Sept. 20, 1971 E. GROSZ 3,605,211

EAR CLIP

Filed Nov. 24, 1969

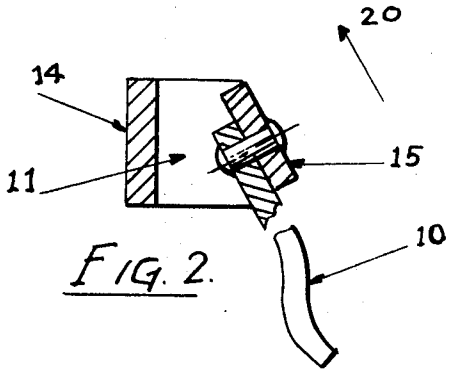


FIG. 2.

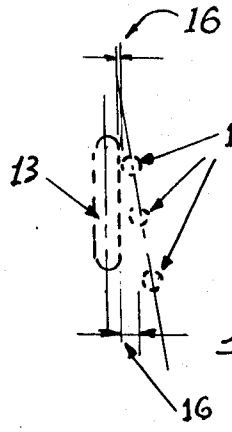


FIG. 4.

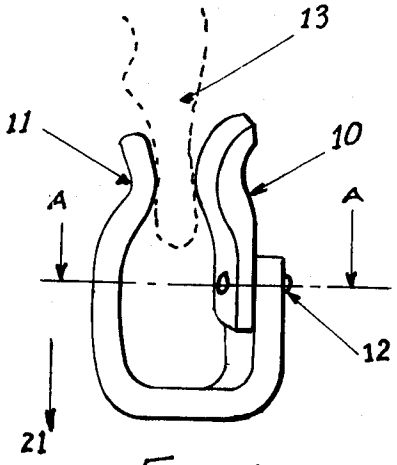


FIG. 1.

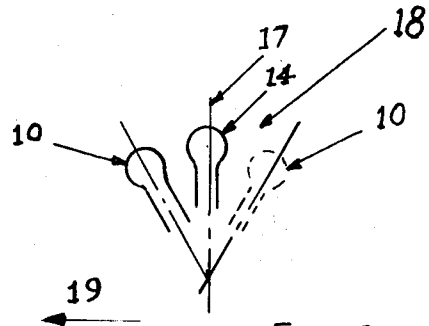


FIG. 3.

Eugene Grosz, INVENTOR

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3,605,211

EAR CLIP

Eugene Grosz, 387 Grand St., New York, N.Y. 10002

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U.S. Cl. 24—248JE 1 Claim

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An ear clip for fastening the ear ring proper to the ear comprising no springs but having a clamping leg (of ordinary material, metal or others) which can be positioned to the desired clamping pressure where it can lock itself against accidental opening, by a construction which causes the clamping leg to exert its pressure indirectly, its movement being side ways instead of perpendicular.

The invention relates to clips and particularly ear clips which serve to secure the ear ring proper to the ear. The ear clips in general use consist of a bracket which provides a fulcrum around which a clamping leg is movable toward or away from the ear (or more properly the ear lobe), the direction of the movement being perpendicular (90 degrees) to the ear lobe.

Whether the clamping is accomplished by the spring pressure of the clamping leg or by the leg being simply pushed against the ear lobe therefore depending solely on the tightness of the fulcrum joint to hold it in place, the counter pressure being also perpendicular to the plane of the ear lobe tends to open up the clamping leg.

It is evident that in order to avoid the chance opening up either too much pressure is needed resulting in a pinching effect or one must provide means to regulate the clamping pressure lessening it but at the same time increasing the hazard for a chance opening up.

The invention differs from the above mentioned types by introducing a radically different approach of clamping. According to the teaching of the invention the clamping leg moves not in a perpendicular direction toward or away from the ear lobe but in a line that forms an angle of less than 90 degrees with the plane of the ear lobe.

As it will be explained in details the result will be a smooth adjustability of the clamping pressure. Also there is an inherent property in the system in that the clamping leg can lock itself at the clamping position against the likelihood of a chance opening up.

In the accompanying drawing:

FIG. 1 is a side elevational view of the ear clip;

FIG. 2 is a cross sectional view through A—A in FIG. 1 with the clamping leg shown in open position;

FIG. 3 is a rear view of the ear clip with but the respective positions of the clamping leg **10** and the frontispiece **14** of the bracket **11** being shown;

FIG. 4 is a diagrammatical representation of the working principle of the ear clip.

Referring to the FIGS. 1 to 4, of the drawing the clamping leg is identified by the numeral **10** and is attached to the bracket **11** by the rivet **12** which serves as fulcrum around which the leg can swing. In FIG. 2 the bracket has frontispiece **14** being in the same plane with the ear lobe **13**. The rear piece **15** of the bracket is in angular relation with the frontispiece **14**. The clamping leg being attached to the rear portion **15** swings in the direction of the arrow **20** which direction is in an angle of less than 90 degrees to the plane of the ear lobe.

FIG. 3 shows the clamping leg **10** in the act of being swung to a clamping position. Once the leg passes the center line **17** into the quadrant **18** it becomes automatically locked because the tendency to open would be on a pull in the direction of the arrow **19** which pull in turn will move the bracket leaving the clamping leg stationary. The leg **10** not being free to move away from the ear lobe in the direction perpendicular to it a downward pull shown by the arrow **21** in FIG. 1 will not cause an opening up.

The gist of the invention is the angular movement of the clamping leg in relation to the ear lobe. The bracket and clamping leg as used in the drawing and the description served to illustrate the teaching of the invention so any changes in their shape or design should not indicate a deviation from the invention.

I claim:

1. In an ear ring a clamping leg supported by means to provide a pivot axis around whch it can swing the whole constructed in such a manner that the direction of the clamping leg's swing is along a line which forms an angle of less than 90 degrees which the plane of the ear lobe againt which the clamping leg is pressing for the purpose of surely holding the ear ring onto said ear lobe.

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DONALD A. GRIFFIN, Primary Examiner

U.S. Cl. X.R.

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