Aug. 19, 1947. H. VACA 2,425,847

EYESHIELD FOR HEADGEAR

Filed July 7, 1945

FIG. 1.

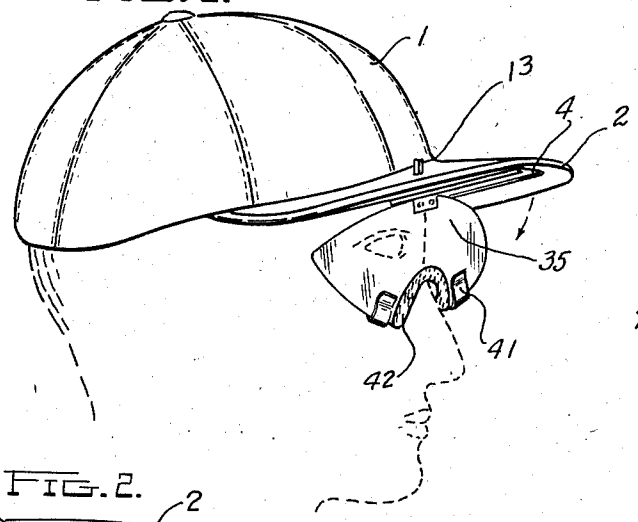


FIG. 8.

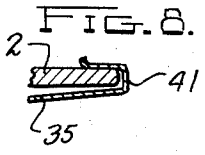


FIG. 2.

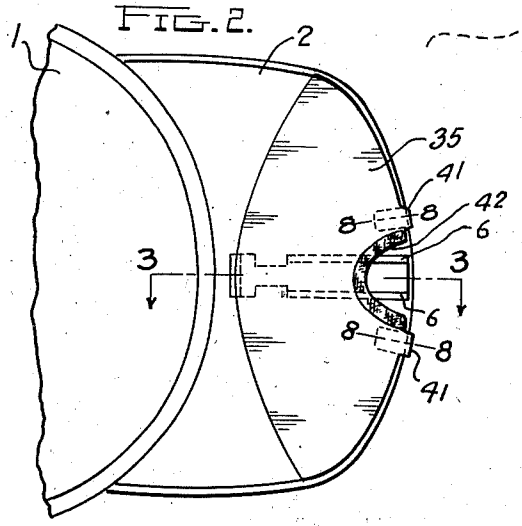


FIG. 3.

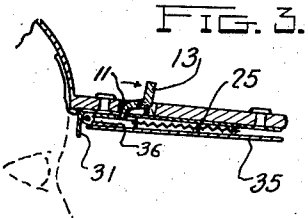


FIG. 4.

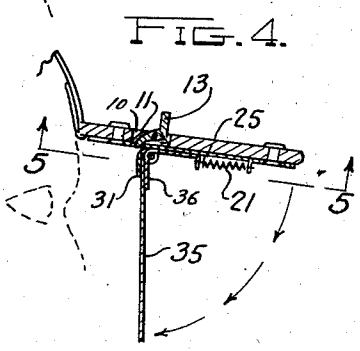


FIG. 5.

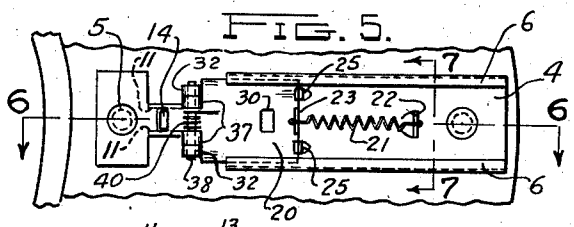
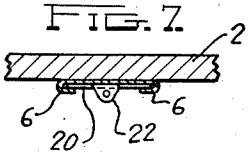


FIG. 7.



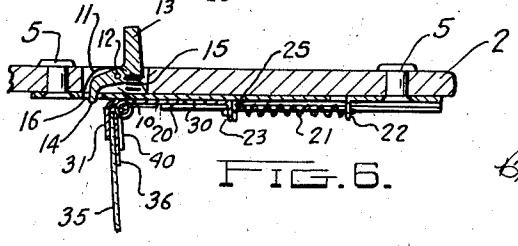


FIG. 6.

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EYESHIELD FOR HEADGEAR

Humberto Vaca, Detroit, Mich.

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5 Claims. (Cl. 2—10)

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This invention relates to eye shields for head gear and it has to do particularly with an attachment for a cap having incorporated therein or therewith a shield for the eyes of the wearer and which can be quickly and easily put into and out of use.

The invention is particularly directed towards the provision of an eye shield for a cap, or other head gear for that matter, whatever it may be called, for use, for example by one participating in athletic events. For example, a baseball player, and particularly an outfielder, requires the use of something to shield the eyes from the sun when in the act of catching what is known as a fly ball. At the present time, it is quite common for outfielders to use sun glasses.

