July 12, 1927. 1,635,456

J. H. BOWDITCH

HAT

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Fig. 1.

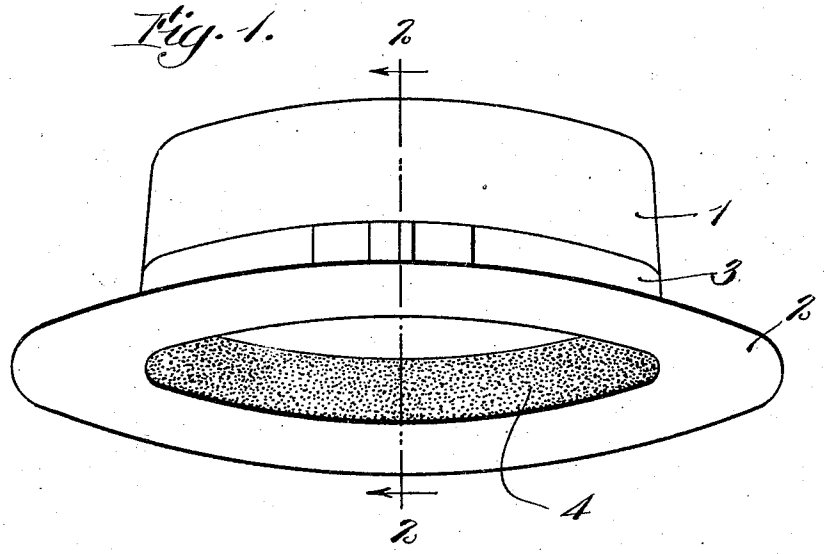
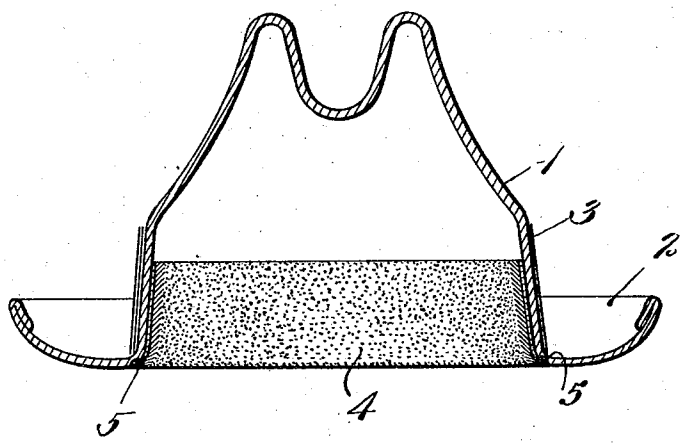


Fig. 2.



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HAT.

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This invention relates to hats, caps and the like and is intended to provide an interior hat band of such construction and material as to tend to prevent accidental removal of the hat from the head of the wearer, while reducing to a minimum the absorption and accumulation of perspiration thereby preventing discoloration of the hat body.

Hats are commonly provided with so called sweat bands made of leather presenting a smooth surface against the head which allows a hat unless fitted very tightly to be blown off easily by gusts of wind. On the other hand a tight-fitting hat is uncomfortable to wear besides being unhygienic because of its impeding circulation of blood in the scalp. Furthermore leather readily absorbs and retains perspiration and transmits it to the hat body.

The present invention overcomes these faults by providing first a hat band of a material which opposes no resistance to putting the hat on the head but which so grips or engages the hair and scalp as to automatically afford yielding resistance to the accidental removal of the hat, and second by utilizing a material that is both agreeable to the sense of touch and yet possessing very little or no absorbent properties.

In the accompanying drawings I have illustrated an embodiment of the principles of this invention as applied to an ordinary soft felt hat for men's wear, but it will be understood that the improvement is applicable to all kinds of headwear and the term "hat" is used in the broadly generic sense to cover hats, caps and the like.

In said drawings:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a hat provided with my improved interior band.

Figure 2 is a vertical cross section through said hat to illustrate the preferred arrangement of pile threads or spines.

In the form of hat illustrated in the drawings, 1 indicates the hollow body of the hat, and 2 the usual hat-band. The external band 3 may be made of the usual material and applied in the usual way.

In place of the usual leather so-called sweat-band, I cut out, preferably from a piece of mohair plush, a band 4 of appropriate length and width to be secured around the inside marginal portion of the hat body 1. The pile fabric, whether mohair plush or other suitable pile fabric, preferably has short inclined cut pile threads, and the band is so cut and so applied to the interior of the hat body that the pile threads point upwardly toward the crown and away from the lower edge of the hat body. This upward inclination of the pile threads presents a series of elastic yielding gripping spines which opposes no resistance to putting the hat on the head but afford a very decided resistance to the accidental removal of the hat by reason of the inclined spines gripping the head of the wearer, so that any tendency of the hat to lift causes the spines to act like a series of closely arranged elastic hooks which tend to turn inwardly as the hat lifts, thereby momentarily increasing the gripping action and thus increasing the elastic resistance to the removal of the hat. As the gripping action is greatest at the hair covered portion of the scalp, the raising of the forward portion of the hat which engages the forehead meets with less resistance, and consequently does not make it noticeably difficulty to raise the hat when the front of the brim is grasped and lifted.

The hat band may be secured in place either by a coating of adhesive cement applied to the back of the pile fabric, or by a row of stitches attaching it to the edge or marginal portion of the hat body, or by using both means of attachment.

The connecting row of stitches, if used, will ordinarily be located at the usual position, and are shown at 5 in the drawings.

The preferred material for this purpose is mohair plush because it is found that mohair plush has only a very slight absorbent property as compared with the usual leather hat band, its pile threads may be easily given an oblique inclination and have sufficient stiffness and elasticity to function for an indefinite period, while at the same time presenting a very agreeable sensation to the sense of touch. Furthermore, should the hat band of this material become soiled it may be easily washed without injury by means of a cloth or sponge dipped in clear or soapy water.

By reason of the elasticity of the pile threads or spines it is unnecessary, when selecting a hat, to select a very snug fitting hat. The pile threads produce a sufficient separation of the solid portion of the hat body or band from the head to permit a slight

ventilation, while at the same time resisting the lifting of the hat without requiring that it shall be tight fitting.

What I claim is:

1. A hat embracing a body of suitable form for the head and an interior band secured around the inside edge portion of the hat body, said band being provided with closely arranged short spines of mohair inclined toward the crown and forming a yielding gripping engagement with the head of the wearer to resist accidental removal of the hat from the head.

2. A hat embracing a hollow body and an interior band secured inside the lower edge of the body, said band consisting of a strip of mohair plush whose pile threads yieldingly engage the head of the wearer.

3. An interior hat band comprising a strip of mohair plush adapted to be secured inside the hat body with its pile threads projecting inwardly to form a yielding relatively nonabsorbent cushion against the head of the wearer.

In witness whereof, I have subscribed the above specification.

JAMES H. BOWDITCH.