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2,505,719

CURL CLIP

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Fig. 1.

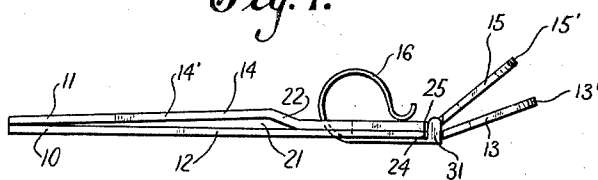


Fig. 2.

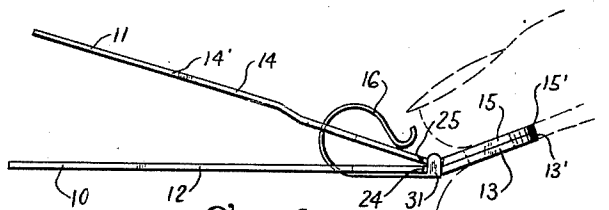


Fig. 3.

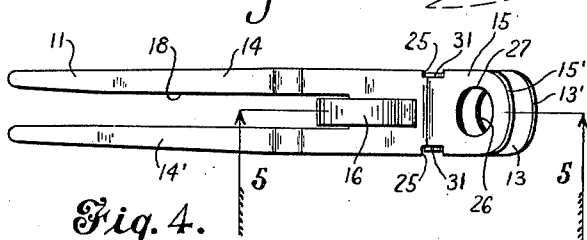


Fig. 4.

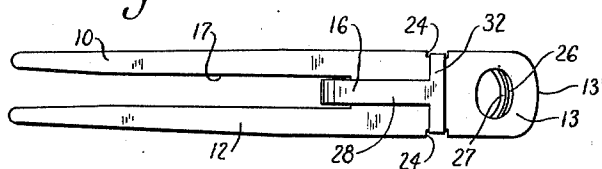
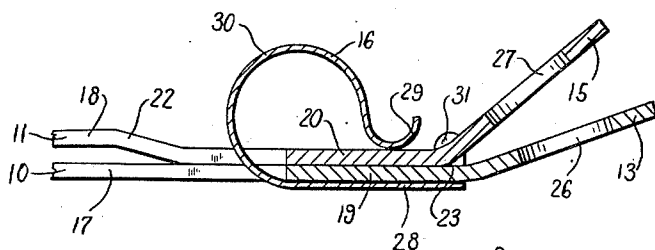


Fig. 5.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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CURL CLIP

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4 Claims. (Cl. 132—46)

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This invention relates to curl clips such as used in beauty parlors for the purpose of curling hair or setting hair waves.

Articles of this kind have been used which are provided with fulcrumed clamping members spring pressed so as to bring about clamping pressure of certain jaw portions on the hair, the fulcrumed members also being provided with manipulating portions at the other side of the fulcrum which are grasped by the fingers and pressed toward each other for the purpose of separating the jaw portions.

In some prior articles of this general type there has been difficulty in maintaining proper location and alignment of the fulcrumed members.

In other prior articles of this class there has been complication and difficulty as regards the fulcruming of the two members, and the provisions for securing the required resilient clamping effect.

One of the objects is to overcome the above-mentioned difficulties and drawbacks.

A further object is to provide an improved and simplified all-metal curl clip.

Another purpose of the invention is to provide an article of this class which can be easily sterilized and maintained in a clean, sanitary condition.

In the accompanying drawing:

Fig. 1 is a side elevation of a curl clip embodying the invention, showing the jaw portions in the closed position;

Fig. 2 is a similar view, showing the jaw portions open;

Fig. 3 is a top plan view of the article shown in Fig. 1;

Fig. 4 is a bottom plan view of the same article; and

Fig. 5 is an enlarged section on line 5—5 of Fig. 3.

