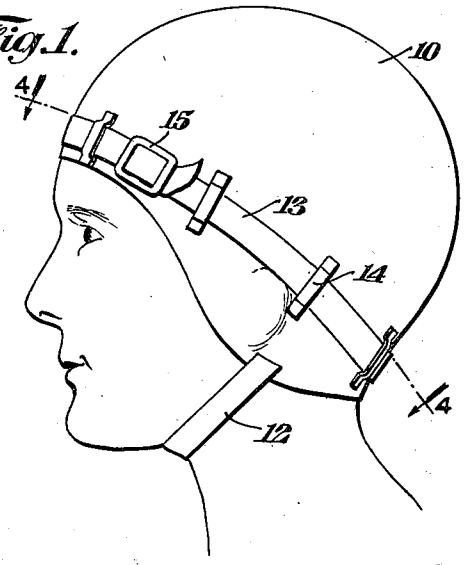
June 16, 1942. N. C. SHEFFIELD ET AL 2,286,652

SWIMMING CAP

Filed April 18, 1940

Fig. 1.



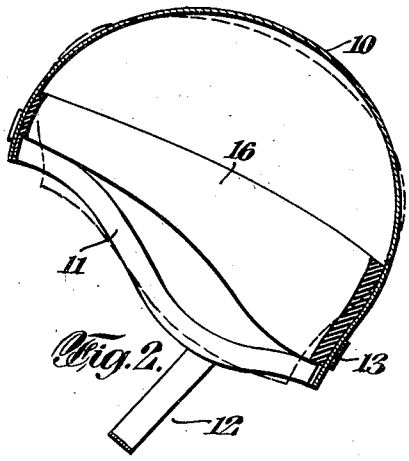




Fig. 2.

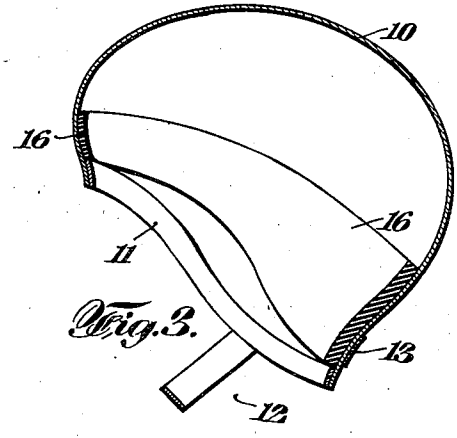
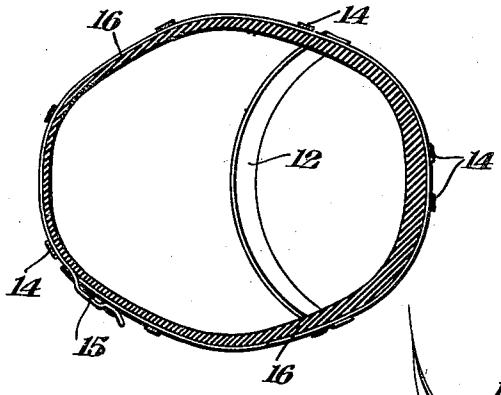



Fig. 3.

Fig. 4.



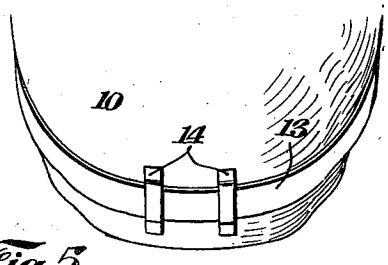




Fig. 5.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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## SWIMMING CAP

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Application April 18, 1940, Serial No. 330,280

1 Claim. (Cl. 2—68)

This invention relates to swim caps.

Swim caps now in the market are subject to the objection that they do not fully prevent seepage of water into the cap, the result being that the hair of the wearer becomes wet. An object of this invention is a swim cap which provides an effective seal between it and the head of its wearer to prevent inflow of water into contact with the wearer's hair.

