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(54) **An elastic device for keeping the hair.**

(57) The device according to the present invention consists of two overlaid steel blades (1), hinged at the two corresponding ends (2) so that when they get subject to two counterposed pressures acting along the longitudinal axis, they get curved so as to form an eyelet in which the hair lock that is to be bound, the blades being covered with fabric or other material (R) for protecting the hair from the direct contact with said blades, beyond creating a sufficient friction.

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The present invention consists in an elastic clasp for hair. As it is well known, for quickly binding hair locks or for keeping the same in buns, chignons and the so called pony-tail, beyond bands and twists, also elastic clasps are used of various kind and shape.

The most used are elastic twists covered or not with fabric of various fashions, or elastic plastic tweezers or other appropriate material.

These clasps have the following inconveniences:

- a) difficulty in application and fitting to the various kind or quantity of hair;
- b) little efficiency also from the aesthetic point of view;
- c) reduction of elasticity with the use.

The device according to the present invention for keeping hair described hereinbelow has the features of a particular efficiency, quickness, easy application and use as clasp for hair due to the combination of a steel spring of particular shape, provided with a covering of an appropriate fabric or material that prevents the direct contact thereof with the hair as well as a sufficient friction for keeping it in place.

The advantages of the clasp according to the present invention are the following:

- 1) the possibility of binding few as well as many hair, as in a pony-tail;
- 2) quickness in application as well as in taking away, without causing tears;
- 3) the possibility of binding firmly the hair;
- 4) easiness in changing the look of the hair clasp changing the covering of the spring in the shape as well as in the combination of lines and colours, without therefore modifying the efficiency and the easiness of application.

The present invention will be described more in detail hereinbelow according to drawings and photographs, in which some embodiments are shown.

Figure 1, shows the flexion spring used for realizing the hair clasp, in resting position;

figure 2, shows the same spring bent in such a way as to form an eyelet;

figure 3, shows one possible covering of the spring;

photograph 1, shows the hair clasp and the used spring;

photograph 2, shows an embodiment of the device according to the present invention.

The hair clasp according to the present invention consists of a flexion spring with two steel blades 1 of equal dimension, which in resting position are overlaid so as to be in reciprocal contact, and which at the ends thereof are united by two hinges 2 so that, when subject to a sufficient axial pressure applied to the hinged ends, they get bent

and form an eyelet, rotating around the hinges.

For obtaining the flexion of the two blades in opposite sense, the transversal section x-x of the same is curved in such a way to turn the convex sides outwardly; during the flexion the two blades rotate with both ends around the hinges 2.

For finishing up the hair clasp, the springs may be covered with an appropriate fabric or other material R as shown in figure 3 or in photographs 1 and 2; the covering has also a functional purpose, as it increases the friction between hair and hair clasp, thus providing to keep the same firmly in place.

The dimensions of the springs are not determining for the realization of the hair clasp, even if it may be suggested not to use blades longer than 10 cm so as not to reduce too much the pressure on the hair, and not shorter than 5 cm for not making the insertion of the hair into the eyelet obtained by the same spring too difficult.

Claims

1. An elastic clasp for hair, particularly appropriate for binding hair for forming chignons, pony-tails and similar characterized in two steel blades of equal dimensions, overlaid and hinged at the two corresponding ends when they are subject to two counterposed pressures acting along the longitudinal axis, they get curved so as to form an eyelet into which the hair lock to be bound will be inserted, said blades being covered with fabric or other appropriate material for protecting the hair from the direct contact with said blades, beyond creating a sufficient friction.
2. A hair clasp according to claim 1, characterized in that the blades get outwardly bent in opposite directions because the transversal sections is for that purpose provided with opposite convexities and outwardly turned.
3. A hair clasp according to the precedent claims, characterized in that the steel blades may be covered with a material for the protection of the hair that, at the same time, is also an ornament, by means of galvanic baths, gildings and silverings.
4. A hair clasp according to the precedent claims, characterized by the combination of a spring and a covering (R) of fabric, rubber or other appropriate material.
5. A hair clasp according to the precedent claims, characterized in an elastic means that forms an eyelet when it is subject to an axial pressure,

said means consisting of two overlaid blades (1) connected at the opposite ends thereof by means of two hinges (2), the transversal section of the blades being convex, and combined with a covering of fabric or other appropriate material (R) for obtaining a special ornament beyond having a protection and functional purpose for the blades and for the hair.

