

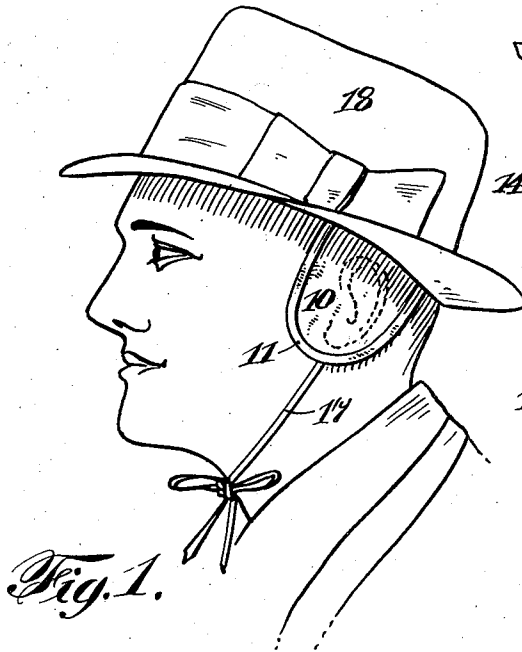
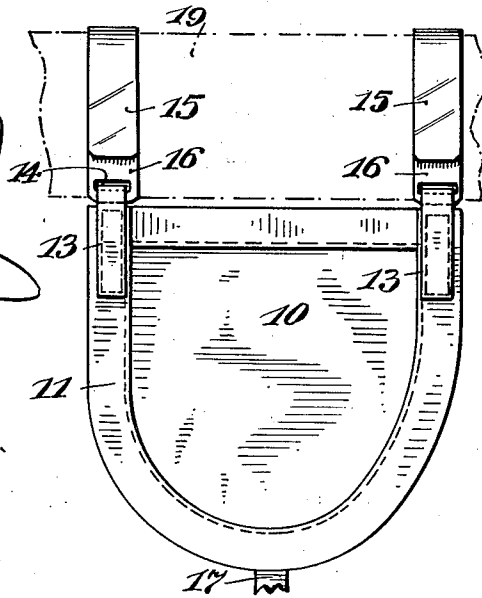
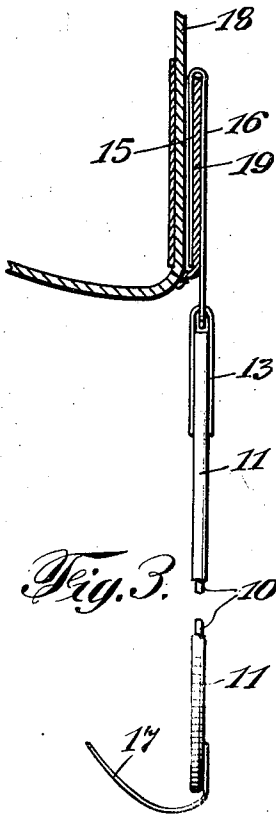
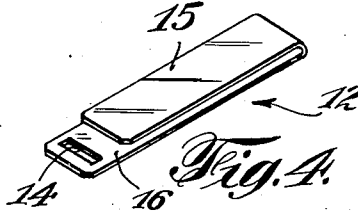
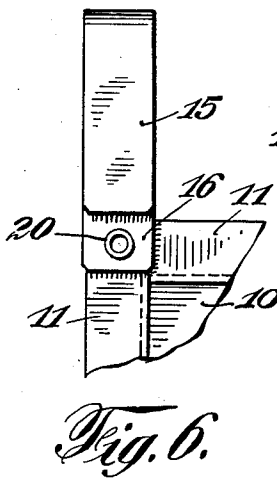
Aug. 10, 1937.

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2,089,427

EAR MUFF

Filed Dec. 9, 1936



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,089,427

EAR MUFF

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Application December 9, 1936, Serial No. 114,883

2 Claims. (Cl. 2—209)

My invention relates to ear-muffs, and refers particularly to devices of this character in which a hat to which the ear-muff is attached and the ear-muff itself may be held firmly upon the head of the wearer, thus preventing their accidental removal therefrom.

Another object of my invention is a device of the character described having adaptable means for positioning the ear-muffs upon the ears of a wearer, irrespective of the position of the hat upon the head with respect to the ears and irrespective of the width of the sweat-band of the hat.

As the position of a hat upon a head varies with the character and size of the hat and as the widths of sweat-bands of hats also vary, it is evident that an ear-muff which is adapted to be removably attached to a hat by means of its sweat-band must have attaching, or supporting, members capable of ready and positive extensions in order that they may be properly attached to hats of varying dimensions.

It is further evident that such attaching, or supporting, means should be of such thickness and contour as not to inconvenience the wearer, especially at that portion between the sweat-band and the head of the wearer.

It is further evident that a device of the character described should be of such construction, that the hat and the ear-muffs will not be disengaged, or disarranged, by the wind, thus allowing the wearer the free use of both hands.

In addition to the above mentioned advantages, my device is of small dimensions, readily folded into a small compass, and is inexpensive of production.

In the accompanying drawing illustrating modified forms of the device of my invention, similar parts are designated by similar numerals.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of one form of my device adapted to a hat.

