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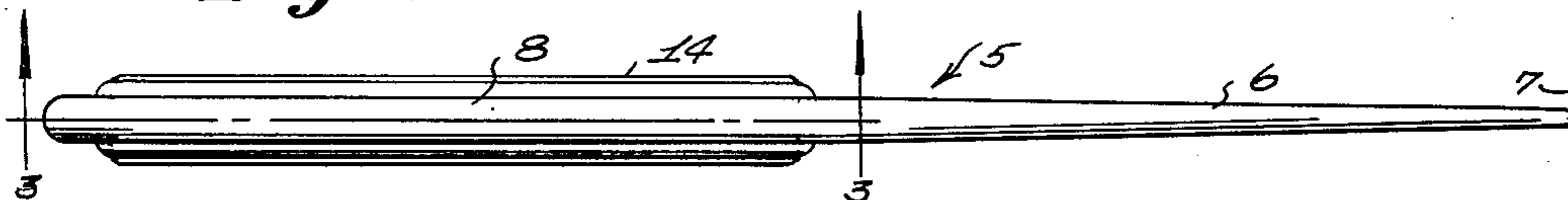
J. L. BLY ET AL

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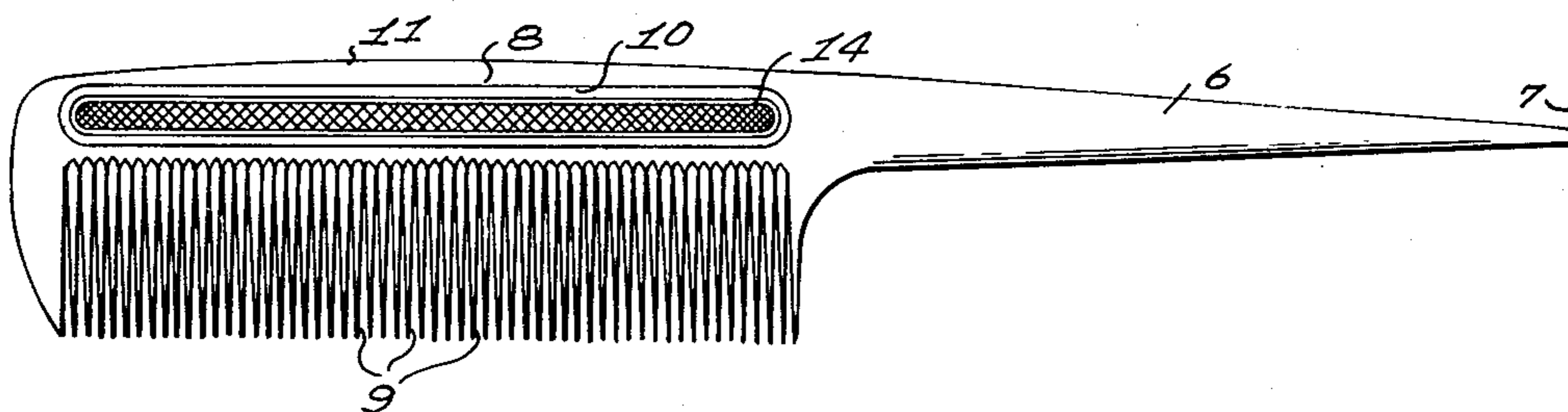
FOUNTAIN CURL COMB

