F. O'BRIEN.

DEVICE FOR FASHIONING HAT FRAMES.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 27, 1910.

995,081.

Patented June 13, 1911.

Fig. 2.

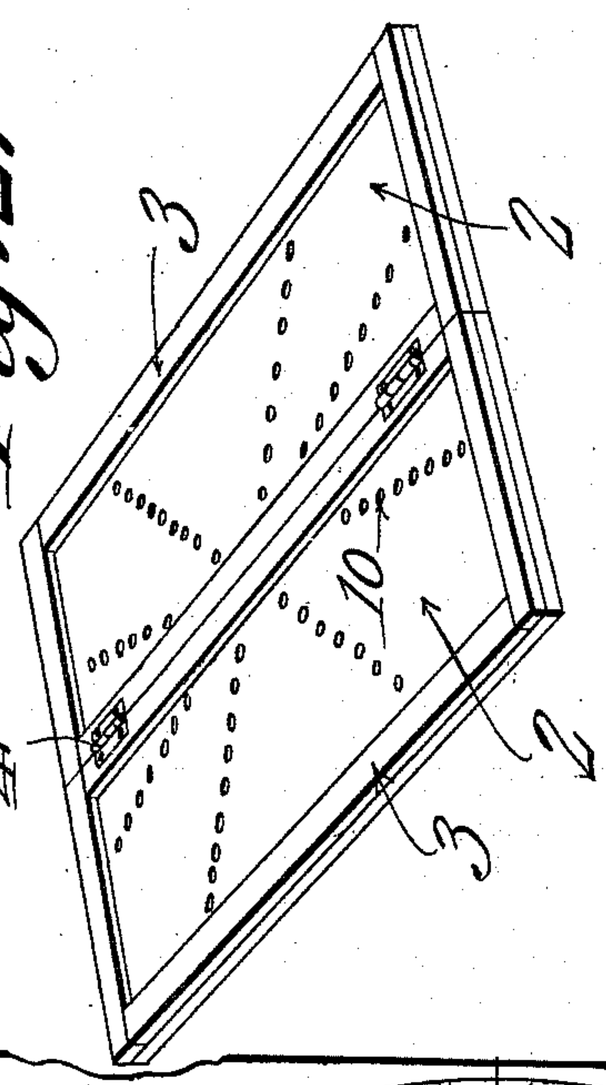

Fig. 3.

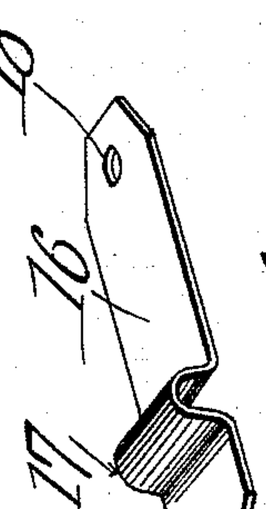

Fig. 1.

