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Beresic

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[54] **HAT-MOUNTED CONTAINER FOR ACCESSORIES**

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[52] **U.S. Cl.** ..... **2/185 R,** 220/23.4, 220/32

[51] **Int. Cl.** **A42b 1/20,** A42c 5/00

[58] **Field of Search** ..... 2/175, 199, 185 R, 2/195, 2, 3, 177, 179, 180, 192, 171.2, 196, 171.3; 220/1 R, 18, 23.4, DIG. 13, 32

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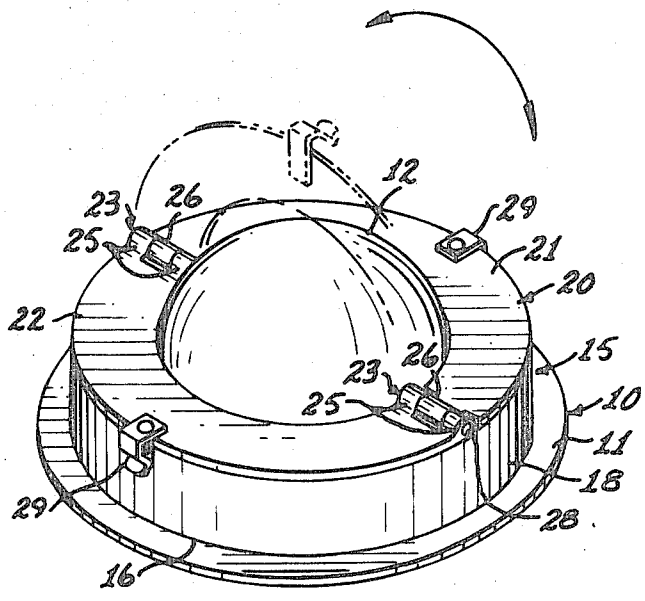
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Attorney—Warren F. B. Lindsley

[57] **ABSTRACT**

A hat-mounted container for small accessories usable in sports and specialized types of work wherein the container fits around the crown of the hat.

