

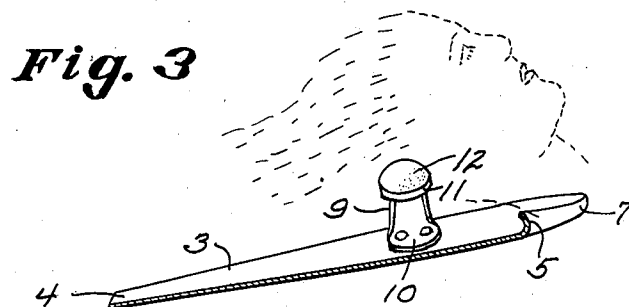
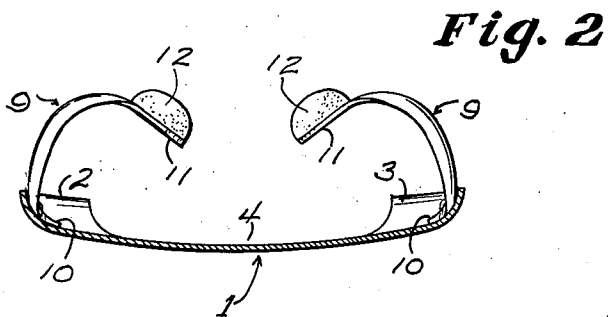
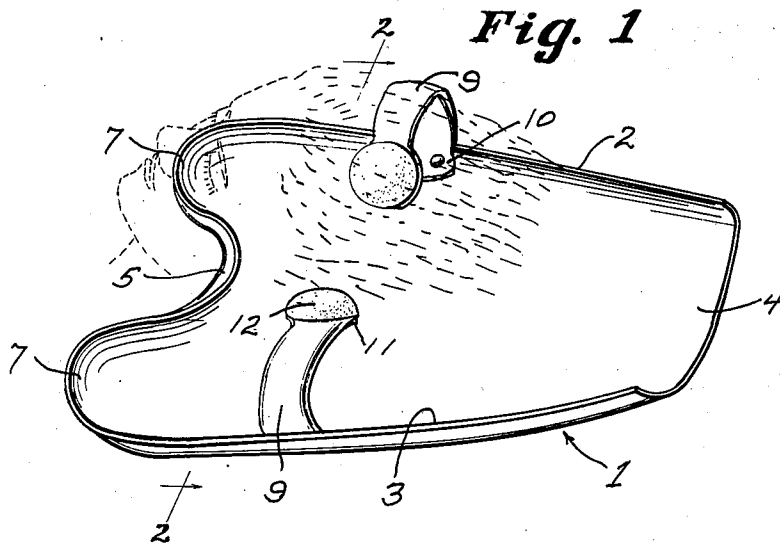
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A. B. ELLIS

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SHAMPOO BOARD

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Alice B. Ellis, INVENTOR.

BY Roger C. Johnson
ATTORNEY.

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SHAMPOO BOARD

Alice B. Ellis, Arlington, Va.

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1 Claim. (Cl. 4—159)

This invention relates to equipment for beauty shops, hairdressers and the like, and is more particularly concerned with equipment used for shampooing, rinsing and like operations, but it is to be understood that my invention is not to be limited to such uses.

According to the prevailing practice at the present time in shampooing women's hair, the customer is seated in a chair with the back of the latter adjusted so that the customer is in a semi-reclining position, her head being supported on the forward part of a shampoo board which drains into an adjacent sink. The shampoo board in common use at the present time is a tray- or pan-like article having its forward end recessed to form a curved throat section upon which the nape of the neck rests, the recessed portion being flanked by forwardly extending parts which are disposed on either side of the customer's head and cooperate with other portions of the board more directly under the customer's head so as to catch the water and conduct it to a sink or other point of disposal. In rinsing, the water is usually applied to all parts of the head in any suitable manner, as by a spray, in order to wash out thoroughly the lather, etc., from all parts of the hair. Usually, however, the shampoo board as used at the present time does not afford full protection against water splashing onto customer, and hence shampoo capes and similar protective devices have been devised with a view of keeping the person and clothing of the customer from getting wet.

Also, it has been found in practice that the customer is not entirely comfortable when her head is resting on the nape of her neck against the recessed part of the ordinary shampoo board, so that even though reclining and otherwise in a comfortable position it is usually impossible for her to relax completely, as is generally desirable. In an effort to avoid such disadvantages, strips or pads of sponge rubber or other material have been placed over the edge of the shampoo board, but they have been only partially successful in providing complete comfort for the customer. Moreover, with the ordinary shampoo board it is almost impossible to thoroughly shampoo or rinse the hair at the nape of the neck without asking the customer to raise her head, a position which is difficult and extremely tiring to maintain for any length of time, but which is, nevertheless, essential according to present practice if the operator is to do her work satisfactorily.

The object and general nature of this invention is the provision of a shampoo board having means for supporting the head other than on the nape of the neck, but without interfering with thorough and complete shampooing and rinsing operations, whereby the customer is entirely comfortable throughout the whole time and does not have to hold her head up in an uncomfortable position for any appreciable length of time to permit the operator to reach the hair at the back of the neck. Also, it is a feature of this invention to provide a shampoo board so constructed as to fit against the nape of the neck farther down toward the shoulders than is practical in the present practice and also to support the head at a point or points spaced upwardly from the nape of the neck, thereby relieving the neck of a major portion of the weight of the head, while yet permitting the operator to shampoo and rinse conveniently and easily the hair at the back of the neck. It is also a feature of my invention to provide a shampoo board which not only provides adequate and comfortable support for the head of the customer being treated, but also permits her to occupy a more reclining position. This reduces materially the tendency to splash water onto the customer and eliminates the necessity for shampoo capes and the like in most cases. Further, pads of sponge rubber and the like are no longer necessary since little weight is thrown on the neck.

