

Feb. 21, 1928.

1,660,095

S. SCHIELE

GUM MASSAGING IMPLEMENT

Filed June 4, 1925

FIG. 1

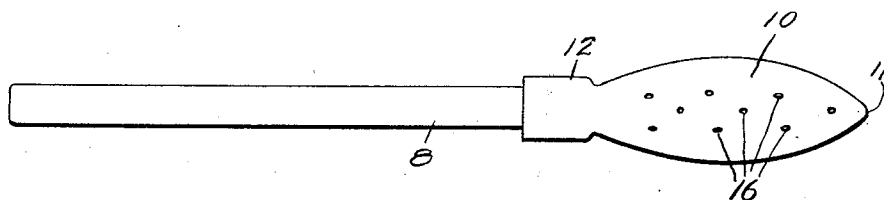


FIG. 2

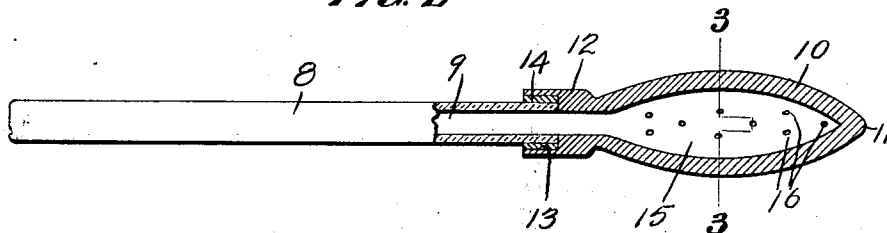


FIG. 4

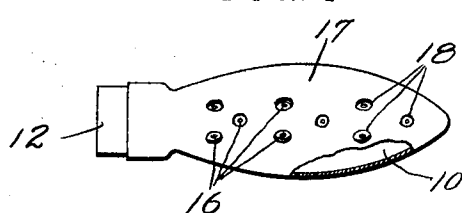


FIG. 3

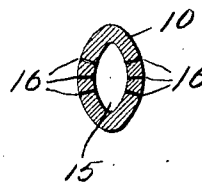


FIG. 5

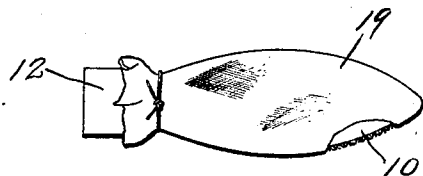
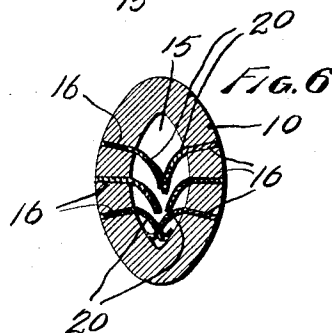
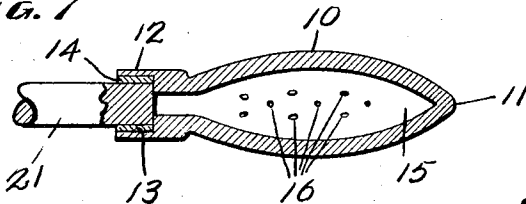


FIG. 7



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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GUM-MASSAGING IMPLEMENT.

Application filed June 4, 1925. Serial No. 34,753.

My invention relates to improvements in gum massaging implements and has for its primary object an implement designed to massage the gums so as to harden the same and restore the proper circulation of blood therethrough incidental with treatment for pyorrhea.

A further object is to construct a gum massaging implement with which a medicament can be applied to the gums during the massaging operation so that the patient will have the benefit of the medical treatment simultaneously with the massaging, and thus eliminate the necessity of hypodermic injections into the gums for pyorrhea treatment.

In the drawings:

Fig. 1 is a side elevation of my device;

Fig. 2 is a similar view with parts broken away and in section and illustrating the interior arrangement of the massaging head;

Fig. 3 is a vertical section taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2;

Fig. 4 is a side elevation of the massaging head having a friction casing applied thereover;

Fig. 5 is a similar view showing another kind of friction casing;

Fig. 6 is an enlarged section similar to Fig. 3 showing a plurality of wicks for conducting the medicament to the exterior of the head; and

Fig. 7 is another modification in which the head is designed to contain the medicament.

In the construction of my device, I employ a handle 8, which is preferably made of glass and which is provided with an interior bore or cavity 9 in which a medicament is to be placed. The medicament is in liquid form so that it will flow freely. 10 represents the massaging head, which is preferably made of hard rubber or similar non-corrosive material and which is capable of being finished smoothly and of receiving a high polish so that there will be absolutely no possibility of scratching or injuring the gums. The head is preferably made in the form of a flattened ellipse so that it will very nearly resemble the shape of a finger, the forward end 11 being rounded so that the end will be blunt and eliminate any possibility of puncturing either the gums or the interior of the mouth. The rear end 12 of the head is cylindrical and is provided with a bore 13 in which a resilient gasket 14 is located. The purpose of this gasket is to make a leak

tight joint between the head and the handle 8. The interior of the head is hollow as indicated by the numeral 15 so that the medicament from the handle can enter the head. The head is also provided with a plurality of ducts 16 through which the medicament passes to the exterior surface of the head and is thus distributed in the gums during the massaging operation. In the event that a greater amount of friction is desired than is possible by means of the smooth polished head 10, I may employ a friction casing 17 as illustrated in Fig. 4. This casing is preferably of soft rubber and is provided with a plurality of openings 18, which, when the casing is in position, will surround the ducts 16 and permit free passage of the medicament.

