A. MUNCHAUSEN.

HAT.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 10, 1911.

1,045,060. Patented Nov. 19, 1912.

Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

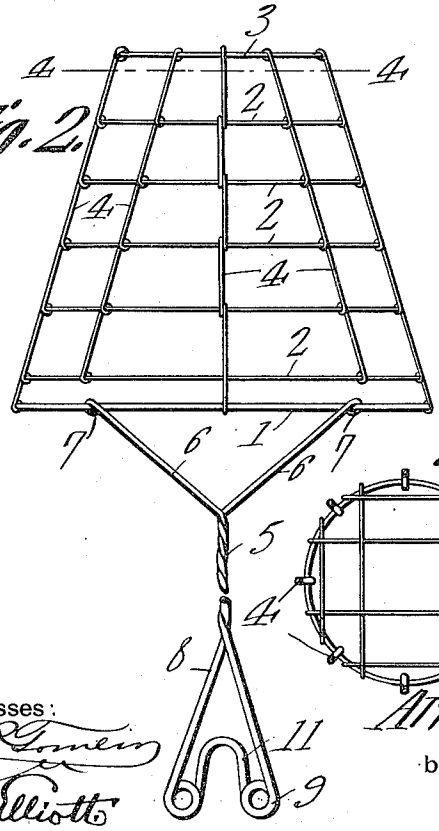
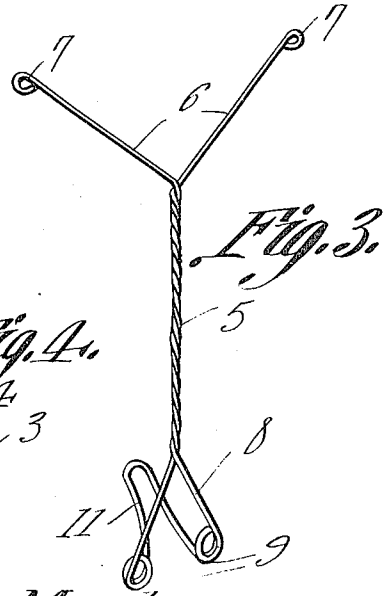


Fig. 4.

Fig. 3.



Witnesses:

J. Tomein

R. H. Elliott

Arthur Munchausen, Inventor,

by C. A. Snow & Co.

Attorneys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ARTHUR MUNCHAUSEN, OF INDEPENDENCE, LOUISIANA.

HAT.

1,045,060. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Nov. 19, 1912.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ARTHUR MUNCHAUSEN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Independence, in the parish of Tangipahoa and State of Louisiana, have invented a new and useful Hat, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates generally to hats, and particularly to means for supporting hats above and out of contact with the wearer.

The objects of the invention are, to provide a hat which will permit of free circulation of air entirely around and over the head of the wearer, thus to prevent headaches caused by the weight and close fitting of the ordinary hat; to allow free movements of the head of the wearer independently of the hat; to afford unobstructed exhibition of the ornamentation and trimming of the wearer's hair and of the hat; to remove all weight from the head and transfer it to the shoulders of the user; to render it possible to employ a hat of such size as to avoid the use of a parasol or umbrella, and yet not in any way inconvenience the user by an added weight of material; to adapt a hat to be constructed of any material desired, such, for instance, as waterproof fabric, whereby to extend the range of its usefulness; to construct the article in such manner as to render it at once light, cheap and durable; and in general, to furnish a novel and thoroughly practical article of head-wear.

With the above and other objects in view, as will appear as the nature of the invention is better understood, the same consists in the noved construction and combination of parts, as will hereinafter be fully described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawing forming part of this specification, and in which like characters of reference indicate corresponding parts, Figure 1 is a view in perspective displaying the manner in which the hat is supported by the wearer. Fig. 2 is a view in side elevation of one form of hat frame that may be employed. Fig. 3 is a perspective detail view of one of the supporting members. Fig. 4 is a transverse sectional view taken on the line 4—4 of Fig. 2.

