

March 16, 1926.

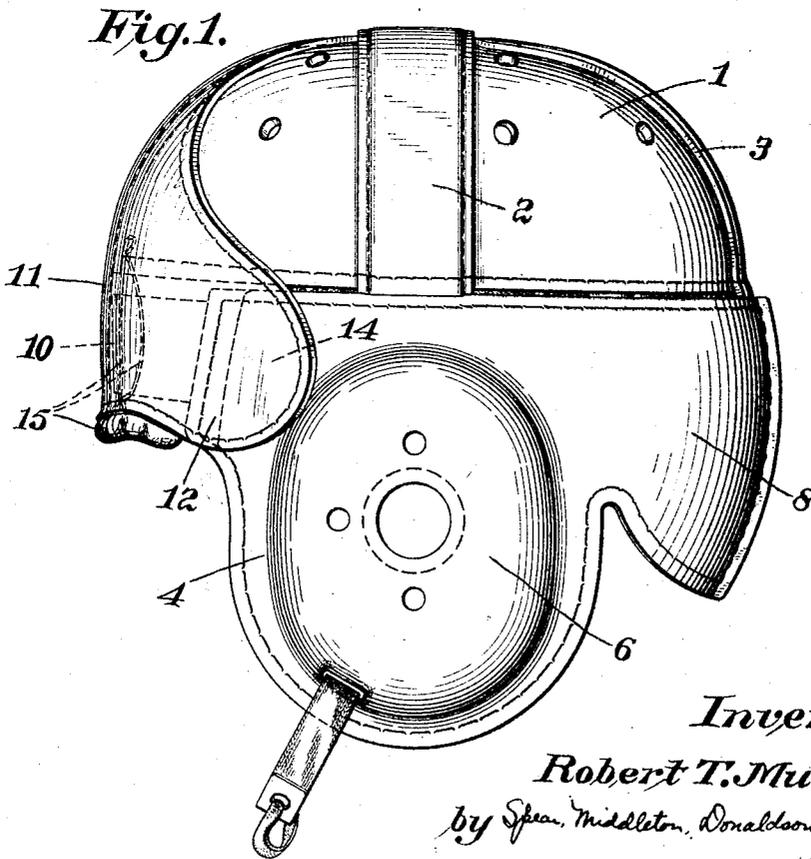
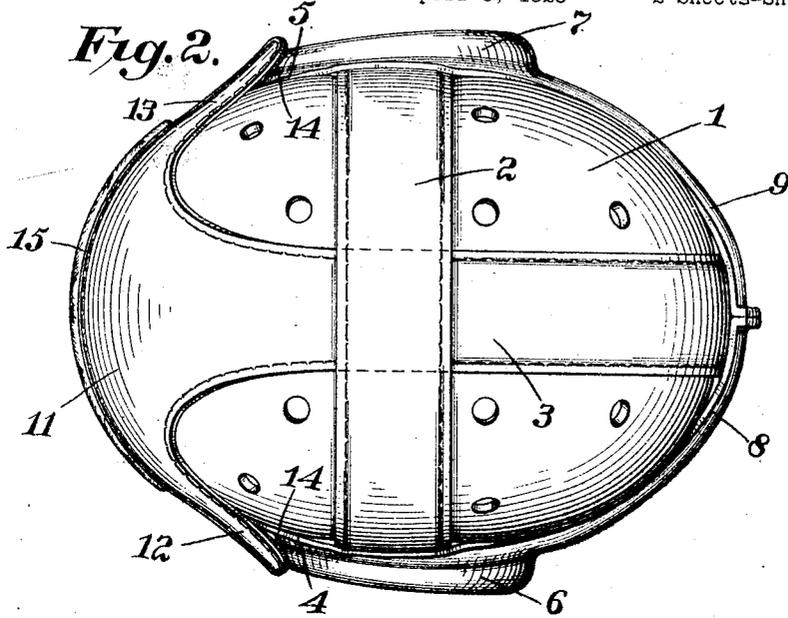
1,576,987

