Feb. 18, 1947. J. A. MERCER 2,416,062

HELMET

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Fig. 1.

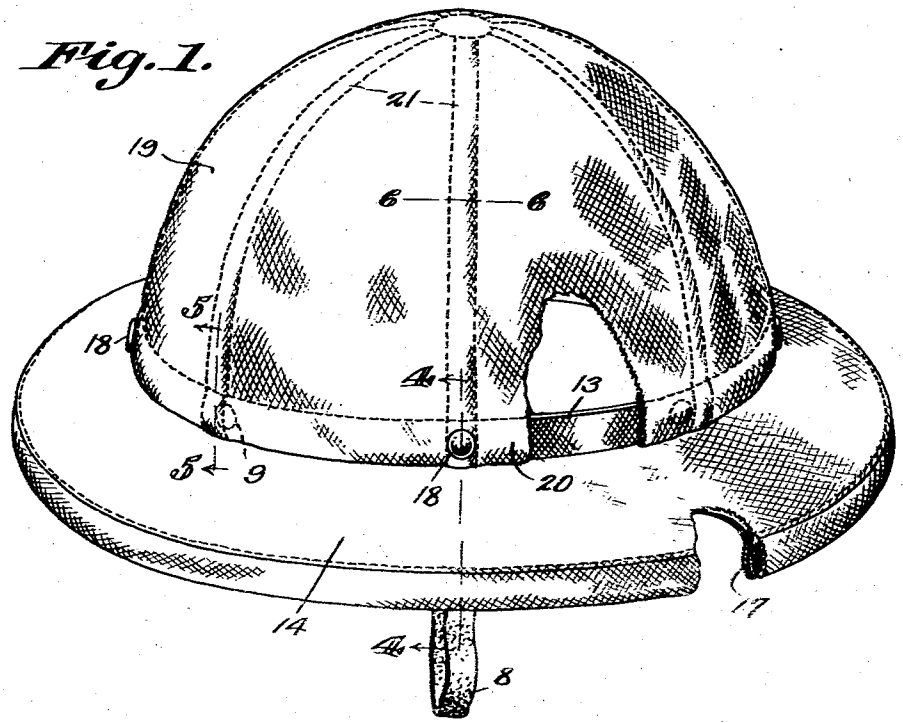
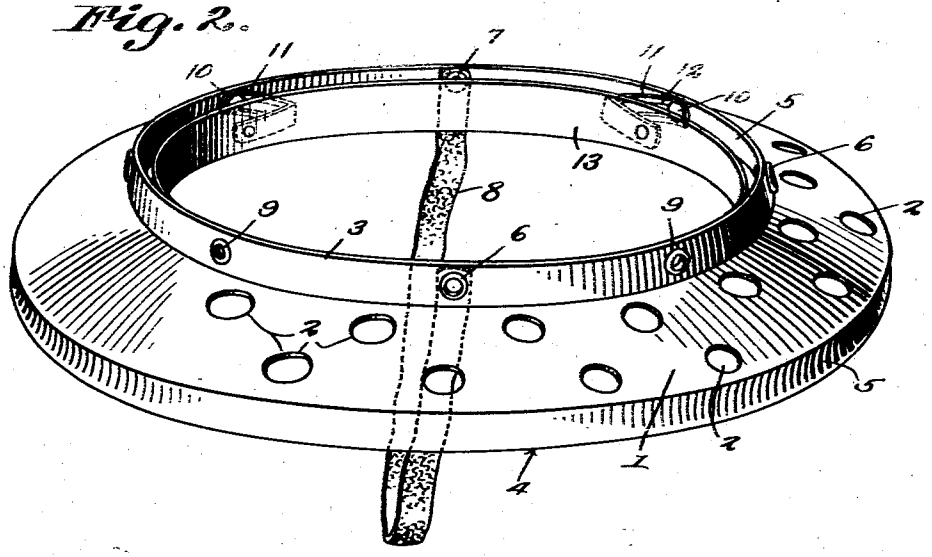


Fig. 2.



J. A. Mercer
INVENTOR.

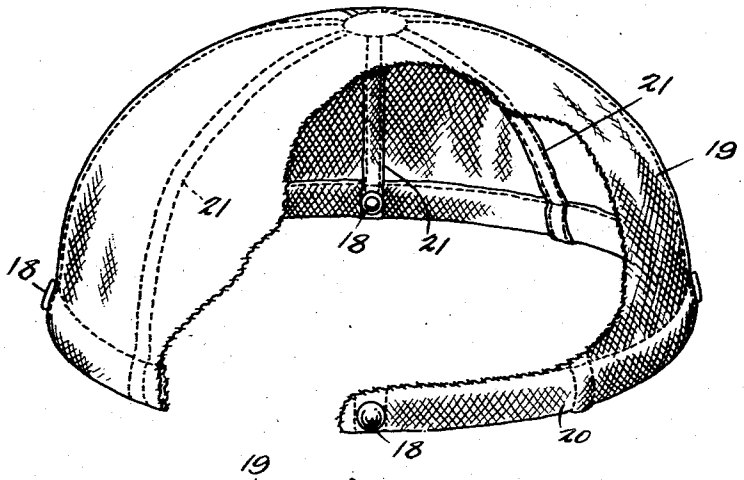
BY C. A. Brown & Co.
ATTORNEYS.

