

H. H. POHLMANN.
MASK.

APPLICATION FILED NOV. 16, 1920.

1,387,307.

Patented Aug. 9, 1921.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.

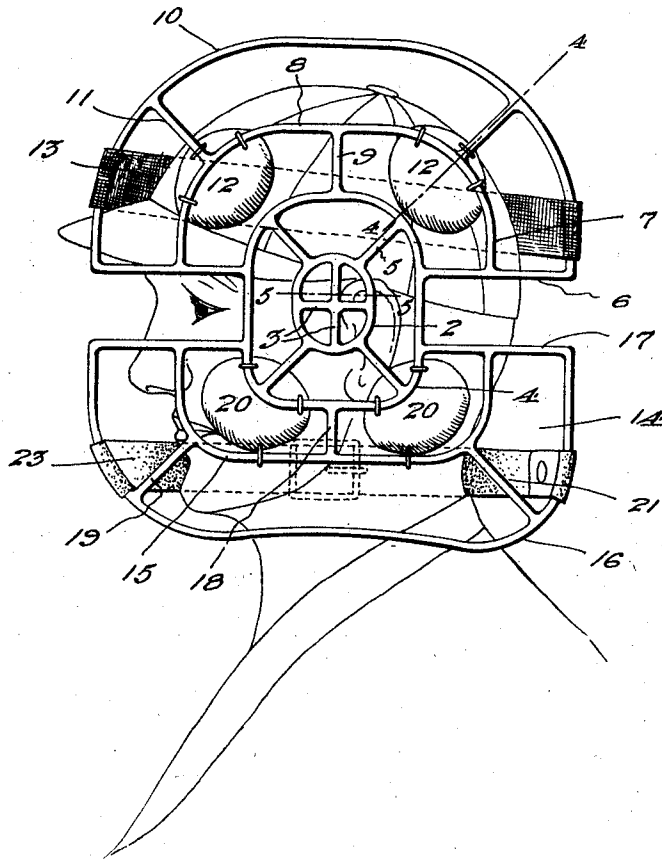
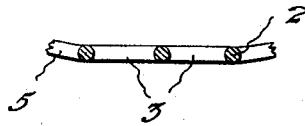


Fig. 5.



Paul M. Hunt.

WITNESS:

H. H. Pohlmann
INVENTOR
Victor J. Evans
BY—
ATTORNEY

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

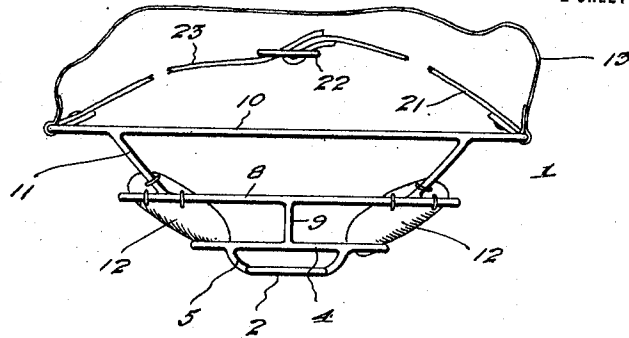


Fig. 3.

Fig. 2.

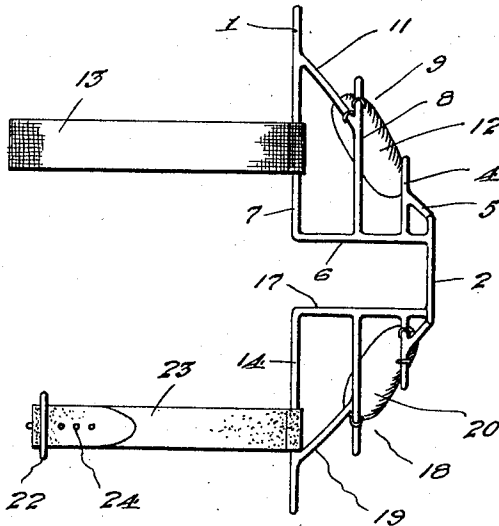
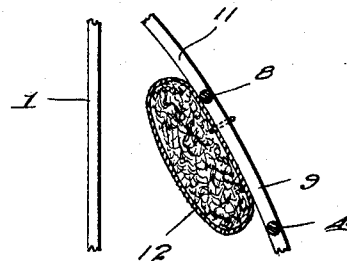


Fig. 4.



Paul M. Hunt.

WITNESS:

H. H. Pohlmann
INVENTOR

BY *Victor J. Evans*
ATTORNEY

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HERMAN H. POEHLMANN, OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI.

MASK.

1,387,307.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Aug. 9, 1921.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HERMAN H. POEHLMANN, a citizen of the United States, residing at St. Louis, in the county of St. Louis City and State of Missouri, have invented new and useful Improvements in Masks, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to base ball masks.

As is well known, the batter in a game of base ball is frequently injured by a pitched ball and injuries thus inflicted have resulted fatal. As a consequence a ball player at the batter's plate is at all times on the alert for pitched balls which are thrown toward him, either by an inadvertence on the part of the pitcher or a deliberate attempt to hit the batter. Such latter attempts have been known to intimidate ball players of well-known efficiency with respect to batting, so that his services in this respect are either temporarily or permanently affected. The uniform of the player protects his person, but his head and face are exposed, and a ball contacting with either his face or head inflicts more serious injury than that delivered against his body. It is the object of the present invention to produce a mask for base ball players when at the plate in batting position so constructed and arranged that the same may be positioned to protect the side of his head and face nearest the plate so that a ball delivered against the mask will be deflected therefrom and no injury will be inflicted to the player, and as a consequence relieve the batter from fear of being struck in the face or on the head by a pitched ball and naturally increase his efficiency in this particular part of the game.

