June 23, 1936. L. KALVIN 2,045,231

ADJUSTABLE HAT FORM

Filed May 11, 1934

Fig. 1.

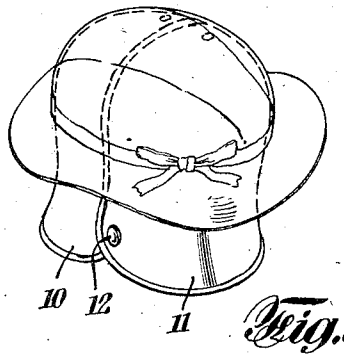


Fig. 3.

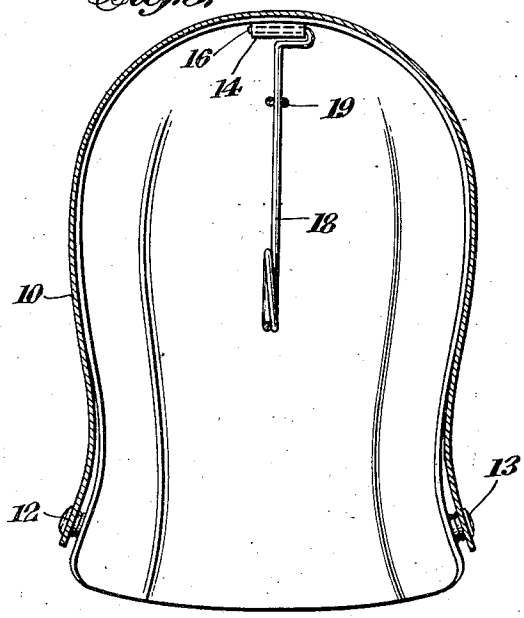


Fig. 5.

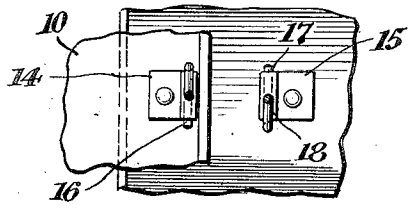


Fig. 2.

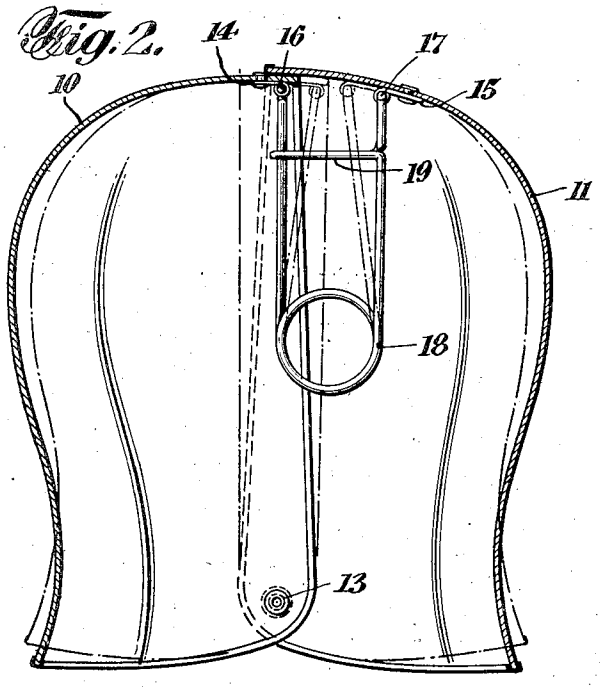
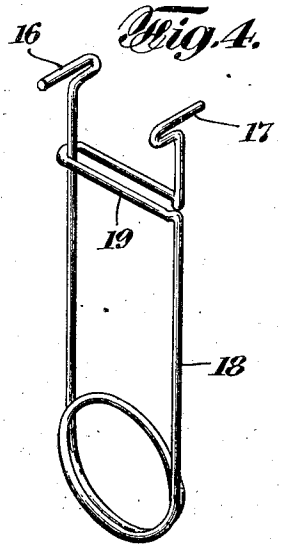


Fig. 4.



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ADJUSTABLE HAT FORM

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6 Claims. (Cl. 223—25)

This invention relates in general to forms for supporting hats, whether for the purpose of storing, cleaning, shaping or the like, and one of its important objects is to provide a form which is readily adapted to give the proper support to hats of different sizes.

In the attainment of the principal object of this invention, the construction involves the hinging together of two complementary form sections at the bottom, and the provision of a resilient articulation between the sections at points above such axis of hinging, whereby the two sections are rocked on their hinge and caused to move away from each other at the top to automatically adjust themselves to the size of the crown or equivalent portion of a hat applied to them. Such resilient articulation may advantageously be arranged so that it may readily be gripped and sprung inwardly to reduce the size of the hat form while placing the hat thereon, and thereafter released to automatically expand the hat form.

An illustrative embodiment of the invention is shown by way of example in the accompanying drawing, in which

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the hat form with a hat mounted thereon.

Figure 2 is a longitudinal vertical section through the hat form, illustrating the resilient expanding action of the articulation by which the two form sections are urged apart.

Figure 3 is a transverse vertical section of the same.

Figure 4 is a detail perspective view of a resilient spreader which may be employed as a part of the resilient articulation for the purpose described; and

Figure 5 is a detail view showing fragments of the overlapping portions of the two form sections with their respective clasp receptacles to be described.

