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DRIER AND HEAD SUPPORT THEREFOR

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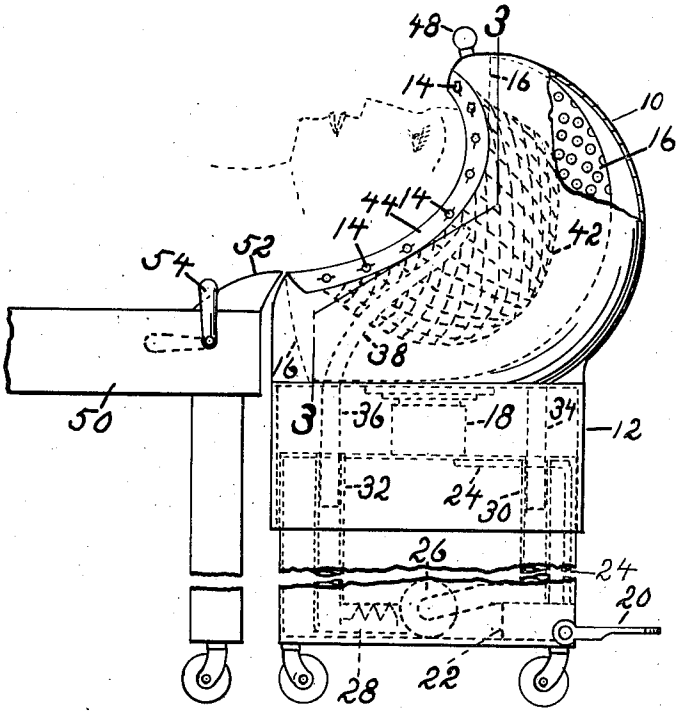


FIG. 1

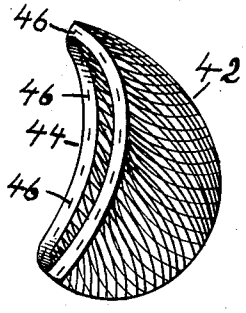


FIG. 2

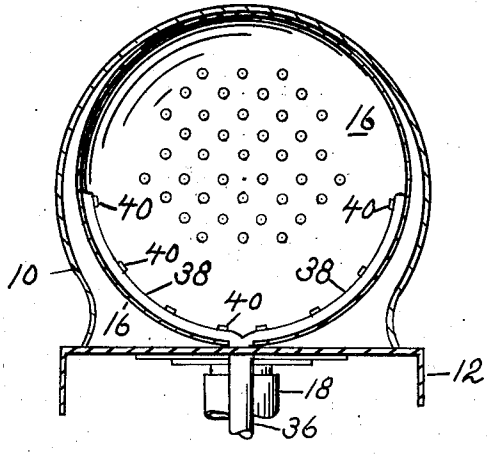


FIG. 3

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DRIER AND HEAD SUPPORT THEREFOR

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4 Claims. (Cl. 34—100)

This invention relates to improvements in driers and head supports therefor which are especially adapted for use on customers in beauty parlors, barber shops, and the like.

One of the principal objects of importance and advantage resides in the provision of means for completely drying a reclining customer's hair without frequent shifting or moving of the customer's head.

Heretofore, the use of driers on supine customers has been largely unsatisfactory. The chief reason for the unsatisfactory drying of hair of a person in a reclining position has been due to the fact that a solid head support was used. Such a head support was a positive bar preventing a current of drying fluid from contacting that particular portion of the hair then in engagement with the supporting member. Consequently, much shifting of position was necessarily resorted to in order to completely dry the customer's hair. Occasionally, the head support was shifted to the nape of the customer's neck to allow the circulating current of air, access to the customer's hair. This position was found to be exceedingly uncomfortable for the customer. These, and other objectionable features resulted in the non-use, or a very limited use, of hair-drying devices for reclining customers.

The present invention overcomes the difficulties heretofore encountered and permits a supine customer's hair to be dried without shifting position or discomfort to the customer. The circulating current of drying air, as it passes through the hood of the drier, has contact with and access to all of the customer's hair.

Another and still further important object of the improved head support of this invention resides in the provision of means for insuring a customer's comfort by allowing the customer to take up a reclining position and supporting the reclining person's head without blocking off the supported portions from contact with circulating air.

Still another object of advantage and importance resides in the provision of means for removably securing a head supporting member to a drier hood.

A still further object of advantage and importance of the improved drier of this invention resides in the provision of means for adding to a customer's comfort by providing a reading light on the device within the customer's reach.

