

1,156,980.

Patented Oct. 19, 1915.

Fig. 1

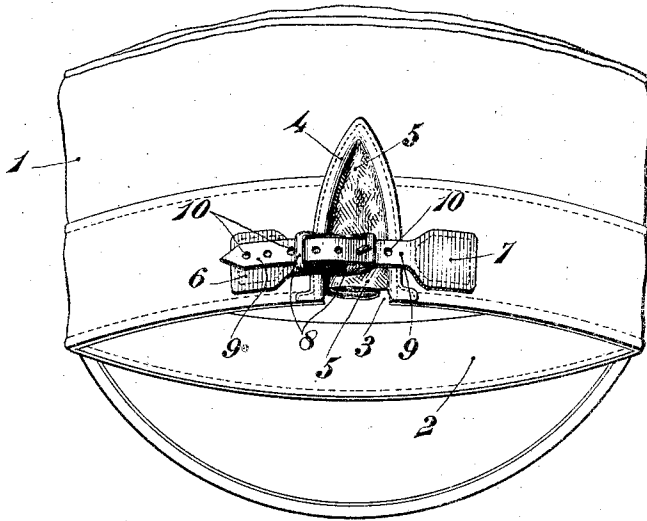


Fig. 2.

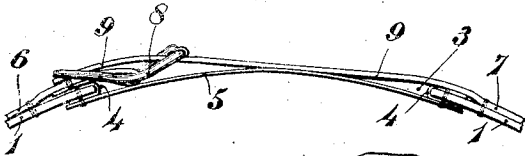


Fig. 3.

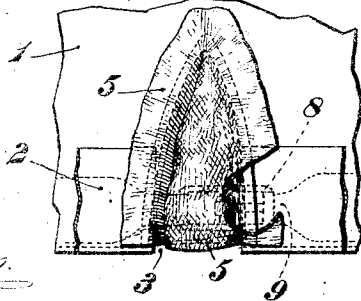
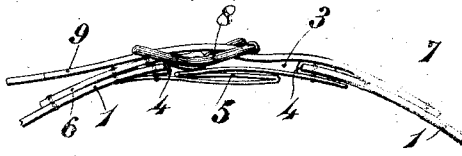


Fig. 4.

WITNESSES

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CAP.

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Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM S. COPPERS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Belleville, in the county of Republic and State of Kansas, have invented a new and useful Cap, of which the following is a specification.

This invention has reference to articles of wearing apparel known as caps, and its object is to provide a cap capable of adjustment as to size, so as to be readily fitted to any head or changed in size at the will of the wearer of the cap, so that the caps may all be manufactured in one size, a dealer is not compelled to carry various sizes, and the owner of the cap may under some circumstances make the cap fit tightly to the head and under other circumstances fit loosely.

In accordance with the present invention the cap is provided with an inner band which together with the body of the cap is slit from the lower edge toward the crown of the cap and a V-shape section is wholly removed, and in its place there is secured to the edges of the opening thus produced an insert of soft material fitting the gap produced by the cut away portion. Applied to the opposite sides of the cap body at the cut away portion and coincident with the band, but exterior to the hat are strap members one carrying a buckle and the other a strap tongue with numerous perforations, or other means may be provided whereby the split portion of the band and hat body may be taken up to any extent, thus reducing the size of the hat from the full expanded to the full contracted positions. Of course, any type of take-up buckle which will hold the tongue in different positions may be employed. At all times there is provided between the buckle and the head of the wearer a layer of soft material, and usually there are a number of layers due to the folding of the insert upon itself, wherefore the head of the wearer is fully protected from the buckle by the layers of the soft cloth of the insert, so that such folded insert operates as a protecting cushion.

The invention will be best understood from a consideration of the following detailed description, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification, with the further understanding that while the drawings show a practical form of the invention, the latter is not confined to any strict conformity with

the showing of the drawings, but may be changed and modified so long as such changes and modifications mark no material departure from the salient features of the invention.

In the drawings: Figure 1 is a perspective view of the cap as viewed from the rear, showing the edges of the cut-out portion drawn partly together. Fig. 2 is a bottom edge view of the cut-out portion of the cap showing the position of the parts when fully expanded. Fig. 3 is a similar view with the parts about in the position shown in Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is an inner face view of the portion of the cap shown in Fig. 3 with the parts similarly positioned.

