Oct. 11, 1955 H. J. BURTNETT 2,720,207

HAIR CURLER AND APPLICATOR THEREFOR

Filed Feb. 28, 1955

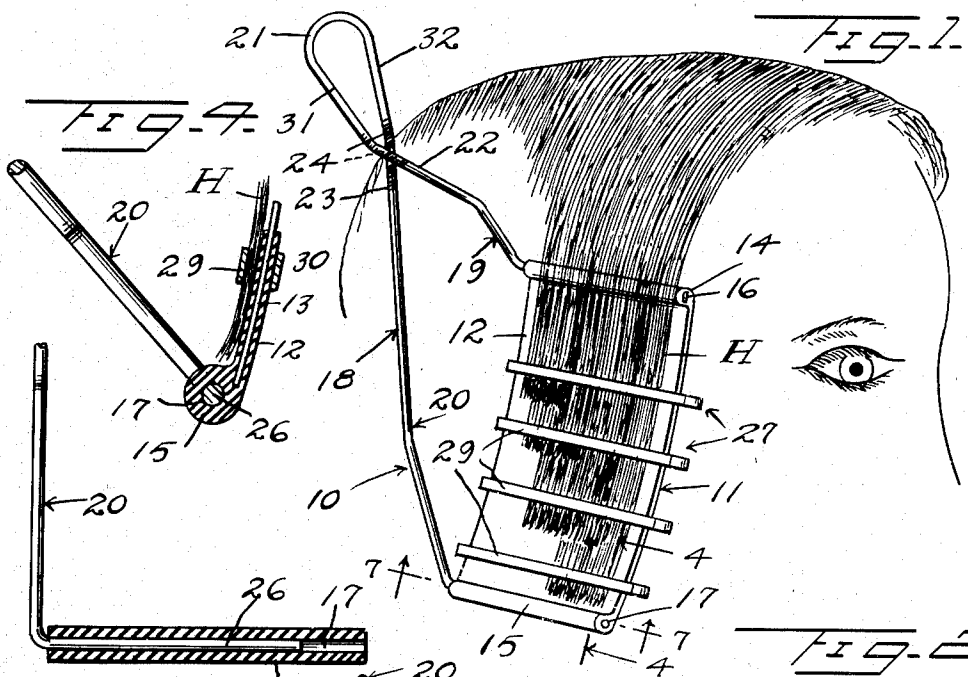


FIG. 1.

FIG. 4.

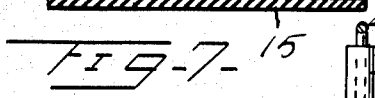


FIG. 7.

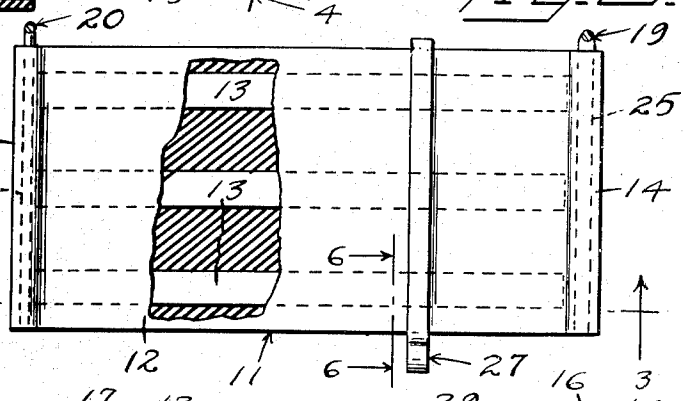


FIG. 2.

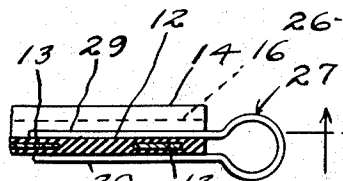


FIG. 6.

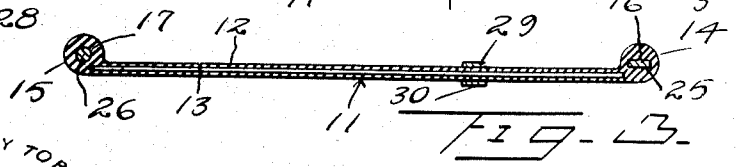


FIG. 3.

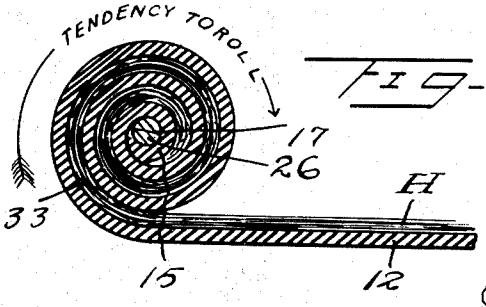


FIG. 5.

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United States Patent Office 2,720,207 Patented Oct. 11, 1955

2,720,207

HAIR CURLER AND APPLICATOR THEREFOR

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Application February 28, 1955, Serial No. 490,834

7 Claims. (Cl. 132—43)

This invention relates to a novel hair curler and to a novel holder for holding and applying the hair curler to the hair and by means of which the operation of putting up the hair in curlers can be greatly facilitated.