11 Claims, 5 Drawing Figures



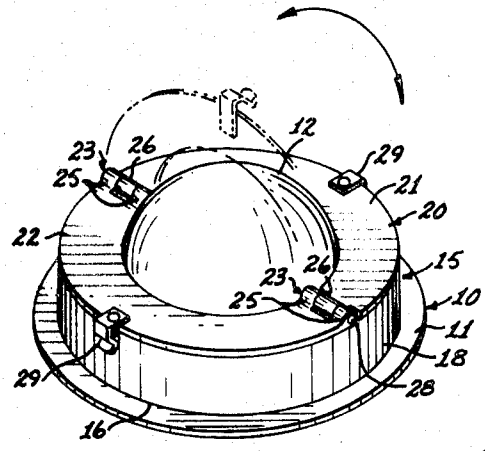


Fig. 1

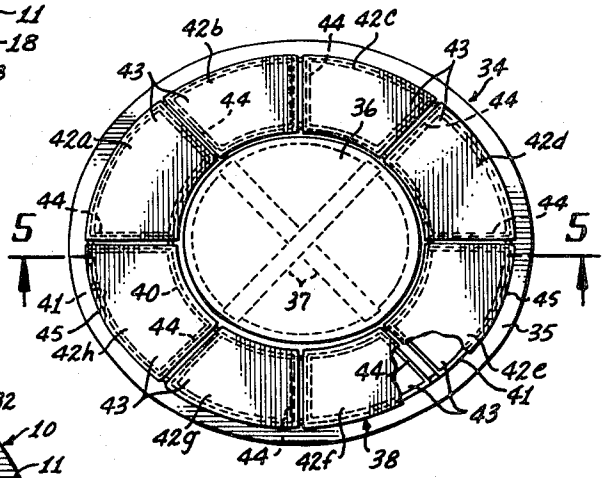


Fig. 4

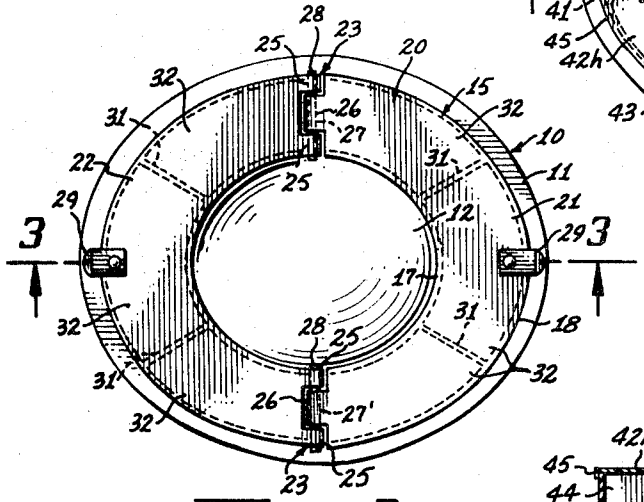


Fig. 2

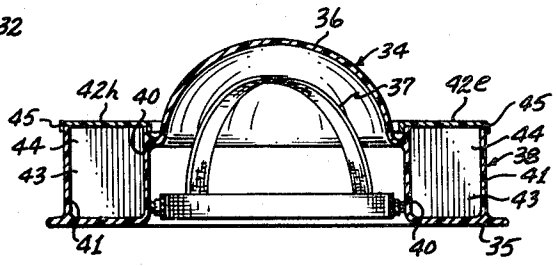


Fig. 5

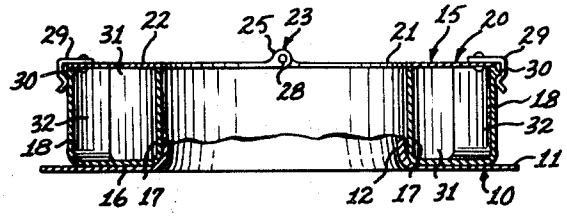


Fig. 3

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HAT-MOUNTED CONTAINER FOR ACCESSORIES

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

This invention relates to hat-mounted containers for fitting around the crown of the hat and more particularly to compartmentized containers particularly adapted for housing small lightweight accessories for various sports and specialized types of work.

1. Field of the Invention

This invention is particularly directed to the sportsman, and more particularly the fisherman, who is accustomed to carrying fishing equipment on his hat, although any sportsman or worker who needs ready access to particular lightweight objects and wears a hat may utilize this disclosure.

2. Description of the Prior Art

Heretofore the fisherman's hat has been provided with an indentation in the crown to hold a box for maintaining leaders in a moist condition. Additionally, bands have been provided around the hat for holding flies, hooks or the like. Further, means have been provided for holding cigarettes and spinner boxes on top of the rim of the hat. A need exists for a container fitting over and around the crown of the hat for lightweight accessories, which container is adaptable for hats commonly found in the marketplace without modification or change.

One of the significant contributions of this invention is the fact that the container disclosed serves as a storage compartment when not in use and is readily adapted to be hat-mounted without disturbing the container contents when the fisherman or worker is engaged in his regular activity.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

In accordance with the invention claimed, a new and improved accessory container is provided which is detachably mounted to surround the crown of a hat without the need for special hat construction or fastening means.

It is, therefore, one object of this invention to provide a new and improved hat-mounted accessory container.

Another object of this invention is to provide a hat-mounted container for surrounding its crown.

A further object of this invention is to provide a storage container for fitting around the crown of a fisherman's hat, having like or different size compartments for different size fish hooks, sinkers, swivels and the like, and to provide each compartment with individual or common closures without changing the basic design of the container.

A still further object of this invention is to provide a circular doughnut-shaped container for fitting over and around the crown of a fisherman's hat which is adapted for construction from transparent plastic material so that its contents may be visible through the walls of the container.

Further objects and advantages of the invention will become apparent as the following description proceeds and the features of novelty which characterize this invention will be pointed out with particularity in the claims annexed to and forming part of this specification.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

The present invention may be more readily described by reference to the accompanying drawing in which:

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of a hat supporting a rim-mounted container and embodying the invention;

FIG. 2 is a top view of FIG. 1;

FIG. 3 is a cross-sectional view of FIG. 2 taken along the line 3 — 3;

FIG. 4 is a top view of a modification of the structure shown in FIGS. 1–3 and showing the invention forming a part of a hard hat with a portion broken away; and

FIG. 5 is a cross-sectional view of FIG. 4 taken along the line 5 — 5.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

Referring more particularly to the drawing by characters of the reference, FIGS. 1–3 disclose a hat such as, for example, a fisherman's hat **10** having a rim or brim **11** from which protrudes a crown **12.** The hat **10** may be made of any material desired which supports the crown. Although hat **10** is defined as a fisherman's hat the inventive concept disclosed is readily applicable and useful on most worker's, military or sportsman's hats where the wearer needs readily accessable lightweight accessories.

In accordance with the invention claimed, a lightweight doughnut-shaped container **15** is adapted for surrounding the crown **12** of hat **10** resting on its brim **11.** Container **15** comprises a ring shaped trough opening upwardly for surrounding the crown of hat **10.** The container may be defined as having a U-shaped, square or rectangular cross sectional configuration and defining a bottom **16** resting on brim **11** and extending in circular configuration around the hat and of a width less than the brim of the hat, and two spacedly arranged concentric side walls **17** and **18** extending substantially upwardly from the bottom **16.** Bottom **16** and sides **17** and **18** may be formed as one continuous piece.

