Nov. 8, 1932. G. ADAMS 1,887,003

EAR CLEANER

Filed April 22, 1931

Fig. 1.

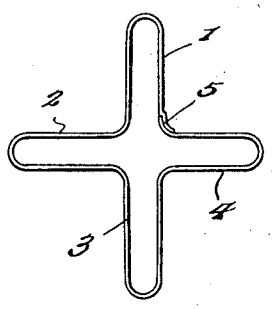


Fig. 2.



Fig. 3.

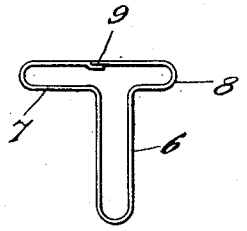
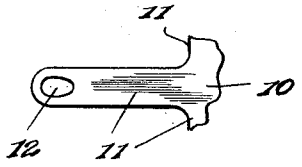


Fig. 4.



Inventor

George Adams.

By Lacey & Lacey, Attorneys

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

GEORGE ADAMS, OF MAPLECREST, NEW YORK

EAR CLEANER

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This invention relates to an improved ear cleaning device and one object of the invention is to provide a device of this character by use of which wax or other obstructions may be removed from the canal of a person's ear without danger of injuring the walls of the ear canal or puncturing the ear drum.

Another object of the invention is to so form the device that it may be very easily held in a person's hand when in use and the portion thrust into the ear guided and easily moved in order to detach wax and extract the same from the ear.

Another object of the invention is to provide an article of this character which is very simple in its construction and may be very cheaply produced.

The invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawing wherein

Figure 1 is a plane view of one form of ear cleaner,

Figure 2 is an edge view of the ear cleaner shown in Figure 1,

Figure 3 is a view similar to Figure 1 of a modified form of ear cleaner, and

Figure 4 is a fragmentary view in plan of an ear cleaner formed of sheet material instead of wire.

The ear cleaner shown in Figures 1 and 2 is preferably formed of a wire strand which may be of any diameter found suitable in order to impart sufficient rigidity to the cleaner.

This wire strand is bent to form a plurality of arms 1, 2, 3 and 4, each of which is U-shaped when viewed as shown in Figure 1 and the ends of the wire strand are welded or otherwise firmly united as shown at 5.

The arms of the improved implement are preferably of different lengths and may be all of the same width or different widths, each arm being provided with an opening or passage, as shown. Therefore when wax is to be removed from a person's ear, an arm of the proper length and width may be selected, according to whether wax is to be removed from a child's ear or a grown person's, and also according to the size of the ear opening. In view of the fact that the arms 1 and 3 are aligned and extend at right angles to the arms 2 and 4 which are also in alignment with each other, the arms extending transversely of an arm to be used and the arm extending in alignment therewith may be employed as a handle for holding the implement while thrusting the arm in use into a person's ear.

In view of the fact that the device is formed of a wire strand circular in cross section and each arm has a rounded outer end portion, sharp corners will be eliminated and there will be no danger of penetrating or scraping the walls of the ear channel and also no danger of puncturing a person's ear drum when using the device. The arms extended at right angles to an arm in use and projecting from opposite sides thereof will also serve very effectively as stops to engage a person's ear and limit the extent to which the arm in use may be thrust into a person's ear. Therefore there will be no danger of the arm being thrust inwardly into a person's ear too far with resulting likelihood of injury to an ear drum.

In Figure 3 there has been shown a slightly modified construction. The device illustrated in this figure is somewhat similar to that shown in Figure 1 and is also formed of a wire strand which is circular in cross section. This strand is bent to form an arm 6 corresponding to one of the arms shown in Figure 1 and is then bent to form arms 7 and 8 projecting from opposite sides of the arms 6 and ends of the strand welded or otherwise secured to each other as shown at 9. It will thus be seen that in this form the implement has only three arms instead of four. It should also be noted that the arm 7 is a great deal shorter than the arm 6 and the arm 8 is shorter than the arm 7. The arms 7 and 8 have also been shown narrower than the arm 6 so that they may be inserted into ear channels too small to receive the arm 6.

In Figure 4 there has been illustrated another embodiment of the invention in which the device is formed of sheet material which may be metal or any other material desired. This device which is indicated in general by the numeral 10 may have three, four, or any other number of arms 11 desired. The outer

end of the arm is rounded so as to form a blunt end corresponding in shape to the ends of the arms shown in Figures 1 and 3 and an opening or passage 12 is formed in the free end portion of the arm through which wax may pass when scraped loose from a person's ear. It will thus be seen that a device constructed as shown in Figure 4 will be substantially the same as those shown in Figures 1 and 3 except that it is formed of sheet material instead of a wire strand.

What is claimed is:

1. An ear cleaner comprising companion arms having their inner ends united and their outer ends rounded and each formed with a passage through its outer end portion, certain of said arms extending transversely of another arm from opposite sides thereof and constituting a handle for the same.

2. An ear cleaner comprising companion arms having their inner ends united, said arms being arranged in pairs and the arms of each pair projecting from opposite sides of arms of the other pair and constituting a handle for the same.

3. An ear cleaner comprising companion arms having their inner ends united and their outer ends rounded and each formed with a passage through its outer end portion, each arm extending transversely of another arm and projecting from a side thereof to constitute a handle for the same and limit inward movement thereof when thrust into an ear.

4. An ear cleaner comprising a strand bent to form a plurality of U-shaped arms, certain of said arms extending transversely of another arm and projecting from opposite sides thereof.

5. An ear cleaner comprising a strand bent to form a plurality of U-shaped arms arranged in pairs, the arms of each pair being disposed in opposed relation to each other and projecting from opposite sides of the arms of another pair.

6. An ear cleaner comprising a body portion having a plurality of arms extending therefrom and disposed at an angle to each other, the outer ends of said arms being rounded and provided with passages.

7. An ear cleaner comprising a body portion having a plurality of arms extending laterally therefrom and disposed at an angle to each other, said arms being of different lengths and widths and having their outer ends rounded and provided with passages.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

GEORGE ADAMS. [L. S.]