May 1, 1951 E. J. LOEFFLER 2,550,832

DEVICE FOR APPLYING LIQUID FROM A CONTAINER TO THE HAIR

Filed Jan. 20, 1945

Fig. 1.

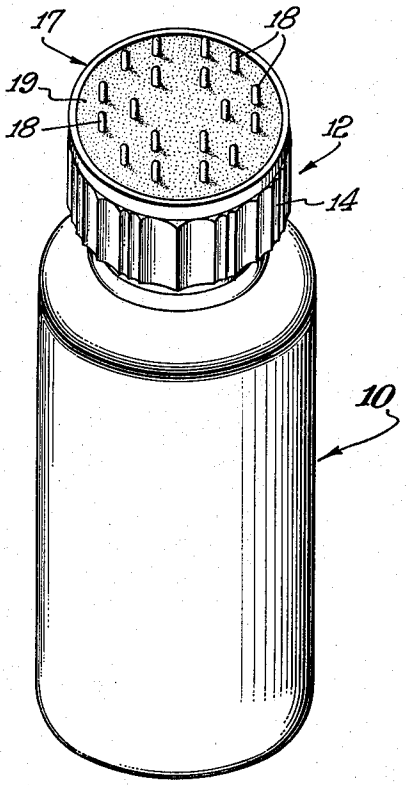


Fig. 2.

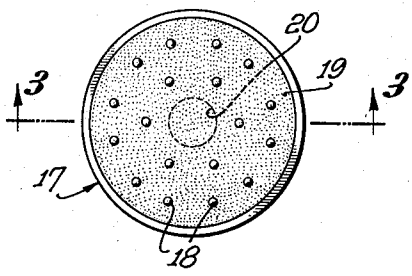


Fig. 3.

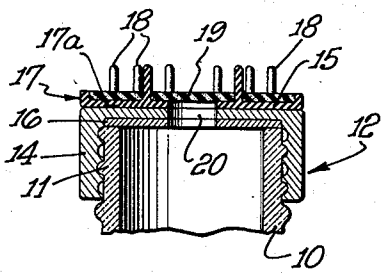
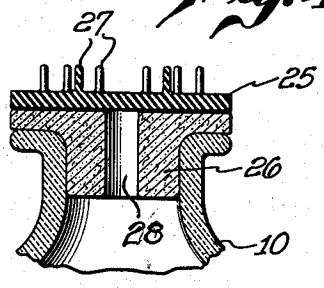


Fig. 4.



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DEVICE FOR APPLYING LIQUID FROM A CONTAINER TO THE HAIR

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4 Claims. (Cl. 15—133)

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This invention relates to devices for applying dressing or other liquids to the hair or scalp.

In the past it has been the custom to apply liquids to the hair or scalp by applying a small amount to the hands, afterwards rubbing the hands through the hair to distribute the liquid more or less evenly through the hair. This is objectionable in that it is messy and wasteful.

It is proposed to provide a dispensing means for liquids to be applied to the hair and which will form part of the container for the liquid.

It is therefore an object of the present invention to provide a device for applying liquids to the hair or scalp which does not require application of the hands to the hair.

It is a further object of the present invention to provide a liquid applicator for the hair which will evenly coat the hair by merely being passed therethrough.

It is a further object of the present invention to provide a liquid applicator for the hair which forms part of the container for such liquid

It is a further object of the present invention to provide a liquid applicator which can be used to give a massaging effect to the scalp while applying liquid to the hair or scalp.

This invention possesses many other advantages, and has other objects which may be made more easily apparent from a consideration of several embodiments of the invention. For this purpose there are shown two forms in the drawings accompanying and forming part of the present specification. These forms, which illustrate the general principles of the invention, will now be described in detail; but it is to be understood that this detailed description is not to be taken in a limiting sense, since the scope of the invention is best defined by the appended claims.

Referring to the drawings:

Figure 1 is a general perspective view of a device embodying one form of the present invention;

Figure 2 is a top plan of the device shown in Figure 1;

Figure 3 is a fragmentary sectional view taken on line 3—3 of Figure 2; and

Figure 4 is a fragmentary section of a modified form of the invention.

In the drawings, the invention is shown embodied in a closure device secured to the mouth or outlet of a container for the liquid to be applied to the hair or scalp. Upon inversion of the container, the device can be readily passed over and through the hair, the container serving conveniently as a handle. As hereinafter described, the device serves effectively in controlling the flow of liquid from the container and in its application to the hair as the device is passed therethrough in a more or less brushing manner. When the device is not in use and the container is in an upright position, the device serves as a closure means for the container.

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In Figures 1 to 3, the container is shown in the form of a bottle 10, having an externally threaded neck portion 11, by which the applicator, generally designated 12, is secured thereto. The bottle may be, if desired, the container in which the liquid to be applied is sold.

