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PROTECTIVE FACE MASK

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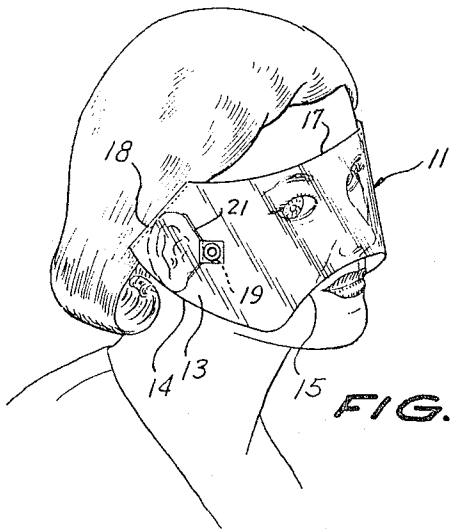


FIG. 1.

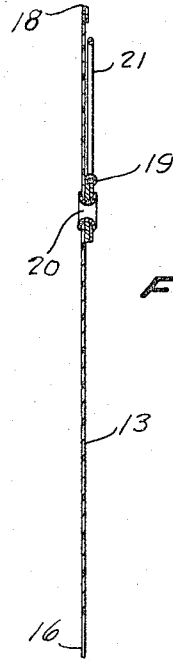


FIG. 3.

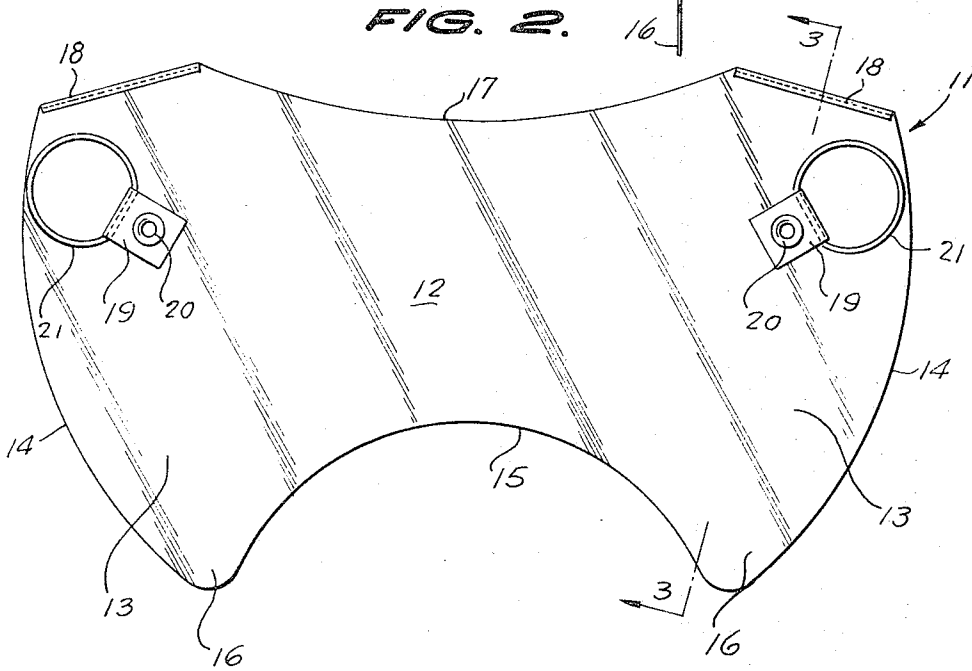


FIG. 2.

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PROTECTIVE FACE MASK

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3 Claims. (Cl. 2-9)

This invention relates to face-protecting devices, and more particularly to a transparent face mask adapted to fit over the upper portion of a person's face and to protect the person's eyes, nose and ears, as well as the adjacent portions of the person's face, against wind, rain, dust, and other adverse atmospheric conditions.

A main object of the invention is to provide a novel and improved protective face mask which is simple in construction, which is comfortable to wear, which provides good visibility, and which does not interfere in any way with a person's breathing.

