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F. OSTOLAZA ET AL.

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SWEAT BAND STRUCTURE

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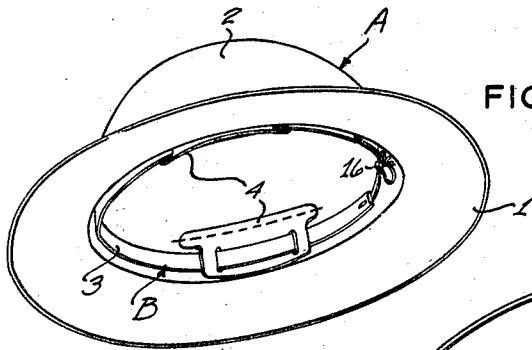


FIG. 1.

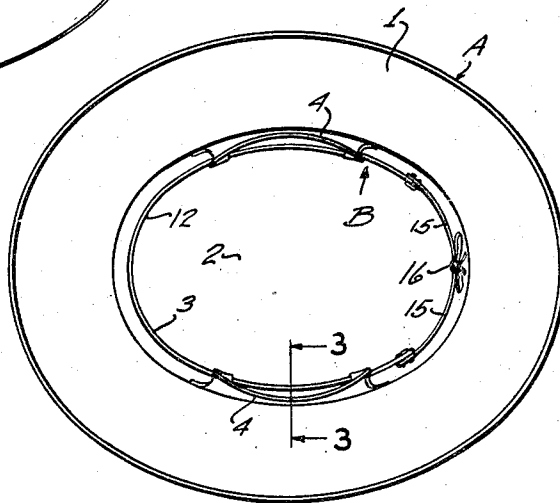


FIG. 2.

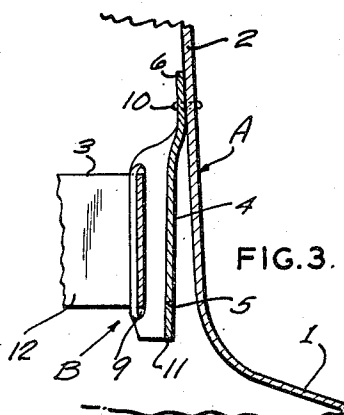


FIG. 3.

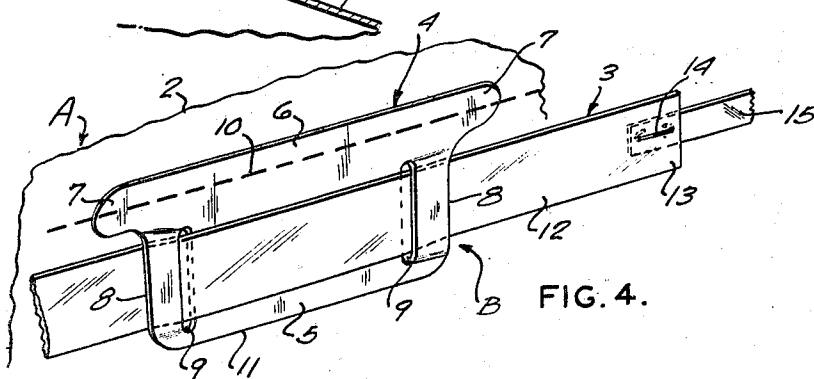


FIG. 4.

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SWEATBAND STRUCTURE

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4 Claims. (Cl. 2—183)

This invention relates to certain new improvements in sweat band structures for hats, helmets and the like, and more particularly to the supporting and positioning means for a sweat band in the crown of such hat or helmet.

An object of the invention is to provide a sweat band structure which is readily adjustable to comfortably accommodate various head sizes, yet may be expanded to allow nesting of one hat crown within another to attain a considerable saving in storage and shipping space.

A further object is attained in the provision of a sweat band supporting means or holder which is simple in construction and economical of manufacture for adjustably supporting a sweat band, yet is sufficiently flexible to allow various adjustments to readily and comfortably accommodate various head shapes and sizes.

These and other apparent objects are attained in the provision of a sweat band structure comprising a semi-rigid, yet flexible, relatively wide, and perimetally adjustable sweat band; and a plurality of sweat band holders constructed of a semi-rigid yet flexible material and being suitably secured to the inner face of the crown portion of a hat or helmet. The holders are each provided with a pair of spaced vertical slots or openings through which extend the said sweat band, the combined band and holders providing a sweat band structure which is simple in construction, easily assembled and economically manufactured.

