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L. F. DOLDER

1,909,856

EAR GUARD

Filed July 30, 1932

FIG. 1.

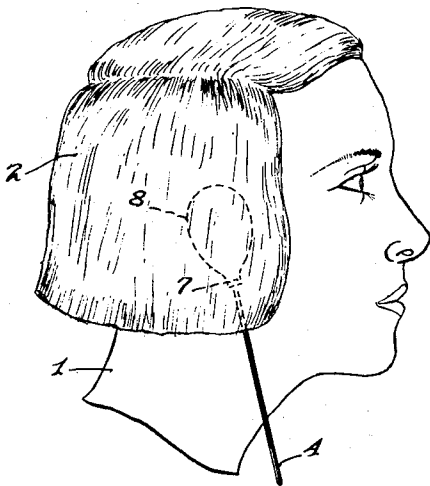


FIG. 2.

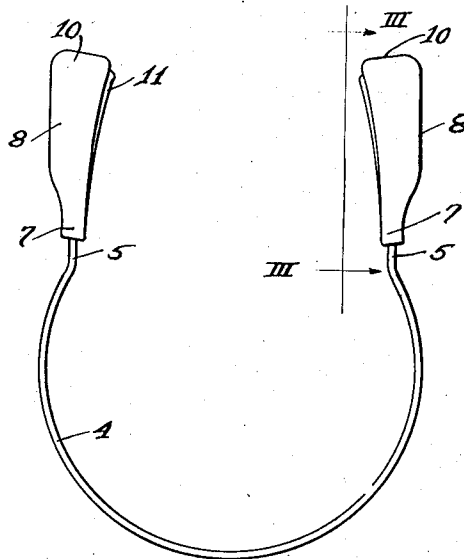


FIG. 4. FIG. 3.

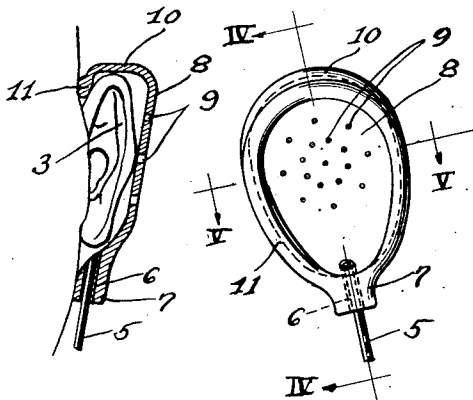


FIG. 7.

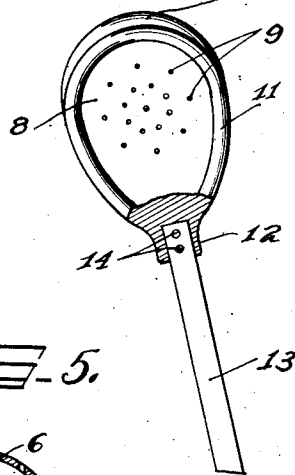


FIG. 6.

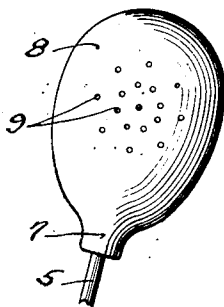
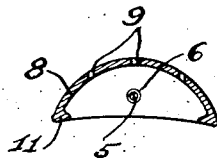


FIG. 5.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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EAR GUARD

Application filed July 30, 1932. Serial No. 636,007.

This invention relates to an ear protecting device for use in barber shops and beauty parlors and adapted to be removably engaged over the ears of a customer to protect the ears from being accidentally cut during hair cutting operations. The improved ear guard is more particularly adapted for use in connection with the cutting and trimming of children's and ladies' hair which is usually long and hangs over the ears.

It is an object of this invention provides an improved type of ear guard adapted to be removably engaged on the ears of a person undergoing a hair cutting operation.

It is also an object of this invention to provide ear guards, for use in connection with hair cutting, said guards being perforated to permit hearing and also ventilation while the ear guards are engaged on a person's ears during a hair cutting operation.

It is a further object of this invention to provide a guard or protecting device for the protection of ears during a hair cutting operation, said device including apertured ear caps shaped to be conveniently engaged over the ears of a patient and adapted to be removably held in place by means of a spring loop or connecting band.

It is an important object of this invention to provide an improved and simplified type of ear guard or protecting device for the protection of the ears of patients during hair cutting operations, said ear guard device consisting of ear caps or hoods which are apertured to permit hearing and ventilation and which are adapted to be removably held in position by a connecting resilient loop or band adapted to be positioned beneath a person's chin in an out-of-the-way position so as not to interfere with the hair cutting operation.

Other and further important objects will be apparent from the disclosures in the specification and the accompanying drawing.

The invention (in a preferred form) is illustrated in the drawing and hereinafter more fully described.

