April 24, 1962 J. O. SHELTON 3,030,632

ARTICLE OF HEADWEAR

Filed June 8, 1959

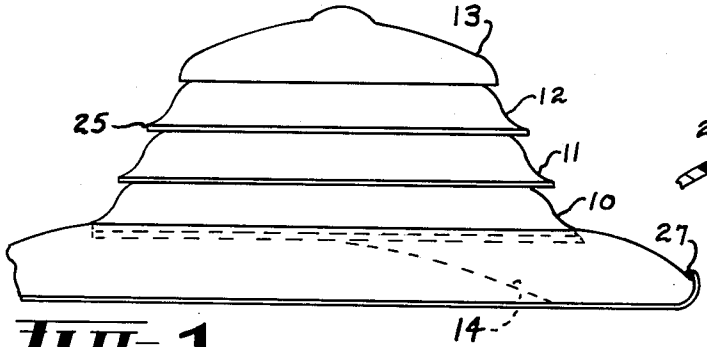


Fig- 1

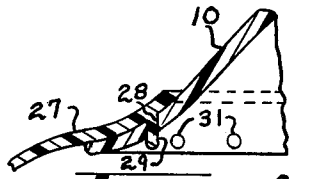


Fig- 4

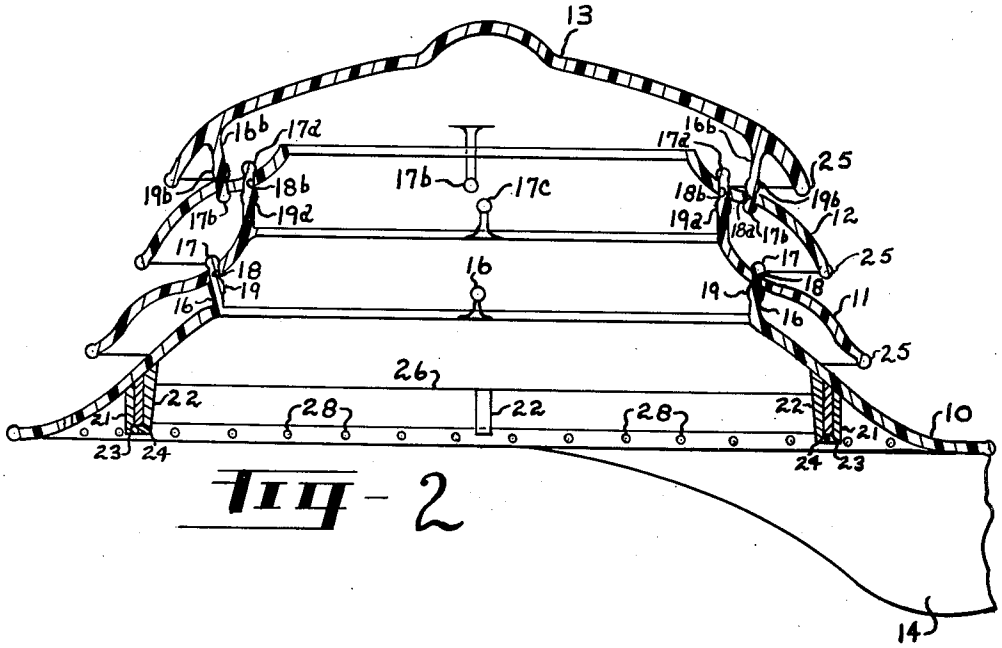


Fig- 2

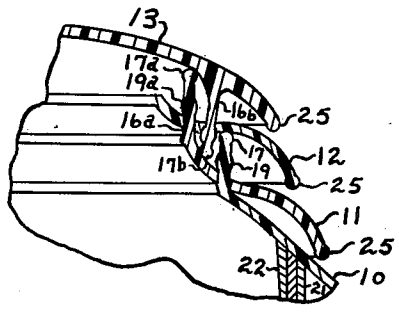


Fig- 3

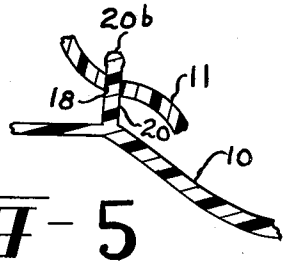


Fig- 5

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ARTICLE OF HEADWEAR

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This invention relates to an article of headwear and more particularly to such an article which shall be formed of a plurality of crown sections which are connected for vertical adjustment relative to each other, whereby a maximum amount of ventilation is provided between the adjacent crown sections when the sections are moved to fully extended position and no ventilation is provided between adjacent crown sections when the sections are moved to closed position.