These and other objects will be apparent from the following detailed description and accompanying drawing, in which:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a hat illustrating the sweat band structure of this invention;

Fig. 2 is a bottom plan view thereof;

Fig. 3 is a detail cross section as viewed along line 3—3 of Fig. 2, and

Fig. 4 is an enlarged fragmentary perspective view of the sweat band and holder of this invention.

Referring now to the drawing by suitable characters of reference, there is illustrated in Fig. 1 a preferred embodiment of the invention which comprises a hat or helmet A consisting generally of a brim 1 and a crown portion 2 in which is positioned a novel sweat band structure B. The sweat band structure B comprises a sweat band 3 and a pair of holders 4, each holder 4 being constructed of a relatively thin sheet of semi-rigid, yet flexible material, such as fibre, and comprises a substantially rectangular body portion 5 extending upwardly to provide an integral securing flange 6, said flange having ears 7 extending lon-

gitudinally and outwardly beyond each vertical end margin 8 of the body portion 5.

Spaced longitudinally of, and located near the end margins 8 of the body portion 5, is a pair of vertically extending openings or slots 9, each being substantially rectangular in shape and aligned to receive therethrough a sweat band 3. Each holder is adapted to be secured to the inner face of each side wall of the crown portion of the hat or helmet A by a single row of stitches 10 through and along the flange portion 6 and through the crown side wall, the holder being so positioned that its lower margin 11 is substantially adjacent the lower extent of the crown 2. It being understood, of course, that the flange 6 may be secured to the crown by means other than stitching, such as rivets, eyelets, staples, or a suitable adhesive.

Adapted to be threaded through and positioned by the slots 9 of holders 4 is the sweat band 3 which comprises a flexible, relatively wide band 12 and having secured to each of its outer ends 13, as by staples 14, a cord or tape 15.

In assembly, the band 3 is threaded through the slots 9 and, with the cord ends 15 untied, the rigidity of the holder 4 will position the band against or close to the inner side wall of the crown 2 so that several hats may be nested for economy of shipping and storage space. When in use the tape or band ends 15 are drawn together and knotted as at 16 to adjust or contract the perimeter of the band to fit the head of the wearer; the relation of the band and holder is such that the band will slide in the slots of the holder so that the band will comfortably conform to the shape of the wearer's head. When adjusted to fit the wearer's head the band will be spaced away from the hat crown to allow free circulation of air around and over the head of the wearer.

It should be further pointed out that when the band has been adjusted to the desired size, the band will conform to the shape and contour of the wearer's head which makes for a comfortable condition between the band and the wearer's head; to this end it should be noted that the aforementioned comfortable condition between the band and wearer's head is accomplished by the novel holder construction which allows sufficient movement of the band with respect to the hat, yet when the perimeter of the band is shortened the whole band shape will be constricted to accommodate the exact head shape of the user.

It is to be understood that various alterations and additions may be made to the assembly, use and detailed construction without departing

from the spirit and intended scope of the appended claims.

We claim:

1. In combination with a helmet, a plurality of sweat band holders each comprising a substantially rectangular piece of semi-rigid material fixedly secured near and along one of its horizontal margins to the inner face of the helmet crown and having a plurality of spaced vertically extending slots; and a flexible perimetally adjustable sweat band threaded through said slots for adjustably supporting said band within said helmet.

2. In combination with a hat and a sweat band, a sweat band holder comprising a relatively flat, semi-rigid, yet flexible body portion, a securing flange integral with said body portion and adapted to be secured to the inner face of the hat crown, said holder body portion having a pair of vertical slots spaced from and adjacent to the side margins of said body for adjustably supporting said band in respect to said hat.

3. In combination with a hat having a brim and a crown, of a plurality of sweat band holders each comprising a body portion and an integral securing flange, said holder body portion being

provided with a plurality of spaced vertically extending slots, means for securing said flange to the inner face of the hat crown portion, an adjustable sweat band positioned internally of said hat crown and threaded through said holder slots for adjustably supporting and positioning said sweat band in relation to said hat crown.

4. In combination with a hat having a brim and a crown, of a plurality of sweat band holders each constructed of a semi-rigid, yet flexible material and comprising a rectangular body portion, a securing flange extending upwardly from and integral with said body portion, said holder body portion being provided with longitudinally spaced, vertically extending slots, means for securing said flange to the inner face of the hat body portion, a relatively wide flexible sweat band having tie cords secured to its outer ends, said sweat band being threaded through said holder slots for adjustably supporting and positioning said sweat band in relation to said hat crown, and said sweat band being perimetally adjusted by knotting said sweat band tie cord ends.

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