April 18, 1950 D. B. CRAFTS 2,504,394

HAIR DRIER

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FIG. 1

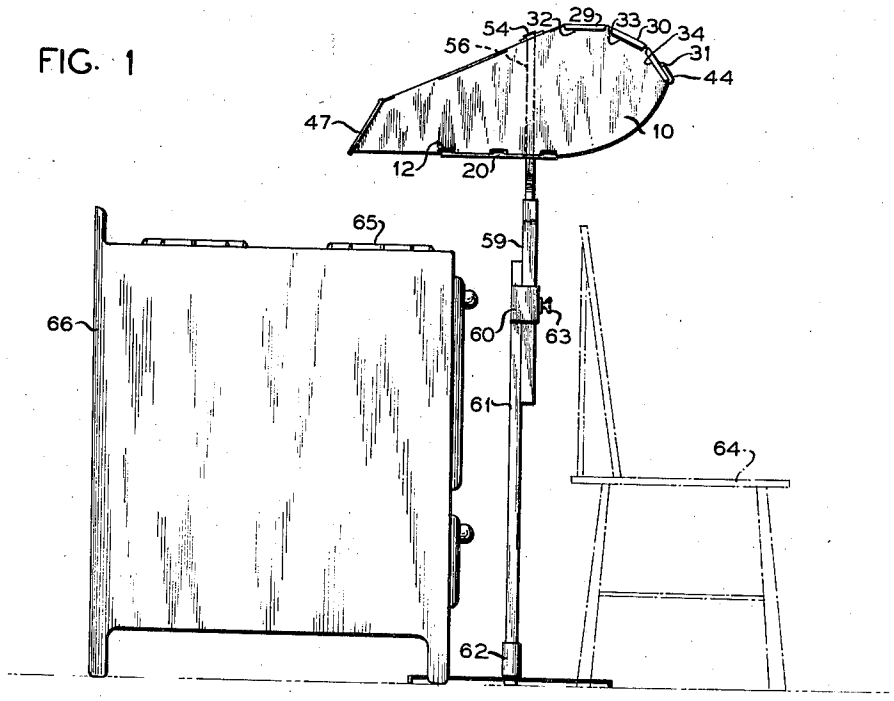
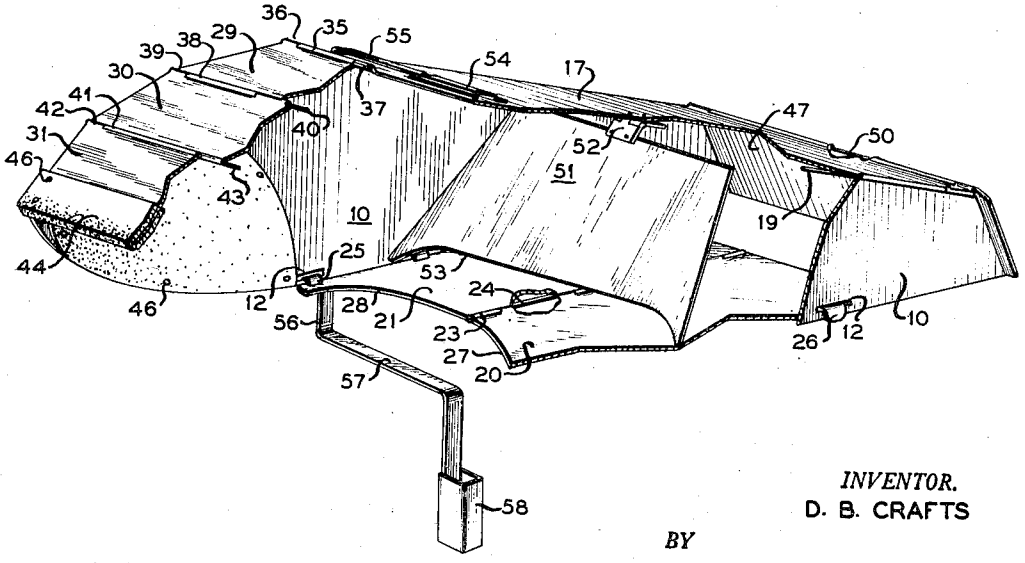


