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INSTRUCTIONS

IN

Hat Cleaning, Renovating and Blocking

Given by an Expert Hatter of Long Experience



ISSUED BY

THE HATTERS SUPPLY HOUSE

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

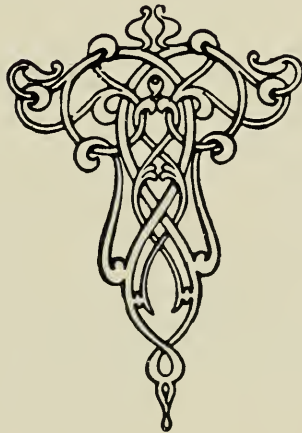


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INSTRUCTIONS IN HAT CLEANING, RENOVATING AND BLOCKING

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1—General Information

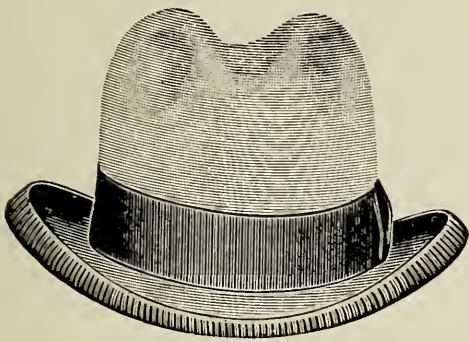
The hat cleaning and renovating business is yet in its infancy and is constantly developing. A man will not throw away his hat worn a short time when he knows that he can have it made NEW for a half or a third of the cost. There is another source of income for one who knows and is well fixed to do this work. There are thousands of the highest quality hats thrown away. You can pick them up near you right and left. Every hat store is full of them and hardly knows what to do with them. A hat, unlike clothes or shoes, is not worn out; it only gets soiled, sweated, and out of shape. It can therefore be renovated many times, and become practically NEW. Such hats, renovated, can be easily sold to good advantage.

The difficulty in this work is that it requires knowledge, experience, and a variety of tools. It requires some capital to start with. You can do nothing without tools. You must spend at least from \$65.00 to \$100.00 to start with. But you will have to keep on continually supplying and equipping your shop if you want to make a success. The more tools you will have, the better and quicker you will be able to produce your work.

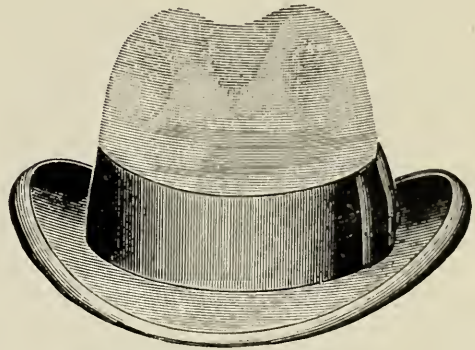
We advise in connection with this course to study thoroughly our catalogue, where you will get an idea of the various tools and trimmings used. On page 31 of the catalogue you will find a condensed list of tools that you must have to start with. This is only in case you can't afford to get some more tools in the beginning; but if you do, our advice would be rather to get all sizes of blocks instead of skipping sizes. As you proceed along this course you will see the use and necessity of each tool, but you may get along at first without some of them, which you will procure later as your business progresses. But if you can start at once well

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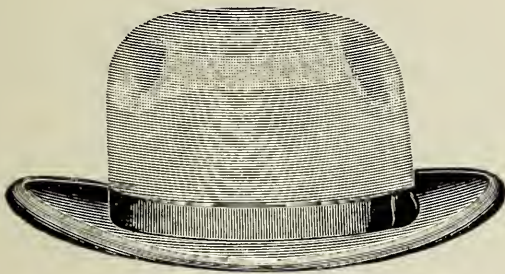
Some Staple Styles of Soft Hats



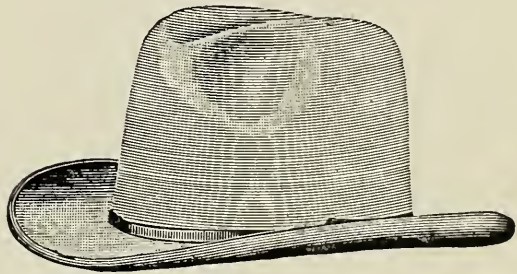
Trava Alpine



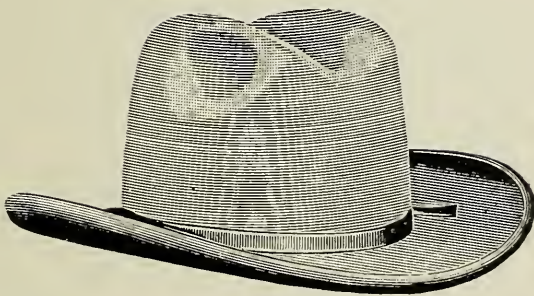
Auto Tourist



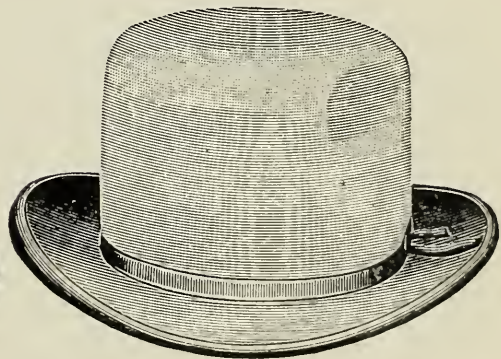
Graeco



Columbia



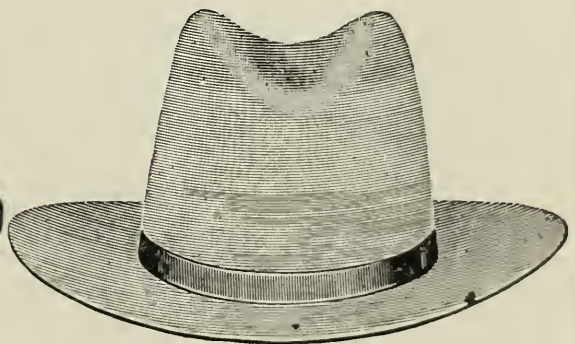
Dakota



Pocket



Big Four



Trooper

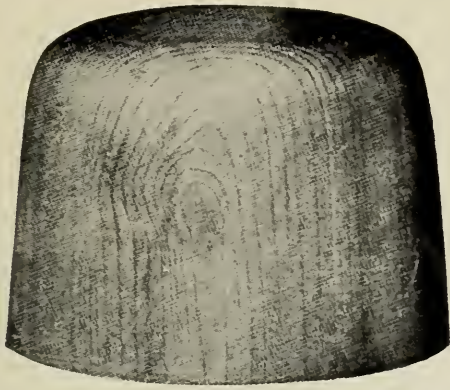
equipped, you will do much better and be more sure of success.

What concerns the knowledge necessary, we endeavor to explain herewith in smallest detail every phase of the work and give you the benefit of many years of experience, not only of our own, but of the best hatters in the country. As for your experience, we have no doubt that you will get it after practicing a little according to directions given and using a little of your own ingenuity. Besides, we are always ready to explain and give more information on any point desired.

