

Nov. 24, 1953

F. S. WAGGENER
CLIP FOR CONTOURED HAIR

2,660,184

Filed Nov. 28, 1952

Fig. 1.

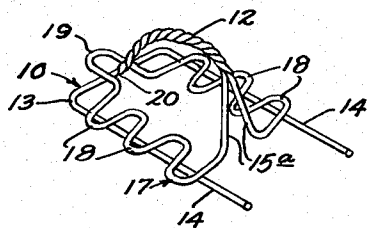


Fig. 2.

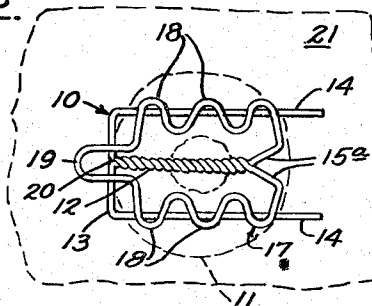


Fig. 3.

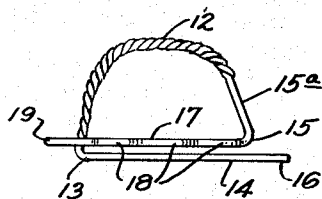


Fig. 4.

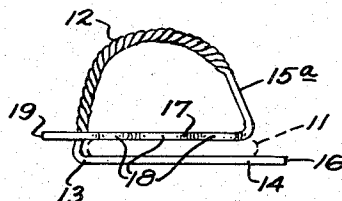


Fig. 5.

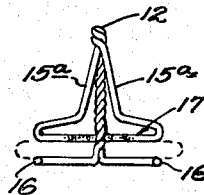


Fig. 6.

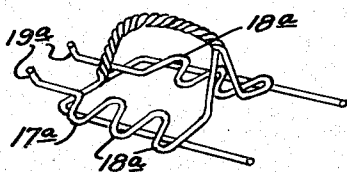
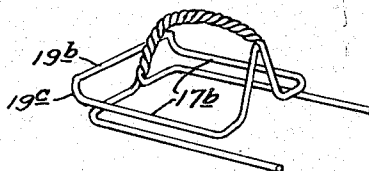


Fig. 7.



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2,660,184

CLIP FOR CONTOURED HAIR

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Application November 28, 1952, Serial No. 322,880

4 Claims. (Cl. 132-46)

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This invention relates to clips for clamping a lock of hair that is contoured or wound on the human head in a predetermined form, and more particularly relates to such clips which are resilient and unitary in construction. It is particularly adapted for gripping a lock of hair where it is desired that the hair be held between flat surfaces and substantially even pressure applied by resilience over the entire gripping area of the clip.

Broadly, the invention comprises a unitary open frame of resilient wire or narrow strip material, having an elongated upstanding spring tension finger grip provided with a relatively even flat clamping portion in a plane perpendicular to the finger grip to engage one surface of a lock of hair which has been wound or contoured to a predetermined form, and resilient prongs parallelly underlying said clamping portion for sliding into the formed lock of hair to engage the opposite surface of the contoured hair and resiliently hold it between the clamp and prongs.

Though the clip is for general purposes in holding a lock of hair in a predetermined shape, it is particularly desirable where the lock of hair is in a curved form, whether the lock be a flat spiral or a wound roll. In exemplifying one form of advantageous use of the clip it is described and illustrated with relation to a flat spiral contour of hair generally referred to as a pin curl.

Numerous advantages are provided by the clip, among which may be mentioned that due to its resilience it opens automatically to receive the contoured hair when its prongs are manipulated to slide the prongs of the clip to one side of a lock of hair; its resiliency in its parallel clamp and prong members makes it self-gripping on the hair and self-adjusting to varying thicknesses of locks of hair; its members engaging the hair may be very narrow strip material and not interfere with readily drying hair; it presents narrow surfaces to eliminate absorption of heat which may burn the scalp when the head and hair are placed under a mechanical heat dryer; it provides for an even gripping pressure on the lock of hair over the entire hair surface, due to the relative parallelism and width of the clamp and prong members which grip the hair as distinguished from pivoted prong clamps which not only become tangled in the hair at the pivot, but also grip tightly adjacent the pivot and loosely at the free end of the prongs, thus tending to slide away from the coil of hair and

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also making the dried contoured hair show a deformation mark of the clamp. The clip of this invention is gripped and manipulated from above the engaged lock of hair and requires no space at the end of the clip for gripping of finger grip levers, such as is necessary with the pivoted prong clips. Consequently the shaped hair units on the head may be formed more closely together, and if desired, in smaller units.

It is the object of the invention to provide a hair clip having the foregoing advantages and to overcome difficulties found in other types of known hair clips. With such objects in view, exemplifications of preferred embodiments of the invention are described herein and illustrated in the accompanying drawing in which:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of the invention;

Fig. 2 is a plan view of the invention, with a coil of hair shown therein in broken lines.

Fig. 3 is a side elevational view of the invention in normal position.

Fig. 4 is a side elevational view of the invention with a coil of hair shown therein in broken lines.

Fig. 5 is a front view of Fig. 4.

Fig. 6 is a perspective view of a modified form of the invention.

Fig. 7 is a perspective view of another modified form of the invention.

Referring to the drawing in which like reference characters indicate corresponding parts in the several views, 10 indicates generally the clip of the invention and 11 indicates generally a flat spirally wound coil of hair contoured or wound to a predetermined form, the illustrated example herein being known in the trade as a pin curl and is illustrative for purposes of the present description of the invention. This type of curl is moistened and spirally wound in a type of coil which, in the process of forming, lies flat on the scalp and is gripped in that position by the clip.