Another object of my invention is to provide an article of headwear of the character designated in which the amount of air circulated adjacent the head of the wearer may be accurately controlled by moving the sections relative to each other.

Another object of my invention is to provide an article of headwear which shall comprise a plurality of adjustable sections which are positively attached to each other whereby the sections are not accidentally separated from each other while in use.

A further object of my invention is to provide an article of headwear of the character designated which may be selectively used as a sun visor, a cap or a hat.

A further object of my invention is to provide an article of headwear of the character designated in which the individual sections of the hat may be formed of different colors by merely forming the individual sections of different colors during manufacture thereof.

A further object of my invention is to provide an article of headwear of the character designated which shall be light in weight and yet shall be sturdy of construction whereby the article provides protection for the head of the wearer.

A still further object of my invention is to provide an article of headwear of the character designated which shall be simple of construction, economical of manufacture and which shall be neat in appearance and particularly adapted for mass production.

An article embodying features of my invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawing, forming a part of this application, in which:

FIG. 1 is a side elevational view, partly broken away;

FIG. 2 is an enlarged vertical sectional view through the article showing the crown sections in extended position for allowing a maximum amount of ventilation;

FIG. 3 is a fragmental, vertical sectional view showing the crown sections in closed position;

FIG. 4 is a fragmental sectional view showing the connection between the brim section and the lowermost crown section; and,

FIG. 5 is a fragmental sectional view showing a modified form of my invention.

Referring now to the drawing for a better understanding of my invention, I show a lower crown section **10** which is detachably connected to a superjacent crown section **11**, which in turn is connected to a superjacent crown section **12**. Connected to the crown section **12** is a cover member **13**. Preferably, the lowermost crown section **10** carries a sun visor **14** which is formed integrally therewith, as shown in FIG. 2. The crown sections **10**, **11** and **12** and the cover member **13** are connected to each other for vertical adjustment relative to each other, as shown in FIGS. 2 and 3.

Formed integrally with the upper edge of the lower crown section **10** are upwardly projecting members **16** which are preferably round as viewed in cross section.

The free ends of the upwardly extending projections **16** are provided with enlarged portions **17** which are adapted to snap within suitable openings **18** provided in the superjacent crown section **11**, as shown. An enlarged diameter portion **19** is provided intermediate the enlarged portion **17** and the upper edge of the cover member **10** in position to hold the crown section **11** either in the extended position, as shown in FIG. 2, or in the closed position, as shown in FIG. 3. That is, the enlarged diameter portion **19** is of a size to engage the openings **18** whereby the crown section **11** is held in either the extended or closed position. On the other hand, the enlarged diameter portion **19** is of a size to be forced through the opening **18** whereby the crown section **11** may be moved selectively from open to closed position.

Formed integrally with the upper edge of the crown section **11** are upwardly projecting members **16^a** having enlarged portions **17^a** adjacent the free ends thereof which snap through suitable openings **18^b** provided in the superjacent crown section **12**. Also, the upwardly extending projections **16^a** are provided with intermediate enlarged portions **19^a** which hold the crown section **12** in either the fully opened position or the closed position, as shown.

Formed integrally with the inner surface of the cover member **13** are depending projections **16^b** which are disposed to project through openings **18^a** provided in the subjacent crown section **12**, as shown in FIGS. 2 and 3. Enlarged portions **17^b** are provided adjacent the free ends of the projections **16^b** to prevent separation of the cover member **13** from the subjacent crown section **12**. Also, an enlarged diameter intermediate portion **19^b** is provided on the depending projection **16^b** intermediate the ends thereof for holding the cover member **13** either in extended position or retracted position relative to the subjacent crown section.

The enlarged portion **17**, **17^a** and **17^b** are of a size to prevent separation of the sections of the article after the same are assembled. Preferably, the enlarged diameter portions **19**, **19^a** and **19^b** are not as large as the enlarged portions **17**, **17^a** and **17^b** whereby the individual sections may be easily shifted from closed position to open position and vice versa.

Instead of employing the projections with enlarged diameter portions **19**, **19^a** and **19^b** thereon, each projection may be in the form of a member **20** as shown in FIG. 5, having an enlarged diameter portion **20^b** at the free end thereof which is of a size to snap through the openings **18**, **18^a** or **18^b**, as the case may be. The portion of the member intermediate the enlarged diameter portion **20^a** and the adjacent edge of the attached crown section is of a size to frictionally engage the openings **18**, **18^a** and **18^b** respectively. Accordingly, the individual sections may be held in any selected position relative to each other, thereby providing accurate control of the air circulated adjacent the head of the wearer.

