April 8, 1952 R. E. RATLIFF 2,592,186

HAIRPIN HOLDER

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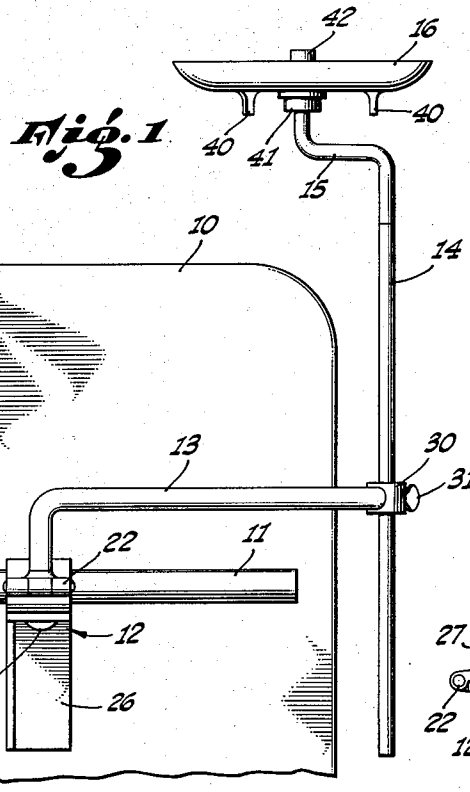


Fig. 1.

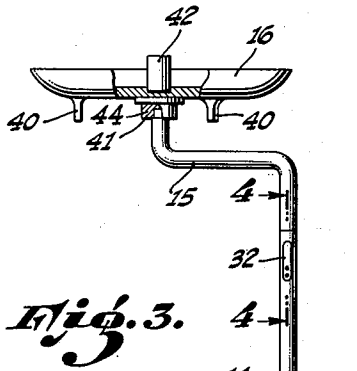
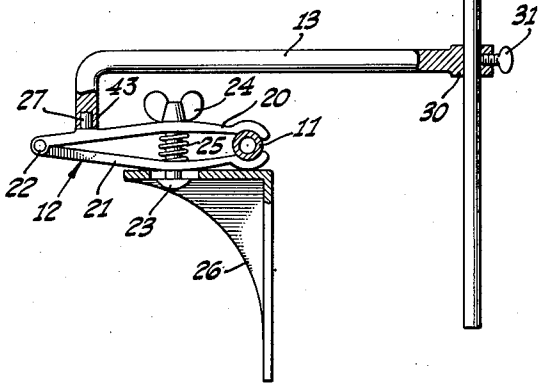


Fig. 3.



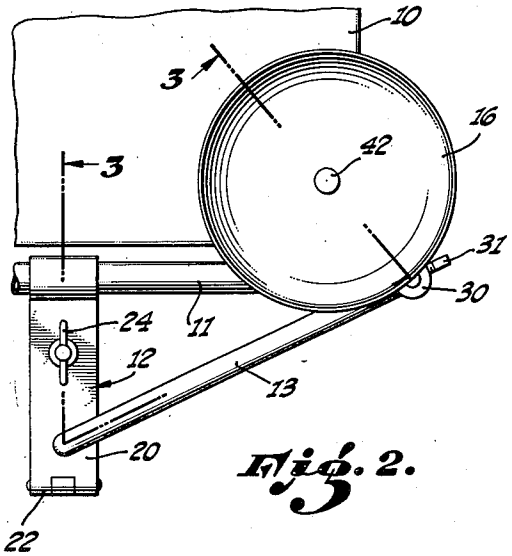


Fig. 2.

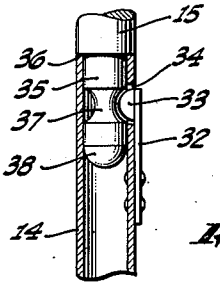


Fig. 4.

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HAIRPIN HOLDER

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6 Claims. (Cl. 211—88)

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My invention relates generally to holders, and more particularly to holders of the type adapted to hold hair pins and other objects in a convenient and accessible location without danger of spilling during the process of waving or otherwise treating the hair of a person.