Other objects, novel features and advantages of this invention will become apparent from the following specification and accompanying drawing, wherein:

Fig. 1 illustrates a cap embodying the invention in position on the head;

Fig. 2 is a section through the cap in the form assumed by it when being worn;

Fig. 3 is a similar section of the cap removed from the head;

Fig. 4 is a sectional view substantially on the line 4—4 of Fig. 1, and

Fig. 5 is a rear view.

The body 10 of the cap is made of light weight rubber. Sufficient depth is provided from the top of the cap to its edge, the depth of the cap from its top to the edge exceeding that which has heretofore been customary in swimming caps. Also, the body of the cap is provided with greater fullness through the top thereof than heretofore and is formed with a decided tapering toward and along the lower edge throughout its entire circumference. As illustrated in full lines in Fig. 3 and in dotted lines in Fig. 2, the bottom edge of the cap has to be stretched in order to assume its proper position when being worn. This insures snug fit of the edge along the wearer's skin. Also, as is apparent from Figs. 2 and 3, sufficient fullness is allowed in the upper portion of the cap to provide a snug fit without spreading the cap out of shape. The edge of the cap, therefore, tends to fit the head snugly and the material of the cap between the top and edge is not subject to strain as heretofore, which has tended to separate the edge from close contact with the wearer's head. A reinforcing strip 11 of rubber or other suitable elastic material is arranged at the edge of the cap along its inner surface and tends to promote close contact between the edge of the cap and the wearer's head.

The edge of the cap is shaped to cover the ears and to lie low on the back of the wearer's head. The cap may be either of the strapless type of the chin-strap type herein illustrated. If the cap is of the chin-strap type, a strap 12 is detachably connected at or near its ends to the lower edge of the cap with the points of connection lying just to the rear of the wearer's ears, so that the chin strap tends to pull the edge of the cap tightly into contact with the wearer's head. The point of attachment of each end of the strap 12 to the cap is just below and slightly in back of the lower tip of the ear so that the strap follows the depression in back of the jaw and passes under the chin. With this arrangement, the pull from the front and back of the cap is equalized to prevent gapping in front or in back of the ears.

An outer elastic strap or band 13 is supported in proper position on the cap by a series of loops 14. Preferably, there are six or eight loops, two of which are placed low on the back of the cap, one above each ear, and two on the front part of the cap. A buckle 15 is provided to permit adjustment of the band 13. This band crosses the front of the wearer's head, passes above the wearer's ears and around the back of the wearer's head following approximately the hairline.

Within the cap is provided a band of sponge rubber or other suitable compressible material having elastic properties. This band is shaped to fit the wearer's head beneath the outer strap 13 and is of greater width and thickness at the rear than in the front as is indicated in Figs. 2 and 4. The band 16 may be permanently fastened to the interior of the cap or may be completely detached therefrom. In the latter event, the band and cap are put on separately, whereas in the former case, they are applied to the head as a unit.

When the cap is in place on the head, the edge of the cap fits the head snugly and all gapping tendency is avoided by reason of the extra depth and width, tapering of the cap toward and along its bottom edge, as well as the low back line of the cap, previously referred to, and the reinforcing strip 11. The outer band 13 compresses the inner band tightly against the head, thereby producing an effective water-tight seal. When the band 16 is not permanently attached to the cap, it need not be applied to the head and reliance may be placed on the outer strip 13 to produce the water-tight seal. However, the use of the band 16 is preferable as there is better assurance of a water-tight seal.

We claim:

A swim cap comprising a head-fitting member of sufficient depth and fullness in its upper portion to provide a snug fit without deforming its shape and having an outside taper toward and

along its lower edge throughout its entire circumference, a reinforcing elastic band attached to the inner surface of said member along its edge, a band of elastic compressible material within said cap having its edge conforming substantially to the hairline, said band being wider and thicker in its rear portion than in its front portion and being arranged to fit over the upper part of the forehead and above the ears and low on the neck, and an elastic strip surrounding said member in front relation to said band, said strip being arranged to fit over the forehead and above the ears and low on the neck.

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