June 1, 1954 H. C. LEARNARD 2,679,711

INDIAN HEADDRESS WITH WHIRLING FEATHERS

Filed June 28, 1951

Fig. 1.

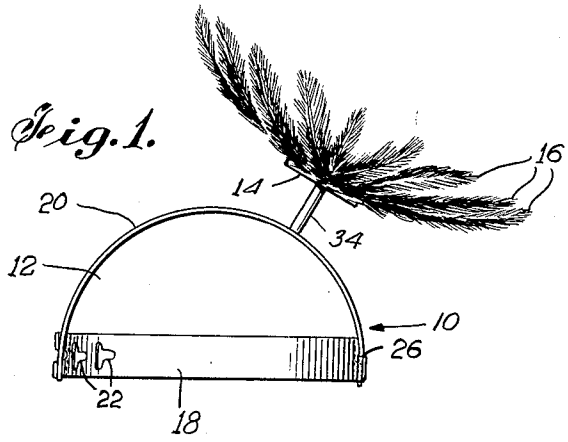


Fig. 4.

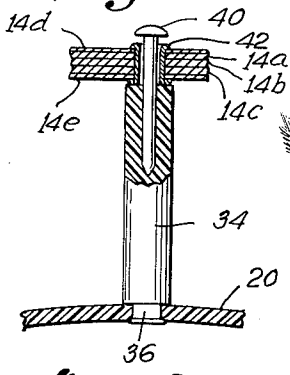


Fig. 2.

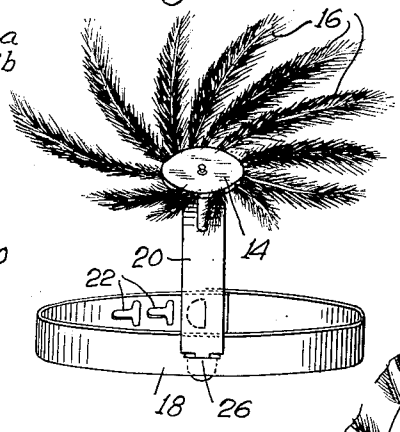


Fig. 7.

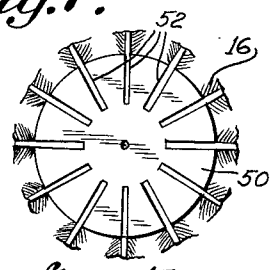


Fig. 3.

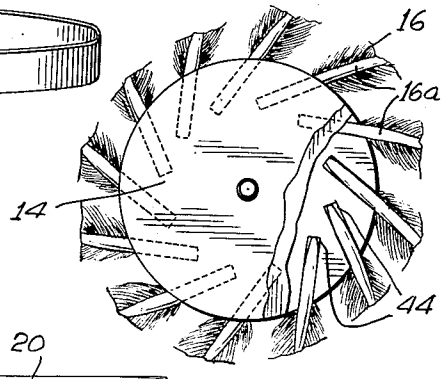


Fig. 6.

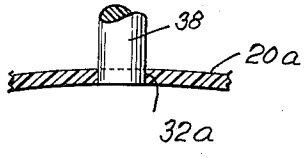
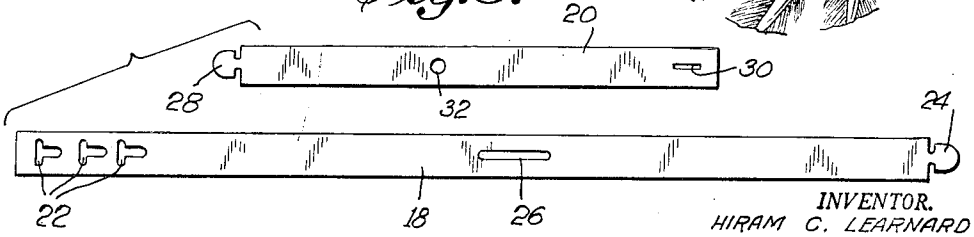


Fig. 5.



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INDIAN HEADDRESS WITH WHIRLING FEATHERS

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1 Claim. (Cl. 46—53)

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This invention relates to an Indian headdress with whirling feathers.

The principal object of this invention is the provision of an Indian headdress having whirling feathers and intended for use by children. The headdress is open and it is made of straps or bands detachably fastened together. One of the straps or bands encircles the head. The other strap or band extends across the crown of the head.

