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2,073,867

METHOD OF REPAIRING AND LENGTHENING FINGERNAILS

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Fig. 1

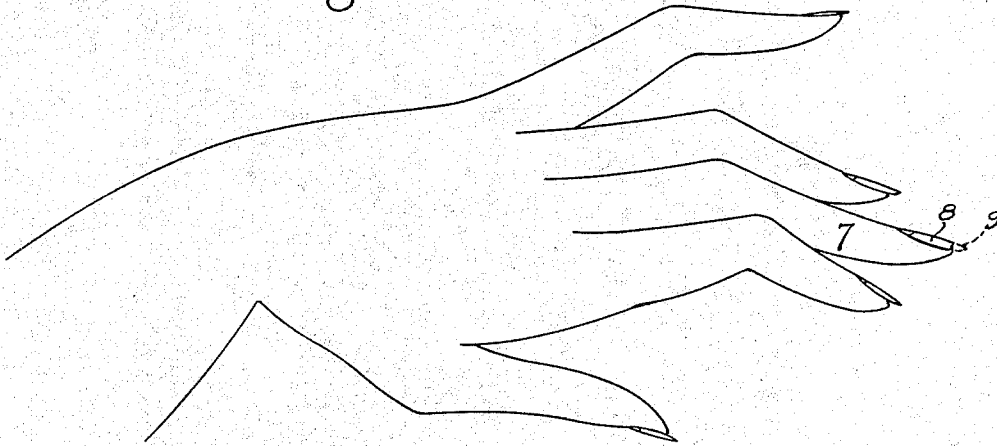


Fig. 2

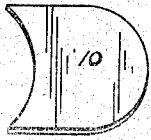


Fig. 3

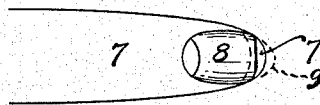


Fig. 4

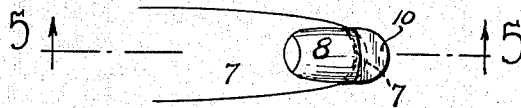


Fig. 5

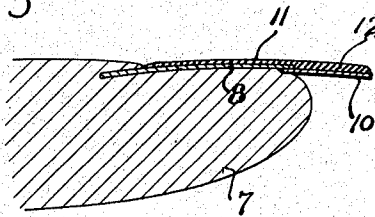
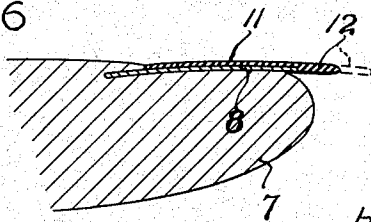


Fig. 6



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METHOD OF REPAIRING AND LENGTHENING FINGERNAILS

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6 Claims. (Cl. 132-73)

My present invention relates to an improved method of lengthening finger nails for use generally in the repairing of finger nails.

An important object of the invention is the provision of an improved method whereby finger nails that have been broken off or otherwise damaged at the projecting end portions, may be artificially provided with new tips and thereby restored to normal appearance while the damaged nail is growing out.

A further object of the invention is the provision of a method whereby finger nails may be artificially lengthened without causing discomfort.

The above and numerous other important objects and advantages of the invention will be made apparent from the following specification, claims and drawing.

In the accompanying drawing, like characters indicate like parts throughout the several views. Referring to the drawing:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a human hand showing by full lines one finger nail with a broken off tip, the broken off tip being shown by dotted lines;

Fig. 2 is a plan view of a shield-like former for use in carrying out the method;

Fig. 3 is an enlarged top view of the finger of Fig. 1, the nail of which is broken;

Fig. 4 is a view similar to Fig. 3 but illustrating the shield-like former of Fig. 2 applied between the projecting end of the broken off finger nail and the finger;

Fig. 5 is an enlarged sectional view taken on the line 5-5 of Fig. 4, and showing a further step in the method; and

Fig. 6 is a view similar to Fig. 5 but illustrating the shield-like former removed and the artificial tip trimmed to shape.

In the drawing the finger with the broken nail is indicated by 7, the broken nail by 8, the broken off nail tip by 9, and the shield-like former by 10.

An example of a preferred method of repairing or restoring to normal appearance a finger-nail, the tip portion of which has been broken off or otherwise damaged or rendered unsightly, will first be given. Assuming that the finger nail to be repaired has been broken off, as indicated by full lines in the drawing, the first step in the method of restoring the tip consists in applying under the projecting portion of the broken off finger nail a shield-like former 10 like that shown in Figs. 2, 4, and 5. Fig. 4 illustrates this first step in the method.

The former is of thin material that is easily

cut to shape and made to properly fit snugly against the finger at the point of jointure thereof with the finger nail. When the former is applied and properly fitted between the projecting portion of the finger nail and underlying portion of the finger, as shown in Figs. 4 and 5, the upper surface of the shield-like former projects in the plane of the under surface of the finger nail and has a transverse contour like that of the finger nail. The shield-like former thus applied is self-supporting.