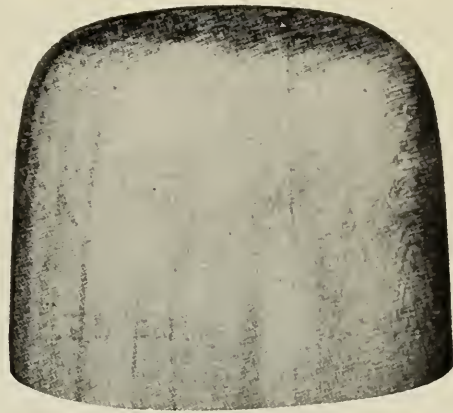
We would advise beginners not to order their outfit until they have gone through this course of instructions, as they will then be better able to make their selection of tools according to the amount they are willing to invest. Some people think that with one block and some cleaning material they can do all hats. This is absurd. While we realize that it is impossible for a beginner to equip himself with all possible styles of blocks and flanges, yet he must confine himself to such styles that are mostly in use, namely:—Columbia, Fedora, Greaco, Stiff Hat (Round and Square Crown), Panama and Straw. As to Flanges, we would recommend Flange No. 14 as the most useful. Other style Flanges you may order later as the requirements arise.

2—Prices Charged for Cleaning Hats

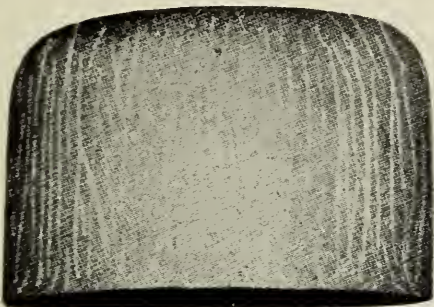
When customer brings hat, see the condition of it. If not badly soiled a plain DRY CLEANING will suffice without change of trimmings (band, binding and sweat leather), unless customer wants such change. The price of such a job is usually from \$1.00 to \$1.25. But if hat is in bad condition a thorough scouring is necessary which cannot be done without removing trimmings first. For such work is usually charged \$1.50, or \$1.75,—that is, if same leather and band is put in; in case new trimming is wanted make an additional charge of 75 cents and up, according to the quality and width for each band, binding and sweat leather, or from \$2.00 to



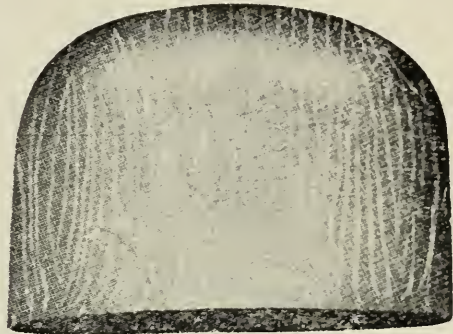
No. 52. Columbia Soft Hat Block



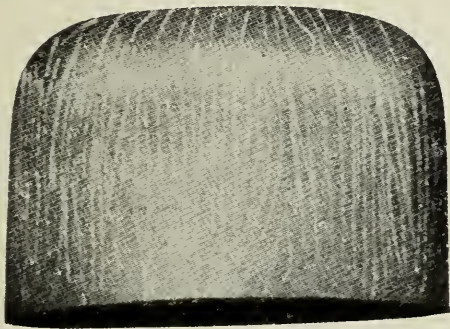
No. 51. Fedora Soft Hat Block



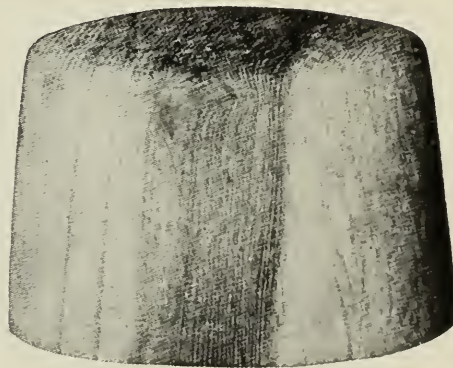
No. 54 Graeco Soft Hat Block



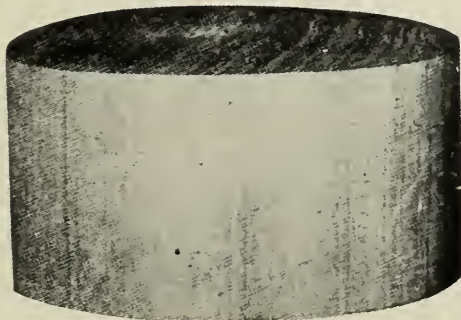
No. 55. Round Crown Stiff Hat Block



No. 56. Full Crown Stiff Hat Block



No. 57. Square Crown Panama Block



No. 58. Straw Hat Block



Flange No. 14. Turban

\$2.50 for one whole job, although you can really afford to do it cheaper.

3—Cleaning of Soft Felt Hats, Black and Colored

First brush hat well, then clean it with Benzine or Gasoline.

Various ways and methods are employed by hatters in doing the cleaning, as the case requires.

If hat is not badly soiled and the lower part of crown at the crease of the brim is not perspired, the easiest way is to block hat first, that is, to pull on hat on the proper size and style of block, as described in the next section. When this is well done dip sponge or brush in benzine and rub tip and sides of crown evenly in a circular way, otherwise, one spot may be cleaned more than another and some streaks be left. Then clean brim same way on both sides. Leave it on block to dry, then press and finish hat as described in the succeeding sections. Don't wet hat too much, only just as the occasion may require, according to condition of hat.

In case hat is perspired at crease of crown and brim, you cannot very well clean that part when it is fitted on block. It will be done better by rubbing with brush or sponge dipped in cleaning fluid while holding hat in hand, or you may put it on a block one size smaller than hat and rub tip and sides of crown as previously described. Then take it off and clean the crease of crown and brim.

In case hat is badly soiled and perspired, in order to give it a thorough cleaning take out sweat leather and band and soak it over night in cleaning fluid; this will take out all the perspiration or other substance and will clean the hat through and through. When taken out, give it a little rubbing with sponge and hang to dry.

Some hatters do the scouring by putting hat in hot water and washing it thoroughly with Castile Soap.

For taking out grease or other spots use Chloroform, or make preparation as recipe in section 18. Turpentine is well recommended for some spots. For cream, milk or blood spots only hot water should be used.

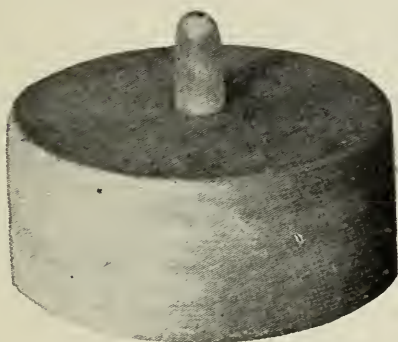
For light hats do not use the same brush or sponge that has been used for black hats, because it may affect the color.

4—Blocking, Steaming and Pressing of Hats

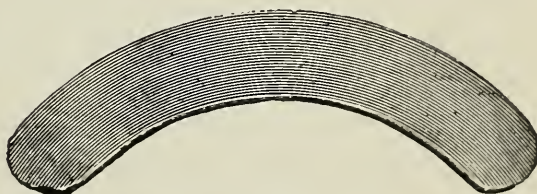
After hat is cleaned and dried proceed with the blocking,—that is, the process of pulling hat on block and fitting it on tightly and smoothly so that no wrinkle is left any place. To do this the fur must be softened on steam.