It is the aim of the present invention to provide an improved shield which is attached to or might even form a part of the bill or visor of the cap. The shield and its attaching structure are mounted on the cap in such a manner that the shield folds against the underside of the visor when not in use. It is accordingly out of the way and not bothersome. By the simple expedient of tripping a latch, certain movements are given to the shield including a bodily movement relative to the visor of the cap and away from the face of the wearer and a pivotal movement so that the shield swings downwardly relative to the visor and before the eyes of the wearer.

A cap and shield structure made in accordance with the invention is disclosed in the accompanying drawings.

Fig. 1 is a view showing the cap on a wearer and illustrating the shield in operative position.

Fig. 2 is a view of the underside of the visor with the shield folded into inoperative position.

Fig. 3 is a sectional view taken substantially on line 3—3 of Fig. 2 illustrating the attaching and operating structure.

Fig. 4 is a view similar to Fig. 3 illustrating the shield in operating position.

Fig. 5 is an enlarged view of the attaching and operating structure for the shield showing the parts in operating position, and looking substantially on line 5—5 of Fig. 4.

Fig. 6 is a sectional view taken on line 6—6 of Fig. 5.

Fig. 7 is a sectional view taken on line 7—7 of Fig. 5 showing the track arrangement.

Fig. 8 is a detailed section on an enlarged scale taken on line 8—8 of Fig. 2 showing a hook arrangement for holding the shield in folded or inoperative position.

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As illustrated in Fig. 1, the cap has the usual body part 1 with a bill or visor 2 which usually is employed to shade the eyes of the wearer. The mounting for the shield is probably most clearly illustrated in Figs. 5 and 6 and it comprises a plate 4 secured to the underside of the visor in a substantially central position and extending substantially from the body of the cap to the forward edge of the visor. This plate may be secured to the visor in any suitable manner, as for example by means of rivets 5. The edges of this plate are fashioned as at 6 for a portion of their length to provide grooves or track-ways for purposes as will presently appear. The bill is provided with an opening 10 and the metal of the plate is fashioned to provide a pair of spaced wings 11 which extend upwardly from the plate and into the opening 10. Mounted between the wings on a pivot pin 12 is a catch or latch. This latch has an upwardly extending finger piece 13 and a nose 14. The latch is acted upon by a small coil spring 15 so that the nose 14 is urged downwardly and through an opening 16 in the plate 4.

There is a slide plate 20 positioned to slide in the tracks or ways 6. This plate is acted upon by a coil spring 21, one end of which is attached to a lug 22 constituted by a piece of metal fashioned up from the plate 4 and fastened at its other end to a lug 23 on the slide plate. This is a tension spring and normally applies force on the slide plate to shift it outwardly towards the forward edge of the visor. Struck up from the plate 4 are one or more stops 25 against which the slide plate strikes to limit its forward movement. These stops 25 may be coated with rubber or other similar material so as to provide a buffer action when the plate 20 strikes them.

The slide plate 20 is provided with an aperture 30 designed to receive the nose 14 of the latch as will presently be seen. One end of the slide plate, which is the left hand end as Figs. 5 and 6 are viewed, is fashioned angularly to provide a stop 31. The edges of the metal are fashioned into pintle bearings 32. The shield has a body 35, the contour of which may correspond to that of the visor and attached to the shield is a hinge butt 36 having bearing portions 37 which lie in between the pintle bearings 32, and a hinge pin 38 passes therethrough. Thus the shield is hingedly mounted on the slide plate. A coil spring 40 surrounds the hinge pin and has ends which engage the hinge butt and the side plate and this spring normally turns the shield in a clockwise direction as Figs. 4 and 6 are viewed to a position where it abuts the stop 31. The shield 35 is com-

prised of suitable colored material such as a cellulose or other plastic, or glass, or it may be a polarizing material for shielding the eyes from the sun.

The shield has a suitable number of holding devices in the form of hooks 41, there being two shown in the present device, disposed adjacent the edges of the shield for hooking over the edge of the visor. The shield may also be provided with a notch or recess 42 which may, in instances, accommodate the nose of the user.

The manner of use and the function of the shield is as follows:

When the shield is to be placed out of use or in inoperative position, the wearer swings the shield on its pivot from the position shown in Fig. 1 to a position where the shield lies substantially flush on the underside of the visor. At this time the slide plate is in the position shown in Figs. 5 and 6 where the slide plate rests in a forward position against the stops 25. After the shield has been swung to its elevated position, it is pushed backwardly causing the slide 20 to shift in the ways 6 until the nose 14 of the latch catches in the aperture 30. During this movement the hooks 41 catch over the edge of the bill. Accordingly, the shield is held in the inoperative position shown in Fig. 3. The latch restrains the action of the tension spring 21. The hooks restrain the action of the spring 40. When in this inoperative position the cap may be used and worn without any substantial notice of the existence of the shield. An important feature is the quickness with which the shield may be put into use. The user merely tips the finger piece 13 and the spring 21 snaps the slide 20 forwardly to the position shown in Fig. 6 where it is stopped by the stops 25. In this forward sliding action of the shield the hooks 41 are released from the edge of the visor and due to the action of the spring 40, the shield swings to its operative or protecting position as shown in Figs. 1, 4 and 6. The forward sliding action removes the shield from undue proximity to the eyes of the wearer and places it in about the correct position. The precise angularity of the shield relative to the visor and the eyes of the wearer when in operative position, may be regulated by the position of the stop 31.

