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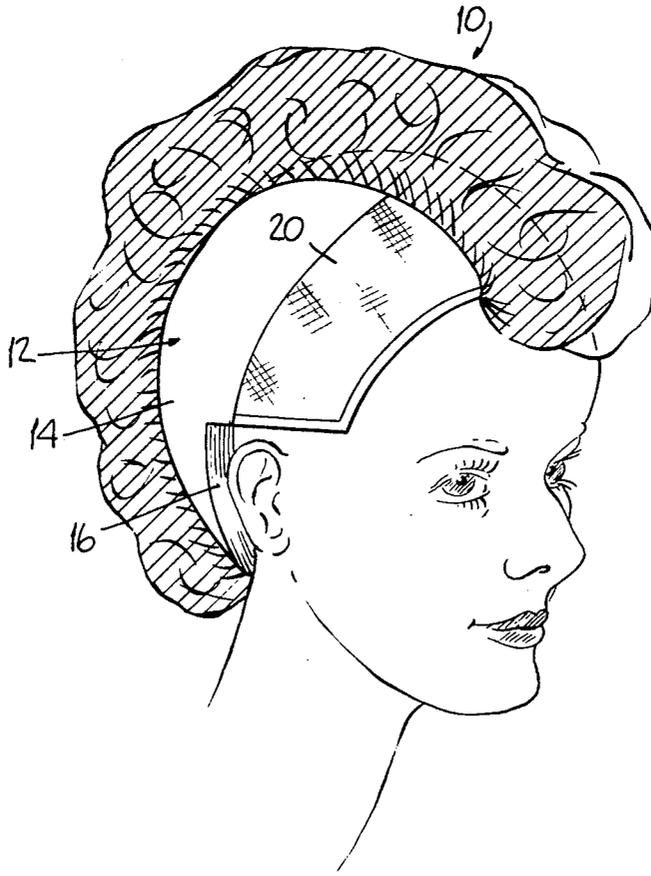
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[54] **ARTIFICIAL HAIRPIECE**
 1 Claim, 4 Drawing Figs.

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ABSTRACT: An artificial hairpiece that has a foundation with a flexible elastic crown, a back band that is resilient in the direction of its length and relatively inflexible in the direction of its width, and a front band of relatively inflexible material. Tufts of hair are attached to the outside surface of the crown, the front band and the back band. Advantageously, tufts of hair are also applied along the inner surface of the front and back bands thereby providing an artificial hairpiece that is natural in appearance and easily adaptable to fit different size heads of various users.



