Feb. 7, 1933. O. COHEN 1,896,941

APPLICATOR

Filed March 5, 1932

Fig. 1.

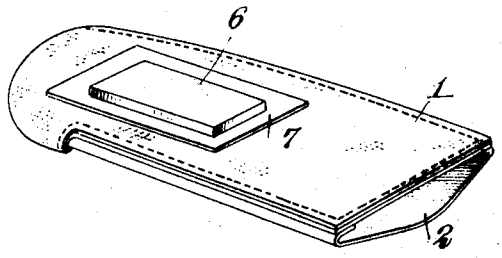


Fig. 2.

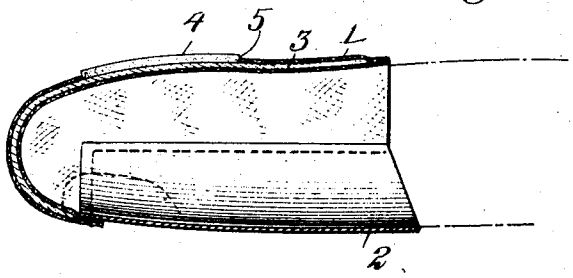


Fig. 3.

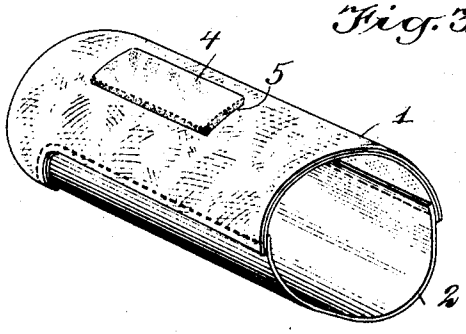
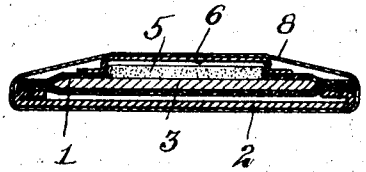


Fig. 4.



WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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APPLICATOR

Application filed March 5, 1932. Serial No. 597,064.

This invention relates to dental applicators, an object of the invention being to provide a simple, inexpensive applicator adapted to be supported on the finger of the user and to be used once and discarded.

A further object is to provide an applicator of this character which can be manufactured and sold at an extremely low price, which will contain or support tooth paste, powder, antiseptic or dentifrice of any desired character until ready for use, and will then be available when moistened for rubbing and massaging action upon the teeth and gums and which will most efficiently apply the dentifrice and the antiseptic in a sanitary manner.

The inconvenience of carrying containers of tooth paste, dentifrice and antiseptic, and the absence of these articles when desired in public places make it desirable to provide a device which can be used and discarded. Such devices may be dispensed from slot machines or they may be sold in packages and carried in the pocket of the user, and when one is desired it may be conveniently used and then discarded.

My improved applicator embodies many advantages, some of which may be enumerated as follows:

It operates to thoroughly protect and shield the tooth powder, tooth paste or other dentifrice until it is in proper position on the finger of the user and moistened, and then the moisture not only functions to penetrate the support or facing material carrying the dentifrice, but it also operates to release a protecting cap which shields and protects the dentifrice until this moistening operation takes place.

The device is entirely sanitary and convenient for use whenever desired, and it most efficiently performs the functions for which it is intended.

With these and other objects in view, the invention consists in certain novel features of construction and combinations and arrangements of parts, all of which will be more fully hereinafter described and pointed out in the claim.

In the accompanying drawing—

Figure 1 is a perspective view showing my improved applicator as it is removed from its casing or covering or package, with the protecting cap still in position over the dentifrice;

Figure 2 is a view in longitudinal section showing the applicator in position on the finger of the user, with the protecting cap removed;

Figure 3 is a perspective view of the applicator shown in Figure 2; and

Figure 4 is a view in transverse section showing the applicator flattened and protected by a suitable wrapping or covering, preferably of cellophane, although it is to be distinctly understood that the invention is not limited to the materials employed.

My improved applicator comprises a facing 1. I use this term "facing" to distinguish this portion of the applicator from a backing 2; the facing and the backing taken together constitute a receptacle for the finger of the user. The backing is preferably of resilient material, such as elastic mesh, and preferably projects at its open end slightly beyond the facing, as clearly shown in Figure 2 of the drawing, so that this projected portion of the backing acts as a lip which can be readily grasped and a finger inserted in the applicator, or the applicator drawn over the finger.

The facing may, of course, be made of various materials. It is preferably of two thicknesses of cheese-cloth or analogous material with a filling 3 between the two thicknesses of absorbent cotton or similar material. The facing extends across approximately one-half of the device as a whole and all the way around the end of the device, so that in actual use no portion of the backing comes into contact with the teeth or gums, but only the facing material which is thoroughly sterilized.

In order to provide a receptacle or space for the accommodation of tooth paste, tooth powder or other suitable dentifrice, as indicated by the reference character 4, an opening 5 may be provided in the outer sheet of the facing and the dentifrice deposited di-

rectly on the absorbent cotton lining 3, as clearly indicated in Figure 2 of the drawing.

To protect and shield the dentifrice before it is actually used, I provide a cover 6, shown in Figure 4 of the drawing, which is of such size and shape as to cover and protect the dentifrice without contact with the same, and this cover may have base flanges 7 which rest on the facing and may be removably connected to the facing by some form of adhesive or by some other securing means, which may readily be broken after the facing is moistened. The importance of this will be understood when it is realized that without such a protecting cover if the device is placed under a force of water issuing from a faucet the dentifrice may be washed away, whereas if the cover is allowed to remain over the dentifrice until the facing is sufficiently moistened then the cover can be removed from the dentifrice without loss.

By reason of the construction above explained, the applicator as a whole may be flattened, as shown in Figures 1 and 4 of the drawing, so that a covering 8 of cellophane or other suitable moisture and germ-proof material may be utilized to protect the applicator until it is used. It is also to be distinctly understood that the facing as a whole may be impregnated with some antiseptic, which is released when moistened, and in fact it is to be understood that the invention is to be in no way limited to the particular dentifrice or antiseptic employed, as any of the well known materials may be utilized.

While I have illustrated and described what I believe to be a preferable embodiment of my invention, it is to be distinctly understood that I do not limit myself to the precise details set forth, but consider myself at liberty to make such changes and alterations as fairly fall within the scope of the claim.

What I claim is:

A dental applicator including a facing of absorbent material, a dentifrice supported by the facing, and a protector normally secured by an adhesive to the facing and enclosing the dentifrice, said casing being readily removable when the facing is moistened to soften the adhesive.

OSCAR COHEN.