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T. E. KNUDSON  
HAT CROWN STAY

2,543,855

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FIG. 1

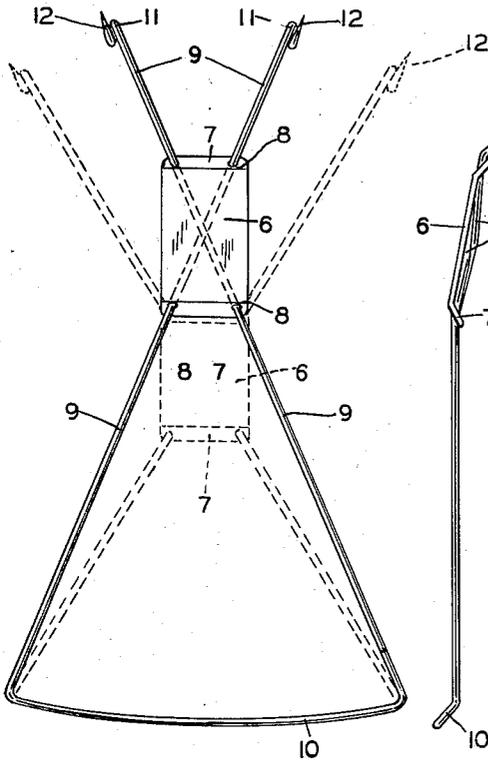


FIG. 2

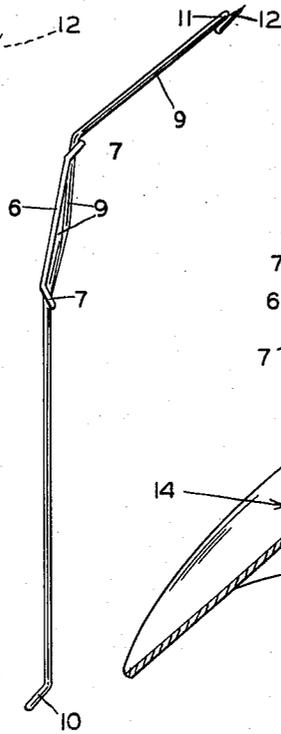


FIG. 3

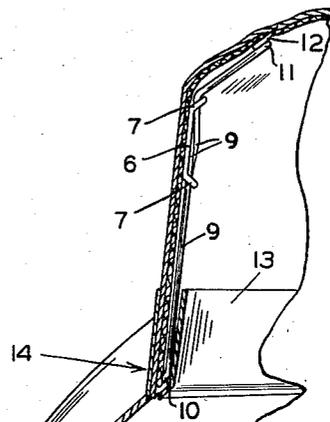


FIG. 4

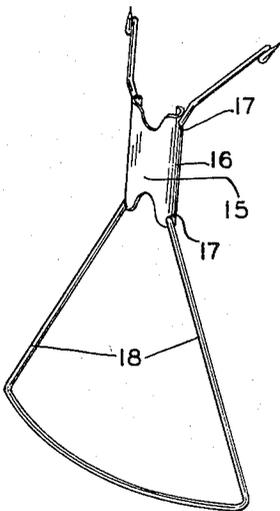
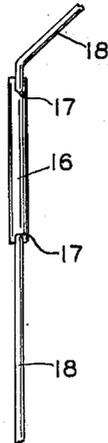


FIG. 5



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,543,855

## HAT CROWN STAY

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5 Claims. (Cl. 2—185)

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This invention relates to a hat crown brace and is adapted to hold the crown of a hat in position.

It is a general object of the invention to provide a brace for the forward and upper portions of a hat crown and is particularly suited for use with a man's felt or soft straw hat. The device is one which is light in structure and which can be readily adjusted to fit compactly and unnoticeably in a hat to retain it in the position desired.

The above and other objects and advantages of the invention will more fully appear from the following description made in connection with the accompanying drawings, wherein like reference characters refer to the same parts throughout the views, and, in which:

Figure 1 is a plan view of the device showing it in two positions in full and dotted lines;

Figure 2 is a side elevational view thereof;

Figure 3 is a view showing a portion of a hat in vertical section with the brace installed therein;

Figure 4 is a perspective view of the brace; and

Figure 5 is an enlarged fragmentary side detail of the structure of Figure 4.

In Figures 1 through 3 there is shown a brace structure including a body plate 6 having angularly bent upper and lower end portions 7 which at spaced points are provided with apertures 8.

Extending through diagonally opposite pairs of apertures 8 are wire arms 9 which are connected at their lower ends by a slight arcuate wire base portion 10. The arms 9 extend upwardly through the upper apertures 8 in the body plate 6 and said arms diverge and are provided at their upper ends with depth limiting stops such as loops 11 and pointed ends or prongs 12.

It will be seen in Figure 1 that the wires 9 can be slid through the apertures 8 in the body plate 6, thereby causing the wires to extend a greater or less diagonal above the plate 6 and at the same time varying the spaced relationship of the pointed upper ends or prongs 12 of the wire arms.

When installing in a relatively low crowned hat the plate 6 may be shifted to a position similar to that shown in dotted lines in Figure 1, while for a higher crown it may be more or less in the position shown in full lines. When the proper height adjustment of the plate 6 and arms 9 is made the arms at their upper ends above the plate 6 are bent as shown in Figures 2 and 3 so that they will extend rearwardly as well as upwardly in the hat.

The cross member 10 or base of the wire portion is shown in Figure 3 to fit between the hat sweat band 13 and lower crown portion indicated generally at 14. When it is placed in this position and the prongs 12 are anchored in the hat crown the device will remain firmly in position. It will prevent the crown from collapsing or being pinched to a point at the forward upper end, such as commonly occurs when the wearer of the hat removes it and replaces it upon his head by grasp-

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ing the upper forward crown portion with his fingers.

In Figures 4 and 5 there is shown a modified construction wherein there is a body plate 15 having rolled side portions or flanges 16 which are provided with apertures 17 to receive wire arms 18 in generally the same manner as the arms 9 described above. This may be a more rigid form of construction, particularly when the body plate 15 is made of an extremely light material.

It will, of course, be understood that various changes may be made in the form, details, arrangement and proportions of the various parts without departing from the scope of my invention.

What I claim is:

1. A hat crown brace comprising a base portion, a pair of arms extending upwardly from said base portion and having crossed portions disposed in a criss-cross relationship and having diverging upper hat crown engaging ends, and an arm connecting plate associated with said arms above said base portion and through which said crossed portions slidably extend to permit adjustability in the divergence of the hat crown engaging ends of said arms through raising and lowering of said connecting plate relative to the arms.

2. The structure defined in claim 1, the extreme hat crown engaging ends of said arms being pronged and said arms below said pronged portions being shaped to form depth limiting stops for the prongs.

3. A hat crown brace comprising a base portion, a pair of arms extending upwardly from said base portion and having crossed portions disposed in a criss-cross relationship and having diverging upper hat crown engaging ends, and an arm connecting plate associated with said arms above said base portion and having flanges through which said crossed portions slidably extend to permit adjustability in the divergence of the hat crown engaging ends of said arms through raising and lowering of said connecting plate relative to the arms.

4. The structure defined in claim 3, said flanges being formed on the top and bottom edges of said plate.

5. The structure defined in claim 3, said flanges being formed at the sides of said plate.

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