Sept. 14, 1943. N. L. SOLOMON 2,329,361

COMB

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Fig. 1.

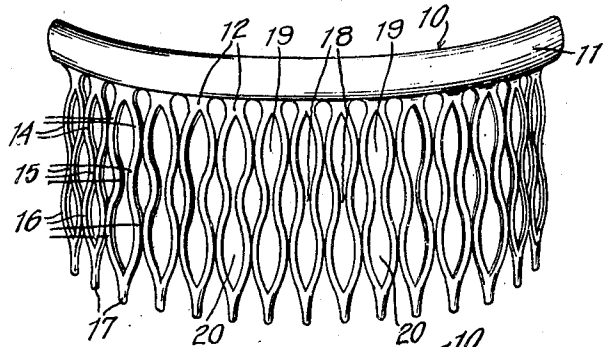
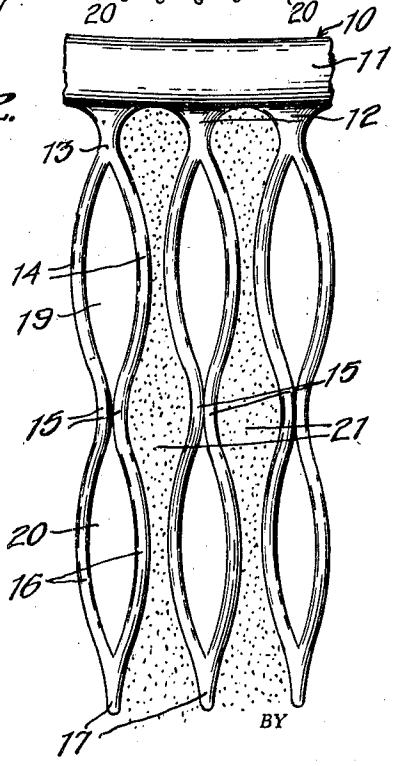


Fig. 2.



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COMB

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7 Claims. (Cl. 132—26)

This invention has to do with combs and specifically is directed to a novel comb characterized by functionally and structurally improved teeth for desirably gripping strands of hair interposed between the teeth to prevent involuntary removal of the comb. The dominant object of the invention is realized in the provision of a serviceable and reliable comb embodying hollow teeth including upper and lower bulbous portions defining substantially alined openings and including intermediate portions characterizing a relatively narrow throat having closely spaced lips curved oppositely to the upper and lower bulbous portions and defining a relatively narrow channel or opening in communication with the alined openings of the upper and lower bulbous portions of a tooth, thus providing means for rendering the intermediate portions of a tooth more sensibly resilient to set up automatic and desirable retractive gripping forces against the hair load interposed between the teeth even along the intermediate portions of the latter thereby enhancing the gripping action thereof. Other important functional and structural aspects, advantages, and features of the invention will be apparent from consideration of the following detailed specification taken with the accompanying drawing wherein:

Fig. 1 is a front view of the improved comb according to my invention illustrating the teeth in their normal expanded relation, and

Fig. 2 is an enlarged fragmentary view of the comb, showing the resilient teeth contracted with the sides thereof retractively acting to clamp the hair therebetween.

According to the preferred embodiment of my invention, the comb 10 illustrated embodies a crown or backing 11 having a plurality of spaced depending teeth 12. The comb may be of any suitable plastic material or bone or the like.

Each tooth is hollow and comprises a shank 13 integrally depending from the backing 11, an upper bowed portion or swell defined by the convex limbs 14, an intermediate neck portion characterized by concaved normally slightly separated lips 15, and a lower bowed portion or swell formed by the convex limbs 16 which merge and terminate in a pointed terminal 17.

In fact lips 15 normally define a relatively narrow gap 18 in communication with the substantially alined openings 19 and 20 of the upper and lower resilient bowed portions of a tooth and upon insertion of the strands of hair 21 between the adjacent teeth, the sides of a tooth characterized by the upper and lower laterally spaced limbs 14 and 16 are caused to be shifted or flex inwardly, and hence the lips close to contact one another. By this action, the intermediate parts of the respective teeth are rendered more resilient, and the hair between the sides of a pair of teeth impart a loading force for shifting the multiple curved sides of a tooth as previously enumerated towards each other and during such displacement, these sides set up a retractive force against the interposed hair or hair load, thus more firmly gripping the latter, and such action it should be observed also takes place at the throat of the teeth, the throat being intermediate of a tooth and defined by companion lips 15 thereof. It follows that a retractive binding action is also directed against hair load by the teeth intermediately thereof due to the enhanced resiliency imparted thereto by companion spaced lips thereof which automatically close when the comb is inserted in the hair. It follows therefore that substantially the entire length of the sides of a tooth reacts against the interposed hair strands, thus holding and clamping the latter more securely to preclude involuntary or accidental removal of the comb from the head of hair.