Rotatably mounted on the strap or band which extends across the crown of the head is a hub and secured to said hub is a plurality of feathers. These feathers are equally spaced from each other and they occupy a substantially common plane. They may or may not project radially of the hub; in the preferred form of this invention, they project along lines which are neither radial nor tangential but somewhere in between.

More specifically, the feathers are secured to the hub by means of their quills which nest in wells formed in the hub for that purpose. The feathers are turned at an angle to the plane on which they are all disposed, substantially in the manner in which the blades of a fan or propeller are turned or biased so as to catch or bite into the air. The feathers are secured in their respective positions by means of an adhesive or cement which fastens their quills in the individual hub wells in which they are disposed.

Another object of this invention is the provision of an Indian headdress of the character described which is made of straps or bands held together by detachable means which inexperienced children may readily manipulate with a minimum of instruction. Only two straps or bands are provided and they are made, preferably, of extruded plastics. One end of the strap or band which encircles the head is provided with a series of openings, preferably of keyhole shape, and the opposite end is shaped to lock with said keyhole shaped openings. The headdress may be adjusted in size, depending upon which keyhole shaped opening the opposite end of said strap engages. The ends of the strap or band which extend across the crown of the head are also provided with similar fastening means. One of the ends of said strap or band is provided with an opening, preferably of keyhole shape. It is by means of this opening that the crown strap or band may be brought into locking engagement with the second mentioned end of the strap which encircles the head. The head encircling strap is provided with a longitudinally extending slot intermediate its ends and the opposite end of the crown strap is shaped to engage said slot.

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The invention herein claimed is illustrated in the accompanying drawing in which:

Fig. 1 is a side view of an Indian headdress made in accordance with this invention, showing said headdress completely set up and ready for use.

Fig. 2 is a front view thereof.

Fig. 3 is an enlarged, fragmentary plan view of the hub which carries the feathers, said hub being partly broken away to show how the quills of the feathers are nested therein.

Fig. 4 is an enlarged fragmentary view, partly in vertical section, showing the spindle on which the feathered hub is rotatably mounted and showing how said spindle may be secured to the crown strap of the headdress.

Fig. 5 is a plan view of the head band and crown strap which together constitute the headdress when they are properly set up and joined together.

Fig. 6 is a sectional fragmentary view showing another method of affixing the hub carrying spindle to the crown strap of the headdress.

Fig. 7 is a view similar to that of Fig. 3 showing a feather carrying hub in which the quills of the feathers are arranged radially therein.

The Indian headdress **10** shown in the drawing comprises a headdress **12** proper and a hub **14** which is rotatably mounted thereon and which carries a plurality of feathers **16**. The headdress proper consists of two bands or straps: a head band **18** which encircles the head at the forehead and above the ears, and a crown strap **20** which extends across the crown of the head from the forehead to the back of the head.

It will be noted in Fig. 5 that the head encircling band **18** is an elongated strip or strap of suitable material, preferably extruded plastics, having a plurality of keyhole shaped openings **22** formed at one end thereof and a single key **24** formed at the opposite end thereof. Key **24** is engageable with any one of the keyhole shaped openings **22** so as to form a head encircling band by joinder of the two ends of the strap as Fig. 2 clearly shows. A slot **26** is formed in band **18**, longitudinally thereof, and intermediate the two ends of said band, for a purpose which will shortly appear.

Crown strap **20** is also provided with a key **28** at one end and a slot **30** at its opposite end, said strap constituting an elongated strip or strap of suitable material, such as extruded plastics, and said slot **30** extending longitudinally thereof.

Crown strap **20** is considerably shorter than head band **18** because it extends across the crown of the head only and its ends do not meet, as is the case with the head band. A circular hole **32** is formed in crown strap **20**, somewhat closer to key **28** than to slot **30**. The function of this hole will also shortly appear.

The head band and the crown strap shown in Fig. 5 may be assembled in the following manner: The two ends of the head band are brought over into overlapping positions and key **24** is brought into engagement with the appropriate keyhole **22** so as to interlock the two ends of the head band and thereby form, what may be described as an endless band or head encircling band. At the same time, key **24** is brought into engagement with slot **30** of the crown strap **20**. It is in this manner that the two ends of the hat band and the one end of the crown strap are joined as Fig. 1 clearly shows.

