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SANITARY TOOTH BRUSH HOLDER AND DENTIFRICE DISPENSER

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Fig. 1.

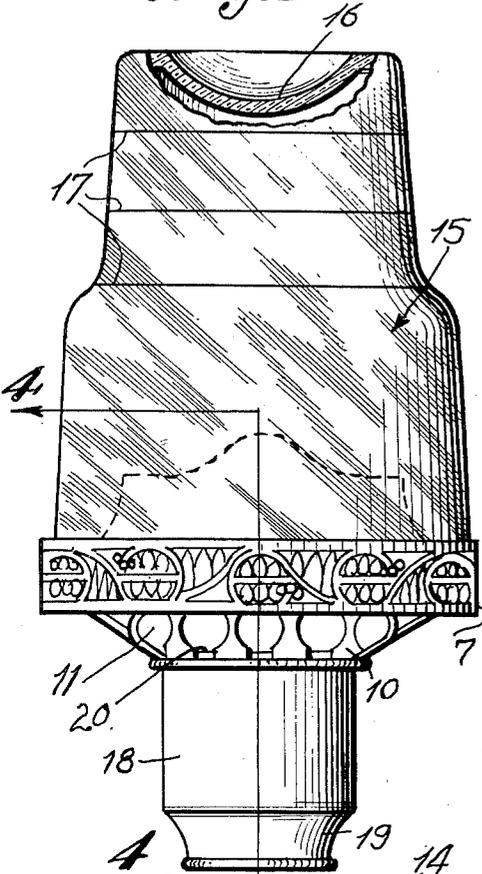


Fig. 2.

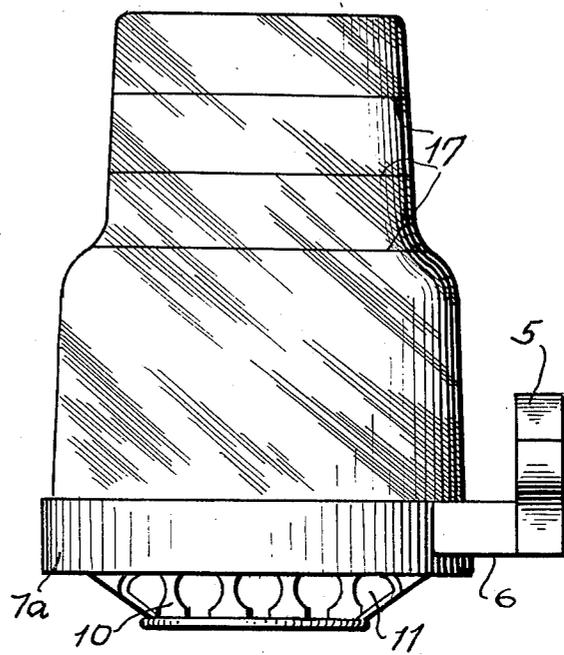


Fig. 3.

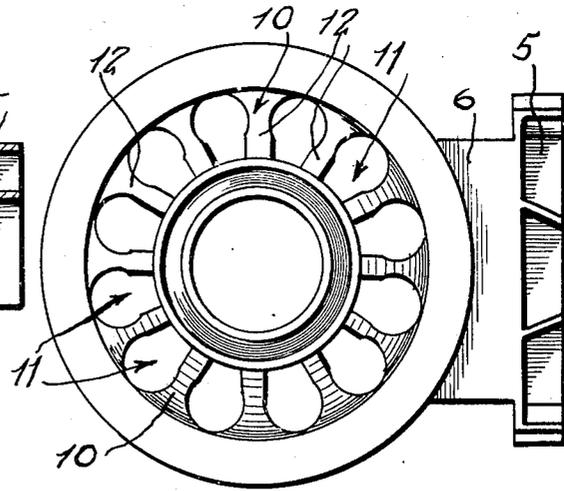
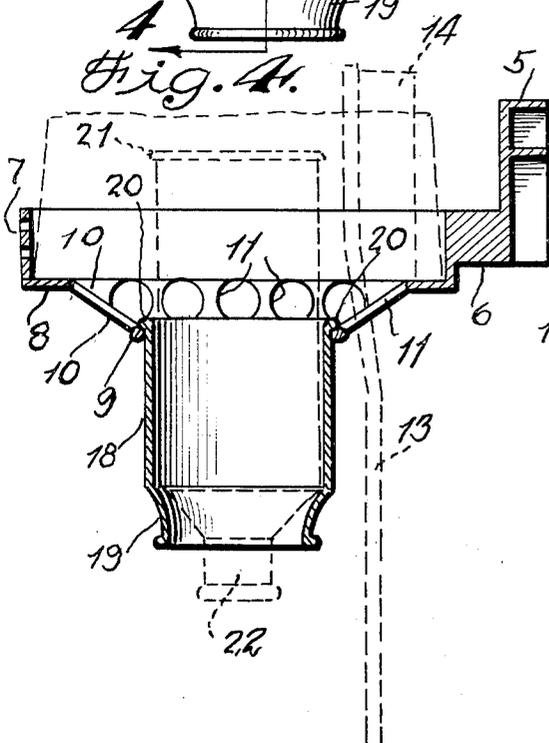


Fig. 4.