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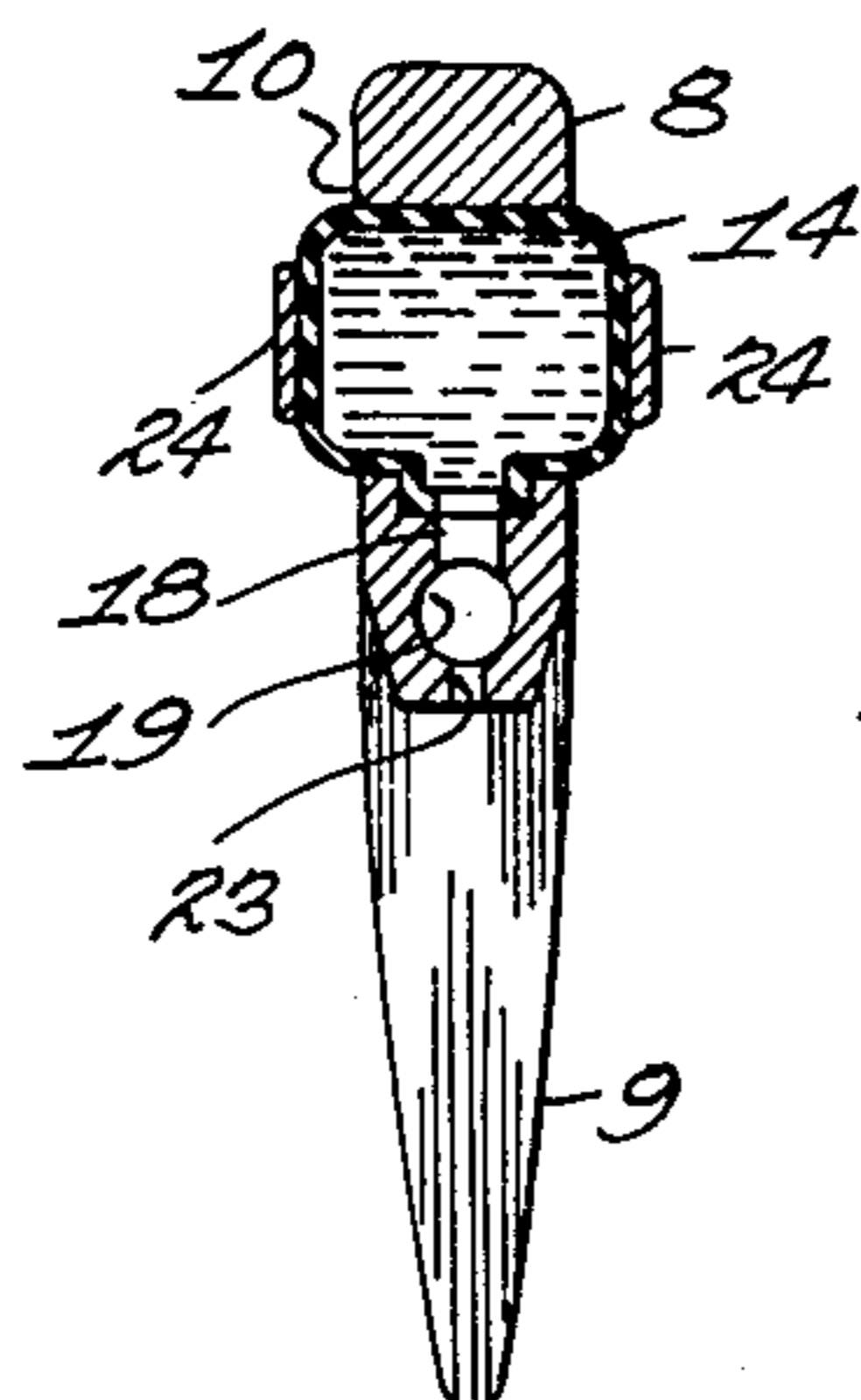
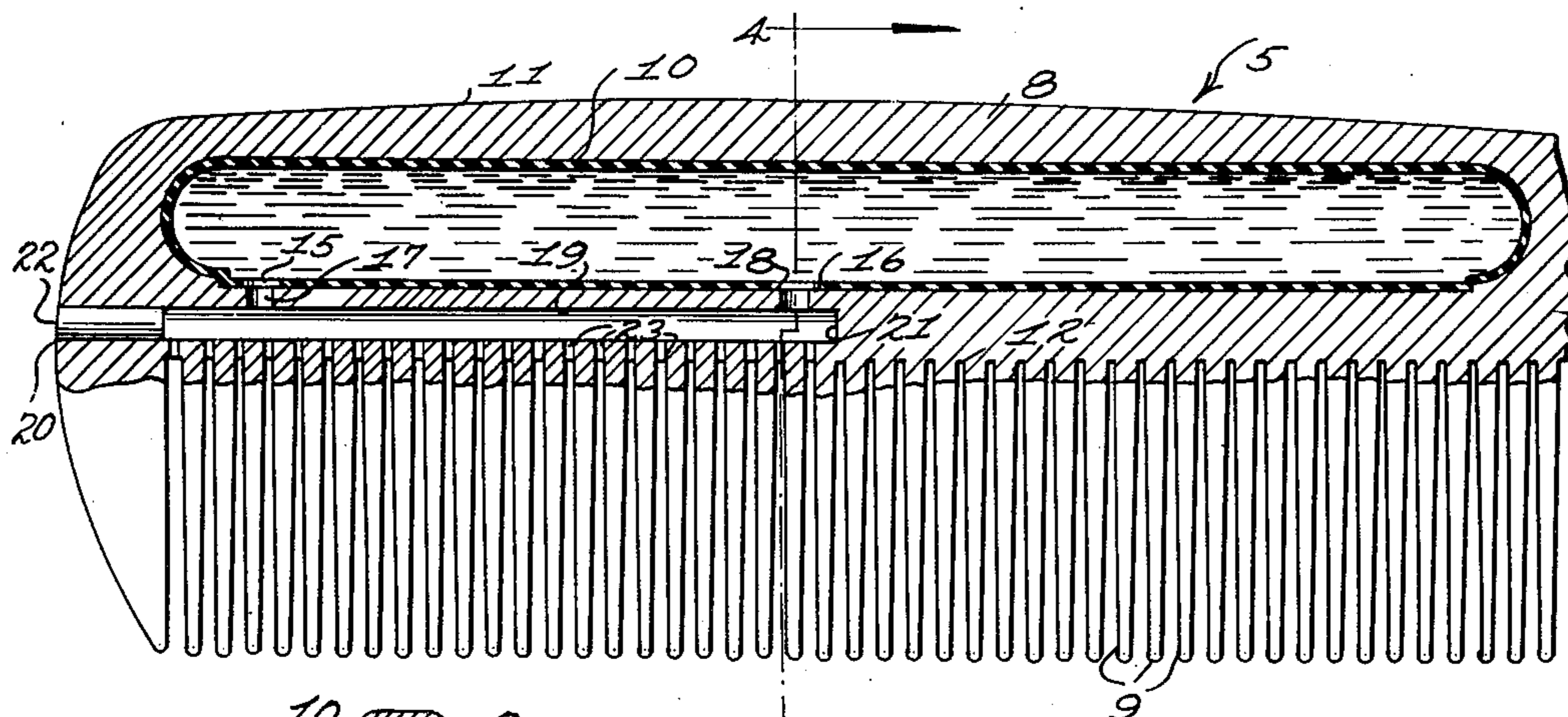
*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*



