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SAFETY GUARD FOR EAR ORNAMENTS

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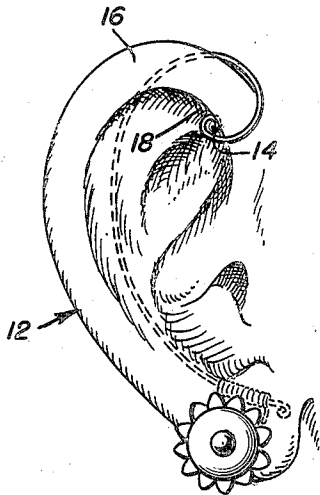


Fig. 1.

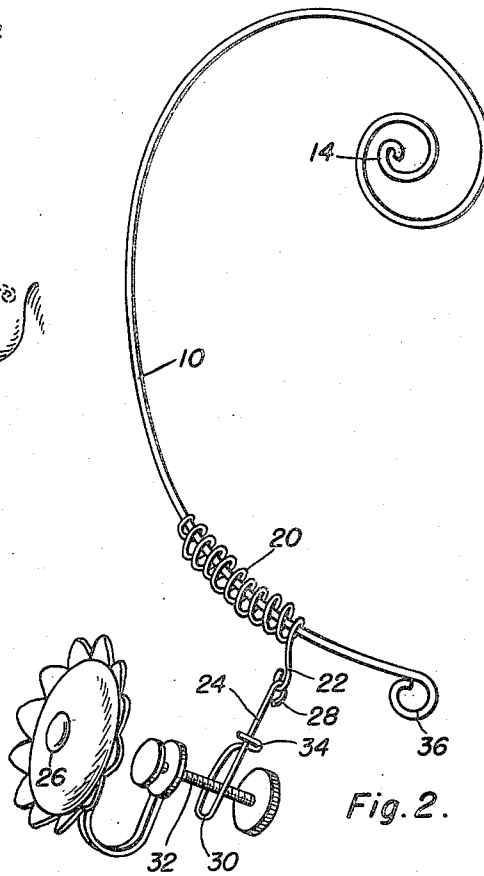


Fig. 2.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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## SAFETY GUARD FOR EAR ORNAMENTS

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New York, N. Y.

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1 Claim. (Cl. 63—14)

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This invention relates to new and useful improvements in hangers for ear ornaments and more particularly to a safety guard for ear ornaments.

The primary object of the present invention is to provide a comfortable attachment for ladies' ears that will safely support an ear ornament to prevent loss thereof.

Another important object of the present invention is to provide a device of the character referred to, the greater portion of which fits behind the wearer's ear to prevent an unsightly appearance to observers.

A further object of the present invention is to provide a safety guard for ear ornaments that is quickly and readily applied to the ear of the wearer without in any way affecting a disturbance to the user.

A still further aim of the present invention is to provide a hanger for ear ornaments that is simple and practical in construction, efficient and reliable in use, neat and attractive in appearance, relatively inexpensive to manufacture, and otherwise well adapted for the purposes for which the same is intended.

Other objects and advantages reside in the details of construction and operation as more fully hereinafter described and claimed, reference being had to the accompanying drawings forming part hereof, wherein like numerals refer to like parts throughout, and in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view showing the safety guard applied to the wearer's ear to support an ear ornament thereon; and,

Figure 2 is a perspective view of the safety guard attached to an ear ornament.

Referring now to the drawings in detail, wherein for the purpose of illustration, there is disclosed a preferred embodiment of the present invention, the numeral 10 represents an arcuate member, preferably formed from a single length of resilient material and which is placeable behind the wearer's ear 12. One end of this member 10 terminates in a spiral hook portion 14 that extends forwardly between the juncture of the helix 16 with the wearer's head and engages the fossa of the anti-helix 18 in a comfortable position.

Slidably mounted on the lower disposed portion of the member 10 is an elongated spiral element 20 consisting of a plurality of convolutions. The member 10 is provided with a terminal hook portion 22.

The numeral 24 represents a single length of bendable wire or plastic that forms the spring clip attachment for connecting an ear ornament 26 to the spiral element 20. This length of wire 24 is bent to form an eye portion 28 at one end that engages the hook 22.

The opposite portion of the wire 24 is bent to form a loop 30 that engages the screw clamp portion 32 of the ear ornament and a hook 34 pro-

vided at the free terminal of the loop engages the wire to retain the loop in a closed position.

It should be noted, that the lower terminal of the member 10 terminates in a hook or stop 36 that limits the downward sliding movement of the spiral element.

In practical use of the device, the member 10 is disposed behind the wearer's ear and likewise the hook 36, the spiral element 20 and the spring clip 24, so that only the attractive spiral hook portion 14 is exposed on the outer side of the wearer's ear. In this manner, the device will conveniently support the ear ornament in a safe manner with only a small portion of the same being exposed.

In view of the foregoing description taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings it is believed that a clear understanding of the construction, operation and advantages of the device will be quite apparent to those skilled in this art. A more detailed description is accordingly deemed unnecessary.

It is to be understood, however, that even though there is herein shown and described a preferred embodiment of the invention the same is susceptible to certain changes fully comprehended by the spirit of the invention as herein described and the scope of the appended claim.

Having described the invention, what is claimed as new is:

A safety guard for ear ornaments comprising an arcuate wire member having a spiral terminal adapted to yieldingly engage the fossa of the anti-helix of a wearer's ear, the free terminal of said member being bent to form a closed loop, an elongated spiral element consisting of a plurality of convolutions slidably received on said member and having a terminal hook, and a spring clip having a terminal eye engaging said hook, said spring clip including a substantially U-shaped member for engaging the clamp screw of an ear ornament, said U-shaped member having a hook on one leg for engaging the other leg of said U-shaped member.

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