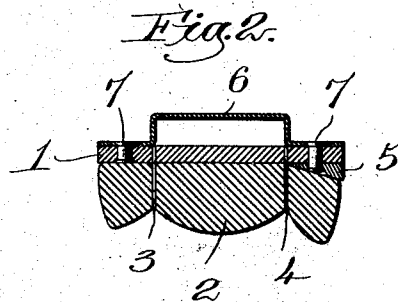


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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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SHOULDER RESISTANCE-PAD.

978,821.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, DANIEL F. BROWN, a citizen of the United States, and resident of South Framingham, county of Middlesex, and State of Massachusetts, and WILLIAM E. CHENERY, a citizen of the United States, and resident of Framingham, county of Middlesex, and State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improvement in Shoulder Resistance-Pads, of which the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawing, is a specification, like characters on the drawing representing like parts.

The object of this invention is to provide a resistance pad for the shoulder for the use of letter carriers, distributors of bills, circulars, or samples, or any one having to carry a bag or other load by a strap passing over the shoulder; the purpose of the pad being to relieve the pressure of the strap upon the shoulder and to keep it from sliding or slipping off.

The device of this invention presents a soft, resilient, frictional, yielding portion against the shoulder of the wearer by which the pressure is distributed in such a manner as to be as comfortable as possible; it does not injure the clothing of the wearer, and relieves the clothing from the wearing action of the strap; it presents a tough, stiff, and smooth upper surface upon which the strap can slide and be held in place, and the weight supported by the strap can be distributed to the material coming next to the shoulder; it is so constructed as to remain in position on the shoulder and not slip off.

The foregoing and other characteristics of the invention will appear more fully from the accompanying description and drawings and the extent of the invention will be defined by the appended claim.

The drawings represent a construction embodying the preferred form of the invention.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a view in perspective of the device; Fig. 2 is a cross section taken through one of the strap-retaining loops.

In the preferred form of the device as illustrated, the resistance pad comprises a top piece, or layer, 1 of tough, stiff, smooth, wear-resisting material, such as leather; a facing, or lower layer, 2 of soft, resilient,

frictional, yielding material, such as sponge rubber, united to the top layer by a plurality, preferably two, rows of stitches 3, 4; a welting strip 5 of leather or other suitable material, triangular in cross section, inserted between the top piece and the facing layer so as to make one side of the pad considerably thicker than the other; a suitable device for retaining and guiding a strap on the top surface, such, for example, as the strap-retaining loops 6. The pad curves longitudinally, as shown in Fig. 1, so as to fit the contour of the shoulder of the wearer readily, however the shoulder may be shaped.

The insertion of the welting strip 5 makes one edge of the resistance pad much thicker than the opposite edge, as seen more clearly from Fig. 2. This prevents the pad from slipping off the shoulder of the wearer, because when the thicker edge is placed on the side away from the neck the top surface of the pad is brought more nearly to a horizontal level and pressure placed upon the pad does not tend materially to slide the pad off the shoulder. This welting strip may be held in place in any suitable manner and is herein shown as held in place by rivets 7 which attach the strap-retaining loops 6 to the top piece.

The strap-retaining loops may be of any suitable material and shape and are herein shown as formed of sheet metal and riveted to the top piece 1. The facing is preferably made, as stated, of sponge rubber which has been found most satisfactory for the purpose, although other materials having similar characteristics would answer the purpose. The two rows of stitches 3 and 4, preferably formed of heavy wax thread, draw the soft facing up as indicated in Fig. 2, thus producing three general longitudinal lines of contact between the resistance pad and the shoulder, which enables the pad to get a better grip upon the shoulder.

Having fully described our invention what we claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

A shoulder resistance pad comprising a top piece or layer of tough, stiff, smooth, capable of being stitched wear-resisting material, a thick facing layer of soft, resilient, frictional, yielding material, a welting strip inserted along one edge between the two layers, whereby the pad is thickened at one

edge, a plurality of longitudinal rows of stitching uniting said layers and causing the facing of the pad to present a plurality of longitudinal lines of frictional contact, and
5 means for retaining a strap in place on the top surface.

In testimony whereof, we have signed our

names to this specification, in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

DANIEL F. BROWN.

WILLIAM E. CHENERY.

Witnesses:

CONSTANCE ADAMS,

WALTER ADAMS.