July 4, 1939. O. B. CARSON 2,164,385

COMB

Filed Oct. 25, 1938

Fig. 1.

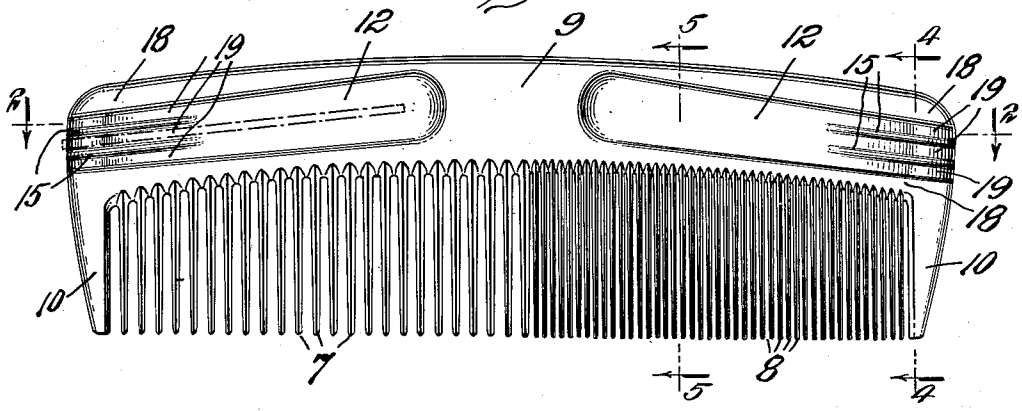


Fig. 2.

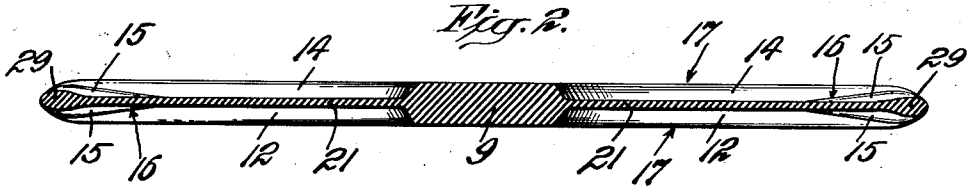


Fig. 3.

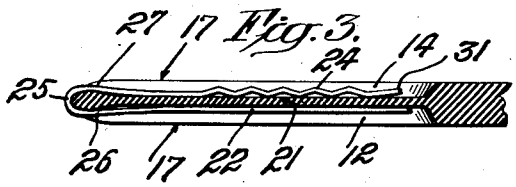


Fig. 4.

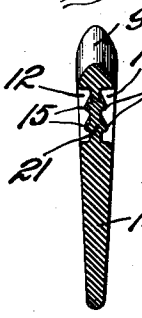
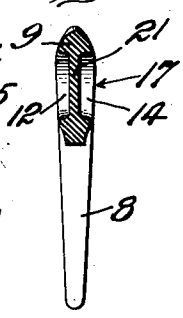


Fig. 5.



INVENTOR
OSWALD B. CARSON
BY
English and Studwell
ATTORNEYS

Patented July 4, 1939

2,164,385

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,164,385

COMB

Oswald B. Carson, Scarsdale, N. Y., assignor to American Hard Rubber Company, New York, N. Y., a corporation of New York

Application October 25, 1938, Serial No. 236,836

3 Claims. (Cl. 132—19)

The invention relates to an improvement in hair dressing combs and more particularly to an improvement in such combs especially adapted for dressing curls or waves which are commonly held in position by hair pins of the kind designated "bobby pins." In its usual construction, this type of hair pin is formed of a narrow thin strip of metal bent upon itself to constitute two prongs or arms spring pressed toward each other, one of the prongs being straight and the other corrugated or crinkled. In some forms of "bobby" pins both arms are corrugated or crinkled. The point at which the prongs join is called the loop and its two sides have an opening between them. Although the spring pressure of the prongs toward each other and the corrugations on one or both of the prongs tend to prevent the pin from accidental displacement from its position in the curl or wave, holding the strands of hair in adjusted position, nevertheless, as is well known, these "bobby" pins do sometimes become loosened and fall out of the hair of the wearer, thereby requiring replacement. Since, however, the displaced "bobby" pin is often lost, the wearer usually carries a supply of them in her handbag or other receptacle. But searching for loose "bobby" pins in the bottom of a handbag which contains other loose articles is time consuming and occasionally vexatious.

