

(No Model.)

W. J. WORDEN.
HAT OR CAP.

No. 573,192.

Patented Dec. 15, 1896.

Fig. 1.

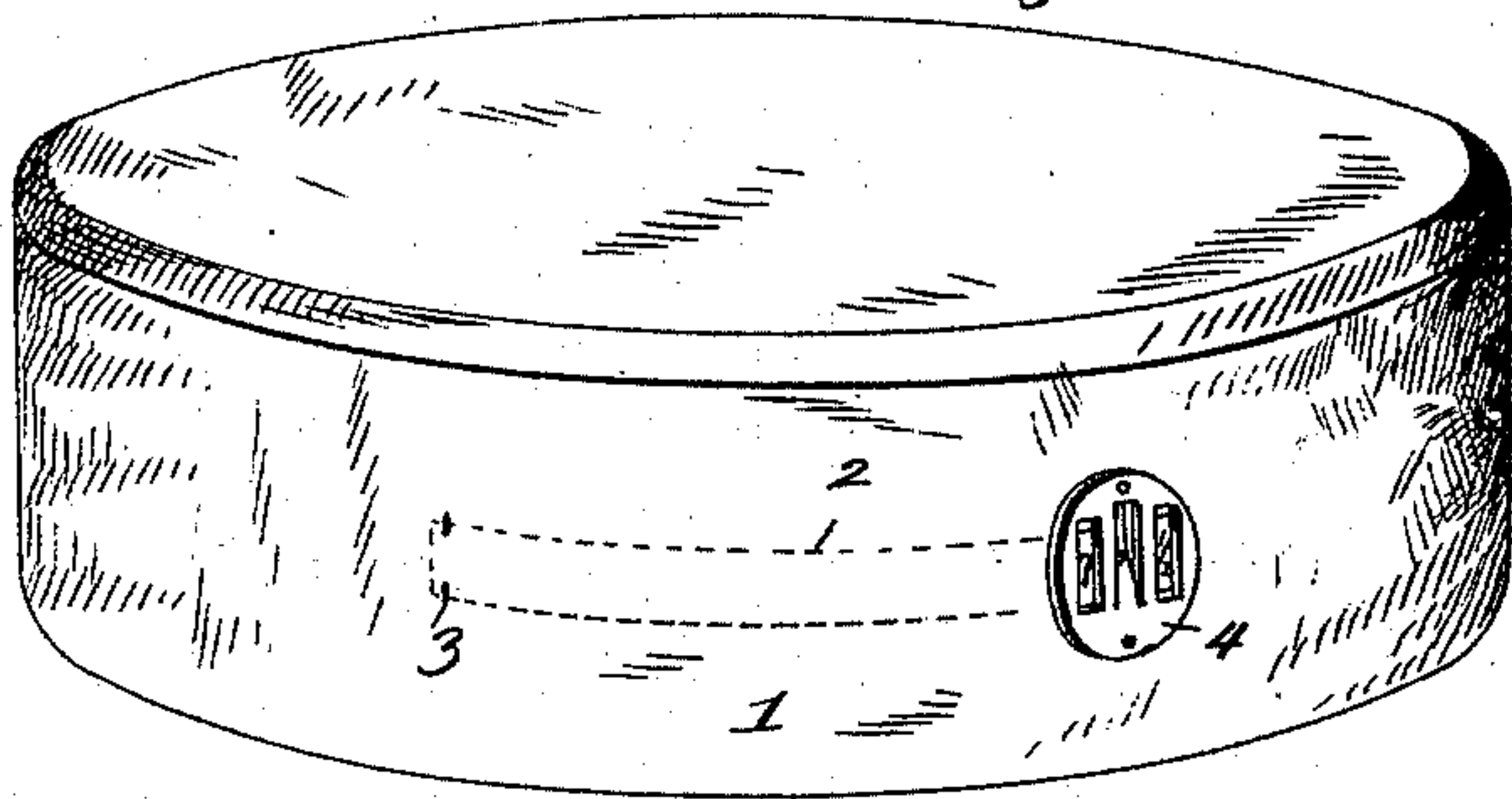


Fig. 2.