If sweat leather is not taken out, open it at joint where the bow is sewed on and turn leather out. Then pull hat on proper size and style of block, hold over steam for a little while and keep on pulling and fitting hat on block. Repeat this process several times, working hat with your hands until it is all well fitted.

The block should rest all the while on the “Block Spinner.” In order to make the pulling and fitting on block easier, and more straight and uniform, there is a little wooden tool called “Puller Down.” Put it on brim, hold together with brim and pull down.



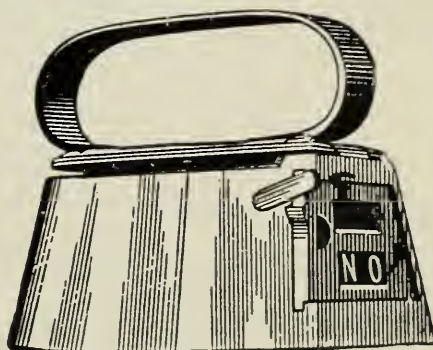
No. 119. Block Spinner



No. 107. Puller Down



No. 140. Runner Down



No. 142. Hatters' Shell Iron

When hat is all fitted to block and all wrinkles straightened out, tie a specially made “Blocking Cord” at the bottom of the crown near the brim. In order to have cord tight around crown, tie it somewhat higher up on crown then push

it down with a little stick made for that purpose, called "Runner Down."

Now use pressing cloth and press with hot iron all over tip and sides of crown. For pressing cloth use Cotton Flannel with hairy side on hat. As for the iron, there is a specially designed "Hatters Iron" with sharp edges to cut the sharp crease of crown and brim.

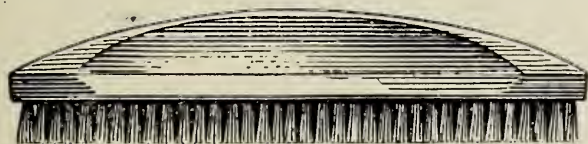
There is a special knot hatters use on Blocking Cord; one end is with a loop, the other is inserted in loop. To tighten: one end is pulled; to loosen, the other end is pulled. When ordering Blocking Cord remind us and we will make a sample knot. Have one piece of cord about a yard long for use on block, and another about 1½ yards long for use on flange, with knots made up. Same cords may be used for a long time. Soak cord in water when new.

For steaming of hats there are various styles of kettles and boilers used; but if not desirable to go to much expense, we would suggest the following: Take a deep pail or cylinder about 20 inches deep and about 8 to 9 inches in diameter. Fill it with water to about 6 inches; insert inside of pail a perforated lid to rest on side pieces about 2 inches above the water. Have a tightly fitted cover for the top to keep steam in when not using. Place pail on gas or other stove to have water boil. When steaming hat take off top cover and let brim rest on top edges.

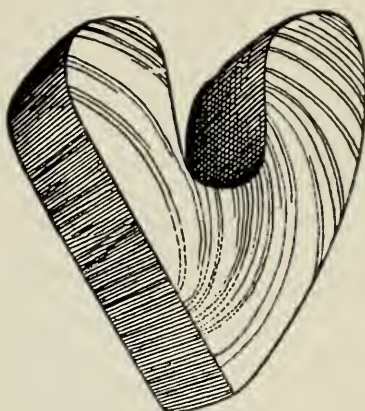
5—Finishing of Hats

After hat has been blocked and pressed well, take off the nap that was raised by the steam with "Pouncing Paper"; use coarser paper for a poorer quality hat and finer paper for a finer quality. What are mostly in use are 4 o-a (coarse), 5 o-a (medium), 6 o-a (fine), or even 7 o-a (still finer). Take piece of paper between your thumb and forefinger and rub hat—**with the grain**—(not against the grain), till it is all smoothed. Take care not to rub too much because body of hat may be injured. In some cases the pouncing will remove some spots that were left.

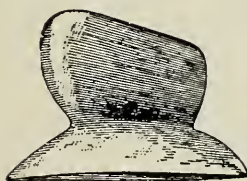
Now brush crown with "Penetrating Brush," then press and smoothen with "Wood Heart Tolliker" or "Duck Bill Tolliker" till it gets very smooth. After this is done well "Lure" or polish hat. See section 6.



No. 122. Penetrating Brush



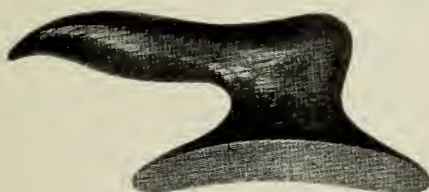
No. 108. Heart Tolliker



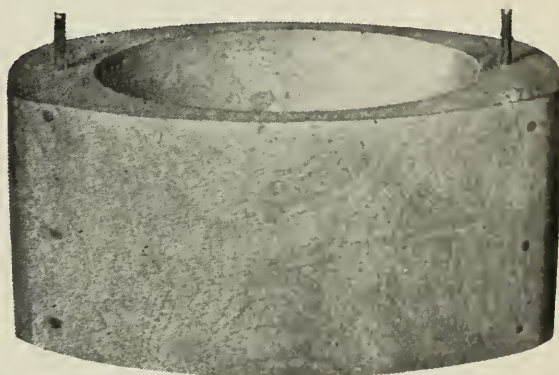
No. 139. Duck-bill Tolliker



No. 128. Slip Stick



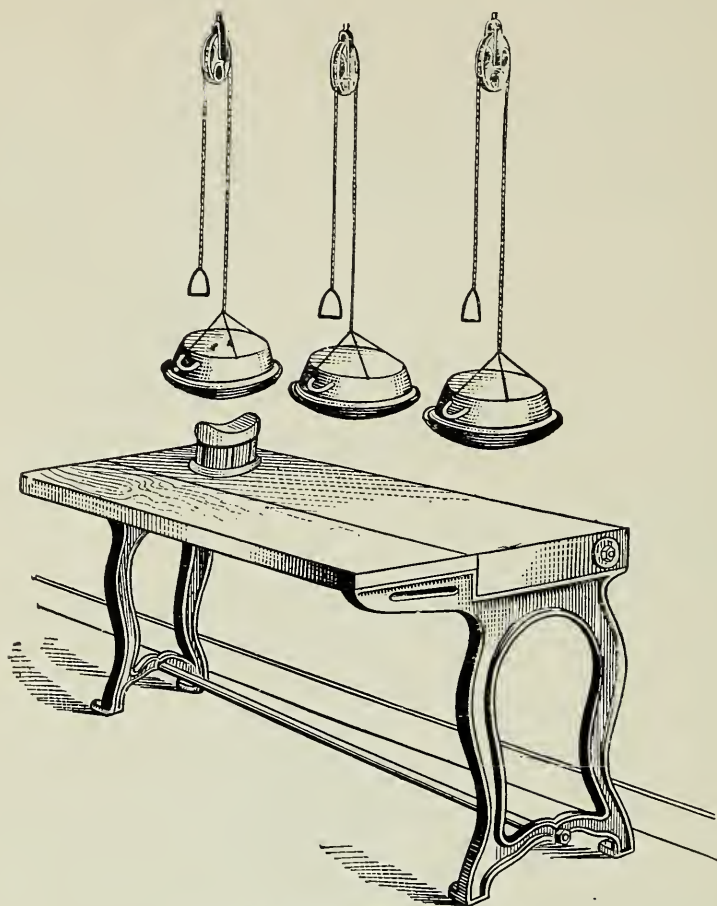
No. 112. Foot Tolliker



No. 159. Flange Stand

Now take hat off the block. To do this easily, there is a "Slip Stick" made for that purpose. It is a sharp thin wooden knife that separates hat from block. Then flange brim. The flanging is done in this manner: Take proper flange, conforming with size of hat and width of brim and place on a "Flange Stand"; put brim of hat on flange, crown downward, put pressing cloth on, tie it around with Blocking Cord and press with hot Iron. Steaming of brim is not necessary, unless you want to make brim wider. Then you have to steam brim and pull it out.

