Sept. 24, 1968 W. J. MOREAU 3,402,865

HAT SHAPING DEVICE

Filed July 28, 1966

Fig. 1

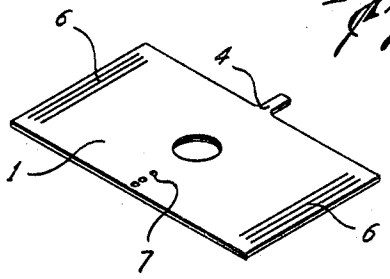


Fig. 2

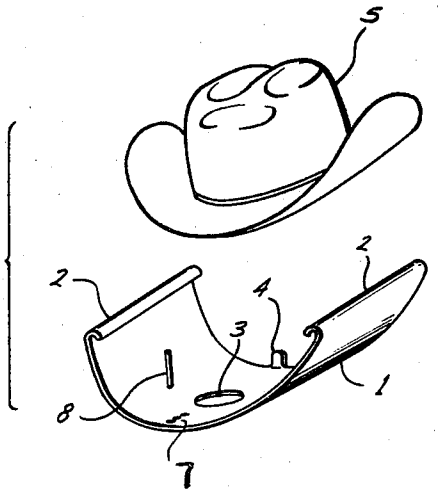
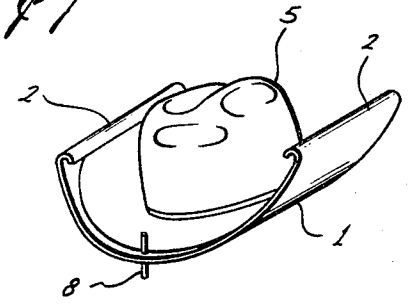


Fig. 3



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HAT SHAPING DEVICE

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A hat shaping device for retaining the shape of a hat brim when the hat is not in use. A sheet of thermo plastic material is shaped and provided with overturned margins and projections to receive and shape the brim of the hat.

This invention relates to new and useful improvements in a hat shaping device.

It is an object of this invention to provide a means for shaping the brim of a hat, such as a felt or beaver hat, to obtain and maintain the desired shape.

It is another object of this invention to provide a novel article of manufacture that may be quickly and easily formed of inexpensive material.

With the above and other objects in view, the invention has relation to certain novel features of construction and use more particularly defined in the following specifications and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, wherein:

FIGURE 1 is an elevational perspective view of the shaping device.

FIGURE 2 is an exploded view of the shaping device, after being bent into shape, and a hat to be maintained in a particular shape.

FIGURE 3 is a front, elevational perspective view of the holder with a hat retained therein.

Referring now more particularly to the drawings, the numeral **1** designates a flat, rectangular sheet of any thermo-plastic material having a relatively low heating point. The end faces of the sheet **1** are upwardly turned as at **2**, **2** and an orifice **3** is provided midway of the respective end faces to provide means for hanging the hat on a hook if desired. A projection **4** formed in one of the side margins of the longitudinal sides of the sheet **1** may be upwardly and inwardly turned to act as a stop to maintain the hat, as **5**, on the sheet **1** when in hanging position. A series of ports **7** opposite the projection **4** receive the peg **8** to anchor the hat on the opposite side.

The user immerses the sheet **1** in hot water, or other means for heating the material of the sheet **1** may be employed, until the sheet **1** becomes pliable, at which point

it is bent by the user to the shape desired, such as is shown in FIGURE 2, and the hat, if not already shaped, will be steamed lightly and then inserted in the sheet **1**, the side margins of the hat brim abutting the upwardly turned portions of the end faces and the front of the brim abutting the projection **4** and the hat thus shaped and maintained in such shape until removed from the shaping device.

If the hat is already shaped, the sheet **1** will retain that shape while the hat is stored. If the hat is not already shaped, the hat may be lightly steamed and then placed in the retainer to assume the desired shape.

In manufacture, the device will be stamped, cut or molded in the flat rectangular shape shown in FIGURE 1, with the orifice **3** cut out and the projection **4** extending laterally from one longitudinal side margin. The surface of the material may be used for advertising matter, if desired, and, in use, the material is heated and bent to form the upwardly turned end members **2**, **2** and may then be bent, while it is still pliable, into the desired shape with reference to the turn of the hat brim desired. For instance, if it is so desired, the member **1** may remain substantially flat, with markings or indentations as **6** to illustrate the various suggested bending points for various sizes of hat brims, and the end members **2**, **2** formed and the sheet **1** otherwise left flat, and thus provide means for retaining and maintaining a flat brim, or just one side may be bent, thus forming an Australian "Digger" type or style.

While the foregoing is considered a preferred form of the invention, it is by way of illustration only, the broad principle of the invention being defined by the appended claim.

What I claim is:

1. A hat shaping device comprising a rectangualr sheet of normally rigid material molded into a shallow arc along its length, having side margins and inwardly overturned end margins shaped to abut the side portions of a hat brim, including a lateral projection on one side margin intermediate the ends thereof, the projection being bendable upwardly to abut the front of the hat brim, and a series of holes on the other side margin opposite said projection, to receive a peg which is adapted to abut the rear hat brim.

References Cited

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