May 22, 1956 N. J. D'ANDREA 2,746,469

DETACHABLE UMBRELLA COVER

Filed April 28, 1953

FIG. 1.

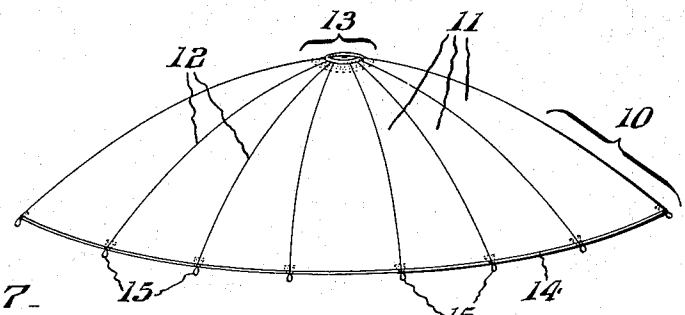


FIG. 7.

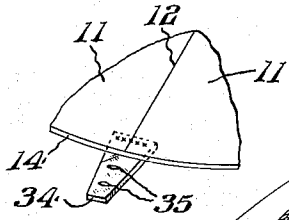


FIG. 2.

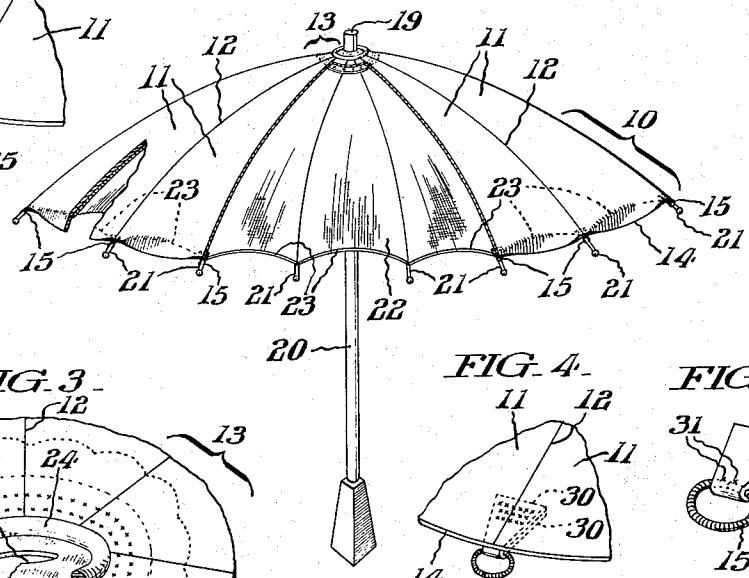


FIG. 3.

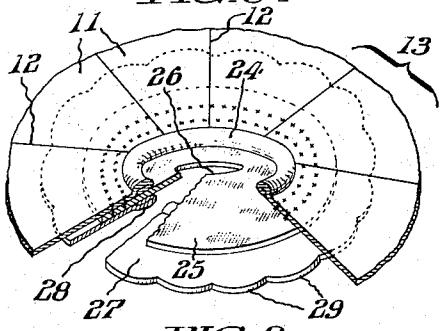


FIG. 4.

FIG. 5.

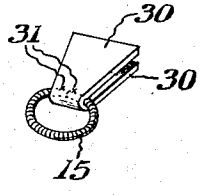


FIG. 6.

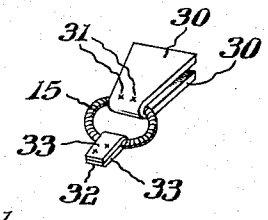


FIG. 8.

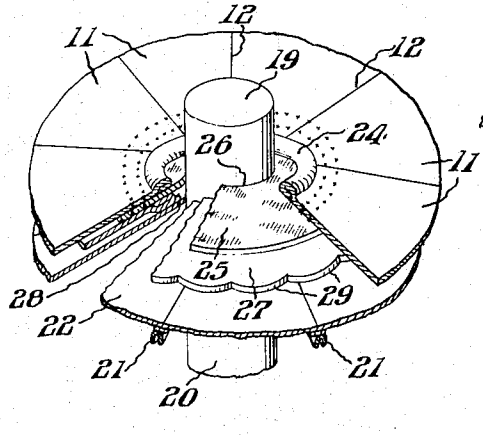
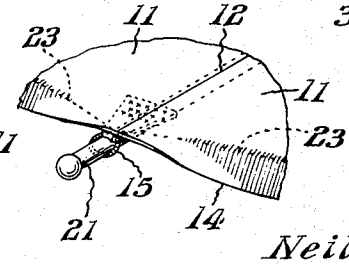


FIG. 9.



