May 10, 1932. J. RENO 1,857,974

EAR PROTECTOR

Filed Aug. 5, 1931

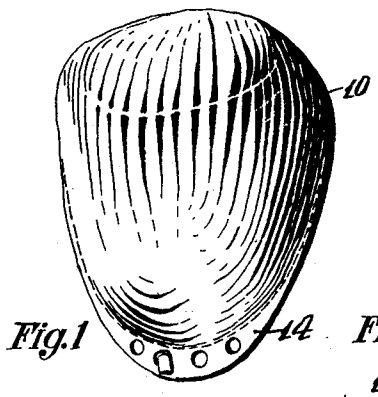


Fig. 1

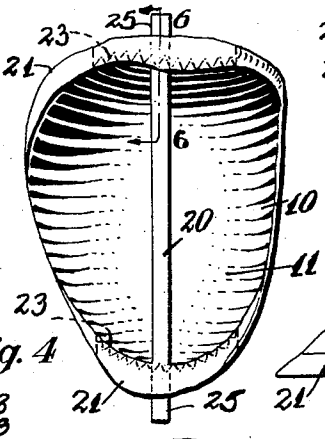


Fig. 4

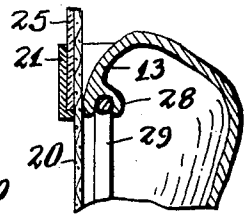


Fig. 6

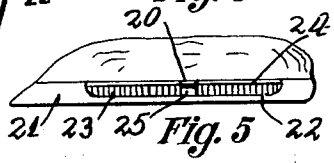


Fig. 5

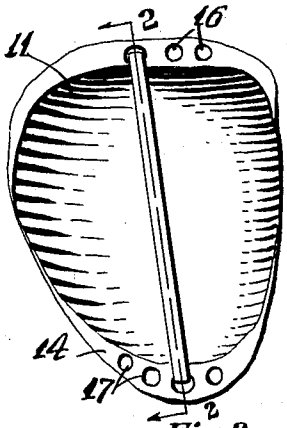


Fig. 3

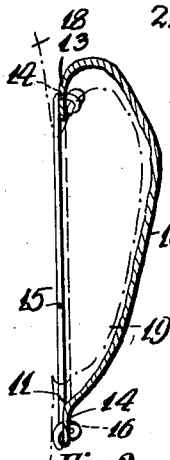


Fig. 2

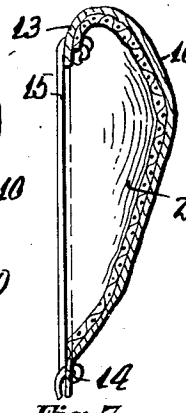


Fig. 7

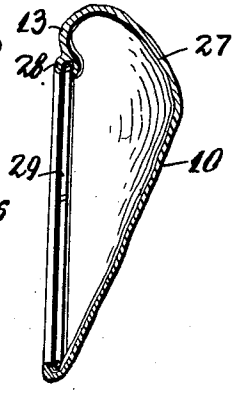


Fig. 8

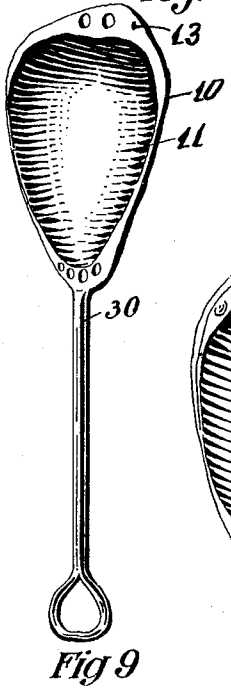


Fig 9

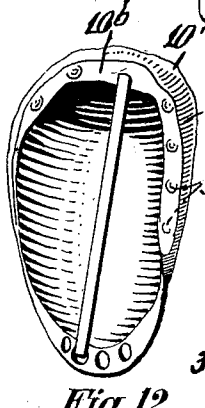


Fig. 12

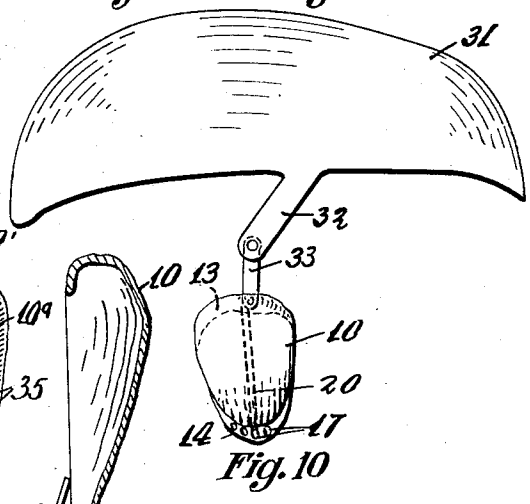


Fig. 10

Fig. 11

INVENTOR
Joseph Reno
BY
Julian Polachek
ATTORNEY

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

JOSEPH RENO, OF JAMAICA, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO ANTONE SEAFIDI, OF ASTORIA, NEW YORK

EAR PROTECTOR

Application filed August 5, 1931. Serial No. 555,165.

This invention relates to new and useful improvements in an ear protector.

The invention has for an object the construction of an ear protector which is characterized by the ability of protecting the ears of a lady during a hair treatment, irrespective whether the treatment constitutes drying, finger waving, etc.

As a further object of this invention, it is proposed to construct an ear protector which is in the form of a shell adapted to engage over one's ear and equipped with an elastic strap adjustably mounted so as to engage over the ear for the purpose of holding the shell in place.

This invention has for a still further object the provision of means whereby the ends of the elastic strap project from the shell and allowing various adjustments by first being slightly pulled upon and then moved laterally.