In hat factories and in some well-equipped hat cleaning establishments Sand Bags and Flanging Pans are used for the purpose of flanging brim.

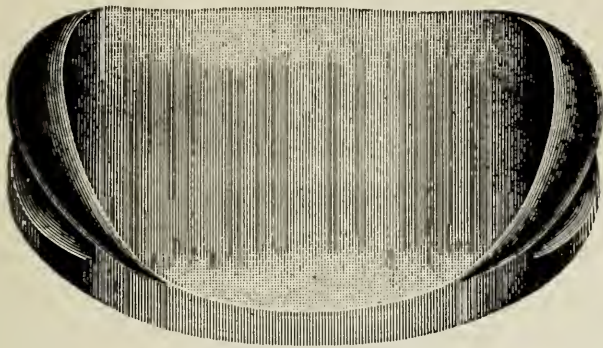


Sand Bag Flanging Outfit

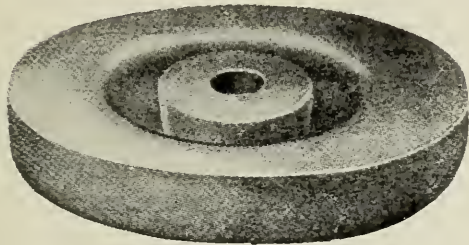
The Sand Bag is tied to the Flanging Pan which hangs on rope with pulley to raise and lower it. The Sand Bag is placed on hot Hat Baker to heat it. It is then raised and placed on brim and flange and kept so for about 5 to 10 minutes. This shapes and flanges brim perfectly. The brim is heated on Baker before the above operation. The Baker is filled with steam heated water and is always kept hot.

There is also a special designed set of irons called "L. Special Curling Irons" which may take the place of some flanges. See our catalogue.

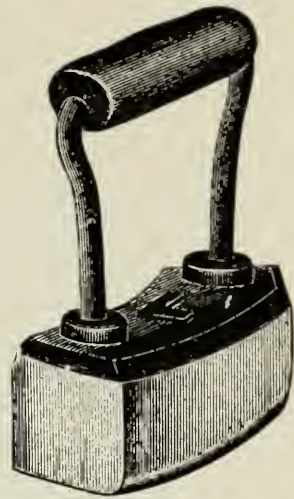
Take hat off the flange and smoothen brim inside with either Heart or Foot Tolliker, according to the shape of the brim, and make with its sharp edge, the sharp crease of crown and brim. Then curl brim that needs curling (see section



No. 104. Curling Boards



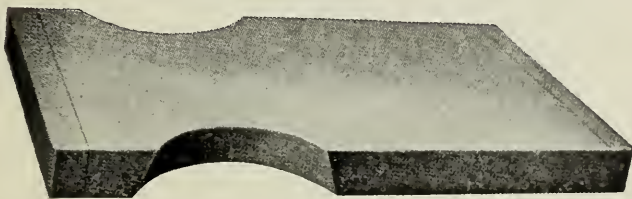
No. 160. Band Blocks



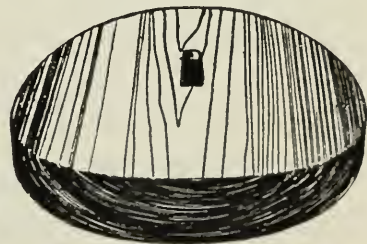
No. 103. Brim Iron

7). Trim hat (see sections 12 and 13). After trimming put it again on flange and press as before. To bring brim and curl in proper shape, finish on the Curling or Set Board, shaping out curl with Hand and Foot Tolliker. The small Iron No. 103 is also very handy for this. There are "Band Blocks" that are put in hat to keep it in shape all the time while curling, setting and finishing the brim. They also help to press the brim and make the sharp cut of crease of crown and brim. When brim is finished, brush hat with fine soft brush and it is done.

The Finishing Bench is very adaptable for the purpose of pressing brim, but the beginner may get along without it. (See our catalogue.)



No. 106. Finishing Bench



No. 105. Bottom Boards

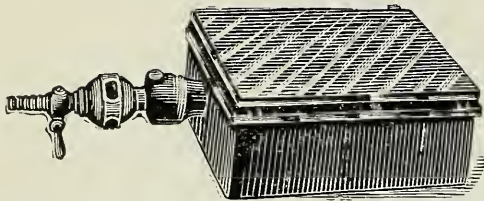
The Curling Board and Bottom Board are for the purpose of shaping the brims of various style hats. There are straight and curved Bottom Boards. But we will not recommend

either the one or the other till the beginner gets used to his work. Then he knows himself what he wants.

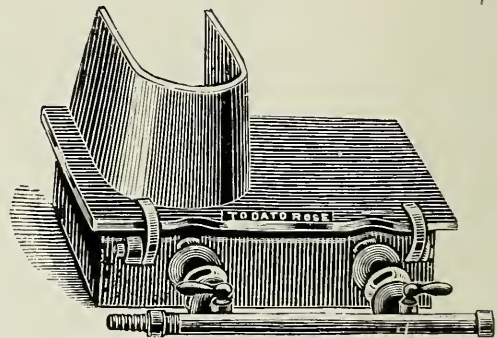
6—Luring

The Luring of felt hats is done in this manner: Take some medium weight cloth, like usual toweling linen, make of it pad, or cushion, about 6 inches by 4 inches, stuff with cotton until about 1½ inches or 2 inches thick. Rub in a little (not too much) Luring Grease on one side of pad, apply it to a hot polished iron for a second and polish hat with it, rubbing hat with pad—always “with the grain.” Repeat the appliance to hot iron and rubbing every second, till a fine polish is effected.

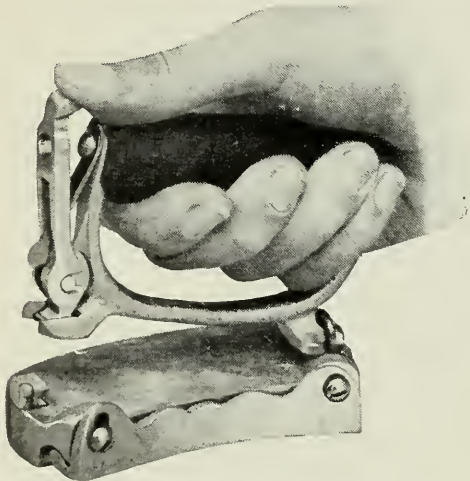
There are special stoves for luring purposes.



