No. 891,122. PATENTED JUNE 16, 1908.

F. K. WILCOX.

FACE PROTECTOR.

APPLICATION FILED FEB. 26, 1907.

Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

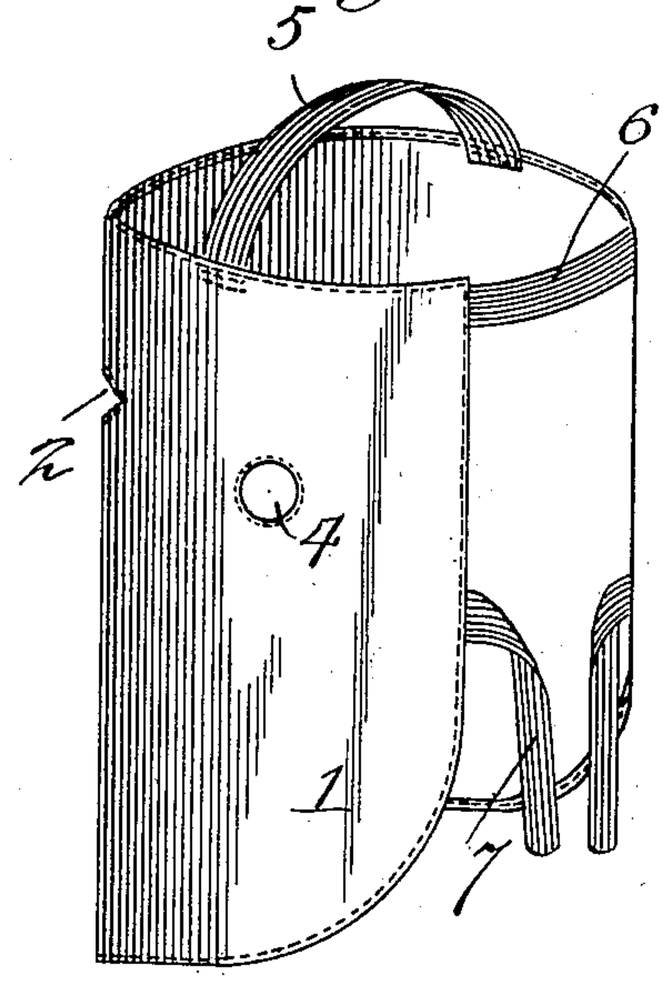


Fig. 3.

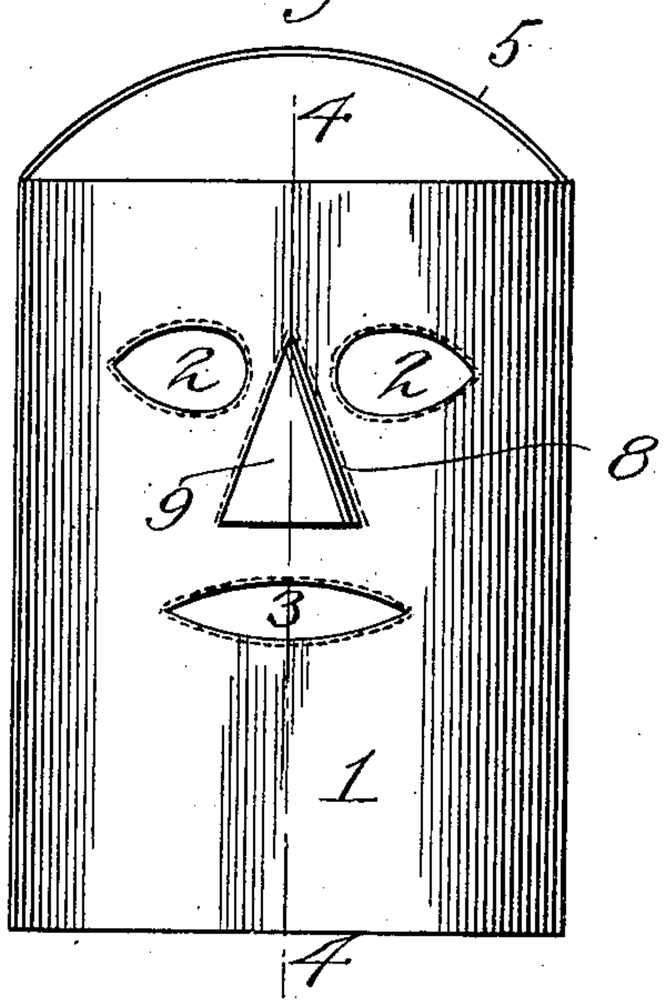
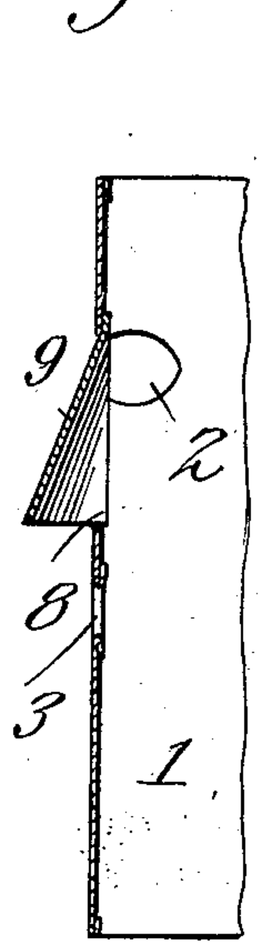


