May 22, 1962 Z. M. STEAD 3,035,279

HEAD REST

Filed March 27, 1961

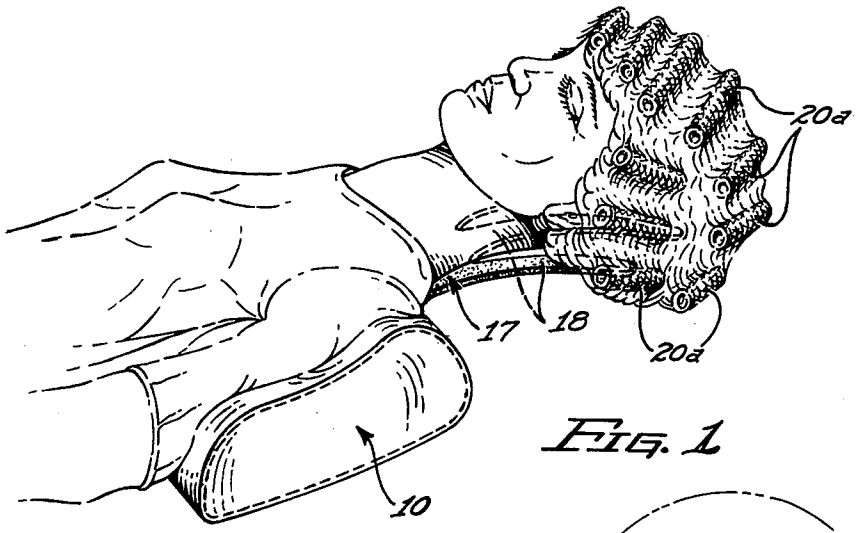


FIG. 1

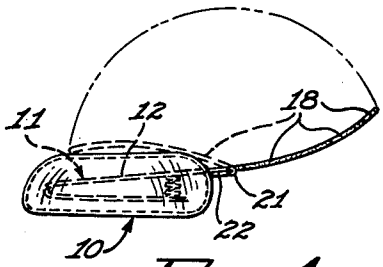


FIG. 4

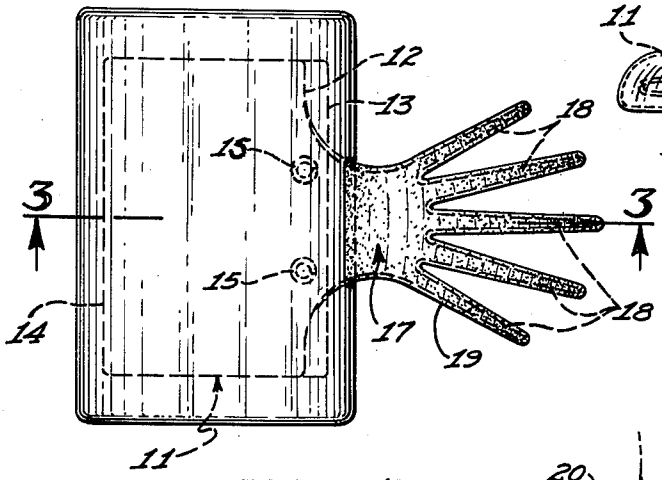


FIG. 2

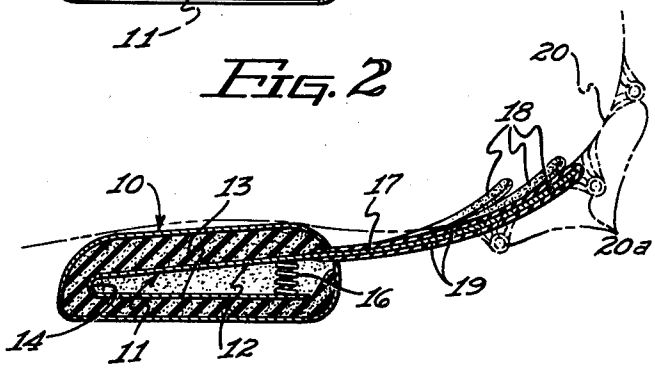


FIG. 3

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United States Patent Office 3,035,279 Patented May 22, 1962

3,035,279

HEAD REST

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Filed Mar. 27, 1961, Ser. No. 98,395
2 Claims. (Cl. 5—337)

The present invention relates to a head rest for use when the hair of the head is being set or conditioned by means of curlers or rollers around which portions of the hair are wound.

