April 3, 1956 J. I. KAUFMAN 2,740,567

CAP SUPPORT

Filed May 17, 1954

Fig. 1.

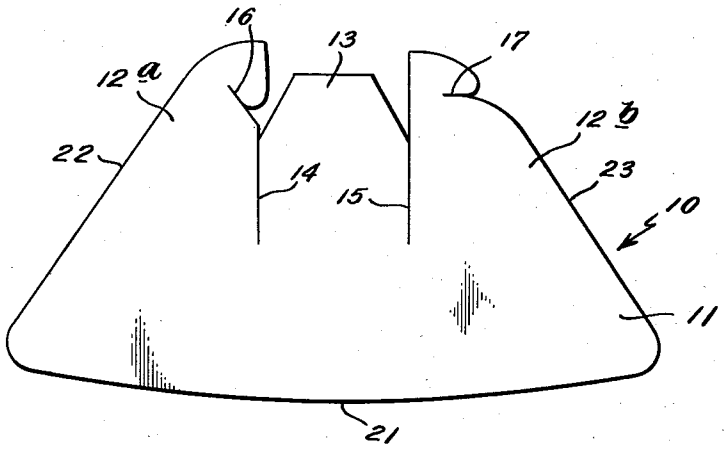


Fig. 2.

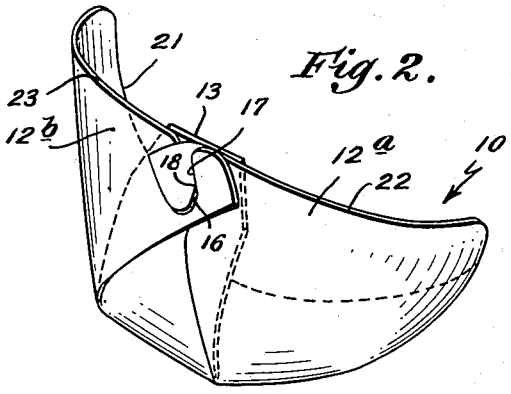


Fig. 3.

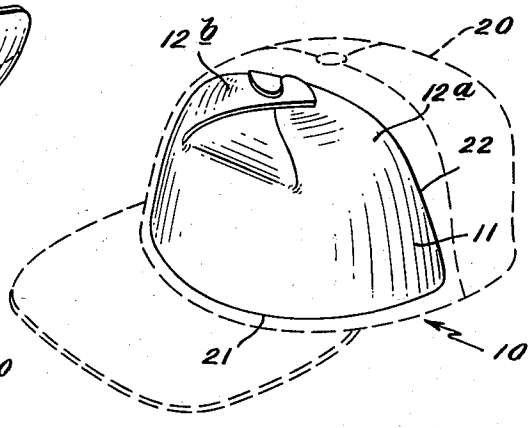
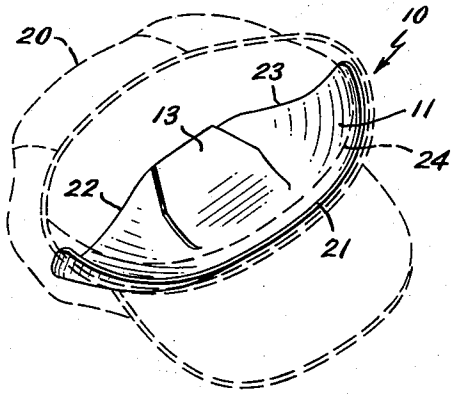


Fig. 4.



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CAP SUPPORT

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2 Claims. (Cl. 223—84)

The present invention relates to a support for caps, such as baseball caps, to hold them in shape during shipment and storage.

Baseball caps are normally made of cloth and it is desirable that they reach the ultimate buyer in unwrinkled condition.

According to the most practical method yet discovered baseball caps are folded for shipment and storage by pushing the back half in against the front half so that a number of caps may be nested front to back in a line. It is, therefore, an object of the present invention to provide a cap support to support the front half of a cloth baseball cap in shape so that a number of caps may be packed in the usual way and not become crushed.

The cap support of the present invention is died out of a sheet of flexible material, such as cardboard, to provide a flat blank which is foldable into a half dome-shaped support to be inserted into the front half of a baseball cap. The blanks are inexpensive and easily folded and secured in condition for use.

The present invention will now be described in detail with reference to the accompanying drawings of a preferred embodiment in which:

Fig. 1 is a rear elevation of the cap support of the present invention in unfolded condition;

Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the cap support in folded condition looking at it from the top;

Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the cap support in folded condition looking at it from the front and indicating its position in a baseball cap which is indicated in dash line; and

Fig. 4 is a perspective view as shown in Fig. 3 of the cap support but looking at it from the bottom.

