Aug. 10, 1954 J. W. PATTERSON, JR 2,685,692

SELF-SIZING HEADBAND FOR HATS

Filed Jan. 21, 1952

2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1

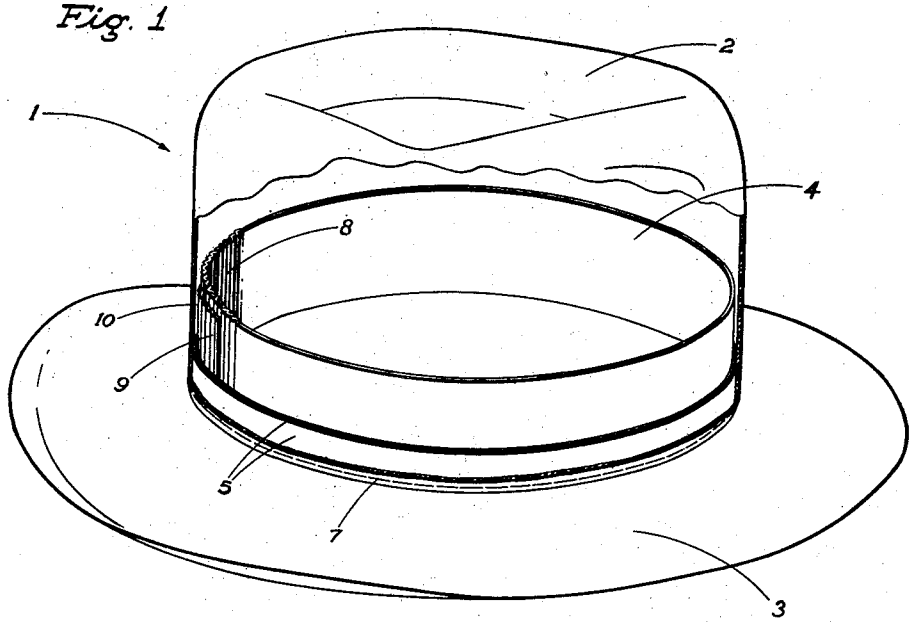


Fig. 2

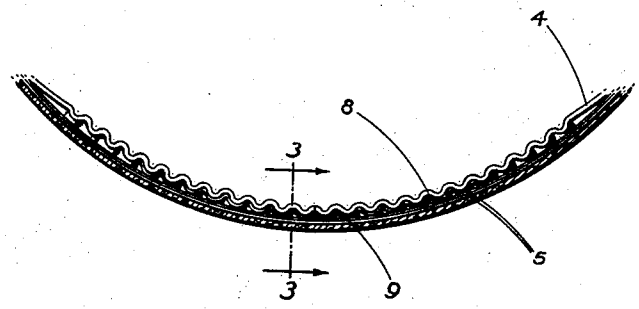
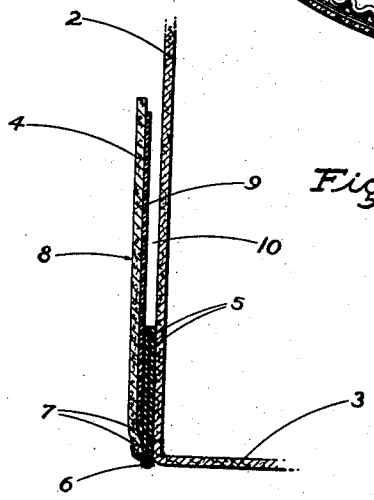


