April 20, 1948. J. L. PEARSON 2,439,984

HAT CONSTRUCTION AND SWEAT BAND THEREFOR

Filed Jan. 10, 1947 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1

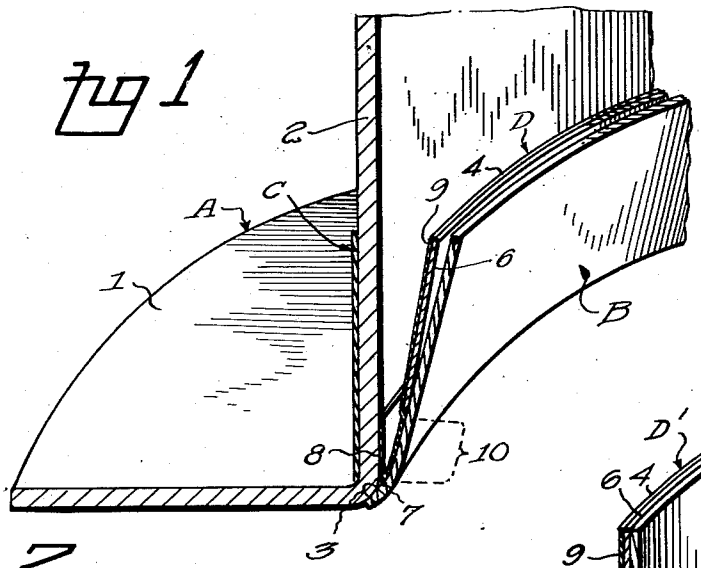


Fig. 2.

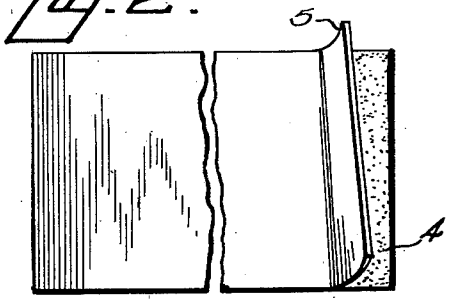


Fig. 3.

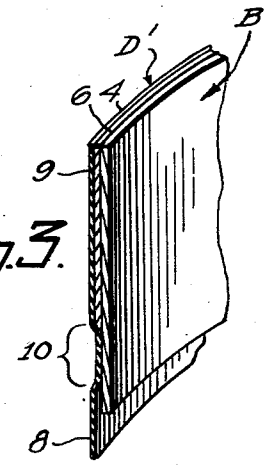
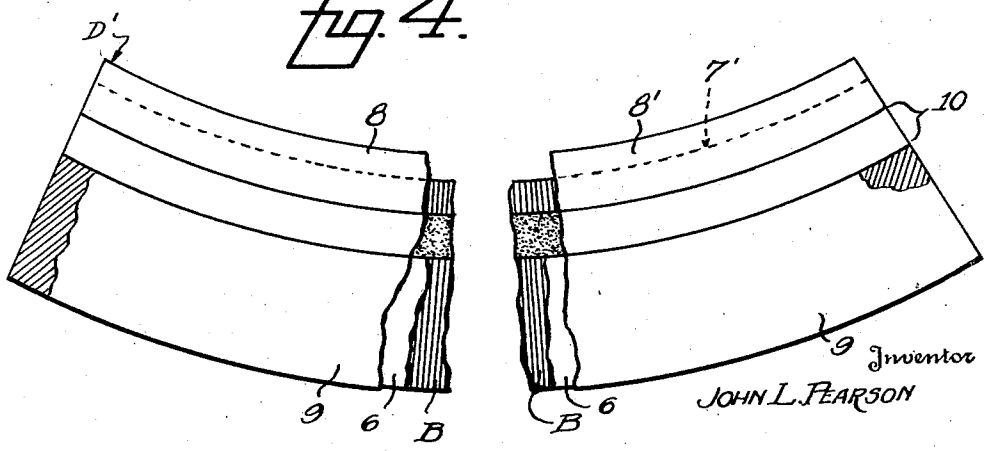


Fig. 4.



