Dec. 14, 1948. C. ARKUS 2,456,167

HEAD ORNAMENT

Filed June 26, 1947

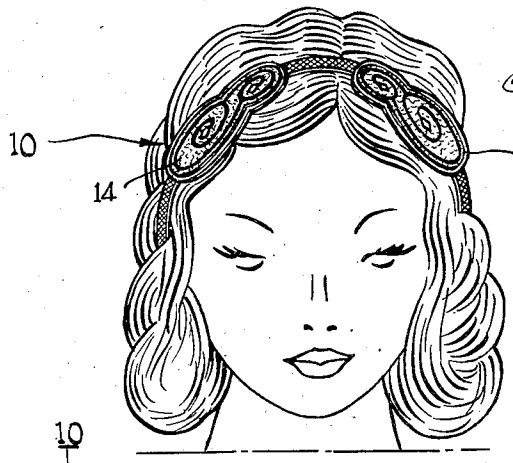

Fig. 1.

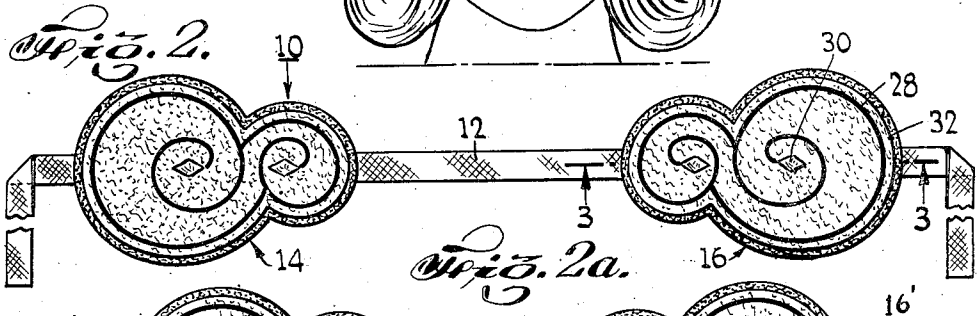

Fig. 2.

Fig. 2a.

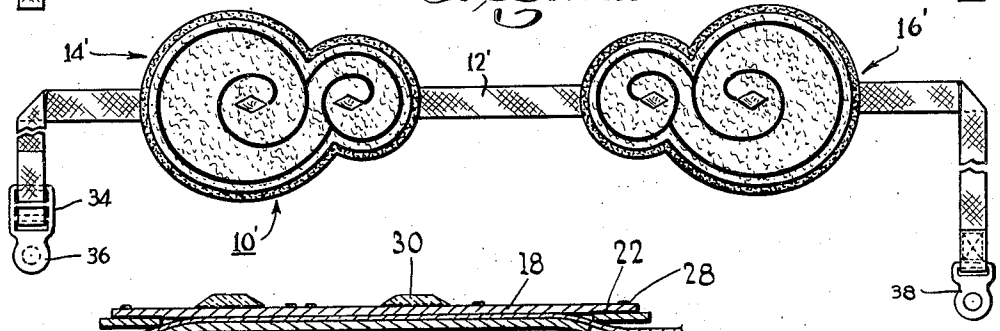

Fig. 3.

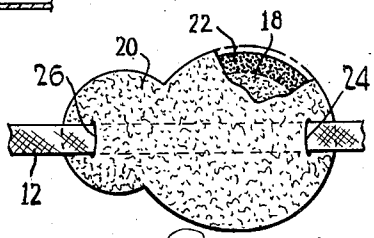

Fig. 4.

Fig. 5.

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HEAD ORNAMENT

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2 Claims. (Cl. 2—209)

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This invention relates to head ornaments.

It is an object of my invention to provide a head ornament of novel and attractive appearance which can, when desired, be moved to a position in which it covers the ears.

It is another object of my invention to provide a head ornament which includes earmuffs so mounted that when not in use they form attractive decorations in the hair.

It is a further object of my invention to provide a head ornament including a pair of earmuffs which lie flat against the ears and which are mounted in an extremely simple manner such that they can be moved to an idle position away from the ears but still flat against the head.

