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You might be a REDNECK DENTIST if...

- Instead of nitrous you ask your patient to "pull my finger."
- You have more curtains in your pick-up than you do in your office.
- Chiggers are included in your list of "top 5 dental hygiene concerns."
- Your lab coat has the sleeves cut off.
- Your dental school song was "Dueling Banjos."
- You keep a can of Raid in each operatory.
- You clean your fingernails with a Cavitron.
- There are more than 5 old Burger King bags on your desk.
- Your high speed is made by Black and Decker.
- You have a velvet picture of Elvis in your waiting room.
- You use the term "over yonder" instead of "distal."
- You wonder how your staff can keep the restroom so clean.
- You almost quit dental school because your dad was opening a lube rack.
- Your patients complain that the ceiling fan is blowing too hard.
- The pen at your check out desk has a chain on it.
- Your dental assistant can hear your car before she can see it.
- You use the words debridement and divorce interchangeably.
- After a haircut you look like Willie Nelson.
- Your largest monthly office expense is from your taxidermist.
- Your patients ask if they can wear a mask too.
- Your assistant has to start suction by sucking hard on a plastic tube then lowering the end into a bucket.

The Case of the Washed-Up Dentures

COPY 2

by Christy K. Robinson

A nurse*, visiting from a Far East country and studying at Loma Linda University, had never seen the ocean. With her classmates, she waded into the cold winter surf at an Orange County beach. Somehow, when she waded back to shore, she had lost her teeth!

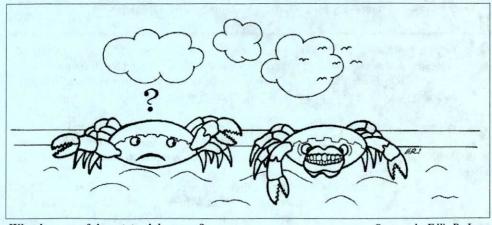
William Heisler, SD'59, professor of restorative dentistry, says, "On a Sunday night at 10:30, Jim Crawford (SD'60, MPH, executive associate dean of the School of Dentistry) called me to ask if I could help out. A young woman had lost her upper denture in the surf, and we invited her to come to the IDP (International Dentist Program) clinic at 8:00 a.m. Monday" to see what could be done.

Dr. Heisler and Luis Calvillo, dental technician in Dental Laboratory Services, crafted an upper denture for the nurse in record time. Over two days, they took impressions, did a bite registration, sculpted the set, and did a "try-in" to approve the appearance and fit of the denture, before making final adjustments and fitting the artwork to the patient. Within 48 hours, the nurse had her new denture delivered to her. The month-long process usually takes several appointments, each a week apart. In this case, the denture was worked on to the exclusion of other projects.

"She was very, very pleased with her appearance and fit," says Dr. Heisler.

The School of Nursing reimbursed the School of Dentistry for the replacement denture.

*The nurse's name and her home country have been withheld for her privacy.



What became of the original dentures?

Cartoon by Ellis R. Jones

Melissa: I just burned a hundred dollar bill.

Sarah: Wow! You must be rich!

Melissa: Not really. The bill was from my dentist!

Mentalgram

They really said it -- notable quotes from the news:

"We had a bunch of dentures once, about 1,500 dentures. A wholesaler bought them."

-- A U.S. Customs spokesman explaining the eclectic selection of goods up for auction after being confiscated from criminals.

Dentist says to the patient: Could you help me? Could you give out a few of your loudest, most painful screams?

Patient: Why? Doc, it isn't all that bad this time.

Dentist: There are so many people in the waiting room right now and I don't want to miss the 7 o'clock tennis game.

Dentists are incapable of asking questions that require a simple yes or no answer.



Patient: Doctor, I have yellow teeth, what do I do? Dentist: Wear a brown tie...

A patient asked the dentist if it's nasty to have hands in someone's mouth all day. The dentist answered, "I just think of it as having my hands in their wallet."

ahatma Ghandi walked barefoot everywhere, to the point that his feet became quite thick and hard. He also was quite a spiritual person. Even when he was not on a hunger strike, he did not eat much and became quite thin and frail. Furthermore, due to his diet, he wound up with very bad breath. Therefore: he came to be known as a... "Super calloused fragile mystic plagued with halitosis."

Factoid Medical

records in

Oswege, NY, show the typical patient of 1816 paid 25 cents to have a tooth pulled and \$1.25 to have a baby.

Patient: How much to have this tooth pulled? Dentist: \$70 Patient: \$70 for just a few minutes' work??? Dentist: I can extract it very slowly if you Why did the maharishi refuse Novocaine when he had his tooth pulled? He wanted to transcend dental medication.

A man went to his dentist because he feels something wrong in his mouth. The dentist examines him and says, "That new upper plate I put in for you six months ago is eroding. What have you been eating?"

The man replies, "All I can think of is that about four months ago my wife made some asparagus and put some stuff on it that was delicious ... Hollandaise sauce. I loved it so much I now put it on everything -- meat.

toast, fish, vegetables, everything."

"Well," says the dentist, "that's probably the problem. Hollandaise sauce is made with lots of lemon juice, which is highly corrosive. It's eaten away your upper plate. I'll make you a new plate, and this time use chrome."

"Why chrome?" asks the patient.

To which the dentist replies, "It's simple. Everyone knows that ... there's no plate like chrome for the Hollandaise!" Hip to the Web?

like.

Try http://www.billybobteeth.com/ for photos, videos, and free e-greetings of truly disgusting prosthodontic appliances.

My dental hygienist is cute. Every time I visit, I eat a whole package of Oreo cookies while I'm in the waiting room. Sometimes she has to cancel the rest of the afternoon's appointments.

dinner speaker was in such a hurry to get to his engagement that when he arrived and sat down at the head table, he suddenly realized that he had forgotten his false teeth. Turning to the man next to him he said, "I forgot my teeth." The man said, "No problem." With that he reached into his pocket and pulled out a pair of false teeth.

"Try these," he said. The speaker tried them. "Too loose," he said. The man then said, "I have another pair...try these." The speaker tried them and responded, "Too tight." The man was not taken aback at all. He then said, "I have one more pair...try them." The speaker said, "They fit perfectly." With that he ate his meal and gave his address.

After the dinner meeting was over, the speaker went over to thank the man who had helped him. "I want to thank you for coming to my aid. Where is your office? I've been looking for a good dentist." The man replied, "I'm not a dentist. I'm the local undertaker."

A preacher visits an elderly woman from his congregation. As he sits on the couch he notices a large bowl of peanuts on the coffee table.

"Mind if I have a few?" he asks.

"No, not at all," the woman replied.

They chat for an hour and as the preacher stands to leave, he realizes that instead of eating just a few peanuts, he emptied most of the bowl.

"I'm terribly sorry for eating all your peanuts, I really just meant to eat a few."

"Oh, that's all right," the woman says.
"Ever since I lost my teeth all I can do is suck the chocolate off them."