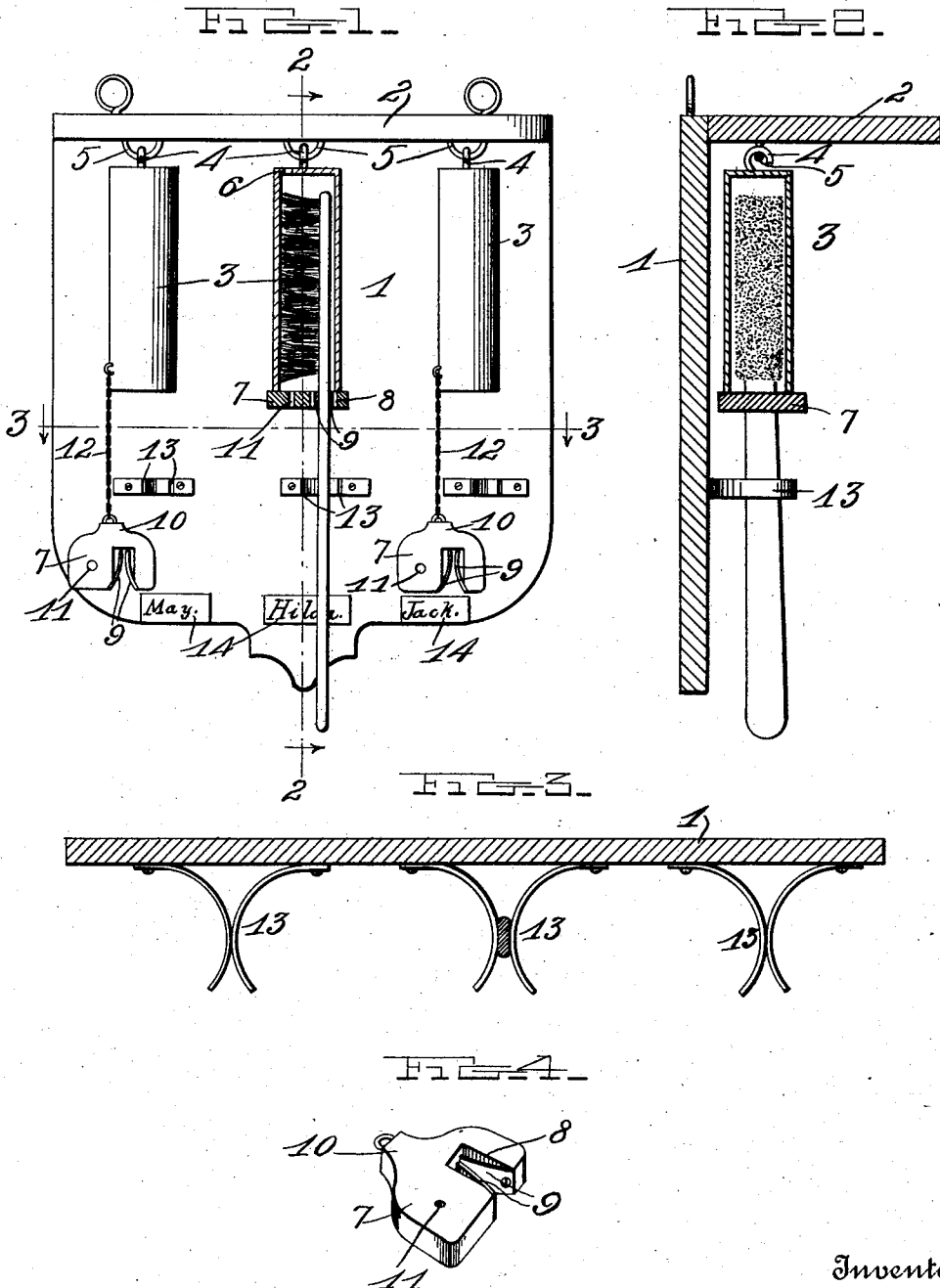


J. A. McGRATH.
TOOTH BRUSH HOLDER.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN A. McGRATH, OF HANCOCK, MICHIGAN.

TOOTH-BRUSH HOLDER.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN A. McGRATH, a citizen of the United States, residing at Hancock, in the county of Houghton and State of Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Tooth-Brush Holders; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to improvements in tooth brush holders.

One object of the invention is to provide an improved construction of tooth brush holder by means of which one or more brushes may be conveniently supported and the brush ends of the same covered and kept in a clean, sanitary condition.