Fig. 3



INVENTOR
JOHN W. PATTERSON JR.
BY
Webster & Webster
ATTORNEYS

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Fig. 4

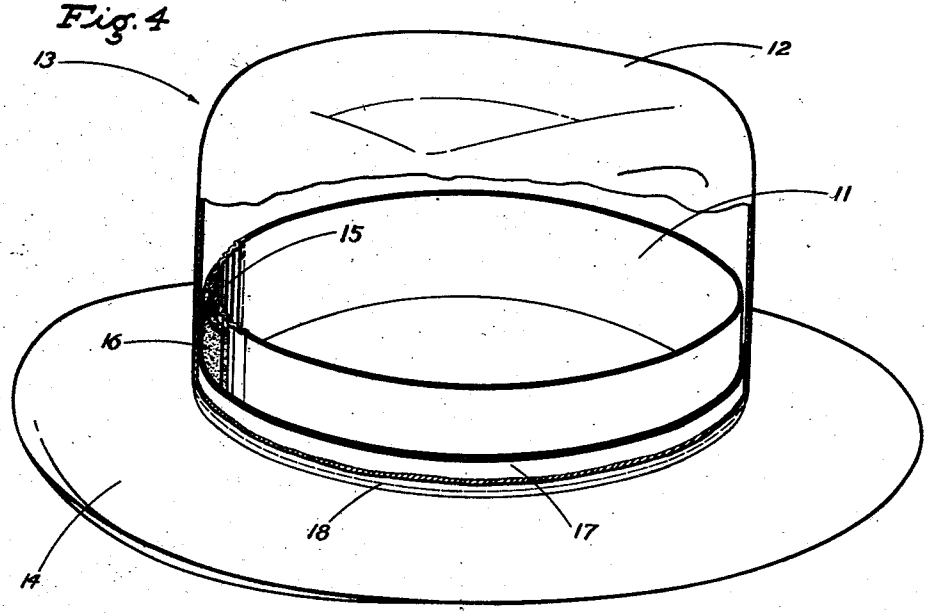


Fig. 5

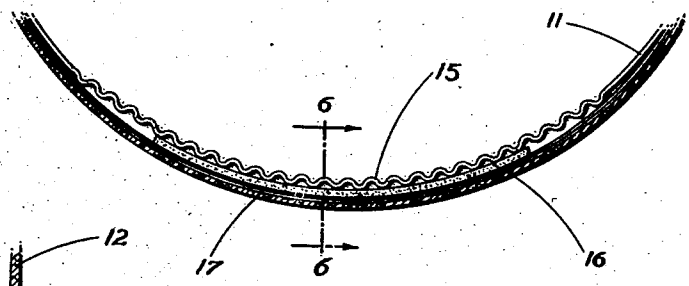
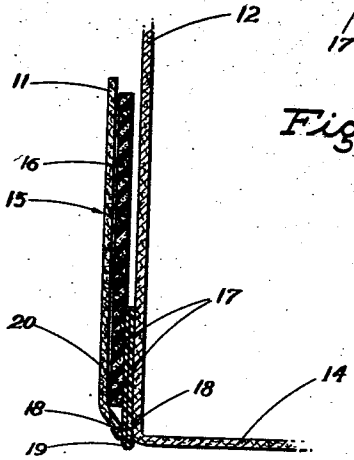


Fig. 6



INVENTOR
JOHN W. PATTERSON JR.
BY
Webster & Webster
ATTORNEYS

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SELF-SIZING HEADBAND FOR HATS

John W. Patterson, Jr., Sacramento, Calif.

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2 Claims. (Cl. 2—183)

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This present invention relates in general to adjustable head bands in hats.

A major object of the present invention is to provide, in a hat, a head band which—within a reasonable range from a given standard hat size—is automatically self-adjusting or self-sizing to the head of the wearer, whereby to accomplish a better fit of the hat and to attain greater comfort.

Another important object of the invention is to provide, in a hat, a self-sizing head band, as above, wherein the ability of said band to vary in circumference and consequently in head size is due to the formation, in said head band, and at one end of the hat, of a longitudinal vertically corrugated section; the corrugations pulling open to increase the circumference of the head band under the influence of a larger head, and contracting to decrease the circumference under the influence of a smaller head.

Another object of this invention is to provide, in one embodiment, the longitudinal, vertically corrugated section of the head band on the back side with an adhered sheet of flexible but elastic material which yieldably resists lengthening of said section and tends to return the same to its initial length.

A further object of this invention is to provide, in another embodiment, a cushion pad secured in connection with the crown of the hat in backing relation to the longitudinal, vertically corrugated section of the head band, whereby to permit said section to vary in length as head size requires, and generally in proportion to the extent of compression of said cushion pad.

It is also an object of the invention to provide a self-sizing head band for hats which is designed for ease and economy of manufacture.

Still a further object of the invention is to provide a self-sizing head band for hats which is practical, reliable, and exceedingly effective for the purpose for which it is designed.

These objects are accomplished in the manner as will fully appear by a perusal of the following specification and claims.

In the drawings:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a hat including the invention in one embodiment; the crown of the hat being partly broken away to expose the head band and the self-sizing means.

Fig. 2 is an enlarged fragmentary sectional plan of the crown taken above and looking downward at the self-sizing means for the head band.

Fig. 3 is an enlarged fragmentary cross section on line 3—3 of Fig. 2.

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Fig. 4 is a view similar to Fig. 1, but shows a modification.

Fig. 5 is an enlarged fragmentary sectional plan of the crown taken above and looking downward at the self-sizing means for the head band as shown in the embodiment of Fig. 4.

Fig. 6 is an enlarged fragmentary cross section on line 6—6 of Fig. 5.

Referring now more particularly to the characters of reference on the drawings, and at present to the embodiment of the invention shown in Figs. 1–3, the hat is indicated generally at 1, including—as usual—a crown 2 and a brim 3.

Within the lower portion of the crown 2 the hat is fitted with a circumferential head band 4, preferably of leather; such head band being of substantial depth but much less than that of the crown 2.

Between the lower portion of the head band 4 and the corresponding portion of the crown 2, there is disposed a folded oil silk strip 5 whose conventional purpose is to prevent perspiration and oil from the head gaining access to the adjacent part of the crown 2.

