United States Patent [19]

De Vore

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[54] **HEAD REST**

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[52] **U.S. Cl.** **248/118;** 248/279; 351/38

[51] **Int. Cl.²** **B68G 5/00**

[58] **Field of Search** ..... 5/327 B; 84/278, 279; 128/76 R, 87 B, 97, 164, 133; 248/118, 118.1, 118.3, 118.5, 124, 316 B, 103, 106; 269/218, 328; 250/491; 297/391, 392, 397; 351/38; 34/90, 99; 27/13

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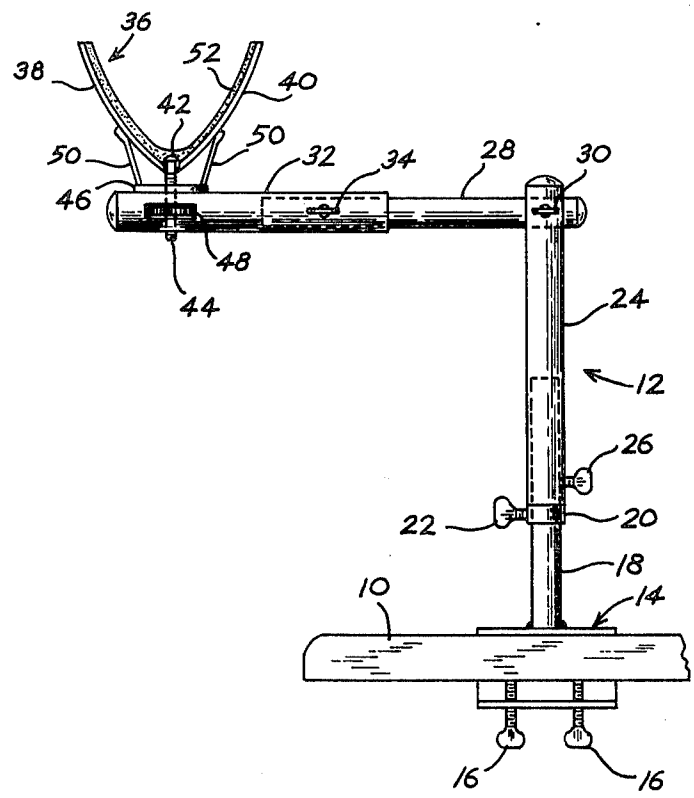
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[57] **ABSTRACT**

A chin and cheek engaging head rest and holder is provided, intended primarily for use by beauty shop patrons while sitting under a fixed hair dryer. The chin and cheek engaging portion of the rest is desirably mounted on a chair arm with capacity for vertical, angular, lateral and tilting adjustments as a unit, and with provision for angular broadening and narrowing of the chin and cheek engaging portion of the rest, itself, to any desired extent within practical limits.

4 Claims, 5 Drawing Figures



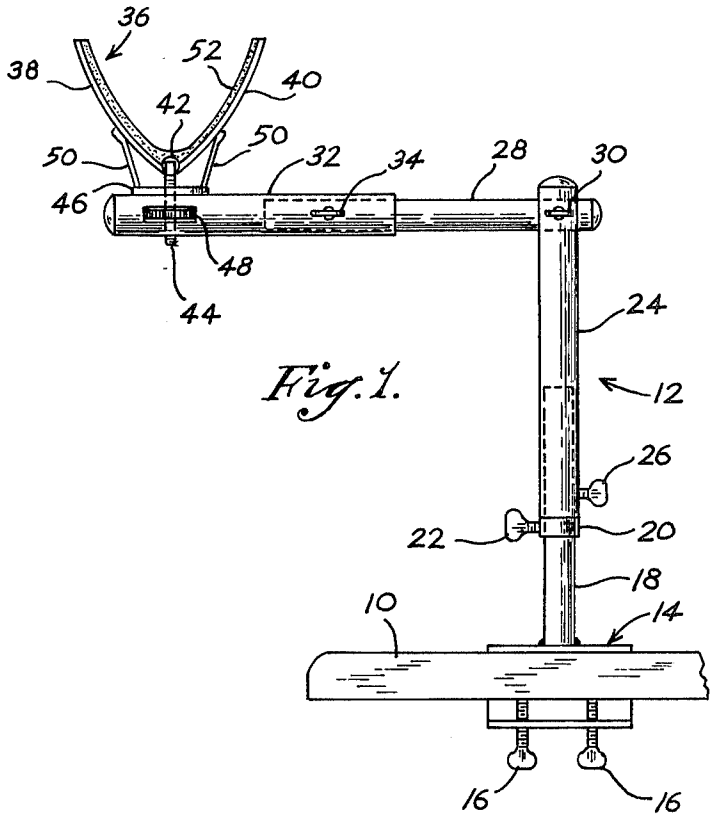


Fig. 1.

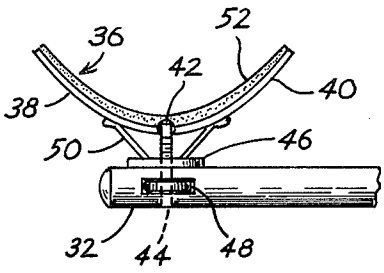


Fig. 2.

