This invention, relating as indicated to an improved flexible hair drying hood, is particularly directed to a shroud-like attachment for an electric hair dryer to fit around the head band of a woman wishing to have her hair dried in a hair salon. Problems have arisen in connection with thick hair, thin hair, hair that burns, wind burn problems when hot air comes down the face, and the like. Although there have been numerous solutions to these problems, none of them have received any real commercial acceptance. This is important because the quality of heat used in these dryers has caused considerable annoyance to many women and they have been reluctant to use them. In addition to this, of course, there is the time factor.

This invention is directed to a flexible hair dryer hood, which could be called a “comfort hood” for fastening around in a head encircling band, preferably 18 inches in circumference, more or less, and enlarging out to a hood or tubular member of two or three times that over a central section and contracting to a further constrictive band adapted to touch the dryer bell or dome, by which means it is sometimes known, generally on the other side of the support member.

This comfort hood, though tubular in shape, would have a series of fastening means, perhaps snap fasteners, along a seam adapted to surround the connection and support connection for the dome or dryer bell. In addition, of course, it is customary to use ear shields and the like to protect the woman’s ears from the circulating air. In general there have been many approaches to directed or controlled air to the hair, together with shields for the ears. Some of these have used porous nets to permit the air laden with moisture to pass out through a net. Others have provided directed shields to prevent the air from coming to the face of a woman sitting under a dryer.

This invention is directed towards a generally tubular hood, though perhaps it would be more correct to call it a truncated cone. When enclosed and snap fastened along an axial seam, it would be perhaps 18 or 20 inches in circumference around the head band, and a larger circumference, perhaps 24 inches, for attachment to the bell. An object of this invention is to provide a new and improved flexible hair drying hood for attachment as a head piece to the head of a woman and to the drying bell or hood and also to provide improved circulation of air around the head and escape of moisture therefrom.

A further object of this invention is to provide a new and improved comfort hood having an elastized connection in a head piece and a further elastized connection around the dome or dryer and an elongated intermediate section that expands and provides improved circulation of air around the head and escape of moisture therefrom.

A further object of this invention is to provide a new and improved tubular flexible hair dryer of impervious material having an elastized head band of reduced diameter and a further elastized dryer connection and an axial seam with fastening means therefrom around the connection to the dryer. The expanded diameter of the intermediate section of the hood would be considerably larger than the end diameters adjacent the head piece and the dryer piece.

To the accomplishment of the foregoing and related ends, said invention then consists of the means herein-after fully described and particularly pointed out in the claim; the following description setting forth in detail but one approved means of carrying out the invention, such disclosed means, however, constituting but one of the various ways in which the principles of the invention may be used.

In the drawings:
FIG. 1 is a side view of a woman showing my new and improved hood in position on a dryer;
FIG. 2 is a rear view of said hood;
FIG. 3 is a view of the impervious material with the elastized bands stretched to show the general trapezoidal nature of the impervious material making up the hood;
FIG. 4 is a rear view of the hood itself before being distended by the air of the dryer; and
FIG. 5 is a cross-sectional view along the line 5—5 of FIG. 4 showing the varying diameters of the center section and the head piece.

In the drawings, FIG. 1 shows a side view of an electrically heated dryer indicated generally at 10 having a stand 11 and a connecting bar thereto 12 with an electrical connection 13. The dryer bell or dome may be of any shape as indicated at 14 having an end portion 15, a side portion perhaps conical in shape 16 and a recessed portion indicated generally at 17 into which the head normally fits.

The invention herein involves a hood member 18 of generally tubular construction and of considerable diameter having a contractile portion or elastized end member generally shown at 19 and a further elastized portion and cushioning adapted for the head band or head encircling band 20. The center portion generally indicated at 21 would be of considerably larger circumference and, of course, diameter than the head band or dryer band portion. This permits a free flow of air outwardly and around to the side so that all of the portions of the head, near the forehead and the back of the neck may be dried and air may circulate freely within the hood member. This also permits easy movability of the head so that the head may be turned as much as one-quarter turn to either side, and the series of pleat-like units or wrinkles formed by the contracting of the head band 20 as shown at 21 will permit twisting and movement of the head. Slits of buttonhole design may be placed at positions on the hood to make easy access to switches or heat controls.