R. T. MULLINS

HEADGEAR

Filed April 8, 1925

2 Sheets-Sheet 1



*Inventor:*

*Robert T. Mullins;*

*by Spear, Middleton, Donaldson & Hall,*  
*Attys.*

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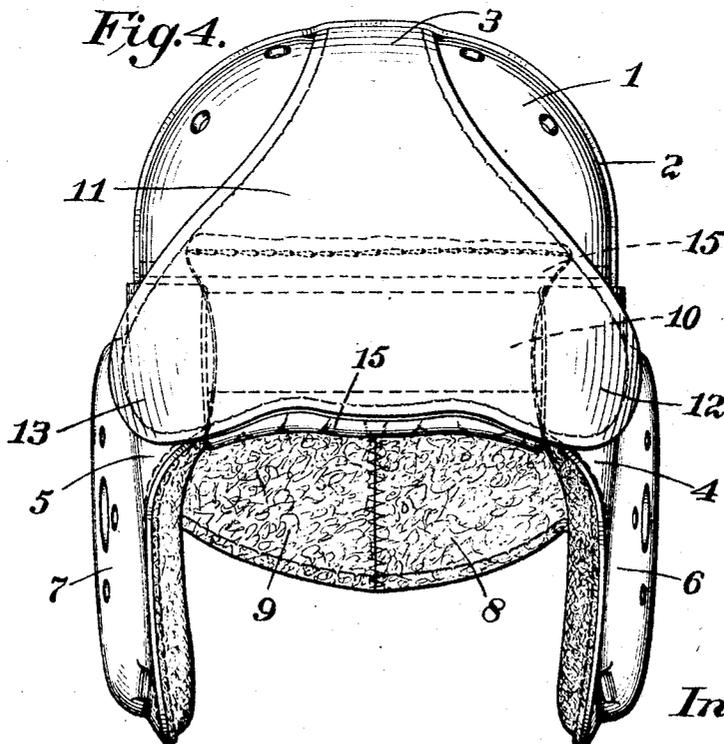
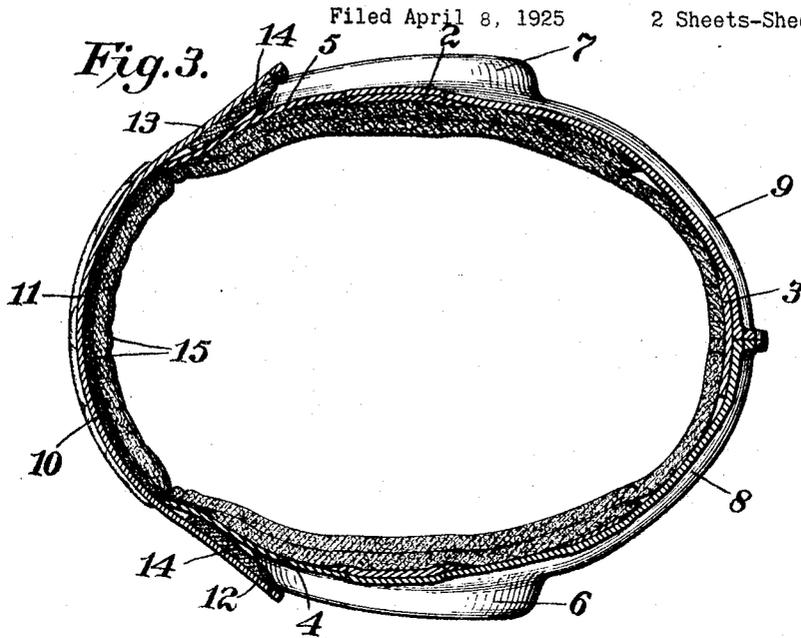
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*Inventor:*

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ROBERT T. MULLINS, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR TO A. G. SPALDING & BROS.,  
OF NEW YORK, N. Y., A CORPORATION OF NEW JERSEY.

## HEADGEAR.

Application filed April 8, 1925. Serial No. 21,643.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ROBERT T. MULLINS, a citizen of the United States, and resident of Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Headgear, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to football head gear, and has for its object the provision of means whereby the wearer is given greater protection to certain vital spots against injury.

As far as I have been able to determine, none of the head gear now in use affords sufficient protection to the forehead and temples of the wearer, and a great many fatalities and serious injuries have resulted from this fault. It is with a view to remedying this condition that I conceived the present invention, which is fully described in the following specification, and particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

In the accompanying drawings:—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a helmet embodying my invention.

Fig. 2 is a plan view.

Fig. 3 is a horizontal section in the plane of the forehead, and

Fig. 4 is a front elevation.

The numeral 1 indicates the usual hard leather cap portion of a head gear, which is reinforced by crossing strips 2 and 3, the strip 2 extending from side to side and the strip 3 from front to rear of the cap 1. These strips are also of hard leather and are stitched to the outside of the cap. Attached to the ends of strip 2 at points adjacent to the lower edge of the cap 1, are suitably padded side members 4 and 5 beginning at points lying approximately over the temples of the wearer, flaring downwardly to form ear protectors 6 and 7, and then rearwardly to give protection to the back of the head, as shown at 8 and 9, and are secured together and to the rear end of the strip 3. The forward ends of members 4 and 5 are joined by an elastic strap 10 passing across the forehead of the wearer. This allows adjustment to the head and insures a snug fit. The forward end of the strip 3 flares laterally from the top of the cap 1 and extends entirely across and con-

siderably below the front or forehead portion of the cap as shown at 11, and terminates in relatively narrow ends 12 and 13 immediately overlying the temple portions of the members 4 and 5. These overlapping ends 12 and 13 are padded on their inner sides with suitable padding material 14, and the central or forehead portion is similarly padded, and in addition is faced with a soft leather sweat band as shown at 15. The elastic connection between the members 4 and 5 passes between the member 11 and sweat band 15.

It will be seen that any space between the members 4 and 5 caused by stretching of the elastic band, will be covered by the ends 12 and 13, and further, that double protection is given the most vital spots, the forehead and temples, due to the members 12 and 13 overlapping the reduced ends of side members 4 and 5.

Thus, if the wearer of my helmet should be struck over the temple or on the forehead, the force of the impact would be taken by the hard leather protector and distributed over a relatively large area.

Having thus described my invention, I claim:—

1. In combination in a football helmet, a crown shell reinforced by exterior strips crossing each other from side to side and front to back, and stitched thereto, the exterior strip at the front extending below the front of the shell to overlie the forehead and having its lower portion widened out to provide temple protecting wings, side members connected to said crown shell and provided with ear protecting portions and forwardly extending wings overlying the temples, said first mentioned wings overlapping the last mentioned wings and being slidable thereon, and elastic means connecting the forward edges of said last mentioned wings.

2. In combination in a football helmet, a crown shell reinforced by exterior strips crossing each other from side to side and front to back, and stitched thereto, the exterior strip at the front extending below the front of the shell to overlie the forehead and having its lower portion widened out to provide temple protecting wings, side members connected to said crown shell and provided

with ear protecting portions and forwardly extending wings overlying the temples, said first mentioned wings overlapping the last mentioned wings and being slidable thereon, said front depending portion of the crown reinforcing strip having an interior padding provided with a passage therethrough, and an elastic tape located in said passage and having its ends connected to the forward edges of said last named wings. 10

In testimony whereof, I affix my signature.

ROBERT T. MULLINS.