Figure 2 is a front view of the device shown in Figure 1, partly broken away for purposes of description.

Figure 3 is an end view of Figure 2.

Figure 4 is a perspective view of the suspending element in folded form.

Figure 5 is a plan view of the suspending element in open form.

Figure 6 is a broken plan view of a modified form of attaching the suspending element to the ear-muff.

Figure 7 is a broken plan view of a modified form of attaching the suspending element to the ear-muff.

Figure 8 is an end view of the device shown in Figure 7.

The form of my device illustrated in Figures 1 to 5 consists of an ear-muff, or ear covering having the exterior ear covering element 10 having the general outside contour of a human ear, the outer peripheral portion of which is turned inwardly to encompass the ear, although this inwardly extended portion may be eliminated if desired. The ear-muff is preferably made from a soft flexible material such as textiles, soft leather or other suitable material. A tape element 11 is fixedly attached to the ear-muff 10 for the purpose of strengthening the ear-muff at the points of attachment between the ear-muff and suspending members described later. This strengthening means may be omitted, if the material forming the ear-muff is of such a character that a proper connection can be made with the suspending members without additional strengthening means.

A suspending member 12 is fixedly attached to each upper extremity portion of the ear-muff 10 and the tape 11 by means of a flexible member 13. shown in this illustrated form as a looped member stitched to the ear-muff portion, passed through the opening 14 in the suspending member. The suspending members 12, 12 are of a flexible material capable of being bent over upon itself to produce the members 15 and 16 in spaced parallel planes with respect to each other, and I have found that flexible metal is well adapted for this purpose, but do not limit myself to this particular material. Attached to the lower extremity of the ear-muff is a string, cord, tape or other device 17 capable of being tied to, or readily attached to, another element of the same character.

The operation of my device is as follows:—

The supporting members are so positioned with respect to the position of a hat 18, the sweat-band 19 of the hat and the position of the ears is such that, when the hat is properly positioned upon the head of the wearer, the ear-muffs will cover the ears of the wearer. The suspending members 12, 12 are then bent at the position that when the sweat-band 18 of the hat is inserted between the two bent members 15 and 16 of the suspending members, the ear-muffs will be in the desired position over the ears. The strings, or cords 17, 17 are then tied, or fastened, together beneath the chin of the wearer.

It will be noted that among the advantages of the device of my invention are its adaptability of proper application to the ears by simply bending the supporting members at the proper point, that the members 17, 17 maintain the hat and the ear-

muffs in proper place, hence, preventing their accidental displacement by the wind, its compactness and capability of being folded into a small compass and its production at small cost.

5 In the modification shown in Figure 6, the suspending member 15—16 is directly attached to the tape 11 by means of the rivet, or eyelet, 20.

In the modification shown in Figures 7 and 8, each flexible metallic supporting member 12 has 10 a plurality of pointed fastening member 21, 21 stamped therefrom and extending therefrom, which can be inserted through the ear-muff 10 and bent over, thus affixing the suspending members to the ear-muff.

15 It is evident that means other than those shown may be employed for affixing the supporting members to the ear-muffs and that other means may be employed for strengthening the ear-muff for the connection with the supporting members, as for instance the material of the ear-muffs 20 may be impregnated in whole, or in part, with a material that will strengthen the material of the ear-muffs, which impregnating material should be, but must not be, of a flexible character.

25 It will further be evident that the two elements adapted for connection beneath the chin can be varied for instance, one ear-muff may carry one such element capable of being attached directly to the other ear-muff by a snap-fastener or otherwise. 30

It will thus be seen that the device of my invention presents means whereby the ears of the bearer may be protected and that both the ear-muffs and the hat of the wearer are maintained 35 in fixed position upon the head of the wearer, and that its supporting member elements allow of the ready positioning of the ear-muffs and

the hat into the position best adapted for the purposes described and that the device may be properly adjusted to one hat and may be removed therefrom and quickly adjusted to another hat if desired. 5

I do not limit myself to the particular size, shape, number, arrangement or material of parts as specifically shown and described, as these are given simply as a means for clearly describing my invention. 10

What I claim is:—

1. In a device adapted to protect the ears and maintain a hat upon the head of the wearer, in combination, two ear-muffs; two upwardly extended supporting members carried by the upper 15 portion of each said ear-muffs, said supporting members being composed of flexible material, a bent portion of which is adapted to be placed between a hat and the sweat-band thereof to support said ear-muffs, and means carried by 20 the ear-muffs adapted to be connected under the chin of the wearer.

2. In a device adapted to protect the ears and maintain a hat upon the head of the wearer, in combination, two ear-muffs; a strengthening 25 means carried by each said ear muff; said strengthening means being positioned peripherally below two upwardly extended members; two upwardly extended supporting members carried by the strengthening member of each said ear- 30 muffs, said supporting members being composed of flexible material, a bent portion of which is adapted to be placed between a hat and the sweat-band thereof to support said ear-muffs, and means carried by the ear-muffs adapted to 35 be connected under the chin of the wearer.

WILLIAM H. ROSE.