Sept. 22, 1970 E. C. McBRIDE 3,529,308

HAIR HOLDING DEVICE

Filed April 21, 1969

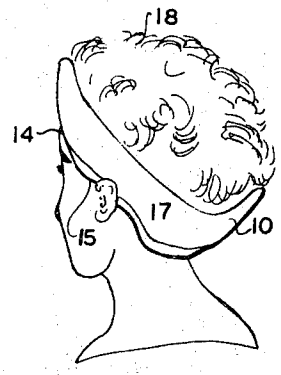


FIG. 3

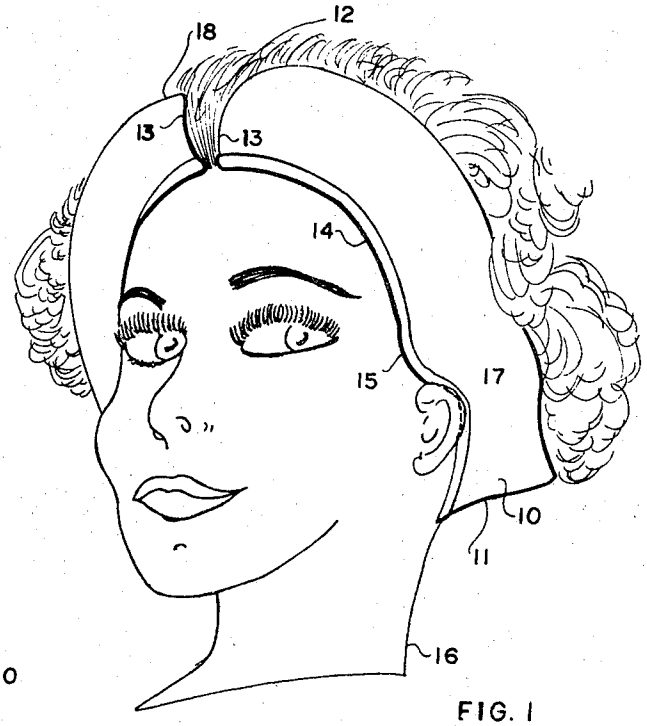


FIG. 1

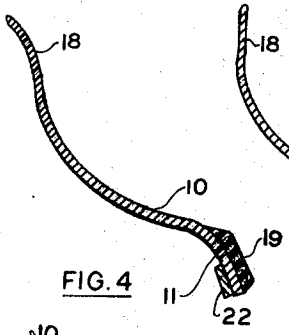


FIG. 4

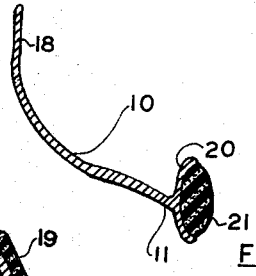


FIG. 5

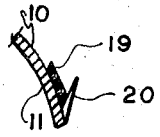


FIG. 8

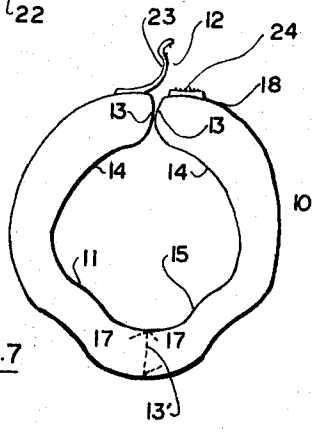


FIG. 7

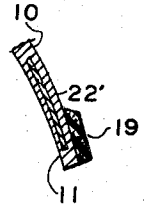


FIG. 9

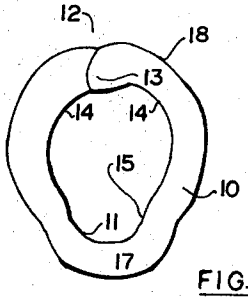


FIG. 6

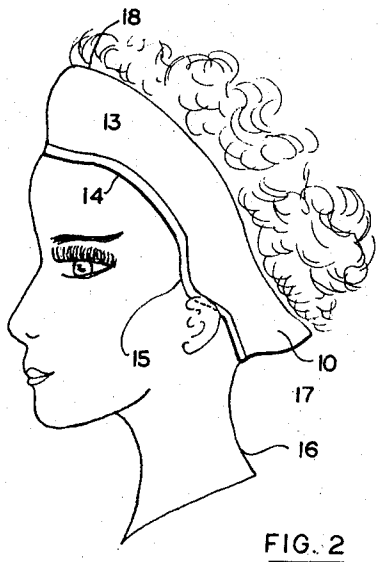


FIG. 2

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HAIR HOLDING DEVICE

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U.S. Cl. 2—174 1 Claim

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A resilient hair holding member placed around the head adjacent the hair line, cups the hair upwardly and shields it from the skin during the application of face creams or the like or during cleansing of the face and neck. Secondly it provides a separation between the hair and the face and neck area during shampooing, color treatment and the like.

This invention relates to new and useful improvements in hair holding devices, said devices serving two principal purposes.

Firstly and most importantly, they hold the hair upwardly away from the face and neck areas during the application of face creams, lotions, cosmetics or while cleansing the face and neck, and secondly, the device provides a separation between the hair and the face and neck areas while the hair is being color treated or dyed or shampooed in order to keep the coloring materials from running down the face or neck and onto the clothing.

It is normal for women to tie up their hair in towels or bandans or pin the hair up with bobby pins or clips in order to keep it away from the face and neck areas during the aforesaid treatment thereof.

However, this interferes with and often spoils the hair arrangement and for this reason is not satisfactory for the purpose.

The present device overcomes this principal disadvantage inasmuch as a resilient strip band is utilized which may be engaged around the skin area adjacent the hair line, and then moved upwardly slightly into position thus cupping the hair loosely and upwardly away from the junction line without interfering with the coiffure thereof.

