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O. C. SMITH

1,845,205

EAR PROTECTOR

Filed Nov. 7, 1931

2 Sheets-Sheet 1

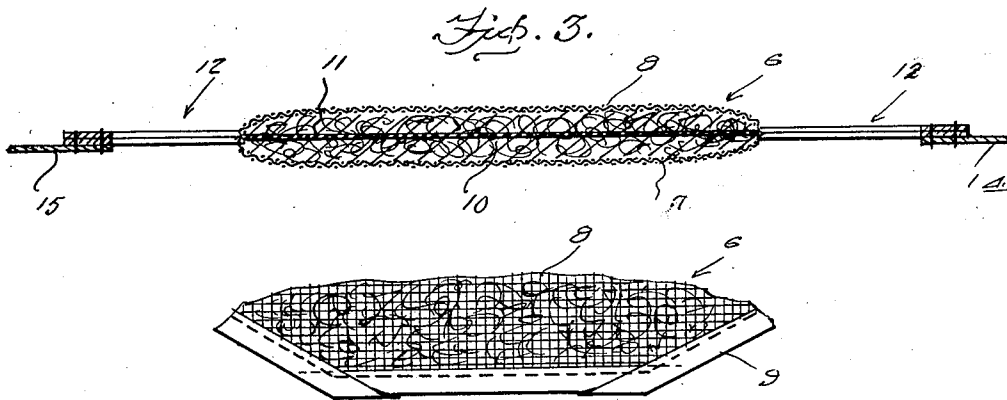


Fig. 5.

Inventor

Ora C. Smith

By *Clarence A. O'Brien*
Attorney

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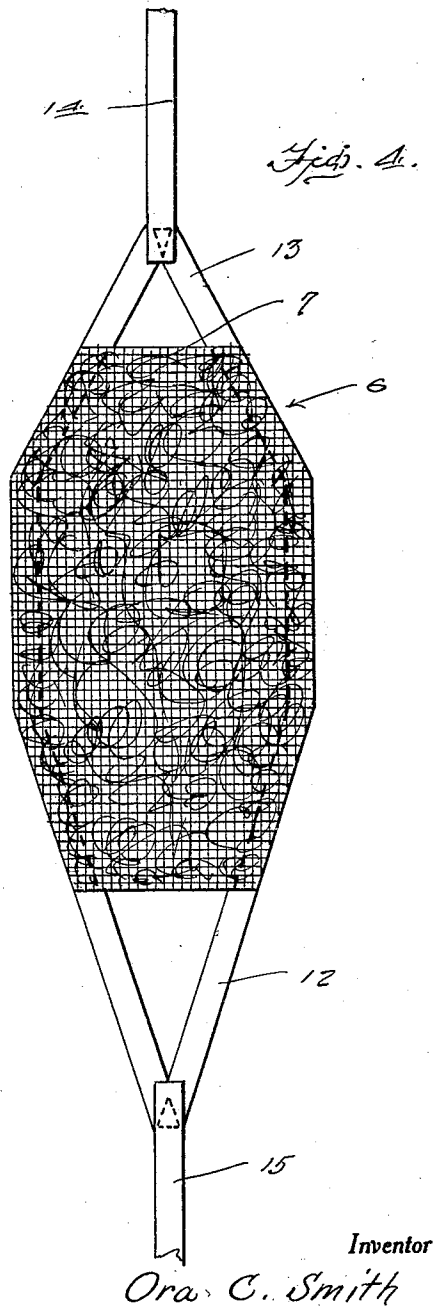
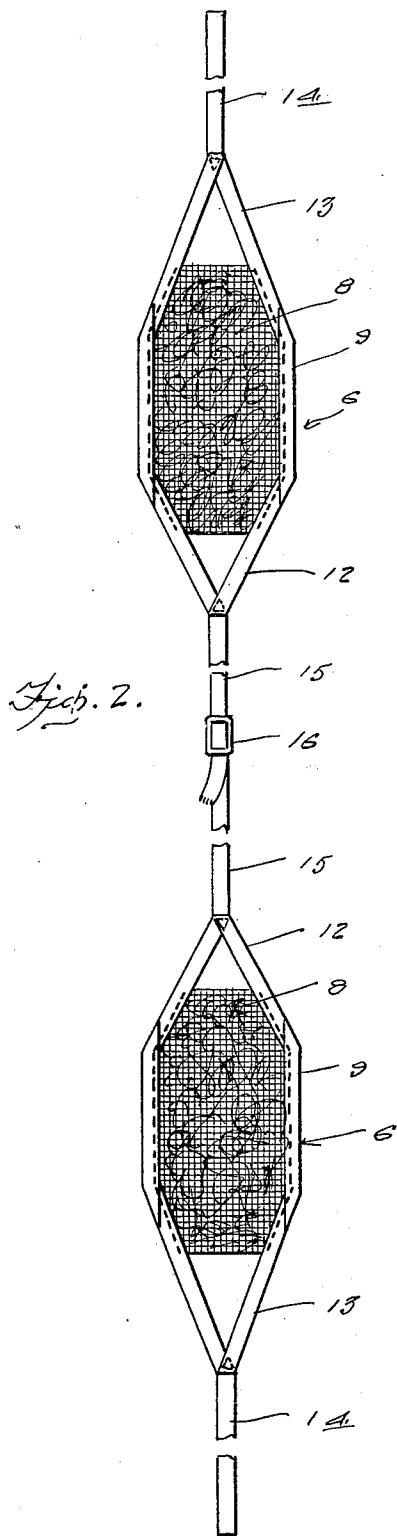
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By *Clarence A. O'Brien*
Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

ORA C. SMITH, OF ROCHESTER, MINNESOTA

EAR PROTECTOR

Application filed November 7, 1931. Serial No. 573,678.

