Jan. 27, 1959 T. L. BAILEY 2,870,450

ELASTIC FRONT CAP

Filed March 30, 1956

Fig. 1.

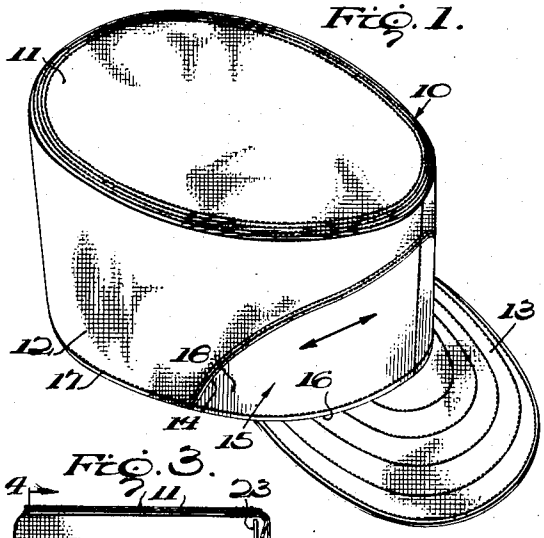


Fig. 2.

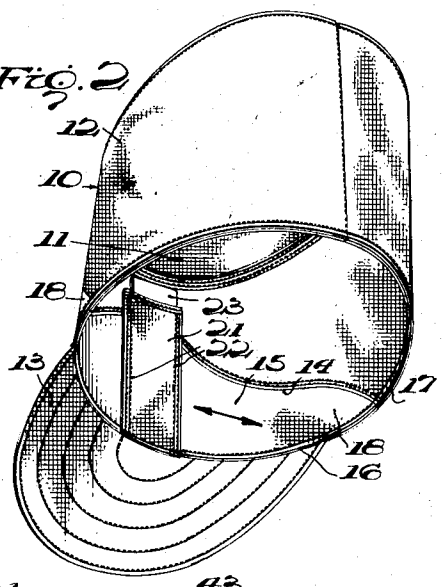


Fig. 3.

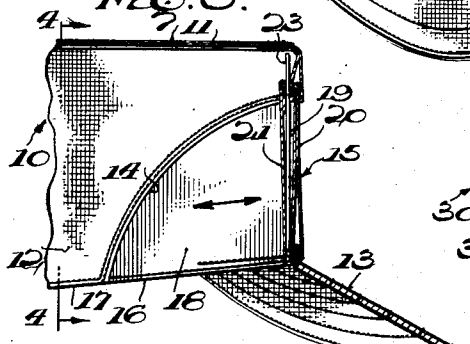


Fig. 4.

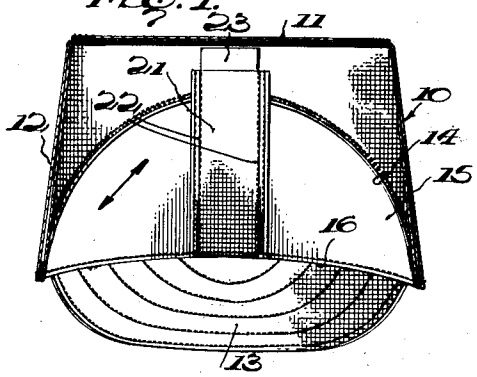


Fig. 5.

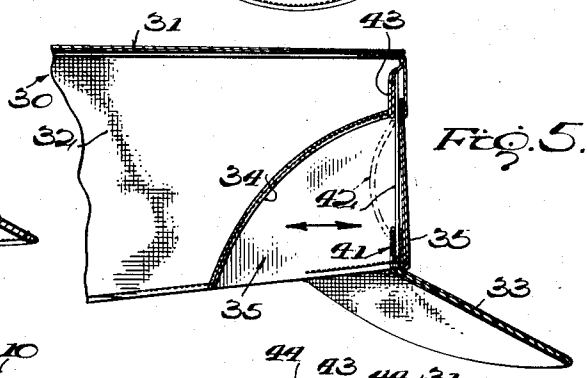


Fig. 6.

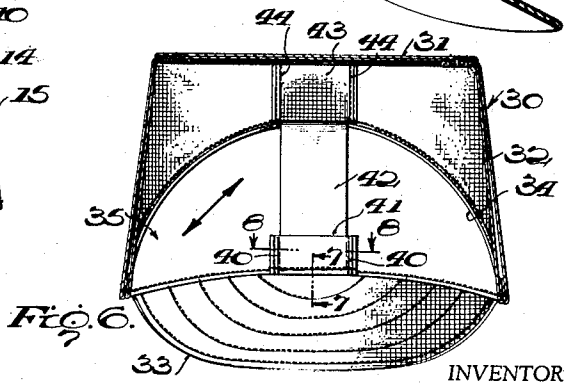


Fig. 7.