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Fig. 3.



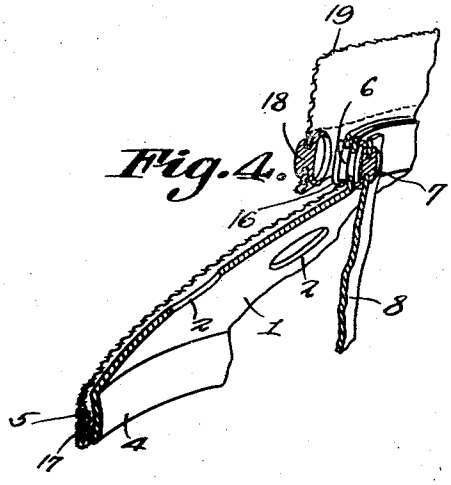


Fig. 4.

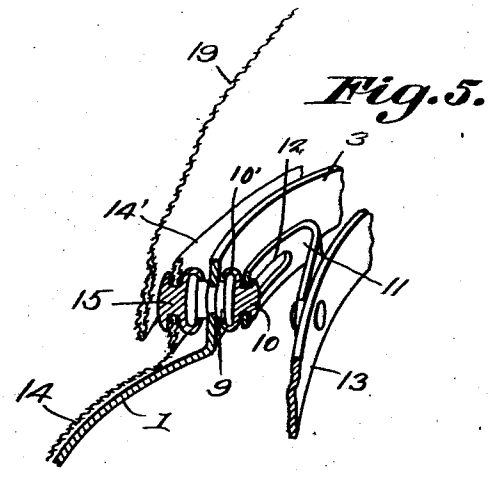


Fig. 5.

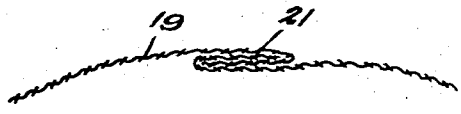


Fig. 6.

J. A. Mercer
INVENTOR.

BY
Albright & Co.
ATTORNEYS.

Patented Feb. 18, 1947 2,416,062

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,416,062

HELMET

James A. Mercer, Tuscaloosa, Ala.

Application June 18, 1945, Serial No. 600,150

4 Claims. (Cl. 2—177)

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This invention relates to helmets of the "topper" type.

Heretofore headgear of this form has been made of stiffened heavy fabric or of pulp and the crown and brim portions have been made integral. It has been difficult to clean helmets made in the manner described and, furthermore, they have frequently been of excessive weight.

An object of the present invention is to provide a helmet of the "topper" type, the crown portion of which is made of a washable fabric detachably connected to the brim portion, it being designed to so construct the crown portion that it can be washed like any other garment, stiffened with starch or the like, and readily applied to the brim portion.

It is another object of the invention to provide the brim portion of the helmet with a removable washable cover which, in position, is detachably connected not only to the brim portion but also to the crown portion.

With the foregoing and other objects in view which will appear as the description proceeds, the invention consists of certain novel details of construction and combinations of parts hereinafter more fully described and pointed out in the claims, it being understood that changes may be made in the construction and arrangement of parts without departing from the spirit of the invention as claimed.

In the accompanying drawings the preferred form of the invention has been shown.

In said drawings

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a helmet constructed in accordance with the present invention, portions being broken away.

Figure 2 is a perspective view of the brim portion, its cover being removed.

Figure 3 is a perspective view of the crown portion of the helmet, a portion being broken away.

Figure 4 is a section through a portion of the helmet showing one of the sections between the brim portion, its cover, the crown, and the chin strap, said section being on the line 4—4, Fig. 1.

Figure 5 is a view similar to Fig. 4 showing the connection between the brim portion, its cover and the sweatband, said section being on the line 5—5, Fig. 1.

Figure 6 is an enlarged section on line 6—6, Fig. 1.

Referring to the figures by characters of reference, 1 designates the brim of the helmet which can be made of plastic having requisite strength or of suitably stiffened fabric, pulp or the like.

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Portions of it can be reduced in weight by forming large holes 2 therein of any desired design and arrangement. The brim portion also differs from those ordinarily used because, instead of being integral with the crown portion of the helmet, it is provided at its upper edge with an upwardly extending continuous flange 3 while its lower or outer edge is provided with a depending annular flange 4, this latter flange having a slight concave outer surface as indicated at 5.

