Mar. 20, 1923. 1,449,149

E. P. HADLEY ET AL

COMB

Filed July 8, 1922

Fig. 1.

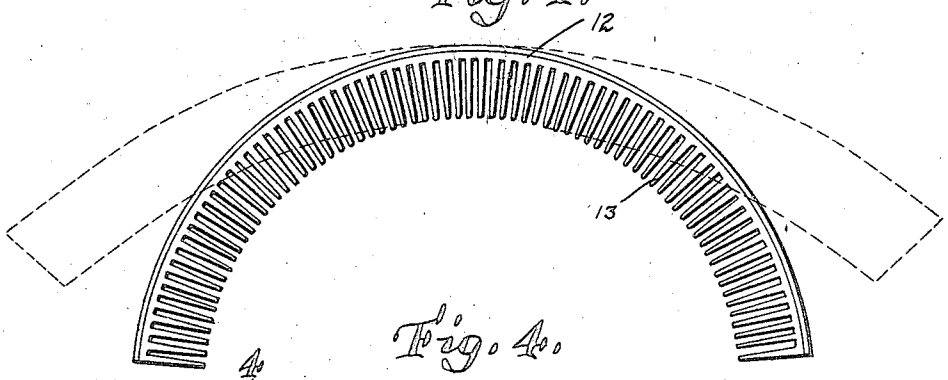


Fig. 4.

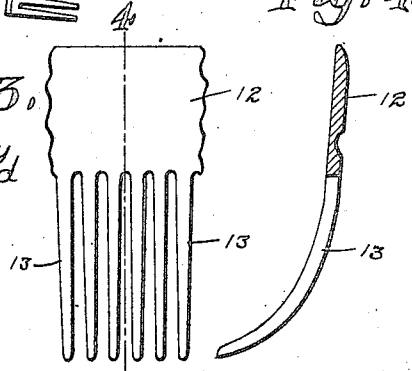


Fig. 3.

Normally curved

Fig. 5.

Flexed to decrease normal curvature

Fig. 2.

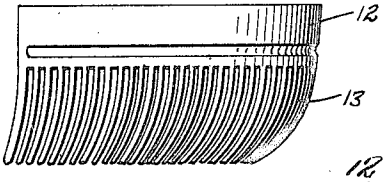
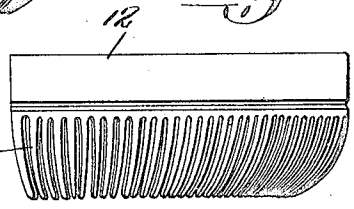


Fig. 7.



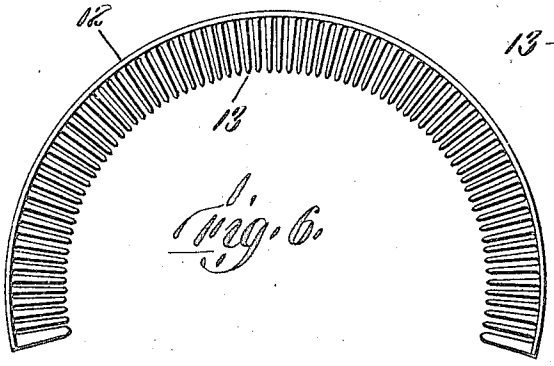


Fig. 6.

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Patented Mar. 20, 1923. 1,449,149

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDMUND P. HADLEY AND CROFTON C. HOLDEN, OF LEOMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS, ASSIGNORS TO ROYAL COMB COMPANY, OF LEOMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS, A CORPORATION OF MASSACHUSETTS.

COMB.

Application filed July 8, 1922. Serial No. 573,557.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, EDMUND P. HADLEY, a citizen of the United States, and CROFTON C. HOLDEN, a subject of the King of Great Britain, residing at Leominster, in the county of Worcester and State of Massachusetts, have invented new and useful Improvements in Combs, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates particularly to combs for use in confining "bobbed" hair, and has for its object to provide a comb of the so-called "round" or curved variety, adapted not only to conform approximately to the back portion of the human head, but also to be locked to, or firmly engaged with the hair, by the operation of inserting the comb teeth in the hair, so that the inserted comb is not liable to be accidentally displaced.

The invention is embodied in the improvements hereinafter described and claimed.

Of the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification,—

Figure 1 is a plan view of a comb embodying the invention.

Figure 2 is a side view of the same, looking from the right in Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a fragmentary side view on an enlarged scale, showing the spacing of the teeth when the comb has its normal curvature.

Figure 4 is a section on line 4—4 of Figure 3.

Figure 5 is a view similar to Figure 3, showing the spacing of the teeth when the comb is flexed to decrease its normal curvature.

Figure 6 is a plan view, and Figure 7 a side view of the comb having a deeper curvature.

The same reference characters indicate the same parts in all of the figures.

In the drawings, 12 represents the resilient back of our improved comb, which has substantially the usual longitudinal curvature of a "round" comb, presenting a salient outer face and a reentrant inner face, and may be made of any suitable resilient material, such as celluloid, adapted to retain a normal curvature such as that shown by full lines in Figure 1, and to be flexed to decrease said curvature as shown by dotted lines. The back may have any desired ornamentation.

The teeth 13 of the comb, usually integral with the back, project from the inner edge of the back as usual, and are longitudinally curved, so that they present salient outer sides and reentrant inner sides. The points of the teeth are on a curved line substantially concentric with, and having a shorter radius than, the curvature of the back.

The arrangement is such that when the back has its normal curvature, as shown by full lines in Figure 1, the outer end portions of the teeth are spaced a minimum distance apart, as shown by Figure 3, and when the back is flexed to decrease its normal curvature, as shown by dotted lines, the outer end portions of the teeth are more widely spaced apart, as shown by Figure 5. This result is due to the fact that the points of the teeth are on a curved line of shorter radius than the normal curvature of the back, so that the operation of flexing the back to decrease its curvature increases the radius of the line of the teeth points, and causes the points to stand farther apart.

In applying the comb to the hair, the user, grasping the ends of the comb, first flexes the back to decrease its normal curvature, then inserts the teeth in the hair while the back is so flexed, and then releases the comb, which assumes its normal curvature, causing the outer end portions of the teeth to approach each other, and exert binding pressure on the hair interposed between them, so that the comb is firmly engaged with the hair, and is not liable to be accidentally displaced.

The curvature of the teeth is such that their reentrant inner sides conform approximately to the curvature of the back of the wearer's head, and their opposed edges have a more effective gripping action than would be the case if the teeth were straight and inclined inward and downward from the back. In other words, the curved inner sides are substantially parallel with the portion of the back of the head covered by the comb, so that the hair is grasped at a more uniform distance from and closer to the scalp, than would be the case if the teeth were straight and inclined.

We claim:

A comb having a longitudinally curved resilient back, presenting a salient outer face and a reentrant inner face, and longitudinally curved teeth projecting from the

inner edge of the back, and presenting salient outer sides and reentrant inner sides, the points of the teeth being on a curved line of shorter radius than the curve of the back, and the arrangement being such that when the back is flexed to decrease its normal curvature, the spacing of the outer portions of the teeth from each other is increased, and when the back returns to its normal curvature, the teeth approach each other to grip hair which may have been interposed between the teeth while the back is so flexed.

In testimony whereof we have affixed our signatures.

EDMUND P. HADLEY,
CROFTON C. HOLDEN.