July 19, 1932. I. FALKSON 1,868,281

HEADGEAR

Filed Feb. 6, 1932

Fig. 1.

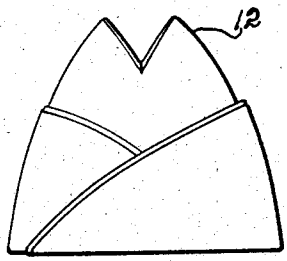


Fig. 2.

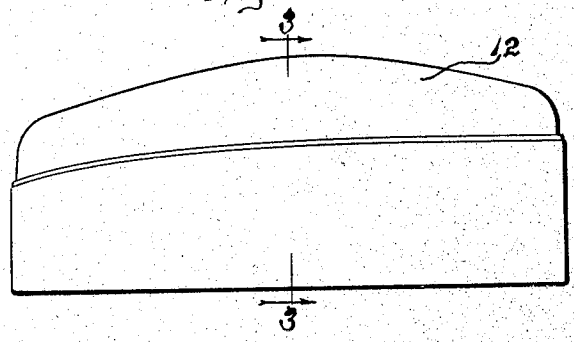


Fig. 3.

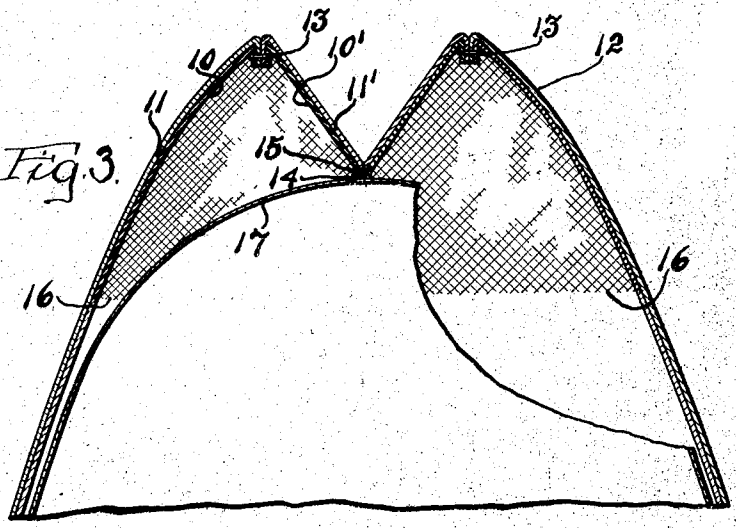


Fig. 4.

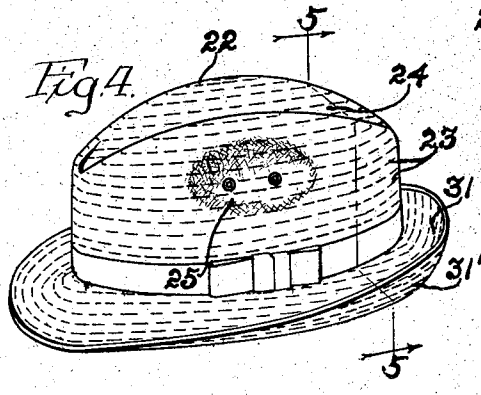
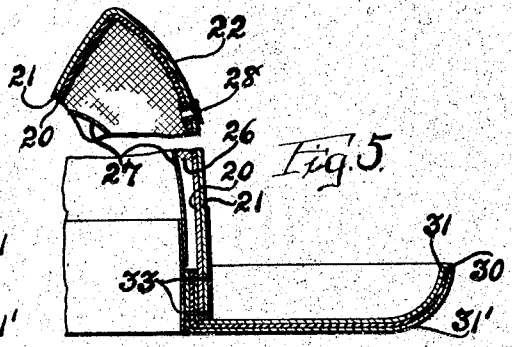


Fig. 5.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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HEADGEAR

Application filed February 6, 1932. Serial No. 591,259.

This invention relates to headgear, and more particularly to caps and hats made of pliable material and provided with a pleated or dented portion.

The usual headgear or head covering found on the market, particularly such as caps and hats of pliable material, which are provided with a pleated or dented portion at the top having one or more pleats or dents therein, invariably have such pleated or dented portion made of the same pliable consistency as the main body parts of such cap or hat, so that by applying such headgear, especially by pulling it down upon the head, such pleats or dents will thereby usually be opened up or straightened out and will even be fully unfolded, thus causing an unsightly and disorderly appearance.

