United States Patent

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fractional part interest

[54] **HAT AND SWEATBAND INSERT THERFOR**
5 Claims, 5 Drawing Figs.

[52] **U.S. Cl.** **2/181**
[51] **Int. Cl.** **A42b 1/02**
[50] **Field of Search** 2/181, 182, 183, 184, 195, 171; 132/59

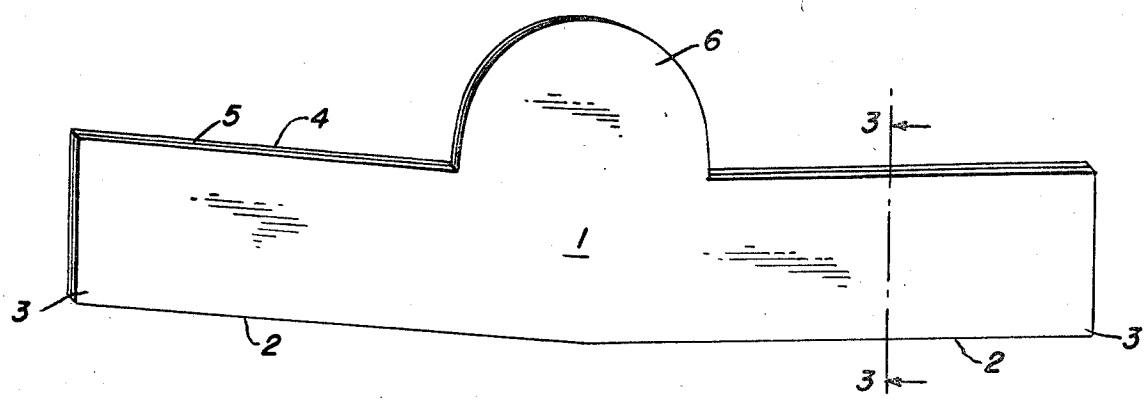
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ABSTRACT: A hat having a sweatband and an elongated readily insertable and discardable insert. The insert includes a perspiration absorbent face portion and a moisture impervious back portion with an upstanding central member. The central member extends above a sweatband to expose the absorbent portion to facilitate perspiration evaporation therefrom and to provide a grasping portion whereby the insert can be readily inserted or removed.



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Fig. 1.

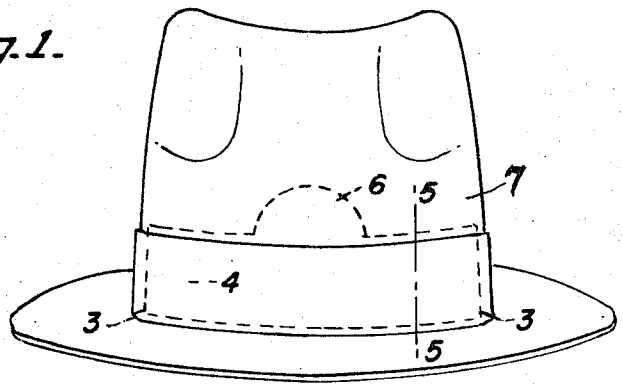


Fig. 5.

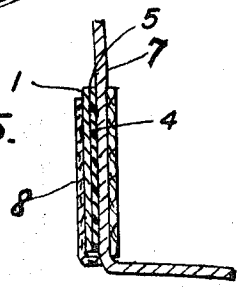


Fig. 2.

