W. H. FROMHART.

HEADREST FOR AUTOMOBILE MECHANICS.

APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 1, 1921.

1,431,110. Patented Oct. 3, 1922.

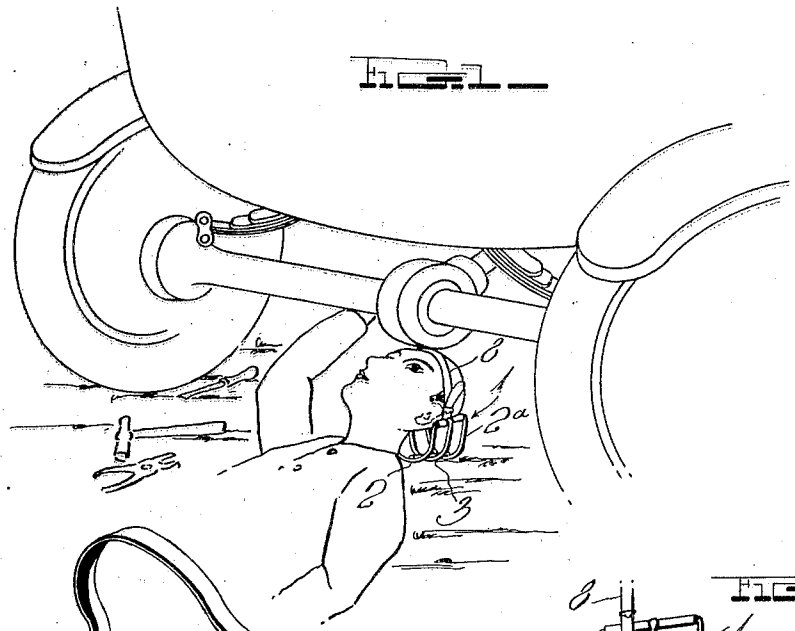

FIG. 1

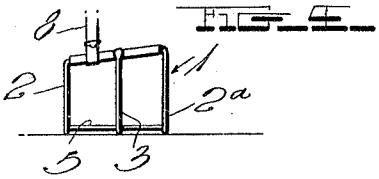

FIG. 4

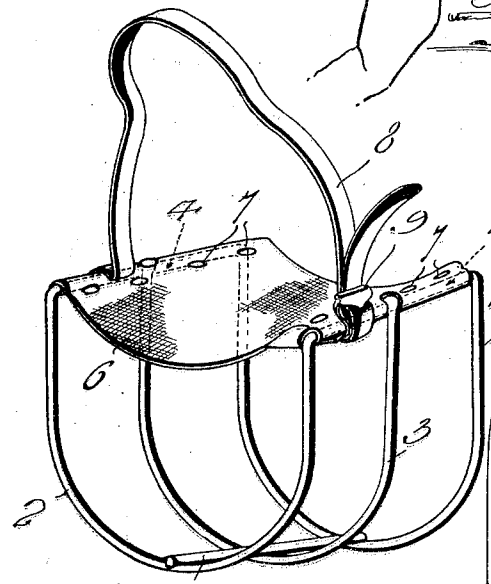

FIG. 2

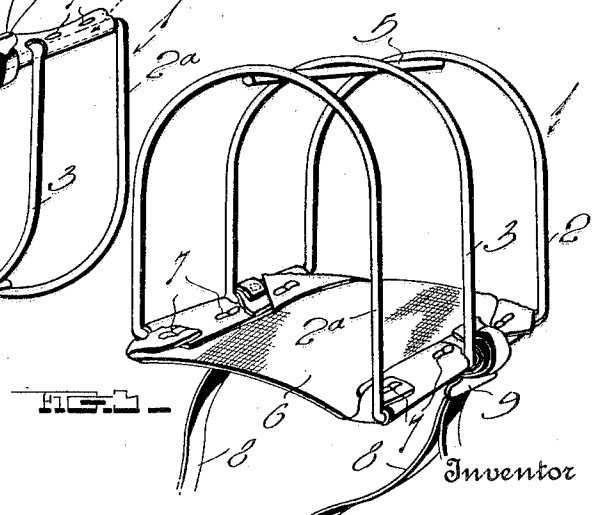

FIG. 3

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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HEADREST FOR AUTOMOBILE MECHANICS.

Application filed September 1, 1921. Serial No. 497,690.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM H. FROMHART, a citizen of the United States, residing at Golden, in the county of Jefferson and State of Colorado, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Headrests for Automobile Mechanics; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to an improved head-rest which is especially, but not necessarily, designed for use by automobile mechanics when it becomes necessary to get underneath of the automobile for making repairs to the various parts.

The principal object of the invention is to provide a novel device of this class which is designed to be connected to the back of the head so that as the mechanic moves about from place to place beneath the machine for repairing different parts, the device will be at all times in position to permit it to be rested on the ground at the desired point.

An important object and feature of the invention is to provide a device of this class embodying a yieldable supporting frame which is so designed that it can be rocked from side to side to enable the user's head to be placed in various positions for very effectively reviewing any particular part.

