

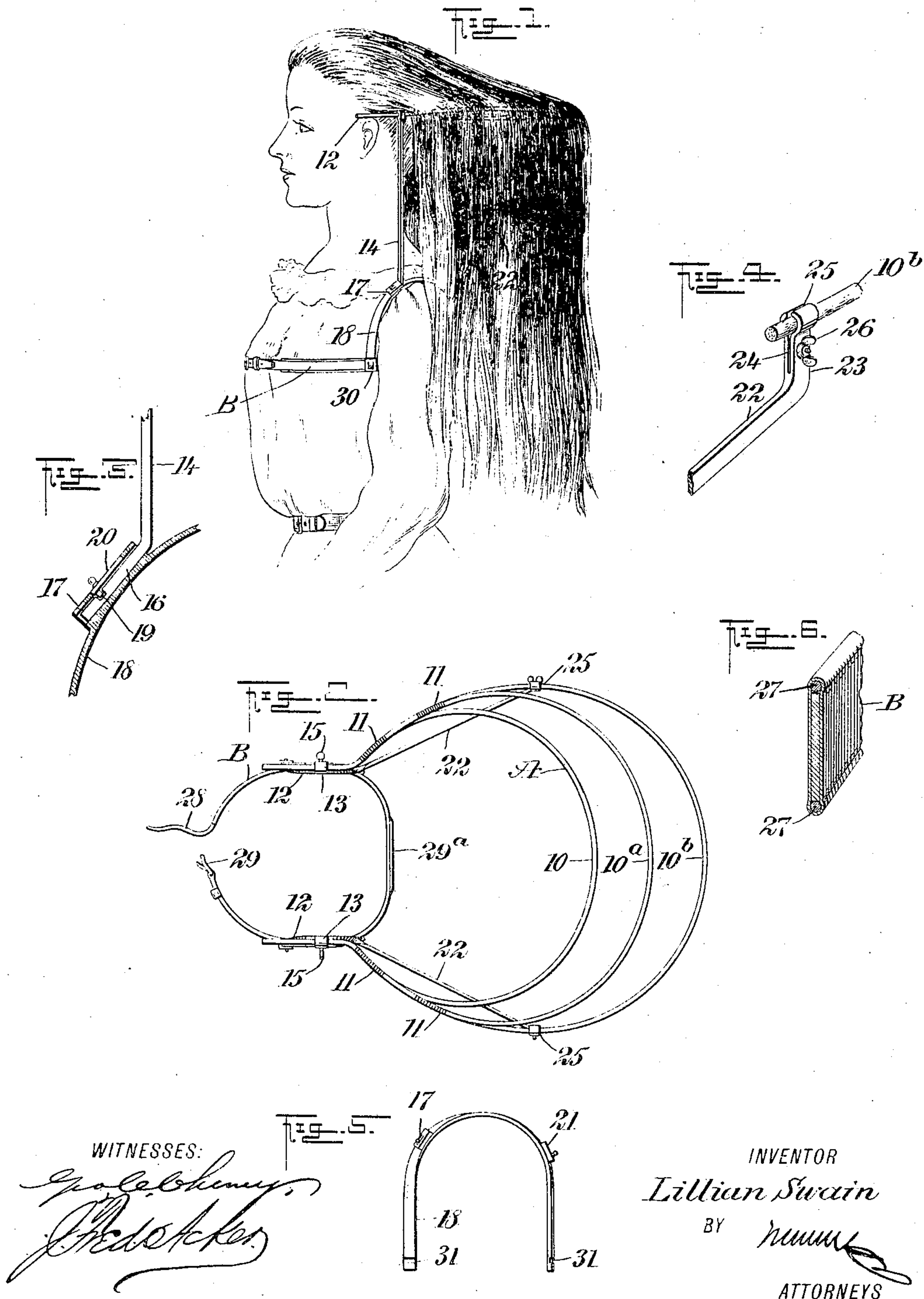
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PATENTED AUG. 30, 1904.

L. SWAIN.  
DEVICE FOR DRYING THE HAIR.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 21, 1904.

NO MODEL.





# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LILLIAN SWAIN, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

## DEVICE FOR DRYING THE HAIR.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 768,967, dated August 30, 1904.

Application filed January 21, 1904. Serial No. 190,006. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, LILLIAN SWAIN, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the city of New York, borough of Manhattan, in the county and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Device for Drying the Hair, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The invention relates to a device for drying human hair, which device is adapted to be worn during the drying process.