Referring in detail to said drawing, the expansible hat form comprises two complementary form sections 10 and 11 of generally rotund shape or design, adapted to partially telescope one within the other on a generally transverse plane. These form sections are preferably of thin sheet material such as stiff buckram, fiber or other suitable material more or less permanently shaped but having sufficient flexibility to conform one with another on the overlapping surfaces. Such form sections are hinged together on a lower axis, as illustrated for example by means of the snap fasteners 12, 13, which permit the two sections to rock upon the axis thus formed. Such form of hinge or pivot is preferred as lending itself to ready assembly and disassembly of the sections when desired, although the invention in its broader aspect is not limited to this particular type of hinge joint. With the parts hinged together near the bottom, it will be obvious that the rocking of the parts upon such a fulcrum or axis will cause an expansion or contraction of the circumference of the form near the top, so that hats of different sizes may be accommodated. With this purpose in view, I apply to the upper portions of the form sections 10 and 11 a resilient interconnection or articulation by which the sections are urged apart, and the construction employed preferably is designed so that it may be grasped in the hand to contract the form at the time of placing the hat thereon. A convenient means for this purpose is illustrated by way of example as comprising a pair of socket plates 14, 15, one in each section, adapted to receive the ends 16, 17 of a resilient brace 18 which may conveniently be in the form of a bent wire of springy material such as for example hard drawn brass or the like. As illustrated in Figure 4, this resilient brace is limited in its opening movement by the convolution 19 which extends from one of the legs and embraces the other, and thus acts as a definite stop and guide without interfering with the compression of the two ends 16 and 17 toward each other. These ends 16, 17 are preferably presented in opposite directions although parallel to each other, so that, having been inserted in opposite directions in their respective socket plates 14, 15, there is no danger of their becoming accidentally disengaged therefrom. The telescopic overlap of the two form sections with respect to each other tends to prevent transverse disalinement of these socket plates, and thus contributes largely to such security of the engagement of the clasp ends 16, 17 with their socket plates 14, 15. On the other hand, the slight resilience or flexibility of the material of the form sections admits of such transverse displacement of the socket plates when urged by the operator in the act of assembling the parts. The ends 16, 17 are preferably round in section, and similarly the sockets of the plates 14, 15 are round, so that the brace ends turn freely in the sockets during the flexing action for expanding and contracting the hat form.

The particular type of resilient articulation and the particular construction of the flexible brace shown and described are preferred as specific features of the invention, although they are to be regarded as illustrative of a broad principle of

construction which might be embodied in numerous specific forms.

In general, it will be noted that the entire assembly may be disassembled and closely packed for storage and shipment, the two complementary form sections nested together so that a considerable number may be closely packed in a relatively small space. The yielding nature of the material preferred, such as buckram or the like, admits of satisfactory pairs being constructed of the same form and dimensions, as one may be easily telescoped within the other. It is pointed out, however, that the socket plate or equivalent member of one section of a pair is advantageously placed near the edge of the section, whereas a similar part on the other member of the pair should be set at a suitable distance from the edge, to admit of the two members of the pair overlapping without one of the socket plates or the like being covered by the material of the other member of the pair. The position of the receptacles or socket members must obviously also bear a proper relation with the spacing of the engaging portions of the clasp member.

I claim:—

1. An expansible hat form comprising in combination, a pair of complementary rotund hollow form sections partially telescoping one within the other with their convex surfaces outward, snap fasteners fitted in the overlapping lower portions of said form sections to constitute a hinge, and means for resiliently rocking the upper portions of said form sections outwardly upon said hinge.

2. An expansible hat form comprising in combination, a pair of complementary rotund form sections of sheet-like material hinged together adjacent the bottom of said hat form, each of said form sections being provided with a socket adjacent the top of said hat form, and a yieldable brace detachably suspended from said sockets, said yieldable brace being constructed to counteract the mutual approach of said form sections.

3. An expansible hat form comprising relatively movable anterior and posterior rotundate complementary form sections having overlapping marginal wall portions of inverted substantially U-shaped form in the medial transverse plane of said hat form, means for pivotally connecting said marginal wall portions near the bottom and on opposite sides of the medial longitudinal plane of the hat form, and a resilient brace comprising opposite end portions separately pivoted in the crown portions of said complementary form sections and a coiled intermediate portion tending to separate said end portions substantially in said medial longitudinal plane.

4. An expansible hat form comprising relatively movable anterior and posterior hollow half-form sections having slidably contacting overlapping top and side wall portions, means for pivotally connecting the slidably contacting side wall portions of said form sections on opposite sides of said hat form, and yieldable means depending from and separately connected to the top walls of said half-form sections for yieldably separating said form sections.

5. An expansible hat form comprising relatively movable hollow form sections having slidably-contacting overlapping top wall portions, a resilient brace comprising branches separately pivoted in the respective top wall portions of said form sections and depending therefrom, overlapping side wall portions on opposite sides of said hat form and means for pivotally connecting said overlapping side wall portions on each side of the hat form, said side wall portions being in slidable contact for preventing transverse disalinement of said hollow form sections.

6. An expansible hat form comprising complementary rotund hollow form sections having overlapping wall portions along their adjoining edges, said complementary form sections being constructed to form an opening at the bottom for access to the interior of the hat form, a pivotal connection on each side of the hat form for articulately connecting the overlapping wall portions on that side independently of the overlapping wall portions on the other side whereby the bottom opening of the hat form is left unobstructed, and a resilient brace for yieldably connecting said hat form sections for counteracting a mutual collapsing movement of said sections, said resilient brace being provided with oppositely arranged branches respectively connected to the top walls of the hat form sections whereby said resilient brace depends within the interior of said hat form.

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