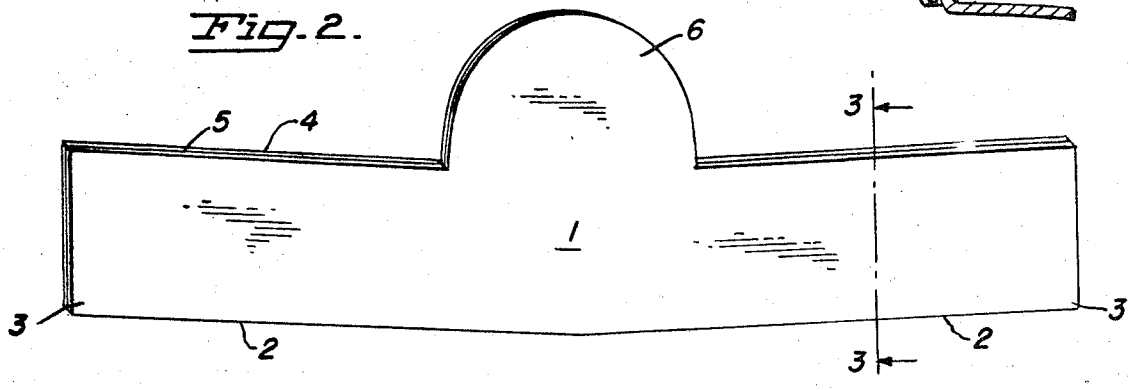


Fig. 3.

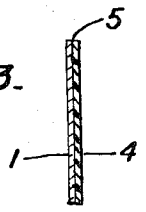
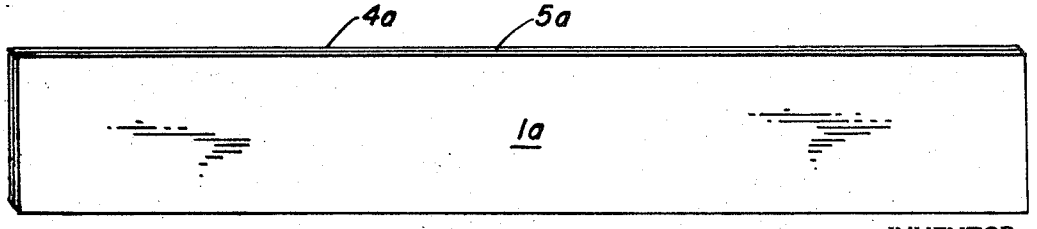


Fig. 4.



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HAT AND SWEATBAND INSERT THERFOR

The invention relates to hats for men, of the felt and cloth types made by Stetson, Dobbs, Knox, etc., and provides a thin flat elongated insert which fits between the sweatband and the crown of the hat.

The main object of the insert is to protect the crown and the hatband against perspiration stains which are often caused in hot weather by perspiration seeping through the sweatband around the frontal and side areas of the hat in line with a person's forehead and temples.

Most hats in recent years are made with a thin narrow strip of plastic or other waterproof material stitched between the lower part of the sweatband the hat crown where the two join, for the purpose of preventing seepage of perspiration to the crown and hatband. However, these hats do not provide for absorption of excess perspiration which often penetrates the sweatband and gets through the stitches which fasten this waterproof strip in position. Also the upper part of the sweatband which has no waterproof backing.

My invention is adapted to absorb this excess perspiration which gets through the sweatband above and below this moisture proof strip, and to gradually convey the moisture from the perspiration above the sweatband, where it evaporates.

The insert which I employ is preferably made of a relatively thin strip of blotting paper, with a flexible plastic, celluloid, cellophane, or other moistureproof backing. This perspiration guard insert has a tapered bottom edge which aids it to fit snugly into the crotch of the sweatband; and a central raised portion to assist in placing the insert into position. The moisture absorbent blotter face fits against the back of the sweatband, extending from its bottom to just above its upper edge, and thus completely covering the back surface of the sweatband over its frontal and temple areas. Owing to the fact that this absorptive blotter-faced plastic-backed insert extends above the upper edge of the sweatband over the entire length of the insert, it is obvious that the moisture from the perspiration readily finds its way to the top of the blotter where it quickly evaporates while the oils and greases of the perspiration remain in the blotter in the areas where they originate until thrown away when the insert is discarded.

The moistureproof backing of this blotter insert prevents any of the perspiration from getting through the blotter and soil or stain the hatband or the sidewalls of the crown.

The insert should be approximately 10½ inches long, which is about one-half the length of a hat sweatband. Two inserts may be employed, one for the front and one for the rear, but I find that one insert, (just for the frontal area) is usually sufficient.