Another object of the invention is to provide a device of this class which embodies a suitable ground-engaging member or frame which is forwardly inclined to permit the head to be comfortably rested on the cushion or pad which it carries.

Another object of the invention is to provide a device embodying the aforesaid structure, the support and pad being such that they provide a cushion like support for the head and thus insure comfort.

A further object of the invention is to provide a device embodying the aforesaid parts, together with an elastic adjustable attaching strap which enables the device to be used on practically all sizes of heads.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will be apparent during the course of the following description.

In the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification and in which like numerals are employed to designate like parts throughout the same:

Figure 1 is a view showing a portion of an automobile in perspective illustrating the manner in which my improved head-rest is used.

Figure 2 is an enlarged detail perspective view of the improved device.

Figure 3 is a similar view showing the device inverted.

Figure 4 is a side elevational view of the device showing the manner in which it is inclined to insure comfort.

Broadly speaking, the device comprises a suitable support which is designed to rest on the ground, the same being inclined to insure comfort to the user's head which is rested on a cushion or pad carried by the support. The device is strapped or otherwise detachably connected to the head so that it will remain in position on the latter as long as desired, thus making it unnecessary to move the head-rest from place to place as the mechanic moves.

In carrying out the invention, it will be seen that the support above referred to is generally indicated by the numeral 1, the same being in the form of a yieldable frame and preferably, but not necessarily formed from a length of wire bent to form a pair of substantially U-shaped members 2 and 2^a. It is to be stated here that in bending the wires to form these members, the one indicated by the numeral 2 is so bent that it will be of less height than the one indicated by the numeral 2^a. This serves to give a slant or incline to the device. To insure rigidity and strength, an additional U-shaped member 3 is employed and is positioned between the first named members and soldered or otherwise secured at its ends to the connecting portions 4 of the parts 2 and 2^a. To further increase the strength of the device, a cross wire or rod 5 is employed and is secured to the intermediate portions of the U-shaped members as clearly illustrated. It is to be stated here that the material from which the U-shaped members is formed is resilient so that the natural tendency for the upper ends of the members is to move apart. They are however held together by means of a piece of canvas or the like 6 which is riveted or otherwise permanently secured at its ends to the connecting portions 4 as indicated at 7. It will thus be seen that this canvas will be held in a stretched state normally. However, when the user places his head on the canvas, which constitutes the pad referred to, it will be

seen that the upper portions of the U-shaped members and connecting portions 4 will move toward one another to provide a yieldable support for the head. It may be stated at this point that the U-shaped member 3 is of greater height than the U-shaped member 2 but of less height than the remaining U-shaped member so as to co-act with the corresponding part so that the support is inclined in one direction as before indicated. It is yet to be pointed out that the attaching strap above referred to is indicated by the numeral 8, the same being preferably composed of elastic material and being permanently connected at one end with the support while it is adjustably and detachably connected at its opposite end with the latter by means of a suitable clasp or adjusting device 9.

In use, the elastic attaching strap 8 is placed about the forehead of the user so as to hold the pad 5 against the back of the head. With the device in position on the head, it will be seen that when the mechanic lies on his back beneath a machine to inspect or make repairs to any of the parts, the support 1 will be rested on the ground to hold the head in a raised position as illustrated. As hereinbefore stated, as the mechanic moves from place to place to inspect other parts, the rest is at all times in position on the head to permit the support to be rested on the ground at the desired point.

With a device of the type described, it will be seen that the mechanic's head will be comfortably supported at a desired elevation to enable him to inspect and repair the desired parts of the machine. The pad or fabric will conform to the back of the head so as to insure comfort and the elastic attaching strap will bear sufficiently tight against the forehead to hold the device in proper position and the strap can be adjusted to accommodate different sizes of heads. Furthermore, because of the peculiar shape and design of the same, and because of the fact that it can be strapped to the head, it will be seen that when it is laid on the ground or floor, it can be rocked from side to side to enable the head of the user to take various positions for effectively viewing the parts under repair and to render the device less tiresome by changing the position of the head from time to time. This is a particular feature of the invention upon which emphasis is to be laid. The device is extremely simple in construction, durable and comfortable and due to its extreme simplicity, it can be manufactured and retailed for small costs. These and other advantages of the invention have no doubt, become apparent from the foregoing description. In view of this a more lengthy and detailed description is thought unnecessary.

Since probably the best results may be obtained with the construction and arrangement herein shown and described, this is taken as the preferred embodiment of the invention. However, I wish it to be understood that minor changes coming within the scope of the invention as claimed may be resorted to if desired.

I claim:

A head-rest for use by automobile mechanics comprising a substantially U-shaped yieldable supporting frame intended to rest on the ground or floor, a head-pad connected to said frame to permit the user to rest his head thereon, and a strap connected with the frame and adapted to pass over the user's forehead for maintaining the device on the user's head so that it will be moved with the latter.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand.

WILLIAM H. FROMHART.