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Fig. 1.

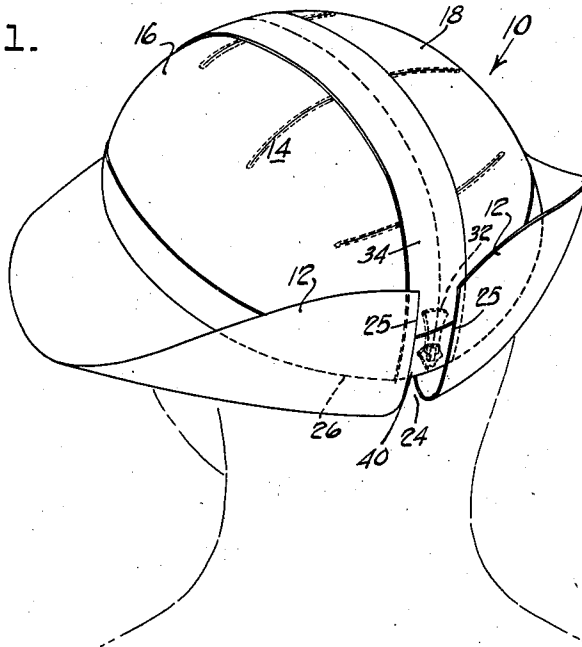
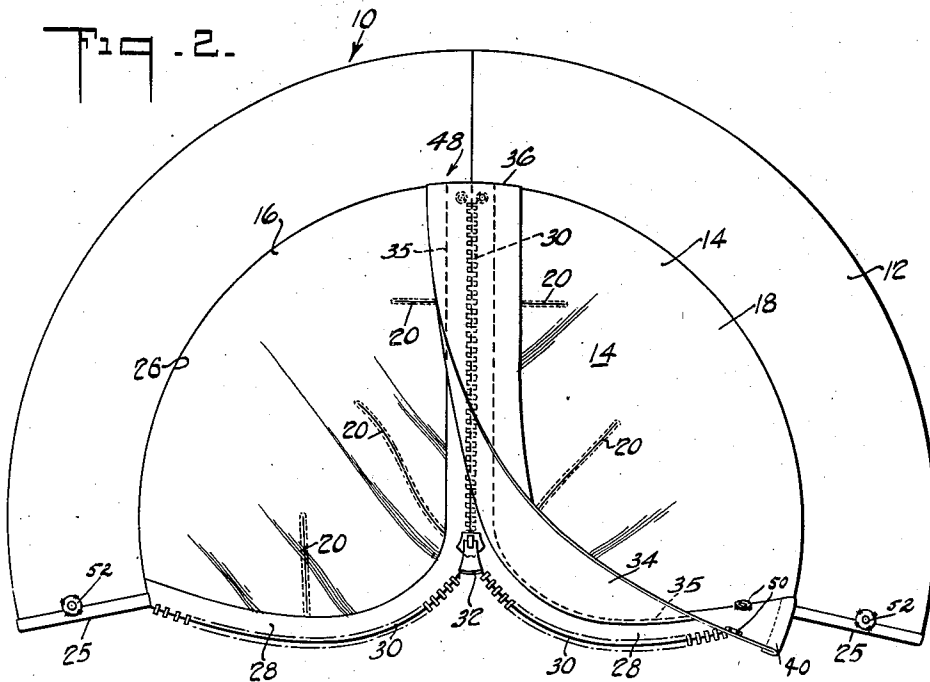


Fig. 2.



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2 Claims. (Cl. 2—175)

My invention relates to head coverings of the hat type.

Hats are often made of light and easily discolorable materials, and when so made present a problem in connection with keeping same clean and neat-looking. My invention is directed to the solution of this problem, and has for its principal object the provision of a hat which can be easily and quickly laundered and ironed as often as may be desired.

A further object of my invention is the provision of a hat, the crown of which is made up of several sections which can be divided and spread apart.

A further object of my invention is to provide a hat with means to divide and spread apart the crown portions thereof to permit each thereof to be easily flattened for ironing.

Further objects of my invention will in part be apparent and in part be pointed out specifically hereinafter in connection with the following description of an illustrative embodiment.

In the drawing annexed hereto and made a part hereof,

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of one form of hat constructed according to and embodying my said invention; and

Fig. 2 is a plan thereof with the crown portions partially divided and spread apart.