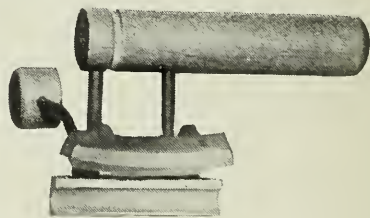
No. 120 One Light Luring Stove



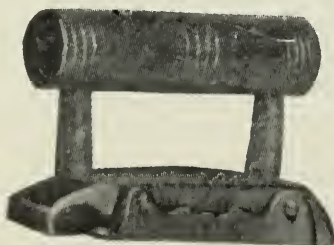
No. 121. Combination 2-Light Luring and Heating Stove



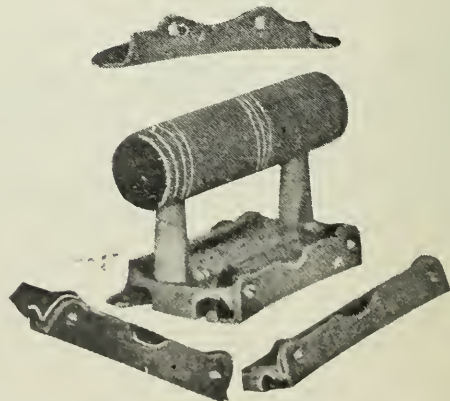
No. 141. “Ideal” Shackle with Detachable Handle



No. 162. Rope Curl Shackle



No. 136. Jersey Shackle Made in ¾ inch



No. 137. Combination Shackle. Made in a variety of widths and styles.

The grease used for luring, is Crude Oil for black hats, and Vaseline for light colored hats. We sell a special grease made for this purpose, good for both black and light hats.

Have two pads, one for black and one for light colored hats.

7—Curling

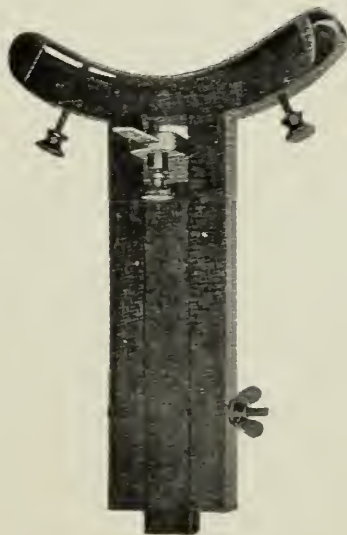
The curling of the brim is done with Curling Iron, or as it is commonly called "Shackle" (see our catalogue). There are various sizes of Shackles for the different sizes of curls on hats. The sizes mostly in use are $\frac{1}{2}$ in., $\frac{5}{8}$ in. and $\frac{3}{4}$ in.

The Shackle is heated before using, like any pressing iron. Moisten both sides of brim to be curled with sponge and go over with Curling Iron till curl is well made.

If the place curled thus becomes shiny hold it over steam for a little while and the shine will come off; or rub lightly with Pouncing Paper.

We would not advise beginners to undertake the curling of a stiff hat, as it requires skill and much experience.

If brim of hat is too wide and customer wants to have it rounded off, there is a special tool for that purpose called "Rounding Jack" (see our catalogue), with which you can cut around the brim evenly to any dimension wanted. A knife goes with this tool, and on seeing it you can easily understand how to operate it and set it to the proper size you want to have the brim.



No. 118. Spring Rounding Jack for Cutting Brims

8—Stiffening of Hats

Felt hats are stiffened with Shellac, but the "cutting" and preparing of the shellac requires experience and knowledge and as the need of stiffening comes very seldom to Cleaners and Renovators, it is rather advisable to get some ready made. A pint of such stiffening may last for a long time. It costs only little, so it does not pay to bother with making it yourself. Directions are furnished with it. It is only for stiffening brims.

For stiffening of crown, we would recommend "Rubber Paste" or "Gum Tragacanth," dissolved. Apply lightly with brush inside crown before blocking.

For stiffening of Straws and Panamas see sections 14 and 15.

9—Dyeing and Coloring of Hats

An old hat can be dyed to no other color but black. For dyeing 1 dozen hats take $\frac{1}{4}$ pound black Aniline and 1 pound Glauber Salt, boil these in water sufficient for 12 hats to swim freely, not to be cramped. Stir well till all is dissolved. Put in hats, boil for an hour, then add $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce Sulphuric Acid. Boil 15 minutes more, keep on stirring hats to swim freely. Take out hats and dry.

We would not advise beginners to undertake dyeing of hats because the dyeing will bring hat all out of shape and it is difficult to restore again to shape.

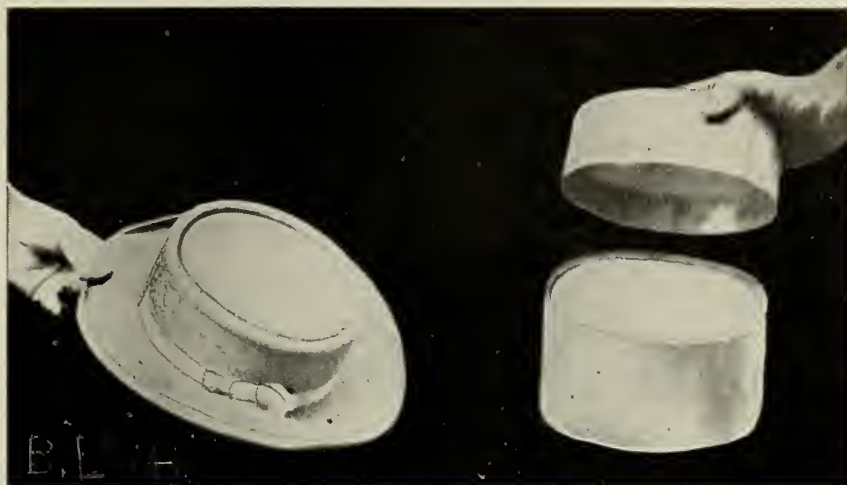
Several attempts were made by chemists to procure a dye to dye felt hats cold, that is, without boiling process. Some such materials are offered for sale, but so far none of them have been found to be good.

For restoring a hat that is faded a little there are Finishing Powders for each color (see catalogue). Directions are given with each carton. The best way to get the proper color is to have about six different main colors and mix two or three colors together to get just the shade you want.

Straw hats, Ladies' and Mens', can be easily dyed to any color with such ready prepared Straw Dyes. Just apply an even coating of this dye stuff with brush. No boiling necessary.

10—Telescoping of Hat

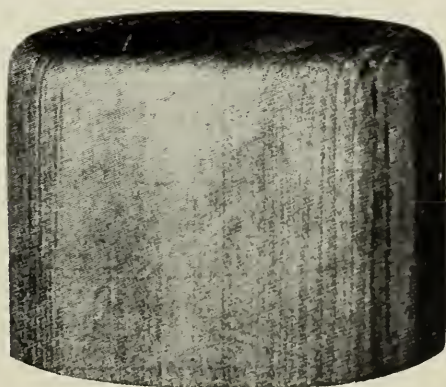
Those who may not know what a telescope hat is, we refer to illustrations. A Telescope Block consists of 2 pieces—



No. 90. Telescope Block and Hat Made With It

the lower part, on which hat is put and the upper part, with which the round crease or fold is made. Two sizes $6\frac{5}{8}$ and 7 may be sufficient for a beginner, as the $6\frac{5}{8}$ can be used also for a $6\frac{3}{4}$ and $6\frac{7}{8}$, the 7 can be used also for a $7\frac{1}{8}$ and $7\frac{1}{4}$. Of course, if one can afford to have 2 sizes more a better job can be made. But one size can always be skipped. Put hat on lower part of block and press the upper part on slowly and evenly to any depth wanted. Take off upper part and press crown and edge with hot iron, on cloth. Then lure it while on block and hat is done.