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HAT CONSTRUCTION AND SWEAT BAND THEREFOR

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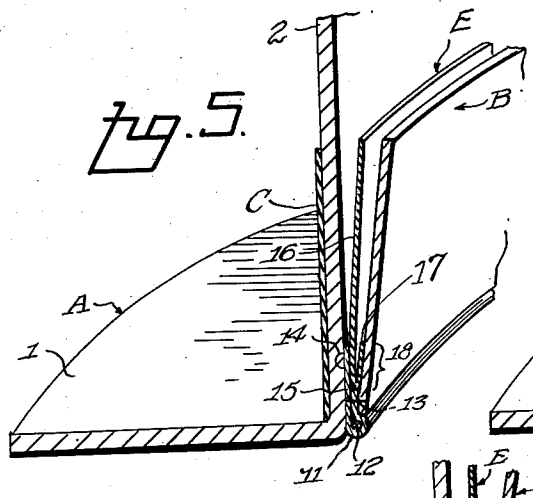


Fig. 5.

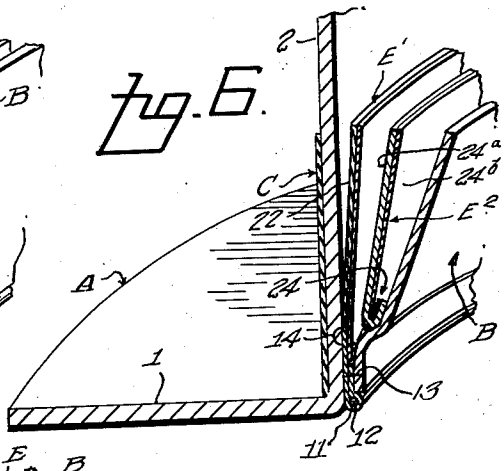


Fig. 6.

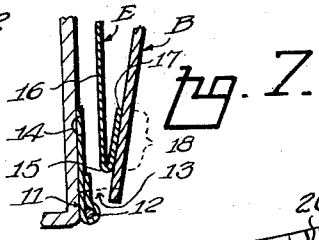


Fig. 7.

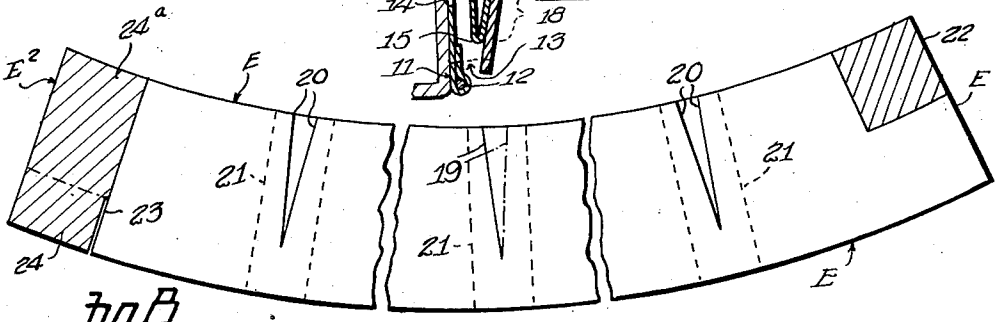


Fig. 8.