Key **28** at the opposite end of the crown strap is now brought over into engagement with slot **26** of the hat band, this being done by arching the crown strap in the manner shown in Fig. 1. The two ends of the crown strap are now securely fastened to the head band. It should be understood, however, that the two ends of the head encircling band are detachable from each other and the two ends of the crown strap are detachable from the head encircling band.

A spindle **34** is secured to crown strap **20**. More specifically, the lower end of the spindle is provided with a reduced portion **36** which projects into and through hole **32** of the crown strap. The outwardly projecting end of reduced portion **36** may be swaged over so as to rivet the spindle to the strap. This is shown in Fig. 4. The spindle is also made, preferably, of extruded plastics and a plastic cement or solvent may be used to secure the reduced end of said spindle to the strap.

A variation of this construction is shown in Fig. 6. Spindle **38** shown in Fig. 6 is identical with spindle **34** shown in Fig. 4 except that its lower end is not reduced. It is inserted into a hole **32***a* in crown strap **20***a*, corresponding to hole **32** in crown strap **20**. Hole **32***a* is, of course, large enough to accommodate spindle **38**. A suitable cement or solvent may also be employed in this connection to fixedly secure the spindle to the strap.

A pin **40** is secured to the upper end of spindle **34** (as well as spindle **38**) and it is on said pin that hub **14** is rotatably mounted. The pin has a head to prevent dislodgment of the hub. It will be understood that the pin may be press-fitted into a preformed hole in the spindle. The hole may extend longitudinally of the spindle along its full length and it may be formed in the stock of which the spindle is made during the course of the extruding operation.

Hub **14** may have an eye or hollow rivet **42** applied thereto, centrally thereof, to provide a satisfactory bearing for the pin. The hub may be made of any suitable material, preferably of light weight, and one suitable material is pressed paper or cardboard. Several layers **14***a*, **14***b* and **14***c* of pressed paper or cardboard are shown in the drawing and these layers may be cemented together to form an integral unit. A sheet of finishing paper **14***d* may be applied to the top of the hub and a similar sheet of finishing paper **14***e* may be applied to the bottom of the hub, the two sheets of paper being also glued or cemented to the cardboard layers or laminations.

The innermost ply or layer **14***b* has a plurality of wells **44** formed therein to accommodate the quills **16***a* of feathers **16**. These wells **44** are equidistant from each other and they all bear the same angular relationship to the center of the hub. More specifically, in the preferred form of this invention, these wells project substantially midway between flanking radial and tangential lines. Stated differently, each well is approximately 45 degrees removed from the radial line which it intersects at the peripheral or circumferential edge of the hub. The quills may be press-fitted into the wells and they may also be glued therein to prevent dislodgment thereof. It will be noted in the drawing that the feathers are oriented at an angle relative to the plane of the hub so as to provide sufficient pitch to catch the wind, and thereby cause the feathers and hub to rotate integrally with each other about the axis of the hub.

Hub **50** shown in Fig. 7 is made in substantially the same way as hub **14** shown in Fig. 3. Its wells **52** are oriented differently from wells **44** of hub **14** in that they are arranged radially of the hub as Fig. 7 clearly shows. Since wells **52** extend radially of hub **50**, feathers **16** will similarly be disposed radially of the hub.

The foregoing is descriptive of a preferred form of this invention and it will clearly be understood that this preferred form may be modified and other forms may be provided within the broad spirit of the invention and the broad scope of the claim.

I claim:

An Indian headdress of the character described, comprising an open headdress consisting of an adjustable, head encircling band consisting of a strap whose ends are detachably and adjustably secured to each other, and a second strap which extends across the crown of the head and which is detachably fastened at each end thereof to said head encircling band, a hub rotatably mounted on said second strap, the axis of said hub being slightly inclined relative to the vertical so as to present the upper face of the hub partly upwardly and partly forwardly, a plurality of equally spaced wells formed in said hub, said wells being formed along the circumferential edge of said hub and extending inwardly into said hub in the general direction of the center of the hub, and a plurality of feathers whose quills are nested in said wells and secured therein by means of an adhesive, said feathers being equally spaced from each other and being disposed on a substantially common plane, said feathers being individually biased relative to said plane in fan-like arrangement.

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