I claim:

1. An eye shield for use in conjunction with a visor on a cap or the like comprising, a body piece attached to the underside of the visor, a slide member on the body piece and slidable forwardly and backwardly relative to the visor, spring means acting upon the slide member normally urging it forwardly, a shield member pivotally mounted on the slide member and movable on its pivot so as to extend downwardly from the visor and before the eyes of the wearer in operative position and to an inoperative position in proximity to the underside of the visor and generally parallel therewith, a latch for holding the slide member in its rearward position, and means for holding the shield member in its inoperative position while the latch holds the slide member in its rearward position, said means being automatically releasable upon movement of the slide member forwardly of the visor.

2. An eye shield for use in conjunction with a visor on a cap or the like comprising, a body piece attached to the underside of the visor, a slide member on the body piece and slidable forwardly and backwardly relative to the visor, spring means acting upon the slide member normally urging it forwardly, a shield member pivotally mounted on the slide member and movable on its pivot so as to extend downwardly from the visor and before the eyes of the wearer in operative position and to an inoperative position in proximity to the underside of the visor and generally parallel therewith, a latch for holding the slide member in its rearward position, and hook means on the shield member arranged to engage the edge of the visor as the slide member is moved rearwardly of the visor to hold the shield member in inoperative position, said hook means being automatically releasable upon movement of the slide member forwardly of the visor.

3. An eye shield for use in conjunction with a visor on a cap or the like comprising, a body piece attached to the underside of the visor, a slide member on the body piece and shiftable to and from relative forward and rearward positions on the visor, spring means acting upon the slide member to urge it forwardly, a shield member pivoted to the slide member, and movable to extend downwardly from the visor and before the eyes of the wearer in operative position and to an inoperative position in proximity to and generally parallel with the underside of the visor, spring means acting upon the shield member normally urging it into its downward operative position, a latch for holding the slide member in its rearward position against the action of the first named spring means, and hook means engageable with the visor as the slide member is urged to its rearward position while the shield member is substantially in inoperative position for holding the shield member in inoperative position, said hook means being automatically releasable incident to release of the latch and forward movement of the slide member for pivotal movement of the shield member to operative position by the second named spring means.

4. An eye shield for use in conjunction with a visor on a cap or the like comprising, a body piece attached to the underside of the visor, a slide member on the body piece and shiftable to and from relative forward and rearward positions on the visor, spring means acting upon the slide member to urge it forwardly, a shield member pivoted to the slide member, and movable to extend downwardly from the visor and before the eyes of the wearer in operative position and to an inoperative position in proximity to and generally parallel with the underside of the visor, spring means acting upon the shield member normally urging it into its downward operative position, a latch having an operating finger piece projecting above the visor, and having a portion for engaging the slide member to hold it in its rearward position, means engageable as the slide member and shield member are shifted rearwardly of the visor with the shield member substantially in its inoperative position to hold the shield member in inoperative position when the slide is held rearwardly by the latch, said latch being releasable by manipulation of the finger piece for forward movement of the slide member and shield member and for pivotal movement of the shield member downwardly into operative position before the eyes of the wearer by the respective action of the two said spring means.

5. An eye shield for use in conjunction with a visor on a cap or the like comprising, a body strip secured to the underside of the visor and extending in a fore and aft direction, a slide member mounted on the body strip, spring means

acting upon the slide member and normally urging it into a forward position, a latch for holding the slide member in a rearward position, said latch having an operating finger piece projecting above the visor, a shield member, means pivotally mounting the shield member onto the slide member, a second spring means acting upon the shield member and normally urging it into a downward position relative to the visor which is in operative position before the eyes of the wearer, said shield member being pivotal to an inoperative position in proximity to and generally parallel with the underside of the visor, hook means on the shield member which opens rearwardly when the shield member is in inoperative position, said hook means adapted to engage the edge of the visor when the slide member and shield member are shifted rearwardly while the shield member is in substantial inoperative position to hold the shield member in inoperative position while the latch holds the slide and shield member in rearward position, said hook means automatically disengaging the edge of the visor upon release of the latch and forward movement of the slide member whereby the shield member is automatically shifted to operative position by the second named spring means.

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