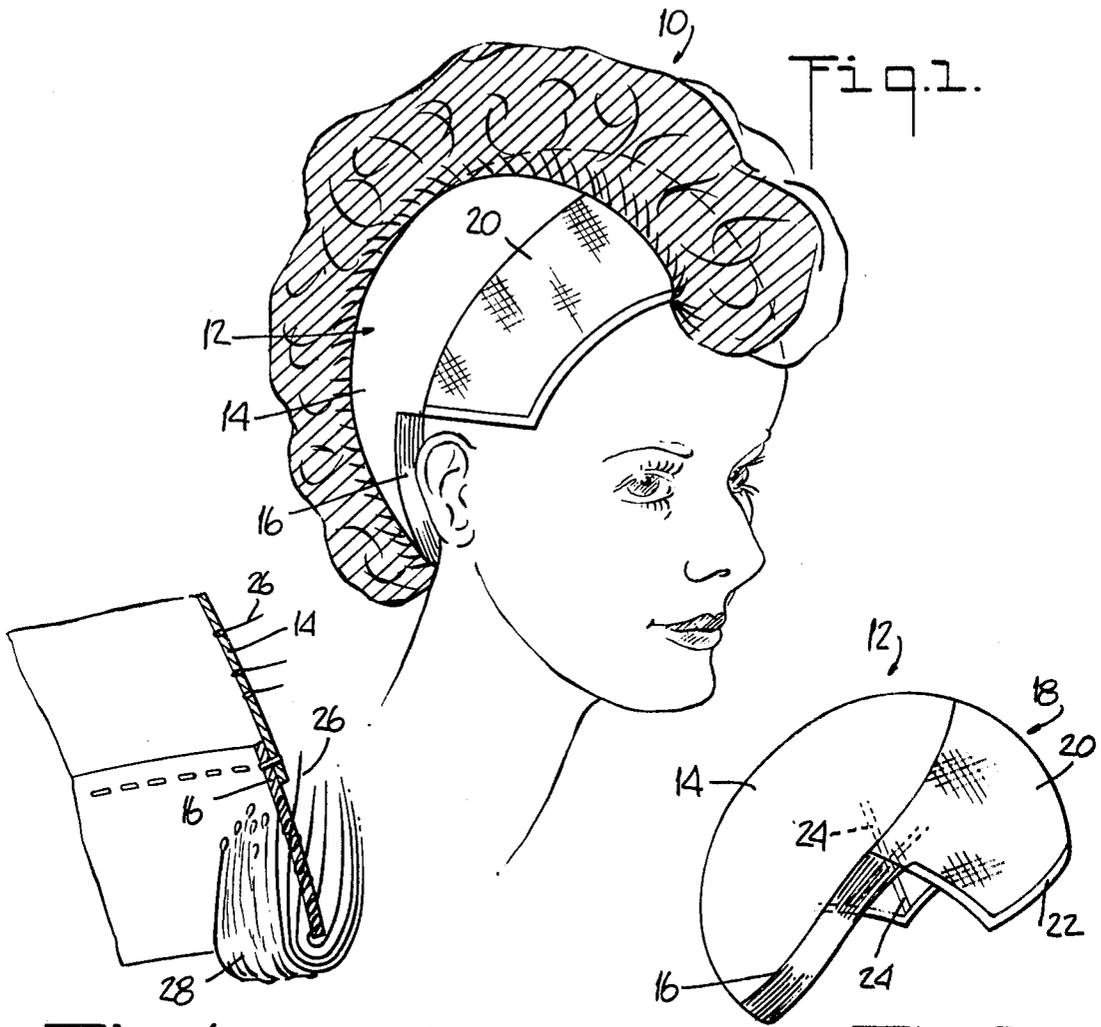


Fig. 1.

Fig. 4.

Fig. 3.

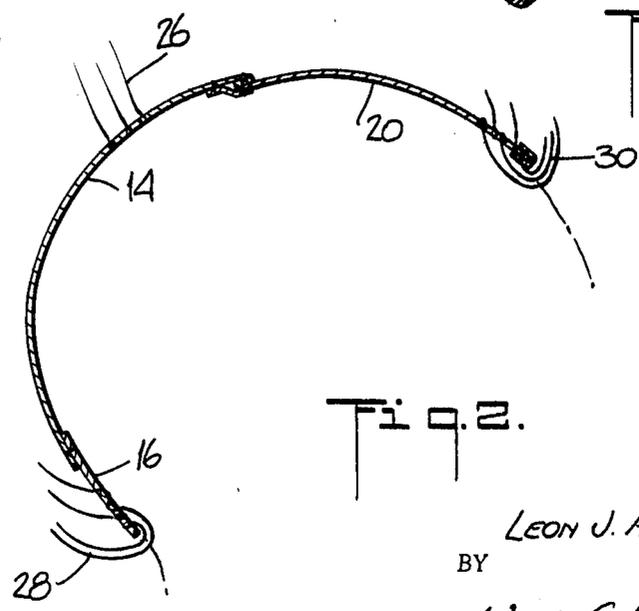


Fig. 2.

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ARTIFICIAL HAIRPIECE

The present invention relates to artificial hairpieces and more particularly to an artificial hairpiece that is readily adaptable to fit the various size heads of different users.

It is an object of the present invention to provide a novel artificial hairpiece that is adjustable to fit different head sizes of various users and at the same time provides an attractive and natural looking artificial hairpiece.

Another object of this invention is to provide such an artificial hairpiece which may be conveniently and economically manufactured.

Other objects and advantages will be readily apparent from the following detailed specification, claims and the drawings appended hereto wherein:

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of the artificial hairpiece of this invention disposed on the head of a user.

FIG. 2 is a cross-sectional view of the artificial hairpiece of this invention.

FIG. 3 is a perspective view of the foundation cap of the artificial hairpiece of this invention.

FIG. 4 is an enlarged fragmentary cross-sectional view of the back band of the hairpiece of this invention.