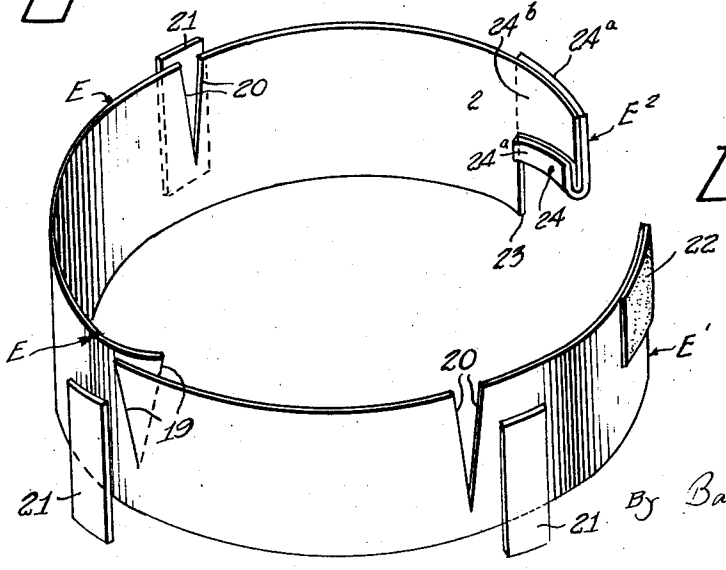


Fig. 9.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,439,984

HAT CONSTRUCTION AND SWEATBAND THEREFOR

John L. Pearson, Tacoma, Wash.

Application January 10, 1947, Serial No. 721,357

8 Claims. (Cl. 2—181)

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This invention relates to hat construction and sweat band therefor, and more particularly to means for preventing the seepage of perspiration from the inside of a hat sweat band outwardly into the hat body and for preventing the seepage or infiltration of rain or other moisture from the outside of the hat body inwardly to the sweat band.

It is well known to hatters and observing users of hats that hats often become stained as a result of the seepage of perspiration from the usual sweat band outwardly through the hat body. In many cases, this seepage takes place through the holes formed by the stitching conventionally employed for attaching the sweat bands to the hats. These holes also allow rain or other moisture to work in from outside and onto the user's head, resulting in considerable discomfort.

Heretofore, there have been numerous proposals to correct this condition by the use of liners or strips of waterproof material inserted between hat bodies and sweat bands, but as far as I am aware these proposed constructions have not been used to any appreciable extent. I believe this to be because the proposed arrangements have not had, at the same time, the attributes of simplicity, economy, and effectiveness in preventing the passage of moisture (perspiration or rain) through the hat structure in the region of the sweat band.

An object of the present invention is to provide a hat including a new and improved arrangement of hat body, sweat band, and moisture resistant strip positioned between the body and the sweat band and secured to the hat structure in an effective and economically simple manner.

Another object of the invention is to provide a hat of the character referred to in which the moisture resistant strip is secured to the sweat band throughout only a narrow zone, the remainder of the strip being free to float between the sweat band and hat body to provide for maximum ease of fit and comfort.

Another object of the invention is to provide a strip insert of the kind described which is adapted to adjust itself to conform to the shape and/or size of a particular head after which the strip may be secured or conditioned to maintain or hold the conformation or adjustment.

A further object of the invention is to provide an improved assembly of sweat band and moisture resistant strip adapted to be attached to a hat as a unit.

Other objects of the invention will become apparent from a reading of the following description, the appended claims, and the accompanying drawings, in which:

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Figure 1 is a fragmentary sectional perspective view showing part of a hat with a sweat band and moisture resistant insert strip applied thereto in accordance with one embodiment of the invention;

Figure 2 is a fragmentary plan view of strip stock from which the moisture proof insert strip may be formed;

Figure 3 is a fragmentary sectional perspective view of a sweat band and moisture proof insert assembly unit adapted for being applied to a hat as shown in Figure 1;

Figure 4 is a plan view of the assembly unit shown in Figure 3, with some parts broken away to illustrate underlying parts more clearly;

Figure 5 is a fragmentary sectional perspective view of a hat embodying the invention in another form, the section showing the parts in the relative positions occupied along the sides and at the front of the hat;

Figure 6 is a view similar to Figure 5 but showing the parts in the positions that they occupy at the back of the hat shown in Figure 5;

Figure 7 is a detailed fragmentary vertical section showing in separated relationship, parts of the hat structure shown in Figures 5 and 6;

Figure 8 is a plan view of an insert strip adapted to be embodied in the structure shown in Figures 5 and 6, and

Figure 9 is a perspective view of the insert strip shown in Figure 8, but illustrating the curving of the strip prior to insertion in the hat.