A further object of the invention is to provide an improved protective face mask which is inexpensive to fabricate, which is durable in construction, which provides a high degree of protection to the eyes, nose and side portions of a person's face, as well as to the person's ears, which prevents disarray of a person's makeup under inclement weather conditions, and which does not become fogged by the person's breath while being worn.

A still further object of the invention is to provide an improved transparent protective face mask which is designed to protect the eyes, nose and ears of a person from wind, dust, rain, and other atmospheric conditions, which minimizes the discomfort of being exposed to these adverse weather conditions without interfering with visibility, which is neat in appearance, and which protects the person's face against chapping and other adverse effects otherwise caused by wind, dust, and the like.

A still further object of the invention is to provide an improved transparent face mask shaped to cover the eyes, nose, ears and adjacent portions of a person's face and to be received immediately below the person's hairline at the sides of the person's head, the mask being contoured so as to generally conform with the shape of a person's face while providing ample clearance for the person's mouth and for normal breathing, serving as a means for protecting a person's cosmetic arrangements from the effects of adverse weather conditions, such as wind, rain, dust, or the like.

Further objects and advantages of the invention will become apparent from the following description and claims, and from the accompanying drawings, wherein:

FIGURE 1 is a perspective view of a person wearing an improved protective face mask constructed in accordance with the present invention.

FIGURE 2 is a plan view of the face mask illustrated in FIGURE 1 viewed from the rear.

FIGURE 3 is a somewhat enlarged cross sectional view taken substantially on the line 3-3 of FIGURE 2.

Referring to the drawings, the improved protective face mask is designated generally at 11 and comprises a body of transparent flexible sheet plastic material which is relatively thin but which has a sufficient amount of rigidity to resist wind or dust particles blown thereagainst. The body, designated at 12, is formed with the respective side wings 13, 13, arranged symmetrically relative to the vertical center line of the body, as viewed in FIGURE 2. The side wings are of sufficient size to cover the side portions of a person's face when the device is worn, as will be presently described. The side wings 13, 13 are formed with convex side edges 14, 14 which are directed so as to converge downwardly, as shown in FIGURE 2, and with an arcuately concave bottom intermediate edge portion 15 located between the respective apex portions 16, 16 at the opposite lower corners of body 12. The

concave edge 15 is of substantial height so as to provide sufficient clearance for a person's mouth when the device is worn in the manner illustrated in FIGURE 1.

The body is further formed with a concave intermediate top edge portion 17 shaped to substantially conform to the curvature of a person's forehead when the mask is worn. The top margins of the side wings 13, 13 are folded downwardly, as shown at 18, 18 and are suitably stitched so as to define rigid top hems on the top edges of the side wings, said hems being substantially straight, as shown in FIGURE 2, and being shaped to fit beneath the hairline of a person at the opposite sides of the person's face, in the manner substantially shown in FIGURE 1.

Designated respectively at 19, 19 are loop members of flat strip material which are secured at locations spaced inwardly substantial distances from the side edges 14, 14, as by means of eyelets 20, 20 to the upper portions of the inside surfaces of the side wings 13, 13, and engaged through the respective loop members 19, 19 are elastic bands 21, 21 adapted to be engaged around a person's ears when the device is worn in the manner illustrated in FIGURE 1.

The mask 11 is mounted over a person's eyes and nose in the manner illustrated in FIGURE 1, with the side wings 13, 13 overlying the side portions of the person's face and the ears, in the manner illustrated, with the loops 21 engaged around the ears so as to hold the mask in proper position. The side wings are of sufficient size to cover the major portions of the sides of the person's face as well as to overlie the person's ears, as shown in FIGURE 1, and the body 12 is of sufficient size so that when it is bowed in the manner illustrated in FIGURE 1, the intermediate portion thereof is deflected upwardly at its lower portion to provide ample clearance for the person's nose and mouth. The loop members 19, 19 are at a sufficient height on the side wings 13, 13 such that when the bands 21 are engaged over the person's ears, the upper portion of the mask is placed substantially in tension so as to cause the concave top edge 17 to rest closely adjacent to and bear against the person's forehead. The side edges 14 of the wings 13 are shaped so as to conform with the general curvature of the side portions of the person's jaw so as to substantially merge therewith, as illustrated in FIGURE 1, thus enhancing the appearance of the mask when worn. Due to the outward deflection of the lower intermediate portion of the mask, and due to the provision of the concave bottom intermediate edge portion 15, substantial clearance is provided between the lower intermediate portion of the mask and the person's nose, and the mouth is fully exposed, whereby to allow ample ventilation in the lower forward portion of the mask, which prevents the mask from becoming fogged by the person's breath. At the same time, the side wings 13, 13 lie closely adjacent to the person's cheeks and are held thereagainst by the elastic loops 21, 21.