The object of the present invention is to obviate the disadvantages of carrying "bobby" pins loose in a handbag or other receptacle by providing means for having them in a place and in a position where they will be always readily accessible. To this end, the back or quill portion of the improved comb constituting the present invention is provided with a plurality of recesses in which "bobby" pins of the type described above may be detachably but firmly held without liability of accidental displacement until needed.

In the accompanying drawing illustrating the preferred form of the invention, Fig. 1 is a side elevation of the improved comb, showing by means of dot and dash lines a "bobby" pin in position in one of the compartments of the pin holding recesses; Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section taken along the line 2—2 of Fig. 1; Fig. 3 is a fragment of the left hand end of Fig. 2, showing a "bobby" pin in top plan view in place in one of the pin-holding recesses; and Figs. 4 and 5 are sections taken along the lines 4—4 and 5—5, respectively, of Fig. 1, looking in the direction of the arrows.

In its general features of construction the improved comb illustrated in the drawing may be of any usual or preferred form and comprises a bank of teeth, consisting of a group of relatively coarse teeth 7 and a group of fine teeth 8 projecting outwardly from the inner end of a back or quill 9, and a heavy guard tooth 10 at each end of the bank of teeth. The back or quill 9 of the illustrated comb is of substantial width and thickness and slightly arched, which is the usual form of pocket comb, although it may be straight and of any convenient size and still answer the purposes of the invention. The length of the comb is preferably such that it may be readily accommodated in a woman's handbag or similar receptacle.

The improvement consists in providing recesses at either or both ends of the back 9 of the comb to hold firmly but detachably a plurality of "bobby" pins or other hair pins of similar construction. Each of the hair pin holding recesses consists of two sections or grooves, one groove being indicated at 12 on one side or face of the comb and the other groove at 14 on the other face of the comb. The grooves have side edges, which may be bevelled or straight. Each pin holding groove may be made wide enough to accommodate any given number of pins depending on the width of the back or quill 9 of the comb and the width of the "bobby" pins. In the combs of usual construction it has been found convenient to make the recess sections or grooves 12 and 14 wide enough to accommodate and hold three pins each, so that the comb of the character shown in the drawing may be provided with six "bobby" pins, held conveniently in readiness in case of need. To accommodate the "bobby" pins in the recesses so that they will not become entangled with each other and to avoid pulling out more than one "bobby" pin at a time the outer end of each groove is provided with short ridges, indicated at 15, the inner ends of which, as shown at 16 in Fig. 2, taper sharply down below the side walls 17 of the back of the comb. There are two ridges 15 at each end of the recess grooves or sections 12 and 14 and they together with the adjacent parts 18 of the back 9 of the comb provide three narrow pin receiving slots 19, just wide enough freely to permit the insertion and withdrawal of a "bobby" pin.

It is essential not only that the "bobby" pins be held so firmly in the back of the comb as to prevent accidental displacement, but they must also be so held as not to impose such a stress on the pins so as to strain them, and thereby impair the resiliency of the two arms or prongs. For this purpose the greater portion of the length of the bottoms of the recess sections 12 and 14

are flat, and are separated from each other by a web 21 which while mechanically strong enough for the uses of the comb is so thin as not to impose a strain on the two prongs or arms of the "bobby" pin, one of which is shown in top plan in Fig. 3, in position in one of the sections of the pin holding recess. It will be noted in this figure that the straight side of the "bobby" pin is indicated at 22 and the corrugated or crinkled side at 24. The loop of the pin is indicated at 25, and it will be observed that the two sides 26 and 27 of the loop are spaced apart considerably farther than the spacing of the arms or prongs 22 and 24 of the pin, even when the pin is in position in the pin holding recess. It will be understood of course that when a pin is not in use in the hair or in position in a pin-holding recess in the comb that the inner surfaces of the two prongs of the pin abut each other, being held together by the resiliency of the prongs.