The purpose of the invention is to provide a light and collapsible device having means for attachment to the shoulders and chest of a person, the body portion of the device being in the shape of one or more horizontal bows of a non-corrosive material and arranged when the device is upon the person to support the hair, spread the same, and hold it out of engagement with the person from the point of juncture of the neck with the head, whereby to completely free the neck at such time and permit the free passage of air around the neck and through the hair, thus preventing heating of the neck as the hair is being dried and also preventing any drippings from the hair coming in engagement with the garments of the wearer, also providing for the circulation of air through the hair, tending to rapidly and uniformly dry the same.

Another purpose of the invention is to provide an article of the character mentioned which may be rendered very compact for transportation and which may be expeditiously and conveniently applied and worn with comparative comfort and which when worn will not interfere with the movements of the wearer.

The invention consists in the novel construction and combination of the several parts, as will be hereinafter fully set forth, and pointed out in the claims.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the device shown applied to a person and in position for use. Fig. 2 is a plan view of the device. Fig. 3 is a section through a portion of a shoulder member and a side elevation of a portion of a

standard for the body of the device, illustrating how the two parts are detachably connected. Fig. 4 is a detail perspective view illustrating how the body of the device is attached to rear braces. Fig. 5 is a perspective view of one of the shoulder members of the device, and Fig. 6 is an enlarged sectional perspective view of the main portion of the brace or body-strap.

A represents the body of the device, which is made up of one or more bows placed one in advance of the other when more than one is employed. In fact, the said bows, which are designated in the drawings as 10, 10<sup>a</sup>, and 10<sup>b</sup>, are horizontally and eccentrically disposed and are secured one to the other at or near their free ends by suitable lashings 11 or other approved fastening devices, and one of the said bow members of the body is made sufficiently long to extend out at each side of the head at the temples of the wearer when the device is in use. These terminals 12 of the longer bow are shown straight and in parallelism, or they may be curved, if desired.

The terminal portions 12 of the body A are made to pass loosely through suitably-apertured heads 13, located at the upper ends of standards 14, and the body A is adjusted forward or backward in the heads of the said standards and is secured in adjusted position by set-screws 15 or like devices, which pass through the heads 13 of the standards to an engagement with the said terminals 12, as is shown in Fig. 2. The lower ends of the standards 14 are provided with feet 16 at more or less of an angle to the body of the standards, and these feet 16 of the standards 14 are removably located in sockets 17, formed at the upper forward portion of the shoulder members 18. The standards 14 are removably attached to the said shoulder members 18 in any suitable or approved manner. For example, the sockets 17 are provided with spring-tongues 20 at their upper portions and the feet 16 of the standards with recesses 19, adapted to receive pins from the said spring-tongues.

The standards 14 and the shoulder members 18 are made, preferably, of aluminium or of any equivalent light material; but the body



A of the device is constructed of bamboo, cane, reed, wood, or other light non-corrosive material.

The shoulder members 18 are provided with sockets 21 at their upper rear portions, constructed similarly to the sockets 17 above described, and these rear sockets 21 receive the lower ends of braces 22, which are provided with upper terminals 23 at an angle to the body. These terminals have slots 24 made therein, and at the upper ends of the terminals jaws 25 are formed, adapted to receive the side portions of the outermost bow 10<sup>b</sup> of the body or the side portions of a single bow when a single bow is required. The jaws 25 are clamped around the bow member which they receive by means of suitable bolts and thumb-nuts 26 or like medium, as is shown in Fig. 4.

A body-belt B is employed in connection with the shoulder members 18. This body-belt extends around the back and over the chest and for the major portion of its length consists of a suitable fabric, leather, or other pliable material reinforced at the top and at the bottom by wires 27 of suitable gage or a like material, so as to hold the said body-belt in desired position to fit snugly to the body, the said body-belt being passed beneath the arms of the wearer, and at the front the body-belt terminates in pliable members—as, for example, a billet 28 and a section carrying a buckle 29 to receive the said billet. The shoulder members 18 are detachably secured to the body-belt B, the said body-belt having sockets 30 formed thereon, corresponding in construction to the sockets 17 on the shoulder members 18, and the said shoulder members at their free ends are provided with recesses or notches 31, so that when the said free ends are introduced into the sockets 30 on the body-belt the pins carried by the spring-tongues of the sockets will enter the said recesses or notches.