As will be readily apparent, when wearing the mask, a person is protected against the entry of foreign particles into the person's eyes and nose, and the various cosmetic arrangements, as employed in a woman's facial makeup, are protected against damage by winds, dust, rain, or other adverse atmospheric conditions. Also, since the rigid top edge portions 18, 18 are located so as to substantially underlie the side portions of the person's hairline, the wearing of the mask does not disturb the person's hair arrangement.

The protective face mask is especially valuable for use under winter weather conditions, as in snow storms, rain storms, sleet or hail storms and during exposure to high winds. When used under such conditions, a person may breathe normally and in perfect comfort.

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When properly dimensioned, the mask may be worn over eyeglasses without interfering therewith, thereby serving to prevent fogging of the glasses under stormy or inclement weather conditions. As previously explained, the top intermediate edge portion 17 fits relatively

10 The transparent body 12 may be suitably tinted, if so desired.

While a specific embodiment of an improved protective face mask has been disclosed in the foregoing description, it will be understood that various modifications within the spirit of the invention may occur to those skilled in the art. Therefore, it is intended that no limitations be placed on the invention except as defined by the scope of the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A protective face mask comprising a body of transparent flexible sheet plastic material formed with side wings shaped to cover the sides of a person's face, said body being formed with a concave intermediate top edge portion substantially conforming to the curvature of a person's forehead and being formed with a concave intermediate bottom edge portion to provide clearance for a person's mouth when the body is engaged over the person's nose and eyes, said side wings having relatively rigid top edge portions shaped to underlie the person's hairline, respective loop members secured to the inner surfaces of the side wings at locations spaced substantial distances inwardly from the side edges of said side wings, and respective elastic bands engaged through said loop members and being located so as to be engageable over the person's ears, whereby the side wings substantially overlie the person's ears when the elastic bands are engaged over the ears.

2. A protective face mask comprising a body of transparent flexible sheet plastic material formed with side wings shaped to cover the sides of a person's face and having convex side edges, said body being formed with a concave intermediate top edge portion substantially conforming to the curvature of a person's forehead, and formed with a concave intermediate bottom edge portion

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to provide clearance for a person's mouth when the body is engaged over the person's nose and eyes, said side wings having relatively rigid top edge portions shaped to underlie the person's hairline, respective loop members secured to the upper portions of the inner surfaces of the side wings at locations spaced substantial distances inwardly from said side edges, and respective elastic bands engaged through said loop members and being located so as to be engaged over the person's ears, whereby the side wings substantially overlie the person's ears when the elastic bands are engaged over the ears.

3. A protective face mask comprising a body of transparent flexible sheet plastic material formed with side wings shaped to cover the sides of a person's face and having convex side edges, said body being formed with a concave intermediate top edge portion substantially conforming to the curvature of a person's forehead, said body being formed with a concave intermediate bottom edge portion to provide clearance for a person's mouth when the body is engaged over a person's nose and eyes, the top margins of the side wings being folded downwardly to define rigid top edge portions on the side wings shaped to underlie the person's hairline, respective loop members secured to the upper portions of the inner surfaces of the side wings at locations spaced substantial distances inwardly from said side edges, and respective elastic bands engaged through said loop members and being located so as to be engageable over the person's ears, whereby the side wings substantially overlie the person's ears when the elastic bands are engaged over the ears.

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