Normally movement of the head in a dryer is very restricted and freedom to talk and to read is greatly reduced. Also there is considerable danger of burning and parching of the skin of a person in a normal dryer and though various efforts have been made in the past to control the air by using curtains and various types of hoods as disclosed in the patents to Wright, Patent No. 2,295,820, to Stephen, Patent No. 2,290,455, to McElroy, Patent No. 1,796,384, to Rufio, Reissue Patent No. 17,447, to Counie, Patent No. 1,543,423, to Brown, Patent No. 1,786,533, to Pfahl, Patent No. 1,907,215, to Broida et al., Patent No. 1,955,941, and to Huber et al., Patent No. 2,576,226, all of these have certain limitations to be more fully explained.

This invention consists of a hood which is particularly characterized by freedom of action, by adaptability to a great number of dryer bells or hoods, by controlled cir-
calculation of the air with a limited amount of elimination of air in order to prevent build-up of moisture therein, and by a free flow of air around the back of the neck so that there is an even drying of the hair.

The unit is further characterized by having an axial seam indicated generally at 24 with a series of snap fasteners, tie strings and/or other means, such as a zipper at 25. This may be connected from either end of the dryer band 19 around to the head band 20. The various snap fasteners are adapted to fit around the connection unit 12 and permit air to move freely inwardly and outwardly therethrough in varying amounts. It may be that certain of the dryers used in the past have connections in and around the hood for controlling the dryer switches and the like and special openings may be provided to contact or move these switches or controls as desired.

The unit in connection with FIG. 3 would have a dryer band 19, a head band 20, the axial seam cut in a trapezoidal as seen at 24, fastener means 25, which may be snap fasteners, hooks, etc., and elasticized means 27 in each of the bands. The hood is adapted to be snap fastened around the dryer and similarly connected around the connection 12 to the dryer, leaving a certain amount of openings for the free passage of air therethrough from the dryer but controlling the amount of air that leaves the dryer, and then the snap fasteners are continued until they tightly conform with the head.

With this comfort hood confining the air within the dryer, considerable freedom of movement is provided, as well as less burning and parching of the skin, less opportunity for discomfort and at the same time greatly increased speed of drying so that the woman using the device is not inconvenienced for as long a time and can go outside even on a cold day without fear of catching cold.

The material of which this hood is made would be impervious material resistant to the normal drying heat and of a good grade of plastic or plasticized fabrics, etc.

Although the present invention has been described in connection with a few preferred embodiments thereof, variations and modifications may be resorted to by those skilled in the art without departing from the principles of the invention. All of these variations and modifications are considered to be within the true spirit and scope of the present invention as disclosed in the foregoing description and defined by the appended claim.

I claim:

In combination, an electric air circulating hair dryer having an outwardly flaring dome of a dimension adapted to surround a person's head and a connection thereto, a sheet defining a pleated tubular hood structure of imperforate heat resistant fabric radially gripping the exterior of said dome and having a contractile band for the dome above the connection thereto, an open axial seam on the tubular hood structure with fastening means therefor around the connection defining a variable sized air passageway for controlling the amount of air that leaves the hood, the tubular center section of the hood being substantially larger in diameter than the contractile band for the dome, and a generally circular elasticized band on the end of said hood opposite said dome of substantially smaller diameter than the center section of the hood, whereby said variable sized air passageway controls the amount of moisture laden air leaving the hood and thereby causes improved heating and circulation of air within the space enclosed by the tubular center section and the end of said hood opposite said dome which is cut out of the direct path of air circulation from the dome so that when the elasticized band on the end of the hood opposite said dome is placed over wet hair on the head of a person, it effectively dries all of the hair thereon including the hair adjacent the lower cranial lobes.

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