Dec. 27, 1955

E. BERG

2,728,085

WORKERS' CAPS

Filed Oct. 8, 1952

Fig-1

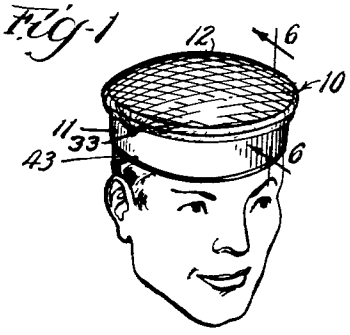


Fig-2

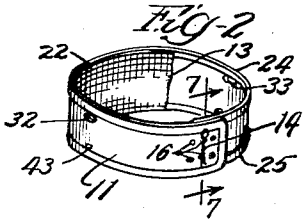


Fig-3

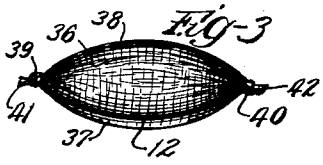


Fig-8

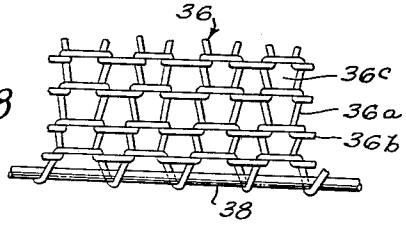
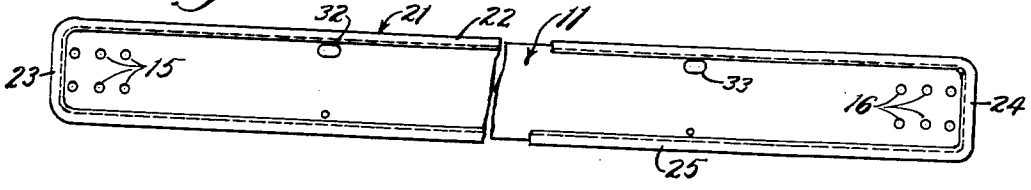


Fig-4



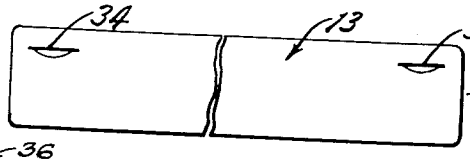


Fig-5

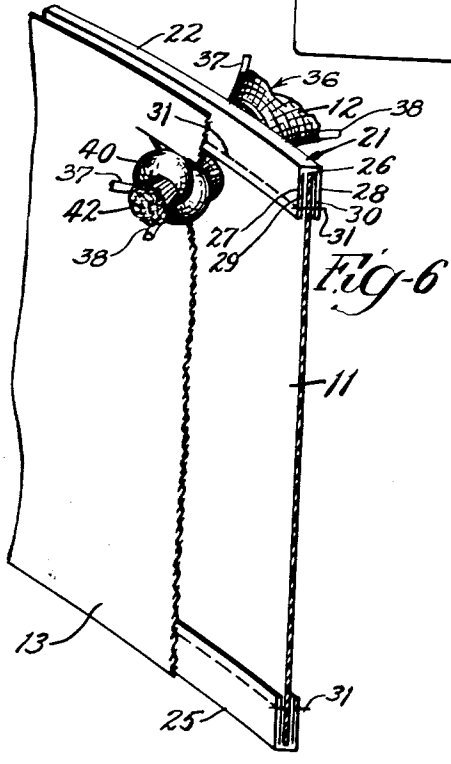


Fig-6

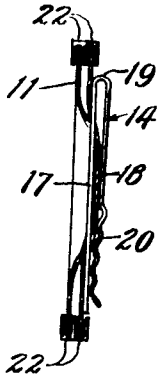


Fig-7

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WORKERS' CAPS

Elaine Berg, Chicago, Ill.

Application October 8, 1952, Serial No. 313,683

4 Claims. (Cl. 2—209.5)

The present invention relates to workers' caps, and is particularly concerned with workers' caps of the type adapted to be worn by employees at soda fountains or by hotel porters or the like.

One of the objects of the invention is the provision of improved caps for workers which are capable of being manufactured with a minimum amount of skilled labor, which are adjustable in size and which are easily cleaned so that it is not necessary to launder them in the usual way.

Another object of the invention is the provision of an improved construction for caps having adjustable bands, in which the bands are made of smooth white or colored plastic provided with a removable top that can be replaced, changed or cleaned.

Another object of the invention is the provision of an improved cap for workers which is adapted to be provided with a detachable covering in the form of a net secured to the band in such manner that the knots in each end of the net are concealed and the net is firmly secured on the top of the band without necessity for providing any other anchoring means.