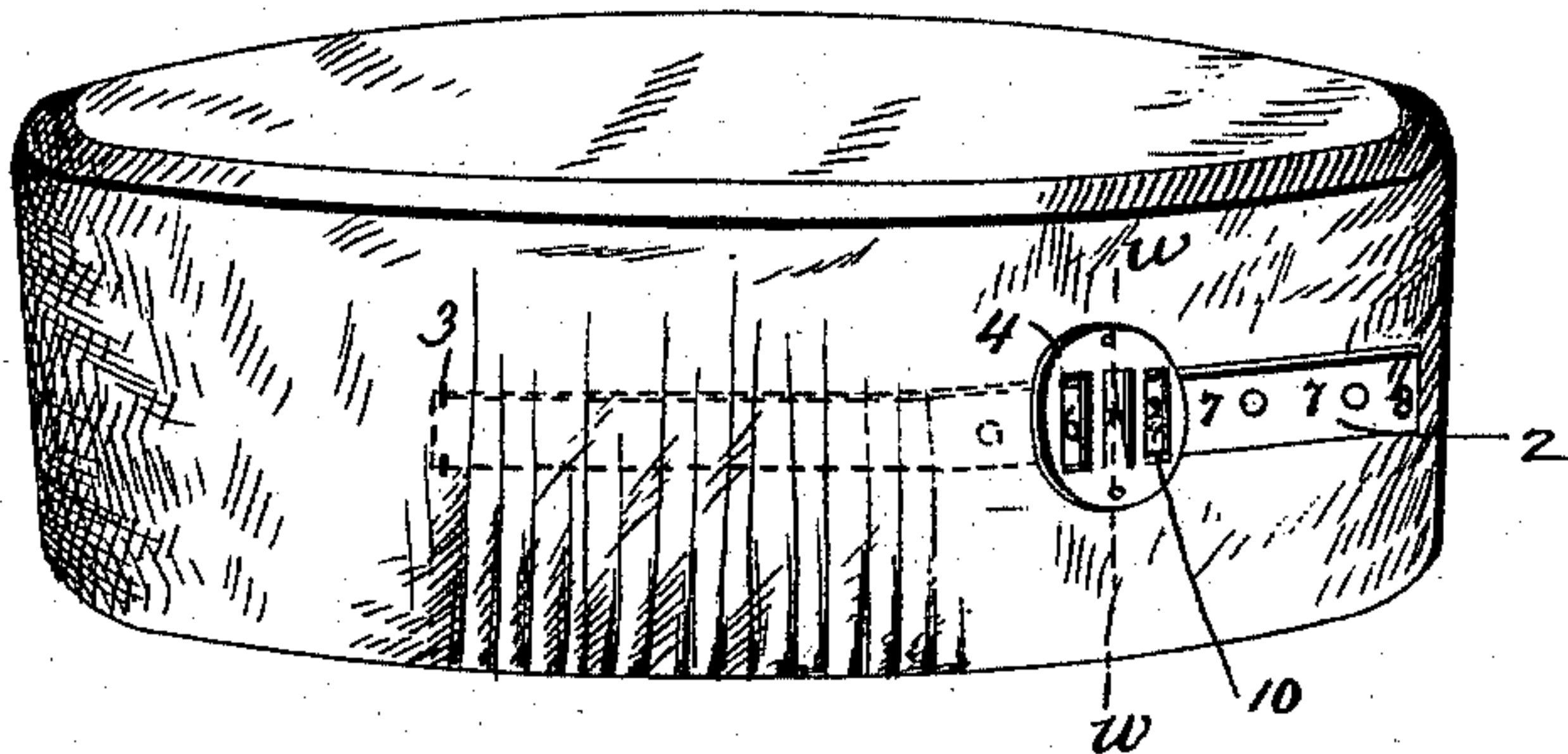


Fig. 3.

