J. W. PENNY.

DEVICE FOR HAND BLOCKING HATS.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 15, 1909.

929,483. Patented July 27, 1909.

Fig. 1.

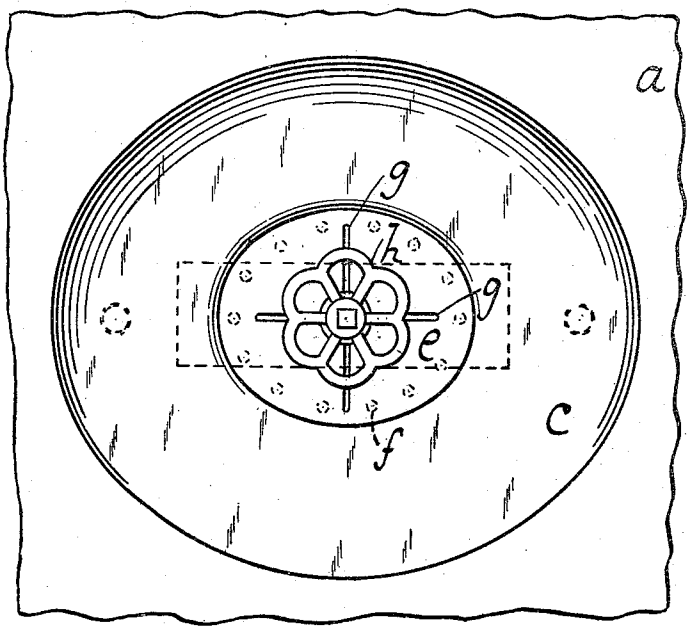
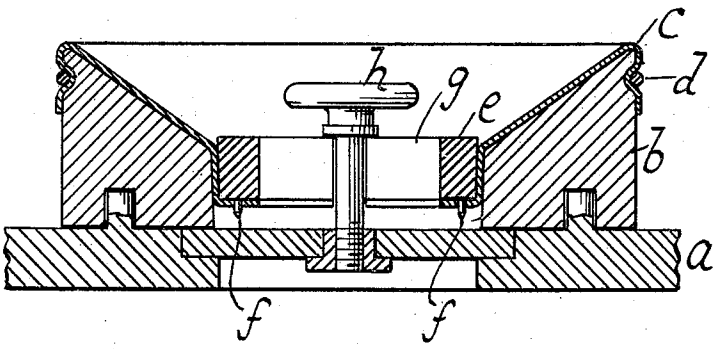


Fig. 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES W. PENNY, OF NORTH PELHAM, NEW YORK.

DEVICE FOR HAND-BLOCKING HATS.

No. 929,483. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented July 27, 1909.

Application filed April 15, 1909. Serial No. 490,120.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES W. PENNY, a citizen of the United States, residing at North Pelham, in the county of Westchester and State of New York, have invented new and useful Improvements in Devices for Hand-Blocking Hats, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a so called device for hand blocking hats.

The invention is designed to save time, ease labor and to accomplish other objects.

This invention is set forth in the following specification and claims and illustrated in the annexed drawing in which:—

Figure 1 is a plan view of a device embodying this invention. Fig. 2 is a sectional side elevation of Fig. 1 showing a block placed on a table.

In this drawing is shown a table or support *a*. On this table is shown placed or supported a block *b*. Material for a brim *c* of silk, velvet or any suitable substance or fabric is placed on or drawn across the block. By means of a rope, a string or suitable fastening secured in a groove in the block and indicated at *d* the brim material is secured to the block. A center piece *e* has pins or prongs *f*. As the center piece is placed into the block or into a hole thereof the pins or prongs *f* engage the brim material *c* and draw the material so as to sit or neatly conform to the block or to be free from any wrinkles or creases. This center piece is placed on the brim *c* at the portion to be occupied by the opening of the brim. The center piece is shown with radially extended slots or suitable cuts or openings *g*. These cuts *g* allow the insertion of blades or tools for the material of the brim to be slitted at the opening or center portion. Such slits allow tearing of the brim when stretched or strained, and such tearing of the brim will occur at the center or opening of the material but the portion elsewhere or on the block will be saved or left uninjured. The pins on the center piece engage the brim and draw it to conform over the block. A screw or suitable fastening appliance *h* can serve to tightly move the center piece into place. The screw *h* can be threaded into a suitable recess or tap in the table.

The block *b* with the brim *c* thereon can be put aside for a suitable time and when ready the brim *c* can be taken off the block and the crown of the hat suitably sewed or applied to the brim or to the opening or center portion of such brim.

This block furnishes a means by which a brim can be made quicker and more perfectly than heretofore. The former method required the separate insertion of pins for holding the center portion of the brim to the block and such pins after the operation had to be severally withdrawn. This operation not only consumed time but the workman's fingers would also be more or less exposed to cutting or chafing or injury when inserting or withdrawing the pins. By having the pins carried by the center piece *e* such pins are inserted and withdrawn simultaneously or with the center piece. As the average brim may require about 40 pins for securing the brim to the block the advantage of having these pins *f* carried by the center piece as shown is obvious.

I claim:—

1. In a device of the kind described a table with a block, and a center piece adapted to engage a hat brim portion on the block, said center piece having pins for such engagement.

2. In a device of the kind described a table with a block, and a center piece adapted to engage material on the block, said center piece having openings to allow the material to be slitted at its center portion.

3. In a device of the kind described a block, a center piece and pins carried by the center piece to engage material for a brim said center piece having openings to allow the material to be slitted thereby preventing tearing or rupture of the material at other points than its center portion.

4. In a device of the kind described a table with a block, a center piece adapted to engage material on the block and a fastening screw for securing the center piece in place, said screw passing through the center piece to directly engage the table.

5. In a device of the kind described a table with a block, a center piece having pins to engage material on the block, and a screw to engage the center piece for causing the same to give the required pressure for drawing the material smoothly over the block.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JAMES W. PENNY.

Witnesses:
W. C. HAUFF,
CHRISTIAN ALMSTAEDT.