Nov. 24, 1970 I. M. OTWELL 3,541,608

EYESHIELD FOR INFANTS

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Fig. 1.

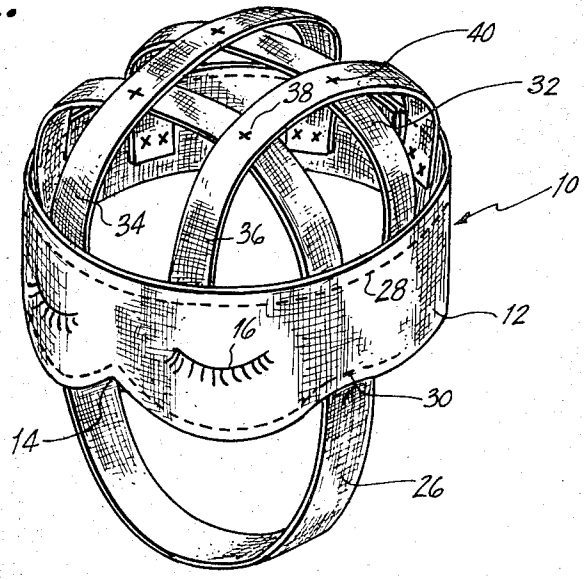



Fig. 2.

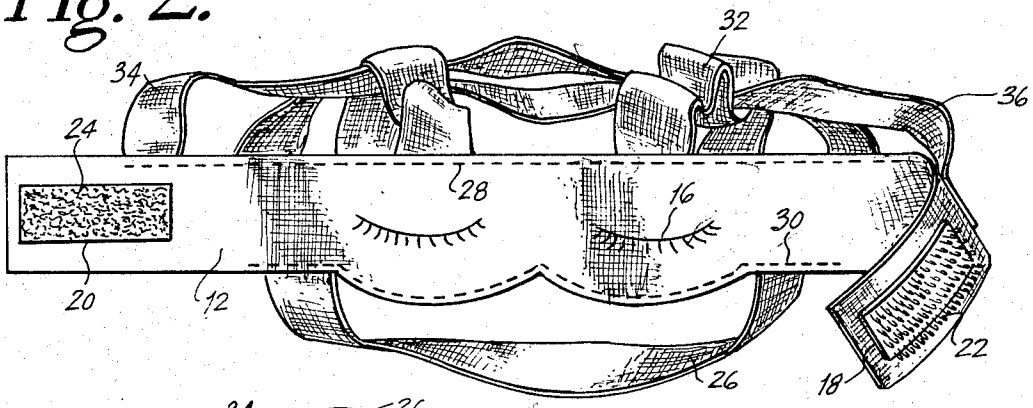
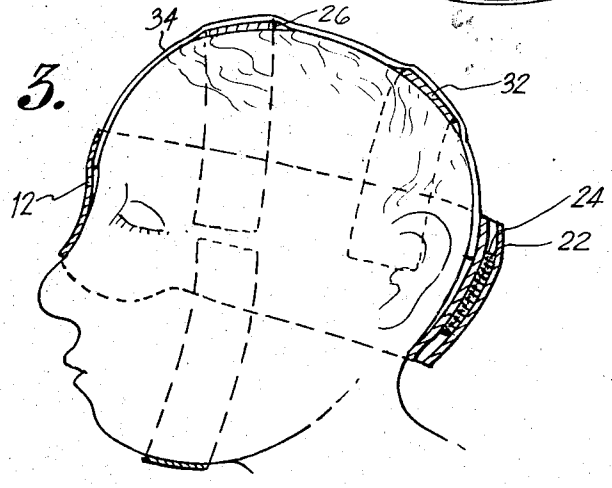



Fig. 3.




INVENTOR.
IDA M. OTWELL
BY Polachek & Saulsbury
ATTORNEYS.

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Fig. 4.