A telescope can also be made by hand in the following manner: First block hat on Block No. 53, (full crown soft), and proceed as in sections 4 and 5. Take off hat, bend in



No. 53. Full Crown Soft Hat

crown evenly to any depth desired. Turn over hat, press out inside of crown by hand, or, still better, with a small hot iron. The small iron No. 103 is very handy for this.

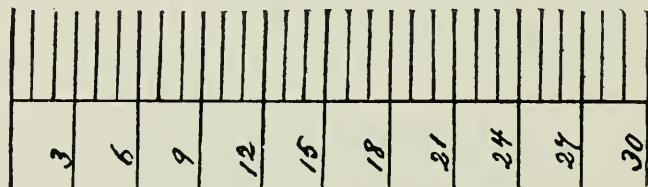
11—Trimming of Hat

A new sweat leather is fitted in hat in this manner: Place hat on crown, brim up. Fit in leather in hat, the highest or middle of curve of leather in the front middle of hat. Place both ends, which are usually longer than the size of hat, one end over the other and cut through both ends with one cut with scissors, right at the back middle of hat. After cutting both ends together they will meet one another perfectly, no matter whether the cut has been made straight or not. Now, pull about $\frac{1}{2}$ inch of reed out of one end and insert it in the other end which has been left just so much vacant of reed. Take a leather sticker and stick evenly alongside of both ends on the back of leather. The leather is now ready to be sewed in. Make invisible large stitches. Take any hat and see how leather is sewed in.

There are specially cut and reeded leathers for various style hats, but we shall refer you for that to our catalogue.

For sewing on of band and bow, just a little examination of a trimmed hat will do as the best explanation.

For bands, all widths are used from a 4" (ligne), up to a 27". For a binding mostly 6", 9" or 10" is used; sometimes 8" or 11".



The binding on soft hats is sewed on this way: Pin one end of binding right in the back middle of brim, pull it tightly all around brim till starting point is reached, allow small piece for the seam and cut off. Take out pin and snap both ends together with invisible stitch. Sew on, half on each side, seam on back middle, by hand or machine. Observe kind of stitch on trimmed hat.

12—Stiff Hat Binding

Stiff hat binding is put on with reversed stitch. To explain this is a little difficult but we will try. After binding is fitted to brim and snapped together same way as above on soft hat, sew it on with reversed stitch. Suppose the brim is not curled but straight and a man is wearing the hat. Then one side of brim faces heaven. We will call this side "A." The other side faces earth. We will call this side "B". Now, the binding has also two sides, one is the inside or BACK, the other is the face outside. Now, place the fitted binding around CROWN, BACK SIDE UP (see that snapped seam is in back middle). Sew the edge of binding towards brim to side "A" of brim all around. Then turn over (reverse) binding over edge of brim and sew the other edge to side "B" of brim. After this explanation observe a trimmed hat and you will understand thoroughly.

There are black stiff hat bindings in 11" and 12" with ready stitched edge; that is, the outside edge. It looks as if it has been sewed on hat with a fine stitch, while in reality it is sewed on with large invisible stitches. A certain Mr. Clark of New York has invented a machine for stitching stiff hat binding that gathers in the edge, so as to adhere tightly to brim. This stitch is called "Clarked." It is quite expensive but it makes the binding lay nicely. There are also stitched bindings that the factory makes while weaving and those are also good but not quite as the "Clarked."

13—Stiff Felt Hats

A stiff felt hat cannot be scoured. It must be dry cleaned, same process as soft, only that the brim cannot be pressed on Flange, but is pressed and shaped with Iron or Brass Foot Toliker on the Curling Board. The luring will finish up the stiff hat very well.

If brim of stiff hat is badly soiled a solution of Ammonia will clean it well. Mix about 2 teaspoonsful of pure Ammonia

to a pint of water and rub with Bristle Brush. This will also clean band and binding very well.

If crown is broken or wrinkled, but without hole, steam it, block and press the same as soft hat. If place is very soft and flimsy apply some Shellac Stiffening to that spot same way as brim of soft hat, described in section 8.

If there is a hole in stiff or soft hat there is no way to repair it.

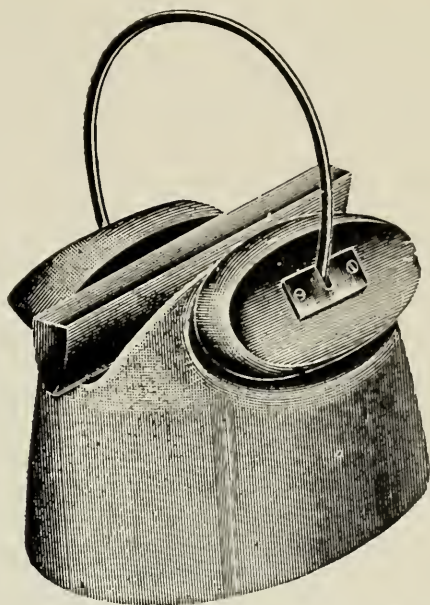
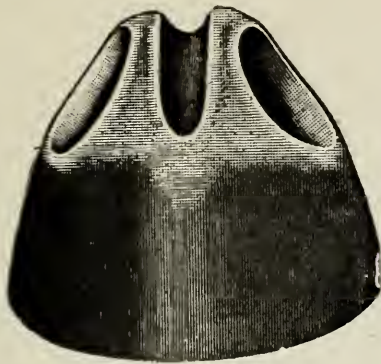
14—Panama Hats

The hat should first be cleaned well. The best material with which to clean a Panama is either Citric Acid dissolved in water, or a light solution of Oxalic Acid, say a teaspoonful to a pint of water. Care must be taken not to have it too strong, as it may injure the hat. Scrub hat with Bristle Brush or sponge quickly and effectively. Wash off with cold water so that none of the Acid be left on hat. Taste with tongue to see if sour. Then wash off again so that no acid is left, because it may injure hat. The safest way to clean Panama is with Castile soap, using stiff Bristle Brush. This way is a little harder and takes longer than with the use of the acids, but it is much safer.

When Panama is cleaned with band on, the acid may turn band to brown. In such case wet the spot with Ammonia or Vinegar which will restore it to its original black.

After hat is cleaned well, block it in the usual way, as described in section 4, either while hat is wet and have it dry on block before dry pressing, or dry hat first and block on steam. The first way will take a little longer, but the blocking will be better done; the second way is good for quick work. Now treat it with "Bleaching Powder" or with "Panamafillo" which bleaches and stiffens hat at the same time (we sell both of these), according to directions given on label of each of the above mentioned materials. After the bleaching is done, proceed with curling and flanging of brim and trimming, same as felt hat.