Figures 1, 2, and 3 illustrate one form of the invention embodied in a hat shown fragmentarily in Figure 1 as including a body A comprising a brim 1 and a crown 2, a sweat band B, and a conventional trimming or decorative ribbon C. The sweat band B is joined or connected to the body A substantially at the junction of the brim 1 and crown 2, preferably by means of stitches 3.

In accordance with the invention, a novel form of moisture resistant strip generally designated D is interposed between the crown 2 and the sweat band B. The strip D is so related to the crown 2 and sweat band B, and so secured to the sweat band as to provide an efficient barrier for preventing perspiration from working through the sweat band out into the hat body, and for preventing rain or other moisture from working from the outside of the hat in through the sweat band and on to the wearer's head. The moisture resistant insert strip D preferably is

formed from strip stock of the kind shown in Figure 2 which comprises a strip 4 of waterproof or moisture resistant transparent flexible material and a protective skin or layer 5 of paper detachably stuck or adhered to the strip 4 by an adhesive which remains sticky until after the paper layer 5 is peeled off the strip 4. The material forming the strip 4 may comprise any of a number of suitable commercial sheet materials, for example, cellulose derivative products or other products having similar physical properties with respect to resistance to moisture, flexibility and strength. The adhesive between the strips 4 and 5 preferably should have the characteristic of remaining sticky long enough to provide time for effecting surface adherence of the strip 4 to another object when pressed against the object promptly upon removal of the protective skin 5, the adhesive, however, being adapted to dry or become non-adherent when exposed to the air for a slightly longer time.

In the hat structure shown in Figure 1, the strip insert D is shown as having been previously prepared for insertion by removing the paper protective skin throughout the lower portion of the strip but leaving it on the upper portion of the strip material 4 as shown at 6. The lower portion of the strip material 4 from which the paper skin 5 has been removed is folded at 7 to provide a relatively shallow outer strip portion 8 and a relatively high or deep inner strip portion 9. The inner strip portion 9 is adhered throughout a narrow zone 10 to the sweat band B by pressing the adhesive coated strip against the sweat band B throughout the zone 10 promptly after removing the protective skin 5 from the strip material 4. The adherence zone is somewhat above and in spaced relation to the connection of the sweat band to the hat body. The outer face of the outer strip portion 8, which also is coated with adhesive, is not pressed against the adjacent portion of the crown 2 but preferably is permitted to become dry so as to be non-adherent and free to float or shift with respect to the crown 2, although in use the outer portion 8 normally will contact the crown 2.

It is preferred to leave the paper protective skin on the upper part of the inner strip portion as shown at 6 in order to provide for free floating or sliding movement of the outer strip portion with respect to the sweat band B above the surface adherence zone 10. When the hat is worn, the sweat band B will be warmed somewhat by body temperature which would have a tendency to soften the adhesive on the moisture resistant strip portion and render it adherent were it not protected by the paper protective skin 6.

In the arrangement shown in Figure 1, the strip D is completely imperforate, there being no stitches extending through and puncturing the strip. Consequently, the strip D provides an effective barrier for preventing perspiration from working outwardly into the hat body and also for preventing rain from working inwardly from the hat body to the sweat band.

The strip D can easily be inserted between the sweat band and crown of a hat already manufactured. It is necessary merely to remove the protective paper skin 5 from the lower portion of the strip, then to fold the strip as shown at 7; and then to press the adhesive coated part of the moisture resistant material against the sweat band throughout the zone 10, while avoiding the pressing of the outer strip portion 8 against the crown 2.

When incorporating the strip D in a hat structure being manufactured, it is convenient first to make an assembly of the sweat band B and an unfolded strip D' as shown in Figures 3 and 4. The line 7' in Figure 4 indicates where the fold 7 is to be made after the strip D' has been adhered to the sweat band B throughout the zone 10. After this adherence has been effected, the portion 8 of the moisture resistant strip is folded upwardly about the line 7', the sweat band and moisture resistant strip assembly is inserted in the hat body, and the sweat band B is then stitched to the body as shown at 3 in Figure 1.