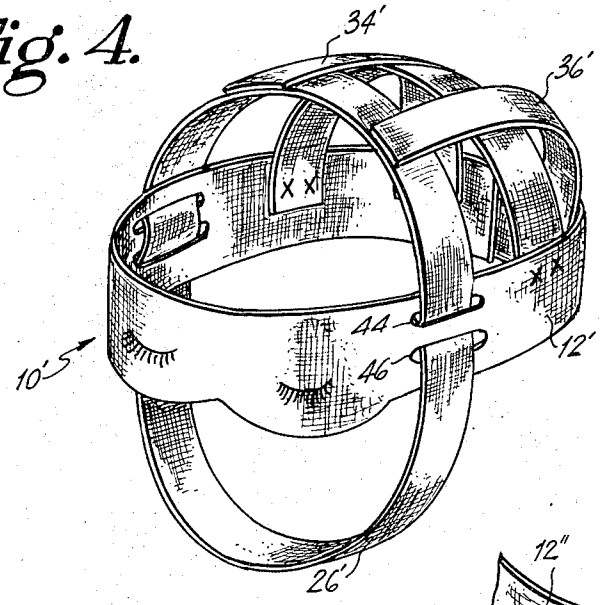



Fig. 5.

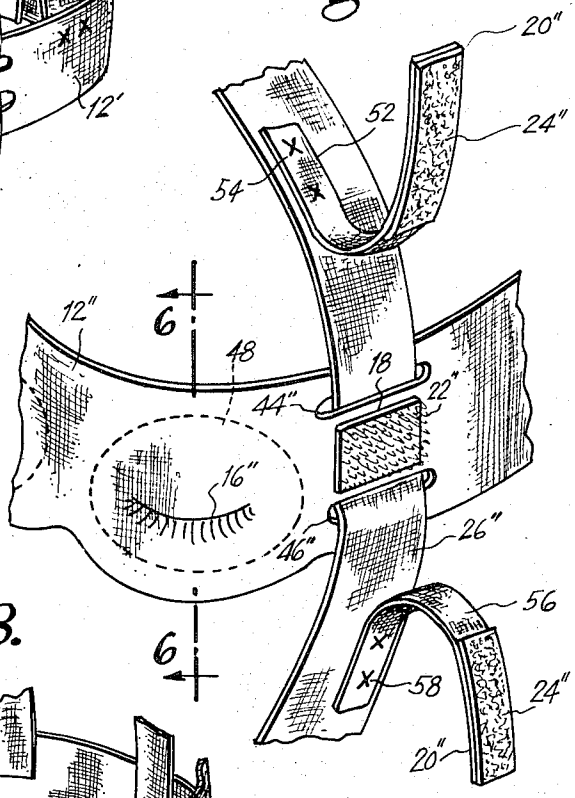



Fig. 6.

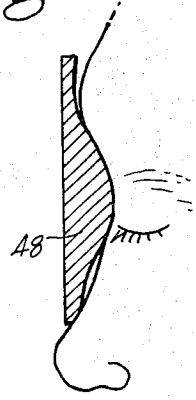
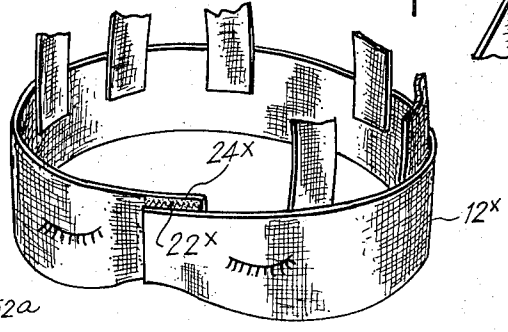



Fig. 8.