FIG. 2



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FIG. 3

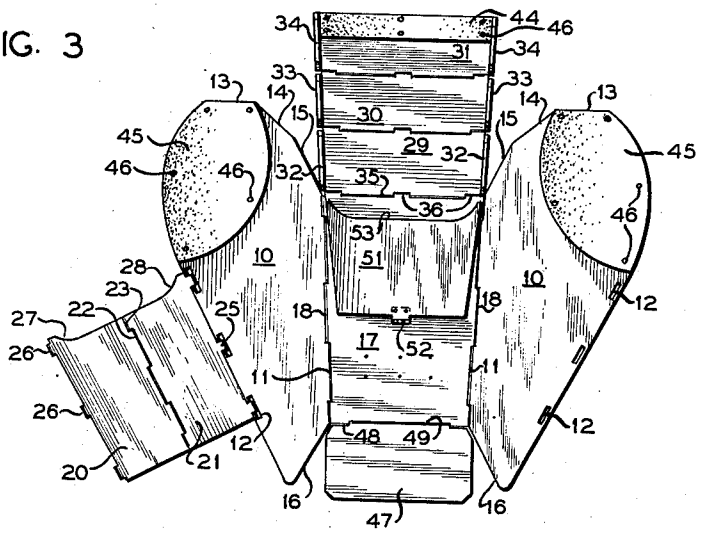


FIG. 4

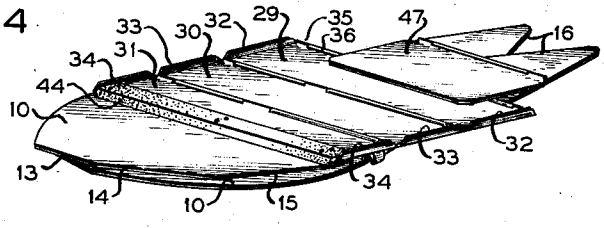
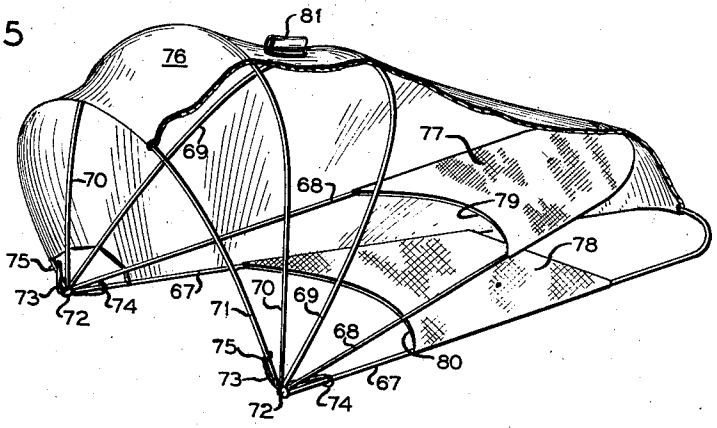


FIG. 5



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HAIR DRIER

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7 Claims. (Cl. 34—99)

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This invention relates to beauty culture and more particularly to the improvement of the personal appearance and the simplification and convenience of the operations required in so doing. The invention particularly contemplates a hair drier for quickly and efficiently drying the hair.

Hair driers commonly in use are heated in various ways including electrically. They are relatively expensive and cumbersome to use and to store. They also afford discomfort to persons treated, on account of the noise that they produce, and for other reasons they are unsatisfactory, particularly for home use on account of their bulkiness, expense, and among other things, the difficulty of handling and storing.

It is an object of the present invention to provide a simple, inexpensive and efficient hair drier which can be easily and cheaply produced with minimum labor, of readily available stock, which can be used with minimum effort either in a beauty parlor or in the home, which is constructed to employ heat from various sources including from a stove, a gas burner, an electric heating element or other desired source, and a drier which can be kept in a collapsed compact condition when not in use, but can be readily extended or unfolded for use with minimum effort and expenditure of time.

Further objects and advantages of the invention will be apparent from the following specification taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, wherein:

Fig. 1 is a side elevation illustrating one embodiment of the invention in a position of use;

Fig. 2, an enlarged perspective with parts broken away for purposes of illustration;

Fig. 3, a reduced plan view with the parts extended;

Fig. 4, a plan view of the parts in collapsed or folded position; and

Fig. 5, a perspective of a modified form with the parts in extended position.

Briefly stated, the invention comprises a collapsible casing or housing of light weight construction with the parts joined in a manner to permit folding or collapsing of the same. The casing is adapted to be supported by a suitable stand in position to receive the head of a person sitting on a chair or other object and whose hair is to be dried. In the other end of the casing heat is adapted to be received from a stove, electric heating element or other source convenient or easily accessible. In order to properly direct the flow of heated air within the casing,

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one or more deflectors is provided and the end portions of the casing are foldable or adjustable to vary the amount of heat flowing therethrough and the insertion and removal of the head of the individual being treated.