Figures 5 to 9 show another embodiment of the invention in which the sweat band B is attached to the hat body A by a separate attaching strip 11. The strip 11 may be formed of fabric tape and folded to provide a bottom roll 12 of a conventional nature. The sweat band B is secured to the attaching strip 11 by stitches 13 immediately above the roll 12, and the attaching strip 11 is secured to the crown 2 at a higher level by means of stitches 14.

Figure 5 shows the relation of the crown 2, sweat band B, and a moisture resistant strip E at the sides and front of the hat. The strip E is shown as having had the protective skin removed completely from the moisture resistant material, although if desired the protective skin may be left on a portion of the moisture resistant material as shown at 6 in Figure 1. In the Figure 5 construction, the moisture resistant strip E is folded as at 15 to provide a relatively deep outer strip portion 16 and a relatively shallow inner strip portion 17. The strip portion 17 is adhered to the sweat band B throughout a zone 18. Otherwise the strip E does not adhere to, and is free to float or shift relatively to both the hat crown 2 and the sweat band B.

In accordance with another feature of the invention, the strip E is formed with a front transverse slit 19 and side transverse slits 20—20 which extend from one longitudinal edge of the strip toward but not completely to the other longitudinal edge. Preferably, the slits are cut inwardly from the edge of the strip E which is to be uppermost in the hat assembly. The slits 19 and 20 enable the strip E to conform or adjust itself to heads of different sizes or shapes. When a hat provided with the strip E is tried on, the slits will either open as indicated at 20 in Figures 8 and 9 or close as indicated at 19. In order to maintain the strip E in its conformed or adjusted condition, covering pieces 21 of moisture resistant material are surface-adhered to the strip so as to cover the slits 19 and 20.

In accordance with a further feature of the invention, the ends of the strip E are positioned at the back of the hat and are arranged in overlapping and relatively shifting or sliding relationship so as to enable the strip E to conform to the user's head size and shape. The arrangement of the ends of the strip E is illustrated in Figure 6 which shows one end portion E' positioned adjacent the crown 2 and the other end portion E^2 positioned adjacent the sweat band B. The end portion E' is surface-adhered to the lower portion of the sweat band in the same manner that the strip E is adhered to the sweat band along the sides and at the front of the hat as shown in Figure 5. Preferably

a piece of the paper protective skin 22 is left on the end portion E′ of the strip so as to insure free sliding movement between the end portion E′ and the crown 2. The other end portion E^2 of the strip E is free from direct attachment to the remainder of the hat structure so as to be slidable with respect to both the end portion E′ and the sweat band B. For accomplishing this, the end portion E^2 is slit as at 23 to provide a tab portion 24 which is folded upwardly as shown in Figures 6 and 9. The entire end portion E^2 is left protected by a piece 24^a of the protective paper so that in the assembled construction, the paper 24^a prevents the moisture resistant part 24^b of the strip end E^2 from becoming stuck to either the strip end E′ or the sweat band B. Thus, the strip end E′ is free to float with respect to the crown 2 and the strip end E^2, and the end E^2 is free to slide or float with respect to the strip end E′ and the sweat band B. Consequently, the entire moisture resistant strip E will conform to the shape and size of the wearer's head to provide a comfortable fit.

The hat constructions shown for the purposes of illustration embody the invention in preferred forms but it will be understood that changes may be made without departing from the invention as defined in the claims.

I claim:

1. In a hat, a hat body comprising a crown and a brim; a sweat band secured to said body substantially at the juncture of the crown and the brim; and a moisture resistant strip interposed between said sweat band and the adjacent part of said crown, said strip being folded adjacent its lower edge to provide integrally formed inner and outer strip portions disposed respectively against said sweat band and said crown, said outer strip portion being free to float with respect to said crown, and said inner strip portion being connected to said sweat band above and in spaced relation to the connection of said sweat band to said body.