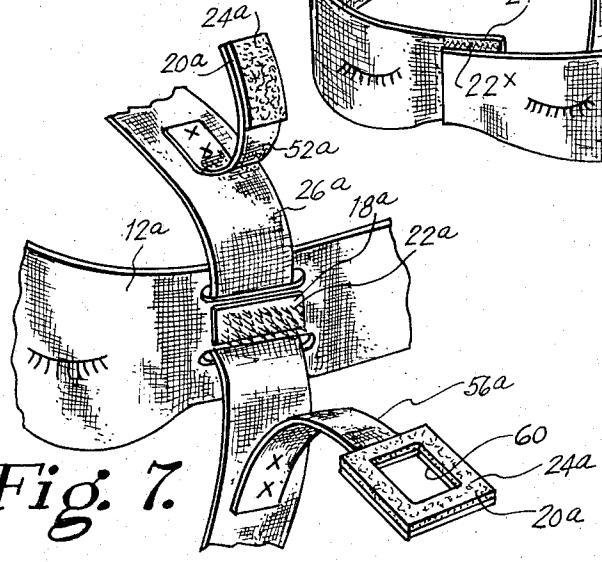




Fig. 7.

INVENTOR.
IDA M. OTWELL
BY Polachek & Saulsbury
ATTORNEYS.

United States Patent Office 3,541,608 Patented Nov. 24, 1970



3,541,608

# EYESHIELD FOR INFANTS

Ida M. Otwell, 7316 Sparta Ave.,
Birmingham, Ala. 35206

Filed Mar. 10, 1969, Ser. No. 805,453
Int. Cl. A61f 9/04
U.S. Cl. 2—15 9 Claims

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An eyeshield for an infant for use in post birth treatments that is highly effective in protecting the eyes of the infant and that cannot be removed from the head of the infant by downward, upward or lateral pulling by the hands of the infant. The eyeshield comprises a wide split band that fully covers the eyes of the infant, the split ends of the band being fastened to each other by a Velco fastener. A chin strap is carried by the eyeband and crossed straps attached to the eyeband serve to rest the eyeshield on the head of the infant.

This invention relates to new and useful improvements in eyeshields for infants.

Infants shortly after birth are subjected to various examinations in which strong lights are used and often are treated by the use of strong lights for bilirubinemia. Bandages are usually used for protecting the eyes of the infant during this treatment but the infant has a tendency to grasp and tear away the protective bandage exposing the eyes to the dangerous rays of the lights.

It is a principal object of the present invention to provide an eyeshield for infants that is highly effective in protecting the eyes of the infant.

Another object of the invention is to provide such an eyeshield that cannot be removed by downward, upward or lateral pulling by the infant.

A further object is to provide an eyeshield of this kind that is adapted to fit various sizes of heads of infants.

Yet another object is to provide an eyeshield of this kind that is so economical to manufacture that it can be disposed of after a single use.

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE VIEWS OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is a top perspective view of an eyeshield for an infant embodying one form of the invention.

FIG. 2 is a side elevational view of the eyeshield of FIG. 1 in collapsed condition before the ends of the eyeband are secured together.

FIG. 3 is a sectional view through the center of the eyeshield shown on the head of an infant.

FIG. 4 is a view similar to FIG. 1 of an eyeshield for an infant embodying a modified form of the invention.

FIG. 5 is an enlarged perspective view of a modified form of means for holding the eyeband in moved position along the chin strap.

FIG. 6 is a cross sectional view taken on the plane of the line 6—6 of FIG. 5.

FIG. 7 is a view similar to FIG. 5 of another modified form of means for holding the eyeband in moved position along the chin strap.

FIG. 8 is a top perspective view of a modified form of eyeband.