*Fig. 3.*



*Fig. 4.*

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## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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## FOUNTAIN CURL COMB

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2 Claims. (Cl. 132-13)

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This invention relates to a fountain curl comb especially, but not exclusively, for professional use in wetting curls which dry while the curls of a head of hair are being set after a shampoo, the primary object of the invention being to provide a fountain comb of this character which holds sufficient water for setting a head of hair without resort to dipping the comb in water during the operation, thereby saving substantially the time and energy of the operator and also of the customer.

Another important object of the invention is the provision of a comb of the above-indicated character which involves a compressible bulb which serves not only as the means for taking up water and as the reservoir therefor, but also as means for discharging water to the teeth of the comb when and as desired.

A further important object of the invention is to provide a comb of the above-indicated character which is of simple and serviceable construction and is designed for easy sterilization and can be easily taken apart for cleaning and assembled thereafter.

Other important objects and advantageous features of the invention will be apparent from the following description and the accompanying drawings, wherein, merely for present purposes of illustration, a specific embodiment of the invention is set forth in detail:

Figure 1 is a top plan view;

Figure 2 is a side elevation;

Figure 3 is an enlarged fragmentary vertical longitudinal section taken on the line 3-3 of Figure 1;

Figure 4 is a transverse vertical section taken on the line 4-4 of Figure 3.