In conventional hats, the crown portion consists either of a single piece of material variously puckered to provide the desired curvature so that the hat will assume the shape of the head when same is put on, or else consists of a number of pieces sewed or otherwise joined together to get the desired curvature when put on the head. In any event, it is a matter of some difficulty to flatten the crown so as to be able to iron same effectively after the hat has been cleaned or laundered.

With the hat of my invention the brim is not made as a continuous ring, but is open at least at one point with the ends either spaced apart or overlapping. Further, I preferably form the crown of my hat of two quarter-spherically shaped portions and unite same by separable fasteners of the "zipper" type, with the line of fastening being a continuation of the opening in the brim, so that when the zipper is opened and the components spread apart, the separate portions that make up the crown can be flattened and ironed individually. These changes make all the difference between the ability to iron a hat well, and the inability to do so.

The hat of my invention shown in the draw-

ing is indicated generally by reference character 10, and comprises a brim 12 and crown 14. Both brim 12 and crown 14 are usually (but not necessarily) made of the same material, but the brim is made relatively stiff and self-supporting, as by lines of stitching, starch, or other means (not shown) while the crown is usually left soft, loose and limp. The materials usually employed—textile fabrics such as linen, silk, etc.—are of such character that when subjected to washing or cleaning treatments, same becomes shapeless and crumpled, and generally unsightly and unwearable.

Brim 12 and crown 14 are formed as separate units, and secured together only when the hat is completed. Brim 12, instead of being a continuous completely circular ring, is split, as at 24, with the edges, 25, 25, thereof fairly close to one another so that the brim does not lose its character as such. Crown 14 is formed of two sections 16, 18, united along a line extending across the top of the crown from front to back, each of which sections is provided with a number of darts or puckerings 20 adjacent edge thereof, so that same when filled out or expanded will take the shape substantially of a quarter-sphere; both together, when united along the "longitudinal" line from front to back taking the shape substantially of a hemisphere. Portions 16, 18 of crown 14 are so secured to the inner side 26 of the brim 12 that the edges 28 thereof are aligned with and form continuations of disparate edges 25 of the brim. Edges 28 of portions 16, 18 are provided with cooperating separable fasteners 30 of the zipper type, which are locked and unlocked by sliding action of catch 32.

A flap 34 is provided whereby to cover and hide the zippers. Flap 34 extends completely across the crown and is secured to portion 18 thereof along edge 28 by line of stitching 35 just beyond zipper 30. Side 36 of flap 34 is fastened and sewed in between brim 12 and crown portions 16, 18, at the front 48 of the hat, and opposite side 40 thereof is unsecured although provision may be made to secure same also.

Cooperating fastening means 50, 52 may be secured, respectively, to crown 14, on each side of the zipper line, and to brim 12, on each side of the opening therein, so that brim 12 may be folded against and secured to the crown, to completely camouflage flap 34 and the zipper line. When in place, as in Fig. 1, flap 34 completely overlies and hides the zipper line. The flap may be of the same material and color as the crown

- but need not necessarily be so, and while but two sections, one zipper and flap are shown, three, four or even more sections may be employed with a corresponding increase of zippers, flaps, etc.
- 5 The individual sections of which the crown is composed are preferably, but not necessarily quarter spherically shaped. Instead of two
- 10 equally sized and shaped sections, I may employ one section of substantially a third of a sphere and the supplementary section a sixth of a sphere. The size of each section is not important except that their totality, upon expansion, take the shape of a hemisphere, and the line of joining be an extension of the opening in the brim.
- 15 The mechanism of my new hat is simple and easy to operate. After washing and drying, the catch 32 is actuated to separate and spread apart portions 16 and 18, and the quarterspheres thereafter flattened and ironed. The portions are
- 20 then locked together, flap 34 put in place over the zipper line, brim 12 fastened against crown 14 by the snaps 50, 52, and the hat is ready for wear again.

Having described my invention, what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A hat comprising a relatively stiff brim with inner and outer sides, and a relatively limp crown comprising a plurality of sections secured to the inner side of said brim, separable fastener means to longitudinally and separably divide the crown along a line from the rear thereof adjacent the brim to the front of the crown adjacent the brim, whereby the crown may be substantially flattened for ironing purposes.

2. A hat as claimed in claim 1, in which the brim is split in the rear to enable said sections to be separated from a point thereon adjacent said split, and cooperating fastening means on the crown and brim whereby the brim may be folded up against said crown in the rear thereof and secured thereto adjacent said split, and in which flap means are provided to overlie and cover the separable fastener means.

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