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J. ROSNER, JR

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DENTURE PAD

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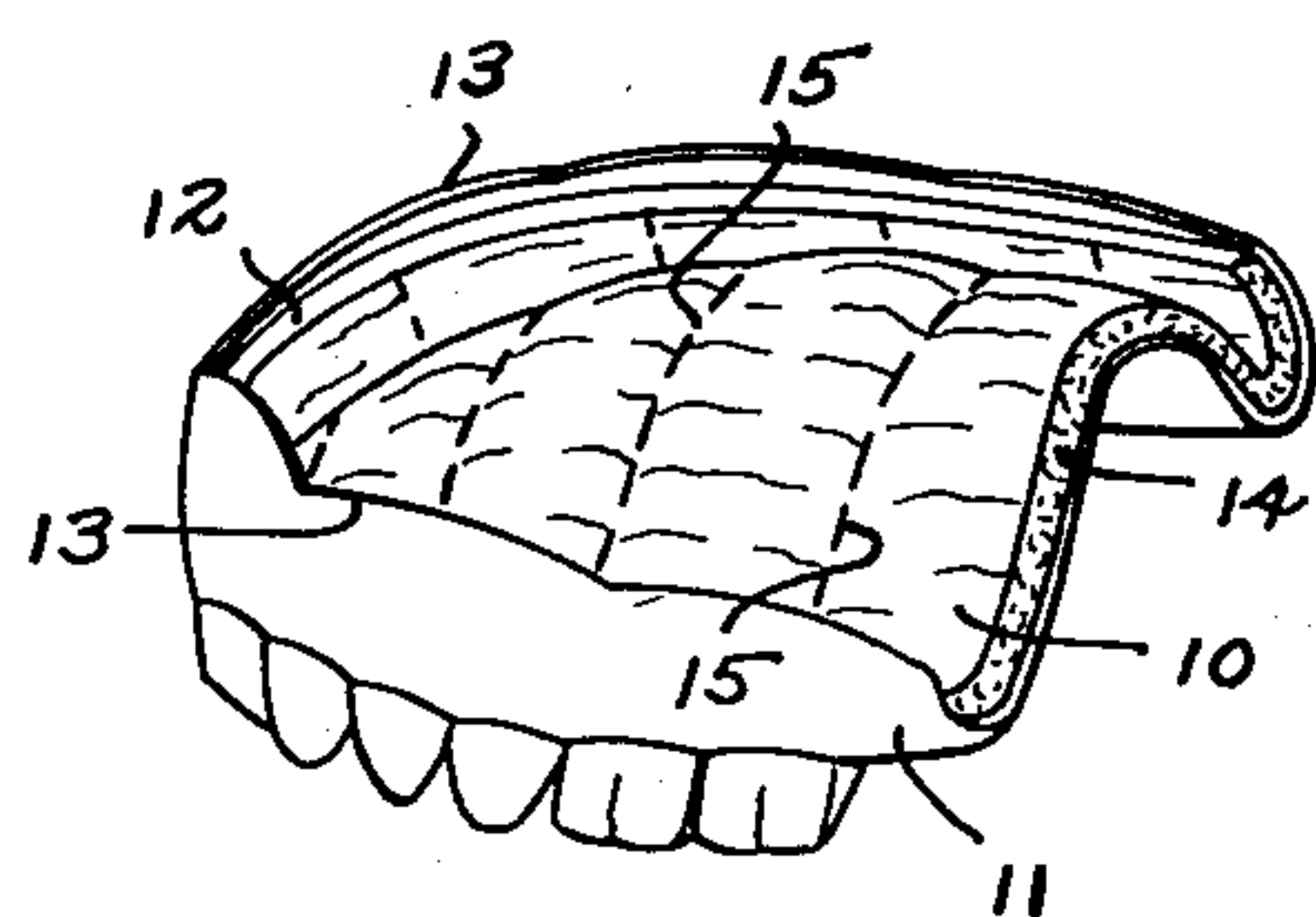


FIG. 3.