When the hair is being set, as at night before retiring, it becomes difficult to rest the head without disturbing the setting and to find comfort owing to contact of the curlers or rollers with the scalp when the head is supported by a pillow.

In accordance with the present invention a head support is provided including a cushion or pillow in conjunction with a plurality of flexible spaced apart fingers whereby the head may be rested without the annoyance of the rollers or curlers being pressed into contact with the scalp and without distortion of the hair being set.

An object of the invention is to provide a convenient and practical arrangement of simple construction for supporting the head in comfort during the setting of the hair by the use of rollers or curlers.

Another object of the invention is to provide a cushion to be held in position by the weight of a reclining body and having head supporting members extending from the cushion for contact with the head intermediate rollers or curlers during the setting of the hair.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will be more fully understood by reference to the accompanying drawings in which:

FIG. 1 shows a body reclining upon a cushion provided with flexible members or fingers in contact with the scalp of the head and intermediate rollers or curlers;

FIG. 2 is a top plan view of the head rest which consists of a cushion and fingers extending therefrom;

FIG. 3 is a view taken on line 3—3 in FIG. 2, and

FIG. 4 is a side view of the head rest showing a modified form in which the fingers are hingedly connected to the cushion to be folded over when not in use.

As shown in the drawing, the present invention includes a cushion or pillow **10** composed of any suitable material such as sponge or foam rubber or the like. Embedded in the cushion is a bifurcated tension member **11** including an upper plate **12** and a lower plate **13** connected by an elbow **14**. Between the plate members, adjacent the free ends thereof, are a pair of helical springs **15** which tensionally hold the plates apart under normal conditions and to permit relative movement of the free ends of the plates about the elbow when weight is applied to compress the cushion **10**.

Integral with plate **12** is a support member **17** which extends from the cushion **10**. The support member **17**, which may be termed a hand, is provided with a plurality of spaced apart fingers **18** which serve to support the head. The member **11** may be of metal such as spring steel to provide fingers sufficiently flexible to conform to the contour of the head when in contact therewith but fixed against relative lateral movement. In order to provide for comfortable contact with the head the support member **17** and fingers **18** may be coated with

a layer **19** of a flexible material such, for example, as polyester or polyvinyl.

When the head rest is put to use the shoulders of the user, as shown in FIG. 1, rest upon the cushion **10** and the weight of the body holds the cushion and fingers in position to receive the head. The fingers being spaced apart are disposed in contact with the scalp **20** of the user and preferably between the rollers or curlers **20***a*. The head is thus supported without interference with the mechanical means used to set the hair.

The present device, being portable, finds use in the home and if desired, the fingers may be arranged to fold over adjacent the cushion for convenient handling. As shown in FIG. 4 the fingers **18** are attached to plate **12** by means of hinge **21** whereby the fingers may be folded over into contact with the cushion. When the fingers are in extended position a stop member **22** limits the degree of movement of the fingers to retain them in place to serve as a head rest.

Although the tension member composed of plates **12** and **13**, when embedded in the cushion will serve to hold the fingers due to the weight of the body, the helical springs **15** give added tension and hold the plates in spaced relation giving rigidity to the extended support member or hand **17** from which the fingers extend.

As will be evident the present device provides a head rest so constructed and arranged as to include a cushion and projecting fingers whereby the reclining body may be rested on the cushion whereupon the weight of the body serves to hold the head rest in position to support the head.

As described above, the fingers are arranged in spaced relation to contact the scalp between the rollers or curlers. It will be evident, however, that when desirable, the fingers may be slid under the rollers or curlers for contact with the scalp. It has also been found practical to position one or more of the fingers beneath the rollers or curlers and the remaining fingers in contact with the scalp intermediate the rollers or curlers.

Although a preferred embodiment of the invention is shown and described herein it is to be understood that modifications may be made therein without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as set forth in the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A head support comprising a cushion to be held in position by the weight of the body, a pair of plate members embedded in said cushion, an elbow connecting said plate members, tension members intermediate said plate members, a plurality of flexible fingers integral with one of said plate members and extending from said cushion.

2. A head support comprising a cushion to be held in position by the weight of the body, a pair of plate members embedded in said cushion, an elbow connecting said plate members, helical springs intermediate said plate members, a plurality of flexible fingers integral with one of said plate members and extending from said cushion.

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