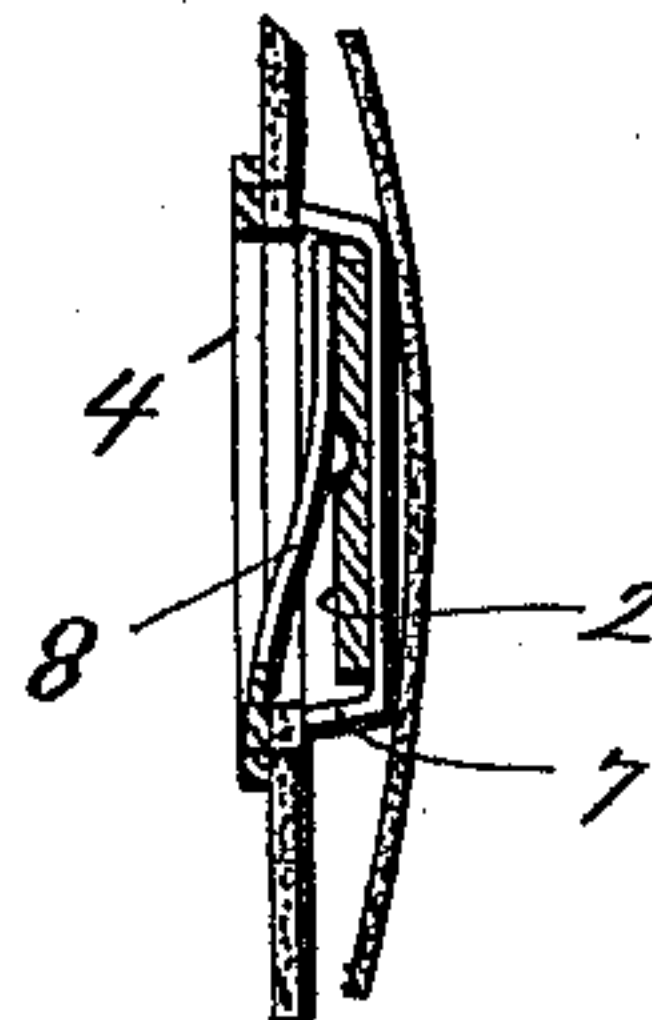


Fig. 6.

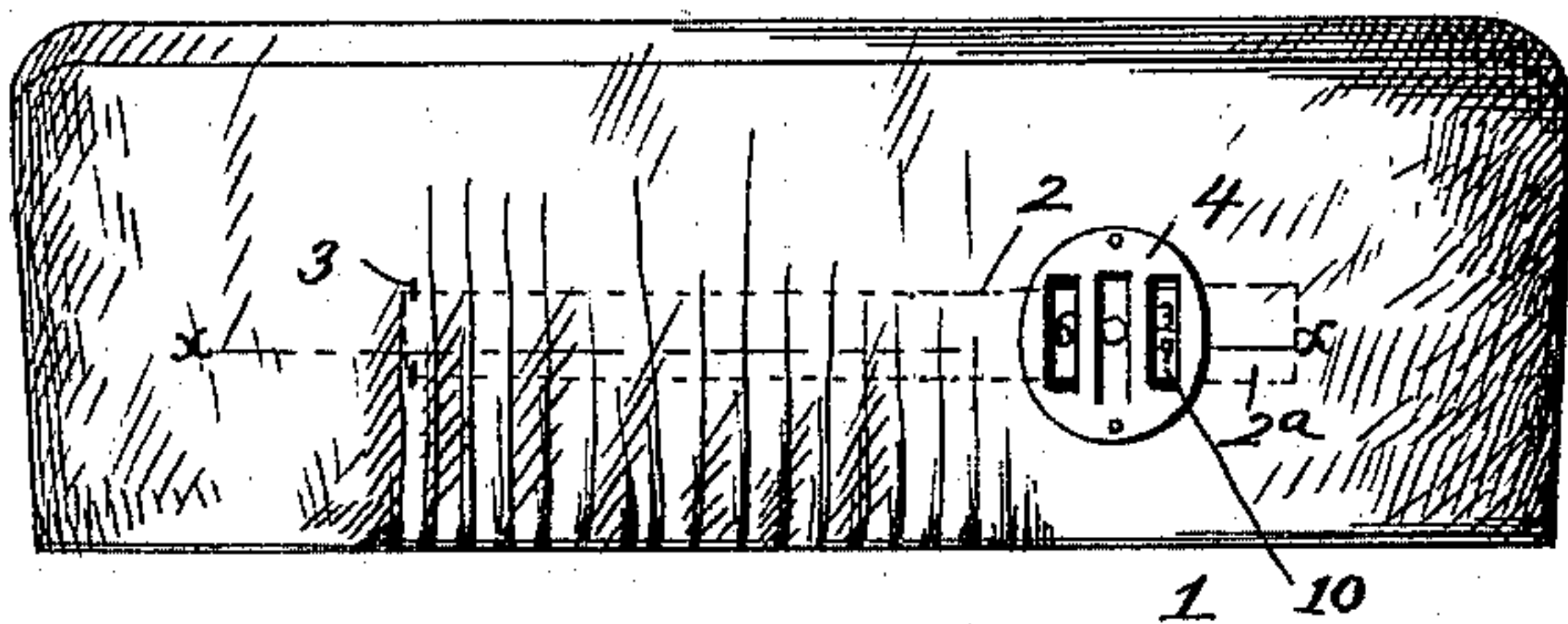


Fig. 4.

