

C. H. BLOCK.

HAT.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 21, 1916.

1,215,468.

Patented Feb. 13, 1917.

Fig. 1.

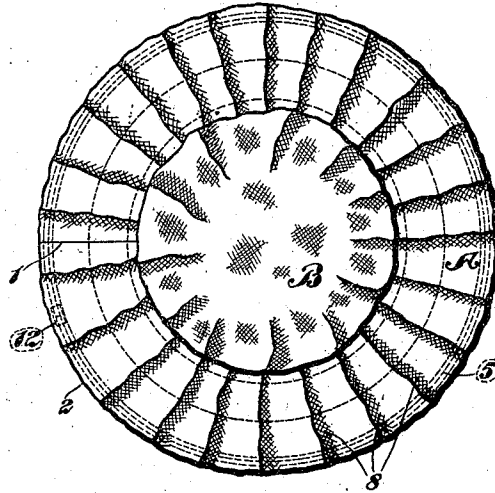


Fig. 2.

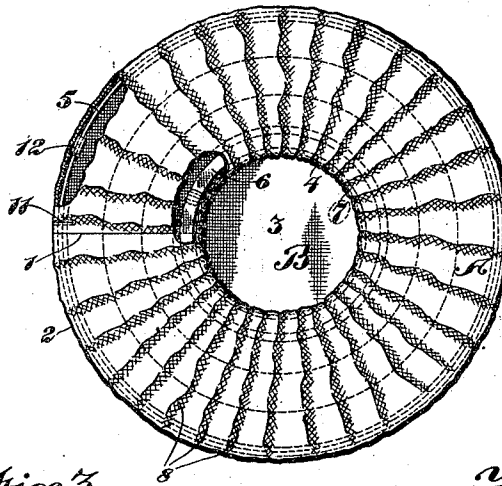


Fig. 3.

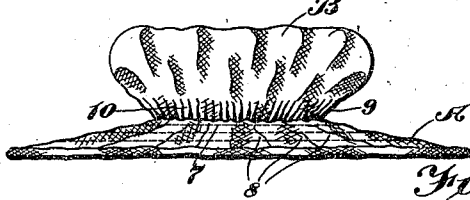


Fig. 4.

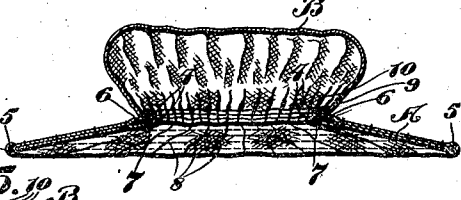
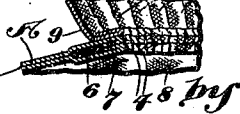


Fig. 5.



Attest:
Charles A. Becker.

Inventor,
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per
his Attorney.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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HAT.

1,215,468.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Feb. 13, 1917.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES H. BLOCK, a citizen of the United States, residing at the city of St. Louis, State of Missouri, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Hats, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, forming a part thereof.

10 This invention relates generally to head-wear and, more especially, to a certain new and useful improvement in hats, the principal object of my present invention being to provide a hat, particularly designed for women's and children's wear and of simple and inexpensive form and construction, which is readily capable of neatly fitting interchangeably, within certain limits, heads of various sizes.

20 With the above and other objects in view, my invention briefly resides in the provision of a hat having a brim comprising a body-portion of flexible material and a resiliently adjustable head-opening, and a crown of flexible material attached at its base to the body-portion of the brim at said head-opening, the body-portion of the brim at said head-opening and the crown at its base being adapted to simultaneously yield to interchangeably fit heads of various sizes, and in certain novel features of form, construction, arrangement, and combination of parts, all as will hereinafter be described and afterward pointed out in the claim.

35 In the accompanying drawing, which illustrates my invention in preferred form, Figure 1 is a top plan view of a hat embodying my invention;

Fig. 2 is an inverted plan view thereof;

40 Fig. 3 is a side elevational view of the same;

Fig. 4 is a transverse vertical sectional view through the hat; and

45 Fig. 5 is an enlarged detail sectional view of the same.

Referring to the said drawing, in which like reference characters refer to like parts throughout the several views, A indicates the body-portion of the brim of the hat. This brim body-portion A, which is made or consists of any suitable flexible material, such as, for instance, a washable fabric, and which in the finished hat has the form of an approximately annular or ring-shaped casing, may be constructed in any suitable man-

ner; in constructing this approximately ring-shaped body-portion or casing A, however, I preferably first take a suitable elongated approximately rectangular section of said material or fabric, said section having such proper dimensions as may be desired in the finished hat, double or fold said section transversely upon itself throughout its length, and then, the two ends of the doubled or folded section being brought suitably annularly around, sew, as at 1, the two ends of said so doubled or folded section together, the fold 2 in said section forming the periphery or circumference of the approximately annular casing so provided, and the approximately annular opening 3 prescribed or bounded by the inner or meeting edges 4-4 of said doubled or folded section of material forming what is commonly known and designated in the trade as the head-opening of the hat, being that part of the hat which is designed to fit the head, which opening 3, as originally formed or provided, is adapted to fit one certain or predetermined size of head.