It is a further object to produce a mask for batters on base ball teams which includes a main frame and auxiliary frames spaced from each other and arranged around the upper and lower portions of the main frame, all of the frames being constructed of resilient wire, and the auxiliary frames having paddings which contact with the cheek and with the head of the user, whereby the frames proper are spaced away from the person of the user, the auxiliary frames having means for securing the mask on the player, and the construction being such as to in no way impair the vision of the player.

It is a further object to produce a mask which may be successfully arranged on either side of the player's face or head and which may be of an adjustable nature so

that one mask can be used by an entire team of base ball players.

It is a further object to produce a side mask for the head and face of base ball players which shall be of a simple construction, which may be cheaply manufactured; which shall be strong and durable, and which shall embody sufficient resiliency to deflect an object contacting therewith without permitting the said object or the mask inflicting injury to the user of the mask.

The foregoing objects may be accomplished by a construction, combination and operative assemblage of parts, such as is illustrated by the drawings which accompany and which form part of this application.

In the drawings:—

Figure 1 is a view illustrating the application of the improvement.

Fig. 2 is a front elevation of the improvement.

Fig. 3 is a rear elevation thereof.

Fig. 4 is a sectional view on the line 4—4 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 5 is a sectional view on the line 5—5 of Fig. 1.

As disclosed by the drawings, my side mask includes a central body portion which is in the nature of a frame, and which will hereinafter be referred to as the main frame, and other or auxiliary frames that have their confronting edges spaced from each other and which surround the main frame.

All of the frames are constructed of wire of a gage sufficiently strong to withstand a violent contact of an object therewith and incident to the shape of the frames, deflect the said object away from the mask.

The main frame is broadly indicated by the numeral 1, and includes an inner elliptical member 2 provided with crossed right angularly arranged brace wires 3 respectively. The elements 2 and 3 are dishd outward and are surrounded by an elliptical wire 4 connected to the element 2 and braced by angularly disposed wires 5. By reference to the drawings, it will be noted that the brace wires 5 are connected to the elliptical element 2 approximately centrally between the ends of the pairs of crossed wires 3. The brace wires 5 are also bowed or rounded outwardly so that the main frame will be spaced a desired distance away from the face of the user of the mask.

From the outer elliptical member 4 of the

main frame, adjacent to the top thereof there are inwardly directed arched brace or connecting wires 6 for the upper auxiliary frame which is broadly indicated by the numeral 7. The brace wires 6 are oppositely directed from the main frame, being arranged transversely thereof and form the lower elements of the auxiliary frame 7. The wires 7 are connected to inwardly directed rounded wires 8, and the element 8 is braced to the main frame by a wire 9. The outer wire 10 of the auxiliary frame 7 which, of course, surrounds the wire 8 is connected to the latter by any desired number of inwardly rounded brace wires 11. On the inner member 8 of the auxiliary frame, adjacent to the ends thereof there are secured inwardly directed pads 12, one of these pads being designed for contacting engagement with the side of the forehead of the user of the mask, either above or slightly forward of the temple, while the second pad 12, is designed to be arranged in contacting engagement with the side of the head of the wearer above the ear. Thus the auxiliary frame proper and the main frame 1 are held from direct contact with the face or with the head of the user. To the ends of the auxiliary frame there is connected a flexible band 13 that is designed to be arranged around the head of the user.

The lower auxiliary frame is broadly indicated by the numeral 14, and comprises an inner wire member 15 and an outer wire member 16 that is spaced from and surrounds the inner wire member. Both of these wire members 15 and 16 have their side portions arched at a curvature corresponding to the sides of the main frame 1 and are directed inwardly, but the lower portions of the said wires are rounded upwardly from the ends of the center thereof toward the lower portion of the main frame. The upper ends of the wires 15 and 16 are connected to the outer member or sides of the main frame, by brace wires 17, which are in a line with but spaced away from the wires 6 that form the inner edge of the auxiliary frame 7. A brace wire 18, which is arched, connects the inner auxiliary frame member 15 to the lower edge of the main frame 1, while any desired

number of arched brace wires 19 are arranged between the inner and outer members of the lower auxiliary frame 15. On the inner face of the lower auxiliary frame there are inwardly directed spaced pads 20, designed to contact with the chin and rear portion of the neck of the user of the mask. On one of the sides of the outer element of the lower auxiliary frame 15 there is secured a strap 21 provided with a buckle 22. To the opposite side of the lower auxiliary frame there is secured a second strap 23 that is provided with apertures 24 to receive the tongue of the buckle 22 and strap the mask on the face of the wearer.

Having thus described the invention, what I claim, is:—

In a mask designed to be arranged on the side of the face and head of a batter of a base ball team, a main frame comprising inner and outer elliptical wires, right angular braces for the inner wire, angular braces between the inner and outer wires, upper and lower auxiliary frames connected to the main frame and constructed of wires, the upper auxiliary frame having inner and outer arched wires, arched brace wires connecting the same and securing the auxiliary frame to the main frame and arranging the said upper auxiliary frame at an inward arch with respect to the main frame, spaced inwardly projecting pads in the upper auxiliary frame, a flexible band secured to the ends of the said auxiliary frame, the lower auxiliary frame comprising inner and outer members which have their side portions arranged at approximately the same curvature as the sides of the main frame, and their lower portions arched toward the main frame, brace wires connecting the inner and outer braces of the lower auxiliary frame together and to the main frame, and said brace wires being arched to direct the lower auxiliary frame inwardly of the main frame, inwardly projected pads on the lower auxiliary frame, straps secured to the sides of the lower auxiliary frame, and adjustable means for connecting the straps.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

HERMAN H. POHLMANN.