roll into U-shape to fit the contour of the plate.

2. As a pad or cushion to be worn between the gums and the lower plate of artificial teeth, a roll of cotton reduced in thickness at its middle portion to facilitate the bending of the roll into a U-shape to fit the plate, the ends of said roll being also reduced in thickness.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal at Indianapolis, Indiana, this 28th day of May, A. D. one thousand nine hundred and eight.

JOHN MOORE. [L. S.]

Witnesses:
F. W. WOERNER,
L. B. WOERNER.