Jan. 22, 1957 C. D. GRESHAM ET AL 2,778,367

BARRETTE

Filed Jan. 26, 1955

FIG. 1.

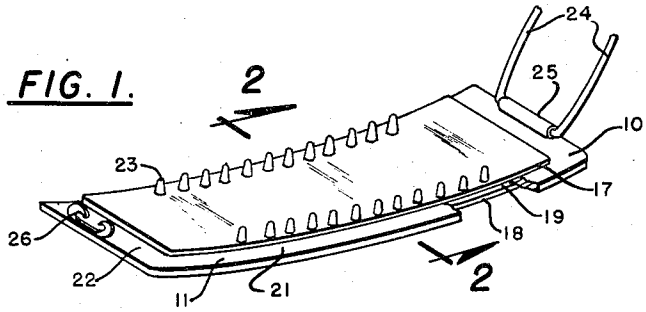


FIG. 2.

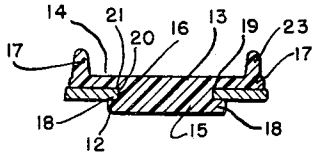
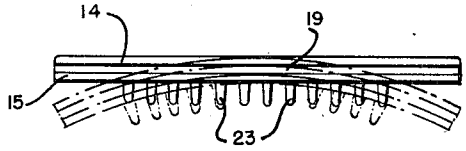


FIG. 3.



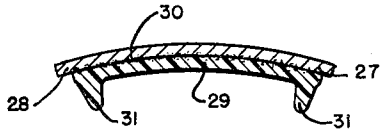


FIG. 4.

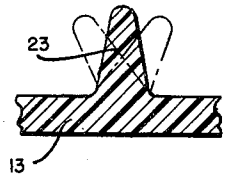


FIG. 5.

INVENTORS

CLAUDE D. GRESHAM

ERNEST HOFFMAN

BY Leushman Davis & Leushman

ATTORNEYS

United States Patent Office 2,778,367 Patented Jan. 22, 1957

2,778,367

BARRETTE

Claude D. Gresham and Ernest Hoffmann, Omaha, Nebr., assignors to Tip-Top Products Company, Omaha, Nebr., a corporation of Nebraska

Application January 26, 1955, Serial No. 484,159

2 Claims. (Cl. 132—48)

The present invention relates to a hair fastener and, more particularly, to a new and improved barrette for arranging and maintaining the hair of the wearer neat and attractive.

An important object is to provide a barrette with soft, pliable, yieldable means having flexible teeth extending outwardly and laterally from one side thereof so as to engage the head of the wearer in order to maintain the barrette in a fixed position without danger of scratching or injuring the scalp.

A further object is to provide a barrette having an elongated opening or recess in which is positioned a similar shaped elongated soft, pliable insert having one or more rows of longitudinally disposed teeth extending outwardly and laterally from one side thereof, so as to provide a non-slip device that will allow the barrette to be placed in a braid of hair and stay indefinitely in its original position.

A still further object consists in forming a soft, pliable insert of any suitable plastic or rubberized material, in which the outer or exposed surface or face of the insert is of less width than the inner surface and in which the outer and inner faces of the insert are connected by an intermediate centrally disposed portion of less width than the inner face and which coacts with the overlapped sides of the outer and inner surfaces to form longitudinally extending grooves or channels on opposite sides of the insert for receiving the adjacent inner sides of the elongated opening in the body in order to be releasably but firmly connected thereto.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will become apparent from the following description, when taken in conjunction with the accompanying claims and drawings.

Referring to the drawings in which are shown for the purpose of illustration, several embodiments of the invention:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a hair fastener constructed in accordance with the present invention;

Figure 2 is a sectional view taken substantially along the line 2—2 of Figure 1;

Figure 3 is a detailed side view of the elongated soft, flexible insert and showing in dotted lines the insert bent longitudinally;

Figure 4 is a detailed sectional view of a modified form of the invention; and

Figure 5 is an enlarged detailed view showing one of the flexible teeth or fingers associated with the soft insert.

Referring to the drawings, **10** indicates a hair fastener which may be of any suitable size and shape, but which is shown made of light metal and of elongated configuration. The body **11** of the barrette may be longitudinally curved and is provided with an elongated opening or recess **12** arranged to receive a similarly shaped soft, pliable, flexible insert **13** made of any suitable plastic or rubberized material, of any desired color or design so as to harmoniously blend with the body **10** to enhance the attractive or ornamental appearance of the same when worn. The insert **13** is formed with an inner face **14** and an outer exposed face **15** of less width than the face **14**. The inner and outer faces are connected by an intermediate reduced portion **16** (Fig. 2) which forms the side flanges **17** on the inner face **14** and the side flanges **18** on the outer face **15**. The side edges of the reduced intermediate portion **16** coact with the overlapping flanges **17** and **18** to form the longitudinal extending grooves or channels **19** in opposite sides of the insert and which are coextensive in length therewith. The grooves **19** are of such width as to constitute pockets or recesses for receiving the adjacent inner flanged portions **20** formed by the sides **21** and ends **22** of the body **11** around the elongated opening **12**, so as to provide means for firmly maintaining the soft, flexible insert in a fixed position when connected to the metal body **10**.