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Referring in detail to the various views of the drawings, in FIG. 1 a cap or eyeshield for an infant is illustrated and designated generally at **10**. The eyeshield **10** is formed of suitable flexible fabric material. A split annular eyeband **12** is sufficiently wide to cover the eyes of an infant



as shown in FIG. 3. At the front thereof, the bottom edge of the band is indented as indicated at **14** where the band rests upon the nose of the wearer and on each side of said indentation **14** there is printed on the outer surface of the band a representation of an eyelash **16**, at points where the band fits over the eyes of the wearer. The ends of the band are fastened together by a Velco fastening device consisting of a strip **18** secured longitudinally on one end of the band, and a mating strip **20** secured in the same manner on the other end of the band. The strip **18** is covered with stiff little hooks **22**, and the other strip **20** is covered with ting soft loops **24**. When manually pressed together, the hooks and loops engage and adhere to each other creating an adjustable highly versatile and secure closure. In order to open the closure, it is simply peeled apart. These strips can be opened and closed a great many times.

An endless chin strap **26** of the same material as the eyeband is vertically disposed inside the eyeband **12** and is fastened to the eyeband by lines of stitching **28** and **30** along the top and bottom edges of the eyeband, respectively. The chin strap extends above and below the eyeband. A strap **32** of the same material extends laterally over the head of the wearer, spaced rearwardly of the chin strap, the ends of the strap **32** being secured to the inside surface of the eyeband by the line of stitching **28**.

A pair of spaced straps **34** and **36** of the same material as the eyeband extend over the head of the wearer from the front to the back of the eyeband, the ends being secured to the inner surface of the eyeband by the line of stitching **28**. Straps **34** and **36** pass over the chin strap **26** and the strap **32** and are secured thereto at the points **38** and **40**, respectively.

In using the eyeshield or cap **10**, with the ends of the eyeband **12** in open spaced apart position, the straps **32**, **34** and **36** are placed on the top of the head of the infant and the chin strap **26** slipped under the chin. The ends of the eyeband are placed in overlapping position and moved longitudinally over each other until the desired size of eyeband is reached whereupon the overlapped ends are manually pressed together whereby the ends are securely and removably fastened to each other as seen in FIGS. 1 and 3, with the eyeband **12** completely covering the eyes of the infant.

In FIG. 4, a modified form of cap or eyeshield **10'** is shown which differs from the eyeshield **10** in that the eyeband **12'** slides along the chin strap **26'** to adjust the eyeshield to various sizes of heads of infants. In this form, the eyeband **12'** is formed with a pair of opposed upper and lower slots **44** and **46**, respectively, to receive slidably the chin strap **26'**. The ends of the front and back straps **34'** and **36'** are secured to the chin strap **26'** instead of to the eyeband **12'**. The eyeband **12'** slides up and down along the chin strap to fit the eyeshield to the head of the infant.

In FIG. 5, a modified form of eyeband **12''** is shown wherein an oval shaped enlargement **48** is formed on the eyeband **12''** behind each representation of eyelash **16''**, which enlargements fit into the sockets of the eyes of the infant when the band is in position on the infant as seen in FIG. 6.

A modified form of chin strap **26''** is also shown in FIG. 5, the chin strap being provided with means for holding the sliding eyeband **12''** in moved adjusted position. For this purpose, a Velco strip **18''** is secured to the material of the eyeband **12''** between the slots **44''** and **46''**, the strip carrying stiff hooks **22''** on the exposed surface thereof. A short strap **52** of fabric material is positioned above the eyeband **12''** and has one end secured to the outer surface of the chin strap **26''** as indicated at **54**, along one side of the strap, the other end being free and carrying a Velco strip **20''** with loops

24". A similar short strap **56** is positioned below the eyeband **12"** and has one end secured to the outer surface of the chin strap **26"** as indicated at **58** offset laterally from the plane of the strap **52**. The other end of strap **56** carries a Velco strip **20"** with loops **24"** on its outer surface.

In use, when the eyeband **12"** is slid along the chin strap **26"** for a limited distance, the Velco strip **18"** thereon will be within reach of the Velco strip **20"** on either strap **52** or strap **56** whereupon when the strips are overlapped manual pressure is brought to bear thereon for fastening the strip **18"** to the adjacent strip **20"**, thereby holding the eyeband **12"** against sliding movement.