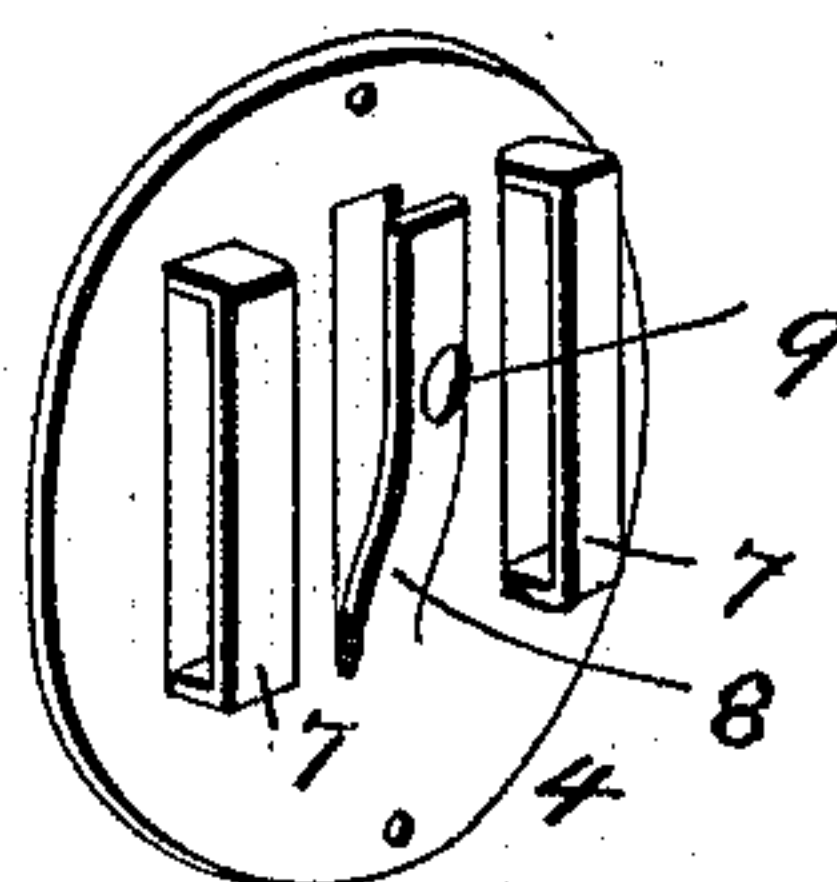


Fig. 7.

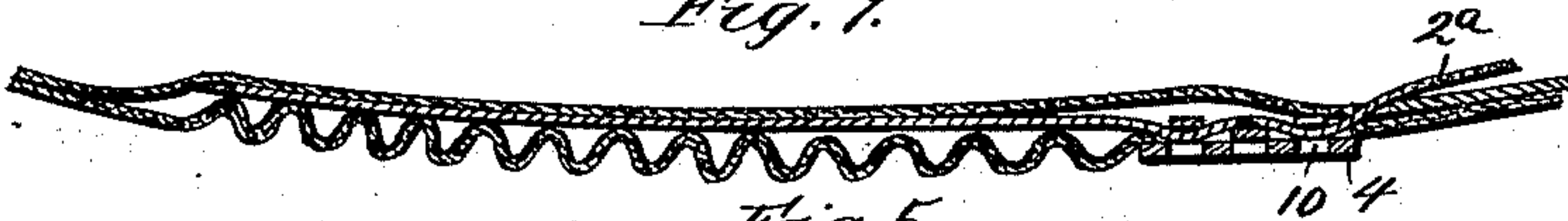
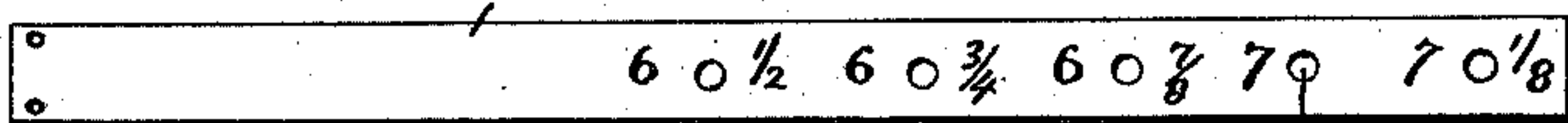


Fig. 5.



Witnesses:

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WILL J. WORDEN, OF DETROIT, MICHIGAN, ASSIGNOR TO THE W. & W. MANUFACTURING COMPANY, OF SAME PLACE.

HAT OR CAP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 573,192, dated December 15, 1896.