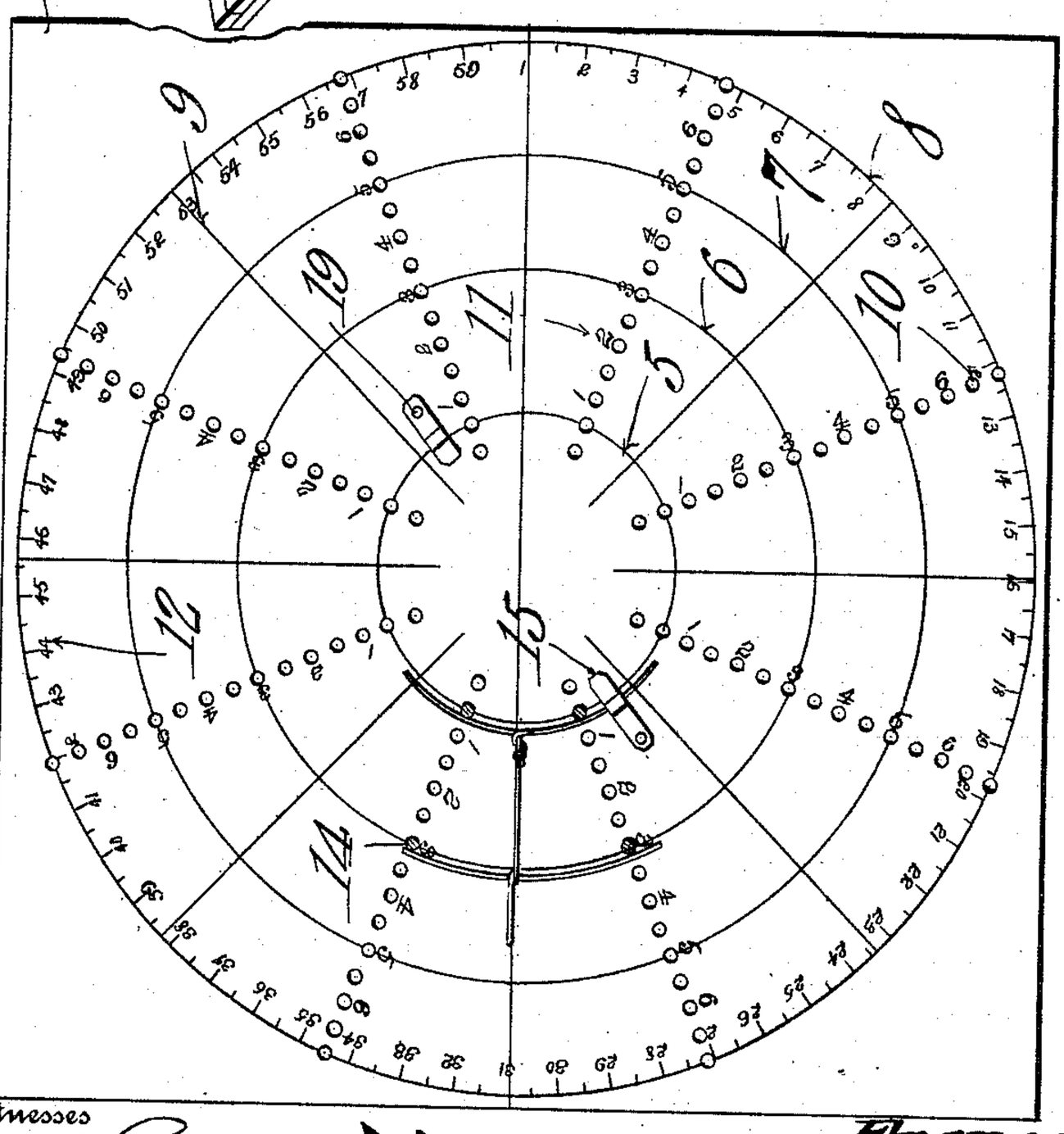

Fig. 4.

Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANCES O'BRIEN, OF CARROLL, IOWA.

DEVICE FOR FASHIONING HAT-FRAMES.

995,081. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented June 13, 1911.

Application filed January 27, 1910. Serial No. 540,397.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANCES O'BRIEN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Carroll, in the county of Carroll and State of Iowa, have invented a new and useful Device for Fashioning Hat-Frames, of which the following is a specification.

It is the object of this invention to provide, in a compact and simple form, a device whereby the wire frames commonly employed in the manufacture of bonnets, may be accurately and rapidly fashioned.

Another object of the invention is to provide a means whereby the wire which is to form the bonnet frame, may be measured off into predetermined lengths, and bent into the required form, means being provided for retaining the wire in position, after it is thus bent.

With the above and other objects in view, the invention consists in the novel construction and arrangement of parts hereinafter shown, described, and claimed, it being understood, since the drawings show but one form of the invention, that changes, properly falling within the scope of what is claimed, may be made, without departing from the spirit of the invention.

Similar numerals of reference are employed to denote corresponding parts throughout the several figures of the drawings, wherein,—

Figure 1 shows the invention in top plan; Fig. 2 is a perspective showing the lower face of the device; Fig. 3 is a detail perspective of the clip; and Fig. 4 is a transverse section.

In carrying out the invention, there is provided, as a fundamental element, a plate 1, which may be fashioned from wood or other inexpensive material. This plate 1 comprises a pair of like sections 2, each of which is surrounded by a marginal rib 3. The edges of the sections 2 are brought together, and hinges 4 are mounted upon the ribs 3 of the abutting edges, whereby the sections 2 may be hingedly connected.

Upon the opposite side of the plate 1 from that upon which the ribs are mounted, there are inscribed a series of concentric circles, denoted by the numerals 5, 6, 7 and 8, the circle 5 being the smallest of the series, and the circle 8 being the largest of the series. The face of the plate 1 is inscribed with a plurality of straight lines 9, defining radii of the several circles, the said lines 9 preferably being defined at their outer ends, by the circle 8, and at their inner ends, extended within the contour of the smallest circle 5.