It is an additional object of my invention to provide a head ornament of the character described which comprises very few parts and can be manufactured at an extremely low cost.

It is still another object of my invention to provide a head ornament of the character described, i. e., one including a pair of earmuffs, which is composed entirely of non-metallic substances.

Other objects of my invention will in part be obvious and in part be pointed out hereinafter.

My invention accordingly consists in the features of construction, combinations of elements and arrangements of parts which will be exemplified in the constructions hereinafter described and of which the scope of application will be indicated in the appended claims.

In the accompanying drawings in which are shown various possible embodiments of my invention,

Fig. 1 is a front view of a girl's head on which there is mounted a head ornament embodying my invention, the earmuffs which form part of said ornament being illustrated in idle or indoor position;

Fig. 2 is a top plan view of the head ornament as it appears when off the head;

Fig. 2a is a view similar to Fig. 2 of a head ornament embodying a modified form of my invention;

Fig. 3 is an enlarged sectional view taken substantially along the line of 3—3 of Fig. 2;

Fig. 4 is a bottom plan view of one of the earmuffs; and

Fig. 5 is a three-quarters perspective view of a girl's head on which the head ornament is attached, the earmuffs being shown in operative or outdoor position.

In general, I achieve the various objects of my invention by providing a head ornament which comprises two earmuffs and an elongated limp member such, for instance, as a fabric tape on

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which the earmuffs are mounted. The limp member is threaded through a passageway provided in association with such earmuff so as to be slidable thereon and is prevented from inadvertently sliding relative to the earmuffs, this being done most simply by having the limp member in contact over a substantial area with the elements constituting the earmuffs. The limp member is long enough to be draped around the head from the top thereof to the back of the neck in such manner as to lie over the ears. The ends of the member are held together in some suitable fashion as by providing detachable connecting means or by making said member long enough to permit its ends to be tied together. The connection between the limp member and the earmuffs is slidable in order to allow movement of both earmuffs along said member, whereby the earmuffs can be moved from a position in which they cover the ears to any other position along the elongated member, for example a position above the ears, in which the earmuffs form attractive decorations. In the preferred forms of my invention shown herein, the earmuffs are comparatively thin, that is to say, flat, simply constituting two plies of material. This form of earmuff has the advantage that when used as a head ornament, rather than an earmuff, it forms an attractive patch of color on the hair without standing up therefrom in a protuberant manner.

Referring now in detail to the drawings, 10 denotes a head ornament embodying the invention. Said ornament comprises a limp fabric tape 12 long enough to encircle the head from the top thereof to the back of the neck with sufficient material left over to tie the ends of the tape. The tape may be made out of any type of fabric and, if desired, may be ornamented, as by the provision of designs or stripes along its length. The tape can have either a smooth or rough surface depending upon style requirements.

The head ornament, also, includes a pair of earmuffs 14, 16 which, desirably, are identical so that only one earmuff need be described here in detail. Each earmuff includes an outer ply 18 and an under ply 20. As shown, the two plies are of substantially the same outline; the under ply, however, is slightly larger than the outer ply so that when the two plies are superimposed, the peripheral margin of the under ply is visible.

Preferably, each ply is made out of a layer of self-form-maintaining material, for instance, felt. The plies illustrated herein are relatively thin, having a thickness of only approximately $\frac{1}{8}$ of an inch each. It will be understood that

other materials can be used in place of felt, as for example, a heavy woven fabric which has been slightly stiffened by the application of any well known filler. Alternatively, the plies may be fabricated from self-form-maintaining sheets of synthetic plastic like regenerated cellulose or ethyl cellulose.

Means is provided to secure the two fabric plies to one another. Any suitable means can be used for this purpose, as, for example, securing elements like staples, stitching or rivets. In the preferred forms of my invention, a cementitious substance such as glue **22** is employed, the same being applied in such fashion as to adhere the lower peripheral surface of the outer ply **18** to the upper surface of the under ply **20** a short distance within the margin thereof.

