Aug. 9, 1949. L. S. SMITH 2,478,550

HEAD PROTECTOR FOR HATS

Filed Nov. 14, 1946

Fig. 1.

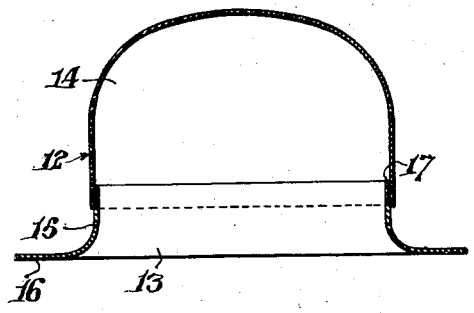


Fig. 2.

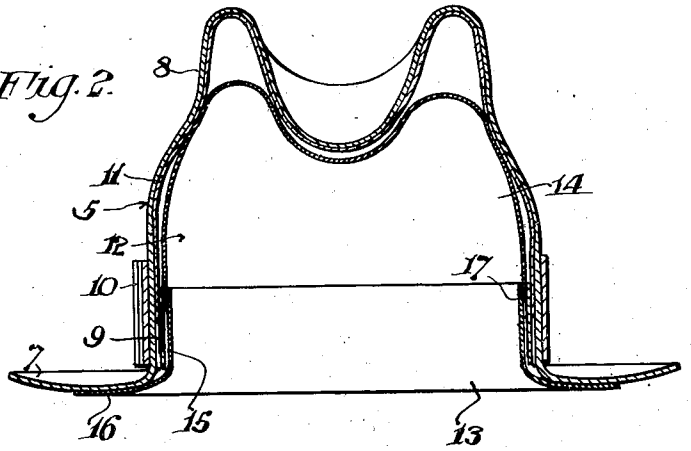
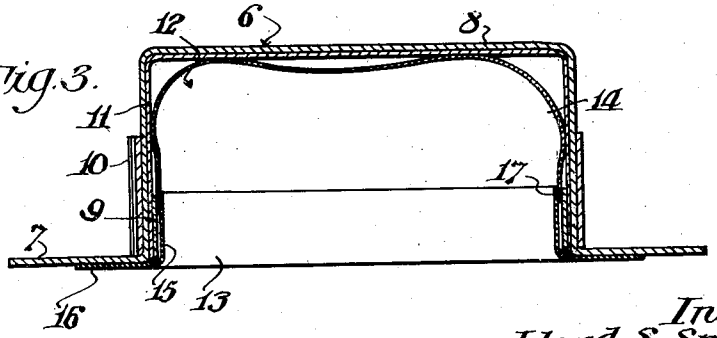


Fig. 3.



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HEAD PROTECTOR FOR HATS

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1 Claim. (Cl. 2—63)

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My invention relates to a new and useful head protector for hats to be used by men, women and children and is particularly valuable in the prevention of the spreading of contagious or communicable disease and vermin from one person to another.

An object of the invention is to provide a protector or shield to be included as a temporary part of a hat and discarded after use thereof by one person or owned by an individual for his or her personal use in connection with his or her individual hat or hats or with hats to be temporarily placed upon the head, as when trying on hats for size and style.

Another object of this invention is to provide a protector of the kind mentioned including a base member of relatively stiff solidified viscose or other suitable material shaped to generally coincide with the inside of a hat, in the region of the sweat band, and the brim thereof, and a crown member of more pliable solidified viscose or other material which can be wrinkled or folded to assume a position within the hat crown and cover the wearer's head.

With the above and other objects in view this invention consists of the details of construction and combination of elements hereinafter set forth and then designated by the claims.

In order that those skilled in the art to which this invention appertains may understand how to make and use the same I will describe its construction in detail referring by numerals to the accompanying drawing forming a part hereof, in which:

Fig. 1 is a sectional view of the head protector constructed in accordance with my invention.

Fig. 2 is a sectional view of one style or type of hat with the head protector therein.

Fig. 3 is a similar view of another style or type of hat with the protector shown in position.

In carrying out the invention as herein embodied 5 represents one type or style of hat, such as a felt fedora and 6 is another type or style of hat, such as a straw sailor. These are merely illustrative and might be considered as men's hats but it is to be understood that the protector is applicable to women's and children's hats as well as men's and of any style, type or shape of hat.

As herein shown, each hat includes a brim 7, crown 8, sweat band 9, an ornamental outside ribbon band 10, and a lining 11.

To keep the hat, including its crown, the lining, brim and sweat band, from touching the head of a person trying on said hat, a protector 12 is

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provided of a size to match the size of the hat in which it is placed or of a size to fit a person's head. In other words the head protectors are made in all of the various sizes in which hats are usually manufactured.

Each protector consists of a base member 13 of relative stiff solidified viscose or other suitable material, preferably transparent, and a crown member 14 of thinner and pliable solidified viscose or other desirable material. The base member is permanently shaped to include a generally tubular sleeve portion 15 of a height substantially that of the sweat band, and a brim portion 16 projecting outwardly all around the lower end of said sleeve portion. The crown member is generally dome shaped and its lower edge overlaps the upper edge of the sleeve portion of the base member and is fixed thereto in any suitable manner, as by the use of an adhesive 17.

In practice, when a person is going to try on a hat for size, style or appearance in a store, a protector of the proper size for the customer is slipped into any hat before being placed upon the head. If the protector belongs to the store owner it can be destroyed or presented to the customer but if the customer is the owner of the protector he can remove it and put it away. In either instance, after the desired hat is decided upon the protector is withdrawn and the hat worn in the usual and regular way.

In addition to using the protector for trying on hats it can also be used by individuals, particularly school children, to prevent germs which might be deposited on a hat hanger or hook from coming in contact with the inside of the hat while the latter is hanging on the supporting device.

When the protector is placed in a hat, the crown portion of said protector will assume the general formation of the inside of the hat crown because of folds, wrinkles or puckers and therefore does not interfere with the proper placing of the hat on the head.

Of course I do not wish to be limited to the exact details of construction herein shown and described as these may be varied within the scope of the appended claim without departing from the spirit of my invention.

Having described the invention what I claim as new and useful is:

A head protector for hats comprising a base member of stiff solidified viscose fashioned to provide a circumferentially solid sleeve portion of a size to fit within a predetermined size hat and a circumferentially solid brim portion pro-

jecting outwardly from the sleeve portion all around the same and adapted to be disposed over a large area of the underside of the hat brim, a separate integral crown member of generally dome formation produced from thin, pliable solidified viscose so as to be wrinkled, puckered or folded into the general shape of the inside of a hat crown, and means to join the edge of the crown member of the protector to the upper edge of the sleeve portion of the base member of said protector into a unitary structure.

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