Located between the lines 9, are a plurality of openings 10, disposed in lines radial with respect to the several circles. These lines of openings 10 preferably extend to the outer circle 8, and, inwardly, extend within the contour of the smallest circle 5, the said openings being spaced equally apart, to define graduations, and fractional parts thereof, the units defined by said openings being indicated by figures 11. The circles 6, 7 and 8 cut through certain of the unit graduations defined by the opening 10, while the zero of the scale defined by the said openings, is located within the contour of the smallest circle 5.

The outer, largest circle 8 is graduated, as denoted by the numeral 12, to correspond with the graduations defined by the openings 10. By this I mean, to illustrate by a concrete example, that the distance between the numbers 40 and 41 upon the circle 8, is equal to the distance between the numbers 4 and 5 which are placed opposite to certain of the openings 10. Pegs 14 are adapted to be inserted, removably, into the several openings 10, as shown in Fig. 4 of the drawings. A clip 15 is provided, comprising, as shown in Fig. 3, a flat body 16, which, intermediate its ends, is bent upwardly to form a seat 17, there being in one end of the body 16, an opening 18, adapted to receive a nail 19, or the like, whereby the clip may be assembled with the plate 1, as shown in Fig. 1 of the drawings, there being preferably, two of the clips 15, located diametrically opposite to each other, one of said clips being located upon one of the sections 2, and the other of said clips being located upon the other section. The clips 15 are rotatable upon their supporting elements 19, so that, at the will of the operator, they may be turned to dispose the seats 17, relatively near to the inner circle 5, or, at the will of the operator, be rotated, so that the entire circumference of the circle 5 may remain clear and unencumbered.

The device may be operated in a variety of ways. For instance, to specify one method of operation, the pegs 14 may be inserted in certain of the openings 10, to define a plurality of concentric circles upon the plate 1, certain of the pegs generally

being inserted in the openings intersected by the circle 5, this circle 5 representing the smallest hoop of the hat, or what is commonly termed the "head-size". The pegs being thus inserted in place to define the sizes of the several hoops which go to make up the hat, a piece of wire is bent around the pegs which are located in the inner circle 5, the ends of said wire being secured in any desired manner to fashion a hoop. Other hoops of wire are then fashioned about the other pegs, the several hoops being connected by radially extending ribs, which are connected with the several hoops along the radially extending lines 9, the said lines 9 thus constituting a means for spacing the ribs at equal distances apart. In cutting off the wires to form the several parts of the bonnet, the wire may be bent into the circle 8, and measured off by means of the graduations 12 thereon, the said graduations thus constituting a measuring element, which, owing to its circular form, is at all times disposed in compact form, within easy reach of the operator. By rotating the clip 15 into the position, after the head-size hoop has been formed upon the circle 5, said head-size hoop may be retained upon the board while the remainder of the frame is being built up. At this point it may be stated that the invention is intended to do no more than to form a flat frame of wire, which is later bent to the required shape.

Owing to the fact that the openings 10 are extended within the circle 5, a head-size hoop slightly smaller than standard may, if desired, be fashioned. Owing to the fact that the circles 6, 7 and 8 cut through unit graduations defined by the openings 10, the eye of the operator, when inserting the pegs 14 in place, will be readily directed to the unit graduations.

When the device rests upon a table, or like support, the ribs 3 serve to space the plate 1 apart from such support, so that the pegs 14 may be firmly inserted into the openings 10, without contacting with the support. When the device is folded together, the ribs 3 define within the same, a compartment in which the wire which goes to form the bonnet frame, and like articles, may be stored.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed is:—

In a device for the formation of hat frames, a plate provided with radial lines of openings disposed in concentric circles; pegs insertible into the openings and held therein by friction only, the pegs presenting unbroken surfaces in their protruding portions; spaced clips, each pivoted adjacent one end to the plate, to move parallel to the plate, the clips being provided adjacent their free ends with seats adapted to receive the frame, and to hold the same upon the plate; the outer of said circles being indicated by a graduated line upon the plate, the line constituting a means for measuring the elements which enter into the hat frame; the plate consisting of hingedly connected sections, provided with marginal ribs cooperating to form a closed compartment when the sections are folded together; in which compartment the pegs and the material for the formation of the frame may be housed.

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

FRANCES O'BRIEN.

Witnesses:
ANNA QUIGLEY,
JOSEPH J. MEYERS.