On the drawing:

Figure 1 is a side view of a person's head having an improved ear guard embodying the

principles of this invention applied over the ears.

Figure 2 is a front elevational view of the ear guard.

Figure 3 is an inner side view of one of the ear caps taken on line III—III of Figure 2.

Figure 4 is a detail longitudinal section of one of the ear caps taken on line IV—IV of Figure 3 showing the ear cap engaged on a person's ear.

Figure 5 is a transverse sectional view of one of the ear caps taken on line V—V of Figure 3.

Figure 6 is an outside elevational view of one of the ear caps.

Figure 7 is an inner side view of a modified form of ear guard provided with a flat connecting spring or strap.

As shown on the drawing:

The reference numeral 1 indicates a person's head having bobbed hair 2 which when undergoing a cutting operation in a barber shop or beauty parlor very often results in the nipping or cutting of the person's ears 3 by the scissors. In order to protect the person's ears from being accidentally cut and to allow the barber or attendant greater freedom in cutting the side sections of a head of hair the improved ear guard or protecting device is used in a manner similar to that illustrated in Figure 1 of the drawing.

The improved ear guard in the form illustrated in Figures 1 to 6 inclusive comprises a bow spring or loop 4 constructed of wire or other suitable material. The ends of the spring loop 4 are bent or shaped to afford arms 5 which frictionally project into retaining sleeves or collars 6 which are embedded in the lower ends or shanks 7 of a pair of ear caps or hoods. Each of the ear caps comprises in addition to the shank 7 a convex or rounded outer wall or shell 8 having a plurality of openings or apertures 9 provided therein. The margins of the body wall or shell 8 are curved inwardly to provide a flange or band 10 across the top of the body section to permit the same to be engaged over and suspended on a person's ear as illustrated in Figure 4. The

inner side of each of the ear caps or shells is open and is provided with a bead or rim 11 adapted to seat against a side of a person's head when the ear guard caps are in position.

The ear guard caps or shells are adapted to be constructed out of glass, bakelite, hard rubber, metal or any other suitable material. As clearly illustrated in Figure 2, the pair of ear caps are connected by the resilient spring bow or loop 4 to permit the ear caps when engaged over a person's ears to be resiliently held in position against the sides of a person's head. The top flanges 10 of the ear caps serve as a means for supporting the caps in position and also prevent the caps from being pulled downwardly off of the ears. When the ear caps are engaged in position as illustrated in Figure 1, the openings or apertures 9 provided in the body portion or outer wall of the caps permit the person to hear and also serve as a means for ventilating the ear guard caps. The frictional fit of the arms 5 in the sleeves 6 permits the caps or shells to be removed from the spring loop 4 in case the caps are broken or need replacement for some other reasons.

Figure 7 illustrates a modified form of ear guard in which the ear guard caps or shells are constructed substantially the same as those illustrated in Figures 1 to 6 inclusive with exception that the shanks 12 are each provided with a slot or pocket for the reception of one end of a flat bow spring or strap 13. The ends of the bow strap 13 are removably secured in the shanks 12 by means of retaining screws 14 or the like.

The improved ear guard can easily be applied over the ears of a person who is to have a hair cut and the spring loop 4 serves to hold the ear guard caps pressed resiliently against the sides of a person's head. With the improved ear guard removably engaged in position as illustrated in Figure 1, the barber or hair cutting attendant is not in danger of cutting the person's ear accidentally particularly in the case of cutting children's hair. While the improved ear guards are intended for use on children's and women's hair, the guards may of course be used on men's hair.

It will of course be understood that various details of construction may be varied through a wide range without departing from the principles of this invention and it is, therefore, not the purpose to limit the patent granted hereon otherwise than necessitated by the scope of the appended claims.

I claim as my invention:

1. An ear guard device comprising a pair of apertured caps adapted to cover the ears, hooked flanges on the top and sides of said caps to permit the caps to be hung over the top and rear portions of the ears, the hook

portions of said flanges being tapered away gradually on the sides of the caps to form smooth sloping bottoms therefor for covering the lobes of the ears without engaging the same, a spring loop secured in the bottom of said ear caps for resiliently pressing the outside surfaces of the hooks on the flanges and the bottoms of said ear caps against the sides of the user's head to frictionally engage the same and seal the ears from outside interference.

2. An ear guard comprising a cap adapted to cover the ear, hooked flanges on the top and sides of said cap permitting the same to be quickly adjusted over the ear, a smooth sloping bottom on said caps for covering the ear lobe without contacting the same, a spring loop secured in said bottom for pressing the hooks on the flanges and bottom of the cap against the side of a person's head and frictionally engage the same so that the ear is sealed from outside interference and the weight of the device carried by the frictional contact with the side of the head.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name at Chicago, Cook County, Illinois.

LEWIS F. DOLDER.