L. CENERINI.

EAR PROTECTOR.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 6, 1919.

1,368,895. Patented Feb. 15, 1921.

Fig. 1.

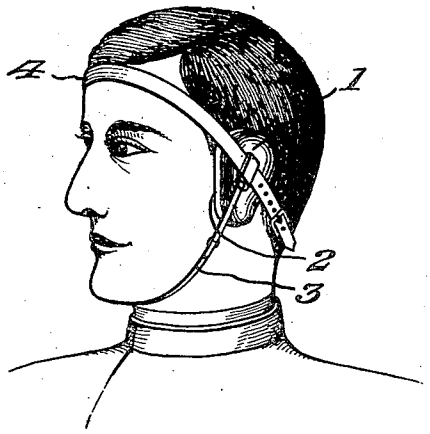


Fig. 2.

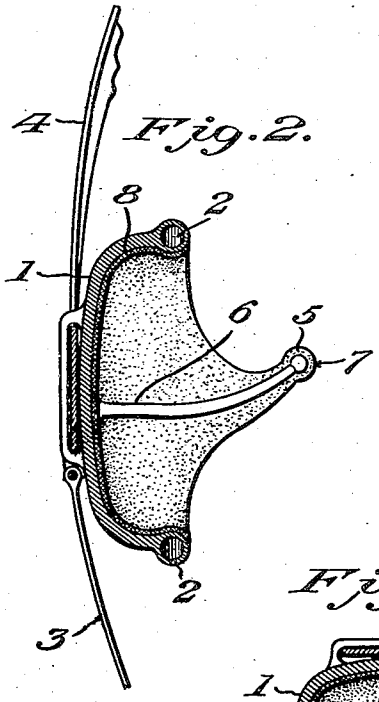


Fig. 3.

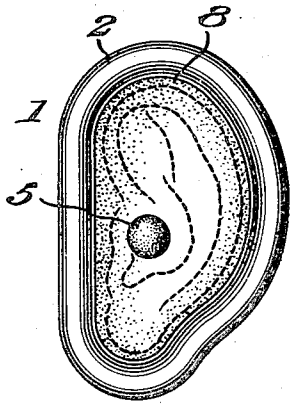
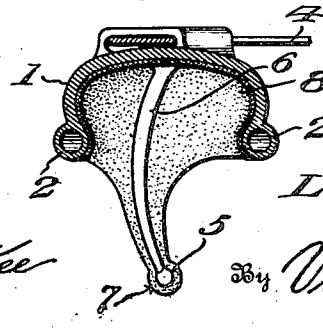


Fig. 4.



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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EAR-PROTECTOR.

1,368,895. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Feb. 15, 1921.

Application filed January 6, 1919. Serial No. 269,947.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LEOPOLDO CENERINI, a citizen of Bristol, residing at Bristol, in the county of Bristol and State of Rhode Island, have invented new and useful Improvements in Ear-Protectors, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to ear protectors, the object in view being to provide an efficient ear protecting device, combined with means for holding the same securely and closely against the head of the wearer, said protecting device covering the ear completely and being flexible so as to accommodate itself closely to the head of the person, said ear protector embodying a tampon which projects from the inner side of the protector and closes or plugs the inner orifice of the ear.

With the above and other objects in view the invention consists in the novel construction, combination and arrangement herein fully described, illustrated and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings:—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the device shown in applied position.

Fig. 2 is an enlarged perspective view of one of the ear protectors.

Fig. 3 is an inside elevation of the protector indicating by dotted lines the relation of said protector to the ear.

Fig. 4, is a transverse sectional view of the ear protector.

The ear protector contemplated in this invention comprises a cup-shaped body 1 of resilient or flexible material as for example rubber. The body 1 comprises on the inner side thereof a marginal resilient flange or rim 2 adapted to entirely surround the ear as a cushion, that is formed integral with the body and that conforms closely and comfortably to the head of the person wearing the same.

As illustrated in Figs. 2 and 4 the continuous flange 2 formed on the inner side of the cup shaped body is of tubular formation and is thereby rendered resilient to a high degree. In thus providing the resilient continuous flange on the inner side of the body the device is caused to snugly engage the head adjacent the ear so that the entrance of sound into the body is reduced to a minimum.

In the practical use of the device two of such protectors are employed and they are connected by a thin strap 3 which extends under the chin of the person. Said protectors are also attached to a head strap 4 which passes around the upper portion of the head of the person using the same. By the means just described, two protectors are held closely and snugly against the head of the wearer.

Each protector comprises a tampon 5 which is connected to the inner side of the protector by means of a stem 6, the latter being curved so that the tampon 5 may be readily inserted in the inner orifice or canal of the ear, as shown in Fig. 4. The tampon 5 is of some soft material such as cotton or fiber and is covered with a silk covering 7 although any suitable material may be used in place of the silk. The inner side of the main body 1 of the device is also preferably lined with some soft material such as silk as shown at 8.

By means of the construction herein above described, both ears of the person wearing the protectors are entirely surrounded and inclosed by the body of the device and the canals or orifices of the ears are stopped or plugged by means of the tampons. The device is especially adapted for soldiers and others engaged in warfare and also for persons driving aircraft of all kinds, the protecting device serving to absorb the deafening roar of cannons and internal explosion engines, preventing injury to the ear.

I claim:—

An ear protector comprising a flexible cup shaped body adapted for surrounding the ear and having its edge portion provided with a continuous resilient marginal flange of tubular formation adapted for bearing against one's head adjacent the ear for providing a noiseproof connection between said body and the head, a longitudinally curved tampon of flexible material extending from the inner side of said body and provided with an enlarged head, a covering of silk secured to the inner side of said cup shaped body and to said enlarged head, and adjustable means for securing said body in position.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

LEOPOLDO CENERINI.