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DETACHABLE UMBRELLA COVER

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3 Claims. (Cl. 135—34)

This invention relates to an umbrella cover constructed for attachment to and removal from a conventional umbrella. In its normal use the detachable cover of this invention is intended to supplement rather than to replace the conventional umbrella cover which is substantially permanently attached to the umbrella ribs.

In a conventional umbrella having a handle and a plurality of radially extending ribs, a permanent cover piece is usually provided which is attached to the ribs. Such cover piece is permanent in the sense that it is not intended to be removed from the umbrella frame and then again affixed to it. The prior art discloses various means for effecting the attachment of permanent covers, and also discloses means for removing permanent covers from the ribs for purposes of repair or replacement. Devices of this character are usually quite complicated, and often require a special umbrella rib or frame. In contrast, this invention concerns a supplemental cover adapted to be attached quickly and easily to the umbrella over the permanent cover. In accordance with this invention the supplemental cover may readily be removed or attached as desired from day to day.

The detachable cover of this invention may consist of cloth or other flexible sheet material of any desired color or decorative design. Several detachable covers may be utilized in conjunction with one umbrella in accordance with this invention, such covers being readily changed from day to day in order to provide the desired color combinations or design combinations. Preferably my detachable cover is reversible and carries different colors or designs on its opposed faces.

It is accordingly an object of this invention to provide a flexible detachable umbrella cover which may quickly and conveniently be connected to or disconnected from a conventional umbrella. Another object is to provide an umbrella cover which is inexpensive and requires a minimum space when stored. Another object is to provide, without sacrificing any of the other advantages of the invention, an umbrella cover of this character which is reversible. Other objects and advantages of the invention, including the simplicity and economy of the same and the ease with which it may be applied to umbrellas of different sizes, will appear in further detail hereinafter and in the drawings whereof:

Fig. 1 represents a view in side elevation showing a detachable umbrella cover embodying features of this invention;

Fig. 2 represents a view similar to Fig. 1 showing a conventional umbrella with the novel cover attached;

Fig. 3 represents an enlarged view showing the central portions of the detachable umbrella cover illustrated in Fig. 2;

Fig. 4 represents a fragmentary view showing one means for attaching the cover to an umbrella rib;

Fig. 5 represents an enlarged view of a portion of the device shown in Fig. 4;

Figs. 6 and 7 are views comparable to Fig. 4 showing modified forms of attaching means;

Fig. 8 represents a view in perspective of the central portion of an umbrella with the cover attached, parts being broken away and shown in section in order to reveal important details; and

Fig. 9 represents a fragmentary view showing how the umbrella cover is connected to an umbrella rib.

Turning now to the specific embodiments of the invention selected for illustration in the drawings, the number **10** designates comprehensively a detachable umbrella cover consisting of a plurality of wedge shaped panels **11** which are secured to one another as by sewing for example to form a plurality of radially extending seams **12**. Seams **12** are preferably French or welt seams which present a good appearance on both faces of the cover. The detachable umbrella cover **10** is generally dished to conform to the shape of a conventional umbrella. Formed in the center of the detachable umbrella cover **10** is a reinforced apertured portion **13** the details of which will further appear. The umbrella cover **10** has a round substantially circular continuous edge **14**. Fixed to the cover **10** at equally spaced points along the edge **14** are a plurality of elastic loops **15**. Preferably each elastic loop **15** is located at the end of a seam **12**.

Turning now to Fig. 2, a conventional umbrella is shown which has a handle **20** and a tip **19**, a plurality of ribs or bows **21** and a permanent cover **22** which is fixed to the ribs. By "permanent cover" I mean a cover that is not intended to be removed readily from the supporting ribs. The umbrella cover **10** is removably attached to the ribs **21** and to the tip **19** of handle **20** in such manner that the detachable cover piece **10** completely covers the fixed cover **22**. It will be noted that three wedge shaped panels **11** of cover piece **10** are shown removed in the central portion of the drawing, in order more clearly to disclose the permanent cover **22**. The permanent umbrella cover **22** has a plurality of concave edge portions **23** which extend from rib to rib. As shown, the edge portions **23** are concave, but they may be straight. I refer to the cover **22** thus described as a polygonal cover, and to the detachable cover as substantially circular. Preferably the diameter of the circle is substantially equal to the diagonal dimension of the polygon, whereby the edges of both covers are coextensive at the umbrella ribs while the rounded edge portions **14** extend outwardly beyond the edges **23** between the ribs. Thus the detachable cover piece **10** drapes over the outer edge **23** of the permanent cover piece, providing a desirable decorative effect and assuring complete coverage and facilitating liquid drainage as well.