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## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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SANITARY TOOTH BRUSH HOLDER AND  
DENTIFRICE DISPENSER

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4 Claims. (Cl. 132-84)

This invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in a sanitary tooth brush holder and dentifrice dispenser.

The primary object of the invention is to provide a sanitary tooth brush holder and dentifrice dispenser of generally bracket formation and especially designed for wall mounting, there being provided a glass container of general drinking glass character adapted for mounting in an inverted position upon the holder for enclosing the brush heads of a plurality of tooth brushes mounted in the holder.

A further object of the invention is to provide a sanitary tooth brush holder and dentifrice dispenser of the foregoing character wherein the holder comprises a bracket member for the support of tooth brush heads with the handles thereof dependent, the holder further comprising a support for a dentifrice container of either paste or powder character while a glass container mounted in an inverted condition over the holder encloses the brush head and is provided with an inwardly dished bottom wall in which a desired quantity of tooth powder may be placed and used by the dipping of a wetted brush therein.

With the above and other objects in view that will become apparent as the nature of the invention is better understood, the same consists in the novel form, combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter more fully described, shown in the accompanying drawing and claimed.

In the drawing:

Figure 1 is a front elevational view, partly broken away and shown in section of a sanitary tooth brush holder and dentifrice dispenser, the glass receptacle cover for the tooth brushes being broken away to show the dished bottom wall thereof for the reception of tooth powder, the band portion of the receptacle holder being illustrated as of ornamental character;

Figure 2 is a side elevational view of a tooth brush holder similar to Figure 1, with a plain band portion supporting the glass receptacle and with the dentifrice holder removed;

Figure 3 is a bottom plan view of the device; and

Figure 4 is a vertical detail sectional view, taken on line 4-4 of Figure 1, the glass receptacle cover, tooth brush and dentifrice container being illustrated by dotted lines.

Referring more in detail to the accompanying drawing, the sanitary tooth brush holder and dentifrice dispensing device comprises a bracket 5 of any preferred construction, adapted for in-

terfitting engagement with a wall mounted bracket, the bracket 5 carrying a laterally directed arm 6 that carries at its free end in spaced relation to the bracket 5 a holder for tooth brushes and a dentifrice dispenser.

The holder comprises a ring member of substantially angle formation in cross-section including a perpendicular annular wall 7 and a lower wall 8, an inverted frusto-conical wall extending inwardly and downwardly from the inner annular edge of the lower horizontal wall 8 of the ring member and terminating at its lower edge in an annular bead 9. The frusto-conical wall is indicated by the reference character 10 and is provided with a plurality of equidistantly spaced openings 11, defining spaced ribs 12 for tooth brushes, one of which is illustrated by dotted lines in Figure 4 having the handles 13 thereof depending through the openings 11 with the brush heads 14 supported on the ribs 12 and bottom wall 8 of the ring member. The annular wall 7 of the holder may have a design embellishment as illustrated in Figure 1 or be plain as shown at 7a in Figure 2.

A removable cover is provided for the tooth brush head 14 and comprises a glass receptacle 15 similar to a drinking glass, adapted to be placed in an inverted position upon the holder by having the open end thereof seated upon the bottom wall 8 of the holder, as illustrated. The closed bottom of the glass container 15 is dished inwardly as shown at 16 for purposes presently to appear and the lower portion of said glass container is etched or otherwise provided with a series of equi-distantly spaced marking lines 17 as a guide for mixing or proportioning a mouth wash. It will be observed from an inspection of Figure 4 that the glass container 15 completely covers the tooth brush heads 14 and maintains them in a sanitary condition by excluding dust and other foreign matter therefrom.

A tubular support 18 having a reduced lower end 19 is adapted for mounting within the bead 9 at the lower end of the frusto-conical wall 10 and is supported therein by the outwardly directed bead 20 at its upper end that is engaged with the aforesaid bead 9 as shown in Figure 4. A dentifrice container 21, shown by dotted lines in Figure 4, is mounted in the tubular member 18 in an inverted condition with the discharge end 22 of the dentifrice container extending below the reduced supporting lower end 19 of the member 18.