Additional objects of advantage and importance will become apparent as the following detailed description progresses, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, wherein

Fig. 1 is an elevational view, parts thereof being broken away, of a drier and head support therefor, which embodies the invention.

Fig. 2 is a perspective view of a head support.

Fig. 3 is a section taken on line 3—3 of Fig. 1.

As shown in the drawing:

The reference numeral 10 indicates generally a drier dome which, in the preferred embodiment of the invention, is positioned on a portable, adjustable stand 12. The dome 10 is preferably of substantially spherical shape. However, it will be obvious that shape or size may be varied without departing from the spirit or scope of the invention.

A portion of the dome 10 is cut away to provide an aperture for receiving a customer's head, as is best shown in Fig. 1.

Projecting outwardly from the dome 10, closely adjacent the edge of the aperture, is a plurality of studs 14. The studs 14 are adapted to function as anchoring means for a head support.

Fixed within the dome 10 is an apertured baffle plate 16. The edges of the baffle plate 16 are preferably joined to the interior surface of the dome 10 in a manner providing a space between the outer surface of the baffle plate and the inner surface of the dome, as is best shown in Fig. 1. The apertures in the baffle plate 16 are preferably relatively small and are located principally at the center, and thereabove, as is best shown in Fig. 3.

Positioned intermediate the upper and lower telescoped portions of the stand 12, is a hydraulic lift 18. The lift 18 is raised and lowered by operating the pedal 20. The pedal 20 operates a pump, not shown, positioned within the reservoir 22. Liquid may thus be pumped from the reservoir 22 through the pipe 24 into the lift 18 and returned.

Positioned within the lower portion of the stand 12 is a fan 26 and a heating element 28. The fan 26 and the heating element 28 form the intermediate portion of a passageway, which has an inlet 30 and an outlet 32 extending through the top of the lower portion of the stand 12.

Fixed to the top of the upper portion of the stand 12 and extending into the interior of the hood 10, are downwardly projecting pipes 34 and 36. The pipes 34 and 36 are adapted to be telescoped within the inlet 30 and outlet 32 portions of the passageway, respectively.

The upper portion of the pipe 36 is forked to

provide a substantially Y-shaped member 38, as is best shown in Fig. 3.

Formed in the outwardly projecting portions of the Y-shaped member 38 is a plurality of discharge jets 40. The discharge jets 40 are disposed to direct currents of air toward the central portion of the interior of the dome 10.

In the preferred embodiment of the device, a Y-shaped member 38 is employed for directing drying currents against a customer's hair, it will be apparent that any suitable number of tubes or pipes may be used for this purpose.

Formed of a relatively coarse netting material is a cap-shaped head supporting member 42. The netting material is preferably slightly resilient to conform to the shapes and sizes of various customers' heads.

Secured to the edge of the cap-shaped head supporting member is a relatively heavy attaching band 44. The band 44 is provided with a plurality of stud receiving slits 46. The slits 46 are spaced similarly to the studs 14 to which they are adapted to be fastened when the device is in operation. The band 44 also functions as a seal preventing air from entering the dome 10 between the customer's head and the edges of the opening in the dome.

Positioned on the upper portion of the dome 10, closely adjacent the front thereof, and preferably operable by the customer, is an electric light 48. The light is adapted to be employed to give added comfort to the customer.

A portable table 50, upon which the customer may recline, is provided with an adjustable head rest 52. The head rest 52 may be adjusted by manipulation of the lever 54. The lever 54 may be operated by either customer or operator.

The improved drier and head support of this invention is preferably operated by positioning the head support 42 upon a customer's head. The support functions also as a hair net. The customer's head is then positioned in the drier and the support is secured in place by passing the studs 14 through the slits 46 in the band 44. The entire drier and the head support may then be adjusted to the customer's comfort.

With the customer's head positioned within the dome 10, the fan 26 is started. Air is then driven from the fan through the heating element 28 upwardly through the telescoped pipes 32 and 36, and thence through the jets 40 in the pipes 38. The warmed air is directed onto and into the customer's hair. The currents of air readily pass through the coarse netting of the head support 42. This air is then drawn upwardly and rearwardly through the customer's hair and through the apertures in the baffle plate 16. The moisture laden air is then directed downwardly into the telescoped pipes 34 and 30 and thence to the fan.

It will be apparent from the foregoing that the incoming heated air is directed onto the customer's hair and is then drawn through the baffle plate. Additionally, the currents of heated air are directed against the lowermost, and, consequently, the wettest portion of the customer's hair, resulting in exceedingly quick drying.

It will be apparent from the foregoing that herein is provided an efficient and sturdy device which consists of but a relatively few associated parts. Moreover, because the head supporting member may be adjusted to take up the entire weight of the head, the customer may be completely relaxed and free from strain.