2. In a hat, a hot body comprising a crown and a brim; a sweat band secured to said body substantially at the juncture of the crown and the brim; and an imperforate moisture resistant strip interposed between said sweat band and the adjacent part of said crown, said strip being folded adjacent its lower edge to provide integrally formed inner and outer strip portions disposed respectively against said sweat band and said crown, said outer strip portion being free to float with respect to said crown and said inner strip portion having a narrow zone surface-adhered to said sweat band, the surface-adherence of said zone to said sweat band constituting the sole attachment of said strip to the hat structure.

3. In a hat, a hat body comprising a crown and a brim; a sweat band secured to said body substantially at the juncture of the crown and the brim; an imperforate moisture resistant strip interposed between said sweat band and the adjacent part of said crown, said strip being folded adjacent its lower edge to provide integrally formed inner and outer strip portions disposed respectively against said sweat band and said crown, said outer strip portion being free to float with respect to said crown and said inner strip portion having a narrow zone surface-adhered to said sweat band, the surface-adherence of said zone to said sweat band constituting the sole attachment of said strip to the hat structure, and a reenforcing strip surface-adhered to said inner strip portion above said zone and being disposed between said inner strip portion and said sweat band and free to float with respect to said sweat band above said zone.

4. A hat sweat band and moisture resistant strip assembly comprising a sweat band; a moisture resistant strip surface-adhered to said sweat band throughout a narrow zone extending parallel to and spaced from the sweat band upper and lower edges, said strip being free to float with respect to said sweat band except throughout said zone; and a reenforcing strip between said sweat band and said moisture resistant strip above said zone and being surface-adhered to said moisture resistant strip between said zone and the upper edge of the strip, said reenforcing strip being otherwise free from connection to said sweat band.

5. In a hat, a hat body comprising a crown and a brim; a sweat band; an attaching strip; stitching joining the lower edge portion of the sweat band to the lower portion of the attaching strip; stitching above said first named stitching and joining said attaching strip to said hat body adjacent the juncture of said brim and crown; and a moisture resistant strip floatingly interposed between said crown and said sweat band and having its lower edge portion folded to extend upwardly between said sweat band and the upper portion of said attaching strip, said lower edge portion of said moisture resistant strip being surface-adhered to said sweat band throughout a narrow zone above the stitching joining said sweat band lower edge portion to the lower portion of said attaching strip.

6. In a hat, a hat body comprising a crown and a brim; a sweat band secured to said body substantially at the juncture of the crown and the brim; a moisture resistant strip interposed between said sweat band and the adjacent part of said crown, the lower portion of said strip being surface-adhered to the hat structure in a narrow zone above the connection of the sweat band to the hat body, said strip being formed with spaced transverse slits extending from one longitudinal edge toward but not to the other longitudinal edge of said strip for facilitating the strip's adjusting to different heads; and pieces of moisture resistant material surface-adhered to said strip to cover said slits.

7. In a hat, a hat body comprising a crown and a brim; a sweat band secured to said body substantially at the juncture of the crown and the brim; and a moisture resistant strip interposed between said sweat band and the adjacent part of said crown, said strip being secured to said sweat band above the connection of said sweat band to said body from one end of said strip to a point short of the other end of said strip, said other end of said strip having a portion which is free from direct connection to said body and which overlaps said one end of said strip whereby said strip ends can slide relatively to each other to enable said strip to adjust to fit different heads.

8. In a hat, a hat body comprising a crown and a brim; a sweat band secured to said body substantially at the juncture of the crown and the brim; and a moisture resistant strip interposed between said sweat band and the adjacent part of said crown, said strip being surface-adhered to said sweat band above the connection of said sweat band to said body from one end of said strip to a point short of the other end of said strip,

said other end of said strip having a portion which is free from direct connection to said body and which overlaps said one end of said strip, one overlapping strip end portion being faced with non-adherent material whereby said strip ends can slide relatively to each other to enable said strip to adjust to fit different heads.

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