50 Brim body-portion or casing A being so preferably provided, I now loosely arrange therein and thereby associate with the casing to afford some stiffness to the same at its rim or circumference, an annular strin or split ring 5 of any suitable laterally resilient, but longitudinally non-elastic material, such as wire, this metallic ring 5 being of proper corresponding size or diameter to neatly fit around within casing or brim body-portion A at its circumference or fold 2.

I then also loosely arrange within and thereby associate with casing A a second ring 6 of any suitable elastic material and, with said ring 6 in approximately fully expanded or stretched condition, sew the inner or meeting edges 4 of said section of material together, as at 7. The elastic ring 6 being afterward permitted to contract to approximately normal or unstretched condition, the material of casing A will automatically neatly gather upon itself in relatively small more or less irregular outwardly radiating folds, as at 8. Thus head-opening 3 of the brim of the hat is resiliently reduced in diameter or size and adapted to yieldingly fit, within the limits of the particular hat, various sizes of head smaller than said one certain or predetermined size, the elastic ring 6 being of any suitable normal diameter

and when in normal unstretched or contracted condition defining the smallest size of head which the finished hat at its head-opening 3 is designed to fit.

5 B indicates the crown of the hat, which may be of any suitable shape and is also of any suitable flexible material, being preferably of the same material as that of brim body-portion A. Crown B at its base 9 is of
10 considerable fullness of material, and in the construction of the hat is sewed or otherwise attached at the edge of its base 9 to brim body-portion A at or adjacent the rim of its head-opening 3, as seen clearly in Figs. 4
15 and 5. The sewing or otherwise attaching of the crown B to brim body-portion A is preferably accomplished simultaneously with the sewing together of said edges 4, as before described, with the elastic-ring 6 in
20 stretched or abnormal condition. Consequently also, on ring 6 being permitted to assume its normal or unstretched condition, the material of crown B at its base 9 will similarly gather upon itself in small
25 expandible folds, as at 10, crown B being thereby adapted to yield at its base with head-opening 3 of brim body-portion A to resiliently fit interchangeably, within the limits of the particular hat, heads of various sizes.
30 My new hat is very simple in form, may be inexpensively manufactured, and is readily and conveniently capable, as described, of neatly fitting interchangeably heads of various sizes.

35 The radial width of casing A, that is to say, the width of casing A between inner elastic ring 6 and outer stiffening ring 5, is of any suitable, or, as it may be described, extended area, so as to freely permit of
40 proper expansion of the head-opening in accommodating sizes of head larger than said smallest size, the body-portion of the brim flexibly yielding outwardly from, and with, the head-opening in accommodating such
45 sizes of head.

For the flexible material of the brim body-portion A and crown B of my new hat, I prefer to use a washable fabric which may
50 be readily washed or cleaned when soiled, and in order that the washing or cleaning of the hat may be conveniently accomplished, I provide casing or brim-body-portion A with a small preferably stitched opening, as at 11, through which the metallic ring 5 may

be endwise removed from the casing A when 55 desired, one end of the ring 5 separably fitting in a suitable sleeve or coupling-member 12 fixed on the other end of the ring. The ring 5 may be afterward similarly endwise inserted into the casing A and its free end, 60 by suitable manipulation, again fitted into said sleeve 12.

I am aware that minor changes in the form, construction, arrangement, and combination of the several parts of my new hat 65 may be made and substituted for those herein shown and described without departing from the nature and principle of my invention.

Having thus described my invention, 70 what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

In a hat, a brim consisting of an elongated approximately rectangular section of flexible material folded transversely upon itself 75 throughout its length, the ends of the folded section being annularly brought into contiguous relation and fixed permanently together, the meeting edges of the folded section being also fixed together and the folded 80 section thereby forming a hollow approximately ring-shaped casing, the central opening of the casing forming a head-opening that is originally adapted to fit a predetermined size of head, a contracting-ring of 85 elastic material disposed within the casing at and around said head-opening, said ring being arranged within the casing while in stretched condition and on contracting resiliently reducing the head-opening to expansibly fit sizes of head smaller than said 90 predetermined size, a second ring disposed within the casing for stiffening the brim at and around its outer rim only, said second ring being laterally resilient, but longitudinally inextensible and of fixed circumferential length, and a crown of flexible material rising from said casing and attached 95 at its base only to the casing at and around said head-opening, the casing and crown being adapted to flexibly yield simultaneously with and outwardly from the head-opening to accommodate therewith said heads of 100 various sizes.

In testimony whereof, I have signed my 105 name to this specification.

CHARLES H. BLOCK.