With continued reference to the drawings, the drier of the present invention includes a pair of sides 10, each with hinge portions 11 on one edge and with slots 12 on the opposite edge. The upper forward end portions of the sides are preferably provided with straight edge surfaces 13, 14, and 15 and the rear end portion of each side is provided with an inclined straight extremity or edge 16.

Two of such sides 10 are maintained in spaced relation by a top 17 which tapers in width slightly from its front towards its rear. This top has hinge portions 18 at each side which cooperate with and are connected to the hinge portions 11. Hinge pins 19 extend through the hinge portions of the top and sides and maintain them in assembled relation.

A bottom for the casing is formed of plates 20 and 21, having hinge portions 22 and 23 connected by a hinge pin 24. This two part or divided bottom construction permits the plates to be disposed either in a single plane, in two planes, or in any intermediate position. The plates which constitute the bottom are provided with hinge portions 25 which extend through the slots 12 in one of the sides 10 and with tongues or projections 26 for location in the slots 12 in the other side 10 of the casing.

The rear end of the bottom is located in substantially the same position as the rear end of the top or slightly forwardly thereof when the parts are in operative position. The bottom is of a different configuration on account of each plate having a convex recess 27 and 28 to accommodate the neck of the person whose hair is to be dried.

Across the upper forward portion of the casing are disposed transverse head plates or flaps 29, 30, and 31, having end flanges 32, 33, and 34 adapted to overlie the sides 10 when the parts are in operative position. The transverse plate or flap 29 and the front end of the top 17 are provided with complementary hinge portions 35 and 36 held together by means of a pivot pin 37. The plates 30 and 29 are connected by means of complementary hinge portions 38 and 39, respectively, and a pin 40. The plates 31 and 30 are connected by complementary hinge portions 41 and 42, respectively, and a connecting pin 43. The plate 31 which preferably has a straight forward edge is adapted to turn on its pivot pin as

are the plates 30 and 29 in order to permit easy access of the head of the person whose hair is to be dried and to engage the edges of the side plates 10.

If desired, transverse plate or flap 31 may be given an asbestos or other heat insulating and fire resistant covering 44, and the interior of the sides 10 each may likewise be given heat insulating and fire-resistant covering 45, so that the plate may be grasped without fear or danger of burning the fingers and the head may be disposed in the drier without burning the face. The heat insulating and fire resistant covering 44 and 45 may be secured in position by means of rivets 46 or other desired fastening elements.

At the rear end of the top a transverse flap or tail plate 47 is pivoted to the top plate by means of hinge portions 48 and 49 connected by a pin 50, the joint thus produced being of frictional type which permits the disposition of the tail plate at any desired angle controlling the amount of heat admitted as well as the deflection and consequent direction of heated air entering the casing.

It will thus be readily understood that a drier casing is provided having two sides, a top, and a bottom with one end adapted to receive heated air to be discharged through the other slightly larger end. Also on account of the pivot plates at the inlet and outlet ends of the casing, the volume of air admitted to the casing as well as its direction and velocity therethrough may be modified. The flexibility of the drier is enhanced by the adjustable flaps at the entrance and exit ends of the casing by means of which the amount of heated air directed upon the hair being dried may be varied.

With the structure described a controlled amount of heated air may be admitted into the rear of the casing and discharged through a controlled passage onto the hair to be dried. Additional deflection or direction of heated air may be accomplished by means of a deflector plate 51 connected by a hinge 52 to the top 17. This deflector plate is preferably provided with a concave recess 53 at its bottom to cause heated air passing beneath this lower extremity to concentratedly direct the heated air about the neck of the individual whose hair is being dried so that such heat may pass upwardly through the hair around the head.

The casing may be supported in any desired manner, as for example by means of a sleeve 54 preferably open at one end only for the reception of a twisted arm 55 at the upper end of an upright portion 56 of a bracket 57 provided with a socket 58 for the reception of a post 59 vertically slidable in a yoke 60 mounted upon another post 61 on a base 62. The posts 59 and 61 may be secured in fixed relation by means of a thumb screw 63. Thus the height of the drier may be varied in accordance with requirements.

As shown in Fig. 1 the person whose hair is to be dried may sit in a chair 64 and receive heat from the front burner 65 of a stove 66. The height of the chair or other seat should be such that the casing is disposed at the proper distance from the source of heat and the head of the individual will be located in the proper position within the casing.

It will be readily apparent from the foregoing that a hair drier is provided which is relatively simple and consequently inexpensive to produce, which consists of a casing of relatively thin wall structure with means for directing and deflecting

the heat in the most advantageous manner, for efficiently drying the hair which device can be readily set up for use or collapsed and stored and is equally usable in a beauty parlor or in the home, and further is of light weight and durable construction.