A cover **20** is provided for container **15** for closing the compartment formed by bottom **16** and sides **17** and **18** of the container and, as shown in FIGS. **1–3,** comprises two parts **21** and **22.** These parts are provided with a hinge means **23** along a diameter of the configuration formed by the cover. Although this hinge means may comprise any suitable structure, it is shown in FIGS. **1–3** as comprising a pair of cylindrical parts **25** and **26,** one on each of the juxtapositioned edges on the parts **21** and **22.** These cylindrical parts are provided with axially aligned openings **27, 27'** for receiving pins **28** about which the cylindrical parts **25** and **26** of the hinge rotate in the usual manner.

A pair of similar clasps **29** are arranged one on each of the parts **21** and **22** of cover **20** for engaging with protrusions **30** for locking the covers in their closed positions.

Container **15** may be divided by radial partitions **31** to provide smaller spaces **32** for containing small accessories such as lines, sinkers, plugs, flies and like devices needed periodically by the fisherman.

FIGS. **4** and **5** disclose a modification of the structure shown in FIGS. **1–3** wherein the inventive concept is shown as forming a part of a hat **34** worn by a construction worker and commonly known as a hard hat. Hat **34** has a rim or brim **35** and crown **36** extending upwardly therefrom in the usual manner with an elastic strap **37** formed therein to adapt the hat to various sized heads in the usual manner. Hat **34** is formed of hard, form-retaining plastic.

Container **38** forming a unitary part of rim **35** of hat **34** is similar to container **15** in that it comprises a unitary arcuate configuration, except that its cover comprises a plurality of individual covers **42***a*, **42***b*, **42***c*, **42***d*, **42***e*, **42***f*, **42***g* and **42***h*, each covering and sealing a different compartment **43**. Each compartment is formed by radial partitions **44** in the same manner as partitions **31** of FIGS. **1–3**.

Covers **42***a*–**42***h* are each provided with a flange **45** extending downwardly therefrom around its periphery, which fits snugly over the upper edges of radial partitions **44** and sides **40** and **41** of each compartment **43** to close the compartment. The user merely prys open the cover to get at and remove the contents of that particular compartment. The cover is easily replaced by pressing it back on the edges of the container in the usual way. Although eight compartments are shown, any number may be formed in container **38** and having covers to fit them.

It should also be recognized that such a container, made of transparent material or not, could readily be used on military hats such as the military helmet, with the container being adapted to fit the outer contour of its inner liner and mounted on this lining along the surface of the crown.

If so desired, the radial partitions **31** of FIGS. **1–3** may be increased in number and press fitted covers of the type shown in FIGS. **4** and **5** adapted to fit each space **32** of container **15**. Further, means may be provided for fastening the container to the substantially vertical sides of the crown of the hat instead of the rim of the hat particularly for small rim or rimless hats.

Although but two embodiments of the present invention have been illustrated and described, it will be apparent to those skilled in the art that various changes and modifications may be made therein without departing from the spirit of the invention or from the scope of the appended claims.

I claim:

1. A ring-shaped hollow container for surrounding a crown of a hat:

said container comprising a flat ring-shaped bottom adapted for resting on a brim of a hat and having spaced parallelly arranged side walls extending upwardly from the peripheries of said bottom in a common direction,

said side walls being concentrically arranged with said bottom,

a ring-shaped cover mounted on said container and engaging the upper edges of said side walls for closing said container, and

means mounted on said cover for attaching said cover to said container.

2. The container set forth in claim **1** in further combination with radial partitions extending between said side walls of said container for dividing said container into a plurality of compartments.

3. The container set forth in claim **1** wherein said cover comprises a pair of arcuate parts forming together the ring-shaped configuration, each of said parts being hingedly connected to the other along their juxtapositioned edges to define two separate cover members, each individually capable of being opened.

4. The container set forth in claim **2** wherein said cover comprises a plurality of individual covers, one for each of said compartments,

said individual covers each being provided with a flange extending laterally therefrom around its periphery for snugly engaging the upper edge of the compartment to close it.

5. The container set forth in claim **3** wherein said means comprises:

a pair of clasps, one for each cover for engaging and interlocking with the sides of said container.

6. The container set forth in claim **1** wherein said container is of a transparent lightweight plastic.

7. The container set forth in claim **1** wherein said container has a substantially U-shaped cross-sectional configuration.

8. The container set forth in claim **1** wherein said container has a rectangular cross-sectional configuration.

9. The container set forth in claim **1** wherein said container has a square cross-sectional configuration.

10. A hard hat comprising:

a crown,

a brim surrounding said crown,

a ring-shaped hollow container integral with said brim and surrounding said crown,

said container comprising spaced parallel side walls concentrically arranged and extending upwardly in a common direction from said brim, and

a ring-shaped cover mounted on said container and engaging the upper edges of said side walls for closing said container.

11. The hard hat set forth in claim **10** in further combination with radial partitions extending between said side walls of said container for dividing said container into a plurality of compartments.

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