During the process of waving a person's hair, a large number of hair pins are used to hold the hair in place while the hair is being dried, and occasionally during the giving of the wave itself. In order to save time, these hairpins should be readily accessible so that they may be inserted and removed from the hair with a minimum amount of motion on the part of the operator. Heretofore, hairdressers have usually placed a towel over the shoulder of a customer and then placed the hairpins thereon so that the latter would be conveniently located for insertion in the hair. Such a procedure is obviously unsatisfactory, since a very slight motion of the customer will cause the hairpins to drop, and any slight carelessness on the part of the operator in removing one of the pins may likewise cause them to fall. Attempts have sometimes been made to overcome these difficulties by providing a shelf or table on which the pins may be placed near the customer's chair, but the shelf or table restricts the operator's movements and is generally inconvenient.

It is therefore a major object of my invention to provide a holder for hairpins and similar articles so that they will be conveniently located for instant use.

It is another object of my invention to provide such a device wherein the pins are held by means which insures that they will not be spilled from the holder.

A further object of my invention is to provide such a device which may be moved to any desired position, and hence need not interfere with the operator at any time.

It is still another object of my invention to provide such a device which may be easily and cheaply manufactured, and is capable of widespread application.

These and other objects and advantages of my invention will become apparent from the following description of a preferred form thereof, and from the drawings illustrating that form in which:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of my improved holder as it appears when attached to the back of a chair in which the customer sits;

Fig. 2 is a plan view of the device;

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Fig. 3 is a view taken at 3—3 in Fig. 2, with portions shown in cross-section; and

Fig. 4 is a cross-sectional view of the releasable coupling, taken at 4—4 in Fig. 3.

Referring now to the drawings and particularly Fig. 1 thereof, the numeral 10 indicates a chair of the usual type used in beauty shops and similar establishments. Such chairs are customarily provided with a spaced bar 11 which extends horizontally across the back of the chair at a slight distance therefrom; and a customer whose hair is to be treated is seated in the chair while the hairdresser performs the necessary operations. Removably held to the bar 11 is a base member in the form of a clamp 12 which has a generally horizontal arm 13 pivotally attached thereto. The free end of arm 13 carries a generally vertical member 14 whose position may be varied, and at its upper end the vertical member carries a swingable supporting arm 15 which in turn carries a tray 16.

As shown in Fig. 3, the clamp 12 includes a pair of jaws 20 and 21 connected together at one end by a hinge 22 and with their opposite ends formed to engage the crossbar 11. A bolt 23 extends between arms 20 and 21 and is provided with a wing nut 24 which may be tightened to cause the jaws to grip the crossbar 11 firmly, while a helical spring 25 surrounds the bolt 23 and urges the jaws apart as the nut 24 is loosened. Although it is generally unnecessary, an angle bracket 26 may be slidably attached to the clamp 12 by bolt 23 so that any tendency of the clamp to rotate on the crossbar 11 will be prevented by the bracket's bearing against the back of the chair 10.

Extending upwardly from the upper arm 20 near hinge 22 is a pin 27 which is adapted to receive one end of the arm 13. Arm 13 may be formed of solid or tubular material, and has a relatively long horizontal section with a relatively short vertical section at one end thereof which has a bore 43 adapted to fit over pin 27 and be rotatably held thereby. The opposite end of arm 13 is provided with a clamping means such as an eye 30 through which the vertical member 14 may extend and be held by a thumb screw 31. While the size of the various members may obviously be varied to meet different conditions, I have found that if the horizontal portion of the arm 13 is approximately 6" long, and the vertical member 14 is approximately 14" long, a device will be provided which may be fitted on most chairs used in beauty shops, and adjusted to the proper height for use with most customers.

The supporting arm 15 is swingably attached to the upper end of the vertical member 14, and while various connecting means may be used, I have found the device shown in Fig. 4 to be very satisfactory. As shown in that view, the upper end of the member 14 is hollow and is provided with a spring member 32 carrying a rounded detent 33 on its free end, which extends through a hole 34 in the member 14. The lower end of the supporting arm 15 has a central portion 35 of reduced cross-section, thereby providing a shoulder 36 which bears against the upper end of member 14 so that the latter will support the arm. The central portion 35 is formed to have substantially the same cross-sectional area as that of the hole in the upper end of member 14; and a restricted portion or groove 37 is formed to receive the detent 33, while the lower end of the central portion is rounded as shown at 38 to move the detent outwardly as the central portion is inserted in the vertical member 14. Since the groove 37 extends completely around the central portion 35, the supporting arm 15 may be rotated through 360 degrees about the axis of member 14; and the arm is firmly supported by the upper end of the vertical member which bears against the shoulder 36, while the detent 33 prevents accidental disengagement of the two members.