FIG. 7 illustrates a modified form of arrangement of short straps **52***a* and **56***a* on chin strap **26***a*. Strap **52***a* is positioned centrally of the chin strap and carries the Velco strip **20***a* with loops **24***a*, and strap **56***a* is also positioned centrally of the chin strap **26***a* but is provided with a central rectangular shaped window **60** with Velco loops **24***a* therearound on the surface of the Velco strip **20***a*. In order to hold the eyeband **12***a* in adjusted moved position, the strap **56***a* is moved to overlapping position over the Velco strip **18***a* on the eyeband **12***a* whereupon manual pressure is brought to bear between to fasten the strips **18***a* and **56***a* together. The strap **52***a* is then swung over the strip **56***a* and its strip **20***a* inserted through the window **60** so that the loops **24***a* interlock with the hooks **22***a* on strip **18***a* when manual pressure is brought to bear threagainst, thus holding the eyeband **12***a* in adjusted moved position.

In FIG. 8, the eyeband **12***x* is shown split at its front instead of at its rear end as shown in FIG. 1. The overlapped ends are provided with Velco strips so that the hooks **22***x* thereof and the loops **24***x* thereof interlock when manual pressure is brought to bear thereagainst thereby detachably fastening the ends together.

I claim:

**1.** An eyeshield for an infant comprising a broad split eyeband adapted to fit over the eyes of the infant, an endless strap connected to the eyeband and adapted to fit over the head and under the chin of the infant, a strap extending from the top side of the eyeband spaced rearwardly of the chin strap, a pair of spaced straps extending from the front top side of the eyeband to the rear top side thereof, and means for detachably fastening the split ends of the eyeband to each other.

**2.** An eyeshield for an infant as defined in claim **1**, the fastening means constituted by a Velco fastening device.

**3.** An eyeshield for an infant as defined in claim **1**, the fastening means constituted by a Velco fastening device including a strip on the surface of one end of the eyeband, still hooks protruding from said surface, and a strip on the surface of the other end of the eyeband with loops protruding from the surface of the latter strip, said ends adapted to overlap whereupon when manual pressure is brought to bear thereagainst the hooks and loops are interlocked.



**4.** An eyeshield for an infant as defined in claim **3** wherein the eyeband is formed along its lower edge with an indentation at the point where the eyeband engages the nose of the infant, the body of the eyeband having representations of eyelashes printed thereupon at the points where the body covers the eyes of the infant.

**5.** An eyeshield for an infant as defined in claim **4** wherein the eyeband is formed along its lower edge with an indentation at the point where the eyeband engages the nose of the infant, the body of the eyeband having representations of eyelashes printed thereupon at the points where the body covers the eyes of the infant.

**6.** An eyeshield for an infant as defined in claim **1** wherein the connection between the eyeband and chin strap is slidable, said slidable connection including a pair of aligned spaced slots in the eyeband for loosely receiving the chin strap.

**7.** An eyeshield for an infant as defined in claim **1** wherein the connection between the eyeband and chin strap is slidable, said slidable connection including a pair of aligned spaced slots in the eyeband for loosely receiving the chin strap, and means for holding the eyeband in moved slidable position on the chin strap.

**8.** An eyeshield for an infant as defined in claim **7** wherein said holding means includes a Velco strip on the eyeband on the material thereof between the slots, said strip having projecting hooks thereon, and a pair of short straps secured on the chin strap above and below the eyeband, each strap of the pair of straps carrying a Velco strip with loops projecting therefrom on the free end thereof, said straps being offset from each other laterally of the chin strap so that when swung into overlapping relation with the strip on the eyeband, the loops and hooks interlock for holding the eyeband against sliding movement along the chin strap.

**9.** An eyeshield for an infant as defined in claim **8** wherein the eyeband is formed with a pair of enlargements at the points where the eyeband passes over the sockets of the eyes of the infant when the eyeband is in operative position.


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JAMES R. BOLER, Primary Examiner

U.S. Cl. X.R.

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