It will also be apparent that the improved device of this invention is especially adapted to deliver exceptionally quick drying service to a customer in a comfortable position.

It will also be obvious from the foregoing that the improved head support, forming a part of this invention, may be employed as a hair net before, during, and after the drying operation.

It will be apparent to those skilled in the art to which the device appertains, that numerous changes and alterations in construction and design may be made all without departing from the spirit or scope of this invention. Accordingly, it is understood that the patent granted hereon is not to be limited to the preferred embodiment here disclosed nor in any other manner except as necessitated by the terminology of the appended claims when given the range of equivalents to which they may be entitled.

I claim as my invention:

1. In a hair drying device, a base comprising an upper and a lower portion in telescoped association, foot operated means for raising and lowering the upper portion of said base, a substantially spherical dome positioned on the upper portion of said telescoped base, said dome having an opening therein into which a reclining customer's head may be inserted, a net, means for securing said net over the edges of said opening with the body portion of said net disposed within said dome, a perforated baffle plate forming an inner hood positioned within said dome, the contour of said baffle plate being substantially similar to the interior surface of said dome, portions of the outer surface of said baffle plate and the inner surface of said dome being spaced apart, a driven fan positioned in the lower part of said base, a conduit extending from said fan upwardly through said base into the interior of said dome, the upper end of said conduit being substantially Y-shaped, a plurality of discharge jets in the Y-shaped end of said conduit, said Y-shaped end conforming in shape and being positioned against the interior surface of said baffle plate, a heating element positioned within said conduit closely adjacent said fan, and a return duct extending from the interior of said dome downwardly into said base and being operably connected to said driven fan.

2. In a hair drying device, a base comprising an upper and a lower portion in telescoped association, means for raising and lowering the upper portion of said base, a substantially spherical dome positioned on the upper portion of said telescoped base, said dome having an opening therein into which a reclining customer's head may be inserted, a net, means for securing said net over the edges of said opening with the body portion of said net disposed within said dome, a perforated baffle plate forming an inner hood positioned within said dome, the contour of said baffle plate being substantially similar to the interior surface of said dome, portions of the outer surface of said baffle plate and the inner surface of said dome being spaced apart, a driven fan positioned in the lower part of said base, an extensible conduit extending from said fan upwardly through said base into the interior of said dome, a plurality of discharge jets in the upper end of said conduit, said upper end conforming in shape and being positioned against the interior surface of said baffle plate, a heating element positioned within said conduit closely adjacent said fan, and an extensible return duct extending from the interior of said dome downwardly into said

base and being operably connected to said driven fan.

3. In a hair drying device, a base comprising an upper and a lower portion in telescoped association, means for raising and lowering the upper portion of said base, a substantially spherical dome positioned on the upper portion of said telescoped base, said dome having an opening therein into which a reclining customer's head may be inserted, a net, means for securing said net over the edges of said opening with the body portion of said net disposed within said dome, a perforated baffle plate forming an inner hood positioned within said dome, the contour of said baffle plate being substantially similar to the interior surface of said dome, portions of the outer surface of said baffle plate and the inner surface of said dome being spaced apart, a driven fan positioned in the lower part of said base, a conduit extending from said fan upwardly through said base into the interior of said dome, a plurality of discharge jets in the upper end of said conduit, said upper end conforming in shape and being positioned against the interior surface of said baffle plate, a heating element positioned within said conduit closely adjacent said fan, and a return duct extending from the interior of said dome downwardly into said base and being operably connected to said driven fan, said conduit, duct, and fan assembly providing means for circulating air into said dome, through said apertured baffle plate and then returning it downwardly to said fan.

4. In a hair drying device, a base comprising an upper and a lower portion in telescoped association, means for raising and lowering the upper portion of said base, a substantially spherical dome positioned on the upper portion of said telescoped base, said dome having an opening therein into which a reclining customer's head may be inserted, fabric head supporting means positioned within said dome, a perforated baffle plate forming an inner hood positioned within said dome, portions of the outer surface of said baffle plate and the inner surface of said dome being spaced apart, a driven fan positioned in the lower part of said base, a conduit extending from said fan upwardly through said base into the interior of said dome, the upper end of said conduit being substantially Y-shaped, a plurality of discharge jets in the Y-shaped end of said conduit, said Y-shaped end conforming in shape and being positioned against the interior surface of said baffle plate, a heating element positioned within said conduit closely adjacent said fan, and a return duct extending from the interior of said dome downwardly into said base and being operably connected to said driven fan.

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