Feb. 9, 1954

A. TEOPILIAN

2,668,546

HAIR CURLER

Filed Sept. 25, 1952

Fig. 1

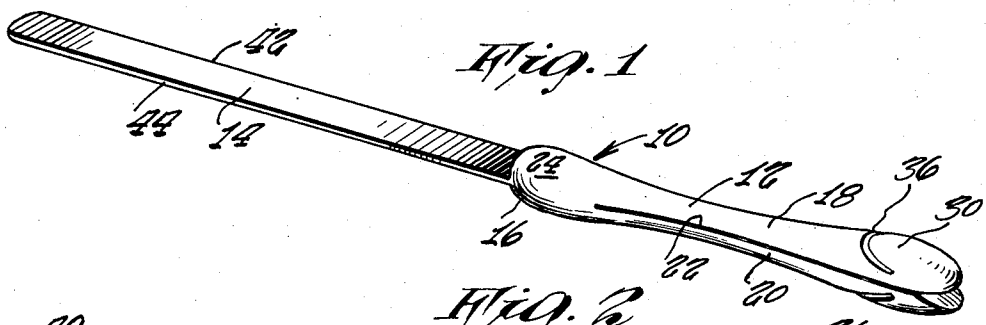


Fig. 2

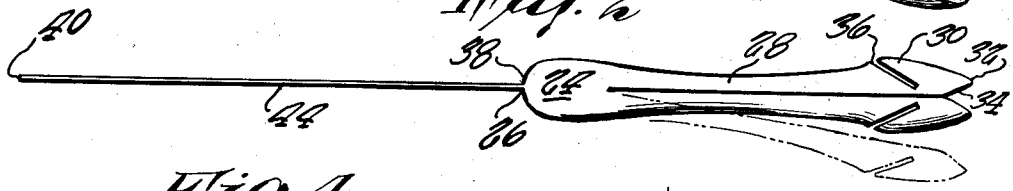


Fig. 4

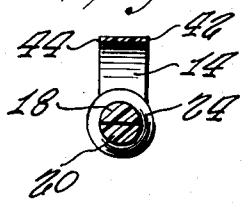
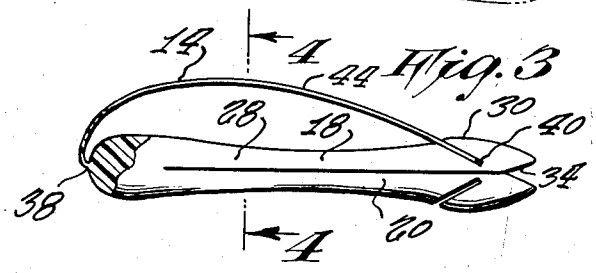


Fig. 3



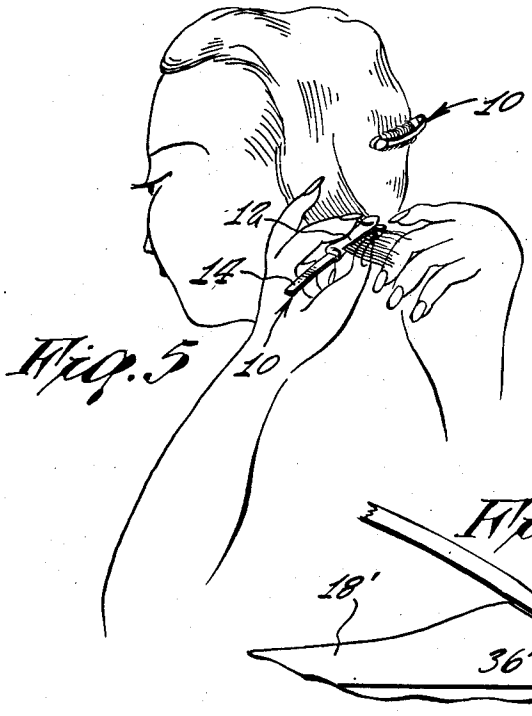


Fig. 5

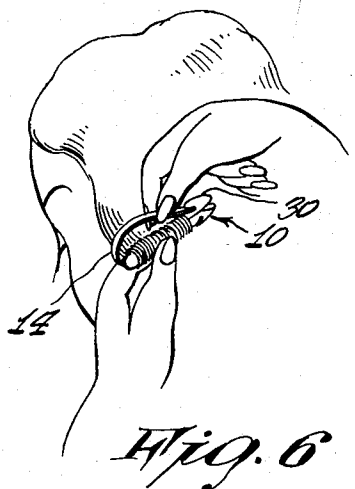


Fig. 6

Fig. 7

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HAIR CURLER

Aram Teopilian, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Application September 25, 1952, Serial No. 311,369

1 Claim. (Cl. 132—42)

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This invention pertains generally to the art of hair curlers, and more particularly to an improved form thereof offering a large number of advantages over types now known in the art.

Hair curlers have heretofore been relatively complicated, expensive to manufacture, and many have incorporated metallic resilient elements which are subject to rust, loss of resiliency, and other accompanying disadvantages. The high cost of manufacture of conventional hair curling devices has been in part due to the fact that they are made by assembling several components, which must fit each other with reasonable accuracy, and also partially due to the fact that metallic stampings are relatively expensive.

It is therefore among the principal objects of the present invention to provide an efficient hair curling device in which the use of metallic parts has been totally eliminated.

Another object of the invention lies in the provision of a hair curler of the type described in which all of the component parts may be molded from suitable synthetic resinous stock in an integral form, thereby eliminating the necessity of fitting and assembling separate components.

A further object of the invention lies in the provision of a device of the class described in which the cost of fabrication may be of an extremely low order, thereby permitting wide sale, distribution and use.