The supporting arm 15 extends upwardly a short distance above the upper end of the vertical member 14, and is provided with a horizontal portion, at the end of which it is again bent upwardly so that a generally Z-shaped member is provided. While the dimensions are not critical, I have found that if the horizontal portion of the supporting arm 15 is approximately 5½", very satisfactory results are obtained.

As previously mentioned, the tray or holder 16 is mounted on the upper end of the supporting arm 15; and as shown in the drawings, the tray may take the form of a relatively flat, saucer-like receptacle which preferably has a plurality of legs 40 extending downwardly from its lower surface. Centrally located with respect to tray 16 is a collar 41 which is attached to the underside thereof and has a bore 44 adapted to receive the upper end of supporting arm 15. The collar 41 may take any convenient form, but is preferably designed so that the tray 16 may be rotated about the upper end of arm 15, though this latter feature may be omitted if desired. The tray 16, however, should be readily removable from the supporting arm 15 so that the tray may be placed on a table, shelf, or other suitable flat surface; and to this end, the legs 40 should extend downwardly a distance so that they and not the collar 41 will support the tray under these conditions.

To aid in holding the hair pins within the tray 16, I mount a small permanent magnet 42 in the center of the tray so that hair pins and similar ferro-magnetic articles will be attracted to it and held thereby. By mounting the magnet 42 so that it may be easily slipped into or out of its holding means, the magnet may be used to remove the hair pins from the hair so that a minimum disturbance of the wave is produced. While permanent magnets are now used for this operation, such magnets are intended for that use only and have no other intended field of usefulness. However, with my device the magnet may be first inserted in the tray and the hair pins to be used then placed in the tray where they will be attracted to and held by the magnet. After the pins have been placed in the hair, they may be removed therefrom by removing the magnet 42 from the tray 16, touching the magnet to the individual pins, and sliding them out of the hair. When all of the pins have been removed, the magnet may then be replaced in the tray 16, where it will again attract the pins and prevent them from being spilled from the tray.

In using this device, the clamp 12 is firmly attached to the crossbar 11 and the bracket 26 is pushed against the back of the chair 10 so that the upright member 14 is vertical. If the horizontal arm 13 has been removed from the pin 27, it is replaced thereon; and the vertical member 14 is adjusted to the proper height for the customer seated in the chair 10. The clamp 12 is preferably located in the middle of the crossbar 11 so that the vertical member 14 may be swung to either side of the chair; and the tray 16 with the magnet 42 and the required hair pins therein is placed on the supporting arm 15 and the latter is moved to the desired position, usually just over the shoulder of the customer. The hairpins are then inserted in the hair in the usual manner, and when desired, the horizontal arm 13 may be swung so that the tray 16 is located over the other shoulder of the customer. Since the tray 16 is supported independently of the customer, the latter has a greater freedom of movement and there is no danger of the hairpins being spilled by reason of this movement, or by the operator's knocking them.

When it is desired to remove the pins, the magnet 42 may be used in the manner previously described. Should it be necessary for the customer to move from one seat to another during any of this procedure, tray 16 may be removed from the supporting arm 15 and either placed on the supporting arm of a similar device on another chair, or rested on a table, shelf, or other flat surface. The tray 16 is not restricted to holding hairpins, but may hold other equipment and materials used in various beauty treatments.

While specific details of construction have been shown in the herein illustrated exemplification, it will be apparent that changes and modifications may be made within the skill of the average mechanic, such as the selection and substitution of materials, the reversal of parts, the choice of finishes, etc. These and other modifications of my device may be made without departing from the spirit of the invention as disclosed herein, and while I have shown and described the preferred form of my invention, I do not wish to be limited to the particular form or arrangement of parts herein described and shown, except as covered by my claims.