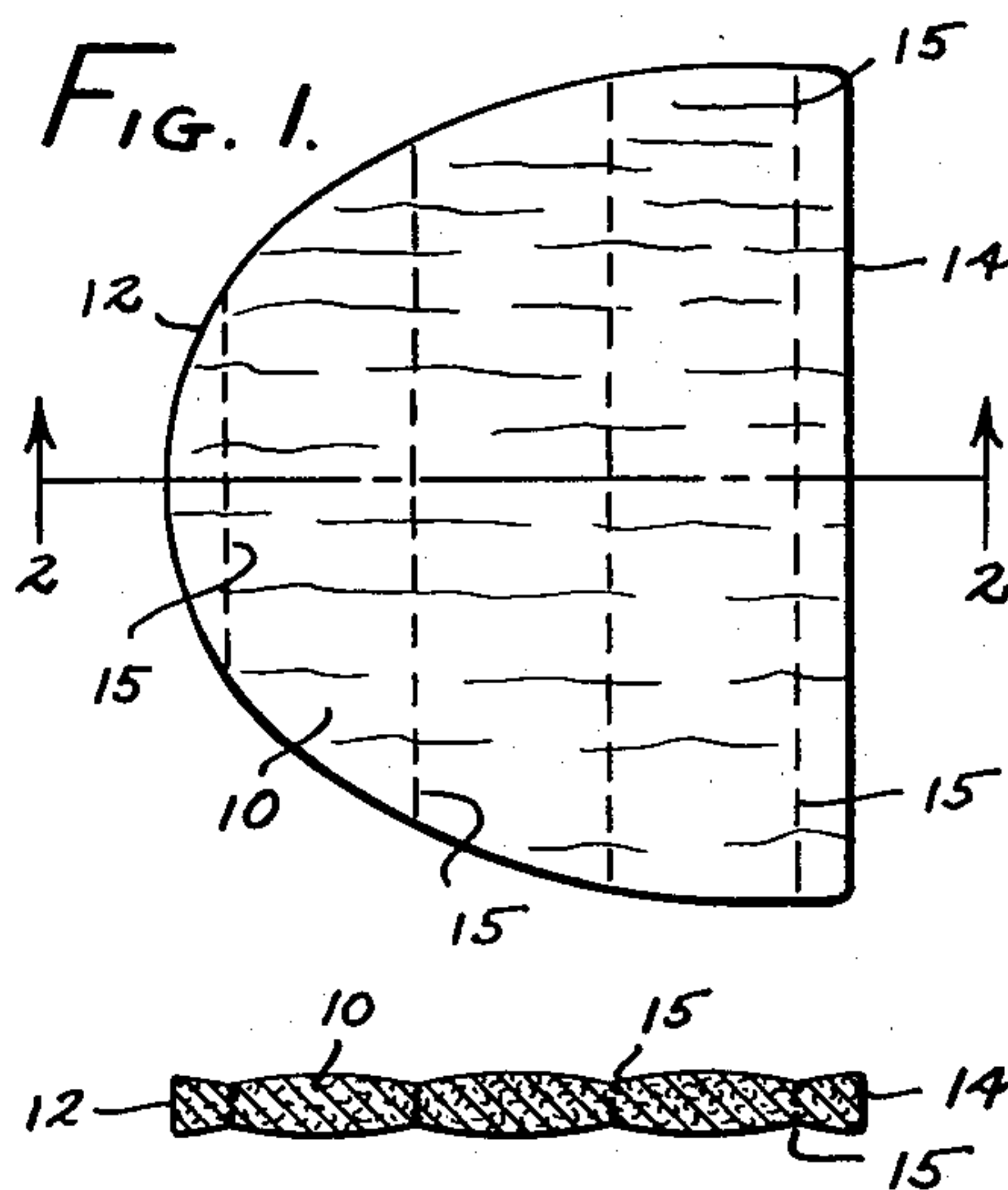


FIG. 2.

