Dec. 26, 1939. J. JACOBS 2,184,996

EAR MUFF

Filed May 10, 1937

Fig. 1.

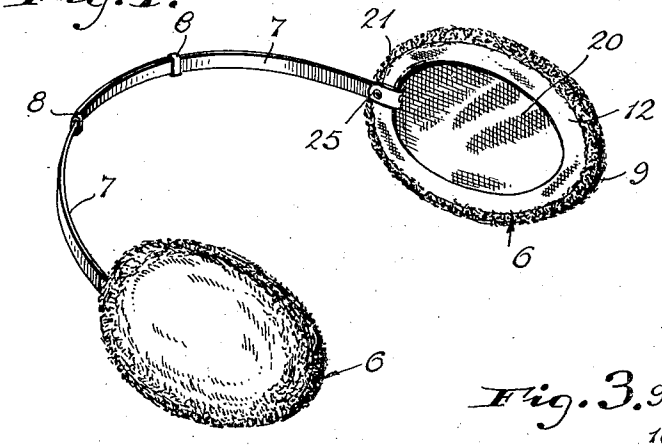


Fig. 3.

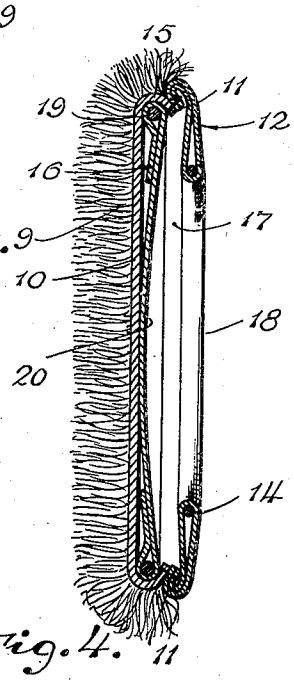


Fig. 2.

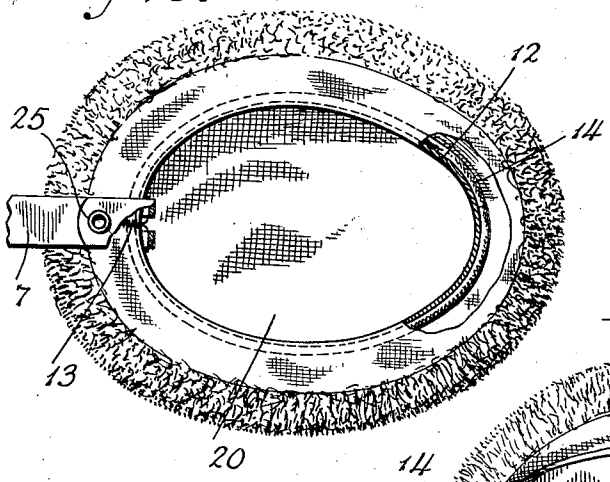


Fig. 4.

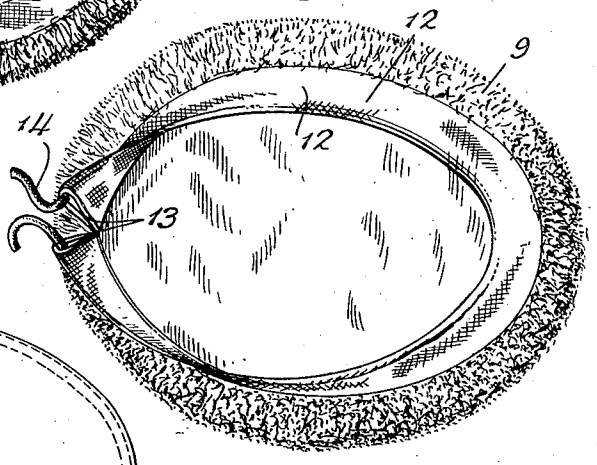
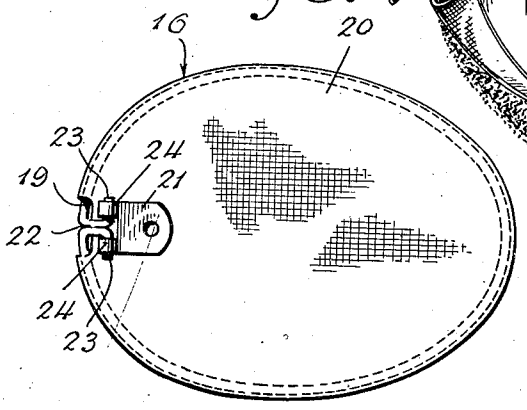


Fig. 5.



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EAR MUFF

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Application May 10, 1937, Serial No. 141,643

1 Claim. (Cl. 2—209)

This invention relates to improvements in ear muffs and has for one of its objects to provide an improved muff of simple and practical construction which will more readily maintain its adjusted position on the ear and snugly fit the same so that the maximum warmth may be obtained from the use of the muff.