Instead of providing a casing of sheet material, a casing of a framework with a flexible fabric-like covering may be employed. In Fig. 5 is shown a frame consisting of wire bows 67, 68, 69, 70, and 71 the corresponding ends of each of which are provided with loops or eyes connected by means of bolts or pivot 72. Thus it is apparent that the frame formed by the bows may be disposed in collapsed relation or in expanded relation and maintained in such expanded condition by means of spreading elements 73, each of said spreading elements having an eye or loop 74 at one end mounted upon or about the bow 67 and having a yoke 75 at its other end for engaging with the remote bow 71 on the opposite side of the pivot 72. The frame thus described is covered with a hood 76 and this hood or drier casing is preferably of a fire-resistant material such as glass cloth or some other substance of fire-resistant qualities.

Also the hood 76 may be provided with one or more deflecting webs or members 77 and 78 in the bows 70 and 71 between the front and rear extremities of the same and the rear edges 79 and 80 are inwardly curved as shown. The front and rear portions of the hood likewise extend downwardly at an inclination from the top as in the preferred form of the invention.

With the preferred form of the invention the weight is in the center, but with this lighter embodiment it may be supported on any desired type of bracket loop 81, the distribution of weight being a minor factor.

While the device is designed for the drying of hair, it may be used for other purposes, including the application of air, either heated or cooled, the caging of a light, or for other purposes.

It will be obvious to those skilled in the art that various changes may be made in the invention without departing from the spirit and scope thereof and therefore the invention is not limited by that which is shown in the drawing and described in the specification but only as indicated in the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A hair dryer comprising a collapsible casing of relatively thin heat resistant material and including spaced sides with slots therein, a longitudinally divided bottom and a top, both of which being tapered from front to rear, said bottom being pivoted at one edge in the slots in one of said sides and having tongues at its other edge for removable engagement in slots in the other side, said top including a flat portion, a rear end flap pivotly and frictionally connected to said top and supportable at different angular positions, three front end flaps pivotly connected together and to the front of the top, said flaps each being provided with end flanges for overlying the sides of the casing, the outermost front end flap and the flap at the rear end of the top projecting downwardly, and a deflector having a curved lower edge frictionally pivoted in a manner to be held in different angular positions within said casing.

2. A hair dryer comprising a collapsible casing of relatively thin heat resistant material and including spaced sides, a bottom and a top, all

pivoted together, said top having a flat portion, a rear end flap pivotly and frictionally connected to said top and supportable at different angular positions, three front end flaps pivotly connected together and to the front of the top, said last mentioned flaps being provided with end flanges for overlying the sides of the casing, the outermost front flap and the flap at the rear end of the top projecting downwardly, and a deflector having a curved lower edge frictionally pivoted in a manner to be held in different angular positions within said casing.

3. A hair dryer comprising a collapsible casing of relatively thin heat resistant material and including spaced sides, a bottom and a top, all pivoted together, said top including a flat portion, and front and rear end flaps pivotly and frictionally connected to said top and supportable at different angular positions, and the flap at the rear end of the top projecting downwardly, when in their lowermost positions, and a deflector having a curved lower edge frictionally pivoted in a manner to be held in different angular positions within said casing.

4. A hair dryer comprising a collapsible casing of relatively thin heat resistant material and including spaced sides, a bottom, and a top, all pivoted together, members disposable across the front and rear ends of said casing and when in one position projecting downwardly, and a deflector adjustable in said casing.

5. A device of the character described comprising a collapsible hood-like structure of relatively thin material having a top portion inclined generally upwardly from its rear toward its front, and having downwardly directed front and rear end portions, deflector means within said device having a concave lower edge for directing air around the neck of a person treated, means for holding the device in extended position including bottom members having spaced side engaging portions engaging the sides at spaced intervals.

6. A hair drier comprising a readily collapsible casing of relatively thin material having a top portion inclined forwardly and upwardly and gradually increasing in size towards its forward end, a front portion extending downwardly from the forward end of said top portion, air deflecting means having a concave lower edge, and means for adjustably mounting said air deflecting means within said casing.

7. A hair drier comprising a readily collapsible casing, said casing having a flexible fire resistant fabric covering, a plurality of bows supporting said casing, the opposite ends of all of said bows being pivotally connected, certain of said bows being provided with a deflecting member having a concave lower edge, whereby the direction and quantity of air passing through said casing may be adjustably controlled.

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