Another object of the invention is to provide a hair curler and applicator or holder by means of which the curler can be held in an open position while the hair to be engaged thereby is properly positioned relative thereto and after which by a simple manipulation of the holder, the hair curler is permitted to roll up to a closed position with the hair contained in the roll thereof.

Another object of the invention is to provide a hair curler and holder which is so constructed that a view of the open curler and hair applied thereto will not be obstructed by the holder and by the hand utilized to support the holder and open curler.

A further object of the invention is to provide a hair curler requiring no clamps or fastenings to hold the hair curler in a closed position and which will automatically assume a closed position when released from an extended position.

Various other objects and advantages of the invention will hereinafter become more fully apparent from the following description of the drawing, illustrating a presently preferred embodiment thereof, and wherein:

Figure 1 is a perspective view showing the hair curler held in an open position by the holder or applicator with the hair to be curled thereby applied to the curler;

Figure 2 is a plan view partly in section and partly broken away of the hair curler shown in an extended position;

Figure 3 is a longitudinal sectional view taken substantially along a plane as indicated by the line 3—3 of Figure 2;

Figure 4 is an enlarged fragmentary sectional view, taken substantially along a plane as indicated by the line 4—4 of Figure 1;

Figure 5 is a longitudinal fragmentary sectional view showing the hair curler partially rolled;

Figure 6 is an enlarged fragmentary cross sectional view, taken substantially along a plane as indicated by the line 6—6 of Figure 2, and

Figure 7 is an enlarged fragmentary sectional view, taken substantially along a plane as indicated by the line 7—7 of Figure 1.

Referring more specifically to the drawing, the hair curler and applicator in its entirety and comprising the invention is designated generally **10** and includes a hair curler, designated generally **11**. The hair curler **11** is preferably formed of an elongated strip of relatively wide rubber **12** in which a plurality of spring strips **13** are embedded. The spring strips **13** extend longitudinally of the rubber piece **12** and to adjacent the ends thereof, and are transversely spaced relative to one another. The springs **13** constitute normally coil springs and consequently tend to cause the hair curler to assume a coil, as indicated at the left of Figure 5. The ends of the rubber piece or strip **12**, beyond the ends of the springs **13**, terminate in sleeves **14** and **15** which extend from side to side of the hair curler **11** and which define the ends thereof. The sleeve **14** is provided with a bore **16** of noncircular cross section which extends longitudinally therethrough and the sleeve **15** has a bore **17** of circular cross section and which extends longitudinally therethrough.

A holder or applicator, designated generally **18** and comprising a part of the invention, is formed from a single strand of relatively resilient wire which is bent back upon itself intermediate of its ends to provide legs, designated generally **19** and **20**. Said legs **19** and **20** cross one another adjacent the bend or bight portion **21** of the strand forming the holder **18**. The crossed portions **22** and **23** of the legs **19** and **20** are provided on adjacent sides thereof with teeth or serrations **24** which are disposed to intermesh or interfit, when the free end portions of the legs **19** and **20** are spaced a substantial distance apart for releasably latching said legs in spread positions. The legs **19** and **20** at their free ends are provided with laterally turned terminal portions **25** and **26**, respectively, which extend in the same direction from the planes of said legs and which are disposed at substantially right angles thereto and substantially parallel to one another. The leg terminal or stem **25** is of noncircular cross section and is of a proper cross sectional size and shape to detachably and nonturnably engage in the bore **16**. The other leg end or shaft **26** is of circular cross section and of a proper size to detachably and rotatably engage in the bore **17**.

The hair curler and applicator **10** also includes a plurality of spring clips each formed from an elongated relatively narrow strip of spring metal or a strand of wire and each designated generally **27**. Each spring clip **27** includes an open loop portion **28**, formed by the intermediate part of the strip or strand, and a pair of corresponding substantially parallel legs **29** and **30** which are normally spring biased into abutting engagement with one another and which are substantially flat and straight from end-to-end thereof. Thus, each clip **27** differs only from a conventional bobby pin in that neither of the legs **29** or **30** thereof is of undulating construction.

To utilize the hair curler and applicator **10**, assuming that the free ends of the legs **19** and **20** of the holder **18** are disposed relatively close to one another, the stem **25** is first entered through an end of the bore **16** after which the shaft **26** is entered through the corresponding end of the bore **17**. The stem **25** and shaft portion **26** are then advanced substantially through the bores **16** and **17**. Pressure is then applied with the thumb and fingers to the portions **31** and **32** of the legs **19** and **20**, respectively, which are disposed between the bight portion **21** and the crossed portions of said legs. Pressure is applied to the leg portions **31** and **32** so that the crossed portions of the legs will be slightly spaced from one another as the legs are spread apart at their free ends. It will be apparent that this spreading of the free ends of the legs **19** and **20** will cause the stem portion **25** and shaft portion **26** to move away from one another and as these parts are engaging the ends **14** and **15**, respectively, of the curler **11**, said curler will be moved to an extended open position in this manner and as illustrated in Figures 1 and 2. As the stem portion **25** and the shaft portion **26** move away from one another, the curler end **15** will rotate on the shaft portion **26** as the curler **11** is unwound and extended. When the curler **11** has reached a fully extended position, the leg portions **22** and **23** are displaced toward one another to cause an intermeshing engagement of the teeth **24** thereof for locking the holder **18** in its extended position of Figure 1 to hold the hair curler **11** extended.

