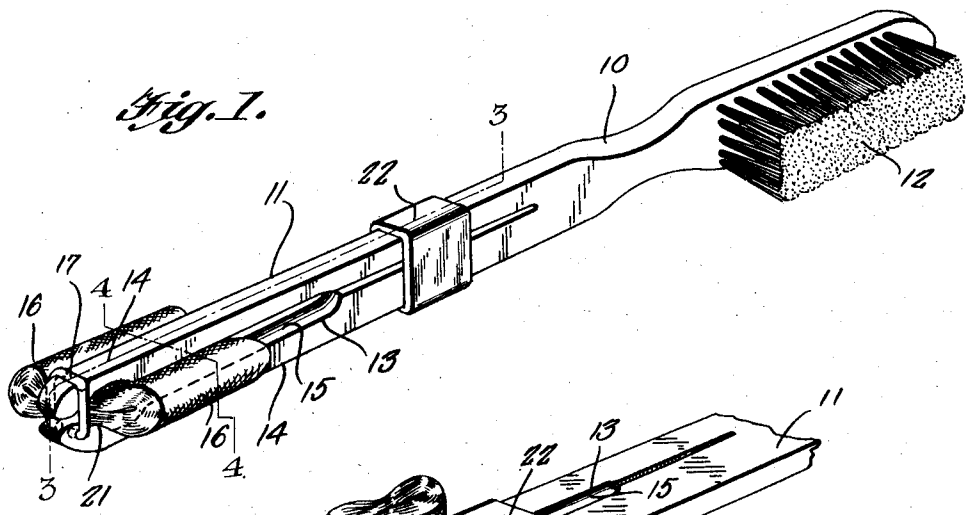
July 12, 1927. 1,635,924

T. A. BUCKLEY

MASSAGE DEVICE

Filed July 14, 1926

Fig. 1.



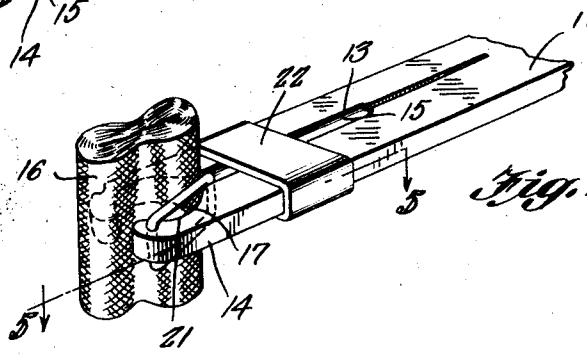




Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.

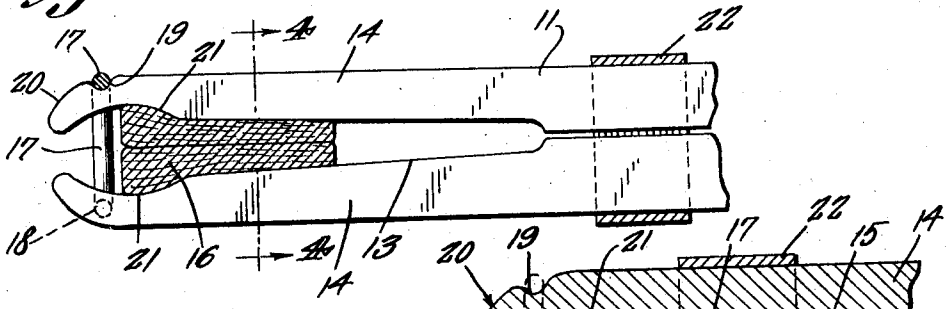



Fig. 4.

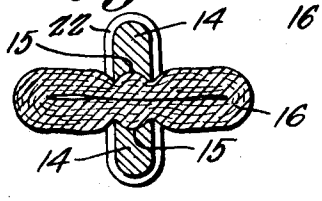



Fig. 5.

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WITNESS:

Patented July 12, 1927. 1,635,924

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS ANDREW BUCKLEY, OF YONKERS, NEW YORK.

## MASSAGE DEVICE.

Application filed July 14, 1926. Serial No. 122,446.

This invention relates to improvements in massage devices for the massage and cleaning of the gums and mouth tissues.

The primary object of the invention resides in a massage device adapted to be provided on the free end of the handle of a tooth brush for use in connection with keeping the gums in a healthy condition, whereby the gums may be massaged to stimulate the tissues for preventing disease due to lack of proper exercise of the gums.