Still another object of the invention lies in the provision of hair curler structure which may be easily manipulated by the user in curling the hair, and which may be readily removed after the curling operation.

A feature of the invention lies in the fact that the device being formed entirely from synthetic resinous stock, no separate resilient components are necessary in the formation of the device, thereby eliminating a potential source of trouble in operation.

Another feature of the device lies in the fact that owing to the lack of metallic parts, the devices may easily be sterilized when required.

These objects and features, as well as other incidental ends and advantages, will become more clearly apparent during the course of the following disclosure, and be pointed out in the appended claim.

On the drawing, to which reference will be made in the specification, similar reference characters have been employed to designate corresponding parts throughout the several views.

Figure 1 is a view in perspective showing an embodiment of the invention.

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Figure 2 is a side elevational view of the embodiment.

Figure 3 is a side elevational view, corresponding to that shown on Figure 2, but showing an altered position of the component parts thereof.

Figure 4 is a vertical transverse sectional view as seen from the plane 4—4 on Figure 3.

Figure 5 is a view in perspective showing a first or starting position employed in curling the hair when using the device.

Figure 6 is a view in perspective showing the second or final position in which the device is shown as completely attached.

Figure 7 is a fragmentary view in perspective corresponding to the upper right hand portion of Figure 3, but showing an alternate form of the embodiment.

In accordance with the invention, the device, generally indicated by reference character 10, comprises broadly a main body element 12, and a curl retaining element 14. The entire device is preferably formed from a single molding or casting of a flexible, resilient, synthetic resinous stock. If desired, the device may also be formed in two pieces, with separate main body element 12 and curl retaining element 14, using two different types of plastics. Where the entire device is formed integrally, I have found polyethylene to be a suitable material. Where the same is made in two parts, the main body element may be formed from a relatively less flexible material, as for example polystyrene. Various vinyl compositions are also suitable.

The main body element 12 includes a base member 16, which connects a pair of leg members 18 and 20. The members 18 and 20 are in mutual abutted arrangement, to form a hair retaining channel 22 therebetween. The base member 16 is provided with a rounded outer surface 24, to permit easy grasping by the user, the outermost portion 26 forming a line of interconnection with the curl retaining element 14.

The leg members 18 and 20 are substantially similar, each including a tapered resilient portion 28 and a relatively thicker outer portion 30. The outer end 32 is tapered and includes an angularly disposed surface 34 to facilitate the insertion of the end of a lock of hair between the leg members. Disposed on the outer surface of the portion 30 and extending inwardly at an angle with respect to the principal axis thereof is an elongated slot 36, of a width substantially equal to the thickness of the curl retaining element 14.

The curl retaining element 14 is of generally planar configuration, as may be best seen on

Figures 1 and 2, and is bonded by an inner edge **38**, an outer edge **40** and side edges **42** and **44**. As has been mentioned, the inner edge **38** is secured to the main body element **12**, and the element **14** is free to flex in either direction about this edge. The length of the curl retaining element **14**, as measured between the inner and outer edges **38** and **40**, respectively, is sufficient to permit the same to be bowed as shown on Figure 3, wherein the outer edge **40** may be inserted into the slot **30** of either the leg member **18** or the leg member **20**.

The device is employed as shown on Figures 5 and 6, wherein the end of a lock of hair to be curled is placed in the hair retaining channel **22** (Figure 5), during which time the curl retaining element **14** extends outwardly. The main body element **20** is then rotated betwen the fingers, to result in the formation of a curl, care being taken to avoid the covering of the slots **36**. When the curl is formed, the curl retaining element is bent about the inner edge **38** to engage one of the slots **36**. Upon release of the device, the engagement of the curled hair with the curl retaining element **14** prevents the same from becoming unwound. When it is desired to remove the device, the reverse procedure is followed, the curl retaining element **14** being first disengaged, after which the main body element **12** is unwound, wherein the end of the now curled lock of hair may be released.

Turning now to the alternate form of the invention shown on Figure 7, this form differs from the principal form in that the curl retaining element **14'** is tapered near the edge **40'**, where the same enters the slot **36'**. The slot **36'** is in turn tapered, so that when the edge **40'** is inserted into the slot, a wedge-like action tending to retain the interconnection is obtained between the surface of the element **14'** and the surface defining the slot **36'**.

It may thus be seen that I have invented novel and highly useful improvements in hair curlers, in which there is provided a simple and inexpensive one piece curler which may be manufactured at a very low cost, and which possesses substantially no moving parts. The device may

be molded in one piece, thus materially lowering the cost of manufacture, and as there are no metallic parts comprising the same, the device may be completely impervious to water, waving solutions, or the deleterious effects of moisture. The device is resistant to breakage as well, and has no sharp edges which might cause damage when the wearer is sleeping. Once engaged, the same will not become accidentally disengaged from the hair of the wearer, although the same may be easily removed when desired.

I wish it to be understood that I do not consider the invention limited to the exact details of structure shown and set forth in this specification, for obvious modifications will occur to those skilled in the art to which the present invention pertains.

I claim:

A hair curler comprising: an integral main body element and curl retaining element formed entirely from polyethylene; said main body element including a base member and a pair of leg members forming a hair-retaining channel; said leg members being of substantially solid cross section, and each having an elongated slot extending at an acute angle to the principal axis thereof into the body of the same; said slot having a substantial area; said curl retaining element being of flexible elongated configuration and having a substantially rectangular cross section corresponding to the area of said slot; said curl retaining element being bendable to be inserted into either of said slots, the end of said curl retaining element being thereby disposed parallel to the principal axis of said slot at the point of entry into said slot.

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