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3,459,200

DEVICE FOR CURLING, WAVING OR SETTING HAIR

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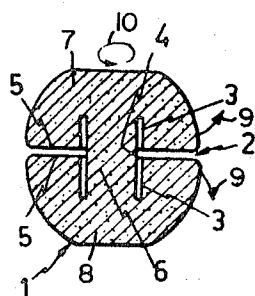


FIG. 1.

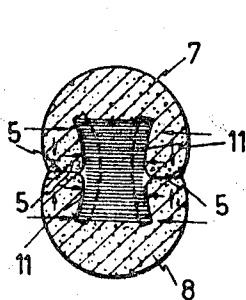


FIG. 2

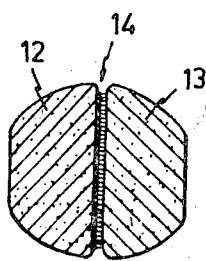


FIG. 4

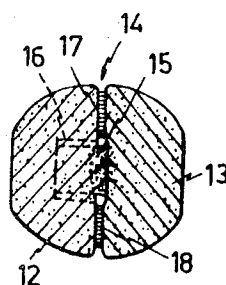


FIG. 5

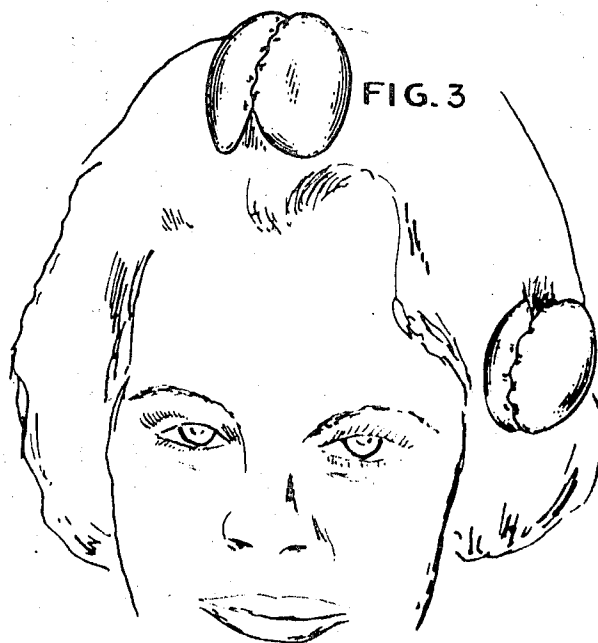


FIG. 3

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## DEVICE FOR CURLING, WAVING OR SETTING HAIR

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U.S. Cl. 132-43

3 Claims

### ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A device for curling, waving or setting hair, comprising a spherical shaped body of compressible elastic material having an inwardly extending circumferential slot in which a lock of hair may be wound and secured by the resilient action of the body.

The present invention has for its object a device for maintaining the hair curled, in order to curl it, to wave it or to set it, and comprising two portions of material designed to be in contacting relationship, by one of their faces, in order to grip a lock of hair, means being provided to maintain the said faces of said portions of material one against the other.

The invention has for its object, on the one hand, to overcome the various disadvantages connected with curlers or apparatus generally used for curling or waving hair, disadvantages such as damage to the hair, bad sets caused by the fastening means, difficulties when positioning these apparatus, complexity of the latter, discomfort resulting from the design of said apparatus and from the characteristics of the materials used for their production, etc., and on the other hand, to provide a simple device, of easy and economic manufacture, making it possible, on account of its shapes and of the material used for its production, to curl or wave the hair very quickly while giving it a natural appearance without spoiling it and without hindering the user, even when asleep, this device offering the great advantage of effecting the waving or the setting in curls of unwaved hair within a time not exceeding 15 minutes, without it being first necessary to moisten the hair.

For that purpose, according to the invention, the device is produced from an elastic material and in one piece, this device being substantially in the shape of a sphere, a slot being provided on the circumference of said sphere and according to a diametrical plane of the latter, the hair being accommodated in the said slot.

According to an advantageous form of embodiment of the invention, a circular groove is provided, close to the bottom of the said slot, in each of the cheeks of the latter, these circular grooves establishing within the material of the device a cylindrical core the axis of which passes through the center of the said sphere, the hair being curled round said core and accommodated in the said grooves.

