

No. 853,096.

PATENTED MAY 7, 1907.

H. H. LEWIS.
DEPILATORY INSTRUMENT.
APPLICATION FILED JUNE 18, 1906.

Fig. 1.

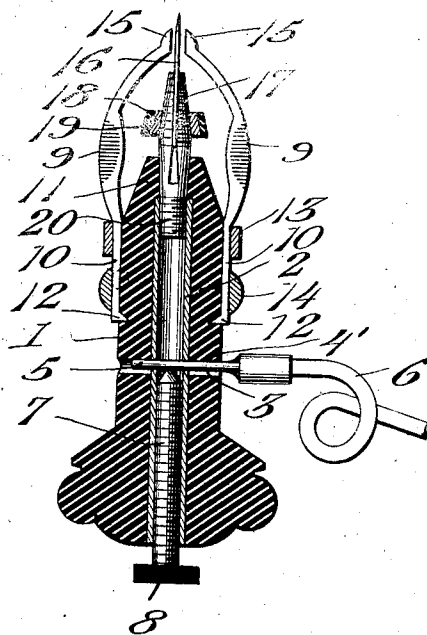
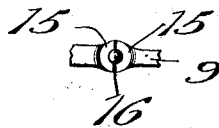


Fig. 2.



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DEPILATORY INSTRUMENT.

No. 853,096.

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Patented May 7, 1907.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY H. LEWIS, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Louisville, in the county of Jefferson and State of Kentucky, have invented new and useful Improvements in Depilatory Instruments, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to an instrument designed for the ready, convenient and expeditious removal of surplus hairs, its object being to provide a depilatory device combining in a single instrument a needle for destroying the follicle or root-germ of the hair by electrolytic action and forceps or tweezers for plucking the hair so destroyed, whereby the operation of destroying a hair and plucking it may be performed in a single operation, the loss or mislayal of one tool prevented while the other is in use, and the necessity and inconvenience of handling separate tools and the loss of time occasioned thereby avoided.

The preferred embodiment of the invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which:—

Figure 1 is a vertical longitudinal section of the instrument, and Fig. 2 is a detail looking toward the point of the needle and jaws of the forceps.

Referring to the drawings, the numeral 1 designates the body or handle of the instrument, which may be of ornamental structure and is composed of hard rubber or some other suitable insulating material. This body or handle is provided with a longitudinal bore or socket terminating at a point adjacent the forward end thereof and receiving a tubular conducting core 2. Alined transverse passages 3 and 4 are respectively formed in the handle and core for the reception of the terminal 5 of an electric conductor 6, which may be connected in practice with any suitable source of supply of electricity. The terminal is clamped in position by the pointed end of a binding screw 7 threaded into the outer end of the core and provided with an adjusting knob or head 8.

The handle 1 carries a pair of extracting tweezers or forceps comprising oppositely disposed curved handles 9 having shanks 10 lying in contact with the handle in rear of the tapered or reduced forward end 11 thereof, said shanks being provided with spurs 12 embedded in the handle and being held clamped against the same by clamping rings

or bands 13 and 14. The forward or free ends of the handle 9 carry extracting jaws 15, and from said jaws and between the same and the shanks 10, the said handles are curved or bowed outwardly to form an enlarged or widened intervening space, such space and the reduced formation of the tapered forward end 11 of the handle permitting of the disposition between the jaws of the depilatory needle and its chuck and of the free movement of said handles toward and from one another to force the jaws 15 together and permit them to spread apart. The handles 9 are made of spring metal to permit of such movement, and the inner faces of the jaws are recessed, as shown in Fig. 2, to permit them to move in close engagement with the needle in the operation of gripping a hair.

The needle 16 has its point end projecting between and beyond the jaws and its shank portion clamped between the spring jaws of a chuck 17. The chuck comprises a stem slotted at its outer end to form said jaws and externally threaded for the reception of a clamping nut 18 having an insulating cover 19. By adjusting the nut in and out on the threaded tapered portion of the chuck the needle may be clamped or released, as will be readily understood. The rear end or shank portion of the chuck fits within an opening in the tapered forward end 11 of the handle and is provided with a threaded portion 20 engaging the threaded forward portion of the conducting core 2.