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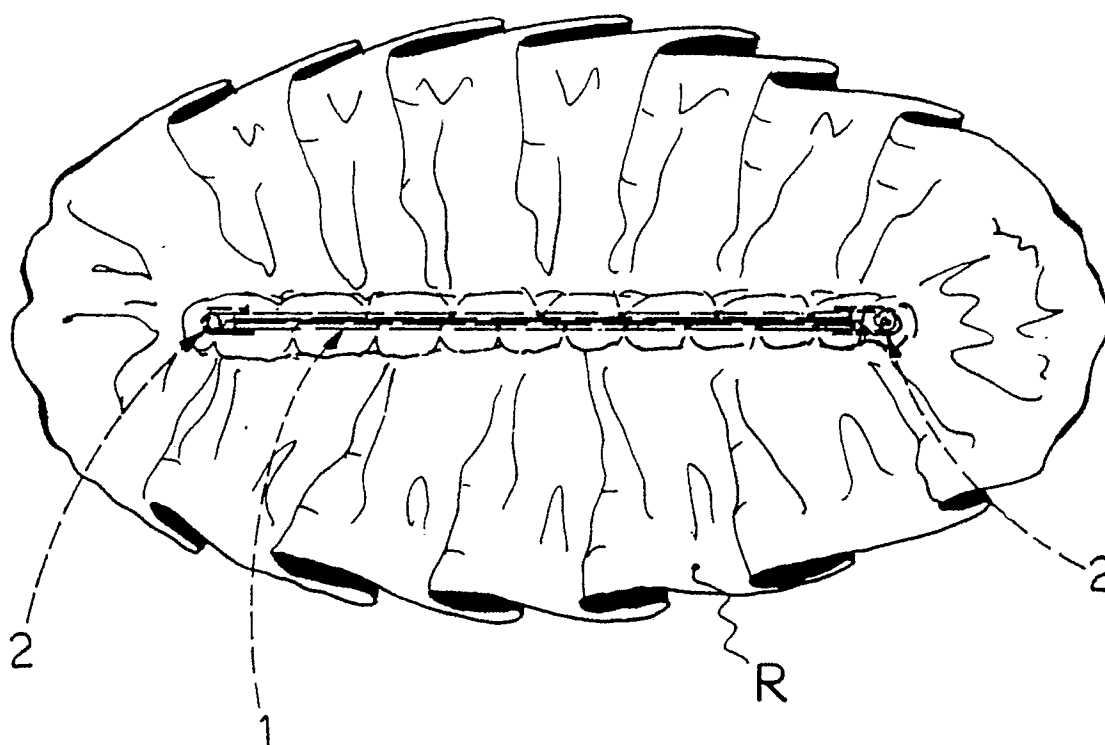
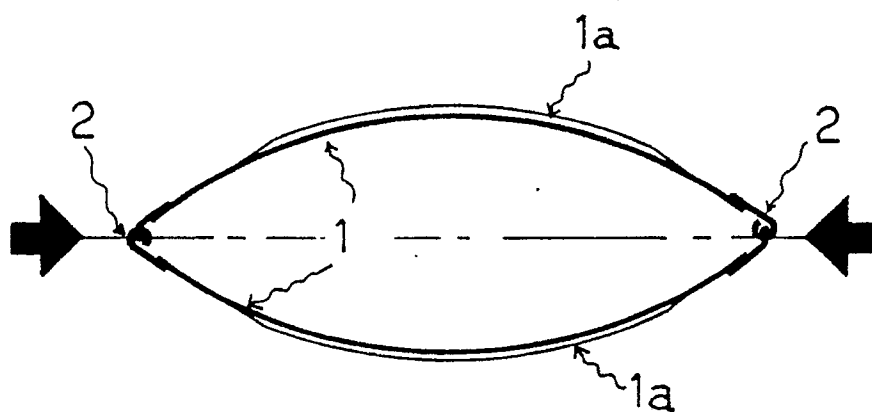
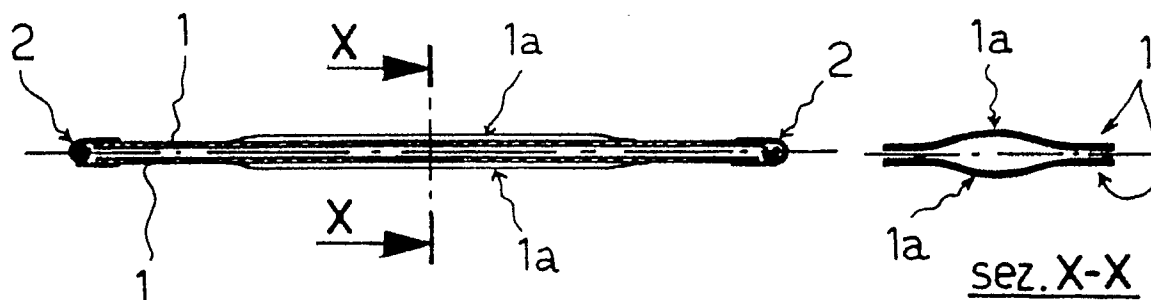
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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

EP 90 83 0132

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl.5)
A	US-A-3 566 890 (MC CULLOUGH) - - -		A 45 D 8/34
A	US-A-1 811 842 (BOSSART) - - - - -		
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.5)
			A 45 D
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search The Hague		Date of completion of search 27 November 90	Examiner RIEDEL R.E.
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