Another object of the invention is to provide a massage device which includes a novel means for removably clamping a massage element such as a wad of absorbent cotton, so that the same may readily be removed after use and a clean element inserted, thus making the device highly sanitary.

A further object of the invention is the provision of a massage device which is simple in construction, easy of operation, and inexpensive of manufacture.

With these and other objects in view, the invention resides in certain novel construction and combination and arrangement of parts, the essential features of which are hereinafter fully described, are particularly pointed out in the appended claims, and are illustrated in the accompanying drawing, in which:—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved massage device showing one manner of clamping the massage element.

Figure 2 is a similar view but showing a different manner of clamping the massage element.

Figure 3 is an enlarged vertical longitudinal sectional view on the line 3—3 of Figure 1.

Figure 4 is a transverse sectional view on the line 4—4 of Figure 1.

Figure 5 is an enlarged vertical longitudinal sectional view on the line 5—5 of Figure 2.

Referring more particularly to the drawing, the reference numeral 10 designates an ordinary tooth brush which includes a handle member 11 having a head provided with bristles 12 on one end thereof, and which is commonly used for the brushing of the teeth. The free end of the handle member 11 is bifurcated as at 13 to provide a pair of spaced compressible clamping jaws 14. The inner walls of the jaws are provided with longitudinal grooves 15 for firmly gripping a massage element 16 when inserted longitudinally therein as shown in Figures 1, 3 and 4 of the drawing.

The massage element 16 in the present instance is shown as a wad of absorbent cotton or other soft material and the same is inserted between the jaws 14 by slightly spreading the same. For holding the jaws in clamping position with the massage element, I provide a U-shaped bail 17 having inwardly bent trunnions 18 extending into recesses provided in the sides of one of the jaws adjacent the free end thereof for swingingly mounting the bail thereon. The adjacent end of the other jaw is provided with a transverse groove or notch 19 for the reception of the bight portion of the U-shaped bail when swung to a position to seat therein, while the extreme end of said jaw is rounded as at 20 to provide a cam surface for the bail to ride upon when clamping the jaws together.

In Figures 2 and 5, I have shown the jaws 14 as clamping the massage element 16 in a transverse position, at which time the massage element is inserted to seat within the longitudinal curved seats 21 provided in the jaws adjacent the free ends thereof with a portion of the massage element extending beyond the ends of the jaws. It will be seen that in this position, the bail 17 is prevented from being swung to seat within the notch 19, but I provide a sliding sleeve or collar 22 upon the jaws 14 for wedging engagement therewith. However, if the massage element is moved further back into the jaws so as not to extend beyond the ends of the same, the bail may be used in connection with the collar for compressing and holding the jaws in clamping position.

From the foregoing description, it will be seen that I have constructed a massage device for the gums and mouth tissues which is not intended to replace the well-known tooth brush for cleaning the teeth, but to be used in conjunction therewith. It will be appreciated that the device may be constructed with just a plain handle without bristles, but by having the same as part of the tooth brush, it is thought that its use will be encouraged. At present it is the practice by some persons to use the bristles of the brush for massaging the gums, but the bristles being relatively stiff might tend to injure the tissues. In the use of the massage device, the same is moved within the mouth similar to the brushing action of the

tooth brush so that any one unskilled may keep their gums in a healthy condition. The massage element may be quickly and easily replaced after use so as to keep the device in a highly sanitary condition at all times.

While I have described what I deem to be the most desirable embodiment of my invention, it is obvious that many of the details may be varied without in any way departing from the spirit of my invention, and I therefore do not limit myself to the exact details of construction herein set forth nor to anything less than the whole of my invention limited only by the appended claims.

What is claimed as new is:—

1. A massage device comprising a handle member having one of its ends bifurcated to provide a pair of spaced resilient jaws for the reception of a massage element, a bail swingingly mounted on the free end of one of said jaws, and a notch provided on the other of said jaws for the reception of said bail when swung to a clamping position.

2. A massage device comprising a handle member having one of its ends bifurcated to provide a pair of spaced resilient jaws having their inner co-acting faces provided with longitudinal grooves, a yieldable massage element interposed between said jaws, a bail swingingly mounted on the free end of one of said jaws, and a notch provided on the other of said jaws for the reception of said bail when swung to a clamping position to hold said massage element seated within said longitudinal grooves.

In testimony whereof I have affixed my signature.

THOMAS ANDREW BUCKLEY.