In its preferred form the clip 10 comprises an open frame of resilient strip material bent upon itself. As illustrated in Fig. 1 there is a single strip of resilient wire first bent double at a loop 19 to provide a completely integral clip, but the loop 19 may be eliminated, in which case the clip consists of a pair of strands of spring wires. The wire strands are tightly twisted upon themselves to provide a finger grip 12, and when so twisted form a finger grip of substantially integral resilient material. It is to be understood, however, that the clip may be formed of an integral strip of stamped metal or formed of plastic or the like. However, it will be more clear

in this description to refer to the finger grip as inter-twisted wire so as to conform to the illustrations of the drawing.

The finger grip 12 is arcuate in substantially semi-oval form to provide an effective elongated length. At one end of its oval arc, which may be termed the rear end, the two strands of inter-twisted wire are spread and retroverted as at 13 toward the opposite end of the finger grip, so as to provide parallel spaced prongs 14 which are in a plane substantially perpendicular to the plane of the finger grip member 12, the plane of the finger grip member being substantially the center line between the parallel spaced prongs.

At the opposite end of the oval arc the finger grip 12 is divided into a pair of depending arms 15a divergingly spread in an inverted V-shape, the open end of the V extending to a position in closely spaced proximity to the prongs 14 providing an angle of resilience 15 in spaced relation to the free end 16 of the prongs. The diverging ends of the arms are bent angularly upon themselves at the angle 15 and are turned rearwardly toward the opposite end of the finger grip and parallel to and in overlying closely spaced relation to the prongs 14, thus providing a gripping portion or clamp member 17, the strips or wires of which are preferably sinuously bent in a horizontal plane as at 18 so that the two strips of the clamp provide a relatively large and wide gripping area overlying the prongs 14. From the structure thus described it will be noted that the finger grip member at the end which supports the prongs extends through the plane of the clamp member 17 in order that the prongs may underlie the clamp.

If the clip be made of a single strand of wire bent upon itself the wires or strips forming the clamp portion 17 may be connected in a loop 19 at the rear end, so that the pair of strips forming the clamp member are integral and have no points protruding at the rear which may become entangled in the hair in removing the clamp from a coiled lock of hair.

In the modification of Fig. 6, the clamp member 17a is formed of sinuously curved strips 18a, but the loop 19 is eliminated and the rear ends of the strips of the clamp members are free and turned upwardly as at 19a.

It is to be understood, however, that the sinuous bending 18 of the strips of the clamp portion may be eliminated since forming the clamp of straight aligned strips may be preferred by some persons as eliminating entangling of the sinuously bent portion in the hair when sliding the clip either on or off a coiled lock. Such a modification is shown in Fig. 7 in which the strips 17b of the clamp member are straightly aligned, the loop 19b connects the free rear end of the clamp strips, and the loop portion is turned upwardly at 19c similarly as in Fig. 6.

The entire clip being of resilient material, all its parts cooperate in varying degrees in gripping the lock of hair. When the lock of hair is slid between the clamp member 17 and prongs 14, there is a degree of resilient yielding in the finger grip as well as prongs 14 and clamp 17. But in order to be more specific in localizing points of resilience, it may be noted the resilience of the

finger grip member 12 with relation to the prongs 14, is at an angle 20 which connects the underlying prongs with the finger grip member, whereas the resilience of the rearward portion of the overlying clamp member 17 is responsive to the forward angle 15. The leverage of the length of the prongs 14 and the clamp members 17 from said respective angles 15 and 20 provides ample resilience so that when the prongs are inserted at one side of or between a lock of formed hair and the scalp 21, the mere manual pressure of inserting the free ends of the prongs by means of the finger grip member causes an opening of the clamp at the forward end adjacent the angle 15, due to the long leverage of the prongs from resilient angle 20. As the lock of hair is slid into the clip between prongs 14 and clamp 17, the second factor of resiliency of the clamp member at angle 15 is effective to permit the rear end portion 19 of the clamp member to raise equally with its forward end, since the resiliency of the angles 15 and 20 are both substantially equally effective for this purpose. Yet, when the lock of hair is between the clamp and the prongs, the same degree of resiliency being effective at both ends of the clamp provides an equalized pressure on the coiled hair between parallel gripping members. The sinuous curves 18 employed in the preferred form of the clamp member provide an area of holding over a correspondingly enlarged area.

Having described the invention, what is claimed as new and patentable is:

1. A clip for holding hair in a predetermined form comprising a resilient open frame having a finger grip member, said finger grip member being divided at one end thereof into a pair of resilient strip clamp members bent upon themselves towards the opposite end of the finger grip member, said clamp strip members being relatively spaced providing resilient clamp means in a plane perpendicular to the plane of the finger grip member, the finger grip member overlying the center line of the relatively spaced clamp members, and the opposite end of the finger grip member extending through the plane of the clamp members and being divided into a pair of relative spaced prong members in a plane underlying and substantially paralleling the plane of the clamp members, said clamp members and said prong members extending in opposite directions relatively from their respective connections to the finger grip member.

2. A device of the character described having the elements of claim 1 and in which said clamp members are sinuously bent in the plane thereof overlying the prong members, providing a relatively wide clamp area to the clamp members.

3. A device of the character described having the elements of claim 1 and in which the finger grip member is ovally elongated.

4. A device of the character described having the elements of claim 1 and in which the pair of clamp members are integral and connected at one end thereof by an integral loop portion.

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No references cited.