Another object of the invention is the provision of an improved cap having a plastic band and a net in which the net is also employed for securing a sweat band in place.

Another object of the invention is the provision of an improved cap construction which is durable, which may be manufactured economically, and the band of which may be used over and over with new nets and new sweat bands so that the cap may be maintained in a practically new condition for a long period of time.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will be apparent from the following description and the accompanying drawings, in which similar characters of reference indicate similar parts throughout the several views.

Referring to the single sheet of drawings accompanying this specification,

Fig. 1 is a view in perspective showing a worker, such as a hotel porter, provided with a cap embodying the invention;

Fig. 2 is a view in perspective of the cap band and the sweat band;

Fig. 3 is a similar view of the type of mesh covering such as a hairnet which may be used for covering the top;

Fig. 4 is a developed plan view of the foundation band for the cap;

Fig. 5 is a similar plan view of the sweat band;

Fig. 6 is a fragmentary sectional view taken on the plane of the line 6—6 of Fig. 1, looking in the direction of the arrows, showing the details of construction of the cap and mode of securement of the net covering and the sweat band on an enlarged scale; and

Fig. 7 is a full-sized sectional view taken on the plane of the line 7—7 of Fig. 2, looking in the direction of the arrows.

Fig. 8 is a fragmentary enlargement of a portion of the net of Fig. 3, showing the details of construction.

Referring to Figs. 1 to 3, **10** indicates in its entirety the improved form of cap which includes a foundation band **11**, a net covering **12**, a sweat band **13** and a securing member **14**.

The foundation band **11** is preferably made of a suitable rectangular strip of flexible, smooth sheet plastic, white in color or provided with any other desired color. For example, the caps worn by employees at soda fountains are preferably white, and the same is true of other employees handling food products where sanitation is important.

For hotel porters the plastic is preferably of a darker color, such as dark blue, maroon or black, or any color harmonizing with the uniform.

Various types of plastics may be employed, but they are preferably heat resistive so that they are definitely not inflammable. Among those that may be employed are vinylchloride acetate resins, vinyl chloride resins, vinylidene chloride resins, vinyl butyral resins, vinyl alcohol resin, methyl cellulose acetate butyrate.

All of the foregoing have a very slow burning rate, are neutral in characteristics and resistive to acids and alkaloids, and may be provided in shiny sheet form of white or colors in such manner that dirt does not penetrate, and may be readily washed off with soap and water.

The plastic band **11** is sufficiently stiff to maintain a substantially cylindrical shape when its ends are secured together, but sufficiently flexible and bendable to conform to the usually oval shape of the head.

The band is preferably provided at both of its ends with a plurality of pairs of apertures **15, 16** these pairs being regularly spaced and being used to secure a member **14**, which passes through pairs of apertures of both ends **15, 16**, when they are in registry to secure the ends together.

Referring to Fig. 7, one form of securing member **14** comprises a substantially U-shaped resilient steel member having a pair of legs **17, 18** joined by a U-shaped yoke **19**, one of the legs **17** being threaded into apertures **15** and **16**, while the other leg **18** clamps and holds the securing member in place.

Corrugations **20** in one of the legs **18** aid in holding the securing member on the foundation band.

By using two series of pairs of apertures **15** and **16**, the range of size adjustment is doubled, the smallest size being when the innermost holes **15** are used with the innermost holes **16**, while the largest size is accomplished by registering the outermost holes **15** with the outermost holes **16**.

The edge of the plastic formation band **11** is preferably provided with a binding tape **21** extending fully along the top edge at **22**, across each end at **23, 24**, and along the bottom at **25**.

This binding tape may comprise a strip of tape having a selvage or it may consist of a strip of fabric such as plastic impregnated cloth or plastic reenforced cloth, such as leatherette, which is folded over the upper edge **26**, Fig. 6, and downward on each side at **27, 28**, the rough edges **29** and **30** being folded over and the binding being secured to the plastic **11** by a single line of stitching **31**.

The binding tape may be of the same or of contrasting color, and it protects the head of the user from sharp edges and protects the plastic **11** against ripping or tearing, also giving a distinctive appearance when it is of a contrasting color.

The foundation band **11** is bent into cylindrical form, as shown in Fig. 2, and certain of its apertures **15, 16** are brought into registry and secured by the securing member **14**, as shown in Fig. 7.

The foundation band **11** is preferably provided with

diametrically opposite oval apertures **32, 33**, located near the top binding tape **22**, and located on the sides of the cap. These register substantially with slits **34, 35**, in the sweat band **13**, which has its slits located adjacent its ends and top edge.