Fig. 4.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FREDERICK K. WILCOX, OF SOMERVILLE, NEW JERSEY.

FACE-PROTECTOR.

No. 891,122. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented June 16, 1908.

Application filed February 26, 1907. Serial No. 359,396.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FREDERICK K. WILCOX, a citizen of the United States, residing at Somerville, in the county of Somerset and State of New Jersey, have invented new and useful Improvements in Face-Protectors, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to face protecting masks of the type worn by chauffeurs, engineers, firemen, brakemen, flagmen, motormen, truckmen and the like and has for its objects to provide a comparatively simple, inexpensive device of this character which may be conveniently applied for use and one which, in practice, will effectually protect the wearer's face, eyes and nose, and this without causing any discomfort.

With these and other objects in view, the invention comprises the novel features of construction and combination of parts more fully hereinafter described.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view showing the mask applied for use. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the mask removed and as viewed from the rear. Fig. 3 is a front elevation of the mask. Fig. 4 is a section taken centrally and longitudinally therethrough on the line 4—4 of Fig. 3.

Referring to the drawings, 1 designates the mask composed of a sheet of soft leather or other suitable pliable material and of a size to wholly cover the face of the wearer, there being attached to the upper edge of the mask, which is provided with eye-holes 2, a mouth opening 3, and ear openings 4, a strap or band 5 designed to extend from side to side over the top of the head, while attached to the rear edges of the mask and at the upper end thereof is a strap or band 6 which engages at the back of the head on a line in the rear of the forehead, there being also attached to the rear edges of the mask at a point below and suitably remote from the band 6, a pair of straps 7, the ends of which may be tied or otherwise secured at the base of the head on a line in rear of the mouth. It is to be noted in this connection that the straps 5, 6 and 7, are all composed wholly of rubber, thus adapting them for automatic adjustment for heads of varying sizes.

Formed at an appropriate point in the front of the mask is a triangular nose-receiving opening 8 in which is stitched or otherwise secured along its side edges, a substantially triangular nose covering piece or flap 9 of a transverse dimension greater than that of the opening 8, thereby adapting the flap to loosely cover the nose for affording proper protection thereto without causing discomfort to the wearer of the mask, it being observed that the flap 9 is wholly free from engagement at its lower edge with the mask, thus to permit the wearer to breathe freely.

In practice, the mask is applied as seen in Fig. 1, with the openings 2, 3 and 4 registering respectively with the eyes, mouth and ears of the wearer and with the flap 9 covering the nose which will project outward through the opening 8, it being understood that under these conditions, the band 5 will extend across the top or crown of the head, while the bands 6 and 7 will extend back of the head respectively near the top and base thereof.

The body piece 1 covers not only the face proper but also the neck of the wearer, and if desired the lower portion of the body piece can be tucked into the coat so as to effectively keep out the wind and cold air. The upper part of the mask can be further secured in place on the head by means of the engineer's cap. As the mask extends beyond the ears at each side of the head, the ears will be fully protected without, however, being completely covered, as the ear openings enable the engineer or other train hand to hear signals and other warning sounds. By having the mask open at the back and top and by providing the elastic strips, the mask can be adjusted to heads of different sizes without rendering the mask uncomfortable to the wearer.

Having thus described the invention, what I claim is:—

As an article of manufacture, a face protector consisting of a body piece of flexible fabric capable of being rolled or folded into a small compass and having eye, nose and mouth openings, said body piece being of such size as to extend over the forehead at the top and below the chin at the bottom to cover the neck and tuck into the coat of the wearer, and to extend behind the ears at each side of the head, there being openings at the ears sufficiently small to prevent the ears from projecting through the openings; a nose piece of flexible material permanently

secured to the body piece at the nose opening, the bottom edge of the nose piece being free for permitting breathing, said nose piece serving to hold the body piece from moving about on the face of the wearer; elastic strips secured to the body piece and arranged to extend over the crown and back of the head; and tying elements attached to the body piece and arranged to engage the base of the head.

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

FREDERICK K. WILCOX.

Witnesses:

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