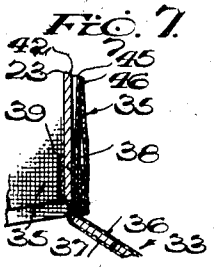
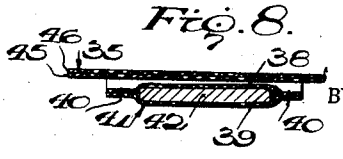


Fig. 8.



INVENTOR

Theodore L. Bailey.

BY W. J. Eccleston.

ATTORNEY

United States Patent Office 2,870,450 Patented Jan. 27, 1959

2,870,450

ELASTIC FRONT CAP

Theodore L. Bailey, Natick, Mass., assignor to the United States of America as represented by the Secretary of the Army

Application March 30, 1956, Serial No. 575,293

4 Claims. (Cl. 2—197)

(Granted under Title 35, U. S. Code (1952), sec. 266)

The invention described herein, if patented, may be manufactured and used by or for the Government for governmental purposes, without the payment to me of any royalty thereon.

The invention relates to head coverings and is particularly concerned with visored caps of the type which include elastic means which permit one size of cap to fit a number of heads of different size.

The conventional cap of this sort locates the elastic means at the rear of the cap because of the inherent inelasticity of the visor and also because the elastic means used usually require pleats or gatherings in the cap which are less unsightly if located at the rear.

However, it has long been known that the pressure of the visor on the forehead is a major cause of discomfort in the wearing of visored caps and that such discomfort is not alleviated by rearwardly located elastic means.

With the foregoing in view, it is an object of the invention to provide an improved cap of the class described which includes an elastic mount for the visor thereof.

A further object is to provide such a cap wherein said crown includes elastic inserts juxtaposed to opposite sides of said visor.

A further object is to provide an improved cap of the class described which includes a relatively large front insert of elastic material, such insert extending beyond the opposite sides of the visor.

A further object of the invention is to provide for novel front stay mounting means in combination with elastic inserts for caps of this type.

Other objects and advantages reside in the particular structure of the invention, the structure of the several elements thereof, combinations and subcombinations of such elements, all of which will be readily apparent to those skilled in the art upon reference to the attached drawing in connection with the following specification wherein the invention is shown, described and claimed.

In the drawing:

Figure 1 is a perspective view looking from above of one form of the invention;

Figure 2 is a like view taken from below;

Figure 3 is a longitudinal vertical sectional view of the front portion of this form of the invention;

Figure 4 is a transverse vertical sectional view taken substantially on the plane of the line 4—4 of Figure 3;

Figures 5 and 6 are views like Figures 3 and 4, respectively, but showing a modified form of front stay mount; and

Figures 7 and 8 are enlarged fragmentary sectional views taken respectively on the planes of the lines 7—7 and 8—8 of Figure 6.

Referring specifically to the drawing wherein like reference characters designate like parts in all views, and referring at first to Figures 1–4 inclusive, **10** designates generally a cap according to the invention. In the embodiment illustrated, the cap **10** includes a cap body which comprises a crown piece **11**, a side wall **12** depending therefrom and a visor **13**. The front portion of the side wall **12** is formed with a relatively wide and preferably arcuate notch **14** which is filled with an elastic insert **15** of any suitable elastic material. The elastic insert **15** includes a lower edge **16** which comprises a continuation of the lower edge **17** of the side wall **12**. The visor **13** is secured in any suitable and well known manner to the central portion of the lower edge **16** of the insert **15**. As the insert **15** is wider than the visor **13**, side portions **18** of the insert are located on opposite sides of the visor and render it forwardly yielding relative to the inelastic side wall **12**. As the entire insert **15** is preferably formed of elastic material, it cooperates with the side portions **18** thereof in molding the visor to the forehead. Thus, the cap **10** is readily adapted for wear on heads of various sizes with a maximum of comfort in the visor area.

To insure a smart appearance in a cap of the type illustrated, although obviously unnecessary when the invention is applied to other types of cap, it is desirable to provide a front stay now to be described. One form of stay and mount for the same is illustrated in Figures 1–4. As seen in Figure 3, the insert **15** is formed of inner and outer plies **19** and **20** which are not connected together except at their edges. A strip of any suitable sheet material **21** forms a stay pocket and is sewed to the inner ply **19** of the insert **15** centrally and rearwardly thereof by the spaced and vertical rows of stitching **22**. The stitching **22** does not penetrate the front ply **20** of the insert **15** so that the presence of the stay pocket **21** is not apparent from the outside. The pocket **21** is open at the top and slidably receives therein any suitable stiffening stay **23** which supports the front of the cap in a manner readily understood.