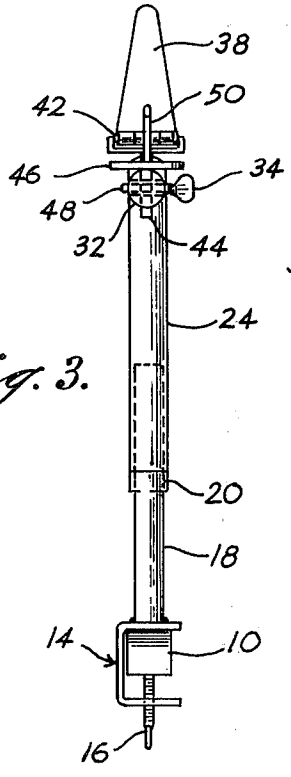


Fig. 3.

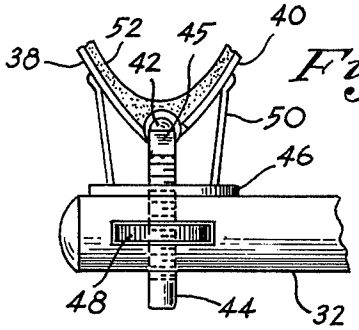


Fig. 4.

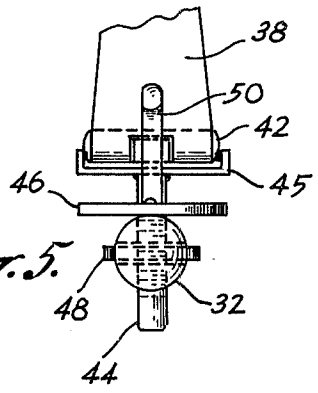


Fig. 5.

HEAD REST

This invention has to do with a head rest and mounting means therefor, designed primarily for use by beauty shop patrons while sitting under a fixed hair dryer. Sitting under a dryer requires the head to be held in a substantially fixed attitude for an extended period, with the hair exposed as fully and effectively as possible to the heat radiated by the dryer. The head must, however, be maintained out of contact with hot metallic parts of the dryer.

The user of the dryer can read, converse or just sit while under the dryer, but there is frequently a tendency to let the head shift into contact with the dryer. This is particularly true if the user has nothing to read and no one with whom to converse, because the dryer, in combination with the want of interest of the user, has a soporific effect.

It is the primary purpose of the present invention to provide a head and cheek rest which can be bodily adjusted to the physical characteristics of the user, to fix her head in a comfortable, relaxed, operatively effective relation to the dryer.

It is a further feature to provide a head holder, of the kind referred to, in which the user can comfortably place her chin and in which the sides of the holder can be spread or narrowed to conform to the facial characteristics of each individual, thereby to distribute the pressure over a considerable area and at the same time to fix the position of the head.

With my head holder the user can comfortably and safely fall asleep with assurance that her head will remain in a safe, comfortable and functionally advantageous position and attitude.

Other objects and advantages will hereinafter appear.

In the drawing forming part of this specification,

FIG. 1 is a fragmentary view in front elevation of a preferred embodiment of the invention applied to a chair arm, the face rest being adjusted substantially to its narrowest setting;

FIG. 2 is a fragmentary view in elevation showing the face rest adjusted to a very wide angular setting;

FIG. 3 is a view in end elevation of the complete structure of FIG. 1;

FIG. 4 is a fragmentary view of the face rest, generally like FIG. 1 but on a larger scale than FIG. 1; and

FIG. 5 is a fragmentary view in end elevation of the face rest and its mounting on the scale of FIG. 4.

The dryer will generally be used by a woman, whose hair has just been washed and partially towel-dried, while sitting in a straight chair of which an arm **10** is illustrated in FIG. **1.**

A head rest **12** comprises a three-sided bracket **14** whose upper side rests upon the chair arm **10.** The lower side of the bracket **14** extends across the chair arm and has thumb screws **16** adjustably threaded upward through it for acting in conjunction with the upper side of the bracket, to clamp the bracket **14** firmly and securely in place on the chair arm.

The bracket **14** includes an upstanding arm or stem **18.** A collar **20** is adjustably secured in any selected position on the stem **18** by a set screw **22.**

A tubular member **24** fits telescopically onto the upper end of stem **18** and rests upon the collar **20.** The tubular member **24** forms a direct continuation of the stem **18,** the combined effective length of **18** and **24** being determined by the setting of the collar **20.** The

sleeve **24** is angularly adjustable about the common axis of **18** and **24,** the angular position being fixed by tightening of a set screw **26.** Because the collar **20** is provided, readjustment of the angular setting of **24** does not disturb the heightwise setting of **24.**

A cylindrical rod **28** is fitted through the upper end of sleeve **24** with freedom for angular and/or longitudinal adjustment, the rod being fixed angularly and lengthwise by a thumb screw **30.**