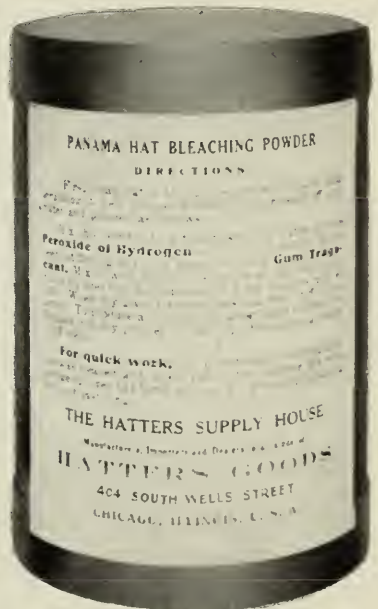
If Panama needs stiffening use some Gum Tragacanth or X-White Glue dissolved in warm water. Apply lightly



No. 91. Creased and Dented Alpine with Creaser and Spring Dent Clamp

PEERLESS
 INSTANT
STRAW AND PANAMA
HAT-CLEANER
 THE HATTERS' SUPPLY HOUSE • CHICAGO

THE BEST
Panamafillo
 BLEACH



Some Well Tried and Proven Brands

with sponge on soft spot before blocking. If not stiff enough apply again; or mix the Gum Tragacanth with the Bleach Powder and hat will be bleached and stiffened at the same time.

For crease on crown of Panama hat, there are special made blocks. But they are very expensive, and we will therefore advise the following: Take piece of blocking cord, nail one end at the bottom of block, at the very middle of the front, and the other end also at the bottom of block at the very middle of back, pulling it on tightly, and you will have a nice crease, as if block had been made so.

If perspiration stains are left on Panama that the Oxalic Acid solution did not remove, rub the spots with Benzine and if this will not help, that is, if so badly perspired, soak hat in Benzine for about 12 hours. When taken out give it a good rubbing with brush.

There is another bleaching process with Perborate of Sodium which is strongly recommended, although not much in use by hatters who do quick work.

Dissolve one ounce of Perborate of Sodium in $9\frac{1}{2}$ gallons lukewarm water. The hat or hats are first well brushed with soap and, after thorough rinsing, given a bath of strength and temperature mentioned above, and left in for twenty-four hours or longer if necessary. That the hats should be kept below the surface all of this time is quite essential, because the fiber of the material is quite likely to become tender if the oxygen of the air attacks it during this bleaching process. The bath may then be heated to 50 degrees C, or 120 degrees F. This simply hastens bleaching. Rinse the hat in weak Oxalic Acid on removal from the bleach and then give it a thorough rinsing in water. Have it dried and treated with the Bleach Powder same as above.

Bangkok hats are cleaned with a weak solution of Oxalic Acid. They do not require any Bleach Powder or other bleaching material. To produce a gloss use varnish as described in next section on straw hats. To stiffen use

Gelatine;—dissolve a little in hot water and apply a thin coating inside of hat before blocking and pressing.

15—Straw Hats

Straw hats are usually cleaned with Oxalic Acid same as Panamas. Use teaspoonful to saucer of water, add one teaspoonful of Sugar of Lead. Dissolve the above in warm water, but it can be used also when cold. When hat is sunburnt, better boil the above solution and scrub hat with stiff bristle brush with the hot solution.

Sodium Peroxide is well recommended for straw hats that are badly sunburnt, but it is necessary to exercise caution when used as it hisses and gives off considerable heat when dissolved in water. If brought suddenly into contact with a large quantity of water it is liable to produce an explosion. Also, take care not to touch it with bare hands.

The best method of procedure is as follows: to one pint of boiling water add about 2 ounces of Sodium Peroxide, not all at once, but add it by degrees and when hot scrub hat with it. Wash off with cold water. Give hat a sponge rubbing with Oxalic Acid and rinse off well with cold water.

If straw hat needs stiffening or sizing, use Gum Tragacanth or Gelatine dissolved in warm water. Apply lightly with sponge. After hat has been well cleaned, stiffened and dried, block it in the usual way, and press. Don't use very hot iron for straws and panamas. Don't use bleaching powders for straw hats.

To produce a fine gloss on straw hat use Varnish, same as is sold in all paint stores. Get the lightest you can, but don't put on too much of it. Just dip paint brush in varnish and squeeze it out, then go over hat very lightly. This should be done after hat is blocked and finished.

If you wish the Gum Tragacanth or Gelatine sizing to be of lighter color add to it a little of the Oxalic Acid Solution.

16—White Felt Hats

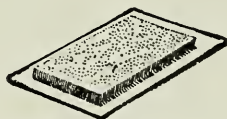
Brush hat well and clean with Benzine or Gasoline, same as black, and when thoroughly dry rub in Prepared Chalk

or Magnesia all over. Distribute well and evenly with penetrating brush. Dust off. Steam and block, as in section 4. The steam will freshen up the color.

While we have given herein the best methods hatters usually use for white felt, at the same time we do not guarantee that either the Prepared Chalk or the Magnesia will always be good to cover up all spots, especially rain spots. All depends on the quality of the felt. In a poorer quality felt, the rain drop goes through and through and is very hard to eradicate or cover up. Many ways and means have been tried by hatters but without effect in some bad cases.

Although we believe that the Prepared Chalk or Magnesia treatment is the most practical, and in most cases the hat will come out very good, yet you may try another method some hatters use, namely: Take some fine corn meal; mix it to a thin paste with Benzine or Gasoline and rub hat with it all over; when dry, brush it off. Some hatters advocate this to be even better than the former method, inasmuch as it will keep the color more permanently.

As a fine job on white felt is sometimes only a matter of chance, hatters usually do not guarantee job to their customers, while some refuse this work altogether.



No. 153. Wire scratch brush set in rubber pad for velours and beaver hats

17—Velour and Beaver Hats, Black and other Colors, except White

First brush hat well with "Stiff Bristle Brush" or if there are any lumps of some foreign substance use "Scratch Card" made for that purpose. Then proceed with the cleaning.

The cleaning of black beaver and velour or other colors except white, is usually done by steam. Steam hat well all over through the spout of a kettle till hat is all clean. Have the kettle well heated and covered so that a good force of steam comes out of the spout. However, as a beginner may

not steam hat well enough we would advise to give hat a Benzine, or better, an Alcohol cleaning before steaming.

Next, block hat same as felt hat and finish up with "Soft Hat Finishing Brush," sprinkling the hat with some Alcohol till it is smoothened all over. If hat looks dull after that, you can lure it same as felt described in section 6, but care must be taken not to have too much grease on luring pad and not to make hat too shiny. Comb beaver with Aluminum Comb and blow on fur to make it nice and fluffy.

18—White Beaver Hats

There are two methods to clean white beavers. First method: Clean hat thoroughly with Alcohol after it has been dusted off well. Then steam and block it, but take care that block or flange is well cleaned of dark substance that may have remained from some black hat.

Now, rub thoroughly all over hat with cake of Magnesia Carbonate, and put hat in an airtight box for about 12 hours. Then brush it with a stiff bristle brush, distributing and rubbing Magnesia all over, then dust off. This process can also be used for White Felt.