According to a particularly advantageous form of embodiment of the invention, the device is produced from an elastic material such as synthetic material in the shape of a foam.

Other details and features of the invention will become apparent from the description of the drawings accompanying the present specification and which represent, by way of nonlimitative examples, two particular forms of embodiment of the object of the invention.

FIGURE 1 is an elevational and sectional view of a device according to the invention.

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FIGURE 2 is a diagrammatic view showing a lock of hair curled on a device according to the invention and showing how this lock is maintained in the said device.

FIGURE 3 shows two ways of using the said device.

FIGURE 4 is an elevational view in section of device according to the invention.

FIGURE 5 is an elevational view in section of a variant of the device shown in FIGURE 4.

In the different figures, the same reference numerals refer to similar elements.

According to the invention, the device 1 shown in the FIGURES 1 to 3 is produced from an elastic material and in one piece. This device is substantially in the shape of a sphere, a slot 2 being provided, according to a diametrical plane of the sphere, on the circumference of the latter. A circular groove 3 is provided, close to the bottom 4 of the slot 2, in each of the cheeks 5 of said slot. These circular grooves 3 establish, within the material of the device, a cylindrical core 6, the axis of which passes through the center of the said sphere and on which will be curled the lock of hair to be curled. The device 1 is produced from a synthetic material of low density in the shape of a foam, material such as polyurethan, polyether, etc.

The device according to the invention offers the advantage of allowing an easy curling of the hair.

Indeed, it will be sufficient to open the cheeks 7, 8 in the direction of the arrows 9, in order to release the core 6; after curling of the strand of hair, the cheeks 7, 8 are released, which because of the compression of the core, are applied one against the other as shown in FIGURE 2, enclosing the strand of hair, while the walls 11 of the grooves 3 are applied against the hair curled on the core, the hair being thus perfectly held without being spoilt.

In order to remove the lock of hair curled on the device, it will be sufficient to apply a slight pull, according to the arrows 9, to the hemispheres 7 and 8 and to impart to the latter a rotating movement in the opposite direction to that of arrow 10.

As shown in FIGURE 3, the device according to the invention is perfectly suitable for waving hair located on the sides and at the back of the head and for waving hair located at the top of the head.

Moreover, without losing its properties of maintaining the hair in situ, this device makes it possible to curl very thick locks.

The device shown in FIGURE 4 comprises two components 12 and 13 which are substantially in the shape of a half sphere, these components being intended to be assembled so as to form a sphere, a lock of hair being gripped between these two components maintained one against the other by an adhesive system 14.

The device shown in the FIGURE 5 comprises the said two components 12 and 13, the component 12 having a core 15 on which is curled the hair, these two components being assembled by an adhesive system 14. The component 12 could also, in order to allow the accommodation of a lock of very thick hair, be provided with a circular groove 16 shown by a dash line. The adhesive system 14 permitting the assembly of the components 12 and 13 is, for example, an adhesive system known by the name of "Velcro." This adhesive system may also be provided from synthetic fibers, for example nylon fibers, integral with the faces 17 and 18 of the said components.

The great smoothness, the great elasticity as well as the lightness of the material used, the rounded-off shapes of the device as well as the complete lack of any hard, rigid or semi-rigid element give the locks of hair a natural appearance and allow the use of the said device

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without any hindrance for the user even when the device is kept in place during the hours of sleep.

It is well understood that the invention is in no way limited to the described forms of embodiment and that many changes may be made to the latter without departing from the scope of the present patent application.

In particular the device according to the invention shown in the FIGURES 1 to 3, as well as the component 12 of the device shown in the FIGURE 5, could be produced from several components, said components being then permanently assembled by glueing, welding, etc.

I claim:

1. A hair curling device comprising a one piece substantially spherical body of a compressible readily deformable material, said body provided with an inwardly extending circumferential slot, said slot defining two substantially hemispherical cheeks joined by a central core, a circular groove opening in said slot within which hair is accommodated being provided in at least one cheek, the dimensions of said slot and said groove being such that the curling of hair around the core causes

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compression thereof and tends to cause the two cheeks to contact each other at the inner face of each cheek.

2. A hair curling device as claimed in claim 1 wherein the body is made of a synthetic foam material.

3. A hair curling device as claimed in claim 2, wherein the body has an elasticity which permits the volume of the body to be reduced in compression by at least fifty percent with reference to its initial volume.

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