Sweat band **13** may be made of buckram, felt, leather strip or soft plastic fabric, and may consist of a single layer or two layers, the latter providing a substantially U-bend adjacent the forehead and brow which is softer than a single layer.

The sweat band **13** is of substantially the same width as the foundation band **11** or slightly narrower so that it will be concealed by the foundation band **11**, when properly located inside the foundation band.

The top covering **12** for the cap may be a standard hairnet of the type in which a rectangular or circular piece of net material **36** has an elastic or rubber band **37, 38**, threaded through alternate meshes of the fabric at each edge from end to end.

The ends of the net **12** may be secured against unravelling and used to form a circular net by tying a single knot **39, 40** at each end, the loose ends **41, 42** protruding from the knots.

Fig. 8 shows an enlargement in which the meshes are indicated at **36***c*, the net material at **36**, and the separate strands extending longitudinally and transversely by the numbers **36***a* and **36***b*. The rubber strand is threaded through alternate meshes and is indicated at **38**.

Referring to Fig. 6, the two rubber bands **37** and **38** can now be seen protruding from both ends of the fragmentary portion of the net.

In order to secure the net covering **12** on top of the foundation band, each knot **39** or **40** may be drawn through one of the apertures **32, 33**, in the foundation band so that the knot appears on the inside of the band, where the net is retained by virtue of the fact that each knot **39, 40** is larger than the apertures **32, 33**, it having been compressed to pass the aperture.

When a sweat band is employed each knot **39** and **40** is also passed through the slits **34** and **35** of the sweat band, respectively, in one or two layers of sweat band as the case may be; and the slits **34, 35** provide an additional and more certain mode of securement of the knots inside the band.

The slits must be definitely expanded to pass the knots and will close again on the net outside of the knots.

When the sweat band and foundation band are both bent to cylindrical form, I find it sufficient to secure the sweat band in place by merely using the two knots and end portions of the hairnet, and in this manner the flexible bands **37, 38** of the hairnet are disposed outside the foundation band just below the binding tape **21**, while the knots are concealed inside and under the hairnet.

The rest of the hairnet is then located over the top of the foundation band by stretching the rubber elastic bands **37, 38** and pulling them down over the top of the foundation band below the binding tape **21**.

Two additional holes in the foundation band and sweat band may be used for an elastic chin strap, if desired.

In some embodiments of the invention binding tape stitching may secure sweat band to plastic band at bottom.

This provides a top covering which is usually not visible but which confines the hair of a worker yet leaves it accessible to air, giving maximum coolness and ventilation.

As the net becomes worn or torn, and if the sweat band becomes unsanitary either a new net, sweat band or both may be replaced very quickly, and the use of the cap may continue for a very long time without replacing the foundation band.

The foundation band may be cleaned by washing it with soap and water or by using kerosene on a cloth and may thus be kept in a clean and shinning condition.

The present worker's cap involves a minimum amount of labor as the bands may be punched out of strips or flat stock of sheet material, and the holes may be punched so that the sewing of the binding tape is practically the only labor necessary except the assembly of the parts.

The assembly is so simple that the caps may be packed in a flat condition with all of the parts separated and may be assembled on purchase or upon taking a new cap from stock for use.

The caps may be adjusted to any size of head and may use various sizes of hairnets, as the hairnets may be pulled farther into the slits **34, 35**, when they appear too large or too loose.

While I have illustrated a preferred embodiment of my invention, many modifications may be made without departing from the spirit of the invention, and I do not wish to be limited to the precise details of construction set forth, but desire to avail myself of all changes within the scope of the appended claims.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is:

1. A worker's cap for employees of soda fountains or the like comprising, a foundation band of smooth, bendable sheet material which is sufficiently stiff to maintain a cylindrical shape when the ends of a strip are secured together, a securing member for adjustably securing the ends of the foundation band together in overlapping relation, and a top covering for said foundation band comprising a piece of mesh fabric having its opposite edges provided with an elastic member threaded through alternate meshes, the said elastic members and ends of mesh fabric being secured together at each end by a tight knot, said foundation band being provided with diametrically oppositely located apertures adjacent to but spaced from the top edge of the band, and smaller than the knots but large enough to pass the knots when the knots are compressed, the mesh fabric and elastic adjacent each knot extending inwardly through said apertures and being retained therein by the knots which are on the inside of said band, thus anchoring the two ends of mesh fabric and elastic on the foundation band with the body of the top covering outside the foundation band, the mesh covering having its elastic members spread and located about the foundation band near the top edge thereof and below upper edge of the band, the anchorage of the elastic bands in the apertures drawing the elastic down from the upper edge of the foundation band and drawing the mesh fabric tightly over the top of the foundation band to provide an upper ventilating covering.

