

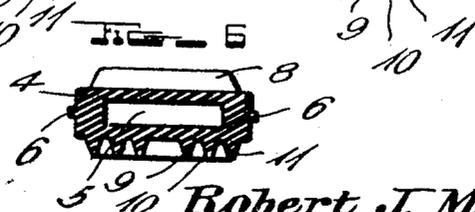
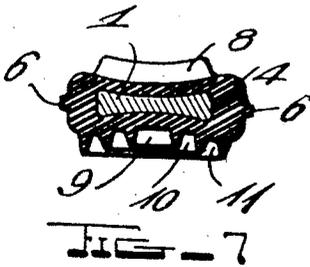
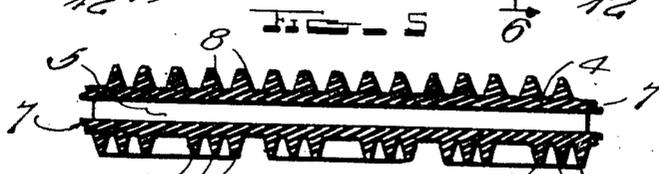
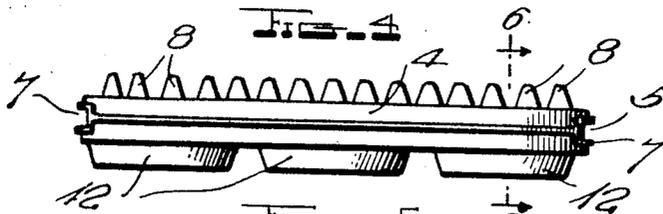
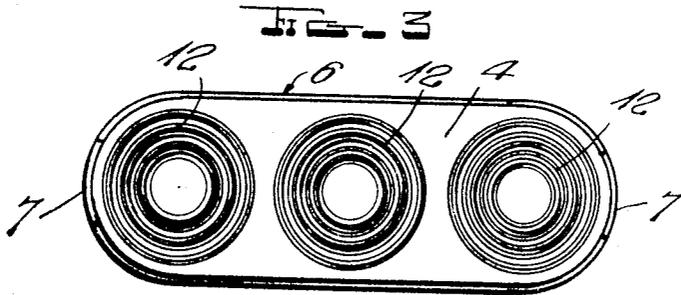
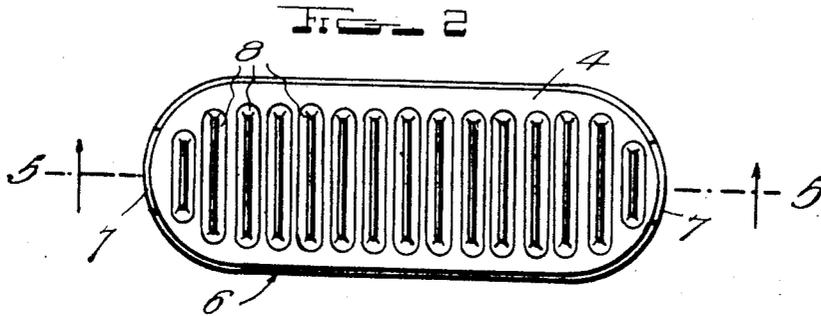
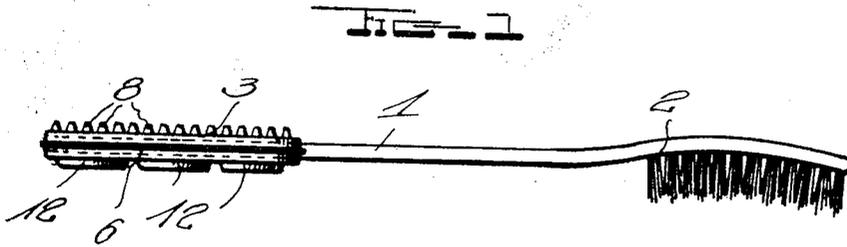
Dec. 27, 1932.

R. J. METZLER

1,892,068

MASSAGE DEVICE

Filed Dec. 5, 1930



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## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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## MESSAGE DEVICE

Application filed December 5, 1930. Serial No. 500,383.

This invention relates to a massage device and one object of the invention is to provide a device of this character particularly intended for use as a device for massaging the gums and other portions of the mouth.