Figures 5–8, inclusive, illustrate a slightly modified form of the invention wherein the stay pocket is not connected to either ply of the elastic insert. In this form of the invention, the cap **30** is similar to the cap **10** and includes a crown piece **31**, side wall **32**, visor **33** together with an elastic insert **35** which fills the notch **34** in the side wall. Here, these parts are generally the same except that the visor **33** includes the usual upper and lower plies **36** and **37**, Figure 7. The plies **36** and **37** include integral upward extensions in the form of superimposed strips **38** and **39** which are located centrally of the rear edge of the visor. The side edges of the strips **38** and **39** are sewed together as at **40** to form an upwardly opening pocket **41** for the lower end of the stay **42**. A downwardly opening pocket **43** for the upper end of the stay **42** comprises a patch of material having its side edges sewed as at **44** to the wall **32** above the insert **35**. The stay **42** is applied to or removed from the pockets **41** and **43** by being rearwardly bowed as indicated in broken lines, Figure 5. Thus, both plies **45** and **46** of the insert **35** are free of the stay **42** and its pockets.

It should be understood that where the invention is applied to caps wherein a front stay is either not needed or not desired, the stays and pockets therefor may be omitted.

While there has been shown and described what are now thought to be the preferred embodiments of the invention, it should be understood that the same is susceptible of other forms and expressions. Thus, the invention is not to be limited to the precise structures shown and described hereinabove except as hereinafter claimed.

I claim:

1. A cap comprising a crown, an upright cylindrical side wall and a visor, said cylindrical side wall comprising an inelastic portion provided with an arcuate cut-out at the front thereof and an arcuate insert of circumferentially stretchable elastic material filling said cut-

out and attached to the arcuate edge thereof, said cut-out and elastic insert extending through less than one-half the circumference of the side wall, means for attaching the visor to the free edge of the elastic insert intermediate the ends thereof, said insert being of somewhat greater length than the width of the visor so as to extend slightly beyond the ends thereof and impart adjustability to the cap.

2. A cap comprising a crown, an upright cylindrical side wall and a visor, said cylindrical side wall comprising an inelastic portion provided with an arcuate cut-out at the front thereof and an arcuate insert of circumferentially stretchable elastic material filling said cut-out and attached to the arcuate edge thereof, said cut-out and elastic insert extending through less than one-half the circumference of the side wall, means for attaching the visor to the free edge of the elastic insert intermediate the ends thereof, said insert being of somewhat greater length than the width of the visor so as to extend slightly beyond the ends thereof and impart adjustability to the cap, and a stiffening stay mounted on said insert.

3. A cap comprising a crown, an upright cylindrical side wall and a visor, said cylindrical side wall comprising an inelastic portion provided with an arcuate cut-out at the front thereof and an arcuate insert of circumferentially stretchable two-ply elastic material filling said cut-out and attached to the arcuate edge thereof, said cut-out and elastic insert extending through less than one-half the circumference of the side wall, means for attaching the visor to the free edge of the elastic insert intermediate the ends thereof and impart adjustability to the

cap, and means for mounting a stiffening stay on the inner ply of elastic material.

4. A cap comprising a crown, an upright cylindrical side wall and a visor, said cylindrical side wall comprising an inelastic portion provided with an arcuate cut-out at the front thereof and an arcuate insert of circumferentially stretchable two-ply elastic material filling said cut-out and attached to the arcuate edge thereof, said cut-out and elastic insert extending through less than one-half the circumference of the side wall, means for attaching the visor to the free edge of the elastic insert intermediate the ends thereof, said insert being of somewhat greater length than the width of the visor so as to extend slightly beyond the ends thereof and impart adjustability to the cap, a narrow strip of material attached to the inner ply of elastic material to extend vertically thereof and provide a pocket open at its upper end, and a stiffening stay mounted in the pocket.

References Cited in the file of this patent

UNITED STATES PATENTS

357,418	Seldner	Feb. 8, 1887
911,126	Harrison et al.	Feb. 2, 1909
1,267,799	Perlman et al.	May 28, 1918
1,502,202	Josephs	July 22, 1924
1,717,169	Pekowsky	June 11, 1929
2,286,202	Fischer	June 16, 1942
2,520,643	Lesser	Aug. 29, 1950
2,677,827	Lockhart	May 11, 1954
2,803,016	Stevens	Aug. 20, 1957