Referring now to Fig. 1 of the drawings, the cap support **10** of the present invention is died out of a flexible sheet of cardboard to form a blank comprising a base portion **11** and two wing portions **12***a* and **12***b* extending up from the base portion **11** respectively at the ends thereof. As indicated, the wing portions **12***a* and **12***b* are spaced apart with a central tongue portion **13** extending up from the base portion between the wing portions. The tongue portion **13** is separated from the adjacent wing portions **12***a* and **12***b* by slits **14** and **15**.

In the inner edge at the upper end of the wing portion **12***a* is an outwardly and upwardly directed slit **16** and in the outer edge at the upper end of the wing portion **12***b* is an inwardly directed slit **17**. The slits **16** and **17** are provided to interlock and hold the cap support **10** in erected condition.

To erect the cap support **10** the upper ends of the wing portions **12***a* and **12***b* are drawn together and the upper end of the wing portion **12***b* is lapped over the upper end of the wing portion **12***a*. The upper ends of the wing portions are then moved across each other to engage the slits **16** and **17**, as indicated at **18** in Fig. 2, and thus to lock the upper ends of the wing portions together. By thus drawing the upper ends of the wing portions together

to overlapping position, the base portion **11** is drawn into a curve as indicated in Figs. 3 and 4.

When the upper ends of the wing portions **12***a* and **12***b* are thus drawn together, the tongue portion **13** is preferably bent over under the wing portions so as to be held against the underside of the upper ends of the wing portions by the spring of the material, as most clearly shown in Fig. 4. In this way the tongue portion **13** lends strength and support to the top of the cap support.

A baseball cap, as shown in dash line **20** (Figs. 3 and 4), is approximately a hemispherical shape, and therefore to support the front half of the cap as shown it is desirable that the cap support **10** be a half dome shape conforming as closely as possible to the shape of one-half of the cap. To this end the wing portions **12***a* and **12***b* are spaced apart a distance approximately equal to the height of the base portion. This causes the base portion to be curved in three segments—two below the wing portions and one at the center—when the upper ends of the wing portions are overlapped and thus provide a smooth curve. In addition, the upper ends of the wing portions are overlapped at a distance from the base portion approximately equal to the height of the base portion, which causes the base portion to be drawn into a substantially semi-circular curve.

As indicated in Fig. 1, the bottom edge **21** of the base portion **11** is curved downwardly and the outside edges **22** and **23** of the wing portions **12***a* and **12***b* respectively are slanted inwardly toward the top. The amount of curvature of the bottom edge **21** and slant of the outside edges **22** and **23** are made such that, when the upper ends of the wings are overlapped, the plane across the outside edges **22** and **23** is substantially perpendicular to the bottom edge **21** of the base portion. In other words, the cap support **10** in erected condition is half dome shaped closely approximately a half hemisphere.

In practice the bottom edge **21** of a base portion **11**, which is about eleven inches long, is curved on a radius of about two feet and the slant of the edges **22** and **23** is about 60° relative to the base, but it will be appreciated that these measurements may be varied without departing from the spirit of the present invention.

To use the cap support **10** of the present invention, it is folded as above described and inserted inside a baseball cap **20** at the front of the cap with the top of the support at the top of the cap and the botom edge **21** of he base portion **11** adjacent or tucked inside a sweat band **24** in the cap.

The above description is of a preferred embodiment of the present invention and it will be understood that various changes and modifications may be made in its structure and uses without departing from the spirit of the invention, the scope of which is set forth in the following claims.

I claim:

1. A cap support comprising a flat cardboard blank which may be erected into a half-dome shape and placed within a cap, said cap support comprising a base portion, a pair of wing portions and a central tongue portion between the wing portions, said wing and tongue portions forming upward extensions of said base portion approximately co-extensive in height, said wing portions being tapered toward their respective tops, one of said wing portions having an outwardly extending slit on its inner edge near its top and the other of said wing portions having an inwardly directed slit on its outer edge near its top, said slits being capable of engagement with each other, said engagement locking the said tops of the wing portions together and holding said cap support in said erected shape when the said tops of said wing portions are brought together and overlapped over said tongue portion.

2. In the combination as set forth in claim 1, said base portion having a convexly curved bottom edge, the outside edges of said wing portions being slanted inwardly and upwardly toward their respective tops and being rounded off at their respective tops and bottoms, and the said slits having entrances which flare into the respective edges of the tops of the wing portions on which they are formed so as to facilitate said engagement of said slits.

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