The inner face **14** of the insert **13** has extending outwardly and laterally therefrom, soft, flexible, teeth or fingers **23** preferably arranged in parallel spaced rows extending longitudinally adjacent opposite sides of the insert so as to constitute non-slip means for maintaining the barrette in a braid of hair of the wearer without danger of scratching or injuring the scalp. Further, the insert provides a soft cushion for the wearer without hurting the head when used with a hat, bonnet, or scarf, and insures the barrette when placed in the hair being maintained indefinitely in its original position.

Any suitable clasp may be provided for detachably connecting the barrette to the hair of the wearer and, as shown, a pair of spaced spring arms **24** may be provided, which are pivotally connected to a trunnion sleeve **25** fastened to one end of the body **11**. The opposite end of the body may be provided with a catch or keeper **26** for releasably receiving the spring arms **24** in order to releasably maintain the barrette in proper position on the head of the wearer.

In the modified form of the invention shown in Figure 4, the barrette **27** is shown in the form of a metal smooth curved plate or bar to the inner side **28** of which is suitably secured, a soft, pliable, cushioning member **29** made of any suitable plastic or rubberized material and which is fastened to the adjacent side of the plate **27** by adhesive means **30** or the like. The soft cushioning member **29** has extending outwardly and laterally therefrom, one or more rows of soft flexible teeth **31** preferably formed integrally therewith, and so arranged as to allow the barrette to hold a braid of hair firmly in its original position and without danger of the barrette moving sidewise. Additionally, the soft cushioning member **29** will not scratch or injure the head when placed inwardly against the scalp as would be the case if these teeth were made of hard non-yieldable material.

Figure 5 shows the soft, pliable insert **13** with one of the fingers or teeth **23** extending therefrom and in dotted lines the finger moved laterally to different positions, to illustrate the flexibility of the fingers. Thus, it will be seen that a barrette provided with such a soft cushioning member, removes the danger of scratching or injuring the scalp, should the wearer be accidentally hit on the head, and also insures the barrette being firmly, but releasably, maintained in a proper fixed position.

Manifestly, the hair fastener may assume various ornamental shapes and be formed of either metal or non-metal material. However, in all forms, it will be provided with a soft, flexible cushion member for preventing injury to the scalp or head when attached to a braid of hair or the like. Moreover, other yieldable means may be substituted for the teeth to prevent slipping of the barrette and for holding a braid of hair in a fixed position.

While the barrette has been shown made of metal, it may, of course, be formed of any other suitable rigid

material, such as plastic or the like, with which the soft plastic insert or member coacts to provide cushioning means for comfortably maintaining the hair fastener in position.

It will be understood that the forms of the invention shown and described are merely illustrative of preferred embodiments and that such changes may be made as come within the scope of the following claims.

I claim:

1. A barrette including a body having an elongated opening, a soft pliable elongated insert in said opening and projecting outwardly from opposite sides thereof to provide an outer surface and an inner surface, said outer surface being of less width than the inner surface and connected thereto by an intermediate portion of less width than the outer surface so that the longitudinal sides of the inner and outer surfaces overlap the intermediate portion to provide longitudinally extending grooves on opposite sides of the body and coextensive in length therewith, said inner surface having outwardy and laterally extending flexible teeth, the inner longitudinal sides of the elongated opening extending inwardly into said

grooves so as to maintain the insert in a fixed position, and means for detachably connecting the barrette to the hair of the wearer.

2. A barrette, including a body having an opening therein providing lateral wall portions, a soft pliable insert substantially thicker than said body and having flanges extending outwardly from the perimeter of the insert so as to form a wall portion engaging groove, said insert extending through said opening and beyond the opposite sides of said body with the flanges engaging the wall portions of the body so as to maintain the insert in a fixed position, and means for detachably connecting the barrette to the hair of the wearer, said insert constituting a soft cushion for preventing scratching or injuring of the head when worn.

References Cited in the file of this patent

UNITED STATES PATENTS

649,848	Koenig	May 15, 1900
1,174,531	Thornton	Mar. 7, 1916
2,142,849	Huppert	Jan. 3, 1939