In the article selected for illustration, the clip comprises fulcrumed members each comprising an elongated jaw portion, and a relatively short manipulating rear end portion, the fulcrum between the members being provided adjacent the junctures of the jaw portions and the manipulating portions. The jaw portions are normally pressed toward each other, for the purpose of clamping the hair, by a metal spring which acts upon the fulcrumed members in the region of the rear portions of the jaws, and this spring serves the additional function, as hereinafter described, of maintaining the proper relative location and alignment of the fulcrumed members.

In Figs. 1 and 2 the lower fulcrumed member

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is indicated at 10 and the upper one at 11. Member 10 comprises the elongated jaw portion 12 and the manipulating rear end portion 13, whereas member 11 comprises the elongated jaw portion 14 and the manipulating rear end portion 15. The spring, previously mentioned, is generally indicated at 16, the same in this form being constituted by a narrow leaf or bar shaped as hereinafter described.

In the form shown the jaw portion 12 of member 10 is flat so as to lie in a single plane, and the manipulating portion 13 is bent upwardly with respect to the jaw portion (Fig. 1) so as to lie at a slight angle thereto. It is also evident from Fig. 1 that the manipulating portion 15 of the upper member is bent upwardly from the general plane of its associated jaw to a greater degree than in the case of the lower member, so that, in the position of Fig. 1, the manipulating portions diverge slightly from each other.

The jaw portions of the members 10 and 11 are bifurcated throughout portions of their length so as to make certain portions of the jaws of fork shape. This is produced by cutting away the middle portion of the lower jaw, as indicated at 17, and similarly cutting away the middle portion of the upper jaw, as indicated at 18. The cut-away portions terminate short of the rear ends of the jaw portions, as indicated in Fig. 5, so as to provide upon the jaw portions solid or uncut parts 19 and 20, respectively, that are adapted to be maintained flatwise in engagement with each other by the spring 16. This spring, as hereinafter described, has a portion that is located between the tines or branches of the forks that provide portions of the jaws.

The upper jaw 14 (Fig. 1) does not lie in a single plane, but has a forward portion 14' of substantial length bent at a slight angle to the general plane of the jaw so as to provide a hair-receiving recess 21 between the lower and upper jaws. This recess increases progressively in depth from the forward tips of the jaws to a line somewhat forwardly of the spring 16, and from that line the upper jaw has a short reversely sloping bend 22 that is joined to the planar rear portion of the upper jaw.

The fulcrum between the jaws is provided in part by the bend between the jaw portion and the manipulating portion of the upper member 11, which bend provides an angular portion 23 upon the lower surface of the upper member adapted to rock or tilt upon the upper surface of the lower member. Adjacent the fulcruming portion the lower member is provided with side

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notches 24, and the upper member with side notches 25, which serve the function hereinafter mentioned. The rear edges of the manipulating portions 13 and 15 may be rounded, as shown at 13' and 15', and these manipulating portions may be provided with perforations 26 and 27.

The spring 16 is shaped to provide portions that grip between them the parts 19 and 20 of the respective jaws, this effect being produced by bending the spring leaf or bar upon itself to provide a base portion 23 underlying the lower jaw, and a terminal spring portion 29 pressing against the upper surface of the upper jaw in the manner shown in Fig. 5. The terminal portion 23 is formed as a reverse curve or bend on a bow 30 provided upon the intermediate portion of the spring, said bow extending through the crotches of the two jaws and integrally joining the elongated straight base portion 22. The base portion 23 is provided at the free end with the integral upstanding lugs 31, and these lugs extend with a certain amount of clearance into the notches 24 and 25. The lugs, by extending into the notches, effectively prevent lateral dislocation of the lower and upper forks relatively to each other, and the extension of the spring through the crotches of the forks is also effective for this purpose, the spring being of proper width to accomplish this, that is to say, of approximately the same width as the space between the tines.