Thus it will be observed that the parts may be readily assembled or separated and that when the device is not in use it may be packed in a small space. It is furthermore evident that all the parts may be expeditiously and conveniently put together.

In use the shoulder members 18 rest upon the shoulders of the wearer, as is shown in Fig. 1, the body strap or belt passes around the body of the wearer and is secured at the front, and the standards 14 hold the body A of the device horizontally or with more or less of a slight upward inclination, the forward terminals 12 of the body being at each side of the head above the tops of the ears. Should the hair to be dried be thin, the body of the device may be made up of a single bow member or two bow members; but if the hair is very heavy it is desirable that the body should be provided with more than two bow members, and while these bow members are, as stated,

preferably in horizontal alinement, one may be slightly below the other, if so desired. When the hair has been washed and the device is worn, the hair is carried over the outer edge of the body of said device and distributed along the said outer edge, leaving the neck entirely free and holding the hair clear from the body of the wearer of the device, so that the dampness of the hair is not communicated to the wearing-apparel, and any surplus of water will drip to the floor behind the wearer and not on the garments worn. Furthermore, the device when placed in position may be worn with comparative comfort, and the wearer is free to move at will while the hair is being dried, which is quickly accomplished, as there is a perfect circulation of air through the hair, which is so spread out over the device as to facilitate such action. As stated, the hair is not brought in engagement with the neck, and if the head is placed adjacent to a heat-distributing medium for the purpose of quickly drying the hair the neck does not become heated nor is discomfort experienced by reason of the damp hair engaging with the neck.

As is shown in Fig. 2, the body-belt B is preferably provided with a plate 29<sup>a</sup>—of aluminium, for example—located at the outer face of its rear central portion, so as to stiffen the belt between the shoulders of the wearer, and thus tend to prevent the wearer from inconvenience by reason of the weight of the hair on the rearwardly-extending portion of the body A.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. A device for drying hair, comprising a bow-body, and a harness including rigid standards to which the bow-body is detachably secured, as set forth.

2. A device for drying the hair, comprising a bow-body constructed of a non-corrosive material, standards to which the body is detachably secured, a harness constructed in detachable sections, and detachable connections between the said standards and the harness, as set forth.

3. A device for drying the hair, consisting of a series of bows constructed of a non-corrosive material, a harness, and supporting-standards detachably connected with the harness and with the terminals of the bow-body, as set forth.

4. In a device for drying the hair, a body consisting of a series of loops in substantially the same horizontal plane, one of the loops being provided with parallel terminals extending beyond the terminals of the other loops, shoulder members, a body-belt connected with the shoulder members, and standards connected with the shoulder members and the terminals of the body of the device, as described.

5. A device for drying the hair, comprising a bow-body having its terminals substantially in parallelism, a body-strap, shoulder members



removably connected with the body-strap, and standards removably connected with the shoulder members and with the terminals of the body of the device, means for holding the various parts in adjusted relation to each other, and braces removably connected with the said shoulder members and the rear portion of the body of the device, for the purpose set forth.

10 6. In a device for drying the hair, shoulder members, standards detachably secured to the shoulder members, and a bow-body detachably secured to the upper ends of the standards, as set forth.

15 7. In a device for drying the hair, shoulder members provided with sockets, standards provided with feet fitting in the sockets, and with apertured heads at their upper ends, and a bow-body, the terminals of which are held in the heads of said standards, as set forth.

20 8. In a device for drying the hair, shoulder members provided with sockets having spring-tongues, standards provided with recessed feet fitting in the said sockets and held therein by the spring-tongues, said standards being provided at their upper ends with apertured heads,

a bow-body, the terminals of which fit in the heads of the standards, and means for securing the terminals in said heads, as set forth.

9. In a device for drying the hair, shoulder members, standards detachably secured to the shoulder members, a bow-body detachably secured to the upper ends of the standards, and braces detachably secured to the shoulder members and to the bow-body, as set forth.

10. In a device for drying the hair, shoulder members provided with sockets at their rear portions, standards detachably secured to the shoulder members, a bow-body detachably secured to the upper ends of the standards, braces having one end fitting in the sockets on the shoulder members and provided at their outer ends with jaws adapted to receive the bow-body, and means for clamping the jaws on the bow-body, as set forth.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

LILLIAN SWAIN.

Witnesses:

J. FRED. ACKER,  
JNO. M. RITTER.