If desired, the cap may be removed from the lower end 22 of the dentifrice container 21 and 55

the brush heads 14 engaged with the discharge end of the dentifrice container below the lower end of the tubular member 13. However, it is preferable to place a desired quantity of the tooth powder in the receptacle portion 16 formed in the bottom wall of the glass container 15 and dipping the wetted brush heads therein. The glass container may be used as a drinking glass or as a measuring glass in mixing a mouth wash.

As will be understood, the assemblage thus provided presents a complete dental equipment for individual or family use, although the equipment itself occupies a comparatively small space. This is due primarily to the fact that all the members of the equipment are arranged relative to a common vertical axis of the assembly and so grouped as to enable the various members to be efficiently positioned and yet utilize the available space. For instance, the tooth brushes are arranged in an annular series capable of holding a number of brushes; the dentifrice container—whether carrying powder or paste—extends vertically and is located central of the series of brushes, with the nozzle exposed below. The glass serves to protect these. By this arrangement, the glass not only serves to form an enclosing chamber for the brush heads and within which the air has circulation for drying the brushes, but also serves to protect the dentifrice container—if the latter be of the collapsible tube type—against accidental pressures, since the tube body is then completely enclosed.

Obviously, these conditions necessitate that the glass be removed before the brush can be removed or the tube compressed. When the glass has been removed, it can be placed beneath the cap of the dentifrice container,—the reduced diameter zone readily entering within the series of brush handles—with the depression 16 in proper position, the proper brush then removed, and the dental cleaning then takes place, after which the brush can be restored, the glass cleansed and used for the purpose of rinsing the mouth—with the markings on the glass serving as indicators if a special mouth wash is used, and the glass finally be returned to its normal position of rest. The space within the glass, when at rest, is occupied by the brush heads and the dentifrice container with these latter members protected.

In effect, therefore, the assembly occupies a comparatively small zone the diameter of which is approximately that of the glass mouth and with the zone in proximity to the wall, being spaced from the latter only by the length of the supporting connection. The vertical length of the zone is somewhat larger, but this presents no disadvantage, the overall distance from the wall which supports the fixture is the important consideration and should provide a minimum obstruction characteristic—a condition made manifest by the present construction.

While there is herein shown and described the preferred embodiment of the invention, it is nevertheless to be understood that minor changes may be made therein without departing from

the spirit and scope of the invention as claimed. I claim:

1. In assemblies for dental purposes, wherein the assemblage includes the dentifrice container, one or more tooth brushes for applying the dentifrice, and a glass for the mouth-rinsing fluid, a holder fixture for supporting said assemblage members with the members arranged symmetrically to a common axis of the holder, said holder comprising a body portion having an upstanding annular flange leading from the periphery of a horizontal seat face with the face and flange adapted to support the glass in inverted position, said flange additionally carrying a laterally extending supporting structure adapted to be removably secured to a support, said seat portion having an internal conical flange leading downwardly and with the latter provided with a plurality of openings spaced in an annular series adjacent the inner periphery of the seat with each opening adapted to receive the handle of a tooth brush with the brush head above the conical flange, said conical flange having its inner margin in the form of an annular rib-like formation, and an annular member loosely supported on the rib-like formation and depending downwardly therefrom and adapted to receive and support the dentifrice container with the dispensing zone of the latter exposed below the annular member, said upstanding flange, seat, conical flange, and annular member being symmetrically disposed relative to a common axis extending vertically through the assemblage, whereby the brush head portion of the tooth brushes will be housed within the glass annularly with respect to the body of the dentifrice container, and whereby preliminary removal of the glass is requisite to permit removal of a tooth brush or manipulation of the dentifrice container.

2. An assembly as in claim 1 characterized in that the upstanding flange is of ornamented characteristic to thereby present the upstanding flange and the opening-carried conical flange as of ornamented appearance.

3. An assemblage as in claim 1 characterized in that the glass configuration presents two major zones differing materially in diameter, with the smaller diameter zone at the bottom of the glass, and with the bottom of the glass carrying an external cavity, whereby the glass, when removed, can be readily inserted within the series of tooth brush handles to place the cavity in proximity to the dispensing cap of the dentifrice container and thereby permit the cavity to carry the dentifrice used in the tooth-cleansing operation.

4. An assembly as in claim 1 characterized in that the upstanding flange is of ornamented characteristic to thereby present the upstanding flange and the opening-carried conical flange as of ornamented appearance, said reduced zone of the glass also carrying indicating marks to permit ready preparation of a medicated mouth wash within the glass.

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