Referring in detail to the drawings, wherein like numerals designate like parts throughout the several views, the illustrated device comprises a comb body 5 including a longitudinally-tapered handle portion 6 terminating at its rearward end in a point 7. The comb 5 includes the body 8 of normal vertically-elongated cross-section having depending from its lower side the conventionally-formed, longitudinally-spaced comb teeth 9. In general, the comb 5 is similar to and not larger in bulb, thickness or width than curl-setting combs now in use and which require dipping in water to supply the required moisture to the curl being worked upon.

The comb body 8 is formed with a longitudinally-elongated chamber 10 extending along the axis of the comb body and spaced both from the upper edge 11 of the body and the upper ends

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12 of the comb teeth 9. In the illustrated device the chamber 10 extends the length of the row of teeth 9 and opens through the opposite sides of the body 8. Secured conformably in the chamber 10 in any suitable manner is a rubber, flexible plastic or other resilient material compressible bulb or reservoir 14 of a cross-section, such as rectangular, as shown in Figure 4, such that substantial portions of the bulb or reservoir project on opposite sides of the comb body.

The forward end and the middle of the bottom of the reservoir 14 have ports 15 and 16, respectively, in communication with short ducts 17 and 18, respectively, which open into the water-distributing passage 19. The passage 19 is formed in the comb body portion 8 between the chamber 10 and the upper ends 12 of the comb teeth 9, with its forward end opening through the forward end of the comb body, as indicated at 20, and with its rear end closed, as indicated at 21, at a point slightly to the rear of the port 16. An easily-removable closure plug 22 is inserted in the forward end of the passage 19 and is adapted to be removed when cleaning and/or sterilizing the comb.

The passage 19 has leading from the under side at spaced intervals small water-discharging ducts 23 which open through the lower side of the comb body portion 8 between comb teeth 9 at the upper ends 12 of the teeth. As indicated in Figure 3, the water-distributing passage 19 is roughly half the length of and extends only along the forward part of the reservoir 14, and water-discharging ducts 23 are present between adjacent teeth only along the forward part of the comb.

The reservoir or bulb 14 is filled with water simply by immersing the comb in water with the bulb or reservoir compressed by the fingers and relaxing the compression so as to permit the resultant expansion of the reservoir to draw water through the ducts 23, the passage 19 and the ducts 17 and 18 into the reservoir. The size and capacity of the reservoir are worked out so that one complete filling of the reservoir in the manner described will store therein enough water for setting an average head of hair.

Water for wetting curls during a setting operation is supplied to the comb teeth 9 as and when wanted simply by squeezing the sides of the reservoir 14 which project beyond the sides of the comb body, thereby expelling water through the ducts 17 and 18 into the passage 19 and discharging the water through the ducts 23 into the adjacent comb teeth.

The exposed sides of the bulb or reservoir 14 may be reinforced with strips 24 of suitable material secured to the outside thereof.

What is claimed is:

1. A fountain curl comb comprising a comb body having a lower edge, longitudinally spaced comb teeth depending from said lower edge, vertical ducts extending in said body and opening through said lower edge in spaces between adjacent comb teeth, a longitudinal water-distributing passage formed in said body with which the upper ends of said ducts communicate, a longitudinal chamber formed in said toothed body above said passage and opening through opposite sides of said body, a longitudinally-elongated water reservoir mounted in said chamber, said reservoir being in the form of a compressible bulb of a cross-section to project beyond opposite sides of said body when in normal expanded condition, and duct means leading from said bulb into said water-distributing passage, said passage having an open end opening through an end of said body, and a removable plug inserted in and closing the open end of said passage.

2. A fountain comb comprising a comb body, a plurality of transversely disposed comb teeth arranged in spaced relation longitudinally along said comb body and dependingly supported from the latter, said body being provided with a pas-

sage extending inwardly from one end thereof and terminating at a point spaced from the other end thereof, there being a plurality of ducts formed in said body portion intermediate adjacent comb teeth and each having one end in communication with said passage and the other end in communication with the atmosphere, a compressible bulb positioned longitudinally of and within said comb body for containing a liquid and in communication with said passage, said bulb having portions projecting exteriorly of said comb body and compressible to thereby discharge the liquid from said bulb into said passage and thence out of said ducts, and a closure plug closing the open end of said opening.

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