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HAT SHAPE RETAINER FOR USE IN MEN'S SOFT HATS

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Fig. 1.

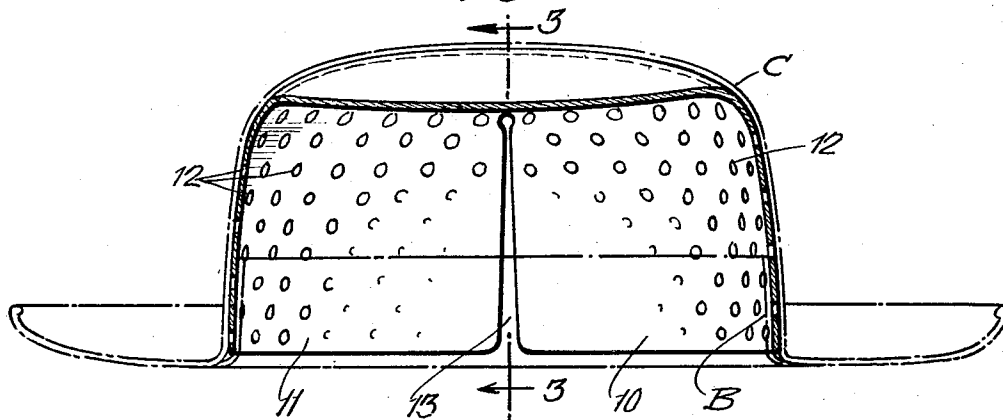


Fig. 2.

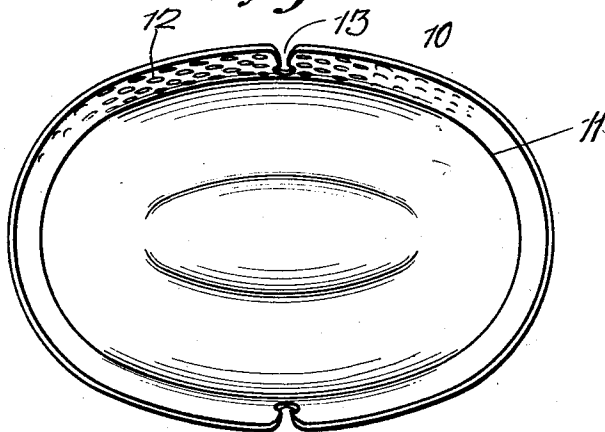
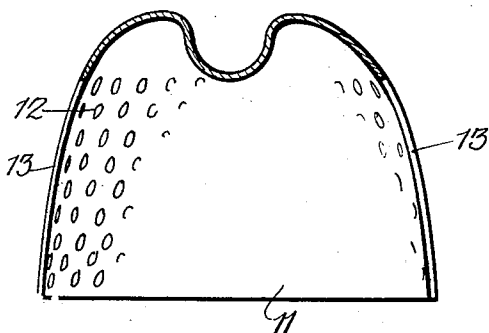


Fig. 3.



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HAT-SHAPE RETAINER FOR USE IN MEN'S SOFT HATS

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This invention relates to improvements in hat shape retainers for use in connection with men's soft hats.

The primary object of the invention is to provide a hat shape retainer member for insertion into the crown of a soft felt hat for protecting the same against accidental crushing, thus retaining the shape of the crown at all times and dispensing with the expense and inconvenience of frequent re-blocking of the crown.

Another object is to provide a hat crown retainer which is constructed of a light transparent material such as thin celluloid and of a shape corresponding to the shape of the hat crown desired, the same being substantially rigid as to reinforce the walls of the crown.

A further object is the provision of a hat crown retainer which may be worn within the crown without materially affecting the particular size of the hat and which may be adjusted to fit in hat crowns of various sizes and worn with comfort to the head of the wearer.

A still further object is to provide a hat crown retainer of the kind mentioned which is simple of construction, inexpensive of manufacture, and easy to attach or remove from the crown of a hat.

With these and other objects in view, the invention resides in the certain novel construction, combination and arrangement of parts, the essential features of which are hereinafter fully described, are particularly pointed out in the appended claim, and are illustrated in the accompanying drawing; in which,

Figure 1 is a vertical longitudinal sectional view through my improved hat crown retainer showing the outline of a man's felt hat in dot and dash lines.

Figure 2 is a plan view looking into the open end of the retainer.

Figure 3 is a vertical transverse sectional view on the line 3-3 of Figure 1.

Referring to the drawing by reference characters, the numeral 10 designates my improved hat crown retainer in its entirety which is oval in plan as shown in Figure 2

to conform to the general outline of the sweat band of the hat, while the top and sides are of the general shape of the crown of a man's fedora hat. The retainer 10 includes a body 11 of the shape just mentioned and which is constructed of relatively thin celluloid so as to be transparent and light in weight. The transparency permits of the display of the inner lining or maker's name usually provided within the crown of a hat. The walls of the body member 11 are perforated or provided with air openings 12. These perforations 12 in addition to permitting air to pass into the crown also serve to lighten the weight of the retainer.

The opposed side walls of the body 11 are provided with key hole shaped slots 13 which extend inwardly from the open side edges of the member 11, the walls of the slots 13 converging inwardly as clearly shown in Figure 1 of the drawing. These slots permit flexing of the body member 11 to facilitate insertion of the same into the crown of a hat and which crown is shown in dotted lines in Figure 1 of the drawing by the letter C while the head or sweat band is designated by the letter B, the walls of the member 11 fitting between the sweat band B and the crown C when the retainer is in position upon a hat. The member 11 being constructed of such a thin material, does not materially affect the size of the hat as the slight outward pressure exerted by the member after being flexed and inserted into the crown tends to expand the side walls of the crown and make up for any difference inside caused by thickness of the member 11.

The crown shape retainers 10 may be made in various sizes to fit various size hat crowns and may be made of various shapes to suit the particular style of the wearer. The walls of the member 11 serve to keep the interior of the hat in a clean sanitary condition and furthermore prevents moisture from perspiration from passing from the sweat band to the exterior of the crown. The attachment itself may be kept in a clean sanitary condition by frequently removing the same and washing it.

From the foregoing description it will be

seen that I have provided a simple and inexpensive hat crown retainer which may be constructed at a relatively low cost and which reinforces the walls of the crown of a hat to prevent accidental crushing of the same and eliminating the necessity of frequent reblocking.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:

A hat crown shape retaining device comprising a semi-rigid crown shaped body adapted to conform to the entire surface of a hat to retain the former in position in a hat, and oppositely disposed slits in the side walls of said former, and extending substantially throughout the length thereof to provide for movement of the end portions of the former about an axis extending transversely of the former.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.
JAMES DOHERTY McGUIGAN.