This invention relates to a novel accessory primarily adapted for use in hair dressing establishments and it has more specific reference to an appliance or accessory such as may be conveniently referred to as an ear protector.

In the art of beauty culture, it is now common practice to condition hair by a method generally known as a finger wave, and in allowing the hair to dry after treatment it is generally necessary to resort to the use of a current of heated air projected from a hair drier.

The use of electrical hair driers subjects the patient to a time consuming period of inconvenience. This is particularly so when high powered hair driers are employed. In fact, the currents of hot air impinge against the scalp and ears with such continuity that the ears become red and sore. Not only is this objectionable, but it is an inconvenient task for the attendant as well as the patient.

With this thought in mind, I have conceived of a simple economical safe and sanitary accessory capable of expeditious application and susceptible of protecting the ears of the patient during the heat drying step of the operation.

Briefly stated, I provide a novel and useful appliance for individual use at the discretion of the attendant or command of the patient which protects the ears from burning, and mutes the ears temporarily to relieve the ear drums of the distressing hum and noise of the hair drying machine.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a perspective view showing the manner in which the appliance is worn when in use.

Figure 2 is an elevational view in detail showing the preferred embodiment of the invention.

Figure 3 is a longitudinal sectional view thorough one of the ear muffs or pads.

Figure 4 is an inside elevational view of one of the pads.

Figure 5 is a fragmentary marginal edge view of a portion of a pad.

The preferred embodiment of the invention constitutes the provision of a pair of du-

plicate muffs or pads each generally designated by the numeral 6. The pad may be of any appropriate proportions and configuration, it being preferably of the shape illustrated in the drawings. It is made up of four essential features; namely, inner and outer pieces of gauze 7 and 8 respectively. The edge portions of the gauze are stitched together and around the outer surface is a marginal binder 9 of tape.

The pieces of gauze thus fastened together form a sack or container for a filler of raw cotton 10. The gauze and cotton are preferably sterilized for sanitary purposes and the cotton may be composed of two separate plies disposed on opposite sides of an intervening web or partition 11. This partition is preferably in the form of a thin sheet of rubber and its primary purpose is its faculty to serve as a sound interceptor.

As before stated, the device is intended to serve to modify sound from the roaring motor and fan of the hair drying machine. This part 11 is an optional feature of the invention, but has been found to serve satisfactorily.

The ends of the tape forming the binder are brought together and stitched to provide extensions 12 and 13 to which the retaining straps are connected. There is a chin strap at 14 made up of companion sections whose free ends are tied together in a bow. In addition there is a head strap made up of complementary sections 15 one of which is provided with a buckle or suitable fastener 16 to provide an adjustable connection at the top of the head.

The gist of the invention is in the provision of a simple, economical and sanitary appliance characterized by a pair of adjustable ear protective pads of appropriate texture and shape to promote convenience, together with a chin strap and head strap, both straps adjustable to facilitate application and removal and to insure exacting comfort to the wearer.

It is thought from the foregoing description that the advantages and novel features of the invention will be readily apparent.

It is to be understood that changes may be

made in the construction and in the combination and arrangement of the several parts provided that such changes fall within the scope of the appended claims.

5 I claim:

1. An ear protecting accessory of the class described comprising a pair of duplicate companion ear coverings and retaining means therefor, each ear covering comprising
10 a gauze sack and an internal cushioning filler of raw cotton.

2. An ear protecting accessory of the class described comprising a pair of duplicate companion ear coverings and retaining means
15 therefor, each ear covering comprising a gauze sack and an internal cushioning filler of raw cotton, together with a centralized partition of sheet material designed to more effectively exclude external sound.

3. As a new product of manufacture, an ear pad of the class described comprising
20 inner and outer pieces of gauze stitched together around their marginal edges, a marginal binder associated with said edges and disposed on the exterior side of the pad to
25 prevent contact of said binder with the ears and face of the wearer, said pieces of gauze forming a container, a laminated filler of raw cotton in said container, and a piece of
30 sheet material disposed between the laminations to serve as a sound excluding diaphragm.

4. As a new product of manufacture, an ear pad of the class described comprising
35 inner and outer pieces of gauze stitched together around their marginal edges, a marginal binder associated with the outer ply of gauze and stitched around the edges of said gauze pieces in a manner to prevent contact
40 of the binder with the face of the wearer, said bound pieces of gauze forming a container, and a laminated filler of raw cotton in said container.

45 In testimony whereof I affix my signature.
ORA C. SMITH.

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