Various changes may be made in details of construction and arrangement of parts without departing from the spirit of the invention or sacrificing any of the advantages inherent therein.

I claim:

1. In a comb, a backing having a plurality of depending teeth, each tooth of said plurality embodying an upper bowed portion comprising outwardly convex resilient limbs defining an opening, a lower bowed portion comprising outwardly convex resilient limbs defining an opening, and means defining a relatively narrow throat intermediate each tooth comprising normally separable and arcuate lips curved oppositely to said upper and lower limbs and merging therewith to characterize a relatively narrow gap in communication with said openings, the upper and lower limbs of said bowed portions upon insertion of said comb into a head of hair being movable towards each other for shifting said lips towards each other.

2. In a comb, a backing having a plurality of depending and resilient teeth, each tooth of said plurality comprising laterally spaced upper and lower convex limbs, slightly spaced contiguously disposed lips merging with said upper and lower limbs and intermediate of each tooth and defining a relatively contracted opening, and said

lower limbs of a tooth merging with one another to define relatively pointed terminal means.

3. In a comb, a backing having a plurality of depending teeth, each tooth of said plurality comprising laterally spaced upper and lower convex limbs defining upper and lower relatively elongated openings substantially in alinement, slightly spaced contiguously disposed lips merging with said upper and lower limbs and intermediate of each tooth and defining a relatively contracted opening in communication with said upper and lower openings, and said lower limbs of a tooth merging with one another to define relatively pointed terminal means.

4. In a comb, a backing having a plurality of spaced depending resilient and hollow teeth, each tooth of said plurality comprising upper and lower outwardly convex and laterally spaced limbs defining upper and lower relatively elongated openings substantially in alinement, slightly spaced contiguously disposed curved lips merging with said upper and lower limbs and intermediate of each tooth and defining a relatively elongated and contracted opening in communication with said upper and lower openings, and said lower limbs of a tooth merging with one another to define relatively pointed terminal means.

5. In a comb, a backing having a plurality of spaced depending resilient and hollow teeth, each tooth of said plurality comprising laterally spaced upper and lower outwardly convex limbs defining upper and lower relatively elongated openings substantially in alinement, slightly spaced contiguously disposed lips curved opposite to and merging with said upper and lower limbs and intermediate of each tooth and defining a relatively and elongated contracted opening in communication with said openings, and said lower limbs of a tooth merging with one another to define relatively pointed terminal means.

6. In a comb, a backing having a plurality of resilient and hollow teeth, each tooth of said plurality comprising laterally spaced upper and lower outwardly convex and resilient limbs, slightly spaced contiguously disposed lips merging with said upper and lower limbs and intermediate of each tooth and defining a relatively contracted and elongated opening, said lower limbs of a tooth merging with one another to define relatively pointed terminal means, and shank means interconnecting said backing and each tooth, and said upper limbs of a tooth merging with one another and depending from said shank means.

7. In a comb, a backing having a plurality of depending hollow and resilient teeth, each tooth of said plurality embodying an upper bowed portion comprising outwardly convex resilient and laterally spaced limbs defining an opening, a lower bowed portion comprising outwardly convex resilient and laterally spaced limbs defining an opening, a relatively narrow throat intermediate each tooth and comprising normally separable but contiguous and arcuate lips curved oppositely to said upper and lower limbs thereof and merging therewith to characterize a gap in communication with said openings, the upper and lower limbs of said bowed portions upon insertion of said comb into a head of hair being movable towards each other for shifting said lips in a direction towards each other, shank means extending from said backing, said upper spaced limbs defining closed upper ends integral with said shank means, and said spaced lower limbs defining lower closed ends merging into relatively unitary depending terminal means.

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