It will be seen that the substantially straight base portion of the spring is accurately located relatively to the fulcrumed members by the lugs 31 at one end of the base, and by the curved portion at the other end of the base which is extended through the crotch portions of the forks. The lugs 31 are provided at the ends of a cross-piece 32 that is integral with the portion 23, as shown in Fig. 4. The spring terminal 29 presses against the upper face of the upper jaw (Fig. 5) in a manner to clamp the hair effectively between the jaws in the bifurcated portions thereof. When it is desired to release the clip, the manipulating portions are pressed together, as shown in Fig. 2, whereby the upper jaw is lifted with respect to the lower jaw against the action of the spring; and when the manipulating portions are released the parts are restored to the position shown in Fig. 1. When the jaws are opened there is a slight relative movement between the lugs 31 and their receiving notches, there being sufficient clearance to permit this.

The article described is a simple, compact and inexpensive all-metal clip in which the necessity of a separate pivot pin or the like between the jaw-equipped members is overcome, and in which the article can be readily sterilized and maintained in clean, sanitary condition. The spring member of metal which maintains the jaw portions of the members normally in contact with each other also serves the additional function of preventing misalignment of the jaws, or other displacement of the two fulcrumed members relatively to each other. There are a minimum number of parts, and the parts are of simple form. Moreover, assemblage of the parts can be effected very easily. The article serves very satisfactorily for holding curls in place while the hair is being dried or set. After the hair has been set the clips can be quickly removed, and after removal can be sterilized for further operations. In applying the clips, the jaws are at all times under control, so as to prevent misalignment in a positive manner, although, on the other hand, the structure of the article is not made more com-

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plicated or more expensive to any appreciable extent by the provisions for accomplishing this result. Moreover, the spring arrangement provided is strong and effective, and therefore assists in making tight curls in a minimum length of time.

It will be noted that, whereas the engagement of the bow of the spring in the forks of the fulcrumed members is useful primarily in maintaining the relative lateral positions of the members, the engagement of the base portion of the spring with the fulcrumed members is primarily for inhibiting independent longitudinal movement of the members.

The illustrated embodiment is by way of example only, and various changes can be made in the details without departure from the principles of the invention or the scope of the claims.

What I claim is:

1. A curl clip comprising bifurcated members having jaw portions and manipulating portions, said members arranged one above the other and the upper member having a bend adapting it to fulcrum on the lower, and a metal spring having upper and under portions which press the jaw portions together and maintain the members substantially in alignment with each other, said spring locating said members by extending between their furcations, said members being provided with side notches adjacent the fulcrum, and upstanding lugs on the under portion of the spring engaging said notches for limiting independent longitudinal movement of the members.

2. In an article such as described, upper and lower members having forked jaw portions and having angularly disposed rear manipulating portions, the upper member having a bend adapting it to fulcrum on the lower member, and a bow spring of sheet metal which presses the upper jaw against the lower jaw, said spring having its bow disposed partly within the forks of the members and having a terminal pressing downwardly against the upper jaw and a straight base portion underlying the lower jaw, and upstanding lugs on said base portion at the sides thereof engaging side notches in the members.

3. In an article such as described, the combination with the upper and lower members having forked forward portions, the upper member having a solid portion bent to provide a fulcrum resting against a solid portion of the lower member, of a resilient bow having a rear upper terminal pressing against the solid portion of the upper member and extending forwardly from said terminal and downwardly through the forks of the members so as to limit independent side-wise movement of the members and having a rearward extension underlying the lower member, said extension being provided with parts engaging in notches provided in the members adjacent the fulcrum to inhibit independent longitudinal movement of the members.

4. A curl clip comprising bifurcated members having jaw portions and manipulating portions, said members arranged one above the other and the upper member having a bend adjacent the junction between its jaw portion and its manipulating portion adapting it to fulcrum on the lower member, and a metal bow spring having its intermediate portion extending between the furcations of said members and provided with a terminal pressing down upon the jaw portion of the upper member somewhat forwardly of the fulcrum and also having a terminal in the form of a base portion underlying the lower member,

and lug and notch means of engagement between said base portion and said members to inhibit the relative longitudinal movement of said members, the lug means passing through notches in both members.

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