

The eye 10 of the invention will readily conform to the eye socket and will not require tedious shaping of the eye socket to fit the eye as is common when fitting glass eyes or other rigid eyes in dolls.

In FIGS. 8 through 10 is shown another embodiment of the invention. The eye generally indicated by the numeral 10a has a sclera 12a having a circular bottom or base 11a. Sclera 12a may have integrally molded therewith a series of tabs 13. Tabs 13 assist in holding eye 10a in the eye socket of a doll. The tabs may vary in number although at least three are preferred.

In the embodiment shown in FIG. 8, a protective strip 15 is connected to the surface of tab 13. Protective strip 15 can be utilized to cover and protect an adhesive placed on the surface of tab 13. The adhesive may be used to assist in securing the tabs to the inside of the eye socket in a doll.

Eye 10a has a recessed portion 14a with sidewalls 18a and base 20a identical to the previously described elements. 14, 17, 18 and 20. Similarly, eye 10a can be fitted with a cornea 24 corresponding to cornea 24 and an iris similar or identical to disc 22 previously described.

A preferred striated iris 22a is shown in FIG. 8. Iris 22a can be seen to have a series of striae thereon which are similar to the striae shown in the bottom of cornea 24a in FIGS. 5 and 6. Such striations give eye 10 an appearance which may be desired in some applications.

In FIG. 8 is shown an additional element 28 which may also be utilized with the eye 10a previously described. Element 28 is an opaque reflective material such as a decal having a reflective mirror surface placed in recessed portion 14a to give greater reflection of light upwardly through iris 22a and cornea 24. Decal 28 has a hole 30 in the center thereof which is aligned with pupil 17a and eye 10a or is aligned with pupil 17 and eye 10. Preferably, the upper surface of decal 28 has the reflective, mirror-like surface and the lower surface has an adhesive material connected thereto which will adhere to flat base 20a of recessed portion 14a. Reflective disc 28 could also be utilized with cornea 24a shown in FIGS. 5 and 6.

Also shown in FIGS. 8 and 11 is a transparent decal 32 have a hole 34 therein equal in size and axially aligned with holes 30 and 17a. Decal 32 is preferably located between iris 22a and cornea 24a. A series of dark lines radiating or drawn from the center of decal 30 outwardly are imprinted on the decal. The lines in decal 30 are of random length and closely resemble the radial lines in the iris of the human eye, thereby giving eye 10a an even more life-like appearance.

The sclera 12 shown in FIG. 2 could of course be substituted for the sclera 12a shown in FIG. 8. Furthermore, both sclera 12 and 12a may be attached to an eye socket by glue or other desired adhesives. Also, if desired, decal 32 or decal 28 could be omitted from the eye assembly shown in FIG. 8.

Summarizing the various elements present in the embodiments of the invention, the eye assembly of the invention may include:

- A. Sclera 12 or 12a and colored cornea 24 or 24a;
- B. Sclera 12 or 12a, decal 28, and colored cornea 24 or 24a;
- C. Sclera 12 or 12a, iris 22, and clear cornea 24 or 24a;
- D. Sclera 12 or 12a, decal 28, iris 22, and clear cornea 24 or 24a;
- E. Sclera 12 or 12a, decal 28, iris 22, decal 32, and cornea 24 or 24a;
- F. Sclera 12 or 12a, iris 22a, and clear cornea 24;

G. Sclera 12 or 12a, decal 28, iris 22a, and clear cornea 24;

H. Sclera 12 or 12a, decal 28, iris 22a, decal 32, and clear cornea 24.

Of the above embodiments, embodiment G is the preferred embodiment H is the most preferred.

Although the preferred embodiments of the present invention have been disclosed and described in detail above, it should be understood that the invention is in no sense limited thereby, and its scope is to be determined by that of the following claims.

What is claimed is:

1. An artificial eye for toy dolls with open eye sockets comprising:

a. sclera means for insertion into one of the eye sockets, and sclera means having a recessed portion with a peripheral edge wall therein for receiving a cornea, said sclera means being made from a soft, resilient, elastic material that can conform to the eye socket of the doll;

b. an annular, transparent cornea connected to said sclera by occupying the recessed portion and abutting the peripheral edge wall of the recessed portion thereby defining an annular seam between the sclera means and the cornea;

c. transparent, resilient and elastic, flexible coating means for encapsulating the combination of the cornea and sclera means so that the seam is covered by the coating means, the combination of the sclera means, cornea and coating means defining a soft, pliable, elastic unit.

2. The artificial eye of claim 1 wherein said recessed portion is cylindrical in shape.

3. The artificial eye of claim 1 wherein the sclera is a white silicone body.

4. The artificial eye of claim 1 wherein said sclera means has the shape of a truncated hemisphere.

5. The artificial eye of claim 4 wherein said sclera means has a circular base.

6. The artificial eye of claim 1 wherein the coating means is a layer of silicone.

7. The artificial eye of claim 1 wherein said cornea means is colored.

8. The artificial eye of claim 1 wherein said recessed portion has a circular base means.

9. The artificial eye of claim 8 wherein said circular base means of said recessed portion is colored.

10. The artificial eye of claim 1 further comprising iris means located in said recessed portion between said cornea and said sclera means.

11. The artificial eye of claim 10 wherein said iris means is colored.

12. The artificial eye of claim 11 wherein said iris means is translucent.

13. The artificial eye of claim 11 wherein said iris means is transparent.

14. The artificial eye of claim 11 wherein said iris means is striated.

15. The artificial eye of claim 11 wherein reflective means is located between said iris means and said base means of said recessed portion for reflecting light through said iris means and said cornea means.

16. The artificial eye of claim 15 wherein transparent decal means is located between said cornea means and said iris means, said decal means having imprinted thereon a plurality of opaque lines radiating from the center of said decal outwardly.