The hat of the present invention embodies in part, a frame such as shown in Fig. 2, which will be constructed of light, resilient wire, and of any shape desired, thus to have the finished article of a form corresponding to the latest style, or to adapt it for a man's or a child's use. As the same general principle will obtain in connection with any form of frame that may be employed, an illustration of more than one style thereof is deemed unnecessary.

The frame consists of a base or main ring 1, which will be constructed of relatively stiff wire, a plurality of body rings 2 of relatively flexible wire and a crown ring 3. These rings are spaced the desired distance apart, and are connected by side wires 4, of which any desired number may be employed, the upper ends of all of the side wires being looped around the crown ring, and thence around the body rings, and the lower end of each alternate side wire being looped around the base ring 1, and the like ends of the remaining alternate side wires being looped around the first body ring above the base ring. This arrangement is purely arbitrary, as the lower ends of all of the side wires may be looped around the base ring if found necessary or desirable.

The frame produced by the series of rings and wires described, may, as above stated, be shaped to correspond to any prevailing style of hat, and is covered with any suitable material usually employed in the construction of such articles, so that the finished article will have the appearance of an ordinary hat, except that it is somewhat larger internally in order to permit the wearer to move her head without contacting or interfering in any way with the frame.

In order to support the frame in the position shown in Fig. 1, so that it will be entirely out of contact with the head of the wearer, thus to permit free movement of the head, as stated, and also to permit of free circulation of air around and over the user's head, a pair of supports is employed, one of which is shown in detail in Fig. 3, and consists of a length of wire doubled and twisted to provide a shank 5, the outer ends of the two members of the wire diverging from the upper end of the shank to present two arms 6, the end of each of which is provided with a loop 7, and these two loops are designed to engage with the base ring, as clearly shown in Fig. 2. The lower portion of the support is formed into an inverted V-shaped crotch 8 that is designed to seat or rest on the wearer's shoulder, thence bent to form two spring loops or eyes 9 which seat or rest

on the wearer's shoulder and thence bent to form an approximately inverted U-shaped loop 11 connecting the loops 9, the loop 11 being deflected to one side to form with the crotch 8 double crotches and also designed to receive a ribbon 10 passing over the shoulder to secure the standard in place. It will therefore be seen that the loops 11 may be readily engaged under ribbons or other securing members passing over the shoulders of the wearer to secure the standards in position, and whenever desired the standards may be readily disengaged by disengaging the loops 11 from the ribbons. The eyes 9 and the loops 11, together with the crotches 8 form resilient means to conveniently support the lower ends of the standards upon the shoulders without injuring the wearer or causing annoyance. When the standards are secured as shown in Fig. 1, the frame with its trimmings will support the hat in such a manner as to give the appearance of an ordinary hat, except for the standards, and as these will be made of comparatively light wire, so as to be less visible, and if it be desired to conceal the standards a veil may be draped around them from the base ring.

For storm use, a rubber bag or covering may be employed, which may be placed over the exterior of the hat, or the frame itself may be covered with a waterproof material and thus provide an effective shield against moisture.

Where used for men's wear, the frame will be correspondingly modified, but the same principle will obtain as to supporting the hat proper out of engagement with the head of the wearer.

For use by men, this improvement will be found of peculiar advantage, especially in hot climates, where, in order to secure any protection whatever from the sun's rays, a very large hat has to be used, and this is necessarily heavy, and a source of discomfort. By supporting the hat from the shoulders in the manner described, it will be seen that a much larger hat can be worn than would be practicable otherwise and that no discomfort will result, and further, the circulation of air provided for around and over the head of the user will materially eliminate the discomfort caused by the heat of the sun.

I claim:

In combination, a hat frame, a pair of standards, each formed from a length of wire doubled and twisted to form a shank, then formed into an inverted V-shaped shoulder crotch at the lower end of the shank, then into two loops adapted to seat on the shoulder of the wearer, and thence into an inverted U-shaped loop connecting the said loops and deflected to one side to form a double crotch with the said crotch, the upper ends of the standards being connected to the hat frame and the double crotches being designed to receive securing members passed over the shoulders of the wearer.

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

ARTHUR MUNCHAUSEN.

Witnesses:
P. E. Doehindl,
Jos. Durbin.