A still further object of this invention is the provision of a protector pad within the shell for acting against one's ear.

Another one of the objects of this invention is the provision of means for holding the pad in place to allow changing of the pad when desired, particularly when the ear protector is placed upon the ears of different customers.

A still further object of this invention is the provision of novel means for supporting the protector upon one's ears.

Furthermore, as another object, it is proposed to construct a device of the class mentioned which is of simple, durable construction, dependable in use and efficient in operation, and which can be manufactured and sold at a reasonable cost.

For further comprehension of the invention, and of the objects and advantages thereof, reference will be had to the following description and accompanying drawings, and to the appended claims in which the various novel features of the invention are more particularly set forth.

In the accompanying drawings forming a material part of this disclosure:—

Fig. 1 is an outside elevational view of an ear protector constructed according to this invention.

Fig. 2 is a sectional view taken on the lines 2—2 of Fig. 3.

Fig. 3 is a rear elevational view of Fig. 1.

Fig. 4 is a view similar to Fig. 3 but illustrating a modification.

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

Fig. 6 is a sectional view taken on the line 6—6 of Fig. 4.

Fig. 7 is a view similar to Fig. 2 but illustrating another modification.

Fig. 8 is another view similar to Fig. 2 but illustrating a still further modification.

Fig. 9 is a perspective view of an ear protector constructed according to a modification of this invention.

Fig. 10 is a side elevational view of another embodiment of the invention.

Fig. 11 is a similar view to Fig. 2 showing another form of the invention.

Fig. 12 is a perspective view showing a still further modification.

The ear protector, according to this invention, comprises a shell 10 which is hollow and open on one side 11 for engaging over one's ear. This shell has a downturned top edge 13 to engage over the top of the ear, and a flat bottom edge 14 for resting against the face of the person at the portion immediately below the ear. A means is provided between the top and bottom edges of the shell for supporting it upon one's ear. This means comprises an elastic strap 15 engaged through one of a plurality of apertures 16 along the downturned edge 13 and at its other end, through one of a line of apertures 17 in the bottom edge 14. The strap 15 engages across the back of the car when the protector is in place, indicated in Fig. 3 by illustration of one's head 18 and ear 19.

In Figs. 4 and 5, a modification of the invention has been disclosed in which an elastic strap 20 is engaged across the edges of the shell 10 and an adjustable means provided for holding the ends in various positions. At both the top and bottom, the shell 10 has an auxiliary piece 21 attached along the edge and formed with a recessed portion 22 having an inturned serrated shelf 23. This shelf is slightly spaced from the downturned edge 13 forming a passage 24 through which the strap

may pass. The strap passes through this passage, and above the passage, has attached thereon a thick stiff member 25 constituting a handle. The bottom of this member is serrated for engaging the serrated shelf 23. The tension of the strap 20 maintains the portions 25 in intimate contact with the serrations 23. The handle 25 may be moved outwards to disengage its serrations whereupon the straps may be adjusted laterally.

In Fig. 7 a modification of the invention has been disclosed which is similar to the form shown in Fig. 3, except that a protecting pad 26 is secured within the shell. Preferably, this protecting pad is pasted, cemented, or in a similar manner permanently attached therein.

In Fig. 8 another modification of the invention has been disclosed in which a shell 10 is provided with a protecting pad 27 and means for detachably holding this pad in place. This means is in the form of a groove 28 formed along the edge of the shell 10 and a split ring 29 engaged within the groove in a manner so as to clamp the edges of the pad against displacement.

In Fig. 9 another modification of the invention has been disclosed in which a handle 30 is connected upon the lower end of the shell 10. It is proposed that the person having her hair fixed may hold the ear protectors over the ears by holding the handles at the sides of the face.

A still further modification of the invention has been illustrated in Fig. 10 in which a hair cap 31 has been shown with support lugs 32 at its sides. The ear protectors are pivotally connected with links 33 which in turn are pivotally connected upon the lugs 32.

In Fig. 11 a spring clip 34 is shown for the purpose of gripping the ear.

In Fig. 12, the shell 10′ is made of two members 10^a and 10^b, secured together with snap fasteners 35. This arrangement allows ready separation and attachment of the two shelve members.

While I have shown and described the preferred embodiment of my invention, it is to be understood that I do not limit myself to the precise construction herein disclosed and the right is reserved to all changes and modifications coming within the scope of the invention as defined in the appended claims.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by United States Letters Patent is:—

1. An ear protector, comprising a shell having an open back with a top downturned edge and a bottom downturned edge, and means between said edges for supporting the shell upon one's ear comprising an elastic band with its ends tied through apertures in said downturned edges.

2. An ear protector, comprising a shell having an open back with a top downturned edge and a bottom edge, and means between said edges for supporting the shell upon one's ear, said edges being formed with a plurality of apertures, and said means for supporting comprising an elastic band attached between a pair of said apertures and detachable for connection with a different pair of apertures.

3. An ear protector, comprising a shell with an open back and a top downturned edge and a bottom edge, a groove being formed completely around the edges of said shell, a pad within the shell and having its edges terminating in said groove, and a split ring within said groove for holding the edges of the pad in place.

4. An ear protector, comprising a shell having an open back with a downturned top edge and a bottom edge, a member attached upon each of said edges and each having a recessed portion terminating in a serrated ledge spaced from said edge and a strap engaged through said passage and having members attached upon its ends engaging against said serrations for maintaining the position of the strap.

5. An ear protector, comprising a shell with an opened back, a pad within the shell and having its edges terminating along the edges of the shell, and a split ring clamping the edges of the pad against the edges of the shell.

In testimony whereof I have affixed my signature.

JOSEPH RENO.