The applicator 12 is in the form of a cap having an internally threaded skirt portion 14 cooperable with the threaded neck on the container 10, whereby the device can be screwed onto the container neck and secured to the mouth of the container. When so positioned, the top 15 of the cap extends across the mouth of the container, and a gasket 16 clamped between the top of the cap and the end of the bottle neck provides a fluid tight seal around the mouth of the container to prevent leakage of liquid along the threads.

Mounted on the top 15 of the cap 12 is a member 17 comprising a thin layer 17a having fingers 18 extending from its surface. These fingers are preferably made resilient in order that their passage across the scalp will produce the desired stimulating and massaging action without discomfort to the person whose scalp or hair is undergoing treatment. Thus, the member 17 may be formed of neoprene, or some other suitable material which is not affected by the liquid to be applied to the hair and scalp. The layer or base portion 17a of the member 17 may be of rigid material and the fingers resilient; or there might even be occasion where it would be desirable to make the fingers rigid, although in such case, the manipulation of the device over the scalp would require more care to prevent discomfort to the person whose scalp was undergoing treatment.

The layer 17a of the member 17 is adhesively secured to the top 15 of the cap 14 in a manner to produce a fluid tight seal between the joined surfaces of these two members.

On the layer 17a there is secured a layer of porous material 19 through which the fingers 18 extend. This layer may be of any suitable material which is sufficiently porous to absorb the liquid to be applied to the hair, and preferably one which will not disintegrate or become other-

wise affected by the oil or other liquids employed. As an example, felt has been found to be a satisfactory material from which to make the layer 19. This layer may also be secured to the layer 17*a* by any suitable adhesive material. Instead of felted or fabric materials, the layer 19 might be made of other porous material such as, for instance, synthetic sponge rubber.

It will be noted that an opening 20 extends through the layers 15 and 17, rendering the interior of the container or bottle 10 continuously communicative with the layer 19. Thus, when the bottle 10 is inverted the liquid within the container 10 flows onto and is absorbed by the porous material 19. As the fingers 18 and saturated layer 17*a* are passed over the hair, liquid on the exposed surface of the saturated layer 19 is wiped onto the hair. The passage of the fingers 18 through the hair during this process tends to separate the hair so that a greater surface of the hair is contacted by the oily surface of the layer 19. Additionally, liquid from the saturated layer 19 tends to creep or flow along the surfaces of the resilient fingers 18, whence it is transferred to the hair as the fingers pass therethrough. By pressing the resilient fingers against the scalp as they are combed through the hair, an effective invigorating or massaging action can be imparted to the scalp at the same time the liquid is being applied to the hair.

Referring to the form of the invention shown in Figure 4, the fingers are connected directly to a porous or absorbent element 25, which may be secured adhesively, or in any other suitable manner, to the closure for the container, which in this case is shown as a plug or cork 26. The member 25 and fingers 27 may be formed of a porous or absorbent material similar to that of the member 19. An opening 28 communicates between the element 25 and the interior of the container 10 to conduct liquid to the element when the container is inverted. When the member 25 is formed of felt or the like, the fingers are of course somewhat rigid, but due to the nature of such material, the ends of the fingers will not injure the scalp. If the member 25 is made of sponge rubber, the fingers are of course readily yieldable in response to pressure against the scalp. When both the fingers and portion to which they are attached are of porous material, the liquid flows from the base portion into the fingers so that an oily surface is provided on the surface of the fingers as well as on the exposed surface of the member 25.

I claim:

1. A closure for a container in the form of a cap adapted to be secured by its lower portion to the mouth of the container, a layer of material having a plurality of fingers integral therewith, said layer overlying and being secured to the top portion of said cap, said fingers projecting upwardly from said layer, and a pad of porous material overlying and secured to said layer, said fingers passing through openings in said pad, said cap and said layer having registering openings adapted to form communication between the interior of said container and said pad of porous material.

2. A closure for a container in the form of a cap adapted to be secured by its lower portion to the mouth of the container with the top of the cap extending over said mouth, a plurality of fingers secured to said top and projecting upwardly therefrom, a pad of porous material mounted exteriorly on said top and having openings through which said fingers extend, said top having a through opening communicating with the container mouth when the cap is mounted on the container, said pad extending across said opening and forming a closure therefor controlling the passage of liquid from said container.

3. A device for applying liquid to the hair comprising: a cap adapted to be secured by its skirt to a container for the liquid, with the top of the cap extending over the mouth thereof, said top having a through opening disposed over said mouth for passing liquid from said container, a porous layer secured on the exterior of said top and over said opening forming a closure therefor for controlling the passage of liquid from the container, said layer having an exposed outer surface for distributing said liquid by contact with the hair; and fingers attached to said cap projecting outwardly therefrom through said layer.

4. A device for applying liquid to the hair comprising: a cap-like closure member adapted to be secured by its skirt to the mouth of a container for the liquid, and having a top with an opening registering with said mouth; a porous layer carried by said top extending over said opening and forming a closure for said mouth for controlling the passage of liquid from said container; said layer having an exposed outer surface for distributing said liquid by contact with the hair; and fingers projecting upwardly from said layer.

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