AN APPLIANCE FOR OPENING UP SPACE FOR UNERUPTED BICUSPIDS

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THIS appliance, as illustrated, is a simple and effective device for opening up the space for unerupted or missing bicuspids, and occasionally for opening the space for a missing first molar, if the second molar is in place. It can be adjusted so that it will at the same time develop the entire arch.

It is, as far as I know, original, but I make no claims in that direction, because it is, as in many apparently new appliances or methods, but a new application or modification of older basic principles.

Its construction and application are well shown in the illustration. The molar bands, tubes, and threaded end sections are those usually used in other

forms of appliances. The lingual wire is .030 gold and platinum wire, bent to fit accurately the incisors, cuspids and bicuspids at the gingival line and the ends soldered to the threaded section.

This appliance can also be used in cases where the tooth is missing on one side only, by the following modification. It is made as in the illustration on the side where the tooth is missing, while on the other side the lingual wire is carried directly back to the mesiolingual surface of the molar where it is bent at right angles in such a way as to fit into a vertical tube, which is soldered to the molar band. It is best to use a lock spur as well, to prevent the slipping of the appliance. This vertical tube allows the lingual wire to turn sufficiently for the readjustment of the dental arch in its accommodation for the new space.

By turning the nuts gradually, the appliance will open the space with but very little attention or readjustment. It will also, with but slight simplification, act as a retainer. This appliance may be useful to the reader only to carry the case through an early period of treatment, this to be followed by an appliance for the bodily movement of teeth.