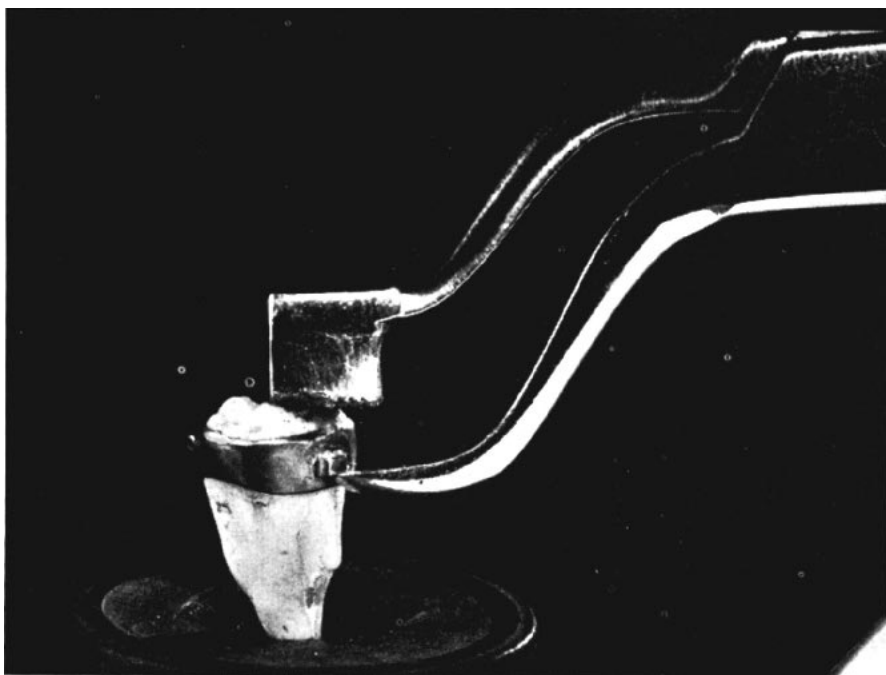


A Suggestion to Facilitate the Removal of Molar Bands

IRWIN F. STEUER, D.D.S., M.S.D.
Cleveland, Ohio

DURING rare opportune times when I have had occasion to view the work of other orthodontists, I have noticed an acute need for some type of attachment to be used on the lingual surfaces of the molar bands in order to afford a place to grasp the band for removal and also to press against the band during the process of cementing the band to the tooth.



Some operators use a small section of wire soldered to the band; still others use just a bit of solder. It has been my observation that neither one of these attachments gives the operator a neat, efficient, decisive point at which pressure can be applied without danger of the band removing pliers and the band seating instrument slipping.

Most all orthodontists have in their offices some discarded "edgewise" bracket bands. Utilizing this bracket I have devised a simple technique: remove one of these brackets from the band and solder this bracket with the slot against the molar band, thus leaving the square surface toward the lingual. This, you will find, affords the operator a definite strong attach-

ment to which pressure may be applied. If you feel the edges are too severe or sharp they may be polished or rounded off a trifle without reducing the efficiency of the attachment.

One may think that this attachment would cause discomfort to the patient; however, I can truthfully state that I have had no complaints, ill affects, nor trauma to the tissues. In my practise I have found this to be a most efficient attachment for the required purpose.

Republic Building.