Means also is included to provide a passageway through the earmuffs for the elongated limp member **12**. Such means is in the form of two slits **24**, **26** cut through the under ply **20**. For the purpose of reference, the longitudinal axis of the earmuff will be considered to be that which is parallel to the longitudinal axis of the tape. The slits **24**, **26** extend transversely to said longtitudinal axis of the earmuff. Said slits are approximately as long as the width of the tape. Inasmuch as the two plies are not secured to one another over their central areas but only around their peripheries, there is a space between the two plies through which the elongated limp member can freely pass, said member entering into this space at one of the slits, e.g. the slit **24**, and leaving through the other slit **26**.

The slits are spaced apart a substantial distance, for instance, respectively near the top and bottom of the earmuff, thus providing a passageway for the elongated limp member which is almost as long as the earmuff and affording a substantial area of frictional contact between the two plies and said member. This frictional contact is sufficient to hold the earmuffs against inadvertent sliding in any adjusted position thereof, even when the ornament **10** is off the head and simply dangled by the elongated member. It will be appreciated that due to the substantial length of the passageway and to the fact that the plies are very close to one another and made from a fibrous material, i. e. felt, the walls of said passageway act as a frictional deterring means which prevent an accidental relative movement of the earmuff relative to the limp member.

The earmuffs are, of course, sufficiently large to substantially cover the ears of the wearer. Desirably, the outer ply may be ornamented so that there is presented a pleasing appearance. For instance, a simple design **28** can be applied to its outer surface as by stitching or the laying on of thin stripes of sealing wax. In addition, a few ornamental stones or brilliants **30** can be affixed to said outer ply. Furthermore, the under and outer plies may be of contrasting colors so as to provide a decorative margin **32** around the earmuffs.

To use the head ornament, the tape **12** is draped around the head from the top thereof to the top of the neck at the back of the head. The ends of the tape are tied together at any location which the wearer believes is desirable, except between the ears and a point sufficiently above the ears to allow the earmuffs to be slid up. For instance, the ends of the tape can be tied together at the top of the head or at the neck. When the earmuffs are disposed over the ears, the head ornament will have the appearance indicated in Fig. 5, and when it is desired to move the earmuffs out of the way to expose the ears when the wearer is indoors or the weather turns warmer, the head ornament will have the appearance indicated in Fig. 1.

Optionally, alternative means may be used to detachably connect the ends of the tape. Such a modified form of my invention is shown in Fig. 2*a* wherein parts similar to those in Figs. 1–5 are indicated by the same reference numerals primed. The tape **12'** in this embodiment has a buckle **34** near one end thereof which is of a standard construction employed to shorten or lengthen a tape. The buckle carries one half **36** of a conventional detachable securing means, such as a snap fastener. The other half **38** of the snap fastener is secured to the other end of the tape.

It thus will be seen that I have provided head ornaments which achieve the several objects of my invention and are well adapted to meet the conditions of practical use. As various possible embodiments might be made of the above invention, and as various changes might be made in the embodiments above set forth, it is to be understood that all matter herein described, or shown in the accompanying drawings, is to be interpreted as illustrative and not in a limiting sense.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent:

1. A head ornament comprising an elongated limp tape and a pair of earmuffs, each of said earmuffs including a flat outer layer and a flat inner layer, said outer layer being imperforate, said layers being substantially coextensive and superimposed, said layers being secured together adjacent the peripheries thereof so as to leave unattached the central portions thereof, the unattached portions of said layers providing an elongated passageway running through the center of the earmuff and terminating at its opposite ends in openings in the inner layer adjacent the periphery of the earmuff on diametrically opposite sides of the center, said tape extending through said passageway and being slidable axially therethrough over substantially its entire length, whereby the portions of the tape lying within the peripheries of the earmuffs are wholly concealed, and the earmuffs can be slid from positions overlying the ears to positions overlying the hair of a wearer, the centrally disposed edge-to-edge tape portions holding the earmuffs flat against the ears and flat against the head of the wearer in its two positions so that in their second-named position the earmuffs can function as ornaments.

2. A head ornament as set forth in claim 1 wherein the ends of the elongated passageway in each earmuff comprise two slits in the inner layer thereof, said slits being adjacent the periphery of the earmuff, in the region of the unattached portions of the two layers and extending perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the tape.

CATHERINE ARKUS.

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