The next step in the method consists in applying over the surface of the finger nail and shield a relatively heavy coat of relatively fast solidifying lacquer-like liquid substance, see Fig. 5, that will, when set or solidified, have an appearance and physical characteristics simulating those of a finger nail. The lacquer-like liquid substance may be applied in any desired manner such, for example, as by means of a brush, and is preferably flowed on in a quite thick coat or coats so that the ridge formed by the edge of the finger nail at the point where it overlaps the shield-like former will become leveled out substantially as shown in Fig. 5. The number of coats required will depend largely upon the consistency of the fluid substance and, of course, for the purpose of giving an even surface to the recapped and tipped finger nail an extra coat or coats may be applied over the shield only. In Figs. 5 and 6 of the drawing the solidified coating that forms a cap over the nail is indicated by 11 and the new tip which is an integral part of the cap 11 is indicated by 12.

When the lacquer-like substance has solidified, the shield-like former 10, which is preferably so smooth and non-absorbent that the substance will not tightly adhere thereto, may be removed and the artificial finger nail tip may be trimmed by filing or/and cutting to the desired shape and length, see Fig. 6. Of course, if desired, the former 10 may be left in place and trimmed with the nail but obviously, the most natural appearance will be obtained by removing the shield.

A suitable lacquer-like product for use in carrying out the above method and one suitable also for use generally in the repairing of finger nails, may be obtained by dissolving celluloid in acetone and adding to this lacquer-like liquid base a powdered non-soluble substance, such as chalk. Pure celluloid in solidified form is more transparent than a finger nail and is too soft and flexible for filing, but the suspended non-soluble substance, such as chalk, gives the substance a translucent appearance much like that

of a natural finger nail and renders the solidified lacquer-like substance hard and adaptable to be filed to shape in the manner of a finger nail. Preferably, I saturate the lacquer-like substance with chalk and add a suitable stabilizer, preferably sodium chloride, to the preparation to prevent the chalk or other non-soluble powdered substance from precipitating out of the solution. The sodium chloride is believed to impart an electrical charge to the chalk particles which is responsible for keeping a relatively large amount of chalk in suspension.

Whereas celluloid dissolved in acetone has been found very satisfactory as a base for the preparation and has been given as a preferred example, it should be understood that various other lacquer-like or lacquer substances may be successfully substituted therefor. Among these suitable substitutes are shellac dissolved in alcohol, various other fast drying lacquers, various fast drying nitrocellulose solutions, and some forms of commercial nail enamels. When chalk and sodium chloride are added to these lacquers or lacquer-like bases and allowed to solidify, a product closely simulating that of a finger nail in appearance and physical characteristics will be produced.

A most highly satisfactory preparation is usually obtained when the powdered non-soluble substance, preferably chalk, and the suitable stabilizer, preferably sodium chloride, are each added to the lacquer-like fluid to the point of saturation.

A suitable shield-like former may be made from suitable paper or from thin and soft sheet metal or metal foil.

What I claim is:

1. The method of lengthening finger nails which comprises applying a former under the projecting end of the finger nail so that it projects beyond the end of the finger nail and its upper surface is in the plane of the under surface of the finger nail, and then applying over the finger nail and former a lacquer-like substance which, when it sets, will adhere to the finger nail and have appearance and physical characteristics simulating those of a finger nail.

2. The method of lengthening finger nails which comprises applying a former under the projecting end of the finger nail so that it projects beyond the end of the finger nail and its upper surface is in the plane of the under surface of the finger nail, then applying over the finger nail and former a lacquer-like substance which, when it sets, will adhere to the finger

nail and have appearance and physical characteristics simulating those of a finger nail, and thereafter trimming the projecting end portion of the solidified lacquer-like substance to obtain a desired shape.

3. The method of lengthening finger nails which comprises applying a former under the projecting end of the finger nail so that it projects beyond the end of the finger nail and its upper surface is in the plane of the under surface of the finger nail, then applying over the finger nail and former a lacquer-like substance which, when it sets, will adhere to the finger nail and have appearance and physical characteristics simulating those of a finger nail, and thereafter removing the former.

4. The method of lengthening finger nails which comprises applying a former under the projecting end of the finger nail so that it projects beyond the end of the finger nail and its upper surface is in the plane of the under surface of the finger nail, then applying over the finger nail and former a lacquer-like substance, which, when it sets, will adhere to the finger nail and have appearance and physical characteristics simulating those of a finger nail, thereafter removing the former, and finally trimming the extended end portion of the solidified lacquer-like substance to a desired shape and length by filing and/or cutting.

5. The method of lengthening finger nails which comprises applying a former under the projecting end of the finger nail so that it projects beyond the end of the finger nail and its upper surface is in the plane of the under surface of the finger nail, then applying over the finger nail and former a lacquer-like substance which, when it sets, will adhere to the finger nail and have appearance and physical characteristics simulating those of a finger nail, and thereafter trimming the extended portions of the super-imposed solidified lacquer-like substance and former to desired shape and length.

6. The method of lengthening finger nails which comprises applying a former under the projecting end of the finger nail so that it projects beyond the end of the finger nail and its upper surface is in the plane of the under surface of the finger nail, then applying over the finger nail and former a lacquer-like substance which, when it sets, will adhere to the finger nail and have appearance and physical characteristics simulating those of a finger nail, and permitting filing of the projected end to shape.

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