March 9, 1943. O. F. PLACCO 2,313,668

EAR ORNAMENT

Filed Jan. 17, 1942

Fig. 1.

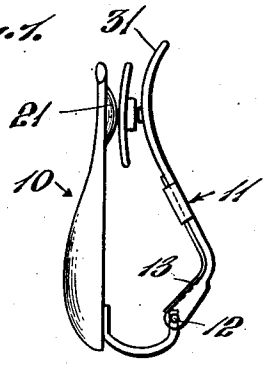


Fig. 2.

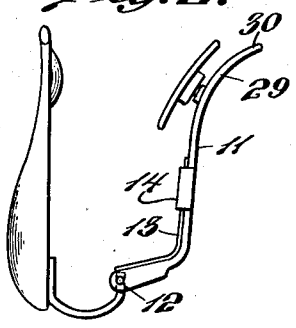


Fig. 3.

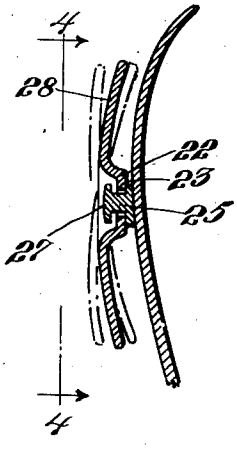


Fig. 4.

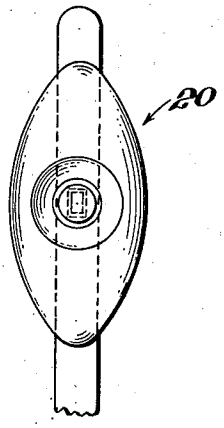


Fig. 5.

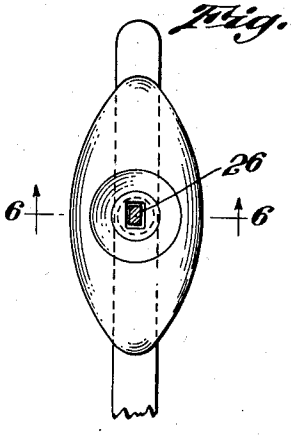


Fig. 6.

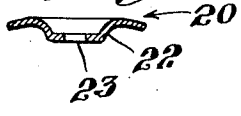


Fig. 7.

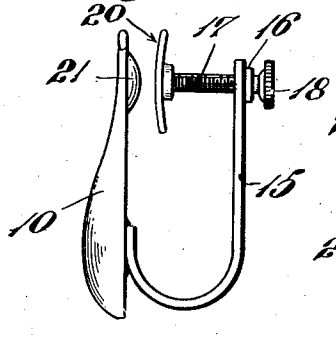


Fig. 8.

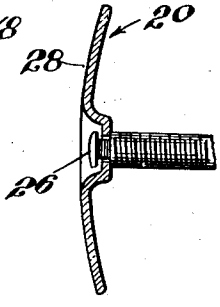
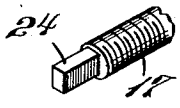


Fig. 9.



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Patented Mar. 9, 1943 2,313,668

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,313,668

EAR ORNAMENT

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Application January 17, 1942, Serial No. 427,142

2 Claims. (Cl. 63—14)

This invention relates to an ear ornament of the type which is removably placed upon the ear for decorative purposes.

Ear ornaments are usually clamped on the ear by a pair of jaws which are relatively movable so as to apply sufficient pressure upon the ear to prevent the ear ornament from dropping therefrom. It is desirable that sufficient pressure be applied so that the ornament cannot fall from the ear and yet desirable that pressure applied will not be so great as to cause discomfort to the wearer. Various ear pads on the jaws have been provided and it is the portion which engages the ear to which this invention is particularly related.

One of the objects of this invention is to provide an ear engaging part which will adjust itself to the surface of the ear which it engages so as to distribute the pressure of the jaw on the ear over the surface, spreading the pressure to a considerable extent.

Another object of the invention is to mount this ear engaging portion so that it may freely rock relative to the member which carries it for accommodating itself to the ear which is engaged.

With these and other objects in view the invention consists of certain novel features of construction as will be more fully described and particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

In the accompanying drawing:

Fig. 1 is a side elevation of an ear ornament equipped with this invention.

Fig. 2 illustrates the same ornament with the jaws moved to open position.

Fig. 3 is a section through the rockable shoe as mounted upon one of the jaws.