The hair curler can then be placed against a part of the head, as illustrated in Figure 1, by manipulation of the hand gripping the holder **18** and with a part of the hair H overlying the hair curler **11**. The hair curler **11** is

disposed so that the end **14** thereof is nearest the scalp or roots of the hair H which is to be wound on and in the curler **11**. One of the spring clips **27** is then applied crosswise over the curler **11**, near its end **14** and with the legs **29** and **30** thereof spread, so that the leg **29** will overlie the hair H which is disposed against the inner or upper side of the curler **11**. After the clip **27** is in the position of the uppermost clip of Figure 1 and in gripping engagement with the hair and rubber strip **12**, said clip is slid downwardly toward the curler end **15**, to approximately the position of the bottom clip **27** of Figure 1, for engaging the longest strands of the hair H. The other clips **27** are then applied in the same manner and successively positioned above the lowermost clip **27** and so as to hold all the strands of hair of different lengths against the curler **11**.

The fingers of the hand gripping the holder **18** are then manipulated to displace the leg portions **22** and **23** away from one another to disengage the teeth thereof, after which the free end of the leg **20** is allowed to move with its shank portion **26** toward the free end of the leg **19** and the stem portion **25** thereof. During this movement, the sleeve **15** will rotate on the shaft **26** to permit the springs **13** to coil or wind the curler **11** from its end **15**, as illustrated in Figure 5, until the coiled hair curler portion **33** reaches the curler end **14**. The leg **19** and its stem **25** are held immovably relatively to the head during this operation, and as the stem **25** nonrotatably engages the sleeve **14**, the possibility of the curler **11** rolling up from its end **14** is eliminated. After the hair curler **11** has been completely rolled and is located adjacent the end **14** of the curler as seen in Figure 1, the stem **25** and shaft **26** are slidably removed from the bores **16** and **17**, respectively, leaving the wound curler **11** supported by the hair H.

The spring clips **27** can then be removed, as said spring clips are utilized only to hold the hair properly positioned relative to the curler **11** while applying the curler, as previously described.

The operation just previously described can then be repeated with other curlers **11** as many times as is necessary to complete the putting up of the hair in curlers. It will be apparent that the use of the spring clips **27** may be dispensed with if desired or under circumstances where their use is not required.

It will be readily apparent that the strip or piece **12** of the curler **11** may be formed of other suitable materials than rubber, and it will also be apparent that the structure of the holder **18** may be varied.

Various other modifications and changes are contemplated and may obviously be resorted to, without departing from the spirit or scope of the invention as hereinafter defined by the appended claims.

I claim as my invention:

1. An apparatus of the character described comprising a hair curler and a hair curler holder, said hair curler comprising a relatively wide coiled strip, transversely extending sleeve portions constituting the ends of said strip; said holder including a pair of legs having free ends provided with terminal portions, said terminal portions being disposed substantially parallel to one another and detachably engaging in said sleeve portions, and said legs being manually displaceable away from one another for uncoiling and extending the hair curler for supporting the hair curler in an uncoiled extended position while the hair is applied thereto, said holder being releasable to permit the hair curler to resume a coiled position with the hair wound therein.

2. An apparatus as in claim 1, said holder being provided with means for latching the legs with the free ends thereof in an extended position relative to one another for supporting the hair curler in an extended substantially flat condition, the free ends of said legs and said terminal portions being yieldably urged toward one another by the resiliency of said hair curler.

3. An apparatus as in claim 1, one of said terminal portions constituting a stem of noncircular cross section, one of said sleeve portions having a bore of noncircular cross section non-turnably receiving said stem, and said other terminal portion being journaled in the other sleeve portion whereby the hair curler will roll up from the end defined by said last mentioned sleeve portion when the holder is released.

4. An apparatus as in claim 1, and a plurality of spring clips having legs spring biased toward one another, said spring clips straddling the hair curler and the hair disposed thereon and extending transversely of the hair curler for maintaining the hair properly positioned relatively to the curler before the hair is rolled within the curler.

5. An apparatus as in claim 1, said holder being formed from a single strand of wire bent upon itself to form said legs, and said legs being disposed in crossed relation to one another, the free ends of said legs being spring biased toward one another.

6. An apparatus as in claim 5, and said legs having interengaging toothed portions disposed to be interengaged when the free ends of said legs are spread relative to one another for latching the holder in a position for maintaining the hair curler in an extended uncoiled condition.

7. In an apparatus as in claim 6, said terminal portions being disposed at substantially right angles to the legs.

No references cited.