A sleeve **32** fits telescopically onto the rod **28** and forms an extension of it. The sleeve is free to be adjusted lengthwise and/or angularly relative to the rod **28,** and is fixed in any available, selected position relative to the rod by a set screw **34.**

The sleeve **32** carries a face rest **36.** The face rest **36** comprises curved metallic side pieces **38** and **40** which are hingedly connected to one another through a hinge pin **42.**

A threaded stem **44,** connected to the hinge pin **42** through a U-shaped bracket **45** (see FIG. **5**), extends freely downward through a base plate **46** (desirably circular) which rests on, and is desirably affixed to, the sleeve **32,** and through the sleeve **32** itself. The shank of stem **44** desirably engages circumferentially the plate **46** and the sleeve **32,** but is not screwed through these members. The stem **44** is formed with a screw thread at its lower end, being threaded through a knurled nut or finger wheel **48.** The finger wheel **48** fits through slots formed in opposite sides of the sleeve **32,** being manually rotatable in the slots but restrained against movement axially of the threaded stem **44.** Rotation of the wheel **48** therefore moves the stem **44** up or down, depending on the direction of rotation.

Fingers **50,** rigidly affixed to the respective side pieces **38** and **40,** as by welding, and constituting integral parts thereof, bear at their lower ends upon the circular plate **46.** As the stem **44** is driven downward, therefore, the pieces **38** and **40** are forced to turn toward one another, narrowing the angle which is formed between them. As the stem is driven upward the pieces **38** and **40** are permitted progressively to rock away from one another, thereby to widen the angle formed between them, as illustrated in FIG. **2.**

The pieces **38** and **40** are free to turn in unison about the axis of the screw **44.** They can be tilted by rotation of the sleeve **32** about its axis, and they can be bodily shifted by longitudinal adjustment of the sleeve **32** or by rotary adjustment of the sleeve **24.** When the desired position of the face of the user is attained, every loose set screw will have been tightened to fix the position of the face rest. Because of the low pitch of the threads on screw **44,** the finger wheel **48** will automatically retain any position to which it is adjusted.

The face rest is desirably lined with sponge rubber **52** or other suitably soft material, having a thickness of the order of one-half inch.

For sanitary reasons, the face rest may, of course, be lined for each user with a disposable paper towel or napkin or a launderable fabric towel or napkin.

I have described what I believe to be the best embodiment of my invention. What I desire to cover by letters patent, however, is set forth in the appended claims.

I claim:

1. A head supporting device adapted for use in conjunction with an overhead hair dryer, for enabling any user of the dryer, regardless of her facial contour, comfortably, conveniently, effortlessly and safely to rest her head removably in a chosen, substantially fixed relation

to the dryer, said head supporting device comprising, in combination,

a. a chin and cheek engaging and conforming head supporting rest consisting of opposed, continuously upwardly divergent padded members for engaging opposite sides of the face,

b. means pivotally connecting the lower ends of said padded members to one another together with means for relatively adjusting said members to increase or diminish the angle of upward divergence formed between them for adaptation to different facial contours, said padded members having surface portions generated by a straight line segment moving parallel to the axis of rotation of said pivotal connecting means, and

c. adjustable supporting means for the head rest constructed and arranged to determine and control the height, the horizontal location and disposition, and the fore-an-aft tilt of the head rest.

2. A head supporting device as set forth in claim **1** in which the opposed, angularly related members of the face rest are connected to one another from below through a hinge pin relative to which each of said members is rotatable.

3. A head supporting device as set forth in claim **2** in which the hinge pin has rigidly attached to it a bracket having a downwardly extending threaded stem, a fixed, hollow, horizontally extending supporting arm member through which said threaded stem extends downward, and in which a horizontal slot is provided, a manually operable nut of larger diameter than the width of said arm threaded on said stem, located in the slot and confined by the narrowness of the slot against vertical movement, the construction and arrangement being such that rotation of the nut necessarily changes the height of the hinge pin, and cooperative abutment members on the respective angularly related members of the face rest and on the horizontal arm for compelling the face rest members to rock toward one another as the threaded stem is lowered by turning of the nut in one direction and permitting said face rest members to rock away from one another as the threaded stem is thrust upward by turning of the nut in the opposite direction.

4. A head supporting device as set forth in claim **3** in which the means for controlling the height, the horizontal location and disposition and the fore-and-aft tilt of the face rest includes a primary supporting means in the form of a bracket and clamping means cooperative therewith for clamping the bracket to a chair arm, a first upwardly extending shaft fixedly connected to said bracket, a second upwardly extending shaft telescopically related to the first with freedom both for longitudinal bodily adjustment and for rotary adjustment relative thereto, together with means settable to fix the longitudinal and rotary relationship of said shafts to one another, a third shaft which extends horizontally through the upper end of the second shaft with freedom for rotary and longitudinal adjustment therein, means operable to fix the adjusted relationship of the third shaft to the second, the horizontal arm upon which the face rest is mounted being telescopically supported by said third shaft, and means for fixing the telescopic relationship of said horizontal arm to the third shaft.

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