Application filed July 3, 1896. Serial No. 598,007. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILL J. WORDEN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Detroit, in the county of Wayne and State of Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Caps or Hats; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to improvements in hats, caps, and the like, and more especially those which are made of soft material; and it has for its general object to provide a cap or hat with cheap, simple, and neatly-appearing means whereby it may be readily increased or diminished in size, so as to comfortably and snugly fit heads of various sizes without constriction thereof and permit of it being comfortably worn by different persons.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will be fully understood from the following description and claims when taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a cap embodying my invention, the same being enlarged to its greatest extent. Fig. 2 is a similar view illustrating the cap as it appears when partially diminished in size. Fig. 3 is an enlarged section taken in the plane indicated by the dotted line *ww* of Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is an enlarged perspective view of the buckle removed. Fig. 5 is a detail view of the strap removed. Fig. 6 is an elevation of a modified construction of cap in which the strap is arranged on the inner side of the cap. Fig. 7 is an enlarged section taken in the plane indicated by the line *xx* of Fig. 6.

Referring by numeral to said drawings, and more particularly to Figs. 1 to 5 thereof, 1 indicates a cap which is formed of soft material and is of the ordinary construction. 2 indicates a strap, of leather, thin metal, or other suitable material, which is preferably arranged between the material forming the side of the cap and the lining thereof and is secured to said material and lining at one end, as indicated by 3, and 4 indicates a buckle which is secured to the cap and is adapted to adjustably hold the strap 2. The strap 2 is

designed to be drawn through the buckle to increase or diminish the size of the cap, and the buckle is adapted to adjustably hold the strap, whereby it will be seen that the cap may be made to snugly and comfortably fit heads of various sizes.

The parts mentioned are preferably constructed as shown in Figs. 1 to 5 of the drawings. In this construction the strap 2 is provided at intervals of its length with indentations 6, although apertures or projections may be employed when desired. These indentations 6 are numbered, as shown, so that the operator may readily ascertain the size of the cap when adjusted or may adjust it to any desired size by passing it through the buckle 4 until the figures indicating the desired size appear through the buckle. The said buckle 4 is attached to the outer side of the material forming the side of the cap by stitches or other suitable means, and it is provided with the loops 7, designed to receive and guide the strap 2, as better shown in Fig. 3, and is also provided with the resilient tongue 8, which has a teat or projection 9, designed to take into or engage the indentations 6 of the strap, so as to hold said strap, and consequently the cap, in its adjusted position. The buckle 4 also has an aperture 10, through which the user may see the figures on the strap 2 and thereby know when he has moved the strap and increased or diminished the size of the cap to the desired extent.

When the strap 2 is drawn through the buckle 4 to diminish the size of the cap, the outer material of the cap as well as the lining thereof will be shirred upon the strap 2. This, as will be readily appreciated, will preserve the shape of the cap and prevent it from being uncomfortable to the wearer, and will enhance rather than detract from its appearance.

When it is desired to increase the size of the cap or hat, it is simply necessary for the operator to grasp the same at opposite ends of the shirring and draw in opposite directions, when, by reason of the resiliency of the buckle-tongue 8 and the shallowness of the depressions 6 in the strap, said strap will be drawn through the buckle and the cap or hat will be increased in size and will be adjustably held

at such size by reason of the buckle-tongue engaging the strap 2. When it is desired to diminish the size of the cap, it is simply necessary for the operator to grasp the free end
5 of the strap 2 and draw it outwardly to the desired extent and then release it, when it will be adjustably held and the cap will be held at the size desired. In this way it will be seen that a cap or hat may be readily made
10 to comfortably and snugly fit heads of different sizes and may be worn by different persons.

In Figs. 6 and 7 I have illustrated a modified construction, which is the same as that
15 shown in Figs. 1 to 5, with the exception that the strap 2^a, after being passed through the guide-loops 7 of the buckle 4, extends within the hat, where it will be hid from sight, instead of without the same. In this construction the cap or hat is increased or diminished
20 in size in the same manner as before described.

It will be seen from the foregoing description and the drawings that all of the embodiments of my invention are very cheap and
25 simple, and do not, therefore, materially increase the cost of a cap or hat, and it will also be seen that the improvements enhance rather than detract from the appearance of the cap or hat, which is an important advantage, and
30 that while the cap or hat is held snugly upon

the head there is no constriction of the head, which is an important advantage.

Having described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A cap or hat having a strap attached at one end to the side of its crown and extending partly around the same, and also having a buckle connected to the side of its crown and provided with loops receiving the strap
40 and an integral resilient tongue engaging and adapted to adjustably hold the strap, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. A cap or hat having a strap attached at one end to the side of its crown and extending partly around the same and provided at intervals in its length with indentations, and also having a buckle connected to the side of its crown and provided with a resilient tongue having a teat or projection adapted to take
50 into the shallow indentations of the strap and thereby adjustably hold the said strap, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

WILL J. WORDEN.

Witnesses:

CHAS. B. WORTLEY,
Mrs. C. B. WORTLEY.