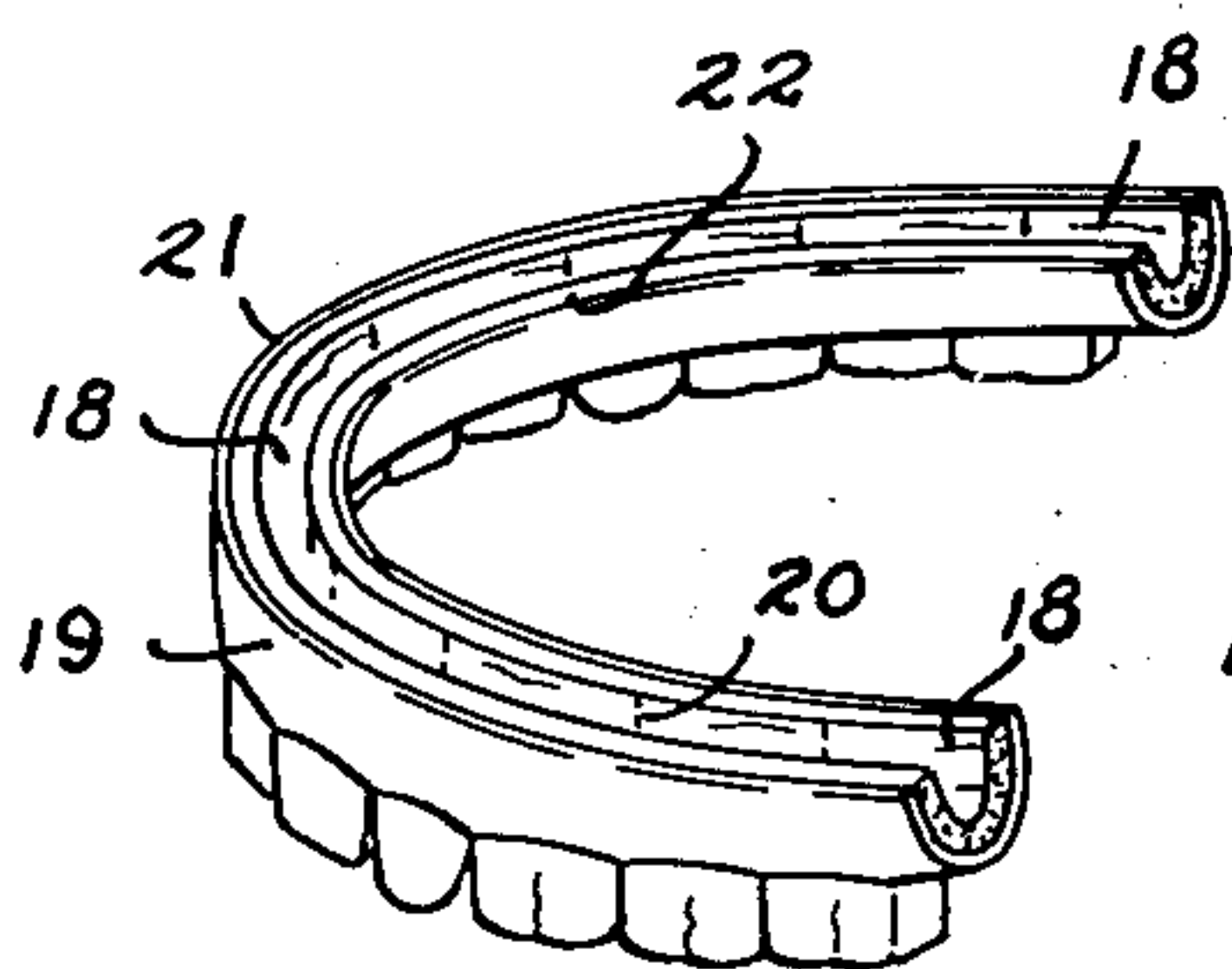


FIG. 5.