Fig. 4 is a view looking at Fig. 3 on substantially line 4—4 of Fig. 3.

Fig. 5 is a view similar to Fig. 4 with the head of the stud removed and the stud for mounting the shoe shown in section.

Fig. 6 is a section on line 6—6 of Fig. 5 of the shoe alone.

Fig. 7 is a side elevation of an ear ornament having a modified clamping portion.

Fig. 8 is a section of the shoe, and showing the threaded member in one of the jaws.

Fig. 9 is a perspective view of the end of this threaded member before the shoe is mounted thereon.

In proceeding with this invention I have provided an elongated shoe and rockably mounted it about both its major and minor axes with the longitudinal axis of the shoe extending longitudinally of the jaw on which it is mounted, and I have so mounted this shoe as to leave the jaw end exposed for engagement by the finger, providing a more accessible finger piece, so that the shoe itself need not be engaged in pulling the jaw to open position.

With reference to the drawing, my ear ornament consists of a fixed jaw 10 and a movable jaw member 11 which are hingedly related as at 12 so that the jaw member 11 may swing about this hinged connection to move toward the jaw 10. Some resilient means such as a spring 13 clamped as at 14 to the jaw member 11 acts to move the jaw 11 about the hinged connection after a certain dead center position is passed so that this jaw member will be resiliently urged toward the jaw 10.

In some instances the fixed jaw 10 as shown in Fig. 7 has a spaced portion 15 providing a threaded bearing 16 for the member 17 having a handle portion 18 so that the end of this member may be moved toward or away from the jaw 10 by rotation of the threaded member 17.

Either the jaw member 11 or the threaded member 17 may have mounted thereon a shoe designated generally 20. The shoe is generally elliptical in shape or of a dimension longer in one direction than in the other and will provide a substantial curved surface for engaging the ear to bind it between this shoe and a rounded surface 21 provided on the jaw 10. This shoe is provided with a deflected cupped portion 22 centrally thereof, the bottom of which is pierced with a square opening 23 for mounting the same.

The end of the threaded member 17 is provided with a square stud 24 while the end 25 carried by the jaw 11 is also provided with a square portion 26 for fitting through the square opening 23 after which this stud is headed over as at 27 with this head located in the recess or cup 22 so as to be positioned back of the major curved engaging surface of the shoe designated generally 28, whereby the head of the stud will not come in contact with the ear. The rectangular stud 24 or 25 is so related to the opening 23 as to provide a substantial looseness of fit whereby the shoe may rock either about its minor lateral axis or about its major longitudinal axis, relative to either the screw member 17 or the jaw member 11 upon which it is mounted.

In locating the stud 25 on the jaw member I mount this on the curved portion 29 of this jaw at a location substantially distant from the tip end 30 thereof so as to leave a portion or handle 31 (see Fig. 1) readily accessible to the finger for

engagement therewith and swinging the jaw about its hinge in moving it from its engaging position on the ear to an open position such as shown in Fig. 2 for removal from the rear.

By providing a loose rocking movement of the shoe which engages this ear, the shoe may conform nicely to the surface which it engages and spread the pressure exerted upon the jaw throughout a substantial area, rather than localizing it at one place on the ear.

I claim:

1. In an ear ornament, a fixed jaw having a rounded surface for engaging one side of the lobe of the ear, a movable jaw provided with a square stud, an elliptical shape shoe having a longitudinally and laterally extending convexed surface for engaging the other side of the lobe of the ear and a cupped recess provided with a square opening extending through the bottom wall thereof of a size to loosely fit said stud and rockably mount the shoe thereon, the end of said stud being upset in said recess and extending short of the outer edge thereof, said shoe being mounted on said movable jaw inwardly of the free end thereof a distance sufficient to provide a handle portion on said movable jaw for movement of said jaws from each other.

2. An ear ornament comprising a fixed jaw provided with a rounded surface for engaging one side of the lobe of the ear, a jaw member hinged thereto and having a square stud extending therefrom, and a shoe having a longitudinally and laterally extending convexed surface for engaging the other side of the lobe of the ear and a recess provided with a square opening therein loosely receiving said stud for rockably mounting said shoe on said jaw member, said stud being on said jaw at a location inward from its free end a distance sufficient to leave the jaw end as a handle portion for movement of the jaws from each other.

OSCAR F. PLACCO.