

# Well Fitting Teeth Will Help That Youthful Look

APRIL 19, 1967

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(This is one of a series of articles on dental health prepared by the Harbor Dental Society, an affiliate of the American Dental Association.)

As the jaws come together, deep lines and wrinkles appear about the lower part of the face. The lips become compressed and protrude. The chin moves forward and upward. The cupid bow loses its shape and the lip line straightens. We have become "old."

FORTUNATELY, millions of people have learned to wear dentures successfully and so preserve their normal facial expression.

In fact, the American

Dental Association reports nearly half of all people over 20 years old wear a bridge or denture of some sort and more than 20 per cent wear complete upper and lower dentures.

The problems associated with wearing dentures for the first time are usually overcome with patience. A few hours practice usually solves the initial difficulty in learning to speak with artificial teeth.

Another is that immediate dentures help the gums to heal after extraction and so prepare them for the permanent dentures. Further, a return to normal speech and swallowing comes more quickly.

Immediate dentures require more office visits and are slightly more expensive because of the additional time required for their construction, but the advantages are often worth the time and the expense.

A new method which aids patients who have difficulties keeping their dentures in place involves implant dentures. Such implant dentures consist of implanting surgically a mesh of wire fitted into the contour of the jawbone into which the teeth are wired. After the gum heals, the teeth are permanently fixed to the jawbone.

This method is still being studied, and you would be wise to consult your family dentist in this matter.

## Executive Car Offered

Trustees of the Torrance school district voted Monday to accept an offer by a local automobile dealer to provide an executive car for the use of district officials.

The vote was 3-2, with Mrs. Kenneth E. Watts and William J. Hanson, board president, dissenting.

At issue was an offer by Al

Ortale Rambler to furnish a car for executive use by district officials. The firm now furnishes six driver training cars at no cost to the school district.

The school district will insure the car under a master policy held by the district. The acceptance was conditioned on a "no strings attached" policy.

LEARNING to chew is a little more difficult. If you're a new denture wearer, start with foods that are easy to chew and progress to more difficult ones gradually.

Your dentist will guide you in learning to use your new dentures. He will also check them after a few weeks to adjust them to your toughening gums and ridges. They should soon be comfortable.

Sometimes a dentist may advise immediate dentures. These are made and inserted

in the mouth before all of the natural teeth are recovered. One of the advantages, of course, is that you need never be without teeth.

Another method of implanting is to insert a magnet into the jawbone. Researchers find that this improves the movement of the teeth, causing them to function more like natural teeth.

Overall success with these implant dentures is fairly high — in some cases the implants have lasted as long as 15 years.

The average length of time these implants last, however, is from seven to nine years.

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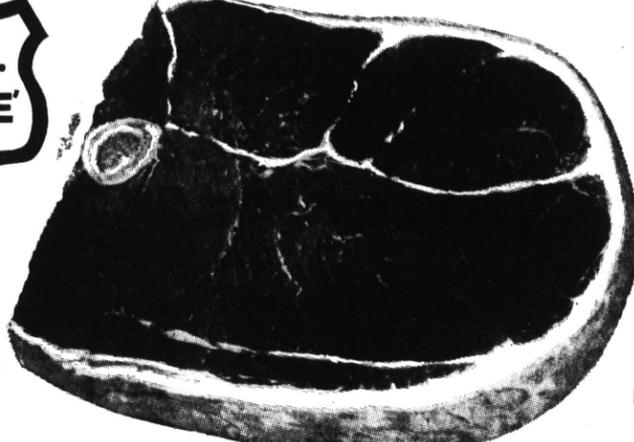


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