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(54) DEVICE FOR BRUSHING, SHAPING OR FASHIONING HAIR OR
 FILAMENTS

(71) I, GIUSEPPE SAROCCHI, an Italian citizen, of Via Degli Orti 22, Albenga (Savona), Italy, do hereby declare the invention, for which I pray that a patent may be granted to me, and the method by which it is to be performed, to be particularly described in and by the following statement:—

This invention relates to an improved device for brushing, shaping or fashioning hair or filaments.

It is known that after washing natural or artificial hair, or after washing certain kinds of fabrics or fibres, it is necessary to perform the drying by means of a stream of hot air, drying the hair lock by lock and the filaments of the fabric or fibre by a hair-dryer. The hair-dryer usually comprises a distributing nozzle connected to a conduit through which is fed hot air generated in situ or coming from a suitably arranged source of heat.

At the same time the locks of hair or the filaments being dried are to be systematically brushed and raised for deep drying to their roots, and to obtain the most suitable style which will keep its shape after drying. It is therefore necessary to grip the dryer in one hand and the brush in the other.

When the brushing is to be accompanied by simultaneous lifting of the locks of hair, then a second operator is required to grip the dryer while a first operator systematically lifts the locks of hair in one hand and grips the brush in the other hand to shape the locks.

In order to avoid the necessity for two operators, it is known to use a hollow brush provided with holes and/or slots for the passage of hot air which for example may be fed to the interior of the brush through a conduit connected to the brush handle. However, such an arrangement suffers from the disadvantage that the locks to be brushed are pushed away from the brush radially, and thus away from the bristles of the brush, thus reducing the efficiency of the brushing.

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The present invention provides a device for brushing, shaping or fashioning hair or filaments, comprising a first handle which supports the nozzle of an air heater, a guide projecting from the first handle, and a brush provided with a second handle and removably mounted on the said guide, the brush having a cavity adapted to receive the guide, the brush being slidable along and rotatable about the guide when mounted on the latter.

The invention will be further described, by way of example only, with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which:—

Figure 1 is a side view, partly in section, of a device according to the invention;

Figure 2 and Figure 3 are diagrammatic views of two components of the device shown in Figure 1;

Figure 4 is a side view, partly in section of a modified form of the device shown in Figure 1.

The device shown in Figures 1 to 3 comprises a handle 1 intended to be gripped by the left hand of an operator, which supports a displaceable nozzle 2 of a heater and is also provided with a guide 3 which extends along a continuation of the longitudinal axis of the handle 1. The guide 3 may support a brush 4 or, alternatively, when the brush is disconnected from the guide the latter may be used systematically to lift the locks of hair while the brush is gripped by the right hand to carry out independent movements. The device without the brush and the brush itself are shown separately in Figures 2 and 3 respectively. The brush is provided with a longitudinal cavity 6 adapted to receive the guide 3, and a handle 5.

The handle 1 terminates in an arm 10 which is bent through 90° and on which is slidable a cylinder 11 which supports the nozzle 2 by means of a bracket 12. The bracket 12 is fixed to a conduit 13 through which hot air is fed to the nozzle 2. Upstream of the bracket 12 a flexible conduit may be provided so as not to disturb the movements of the operator's left hand.

The relative position of the arm 10 and the cylinder 11 may be adjusted by displacing the cylinder against the action of a compression spring 14 by means of a pin 15 which the operator may grip with one of the fingers of the hand gripping the handle 1 when he considers it necessary to decrease the distance between the nozzle 2 and the bristles of the brush 4. An abutting means may be arranged to prevent the cylinder 11 from rotating about the arm 10. Alternatively, the cylinder may be rotatable about the arm, and a resilient means may be provided to return the cylinder to its initial position when the operator releases the pin 15.

In Figures 1 and 4 the cylinder 11 is displaced as far as possible along the arm 10 against the action of the spring 14, while the undisplaced position of the cylinder is indicated by broken line in Figure 1.

The bracket 12 may advantageously comprise two sections able to rotate relative to each other. It is thus possible not only to vary the distance between the nozzle 2 and the guide 3 (or brush 4 when the latter is mounted on the guide), but also to vary the inclination angle of the nozzle with respect to a lock of hair wound onto the brush or about the guide 3. Alternatively, the nozzle 2 may be articulated to the handle 1.

In the device shown in Figure 4 the conduit 13 for feeding hot air to the nozzle extends continuously within the bracket 12, the cylinder 11, the arm 10 and the handle 1. The preferably flexible conduit will thus terminate at the rear end of handle 1.

Generally the arrangement shown in Figures 1 and 4 where the brush is mounted on the guide 3 is suitable for locks of filaments of short length while for longer locks or filaments it is preferred to use the brush separately as shown in Figures 2 and 3.

The guide 3 may be rotatable about an eccentric axis so as to be in position to displace the brush 4 mounted thereon with respect to the hot air stream issuing from the nozzle 2.

WHAT I CLAIM IS:—

1. A device for brushing, shaping or fashioning hair or filaments, comprising a first handle which supports the nozzle of an air heater, a guide projecting from the first handle, and a brush provided with a second handle and removably mounted on the said guide, the brush having a cavity adapted to receive the guide, the brush being slidable along and rotatable about the guide when mounted on the latter.

2. A device as claimed in claim 1 wherein the guide extends along a continuation of the longitudinal axis of the first handle.

3. A device as claimed in claim 1 or 2 wherein the first handle terminates in an arm, bent through substantially 90° with respect to the axis of the first handle, on which arm is axially slidably mounted a cylinder which supports a conduit for feeding hot air to the nozzle.

4. A device as claimed in claim 3 wherein the cylinder is provided with a projecting pin on which may act one of an operator's fingers of the hand gripping the first handle so as to adjust the position of the nozzle with respect to the guide.

5. A device as claimed in claim 4 wherein a resilient means is arranged to urge the cylinder and thus the nozzle away from the guide when the operator releases the said projecting pin.

6. A device as claimed in any of claims 3 to 5 wherein an abutting means is arranged to prevent the cylinder from rotating about the arm.

7. A device as claimed in any of claims 3 to 5 wherein the cylinder is rotatable about the arm, and wherein a resilient means is provided to return the cylinder to its initial position when the operator releases the said projecting pin.

8. A device as claimed in any of claims 3 to 7 wherein the end of the conduit adjacent the nozzle is supported by the cylinder by means of a bracket.

9. A device as claimed in claim 8 wherein the bracket comprises two mutually connected sections able to rotate relative to each other in order to vary the inclination angle of the nozzle with respect to the guide.

10. A device as claimed in claim 8 or 9 wherein the conduit extends continuously within the bracket, the cylinder, the arm, and the first handle.

11. A device as claimed in any of claims 1 to 8 wherein the nozzle of the air heater is articulated to the first handle.

12. A device as claimed in any of claims 1 to 11 wherein the guide is rotatable about an eccentric axis.

13. A device according to claim 1 substantially as herein described with reference to, and as shown in, the accompanying drawings.

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