At its lower edge—i. e. at the line of fold—the oil silk strip 5 provides a bead 6, and directly above such bead the head band 4 is attached to the folded oil silk strip 5, and in turn the latter is attached to the crown 2, both by stitching, as at 7.

At one end of the hat, preferably at the rear, the head band 4 is formed with a longitudinal, vertically corrugated section 8 of substantial length; the corrugations as shown being smoothly rounded but initially relatively deep.

This longitudinal, vertically corrugated section 8 is backed by an adhered sheet 9 of flexible but elastic material, preferably an elastic plastic. The sheet of flexible but elastic material 9 is permanently adhered to the back side of the section 8.

The folded oil silk strip 5 disposed as above described lies between the lower portion of the sheet of elastic material 9 and the crown 2 of the hat, thus providing a space 10 above said strip 5, and which space is of advantage as it assures against the corrugations of the section 8 being restricted against working; i. e. against expansion and contraction.

When a hat 1, embodying the above described invention, is worn, the head band 4 effectively and comfortably adjusts within reasonable limits to the head size of the wearer. When the hat is pulled down on the head the corrugations of the section 8 are pulled apart or open up to the extent

necessary for proper fit, thus in effect enlarging the hat size. When the pressure on the head band is removed, the corrugated section 8—by reason of the adherent elastic sheet 9 on the back side—contracts, and said corrugated section returns to its initial length.

While this embodiment contemplates that the flexible elastic material 9 be initially in the form of a sheet adhered to the back side of the head band 4 by a suitable adhesive, it is possible that such sheet could be an initially fluid material applied one or more layers on the back side of the head band and then permitted to dry.

In the embodiment of Fig. 4–6, the general assembly remains the same, including a head band 11 in the crown 12 of a hat, indicated generally at 13, which hat includes a brim 14; the head band 11 having a similar longitudinal, vertically corrugated section 15 in one end of the hat, as before.

However, in this embodiment the adhered sheet of flexible elastic material, as at 9 in Fig. 1, is omitted, and instead of thin elongated cushion pad 16, preferably of sponge rubber or the like, is disposed between the longitudinal, vertically corrugated section 15 and the adjacent portion of the crown 12 of the hat 13.

The folded oil silk strip is here identified at 17, and the lower edge of the head band 11 is secured to said strip, and the latter is in turn secured to the crown 12 by stitching, as at 18; the lower edge bead of the folded oil silk strip 17 lying below the stitching 18, as at 19.

The lower portion of the thin elongated cushion pad 16 is disposed above the stitching 18 but lies between the head band and the folded oil silk strip 17, being removably secured to the latter by tack stitching 20.

Tack stitching is preferred, as it permits the cushion pad 16 to be removed from the hat before the latter is cleaned in solvent or the like, and which solvent would be deleterious to said pad.

In this embodiment of the self-sizing head band the longitudinal, vertically corrugated section 15 permits the head band 11 to vary in circumference, and consequently in size, dependent on the head size of the wearer; there being a generally proportionate compression or decompression of the cushion pad 16 as such corrugated section 15 expands or contracts.

In this embodiment, just as in the previous one described, the head band automatically adjusts or sizes effectively to the head of the wearer, so that the hat fits better and is worn more comfortably than otherwise.

From the foregoing description it will be readily seen that there has been produced such an article of manufacture as will substantially fulfill the objects of the invention, as set forth herein.

While this specification sets forth in detail the present and preferred construction of the article

of manufacture, still in practice such deviations therefrom may be resorted to as do not form a departure from the spirit of the invention, as defined by the appended claims.

Having thus described the invention, the following is claimed as new and useful, and upon which Letters Patent are desired:

1. A self-sizing head band in a hat having a crown surrounding the head band, a moisture impervious strip between the lower portion of the head band and crown and extending about the band, and stitching securing the lower edge of the head band to the corresponding edge of the strip and the latter to the crown; the head band having a longitudinal vertically corrugated section formed therein at one end of the crown of said hat, and a longitudinal sheet of flexible but elastic material adhered in backing relation to said section yieldably resisting expansion of said corrugated section, the lower portion of said sheet of material being engaged between the head band and said strip above the stitching and the upper portion of said sheet extending some distance above the upper edge of such strip, the latter thus spacing said upper portion of the sheet from the crown.

2. A self-sizing head band in a hat having a crown surrounding the head band, a moisture impervious strip between the lower portion of the head band and crown and extending about the band, and stitching securing the lower edge of the head band to the corresponding edge of the strip and the latter to the crown; the head band having a longitudinal vertically corrugated section formed therein at one end of the crown of said hat, and a relatively thin longitudinal cushion pad interposed between said section and the crown, the lower portion of the pad projecting between said section and the strip above the corresponding portion of the stitching, and means separate from said stitching securing said lower portion of the pad to the strip whereby said pad is free of direct connection with said section and crown.

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