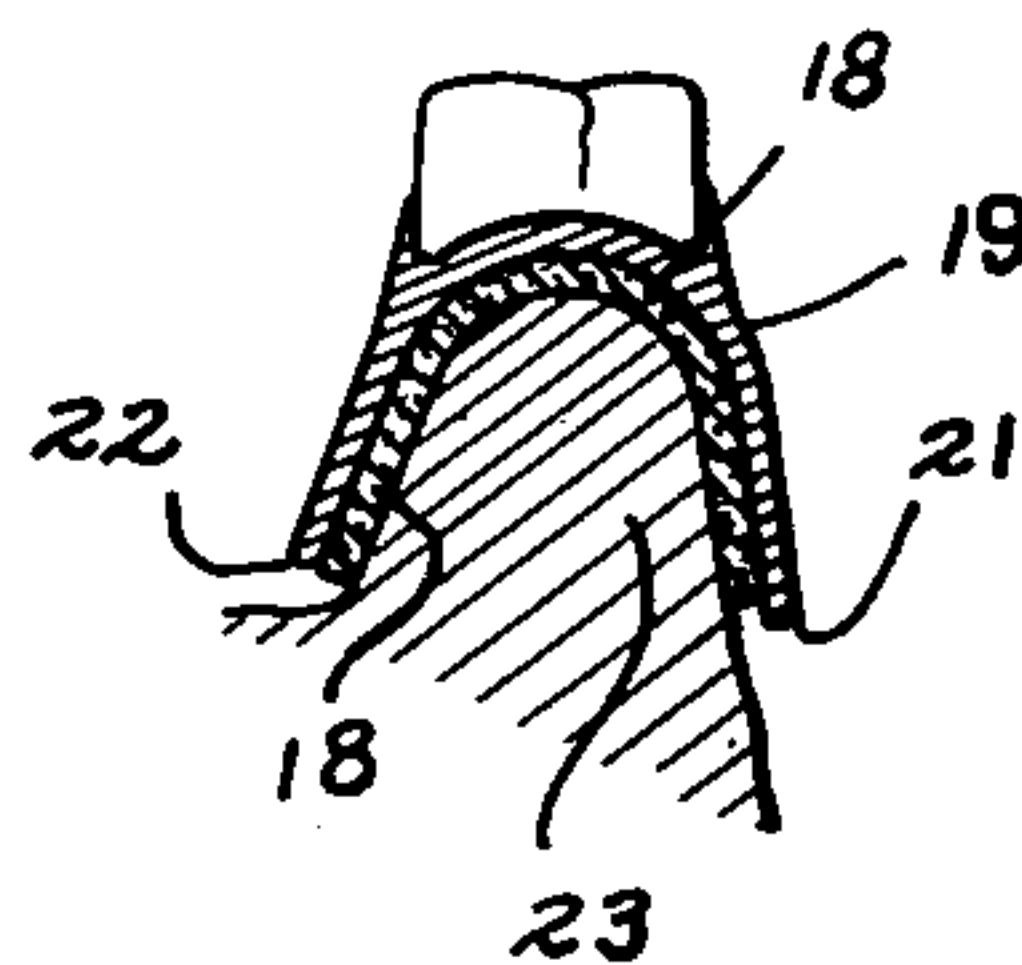


FIG. 6.