It is the chief object and purpose of this invention to provide an improved headgear or head covering, especially a cap and a hat of pliable material, which is provided with a pleated or dented top portion so arranged that under all normal conditions the pleats and dents therein will be prevented from unfolding or opening and will be retained in the desired and proper shape and condition.

Another object is to provide a novel and improved headgear construction which finds especial application in an oversea cap, so arranged that the pleated top portion will retain the desired and proper pleated shape while being worn and will be effectively prevented from opening the pleat or fold to any great or excessive extent, even when pulled down upon the head.

A further object is to provide a headgear of cloth or similar pliable material equipped with means for stiffening any certain part or parts thereof so as to retain the desired shape of said part or parts.

A still further object is to provide a pleated or dented headgear, as a pliable cap of hat, with means including a shortened inside lining, to prevent the unfolding of the folds and pleats and dents in the upper part thereof.

These and various other objects and advantages will become apparent from the following description, taken in connection with the accompanying drawing, in which the invention is illustrated in its preferred forms of construction, it being understood that various other arrangements and forms of construction may be resorted to for carrying out the objects and purposes of this invention.

In the drawing:

Fig. 1 is an end elevation of a headgear, and more particularly an oversea cap, embodying my invention in its preferred form of construction.

Fig. 2 is a side elevational view thereof.

Fig. 3 is an enlarged fragmentary vertical sectional view taken along line 3—3 of Fig. 2, omitting the outer flap.

Fig. 4 is a perspective view of a hat of pliable material having my invention applied thereto.

Fig. 5 is an enlarged partial vertical sectional view thereof, taken along line 5—5 of Fig. 4.

This invention is especially adapted to headgear of pliable material, such as an oversea cap, as worn by the American Legion, and a cloth hat, which are provided with a pleated or dented portion at or adjacent the top thereof; and the essential feature of the invention consists in providing the pleated or dented portion of the cap or hat of pliable material with means for stiffening said portion and for making the same relatively rigid and thereby resistive to any unfolding thereof.

In the form shown in Fig. 1 the invention is preferably carried into effect by providing an intermediate layer of fabric preferably lining material 10 of substantial strength and thickness mounted closely to the inward side of the main outer layer 11 of the cap which is of suitable cloth, so that the two layers are retained in close proximity and are together pleated or folded at the top to provide a pleated upper portion 12 of the cap, as best shown in Fig. 3. Said pleated upper portion 12 is preferably constructed by using a separate middle part 10′ of the intermediate lining material and a part 11′ of the outer cloth material placed thereover to provide the folded middle part of the upper pleated portion of the cap. This folded middle part, consisting of the superposed layers or parts 10′ and 11′, is then

stitched and secured to the outward parts or side parts of the layers 10 and 11, by means of stitching 13. At the doubled over edge 14 of this middle part the pleated layers 10′ and 11′ may also be drawn and held together by suitable stitching 15.

The pleated upper portion 12 of this cap is then stiffened, preferably by treating the intermediate layer of lining material 11 and 11′ with a stiffening material, preferably a stiffening solution, about as far down from the top as this pleated portion 12 extends, substantially to the line 16. Said solution is preferably applied by the use of a sponge, or by spraying the solution on said layer.

A suitable stiffening solution is made of shellac cooked in hot water or shellac dissolved cold in alcohol, and it may include hide glue. The intermediate layer of this combination of intermediate layer and outer layer stitched together, is then treated with this solution, and this combination of layers or partly finished cap is then placed on the proper shaping block and steamed in a steam boiler to produce the proper shape. It is then dried by means of a hot sandbag or an air blast. The treated and stiffened lining material then provides a firm body underneath the outer cloth material in the top portion 12, whereby the pleat in the top portion will retain its proper shape in a very effective manner, so as to prevent the pleat from opening or unfolding to any great extent; and this stiffened material will not be softened or lose its shape-retaining function by the action of rain, snow, and the like.