The above and other objects will appear more clearly from the following detailed description when taken in connection with the accompanying drawing which illustrates a preferred form of the inventive idea.

In the drawing—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a pair of ear muffs and the connecting means therefor constructed in accordance with the invention.

Figure 2 is an interior plan view of one of the muffs, partly broken away and shown in section.

Figure 3 is a vertical longitudinal section through the muff.

Figure 4 is a plan view of the body of the muff and its backing member, before assembly of the other elements of the muff, and,

Figure 5 is a plan view of a supporting frame and inner lining for the body of the muff.

Referring more particularly to Figure 1, the invention is shown as comprising a pair of muffs generally indicated by the numeral 6 and joined by the usual type of support consisting of two bowed head bands 7 of resilient material which extend over the head and contract to snugly maintain the muffs 6 against the ears. Adjacent ends of the bands 7 overlap and each carries a clip 8 at its extremity through which the other band extends so that the two bands may be adjusted relative to each other to vary the effective length of the support. The other ends of the bands 7 are connected to the muffs 6 in a manner which will appear in the course of the description.

The muffs 6 are of identical construction and each is shown as comprising a body 9 which may be made of any desirable material such as animal fur with its hide or skin base 10. In the making of the muffs, the body 9 is cut to substantially oval shape so as to conform generally to the contour of the ear and the periphery of the base 10 has stitched or otherwise secured thereto, as indicated at 11, one edge of a backing member generally indicated by the numeral 12. This member is formed from an elongated strip of suitable material such as felt or the like and before its application to the body 9 the strip is folded longitudinally upon itself to provide two layers of material. The free edges of the strip are then stitched to the base 10 around its edge, with the ends 13 of the strip (Figure 4) separated to admit of the introduction of a draw string 14 between the folds of the strip and extending around the inner or folded edge thereof. This draw string 14 may be placed in position between the folds of the strip 12 before it is stitched to the body or the same may be drawn through said strip after the stitching 11 has been applied. When the backing strip has been attached to the body the former is folded over to substantially the position shown in Figures 3 and 4 and in such positions the edge of the body is turned inwardly as indicated at 15 to provide a recess for the reception of a supporting frame generally indicated by the numeral 16, and said backing strip combines with the body to form a pocket 17 with the inner folded edge of the strip defining a restricted opening 18 of substantially the size of an ear so that the latter may be recessed in the pocket when the muff is in position.

When the body and backing therefor have been assembled and positioned as in Figure 4, the supporting member 16 is inserted through the opening 18 and positioned, as in Figure 3, in the recess in the rear of the body 9. Said supporting member is preferably in the form of a wire frame 19 bent to conform to the contour of the body and of a size to engage the peripheral portion of said body and thereby maintain it in proper shape. Extending over the frame is a sheet of suitable material, such as felt or wool, which constitutes a lining 20 for the base 10 and an interior wall for the pocket 17 so that the ear will not come in direct contact with said base. With the supporting member 16 positioned within the muff as described, the projecting extremities of the draw string 14 are pulled together and tied so that the ends 13 of the backing strip will be drawn together with the entire strip now extended inwardly from the peripheral edge of the body and in position to prevent accidental dislodgement of the supporting frame 16 from its position within the muff. At the time that the support 16 is placed within the muff the extremities of the wire frame 19 (Figure 5), which carry the connecting plate 21 to which the ends of the bands 7 are joined, are positioned directly beneath the ends 13 of the backing strip 12, so that when the draw string 14 is pulled and tied the portions of the strip adjacent said ends 13 will over-lie the bent

ends of said wire frame. The end portions of the wire frame are bent inwardly as indicated at 22 and may be soldered together to make the frame rigid at this point, and the extremities 23 of the wire are diverged from the portions 22 and aligned with each other to receive the ears 24 formed at the inner ends of the connecting plate 21, thus providing a pivotal mounting for said plate. After the backing strip has been drawn to cover the ends of the frame 19, the connecting plate 21 is swung from the position in Figure 5 to that in Figure 1 where it over-lies the ends 13 of the strip 12 and the tied ends of the draw string 14, thus concealing the same. The structure is completed by pivotally connecting at 25 the free ends of the plates 21 of the two ear muffs to adjacent ends of the bands 7.

What is claimed is:

In an ear muff, a flexible body, a supporting frame encased therein and unattached thereto, a lining for the inner surface of said body carried by said frame, a flexible backing for said body combining therewith to form a pocket and comprising a strip of material folded longitudinally upon itself with the free edges of the strip secured to the periphery of said body, and a draw string disposed between the folds of said strip and engaging in the fold of the material thereof to maintain the backing in cooperative relation to said body.

JOSEPH JACOBS.