I may also, if desired, employ a friction casing 19 as illustrated in Fig. 5. In this instance the casing will be of textile fabric, such as silk or similar fine material. When thus equipped, the casing can be thrown away after every massage, and being of textile material the medicament passing through the ducts will be absorbed by the casing and thus distributed to the gums.

In Fig. 6 I have shown still another modification in which wicks 20 pass through the ducts and extend into the interior of the head, the outer end of the wicks terminate flush with the surface of the head 10. In this manner a constant feed of medicament to the outer surface is obtained without danger of a surplus amount entering the mouth, and by regulating the texture of the wicks a predetermined rate of feed of medicament can be obtained.

In Fig. 7 I have shown still another modified form in which it is preferable to employ the wicks shown in Fig. 6 and in which the medicament is designed to be located in the head itself, the handle 21 being solid and acting as a stopper for the head.

It is to be understood, of course, that where the hollow handle 8 is used, a stopper is furnished for the handle so that the head 10 can be removed and the stopper inserted in the handle when the device is not in use, because otherwise the medicament would all ooze out through the ducts. This arrangement also permits the head to be properly sterilized when desired without the necessity of throwing away the medicament as would be the case in the modification shown in Fig. 7.

I do not desire to restrict myself to the precise form of handle or massaging head

shown as these, especially the shape of the massaging head, may be varied to suit different requirements.

The operation of my device is as follows:

5 The handle as shown in Figs. 1 and 2 is first filled with a suitable medicament for pyorrhea treatment, and the head placed in position and the device is ready for operation. The head is then placed in the mouth against the
10 gums. This places the handle in a horizontal position and permits the medicament to flow into the head and pass through the ducts 16. These ducts are very small so that the medicament will only ooze therethrough. In other
15 words, the ducts are so small that it will be impossible for the medicament to pass rapidly therethrough and thus be exhausted in a short time. The implement is then moved backward and forward along the gums, the
20 degree of friction being regulated to a great extent by the pressure employed by the individual operator, although the friction may be increased by the use of the additional friction casings illustrated in Figs. 4 and 5.
25 After the massaging has been finished, it is only necessary to place the device in a standing position, that is with the head uppermost, which will permit the medicament to run back into the handle, after which the
30 handle may be closed up with the stopper and the head sterilized, if desired.

In Fig. 7 I have shown a modified form in which the medicament is placed directly in the head, the opening in the interior of the
35 head being sufficient to maintain a charge of medicament, that is sufficient medicament for a single treatment, after which, of course, the head is to be thoroughly sterilized. With the modification shown in Fig. 6, a
40 steady amount of medicament is fed to the surface by means of the wicks 6 and by reason of the wicks it is also possible to obtain a slightly greater degree of friction than is possible with the heads shown in Figs. 1, 2
45 and 3, although not quite as much as shown in Figs. 4 and 5.

It has been known among the dental profession for many years that massaging the
50 gums is the best treatment possible for pyorrhea, and many a dentist has advocated the massaging of the gums with the finger. My device is intended to have the same action on the gums as the finger with the lessened possibility of carrying germs into
55 the mouth. The friction can be regulated, and in addition to this, a continuous supply of beneficial medicine can be massaged into

the gums at the same time; this is practically impossible by using the fingers, as even distribution of medicine by means of the
60 finger is practically impossible—there being an oversupply at the point where the finger first contacts and a gradual lessening supply as the massage proceeds.

Having fully described my invention, 65 what I claim is:—

1. A gum massaging implement comprising a tubular handle open at one end only and adapted to contain a medicament, a hollow massaging head carried by the open end
70 of said handle and surrounding the same and adapted to receive medicament therefrom, ducts formed in said head and adapted to communicate with the interior thereof for conducting medicament therefrom, and a removable
75 resilient casing for said head, said casing being provided with perforations that register with said ducts so that said medicament can pass from the interior of the head to the outer surface of said casing when the
80 device is in use.

2. A gum massaging implement comprising a rigid tubular member open at one end only and adapted to contain a medicament, a hollow massaging head surrounding the
85 open end of said handle and projecting therebeyond, said head adapted to receive medicament from said handle, ducts formed in said head for conducting medicament from the interior thereof, and a removable friction
90 casing for said head, said casing adapted to have the medicament pass therethrough and be delivered to the gums when the device is in use.

3. A gum massaging implement comprising 95 a hollow massaging head having a cylindrical rear end, said rear end having a bore therein, a resilient gasket located in said bore, a tubular handle adapted to contain a medicament, said handle being open at one end
100 only, the open end of said handle adapted to be inserted into said bore and be surrounded by said gasket whereby a leak-tight joint is made between said handle and head, a plurality of ducts formed in said head and communicating with the interior thereof so that
105 medicament can pass therethrough, and a removable friction covering for said head, said covering adapted to have the medicament pass therethrough and be delivered to
110 the gums when the device is in use.

In testimony whereof I have affixed my signature.

SEYMOUR SCHIELE.