Formed integrally with the inner surface of the lower crown section **10** are depending retaining members **21** and **22** having inwardly projecting detents **23** and **24**, respectively, which are disposed to engage therebetween a sweat band indicated generally at **26**. Preferably, the edges of the crown sections and the edge of the cover member are beaded as at **25** to give added strength to the sections.

By employing the lowermost crown section **10** alone, the article may be employed as a sun visor. By employing the lowermost crown section **10**, together with the cross sections **11** and **12** and the cover member **13**, the article may be employed as a cap. On the other hand, the device may be also employed as a hat by detachably connecting a brim **27** to the lowermost crown section **10**, as shown in FIGS. 1 and 4.

The lowermost crown section **10** is provided with a plurality of angularly spaced openings **28** therein which are disposed to receive depending projections **29** which are formed integrally with the inner surface of the brim **27**, as shown in FIG. 4. Enlarged diameter portions **31** are provided adjacent the free ends of the projections **29** whereby the brim portion is positively attached to the lowermost crown section **10** after the enlarged portion **31** has snapped through the openings **28**. Accordingly, the article may be selectively employed as a hat or a cap by merely attaching and removing the brim section **27** from the lowermost crown section **10**.

The various parts of the article may be formed of any suitable material, such as plastic or the like. By forming the individual sections of the article of different colors, the article may assume various colors or the entire article may be of the same color.

From the foregoing, it will be seen that I have devised an improved article of headwear which is particularly adapted for controlling accurately the amount of air circulated adjacent the head of the wearer. Also, by moving the individual sections of the article to fully closed position, a water-proof article is provided. Furthermore, by constructing the individual sections of the article of a shape whereby they may be easily molded from a moldable material, such as plastic or the like, the cost of production of the article is materially reduced and the article is particularly adapted for mass production.

While I have shown my invention in several forms, it will be obvious to persons skilled in the art that it is not so limited, but is susceptible of various other changes and modifications without departing from the spirit thereof, and I desire, therefore, that only such limitations be placed thereupon as are specifically set forth in the appended claims.

What I claim is:

1. An article of headwear comprising superimposed crown sections, each of said crown sections flaring outwardly toward the lower end thereof to define upper portions and lower portions for said crown sections with the lower edge of each superjacent crown section overlying the upper edge of the subjacent crown section, and upwardly projecting members carried by the upper portions of said crown sections, there being openings in the superjacent crown sections for receiving the upwardly projecting members carried by the subjacent crown sections whereby adjacent crown sections are held at selected positions relative to each other.

2. An article of headwear comprising generally annular superimposed crown sections, each of said crown sections flaring outwardly toward the lower end thereof to define upper portions and lower portions for said crown sections with the lower edge of each superjacent crown section overlying the upper edge of the subjacent crown section, upwardly projecting members carried by the upper portions of said crown sections, there being openings in the superjacent crown sections for receiving the upwardly projecting members carried by the subjacent crown sections whereby adjacent crown sections are held at selected positions relative to each other, a generally annular brim section superimposed on the lowermost one of said crown sections and detachably connected thereto, and a cover member connected to the uppermost one of said crown sections.

3. An article of headwear comprising superimposed crown sections, each of said crown sections flaring outwardly toward the lower end thereof to define upper portions and lower portions for said crown sections with the lower edge of each superjacent crown section overlying the upper edge of the subjacent crown section, upwardly projecting members carried by the upper portions of said crown sections, there being openings in each crown section for receiving the upwardly projecting members carried by the subjacent crown section whereby adjacent crown sections are held at selected positions relative to each other, and a cover member connected to the uppermost one of said crown sections.

4. An article of headwear as defined in claim 3 in which the upwardly projecting members have enlarged portions adjacent the upper ends thereof which are of a size to snap into the openings of a superjacent crown section.

5. An article of headwear as defined in claim 4 in which each upwardly projecting member is provided with an enlarged portion intermediate the ends thereof of a size to engage but pass through the opening of a superjacent crown section whereby the crown sections are held selectively at extended and retracted position.

6. An article of headwear as defined in claim 5 in which the enlarged portions adjacent the upper ends and intermediate the ends of the projecting members are formed of a deformable material.

7. An article of headwear as defined in claim 4 in which the portion of each projecting member intermediate the ends thereof is of a diameter to frictionally engage said opening in an adjacent crown section, whereby the projecting member may be moved to selected positions relative to the opening.

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