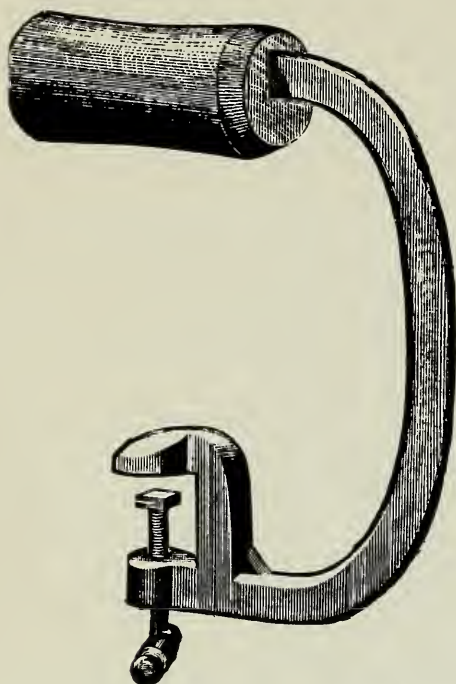
Second Method: Apply Peroxide of Hydrogen all over hat. Then apply weak solution of Ammonia all over. Then wash it out with weak solution of lukewarm soap water (use white soap). All this is done in immediately successive operations, one after another, with a sponge not wetted too much, so as not to bring hat out of shape. Now dry hat thoroughly, then steam it and block. Steam it again to restore nap to its fluffy condition.

The first method is easier while the second method is much better and must be used when customer is very particular. But the second method is quite difficult and risky, especially for a beginner. For if hat is wetted too much it will come out of shape so badly that it will be hard to restore again. If Ammonia is too strong it will change beaver into a reddish color. If Peroxide is not well distributed all over, the Ammonia will cause spots. We would therefore caution

cleaners not to use the second method except only in such cases where it is absolutely necessary, and this at customers' risk.

19—Silk or Opera Hat Renovating

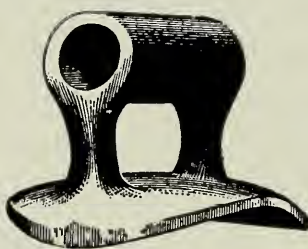
First brush hat thoroughly (going with the grain) then clean it with benzine or gasoline using soft brush or sponge. Allow it to dry.



No. 143. Potance Frame and Block



No. 145. Tip Stand



No. 109 Potance Iron

Now, screw "Potance Arm" (see our catalogue), to a table or bench. Adjust the "Potance Block" to the Arm. This block has two sides, one with narrow curve the other with wide curve. When adjusting see that the wide curved side is up. Place hat on side which is conforming to shape of block, and rub it vigorously (going with the grain) with a hot Veleur; this is a specially made Veleuring plush pad. Continue luring until hat is all smooth and shiny.

Turn hat over and do other side likewise. Now, reverse block with narrow side up and proceed with same process on both front and back of hat. If necessary, before luring press with hot "Potance Iron" (see our catalogue), putting a clean canvas cloth on hat dampening it a little. Next, press brim with warm "Brim Iron" using a clean canvas cloth dampened slightly. Then brush brim and lure it same as above.

To fix brim in the desired shape, heat it slightly over a stove, lay it flat on the Curling Board and, while warm, conform the brim to the shape of the Board by pressing it vigorously with both thumbs.

Now, fix tip of crown. Place it on "Tip Stand" and do the luring with same hot pad as described above. To make the sharp edge of tip, press the hot luring pad against edge of "Tip Stand" till it is cooled off; continue this operation all around tip till it is all done.

20—Recipes for Cleaning Materials

As a good cleaning material the following is recommended: Pure Benzole, Grain or Denatured Alcohol, equal parts.

For removing grease or perspiration spots the following is recommended: Ether, Ammonia, Benzole, Alcohol and Chloroform. Mix about equal parts.

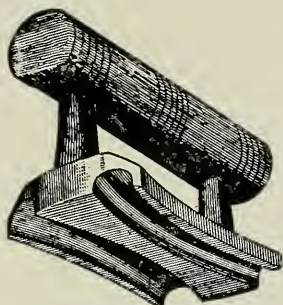
Tetrachloride of Carbon is well recommended as an excellent solvent of all spots of fats, oils, pitch, tar, wax, rubber, etc., inasmuch as it is very penetrating and does not leave any rings. It can be mixed with Alcohol, Chloroform, Turpentine and Ether.

Sometimes when hat is ironed with rusty iron some rust stains may be left. In such case remove the rust with Potassium Binoxalate. Use about as much as the point of a table knife will hold to one-eighth pint of water stirring well until dissolved. Touch the stains with solution, then rinse well in one warm and two cold waters. If stains do not disappear on first application repeat the process.

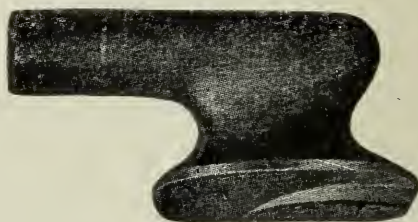
Do not apply any of the above mentioned materials with anything that is of a different color than the hat being cleaned, as it may stain it.

If by using any of the above mentioned spotting materials the color of hat is destroyed restore it with Finishing Powders.

The use of each tool has been given in its place in the foregoing instructions. Yet there are some tools which were not mentined but are necessary and important although not used so often. These are:



No. 116. Groove Tolliker



No. 111. Front and Rear Tolliker

Groove Tolliker: for making a small curl on brim. On seeing it you will know how to use it. It should be heated before using. It has two grooves, a wider and a narrower according to the size of curl you wish to make.

Front and Rear Tolliker: for such hats that have a large curl on the sides but very small on the front and rear.

Set Sticks: they are for stretching hat in length and width, or regulating the length and width. They are especially adapted for stiff straw hats and felts for conforming hat to shape of head.

Tip Stand: the use of this tool has been mentioned in section 19. It is also good for making the sharp edge of tip of straw hat and to press and straighten tip.

The depths of blocks are not very important for renovators, although it is easier to work with a block whose depth conforms with depth of hat. But it is almost impossible for a renovator to be supplied with all possible depths. We carry in stock the following styles in the usual depths:

Columbia Blocks in 6 inch.
Fedora Blocks in 6 inch.
Graeco Blocks in 5 inch.
Full Crown Soft Blocks in 6 inch.
Panama Blocks in 5 and 5¼ inch.
Stiff Blocks in 5¼ inch.
Straw Blocks in 4 inch.

Any special block desired can be made, but the above are the most suitable. See our catalogue for sizes of Blocks and Flanges.

Any other article listed in catalogue is illustrated and an explanation of its use given. You can determine for yourself whether you need it or not.

* * * *

We have endeavored to give all details and particulars we could think of. Yet we may have left out some small detail. We invite our patrons to question us on any point. We will gladly furnish the information desired.

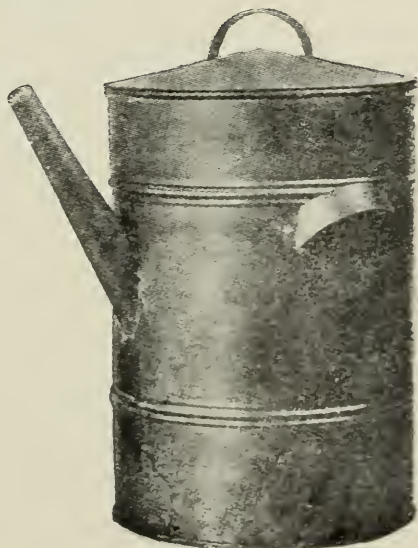
We also beg our patrons to let us know how they succeed with their work, as their success will gratify us very much.

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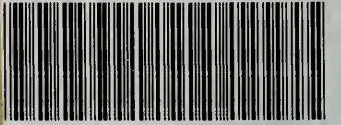
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