Referring to the drawings, there is shown a cap 1 which may follow the usual line of construction of caps, and this cap is also shown as provided with the usual inner or sweat band 2.

The rim portion of the cap at the rear thereof has the V-shaped portion cut away leaving a similarly shaped opening 3, this cut away portion including the band 2. The rear edges where the sweat band and body of the cap are cut away are protected by binding 4. Attached to the opposite sides of the cut away portion of the cap interior thereto is an insert 5 of some appropriate soft cloth having sufficient inherent strength to prevent rupture thereof when the cap is fully expanded at the opening. The cloth 5 is sewed or otherwise secured in place and is similarly shaped to the opening, that is, it is approximately V-shaped.

Attached to the outer face of the cap near the wider end of the V-shaped opening and adjacent to opposite sides of the opening are strap members 6, 7, respectively. The member 6 carries a buckle 8 and the member 7 carries a tongue 9 adapted to the buckle and in the particular showing of the drawings provided with a series of perforations 10 any one of which may be traversed by the tongue of the buckle. The particular buckle shown is to be taken as typical of any suitable fastening device, or any other type of buckle, whereby the tongue 9 may be taken up or let out as the user desires.

The tongue 9 is of such length and so related to the buckle 8 that it may be let out from the buckle to an extent permitting the cut away portion of the cap to open to its full width, in which case the filling piece 5 is spread out to its full width. The series of

perforations 10 are sufficiently extensive and properly spaced to permit taking up of the opening in the cap until it is approximately closed, in which case the filling in piece 5 may be readily folded upon itself to thereby introduce a multi-ply pad or cushion between the buckle and the head of the wearer. This is particularly advantageous since it is customary when the edges of the opening are drawn close together to have the cap fit the head snugly, in which case there is liability of discomfort because of the presence of the buckle. The multi-ply pad, however, being made of several folds of soft material serves as a cushion or protector, whereby the head of the wearer is protected from the pressure of the buckle, which under the circumstances being considered presses toward the head with considerable force. The cushioning effect of the insert need not be so pronounced when the cap is extended in size, for then it is the intention that the cap should fit loosely rather than snugly.

The cap of the present invention is useful wherever caps are employed, and is particularly useful and particularly intended for railroad men, who wear caps in all kinds of weather, and ordinarily must provide a cap which will stay upon the head during very windy weather, wherefore in still weather a tight cap must be worn unless the owner provides two or more caps which is not only unlikely, but inconvenient.

With the cap of the present invention the dealer and manufacturer need provide but one pattern of cap and that of the largest size, so that the manufacturer does not have to make and the dealer does not have to carry a multiplicity of sizes, some of which may prove to be dead stock.

With the present invention the user on buying the cap has one which may not only be comfortably fitted to the head, but may be loosely or tightly fitted as the user may desire.

In still weather the user may let out the strap until the cap fits the head loosely and comfortably. In windy weather the user has but to draw upon the strap until the cap

fits the head tightly and, therefore, is not loosened and perhaps blown away and lost.

The V-shape cut is widest at the lower part of the cap and extends entirely through the sweat band and into the body of the cap toward the top thereof, the apex of the V, which is an inverted V, being toward the crown of the cap. The take up strap is arranged close to the bottom of the band so that the holding strain is where most needed, that is, low down. The insert is of inextensible strong cloth, which at the same time is relatively soft and protective of the head of the wearer.

What is claimed is:—

A cap provided with a sweat band and having the material of both the body of the cap and the sweat band cut out from the lower edge of the cap toward the crown thereof with the cut-out portion completely severing the sweat band and extending into the body of the cap above the sweat band and with the cut-out tapering toward the crown of the cap, a tapering insert of cloth thinner than the body of the cap at the sweat band portion, said insert being attached to the cap and sweat band at the opposite edges of the cut-out, and a take-up strap and buckle on the exterior of the band portion of the cap with the strap attached to the cap at one side of the cut-out and the buckle at the other side thereof, and the strap being of a length to permit the extension of the cap to the full width of the insert, whereby the insert when the cap is contracted is multi-folded upon itself to constitute a protecting cushion between the buckle and the head of the wearer without the entire thickness of the multi-folded portions exceeding the thickness of the cap at the margin of the cut out.

In testimony, that I claim the foregoing as my own, I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

WILLIAM S. COPPERS.

Witnesses:

JAS. DOCTOR,

B. E. AUMILLER.