Another object of the invention is to so form the device that it may be easily applied to a toothbrush handle or similar carrier thereby permitting it to be employed as an accessory to a toothbrush where it will be convenient for use when brushing the teeth.

Another object of the invention is to permit the device to be easily applied to a toothbrush handle and when in place accommodate itself to the dimensions of the handle and firmly grip the same.

Another object of the invention is to so form ribs upon the sleeve or body portion of the device that a very good massaging action will take place and also permit it to be thoroughly cleaned after being used.

Another object of the invention is to provide a device of this character wherein one side has massaging ribs and the other side suction cups for selective use.

The invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawing wherein:—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a toothbrush having the improved massaging device applied to its handle.

Figure 2 is an enlarged view of the massage device looking at one face thereof.

Figure 3 is a view looking at the other face of the massage device.

Figure 4 is a side elevation of the massage device.

Figure 5 is a longitudinal section through the device taken along the line 5—5 of Figure 2.

Figure 6 is a transverse section taken along the lines 6—6 of Figure 4, and

Figure 7 is a transverse sectional view showing the device applied to a handle having concaved surfaces.

This improved massage device is intended to be used as an accessory to a toothbrush and in Figure 1, has been shown applied to the handle 1 of a toothbrush 2 of a conventional construction where it is indicated in general by the numeral 3. The massage device is

formed entirely of soft rubber and has a flat body 4 which is of greater length than width and has rounded ends as shown in Figures 2 and 3 so that it may be inserted into a person's mouth and the gums massaged without danger of irritation to the gums and other portions of the mouth by sharp corners at ends of the massager. A passage 5 is formed longitudinally through the body and this passage is rectangular in cross section as shown in Figure 6 in order that it may fit snugly about the handle and by firmly gripping the same be held firmly in place upon the handle and prevented from slipping longitudinally thereon or circumferentially about the same when in use. By referring to Figures 6 and 7 it will be seen that the side walls of the body are thicker than the upper and lower walls thereof. When this device, which may be termed an applicator, is applied to a support, such as the handle of a tooth brush or the like, having concaved front and rear faces, it will, when in use, conform to the contour of the gums. A head 6 extends circumferentially about the body intermediate the depth of the marginal faces thereof and at the ends of the passage 5 this head extends about the passage as shown at 7 to reinforce the body at the ends of the passage and eliminate danger of tearing when applying the device to the handle or while it is in use.

One wall of the body carries ribs 8 which extend transversely of the body in spaced parallel relation to each other and it should be noted that these ribs extend outwardly in cross section as shown in Figure 4 and also have their ends converging outwardly as shown in Figures 6 and 7. By this arrangement the ribs will be flexible and may have yielding movement when the device is inserted into the mouth and reciprocated with the ribs bearing against the gums. This causes a good rubbing action to take place and stimulates circulation. The taper of the ribs also forms wide spaces between them as shown in Figures 4 and 5 thereby permitting the device to be thoroughly cleaned with a minimum amount of effort.

The opposed wall also carries ribs and by referring to Figure 3 it will be seen that these

ribs are arranged in groups of concentric circles as shown at 9, 10 and 11, thereby defining rosettes 12 constituting suction cups which when pressed against the gums cause the device to adhere and draw blood towards the surface as the ribs massage the gums. When this side of the device is in use a very good effect will be produced as the suction draws blood towards the surface and the massage action of the ribs causes a good circulation to take place.

From the foregoing description of the construction of my improved invention, the operation thereof and the method of applying the same to use will be readily understood. It will be seen that I have provided a simple, inexpensive and efficient means for carrying out the objects of the invention and while I have particularly described the elements best adapted to perform the functions set forth, it is obvious that various changes in form, proportion and in the minor details of construction may be resorted to, without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the principles of the invention.

Having thus described the invention what is claimed is:

A massage device comprising a body of soft rubber formed with a longitudinally extending handle receiving passage open at both ends, the body and passage being rectangular in cross section and front and rear walls of the body being appreciably thinner than side walls thereof, reinforcing beads extending along side walls of the body longitudinally thereof intermediate their side edges and across ends of the body about margins of the open ends of said passage to reinforce the body and prevent tearing at ends of the passage when a handle is forced through the passage, and a handle having transversely concaved front and rear faces engaged through the passage for the entire length thereof with walls of the body closely contacting with faces of the handle and conforming to the contour thereof.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.  
ROBERT J. METZLER.

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