Owing to the fact that these sweatband inserts are very inexpensive to make, they can be discarded as they become soiled, and replaced with new inserts at intervals during the life of the hat. The 1⅝-inch-wide insert would of course be used with a 1⅜-inch-wide sweatband as shown in the drawing, allowing the blotter-faced plastic-backed insert to protrude one-fourth inch above the sweatband and the central convex-positioning and moisture-drying member **6** to protrude 1¼ inches above the sweatband for a distance of 2½ inches. These long ¼-inch protruding areas and the large central 1¼-inch by 2½-inch protruding area provide air exposed quick-drying areas to facilitate the evaporation of the perspiration moisture. It is obvious that member **6** has a double function, namely as a positioning means and as a moisture-evaporation-facilitating means. As shown in the drawing, FIG. **2**, member **6** may extend substantially more than 1¼ inches above the upper air-exposed edge of the insert.

Further details and advantages of this invention will be apparent from the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawing, in which:

FIG. **1** is a front view of a hat, with the preferred form of my invention dotted in.

FIG. **2** is a plan view of the preferred form of my invention, with the thickness of the blotter face and the backing strip somewhat exaggerated.

FIG. **3** is a sectional view on line **3–3** of FIG. **2**.

FIG. **4** is a plan view of a simplified form of the invention.

FIG. **5** is a sectional view on line **5–5** of FIG. **1**.

Referring to FIG. **1**, the dotted sweatband insert appears with its moistureproof backing **4** facing outward.

Referring to FIG. **2**, blotter face **1** is slightly slanted in straight lines along its bottom edges **2**, intermediately between and toward its side edges **3**. The degree of slant should be about five-sixteenths of an inch. Owing to the oval-conical shape of the hat crown (**7** of FIG. **1**), I find that a straight-edged insert does not seat properly and has a tendency to become displaced upwardly centrally. My slanted edges **2** overcome this defect and allow the insert to fit snugly along the lower edge of the sweatband in the crotch. However, these inserts can be straight edged if so desired. Adhesive **5**, binds moistureproof backing strip **4** to blotter face **1**. It is of course obvious that backing **4** and face **1** can be cemented, pasted, stapled, or otherwise fastened together. Moistureproof backing strip **4** is preferably equal in size to blotter face **1**. The insert should be about 1⅝ inches wide or slightly wider than the normal sized sweatband throughout most of its area except for a central convex member **6**, which extends about 1 inch above the sweatband, and serves as a guide and an aid in positioning the insert.

Referring to FIG. **5**, moisture absorbent face **1** fits against sweatband **8**, and moistureproof backing strip **4** fits against crown **7**.

It is obvious that moistureproof backing strip **4** can be made of a flexible plastic, or celluloid, or cellophane, or a sprayed coating of moisture proof plastic, etc.

In addition to serving as a moisture guard to prevent perspiration from seeping through to the crown and hatband, backing strip **4** also serves the purpose of strengthening the thin blotter face **1** to aid in placing it and keeping it in position and also preventing it from tearing. Although not necessary, these inserts can be provided with sticker means for fastening them to a set position if desired.

I claim:

1. A readily insertable and discardable hat sweatband insert having a thin flat elongated perspiration-absorbent face portion and a thin flat flexible moistureproof coextensive back portion secured thereto, said face and back portions including a centrally located upstanding member, said insert being of a length adapted to extend lengthwise behind a sweatband the upstanding member being of a height to extend above an upper edge of a sweatband providing a dual purpose positioning and moisture dispersal drying member.

2. In the construction as set out in claim **1**, said absorbent face portion being made of blotting paper and said moistureproof back portion being made of a thin flexible plastic material.

3. In the construction as set out in claim **1**, said insert having bottom edges and side edges, said bottom edge being slanted in straight lines from an intermediate position upwardly and outwardly along its bottom edges toward its side edges.

4. In the construction as set out in claim **3**, said insert having portions of its top edge slanted parallel to its slanted bottom edges.

5. The combination of a hat, having a sweatband, and a readily insertable and discardable sweatband insert for said hat, said insert having a thin flat elongated perspiration absorbent face portion and a thin flat flexible moistureproof coextensive back portion secured thereto, said face and back portions including a centrally located upstanding member, said insert extending lengthwise behind the sweatband and the upstanding member extending above an upper edge of said sweatband providing a dual purpose positioning and moisture dispersal drying member.