In Fig. 3 of the drawings the central portion **13** of the detachable cover piece **10** is shown. The flexible sheet panels **11** are joined together at a common center creating a relatively large central aperture surrounded by piping **24**. Fixed to the inner surface of the detachable cover is a circular piece of elastic material **25** having a relatively small central aperture **26**. As shown, the elastic material **25** is affixed by means of two rows of stitches. A ring shaped sheet **27** of flexible material is affixed to the inner faces of panels **11** and elastic material **25**. The ring shaped sheet **27** has a relatively large central aperture bordered by piping **28**. Its outer edge is scalloped at **29**.

It will be appreciated that the aperture **24** may readily be expanded and contracted to accommodate umbrella tips **19** of various sizes, and that the diameters of piping **24** and piping **28** are sufficiently large to accommodate any conventional umbrella tip. The elastic material **25** may be provided with a color or decorative design matching or complementing the color or design of the detachable cover piece **10**.

Turning now to Fig. 4 of the drawings, the elastic loop **15** is maintained between a pair of tabs **30, 30** which are stitched to the umbrella cover color segments **11, 11**. As shown, the loop **15** is located at the free end of seam **12**.

Fig. 5 shows a plurality of stitches **31** which secure the loop **15** to the tabs **30, 30**. It will be appreciated that the loop may thus be secured against revolving motion, as shown in Fig. 5, or it may be free to revolve with respect to the tabs.

Fig. 6 illustrates a supplemental pull member **32** which consists of a pair of tabs **33, 33** which are looped around the elastic loop **15** and secured to one another by stitching, for example. The pull member **32** facilitates the extension of each elastic loop **15** over the end of umbrella rib **21**.

Fig. 7 shows a longitudinally extensible elastic tab **34** which is affixed to the panels **11, 11**. Two spaced holes **35** are formed in tab **34**, but more such holes may be provided if desired. Holes **35** comprise adjusting means for accommodating the detachable cover to umbrella frames of different sizes. Moreover the holes **35** are preferably elongated slots, normally substantially closed, which open when the tab **34** is longitudinally stretched. Such holes facilitate attachment, and have firm gripping action after attachment to the rib.

It will be appreciated that the detachable cover piece **10** is readily connected to a conventional umbrella by inserting the tip **19** through the expandable central opening **26** in the elastic web **25**, as appears in Fig. 8. Each elastic fastener such as loop **15** is then expanded over the end of rib **21**, as appears in Fig. 9. In this manner the detachable cover piece **10** is firmly and elastically maintained in a fixed position with respect to the umbrella ribs and is continuously maintained under tension against the permanent umbrella cover **22**. Moreover, the elastic central portion of the detachable cover coacts with the elastic loops at its edge to maintain the cover properly centered with respect to the umbrella tip. The cover piece **10** may be readily removed by simply detaching the loop **15** and withdrawing the cover piece from the tip **19**.

It will be appreciated that, while the appearance and function of the detachable cover are improved by the ring shaped material **27**, this is an optional feature of the invention and may be omitted, particularly when a reversible cover is not required.

Although this invention has been described in detail with reference to several specific embodiments adapted for a particular purpose, it will readily be apparent that the form of the device may be considerably varied, and that equivalent structures and materials may be employed for accomplishing the same results. Such changes, including reversals of parts and the use of certain features of the invention independently of other features, are within the spirit and scope of the invention as defined in the appended claims.

Having thus described my invention, I claim:

1. In combination with an umbrella having a handle, a plurality of equally spaced ribs and a permanent cover attached to said ribs, said permanent cover having a substantially polygonal edge, the corners of the permanent cover being attached to the ends of said ribs, a detachable cover comprising a piece of flexible material having a circular outer edge, said detachable cover having a central aperture the diameter of the circular cover being substantially equal to the diagonal dimension of the polygonal cover, and elastic loops attached to the circular free edge at spaced points corresponding to the corners of said polygonal cover, said elastic loops attaching the detachable cover to the ends of the ribs, whereby the outer edges of the permanent and detachable covers are coextensive at the ends of the ribs and the outer edge of the detachable cover extends outwardly beyond the edge of the permanent cover and drapes over said permanent cover between the rib ends.

2. A detachable cover for an umbrella having a central tip and radially extending ribs to which a fixed cover is attached, comprising a crowned piece of sheet material shaped to conform to the shape of the umbrella and fixed cover, said sheet material having a central opening adapted to fit over said tip, a piece of elastic material affixed to said sheet material around the central opening, said elastic material extending across said central opening and having an expandable opening normally smaller than said central opening, said sheet material having an outer edge, and a plurality of elastic loops affixed at spaced points to the outer edge of said sheet material to attach the cover to the ends of the umbrella ribs, whereby the detachable cover is maintained in tension against said fixed cover when said loops are stretched in tension over the ends of said ribs.

3. The detachable cover defined in claim 2 wherein gripping tabs are affixed to the outer portions of the elastic loops.

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