I claim:

1. A device for holding hairpins and similar articles and adapted to be removably attached to a portion of a chair or similar member, including: a manually operable clamp member adapted to be removably attached to a horizontal member extending across the back of said chair; a bracket member attached to said clamp and bearing against said chair to prevent the rotation of said clamp about said horizontal member; a pin attached to the upper surface of said clamp and extending upwardly therefrom; a generally horizontal arm pivotally attached to said pin for rotation about a generally vertical axis; a generally vertical member; an eye formed in the free end of said horizontal arm adapted to receive said vertical member; screw means attached to said eye and adjustable to hold said vertical member to

said horizontal member at any point along the length of the former; a generally horizontal supporting arm pivotally attached to the upper end of said vertical member for rotation about a generally vertical axis; and a tray removably attached to the free end of said supporting arm.

2. A device for holding hairpins and similar articles and adapted to be removably attached to a portion of a chair or similar member, including: a manually operable clamp member adapted to be removably attached to a horizontal supporting member; a pin attached to the upper surface of said clamp and extending upwardly therefrom; a generally horizontal arm attached to said pin for rotation about a generally vertical axis; a generally vertical member; an eye formed in the free end of said horizontal arm adapted to receive said vertical member; means attached to said eye and manually operable to hold said vertical member thereto at any point along its length; a generally horizontal supporting arm attached to the upper end of said vertical member for rotation about a generally vertical axis; a tray attached to the free end of said supporting arm; and a magnet removably mounted in said tray to attract and hold ferromagnetic articles.

3. A device for holding hairpins and similar articles and adapted to be removably attached to a portion of a chair or similar member, including: a manually operable clamp member adapted to be removably attached to a horizontal supporting member; a pin attached to the upper surface of said clamp and extending upwardly therefrom; a generally horizontal arm attached to said pin for rotation about a generally vertical axis; a generally vertical member; means attached to said horizontal arm to releasably hold said vertical member whereby the vertical position of the latter may be varied; a generally horizontal supporting arm attached to the upper end of said vertical member for rotation about a generally vertical axis; and a tray attached to the free end of said supporting arm adapted to receive a magnet to attract and hold ferro-magnetic articles.

4. A device for holding hairpins and similar articles and adapted to be attached to a supporting member, including: a base member adapted to be rigidly attached to said supporting member; a vertically extending pin connector member on the upper surface of said base member at the outer end thereof; a generally horizontal arm having pin connector means cooperating with said pin connector member of said base member to support said arm for rotation about a generally vertical axis; a generally vertical member, means at the outer end of said arm releasably

connecting said vertical member for generally vertical movement with respect to the arm; an upper generally horizontal supporting arm pivotally connected to the upper end of said vertical member for rotation about the generally vertical axis of the latter; and a tray removably attached to the opposite end of said last-mentioned horizontal arm.

5. A device for holding hairpins and similar articles and adapted to be attached to a supporting member, including: a base member adapted to be rigidly attached to said supporting member; a generally horizontal arm pivotally connected to said base member by a pin and socket means near the outer end of the latter for rotation about a generally vertical axis passing through said base member; a generally vertical member slidably connected to the outer end of said arm for generally vertical movement with respect to the latter; an upper generally horizontal supporting arm pivotally connected to the upper end of said vertical member for rotation about the generally vertical axis of the latter; and a tray removably attached to the opposite end of said last-mentioned horizontal arm.

6. A device for holding hairpins and similar articles which includes: a base member adapted to be attached to a supporting member; a generally horizontal arm; pin and socket means pivotally connecting said horizontal arm to said base member near the outer end thereof for rotation about a generally vertical axis; a generally vertical member; means connecting said vertical member to said horizontal arm for generally vertical movement of said vertical member with respect to said horizontal arm, said second means being operable to retain said vertical member in a predetermined position; an upper generally horizontal supporting arm connected to the upper end of said vertical member for rotation about the generally vertical axis of the latter; and a tray attached to the opposite end of said last-mentioned horizontal arm.

RUDOLPH E. RATLIFF.

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