A further object is to provide a holder of this character which will be simple and inexpensive in construction and which may be hung up in a position for conveniently holding the brush or which may be carried in the pocket.

With these and other objects in view, the invention consists of certain novel features of construction, combination and arrangement of parts as will be more fully described and particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

In the accompanying drawings: Figure 1 is a front view of a supporting bracket illustrating my improved holders applied thereto one of the same being shown in section; Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view of the same on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1; Fig. 3 is a horizontal sectional view on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1; Fig. 4 is a detail perspective view of one of the caps for closing the lower ends of the holders.

In the embodiment of the invention I preferably provide a supporting bracket comprising a back board or plate 1 having arranged thereon a shelf 2. The bracket may be secured to the wall or other support in any suitable manner and the shelf employed for holding teeth cleaning accessories or other articles.

My improved holders comprise tubes 3 which may be formed of any suitable material and which are adapted to be suspended from the under side of the shelf 2 by hooks 4 or other suitable attaching devices which are engaged with eyes or loops 5 secured to the under side of the shelf as shown. The

brush holding tubes 3 may be of any suitable shape and size and are here shown as of cylindrical form open at their lower ends and closed at their upper ends, said closed upper ends being provided with an air or ventilating passage 6.

When the brush is in the holder the open lower end of the latter is closed by a suitable cap 7 which is here shown as and preferably consists of a plate of substantially triangular form having in its rear edge a notch 8 which is arranged in position to be engaged with the handle of the brush so that the plate will cover and close the lower end of the holder. On the sides of the notch are secured flat handle gripping springs 9 which grip the opposite sides of the brush handles whereby the cap is held in engagement with the lower end of the holder. On the outer edge of the cap plate is formed a tapered extension which forms a handle 10 by means of which the plate may be engaged with and removed from the handle of the brush. In the cap plate 7 is formed a small air or ventilating hole 11 through which and through the hole 6 in the upper end of the holder air will circulate thus drying the brush. With the handle extension 10 is connected one end of an attaching chain 12 the opposite end of which is secured to the lower end of the holder whereby the cap plate is attached to the latter and thus prevented from becoming lost or mislaid when not in use.

Secured to the back plate or board 1 below each of the holders and spaced a suitable distance beneath the lower ends thereof are pairs of spring brush supporting clips 13 with which the handles of the brushes are engaged after the latter have been inserted into the holders. When the handles are thus engaged with the clips the brushes will be held up in the holders and the cap plates 7 in close engagement with the lower ends of the latter.

If desired a name plate 14 may be arranged beneath each of the clips or the holders on which may be inscribed the name of the owner of that particular brush thus enabling a person to select their own brush without the necessity of removing the brushes to find the one wanted.

From the foregoing description, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, the construction and operation of the invention will be readily understood without requiring a more extended explanation.

Various changes in the form, proportion and the minor details of construction may be resorted to without departing from the principle or sacrificing any of the advantages of this invention, as defined in the appended claims.

Having thus described my invention what I claim is:—

1. A tooth brush holder comprising a tubular receptacle closed at one end and having in said closed end an air hole, a cap plate adapted to close the open end of the receptacle, and having formed therein an air hole and a handle engaging notch adapted to be engaged with the handle of the brush, means in said notch to grip the handle of the brush and means to support the receptacle and brush in relation to each other to hold the cap plate in engagement with the end of the receptacle.

2. A tooth brush holder comprising a tubular receptacle closed at one end, means to support said receptacle in position to receive the brush, means adapted to be engaged with the handle of the brush to close the opposite end of the holder and means whereby the brush is held in engagement with the receptacle.

3. A tooth brush holder comprising a bracket having arranged thereon a shelf, a series of tubular brush receptacles loosely suspended from said shelf in position to receive the brushes, said receptacles having closed upper ends and open lower ends, cap plates adapted to close the lower ends of said receptacles, said cap plates having formed therein handle engaging notches adapted to be engaged with the handles of the brushes, handle gripping springs arranged in said notches and adapted to grip the handles of the brushes whereby said plates are held in engagement with the open lower ends of the receptacles, flexible connections to secure said cap plates to the receptacles, and spring clips arranged on the bracket and adapted to receive the handles of the brushes whereby they are supported in engagement with the receptacles.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JOHN A. McGRATH.

Witnesses:

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