Patented Nov. 4, 1930 1,780,449

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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HAIR WAVING

No Drawing. Application filed July 1, 1929. Serial No. 375,331.

This invention relates to hair waving; and it comprises a method of curling or waving hair particularly applicable in croquinole waving, but useful elsewhere, wherein the hair is wetted or soaked with a solution of an alkaline carbonate, usually sodium carbonate, is then wrapped around the usual curling rod and is treated with ammonia, heating in the usual way then following; all as more fully hereinafter set forth and as claimed.

In the hair waving art it is a known expedient to curl hair around a curling rod, apply ammonia with the aid of a pad and then heat. This operation produces what is usually called an ammonia wave; a wave satisfactory in many respects but open to improvement. Another known expedient in the art is to wet hair with a sodium carbonate solution, curl it and insert the curl in a heater. Sometimes the sodium carbonate is used in a pad. It is found by experience that this sodium carbonate wave is not as good as the ammonia wave although it has some merit. Whatever the alkaline treatment employed, it is a difficult matter to produce certain types of wave and particularly the croquinole wave; it is difficult to secure even penetration and even action in the different layers of hair in a curl in place on a curling rod. In making the croquinole wave, a lock of hair is wound around a curling rod in concentric circles, winding beginning with the tip of the lock and successive layers superimposed. This gives a sort of corkscrew curl with the largest turn next the scalp. The lock is not twisted as it is wound. In this type of curl it is not so easy to secure uniform action as with the usual type of curl in which the lock of hair is wound in tubular form. After the hair is wound in croquinole form, in the usual practice, ammonia or sodium carbonate is applied and the lock heated. As stated, the results are not as satisfactory as can be desired. The large twist on the outside of the curling rod is rarely satisfactory.

In the present invention I use both types of alkaline treatment thereby securing a wave in which the large twists are as satisfactory as the tight curl at the end of the lock.

In a practical embodiment of my invention the hair is first wetted or soaked with a solution of an alkaline carbonate, usually sodium carbonate; this solution containing about 18 per cent of the alkali. A wet curl is then wound on the curling rod or stick. In making a croquinole wave, in the winding the end of the lock is wrapped on the stick and superimposed layers made. When the curl is made I then apply a pad containing or developing ammonia, afterwards heating in the usual way. In lieu of sodium carbonate I may use other forms of mild alkali, such as potassium carbonate, borax, sodium phosphate, etc. For the ammonia treatment, I may use a pad soaked in ammonia solution or a pad containing materials developing ammonia when the pad is wetted or when it is heated as the case may be. A croquinole wave produced as just described is permanent, even and decorative, giving uniform ringlets of gradually and uniformly decreasing size from near the scalp to the end of the curl.

As to the reasons underlying the betterment in results and secured by using together the two types of alkaline treatment I am not sure. I content myself with noting the result. It is quite certain however that there is greater uniformity of action in so doing and particularly in tight waving. Generally externally applied ammonia must travel through several layers of hair. It may be that the presence of sodium carbonate opens the texture of the hair and permits better penetration of the ammonia.

The chemicals necessary in the present operation may be conveniently packaged and supplied in dry form; a pellet or the like of dry sodium carbonate in the amount necessary to make the solution for wetting locks of hair and a pad containing dry ammonium sulfate or chlorid together with the amount of dry sodium carbonate required to react with the ammonium sulfate. On wetting, the pad liberates NH_3. Composite pads of this type are described in my prior application Serial No. 307,778.

What I claim is:—

1. The process of waving hair which comprises wetting it with a solution of an alkaline

carbonate, wrapping the hair on a curling rod, applying ammonia to the wrapped hair and heating.

2. The process of waving hair which comprises wetting it with a solution of sodium carbonate, wrapping the hair on a curling rod, applying a pad soaked with ammonia around the wrapped hair, and heating.

3. The process of waving hair which comprises wetting it with a solution of sodium carbonate of not over 18 per cent, then wrapping the hair on a curling rod, applying ammonia to the wrapped hair and heating.

4. In the making of a croquinole wave, the process which comprises wetting hair with a solution of an alkaline carbonate, wrapping a lock of the wet hair around a rod starting at the tip of the lock and wrapping in superimposed layers, applying ammonia to the hair so wrapped, and heating.

5. In the making of a croquinole wave, the process which comprises wetting hair with a solution of sodium carbonate, wrapping a lock of wet hair around a rod, starting at the tip of the lock and wrapping in superimposed layers, applying ammonia to the hair so wrapped and heating.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto affixed my signature.

FOSTER DEE SNELL.