With the foregoing in view, and such other or further purposes, advantages or novel features as may become apparent from consideration of this disclosure and specification, the present invention consists of, and is hereby claimed to reside in, the inventive concept which is comprised, embodied, embraced, or included in the method, process, construction, composition, arrangement or combination of parts, or new use of any of the foregoing, of which concept, one or more specific embodiments of same are herein exemplified as illustrative only of such concept, reference being had to the accompanying figures in which:

FIG. 1 is a partial front view of the device shown in use.

FIG. 2 is a side elevation of FIG. 1 but reduced in scale.

FIG. 3 is a partial rear elevation also reduced in scale.

FIG. 4 is an enlarged cross sectional view of one embodiment.

FIG. 5 is an enlarged cross sectional view of an alternative embodiment.

FIG. 6 is an under plan view of the device.

FIG. 7 is a top plan view but showing the ends slightly spread apart.

FIG. 8 is a fragmentary cross sectional view showing an alternative embodiment.

FIG. 9 is a view similar to FIG. 8 but showing a still further embodiment.

In the drawings like characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the different figures.

Proceeding therefore to describe the invention in detail, reference should be made to the accompanying drawings in which the device consists of a partially oval shaped cross sectioned skirt portion **10** and an edge portion **11** along the underside of the skirt portion.

The device is preferably made from resilient metal or plastic or a combination of both, in the form of a substantially oval configuration as clearly shown in FIG. 5, being split at the front **12** thereof to form a pair of ends **13**, the resiliency of the material causing these ends to overlap when in the rest position shown in FIG. 6.

This means that when the ends are extended to fit around the head, the resiliency of the material holds the device in place as shown in FIG. 2.

The aforementioned edge extends from one end **13**, which is adjacent the forehead when in use as shown in FIG. 2, inwardly and downwardly in the form of a concave curved portion **14** and then convexedly curves around the temple and over the ear as shown at **15** and then curves around the nape of the neck **16** repeating this configuration upon the opposite side and terminating in the central forehead at the opposite end **13**.