These and other objects and advantages of my invention will be apparent to those skilled in the art after a consideration of the following detailed description of one preferred embodiment of my invention, taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawing.

In the drawing:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a shampoo board embodying my invention;

Figure 2 is a section taken on the line 2—2 of Figure 1; and

Figure 3 is a longitudinal view on a reduced scale.

In the selected embodiment of the invention here shown to illustrate the principles of my invention, the reference numeral 1 indicates the shampoo board in its entirety, being more or less of common form and having up-turned sides 2 and 3, a discharge end 4 and a curved or recessed throat portion 5 formed to receive the neck of the customer. At each side of the throat 5 the shampoo board has forwardly extending sections 7 which in use are disposed alongside the

customer's neck to prevent water from dropping down onto the customer.

According to the present invention, I provide a pair of head rests or supports 9, each consisting of a curved arm formed of any suitable material, such as pressed metal or the like, and having a foot portion 10 riveted or otherwise fastened to the shampoo board and a flattened end 11. As best shown in Figure 2, the parts 10 of the head rests or supports 9 are fastened to the edge portions of the shampoo board, providing a clear unobstructed space underneath, as will be pointed out below. The head rests 9 preferably are finished like or to harmonize with the shampoo board proper, and if desired the arms 9 may be formed of the same material as or integral with the shampoo board.

The flattened ends 11 are of smooth contour so as to provide no opportunity for the customer's hair to catch or become entangled thereon. Each end 11 has secured thereto a cushion of sponge rubber or the like, as indicated at 12, and preferably the cushions 12 are cemented or otherwise permanently secured thereto. The cushions are small enough to provide substantially uninterrupted access to all parts of the head but large enough to provide a comfortable support for the head.

The ends 11 carrying the cushions 12 are not only spaced from each other, but both are spaced a considerable distance longitudinally of the board from the throat portion 5, the advantages of which will be explained later.

The manner of using my improved shampoo board will be apparent to those skilled in the art from the above description. The shampoo board is supported in any suitable manner back of the chair in which the customer is seated, either by being secured to the chair itself or supported on a separate stand. The back of the chair is swung down to a reclining position and then the shampoo board is placed so as to drain backwardly into a sink or other point of disposal. The customer then lays her head back onto the head rests 9 of the shampoo board with the throat of the latter well down on her neck below the hair line. From Figures 1 and 3, it will be seen that the head rests or supports 9 are spaced longitudinally of the shampoo board such a distance from the recessed throat section 5 that the laterally spaced ends of the supports 9 receive the head of the customer practically directly underneath the central portion thereof, and not on the muscles of the neck at the back of the head. Thus the customer's head is supported practically entirely on the head rests 9 and little if any weight is sustained on the nape of the neck, as in the present practice, at the throat of the shampoo board. The customer can therefore relax the muscles at the back of the neck, since they are not called upon to support the weight of the head, yet the shampoo board fits snugly at the throat section so that there is no danger of water running down the neck. It is therefore an important feature of the present invention, not only to provide head rests for a shampoo board but also to space them in the required relation to the throat section that the customer's head is supported generally centrally, without strain, while the throat of the

shampoo board fits snugly against the back of the neck well down toward the shoulders.

By virtue of my invention the customer is thoroughly comfortable and can be placed in a more reclining position than at the present time, thus contributing to the comfort of the customer and, moreover, permitting the disposition of her head farther back on the shampoo board, as indicated in Figure 3, which results in much less likelihood of the customer getting wet by water splashed or dripping onto her. At the same time the operator is enabled to shampoo, rinse, or otherwise treat or manipulate the hair with the customer thoroughly and completely relaxed. The operator has access to the hair at the back of the neck by reaching in between the head rests 9, it being seen that the arms curve outwardly so as to provide ample room for this purpose. The pads 12 cover only a small portion of the head and even these parts may be reached easily and conveniently by having the customer turn her head slightly to a sidewise position on the head rests, but it is not necessary to have the customer hold her head up in an uncomfortable and strained position, as is required at the present time. Also, there is no likelihood of water running down the back of the customer's head or neck, which frequently occurs with present equipment, especially when the customer is requested to hold her head up while the operator washes or rinses the back of the neck. This cannot happen with the shampoo board of my invention, first, because it is not necessary to ask the customer to hold up her head, and second, because she can be placed in a more reclining position with the shampoo board in a more advantageous position to catch all rinsing water or the like.

While I have shown and described the preferred embodiment of my invention, it is to be understood that my invention is not to be limited to the specific details shown but that, in fact, widely different means may be used in carrying out the broader aspects of my invention. For example, instead of being separate parts rigidly secured to the shampoo board, the head rests may be formed integrally therewith, or they may be provided with clamps or other means permitting their ready attachment to or detachment from existing shampoo boards, and if it should be desired to provide even greater access for the operator to reach the hair at the back of the neck, one or both of the head rests may be hinged to swing into and out of position.

What I claim, therefore, and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

A shampoo board comprising a tray section having a recessed neck-receiving portion and a pair of head-receiving supports fixed to the outer edge portions of the tray section, said head-receiving supports being spaced apart laterally and disposed such a distance longitudinally of the tray section from said neck-receiving portion that normally in use the patron's neck engages said recessed portion of the shampoo board a substantial distance down toward the patron's shoulders while said spaced apart supports engage the back of the patron's head substantially underneath the central part of the head.

ALICE B. ELLIS.