In addition to stiffening the pleated upper portion 12, I preferably also make use of a shortened inside lining, as indicated by lining 17 in Fig. 3, this lining being made shorter than the usual lining so that it will bear upon the head when the cap is pulled down firmly or deep thereon. This shortened lining thus functions as auxiliary and additional means, to aid the stiffened means in the upper portion of the cap to positively prevent the pleat from being excessively unfolded or straightened out.

This invention is also well adapted to be applied to a hat, especially to the type known as a stitched cloth hat, and one manner of such application of my invention is illustrated in Figs. 4 and 5 of the drawing. As shown therein, an intermediate layer 20 of strong lining material is secured to the inner side of an outer layer 21 of the hat of suitable cloth. These layers are stitched together, as indicated at 23 in Fig. 4, and are then depressed or pleated in the upper portion 22 of the hat to form the central pleat or dent 24, and the side dents 25 are likewise formed in this upper pleated portion 22. This upper portion is preferably stiffened by applying a stiffening solution to this layer of lining material 20, throughout the upper portion 22, substantially as far down as line 26 in Fig. 5. This solution and the manner of applying it is preferably the same as described above with regard to the cap.

In this form of my invention, in addition to stiffening the pleated upper portion 22 of the hat, I preferably also provide a shortened inside lining 27, which is made shorter than the usual linings, so that it will rest firmly upon the head when the hat is pulled down deep thereon; and will thus function to aid the stiffened upper portion in retaining the hat properly pleated and dented; in fact, will positively prevent the pleat 24 and the dents 25 from being excessively or fully unfolded, substantially as in the preceding form.

In either form of my invention, the intermediate layer of lining material and the outer layer of cloth may be further secured together, especially at the upper stiffened pleated portion, by the use of securing elements, such as eyelets 28, extending through the layers, as indicated in Fig. 5. Such eyelets may be utilized or may be omitted in either form of the invention, as desired.

This type of intermediate stiffening means or stiffening layer is also well adapted for stiffening the brim portion of a flexible stitched cloth hat to retain it in shape. This is preferably accomplished by placing a stiffened layer or member 30 of lining material between the upper and lower parts or layers 31 and 31′ of the folded-over cloth material which forms the brim, said three layers being stitched together and being secured to the lower end of the combined lining material 20 and cloth material 21 at the lower part of the hat, by the use of stitching means 33, as indicated in Fig. 5 of the drawing.

This improved form of construction provides a headgear of flexible or pliable material with means for retaining any certain part thereof in its proper shape, whether the upper portion or the brim, and this is readily accomplished by the use of a stiffened intermediate layer or member provided in the certain part or portion of the headgear, substantially as disclosed herein. In addition, the shortened lining aids the stiffened means in retaining the pleat or dent in proper position, and actually prevents such pleat or dent positively from being opened to any excessive extent.

I claim:

1. A headgear comprising an outer layer of pliable cloth and an intermediate layer of strong fabric material secured on the inner side thereof, said layers being arranged to provide a pleated upper portion of said headgear, and said intermediate layer being permeated with a stiffening material throughout said pleated upper portion, for preventing the pleat in said portion from un-

folding, while the lower portion is retained pliable for comfort on the head.

2. A headgear comprising an outer layer of pliable cloth and an intermediate layer of fabric material on the inner side thereof, means for securing said layers together, said layers being arranged to provide a pleated upper portion on the headgear, the intermediate layer being stiffened throughout said pleated portion for preventing unfolding of said pleat, while the lower portion is retained pliable for comfort on the head, and a shortened lining in the headgear adapted to bear on the head before said pleat is fully opened and to aid the stiffened layer in preventing excessive opening of said pleat.

3. A headgear comprising an outer layer of pliable cloth and an intermediate layer of strong lining material on the inside thereof, said superposed layers being depressed at the upper part of the headgear to provide a pleated upper portion, and stitching means securing said layers together, said intermediate layer having its upper part impregnated with a stiffening material throughout said pleated portion, thereby providing a pliable lower part comfortable to the head, but a stiffened upper part for preventing excessive opening of said pleat.

4. The subject matter of claim 3 and including a shortened inside lining in the headgear adapted to bear on the head before the pleat has opened to any great extent, thereby aiding said stiffened layer to positively prevent excessive opening of the pleat.

In testimony whereof I have signed this specification.

ISIDOR FALKSON.