To prevent accidental displacement of the "bobby" pins from the pin holding recesses the outer ends of the webs 21 are formed as bulbous enlargements or bulbs 29 which are large enough to substantially fill the loop or opening formed by the curved sides 26 and 27 of the loop portion 25 of the "bobby" pins. But although the bulbs 29 effectively prevent accidental dislodgement of the pins, the latter may readily be drawn longitudinally from the recesses by means of the fingers, the resiliency of the prongs 22 and 24 of the pin readily permitting them to separate and slide easily over the bulbs 29.

The thickness of a comb of usual construction is such relatively to the width of a "bobby" pin that the pin-holding recesses may be made of such depth that when the pins are in position in the recesses the outer sides of the prongs 22 and 24 of the "bobby" pins fall within the planes of the outer surfaces 17 of the back 9 of the comb, as clearly illustrated in Fig. 3. Thus although the back of the comb may be provided with its full complement of "bobby" pins the latter will not interfere with the normal use of the comb.

It will be observed by reference to Fig. 4 that the side edges of the grooves 12 and 14 are in registry or alinement with each other and that the ridges 15 of one groove register with the ridges 15 of the other groove, and that therefore the corresponding compartments of the two grooves are opposite each other. Consequently, the arms or prongs of the "bobby" pins are not subjected to any turning or twisting stresses while in position in the pin holding recesses. The outturned end 31 of the corrugated prong 24 of the pin facilitates the passage of the split end of the pin over the bulb-like enlargement 29 when slipping a pin into two alined compartments. The removal of a pin is accomplished by placing the ends of the thumb and index finger on the sides 26 and 27 of loop 25 of the pin and drawing the pin longitudinally outwardly from the comb, the resilient prongs readily spreading as they pass over the bulb 29.

I claim:

1. A comb comprising an elongated back of substantial width and thickness and a bank of teeth extending outwardly from one edge of the back, the opposite faces of each end of the back being longitudinally grooved to form a web adapted to be straddled and engaged by the prongs of a "bobby" pin, the two ends of the back at the outer ends of the grooves having each a bulb-like enlargement adapted to accommodate the loop portion of a "bobby" pin, said enlargement being thicker than the web so as to prevent accidental displacement of a "bobby" pin from the grooves in which it is positioned.

2. A comb comprising an elongated back of substantial width and thickness and a bank of teeth extending outwardly from one edge of the back, said back being provided on the two faces of at least one end with a flat-bottomed groove of substantially the length of a "bobby" pin and wider than said pin, said grooves at one end of the comb registering with each other and being separated by a web of such thickness as not to impose a strain on the prongs of a bobby" pin engaging the two groove bottoms forming the web, the outer end of the grooves being provided with a bulbous enlargement to accommodate and substantially fill the opening in the loop of the pin, said bulb being of greater thickness than the web separating the bottoms of the grooves.

3. A comb comprising an elongated back of substantial width and thickness and a bank of teeth extending outwardly from one edge of the back, said back being provided on each face of its two ends with a flat bottomed groove of substantially the length of a "bobby" pin and wider than a plurality of said pins, the grooves at each end of the comb registering with each other and being separated by a web of such thickness as not to impose a strain on the prongs of a "bobby" pin engaging the two groove bottoms forming the web, the outer ends of the grooves being provided with a bulb-like enlargement to accommodate and substantially fill the opening in the loop of the pin, said bulb being of greater thickness than the web separating the bottoms of the grooves, the outer end of each groove being provided with at least one narrow ridge parallel with the edges of the groove and extending from the end of the comb inwardly a distance substantially equal to the length of the loop portion of the "bobby" pin so as to divide each groove into a plurality of parallelly-arranged compartments sufficiently wide to accommodate the prongs of a "bobby" pin.

OSWALD B. CARSON.