In operation, the tool is held in the hand at a point in advance of the conductor 6, and the point of the needle inserted so that the current passing therethrough will destroy the hair follicle and the tweezers or forceps then compressed to close the jaws 15, after which the tool is withdrawn, thus in one operation destroying the hair follicle and removing the hair. By this method it is an easy matter to destroy the hair with the needle and to extract it from its follicle without the necessity of first using and removing a needle and then separately employing a pair of epilating forceps; and the possibility of losing the location of the hair treated and of not being able to locate it without time and trouble. The time necessary for the application of the current and the application of the forceps to a hair is further lessened nearly one-half, thus enabling an operator to do approximately double the

amount of work in a given time than is possible under the old method of treatment of separately employing the needle and forceps.

A distinct advantage of the invention is that only one hand is required for the manipulation of the needle and forceps, whereas under the old method of treatment both hands were needed, or it was necessary to lay the forceps aside during the application of the needle. Another advantage is that as the terminal is disposed at the center or in rear of the center of the tool and removed from the forward portion gripped by the hand of the operator and is thoroughly insulated from the handle, the loss of current through the hand of the operator is avoided and a greater freedom of movement and a less tiresome attitude of the hand and fingers allowed; a point of importance in treating tortuous and slanting follicles. The parts are furthermore combined in a simple and effective manner, thus providing an instrument which may be quickly and conveniently manipulated and which may be produced at a comparatively low cost.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new, is:—

1. An instrument of the character described comprising a handle, forceps carried thereby, an epilating needle supported by the handle and projecting between the jaws of the forceps, and means for supplying an electric current to said needle.

2. An instrument of the character described comprising a handle, forceps carried thereby, a needle arranged in juxtaposed relation to the forceps, and means for supplying an electric current to said needle.

3. An instrument of the character described comprising an insulating handle, forceps carried by the handle, a needle carried by the handle and projecting between the jaws of the forceps, said needle being insulated from the forceps by the handle, and means for supplying an electric current to said needle.

4. An instrument of the character described comprising a handle, a needle mounted upon one end of the handle, current transmitting means extending through the handle and connected with the needle, and forceps mounted upon the handle and having jaws disposed in juxtaposition to and on opposite sides of the needle.

5. A device of the character described comprising a handle, a needle mounted upon one

end of the handle, means supported by the handle for transmitting an electric current to the needle, and forceps comprising hand pieces secured at one end to the handle and provided at the opposite end with jaws arranged on opposite sides of the point of the needle, the intermediate portions of the hand pieces being bowed or curved.

6. An instrument of the character described comprising a handle of insulating material, a chuck supported upon one end of the handle, a needle carried by the chuck, a conductor extending through the handle and electrically connected with the chuck, and forceps supported by the handle and having extracting jaws disposed adjacent the point of the needle.

7. An instrument of the character described comprising a handle of insulating material, a conducting core inserted in the handle, means for connecting a conductor terminal therewith, a chuck mounted upon one end of the handle and electrically connected with the core, a needle carried by said chuck, forceps supported by the handle and having the jaws thereof disposed in juxtaposition to the point of the needle.

8. A device of the character described comprising an insulating handle having a longitudinal bore and transverse passages, a tubular core inserted in said bore and having transverse openings in alignment with said transverse passages, a set screw inserted in one end of the core and adapted to clamp a conductor terminal fitted in the transverse passages, a chuck mounted upon the handle and connected with the other end of the core, a needle held by the chuck, and forceps composed of members disposed upon opposite sides of the chuck and having jaws arranged upon opposite sides of and adjacent to the point of the needle.

9. A tool of the character described comprising a handle, an epilating needle carried thereby, forceps mounted upon the handle and having jaws disposed adjacent the point of the needle, said forceps being insulated from the needle, and means for transmitting an electric current to the needle.

In testimony whereof, I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

HENRY H. LEWIS.

Witnesses:

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JOHN L. WOODBURY.