The cross sectional configuration of the skirt **10** includes the aforementioned edge portion **11** and the outwardly belled portion **17** which holds the hair loosely therewithin when in use, terminating in the outwardly flared upper edge portion **18** as clearly shown.

In FIG. 4, a strip of felt or sponge **19** may be adhesively secured to the inner surface of the edge portion **11** or, alternatively, this edge portion may be slightly channeled as shown at **20** in FIG. 5 to receive, also adhesively, a similar strip of sponge or equivalent material **21**.

This effects an efficient seal when the device is in use, as it should be stressed that it is this lower edge portion **11** which is the only part actually engaging the skin of the user.

In use, the ends **13** are spread apart manually and the device is held behind the head with the opening adjacent the nape of the neck whereupon it is moved forwardly, past and over the ears and then adjusted upwardly slightly below the hairline. The user can then push it upwardly slightly past the hairline if desired, which ever is best suited to the user and to the treatment being undertaken.

Although the device is shown as a one piece metal or plastic unit, nevertheless it will be appreciated that it could be manufactured in two pieces with a spring hinge connecting same (as shown in phantom in FIG. 7, reference character **13'**), depending upon the desires of the manufacturer.

Also, as shown in FIG. 8, comb teeth **20'** may be formed adjacent the lower edge **11** and extend upwardly and inwardly to assist in holding the device in the desired position.

It is the inherent resiliency of the plastic or metal head through the aforementioned edge portion **11**, the strip **19** or **21** not only sealing the engaging area but also having a natural tendency to adhere to the hair or skin thus preventing slippage. This material may be also absorbent so that wearing and use is facilitated.

The upper edge of channel **20** could be serrated to facilitate the holding action of the hair.

FIG. 4 shows the inclusion of a resilient metal band **22** secured adhesively or by other means, to the outer surface of the lower edge in order to supply either additional resiliency to the plastic or for resiliency depending upon manufacturing parameters.

This metal band could of course be embedded in the

plastic during manufacture, if desired, as indicated by reference character **22'** in FIG. 9.

FIG. 7 shows a fastening device in the form of a tab **23** of flexible material secured to one of the ends **13** and being detachably securable to a fixed portion **24** on the other end **13**. This tab could either be fastened by means of a snap or dome fastener, preferably, the tab **23** and the fixed portion **24** could be manufactured from material known by the trade mark "Velcro" which can be adhesively secured to the ends **13**.

Summarizing, the hair holding device is placed on the head by placing the hands on both sides of the front opening **12**, then holding the hands and the device at the back of the neck. The opening is widened and the device is brought forwardly and up into the proper position as shown in FIG. 1. It may then be adjusted up or down, backwardly or forwardly, to suit the individual hairline.

The device is held in place on the head by means of tension as hereinbefore described, or by the tab **23**, either of which has the tendency to draw the device inwardly against the sides of the head. It is designed to fit the average head size and the gap in front will vary slightly for different sizes.

The strip of foam plastic or sponge or felt on the rim as shown in FIGS. 4 and 5, add comfort, prevent slippage and allow for variations in head shape.

Various modifications can be made within the scope of the inventive concept which is herein disclosed and or claimed.

What I claim as my invention is:

1. A shield for separating hair from the face and neck along the hairline during facial treatment or hair treatment, said shield comprising an oval-shaped band having separably overlapped end portions resiliently biased into overlapped relation, said band also having a lower head engaging portion and a convex main body portion extending outwardly and upwardly from said lower portion to form a pronounced trough for receiving and containing the hair of a user, said lower portion of the band having a rearwardly facing channel-like member extending about the lower edge of said main body portion and being contoured so as to snugly engage the head and closely follow the hairline of the wearer's head, and a sponge member secured within said channel-like member for frictional and sealing contact with a wearer's head.

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