At desired intervals in the flange 3 there are provided separable snap fasteners 6 the inner ends of two opposed ones being detachably engaged by socket members 7 carried by the end portions of a chin strap 8. Additional fastener members 9 are seated in the flange 3 at desired intervals and the inner ends of these members 9 are engaged by lugs 10 having sockets 10' fitted securely about the members 9. These lugs are engaged by folded spring strips 11 each of which has a longitudinal slot 12 in one end portion adjustably engaging one of the lugs 10 while the other end portion of the spring strip is securely fastened to a sweat band 13. Thus the sweatband, which can be adjustable, is held yieldingly spaced from the flange 3 so that air can circulate freely between them.

The brim 1 has a removable washable cover formed of a light fabric and indicated at 14. This cover is proportioned to fit snugly on the brim and has an upwardly extended annular portion 14' adapted to extend around flange 3. This upwardly extended portion is provided with socket members 15 and 16 alternately arranged, the members 15 being adapted to snap into engagement with the fastener members 9, as shown in Fig. 5 while the socket members 16 are adapted to snap into engagement with the fastener members 6. As the members 6 and 9 are alternately arranged along the flange 3 and the socket members 15 and 16 are similarly arranged, it will be apparent that when the various socket members are snapped into position, they will hold the upper portion of the cover 14—14' snugly about the brim. The outer or lower portion of the cover is held securely to the flange 4 by means of a strip 17 of elastic material which is seated in the marginal portion of the cover 14 and serves to press the former against the concave surface of the flange 4. The outer portions of the fasteners 6 are adapted to be detachably engaged by socket members 18 proportioned to snap into position thereon. These socket members are secured within the crown portion 19 of the helmet close to the edge thereof. This crown portion

is formed of a light weight fabric and is of the usual rounded contour. The edge portion can be stiffened by folding and stitching the material as indicated at **20** while the crown portion can be further stiffened by the use of stiffening strips, folds or seams, indicated at **21**, which extend from the edge of the crown portion to the center thereof as shown particularly in Figs. 1 and 3.

The material of which the cover **14** and the crown portion **19** are made can be of any desired weight and color and when these parts are removed from the brim portion **1**, they can be washed like any other garments, supplied with starch or other stiffening material, dried and pressed or otherwise reshaped. Thereafter the cover portion **14** is applied to the brim portion as already explained after which the crown portion is placed around the upwardly extending part **14'** and fastened in place by snapping the socket members **18** into engagement with the fasteners **6**.

When the various parts are assembled the helmet has the appearance of the "topper" type but, as before explained, has the advantage of lightness and the further advantage of being easily cleaned.

It is to be understood of course that a suitable hat band can be placed on the helmet to improve its appearance. Furthermore, under some conditions, it might be desirable to utilize removable ribs of plastic or other suitable material for stiffening purposes instead of relying upon the stiffening seams or the like illustrated at **21**.

What is claimed is:

1. A helmet including a stiff brim portion having inner and outer flanges extended upwardly and downwardly respectively, a washable fabric cover overlying the brim portion, separate means for detachably connecting the upper and lower portions of said cover to the upper and lower flanges respectively, a crown portion overlying and surrounding said upper flange and that portion of the cover connected thereto, and means for detachably connecting said crown portion to the upper flange and the cover.

2. A helmet including a stiff brim portion having inner and outer flanges extending upwardly and downwardly respectively, a washable fabric cover overlying the brim portion, separate means

for detachably connecting the upper and lower portions of said cover to the upper and lower flanges respectively, a crown portion overlying and surrounding said upper flange and that portion of the cover connected thereto, means for detachably connecting the crown portion to the upper flange and the cover, said crown portion being of a flexible fabric, and means embodied in the crown portion for stiffening the same.

3. A helmet including a stiff brim portion having inner and outer flanges extending upwardly and downwardly respectively, a washable fabric cover overlying the brim portion, separate means for detachably connecting the upper and lower portions of said cover to the upper and lower flanges respectively, a crown portion overlying and surrounding said upper flange and that portion of the cover connected thereto, means for detachably connecting the crown portion to the upper flange and the cover, said crown portion being of a flexible fabric, and means embodied in the crown portion for stiffening the same, said means including ribs integral with the crown portion and converging from the edge thereof toward the center of the crown portion.

4. A helmet including a stiff brim portion having an upwardly extended inner flange, a washable fabric cover overlying the brim portion, means for attaching it to the flange, a crown portion overlying and surrounding said flange and that portion of the cover connected thereto, means for detachably connecting the crown portion to said flange and cover, said crown portion comprising a washable fabric stiffened with a water soluble material and including integral stiffening ribs of folded fabric extending from the center to the marginal portion of said crown portion.

JAMES A. MERCER.

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