It has now been found that the foregoing and related objects can be readily attained in an artificial hairpiece having a foundation cap with a crown of net material that is resilient in a plurality of directions, that is, the crown has a "two-way stretch." Advantageously, a back band of resilient material is attached to the crown along the rear edge thereof for engagement with the rear of the head of the user. The back band is resilient in a direction parallel to the rear edge of the crown and nonresilient in a direction perpendicular to the rear edge of the crown. A front band is provided of nonresilient net material that is attached to the crown along the forward edge thereof and extends between the opposite ends of the rear band. Tufts of hair or hair like material are attached to the foundation cap so as to extend from the outer surface thereof. Advantageously, tufts of hair or hair line material are attached along the inner surface of the front and back bands so as to extend downwardly and outwardly therefrom to be visible on the outer surface of the hairpiece.

Thus, an artificial hairpiece is advantageously provided that has a crown that is resilient in a plurality of direction, a back band that is resilient only in a direction perpendicular to the rear edge of the crown, and a front band that is nonresilient. Tufts of hair are attached to the inner surface of the front and back bands so that the artificial hairpiece may be readily adapted to fit the different size head of various users and at the same time provide a highly attractive and natural appearing headpiece.

The tufts of hair may be attached to the entire inner surface of the backband and the lower portion of the inner surface of the front band. The front band may have a reinforcing strip along the lower edge thereof and tufts of hair may be attached to the inner surface of the reinforcing strip.

Referring now to the drawings there is illustrated the artificial hairpiece of this invention, generally designated by the numeral 10, which has a foundation cap, generally designated by the numeral 12, with a flexible elastic crown 14. The elastic crown 14 is of resilient material that has a two-way stretch which advantageously adapts to the different head size of vari-

ous users. Along the rear edge of crown 14, a back band 16 is attached thereto with conventional stitching. The rear band 16 is constructed in a highly desirable manner of material that is resilient in the direction of the length of the band 16 and inflexible in the direction of the width of the band 16 and is adapted to fit about the bank of the head of the user. The forward portion of the crown 14 has a front band 20 of inflexible net material that is attached to the crown 14 by conventional stitching and has a reinforcing strip 22 running along the lower edge thereof. The front band 20 has additional reinforcing members 24 extending from the reinforcing strip 22 upwardly to the attachment of the front band 20 to the flexible elastic crown 14.

Tufts of hair 26 are attached to the outer surface of the net material of the elastic crown 14, the front band 20 and the back band 16. In addition this invention advantageously provides for having tufts of hair 28 attached to the inner side of the back band 16, as illustrated in FIGS. 2 and 4, which extend downwardly about the lower edge thereof and outwardly so that the tufts of hair 28 are exposed to view. In a similar manner the front band 20 has tufts of hair 30 attached to the inner surface thereof that extend downwardly and outwardly to the exposed surface of the wig 10.

Accordingly, this invention advantageously provides for the tufts of hair 28 and 30 on the inner side of the bands 16 and 20 which extend downwardly and outwardly therefrom in order to provide an artificial hairpiece 10 that is highly attractive and natural looking and is adapted to fit the different head sizes of various users. The combination of the nonresilient front band 20 and the rear band 16, which is resilient in one direction only, provides a highly advantageous artificial hairpiece which cooperates with the flexible elastic crown 14 to adjustably fit the head size of various users and at the same time provides a wig that is attractive and natural looking.

It will be understood that the foregoing description with the details of exemplary structure is not to be construed in any way to limit the invention, but that modifications may be made thereto without departing from the scope of the invention as set forth in the following claims.

Having thus described my invention, I claim:

1. An artificial hairpiece comprising a foundation cap, said foundation cap having a crown of net material that is resilient in a plurality of directions, a back band of resilient material attached to said crown along the rear edge thereof for engagement with the back of the head of the user, said back band being resilient in a direction parallel to said rear edge of said crown and nonresilient in a direction perpendicular to said rear edge of said crown, a front band of nonresilient net material attached to said crown along the forward edge thereof and extending between opposite ends of said back band, tufts of hair attached to said foundation cap so as to extend from the outer surface thereof, and tufts of hair attached along the inner surface of said front and back bands and extending downwardly and outwardly therefrom so as to be visible on the outer surface of said hairpiece, and wherein tufts of hair are attached to substantially the entire inner surface of said back band and to the lower portion of the inner surface of said front band, and wherein said front band has a reinforcing strip along the lower edge thereof and wherein tufts of hair are attached to the inner surface of said reinforcing strip.