G. A. CRITCHERSON.

RUGÆ MOLD FOR DENTURE PLATES.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 1, 1914.

1,129,336. Patented Feb. 23, 1915.

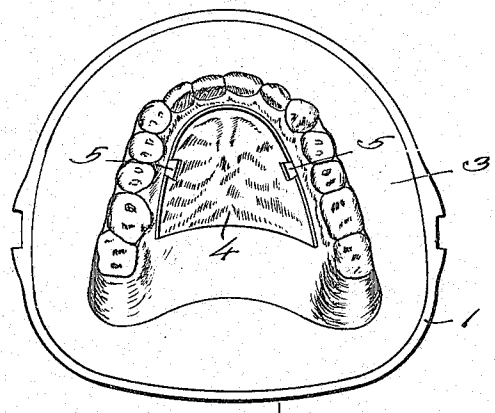


Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

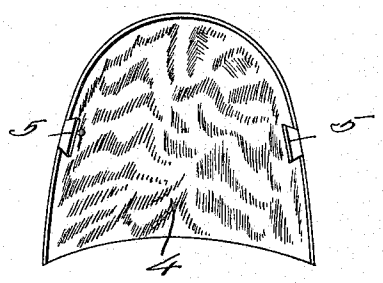


Fig. 3.

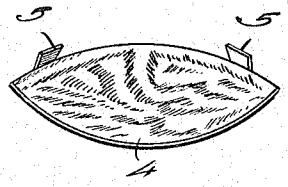
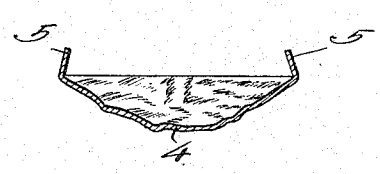


Fig. 4.



Inventor

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Witnesses

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NORRIS PETERS CO., PHOTO-LITHO., WASHINGTON, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE A. CRITCHERSON, OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA, ASSIGNOR TO THE COLUMBUS DENTAL MANUFACTURING CO., OF COLUMBUS, OHIO, A CORPORATION OF OHIO.

RUGÆ-MOLD FOR DENTURE-PLATES.

1,129,336. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Feb. 23, 1915.

Original application filed November 22, 1913, Serial No. 802,452. Divided and this application filed May 1, 1914. Serial No. 835,669.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE A. CRITCHERSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Los Angeles, in the county of Los Angeles and State of California, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Rugæ-Molds for Denture-Plates, of which the following is a specification.

In the manufacture of denture plates they have been molded with a smooth surface for the roof of the mouth which results in imperfect articulation of speech and in imperfect management of food in mastication, because when the lingual side of the plate is smooth the tongue has but little power to hold a morsel of food upon it.

This case is filed as a division of application Ser. No. 802,452, filed Nov. 22, 1913, the Patent Office having held that the product and the mold are separate and distinct inventions.

The object of the present invention is to provide a cheap, simple, and efficient mold of the natural rugæ of the human mouth constructed to be impressed in the lingual side of a denture plate, in the process of vulcanizing the said plate, to form a rugæ on the lingual side of said plate.

In the drawings: Figure 1 is a top plan view of one half of a flask in which is secured a denture plate with one of my improved molds in position on the lingual side of the plate; Fig. 2 is a plan view of the detached rugæ mold; Fig. 3 is an end elevation of the mold; and Fig. 4 is a transverse section of the same.

The reference numeral 1 designates one half of a flask, 2 the denture plate secured therein by means of plaster 3. These elements may be of any preferred construction and form no part of my invention.

The rugæ mold 4 which is placed on the denture plate before the plate is flasked is formed with a series of undulations in imitation of the natural rugæ and is formed of metal or alloy of metals which will produce in the lingual side of the plate undulations without discoloration or injury to the rubber of which the plate is composed. The surface of the vulcanite will come out clean and smooth, and will require but little polishing. The rugæ mold is preferably formed of soft metal in which an impression of a rugæ is produced.

My rugæ mold is provided with anchoring lugs 5 which will be held securely in the plaster when the plate is flasked. It will of course be understood that any preferred form of anchoring may be used in place of the lugs 5 without departing from the spirit of my invention. An anchorage is necessary for the convenient removal of the mold from the vulcanite rubber plate, upon which it has been laid, after the process of vulcanizing and for the purpose of securing the mold to its required position on the rubber plate. Without these anchorages the plate is very liable to become damaged in the process of removing the mold after vulcanizing as it would entail the necessity of prying loose with a sharp instrument some portion of the form to make it possible to pull it off. These rugæ molds will be furnished to dentists in different sizes for large and small arches, and the rugæ imitations will be made deeper for young persons than for older persons. One of the advantages of the formation of a rugæ on the lingual side of the plate is to enable persons to pronounce all words with freedom and distinctiveness, especially in the pronunciation of those words requiring the tongue to be placed against the roof of the mouth, which is practically impossible with a denture plate having a smooth lingual side. In addition to improving articulation of speech the rugæ on the lingual side of the plate has the advantage that it assists the tongue in the management of food in mastication which is of material importance in maintaining one's health.

I claim:—

1. As a new article of manufacture, a rugæ mold having a duplication of a natural rugæ, and constructed to be impressed in the lingual side of a denture plate in the process of vulcanizing the said plate to form a rugæ on the lingual side of said plate.

2. As a new article of manufacture, a rugæ mold having a duplication of a natural rugæ, and anchoring lugs extending from the marginal edges thereof; said rugæ being adapted to be impressed in the lingual side of a denture plate in the process of vul-

canizing the said plate to mold a rugæ on the lingual side of said plate, and said lugs being adapted to be embedded in the plaster of a flask, whereby when the flask is separated the rugæ mold is drawn from the denture plate.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

GEORGE A. CRITCHERSON.

Witnesses:

RAYMOND L. MATHEWS,

WALTER T. SPROWLS.

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