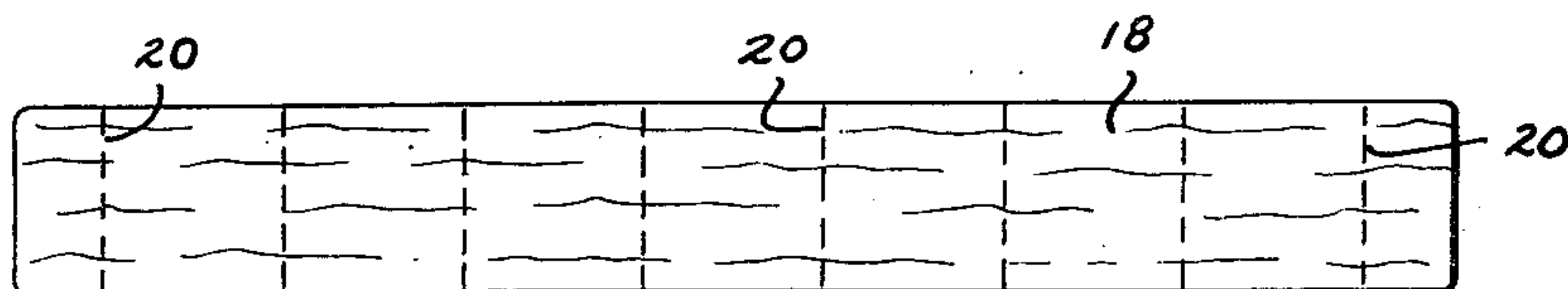


FIG. 4.

INVENTOR,  
JOSEPH ROSNER JR.,  
By Herbert A. Winter  
ATTORNEY.



## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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## DENTURE PAD

Joseph Rosner, Jr., Speedway City, Ind.

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3 Claims. (Cl. 32-2)

1

This invention relates to a pad to be placed between upper and lower dentures and the gums of the user. A primary purpose of the invention is to provide a limited area throughout which fibers, such as cotton fibers arranged primarily in parallel alignment can be permitted to move within a restricted zone. The restriction is provided in my invention by stitching through cotton batting at regular intervals so that the intervening zones are provided between the stitching, and at the same time furrows or grooves are provided across the batting.

The regularly spaced stitching transversely of the general alignment of the individual fibers keeps the cotton fibers from separating which would permit the plate and gums to come into contact one with the other, thus destroying the very purpose of the pad.

I am aware of the fact that cotton fibers in a batt form have been previously used, but I have made the discovery that by providing the spaced apart stitching transversely of the fibers, the cotton contrary to short life heretofore secured will last throughout at least an entire day. Moreover the user of my invention can eat berries readily without the seeds bothering or tearing apart the cotton, since the seeds will become imbedded in the cotton safely without causing irritation, and without cutting the fiber to that extent where it will spread apart and leave the gums exposed directly to the surface of the denture.

A further important object of the invention is to provide a tighter and more secure fit of the dentures in one's mouth. In fact by the use of my discovery, the wearer of dentures employing my invention can eat ear corn very readily without any rocking of the dentures.

Other objects and advantages of the invention reside in its extreme simplicity and low cost to the user.

In describing the invention, reference is made to the accompanying drawing, in which

Fig. 1 is a view in top plan of a pad involving the invention designed for an upper plate;

Fig. 2 is a view in fore and aft central vertical section on the line 2-2 in Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a view in perspective of an upper plate showing the invention applied thereto;

Fig. 4 is a view in top plan of a pad made in accordance with my invention designed for a lower plate;

Fig. 5 is a view in perspective of the lower plate with my invention applied thereto; and

Fig. 6 is a view on an enlarged scale in vertical section through the gum and a denture applied thereto as relating to the lower jaw.

2

Referring to the pad 10 designed for use with the upper plate 11, this pad 10 is cut in the general shape as indicated in Fig. 1, wherein the forward arcuate edge 12 is shaped to allow the pad 10 to be tucked down inside of the plate 11 as indicated in Fig. 3 and have this marginal edge 12 somewhat below the upper marginal edge 13 of the plate 11 so that the pad 10 will be entirely concealed from view when the plate 11 is in the wearer's mouth. The rear edge 14 of the pad 10 is cut on a straight line thereacross. The pad 10 is made out of cotton batting wherein the fibers are originally combed to lie in more or less parallel alignment, and those fibers are felted substantially together so that in the pad 10, these fibers extend in the fore and aft arrangement.

Across the fibers of the pad 10 there are provided a plurality of rows 15 of stitching wherein the stitching loops are spaced around about one-sixteenth of an inch in length. The rows of stitching 15 are spaced apart one from the other on the order of from one-half to five-eighths of an inch.