2. A worker's cap for employees of soda fountains or the like comprising, a foundation band of smooth, shiny, bendable sheet plastic which is sufficiently stiff to maintain a cylindrical shape when the ends of a strip are secured together, a securing member for adjustably securing the ends of the foundation band together in overlapping relation, and a top covering for said foundation band comprising a piece of mesh fabric having its opposite edges provided with an elastic member threaded through alternate meshes, the said elastic members and ends of mesh fabric being secured together at each end by a tight knot, said foundation band being provided with diametrically oppositely located apertures adjacent to but spaced from the top edge of the band, and smaller than the knots but large enough to pass the knots when the knots are compressed, the mesh fabric and elastic adjacent each knot extending inwardly through said apertures and being retained therein by the knots which are on the inside of said band, thus anchoring the two ends of mesh fabric and elastic on the foundation band with the body of the top covering outside the foundation band, the mesh covering having its elastic members spread and located about the foundation band near the top edge thereof and below an annular shoulder on the band, the anchorage of the elastic bands in the apertures drawing the elastic down from the upper edge of the foundation band and drawing the mesh fabric tightly over the top of the foundation band to provide an upper ventilating covering, the

size and tightness of the mesh fabric covering being adjustable to the size of the foundation band by drawing in more or less of the mesh fabric and elastic through the opposite apertures where it is gripped by friction, to make the mesh fabric tight on the top of the foundation band.

3. A worker's cap for employees of soda fountains or the like comprising, a foundation band of smooth, shiny, bendable sheet plastic which is sufficiently stiff to maintain a cylindrical shape when the ends of a strip are secured together, a securing member for adjustably securing the ends of the foundation band together in overlapping relation, and a top covering for said foundation band comprising a piece of mesh fabric having its opposite edges provided with an elastic member threaded through alternate meshes, the said elastic members and ends of mesh fabric being secured together at each end by a tight knot, said foundation band being provided with diametrically oppositely located apertures adjacent to but spaced from the top edge of the band, and smaller than the knots but large enough to pass the knots when the knots are compressed, the mesh fabric and elastic adjacent each knot extending inwardly through said apertures and being retained therein by the knots which are on the inside of said band, thus anchoring the two ends of mesh fabric and elastic on the foundation band with the body of the top covering outside the foundation band, the mesh covering having its elastic members spread and located about the foundation band near the top edge thereof and below an annular shoulder on the band, the anchorage of the elastic bands in the apertures drawing the elastic down from the upper edge of the foundation band and drawing the mesh fabric tightly over the top of the foundation band to provide an upper ventilating covering, the said foundation band being provided on its upper and lower edges and ends with a binding tape of plastic material bent to substantially U-shape of said edges and ends, forming said annular shoulder, and secured in place by a single line of stitching passing through the foundation band and through both layers of the binding tape.

4. A worker's cap for employees of soda fountains or the like comprising, a foundation band of smooth, shiny, bendable sheet plastic which is sufficiently stiff to maintain a cylindrical shape when the ends of a strip are secured together, a securing member for adjustably securing the ends of the foundation band together in overlapping relation, and a top covering for said foundation band comprising a piece of mesh fabric having its opposite edges provided with an elastic member threaded through alternate meshes, the said elastic members and ends of mesh fabric being secured together at each end by a tight knot, said foundation band being provided with diametrically oppositely located apertures adjacent to but spaced from the top edge of the band, and smaller than the knots but large enough to pass the knots when the knots are compressed, the mesh fabric and elastic adjacent each knot extending inwardly through said apertures and being retained therein by the knots which are on the inside of said band, thus anchoring the two ends of mesh fabric and elastic on the foundation band with the body of the top covering outside the foundation band, the mesh covering having its elastic members spread and located about the foundation band near the top edge thereof and below an annular shoulder on the band, the anchorage of the elastic bands in the apertures drawing the elastic down from the upper edge of the foundation band and drawing the mesh fabric tightly over the top of the foundation band to provide an upper ventilating covering, and a sweat band located in said foundation band and engaging the inside surface thereof, the said sweat band being provided with slits located at substantially the same points as said opposite apertures, the knots of mesh fabric being passed through said slits and the slits being closed about the body of mesh fabric adjacent the knots to anchor the sweat band in place and assure the securement of the mesh fabric.

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