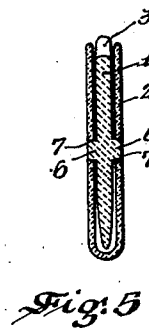
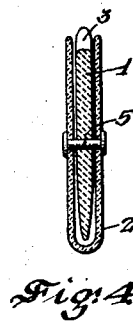
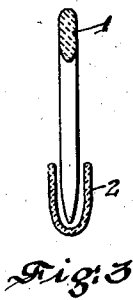
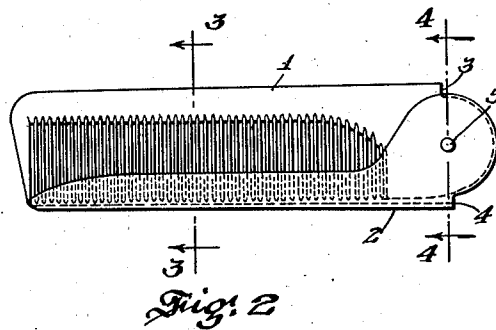
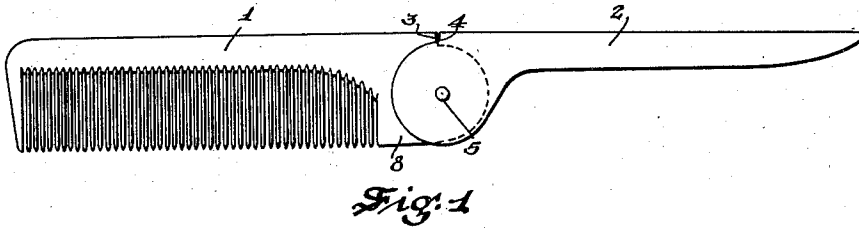


April 11, 1939.

E. S. BERLINER
FOLDING RAT-TAIL COMB
Filed Aug. 17, 1938

2,154,120



INVENTOR.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,154,120

FOLDING RAT-TAIL COMB

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Application August 17, 1938, Serial No. 225,282

5 Claims. (Cl. 132—19)

This invention relates to a novel combination of a foldable comb and hair curler, in which the hair curler is so constructed that it functions as a sheath for the comb when in the folded position.

The advantages of this construction over the prior art are manifold. The overall length of the usual comb and hair curler combination is reduced by one-half when in the closed position and the device will thus occupy little space in the carrier's handbag. Also in this closed position, the hair curler acts as a sheath to cover the exposed teeth of the comb, thus preventing snagging and breaking of the teeth when not in use.

Stops are provided on the comb and on the curler whereby they abut against each other in the open position. This provides a rigid backstop for both the comb and hair curler so that the structure will not easily fold while being used.

When in use, the comb acts as a firm handle for the hair curler and the curler acts as a handle for the comb.

My invention provides a new and novel combination and new and unusual functions for an element in the combination such as is considered to be invention within the meaning of the patent statutes. The hair curler portion, besides functioning in its usual capacity as a hair curler, also has the added function of a sheath for the comb. The comb and the hair curler, because of the foldable construction, combine to make a much more compact construction than that of the prior art.

In the drawing:

Figure 1 shows a side elevation view of the comb and hair curler in open position.

Figure 2 shows the structure of Figure 1 in closed position.

Figure 3 is a sectional view on the line 3—3 of Figure 2.

Figure 4 is a sectional view on the line 4—4 of Figure 2, and

Figure 5 is a view similar to Figure 4 showing a modification for connecting the hair curler to the comb.

The comb 1 and hair curler 2 are pivotally connected together by pin 5 so that the two parts of my device may be swung from the open position (Figure 1) to the closed position (Figure 2) like a jack-knife. The comb is provided with a stop 3 and the curler with a stop 4 so that in the open position, they abut against each other to provide a reasonably rigid straight line structure.

The comb is of usual construction throughout

its length except at one end where it is provided with a projection 8 to make a strengthened construction for receiving the pivot pin.

The curler is of tapered formation gradually tapering to a point at its end and is U-shaped in cross-section throughout its length (Figures 3 and 4). The curler structure thus provides a sheath capable of receiving the comb. This combination curler and sheath structure acts as a protection for the teeth of the comb when in the folded position, while in the open position it functions as a hair curler. Because of the gradually tapering shape of the sheath structure nothing is detracted from its utility as a hair curler. Also, because the hair curler completely covers the ends of all the teeth, nothing is detracted from its utility as a sheath. The hair curler therefore completely and ideally performs two functions, that of a hair curler and that of a sheath.

It is clear from Figure 1 that when the comb is being used the curler functions as a handle for it. This adds a third function to the curler. Also, when the curler is in use, the comb functions as a handle for it.

Figure 5 shows a modified construction for connecting the curler to the comb, which eliminates the pin 5. In this modification lugs 6 are formed integral with the comb and the curler is formed with complementary holes 7. The inherent flexibility of the material used for the structure will allow the curler to slide over the lugs until the holes reach them, at which time the curler will snap into position.

The curvature of the hair curler at its tip and the end of the comb are such that they cooperate to make the curler point harmless when folded.

Any suitable material may be used for this comb and hair curler that will give the necessary flexibility without breaking.

I claim:

1. The combination of a foldable comb and hair curler, said curler being hollow and open at one side to thereby function as a sheath for said comb.

2. The combination of a comb and sheath therefor pivoted together to fold in a jack-knife manner, said sheath gradually tapering to a point and adapted to act as a hair curler when in open position.

3. The combination of a comb and sheath therefor pivoted together to fold in a jack-knife manner, said sheath gradually tapering from a maximum width near its pivot to a minimum width at its end, thereby forming a hair curler.

4. The combination of a comb and sheath therefor, pivotally connected by a pin to fold in a jack-knife manner, said sheath gradually tapering to a point, thereby forming a hair curler.
5. The combination of a comb and sheath

therefor, lugs on said comb, complementary holes in said sheath adapted to fit on said lugs to thereby provide a pivotal connection therebetween, said sheath gradually tapering to a point, thereby forming a hair curler.

ELEANOR S. BERLINER.