The stitching in the rows 15 is pulled rather tightly so as to press the fibers along those rows into snug engagement to reduce the original thickness of the batting from approximately one-quarter to five-sixteenths of an inch to approximately one-sixteenth in the rows.

The pad 10 thus described being fitted down closely within the plate 11 has the rows 15 extending transversely across the plate 11 so that there will be no spreading apart of the individual fibers one from the other transversely of the plate. The fibers do not tend to spread apart longitudinally so much as they do laterally, particularly with the stitching, because those fibers are interengaged between the loops of the stitching, and the interengagement of the fibers between the rows is sufficient to prevent the spreading apart in the longitudinal direction.

In reference to the pad 18, Fig. 4, which is designed for use in a lower plate 19, the pad 18 is made in the form of a rectangular strip of the cotton batting with the fibers thereof running longitudinally of the strip. Then there is placed across the strip 18 a plurality of spaced apart rows of stitching 20, the spacing apart being substantially that as is employed in the pad 10. Likewise the fibers are arranged or selected in the batting to run longitudinally of the strip so that the stitching rows 20 extend transversely thereacross.

The pad or strip 18 thus formed is folded downwardly into the plate 19 in a more or less U-shaped manner as indicated in Fig. 5, the width



3

of the pad 18 being such that the marginal edges will be within the marginal edges 21 and 22 of the plate 19. As indicated in Fig. 6, the pad 18 thus forms an insulating medium between the surface of the gum 23 and the inner face of the plate 19. Here again, the cross stitching prevents the spreading apart of the fibers laterally one from the other so that fibers are maintained in that insulating condition throughout a long range of usage, in spite of becoming wet with saliva.

It is this question of wetting by saliva and liquids taken into the mouth which causes the deterioration of the pads very quickly with the omission of the stitching. I have discovered that this stitching, quite simple in itself, performs a wonderful function in making the device operate to the satisfaction of the user who has theretofore occasioned no end of difficulty with his false teeth.

While I have herein shown and described my invention in the best form as now known to me, it is obvious that structural variations may be employed without departing from the spirit of the invention, and I therefore do not desire to be limited to that precise form beyond the limitations which may be imposed by the following claims.

I claim:

1. A denture pad comprising a cotton batt having the fibers therein generally arranged to be substantially parallel longitudinally of the pad; and stitching extending in lines at intervals transversely across the pad; the spacing apart of said lines exceeding the lengths of said fibers; said stitching having its loops elastically compressing the cotton therein; whereby the pad, within the controlled limits of further possible compression of the cotton within said loops due to pull on the stitching along said lines thereof, may be stretched transversely, and also the pad may be stretched to a greater degree longitudinally between said lines.

2. A denture pad comprising a cotton batt having the fibers therein generally arranged to

4

be substantially parallel longitudinally of the pad; and stitching extending in lines at intervals transversely across the pad; the spacing apart of said lines exceeding the lengths of said fibers; said stitching having its loops elastically compressing the cotton therein; whereby the pad, within the controlled limits of further possible compression of the cotton within said loops due to pull on the stitching along said lines thereof, may be stretched transversely, and also the pad may be stretched to a greater degree longitudinally between said lines; the lengths of said loops being approximately one-fourth of the original thickness of the pad.

3. A denture pad comprising a cotton batt having the fibers therein generally arranged to be substantially parallel longitudinally of the pad; and stitching extending in lines at intervals transversely across the pad; the spacing apart of said lines exceeding the lengths of said fibers; said stitching having its loops elastically compressing the cotton therein; whereby the pad, within the controlled limits of further possible compression of the cotton within said loops due to pull on the stitching along said lines thereof, may be stretched transversely, and also the pad may be stretched to a greater degree longitudinally between said lines; the lengths of said loops being approximately one-fourth of the original thickness of the pad; the thickness of the pad being approximately one-fourth of an inch, and said spacing of the stitching lines being approximately twice the thickness of the pad.

JOSEPH ROSNER, JR.

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