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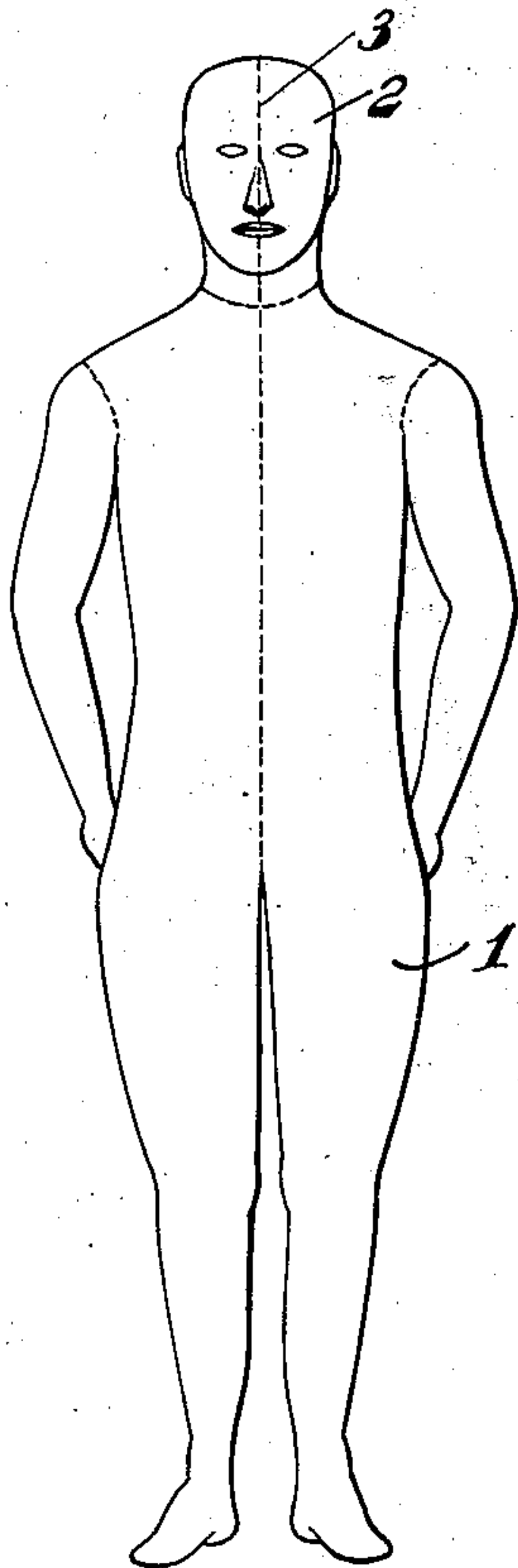
C. M. G. DE DUBOIS

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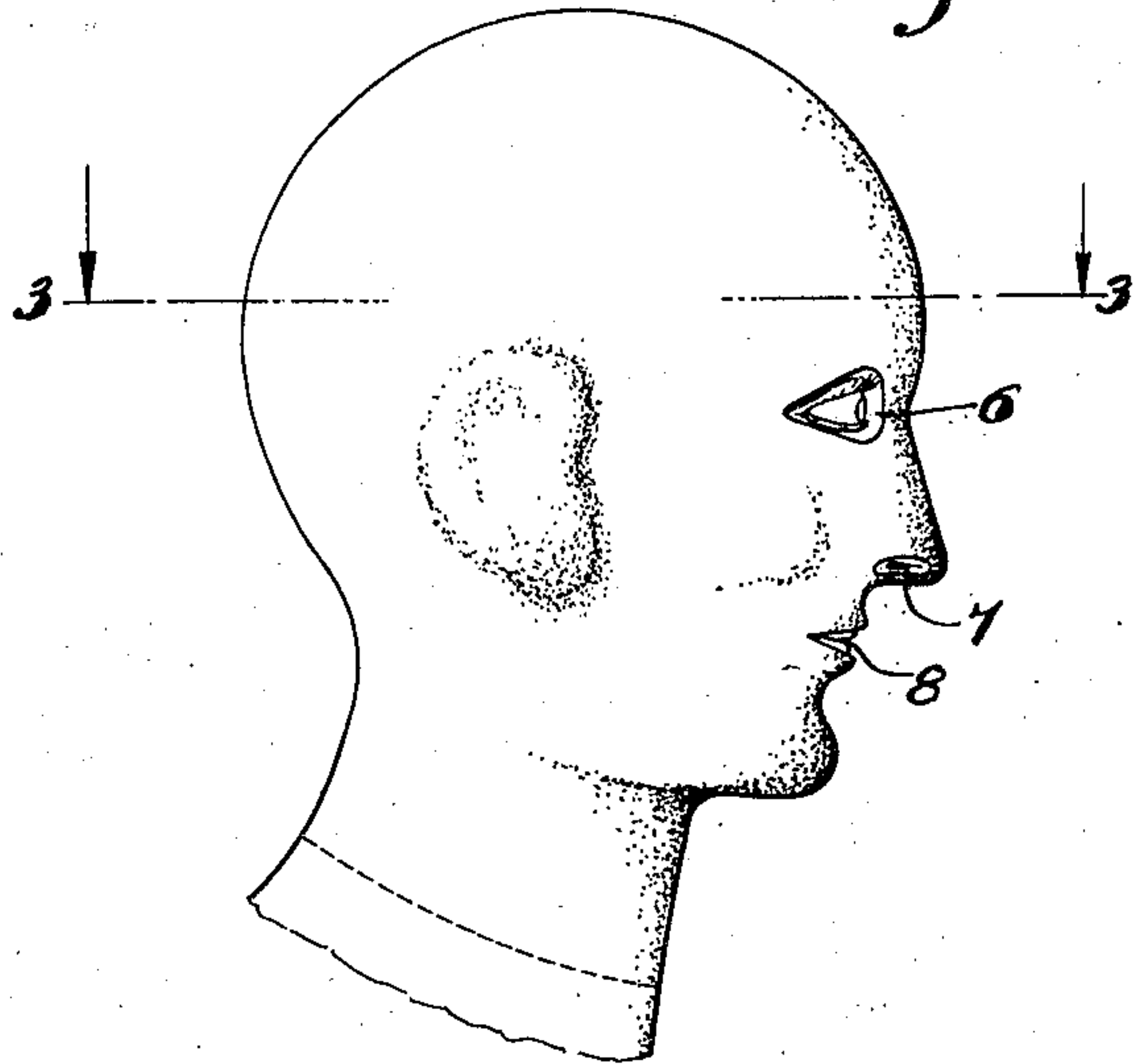
COSTUME

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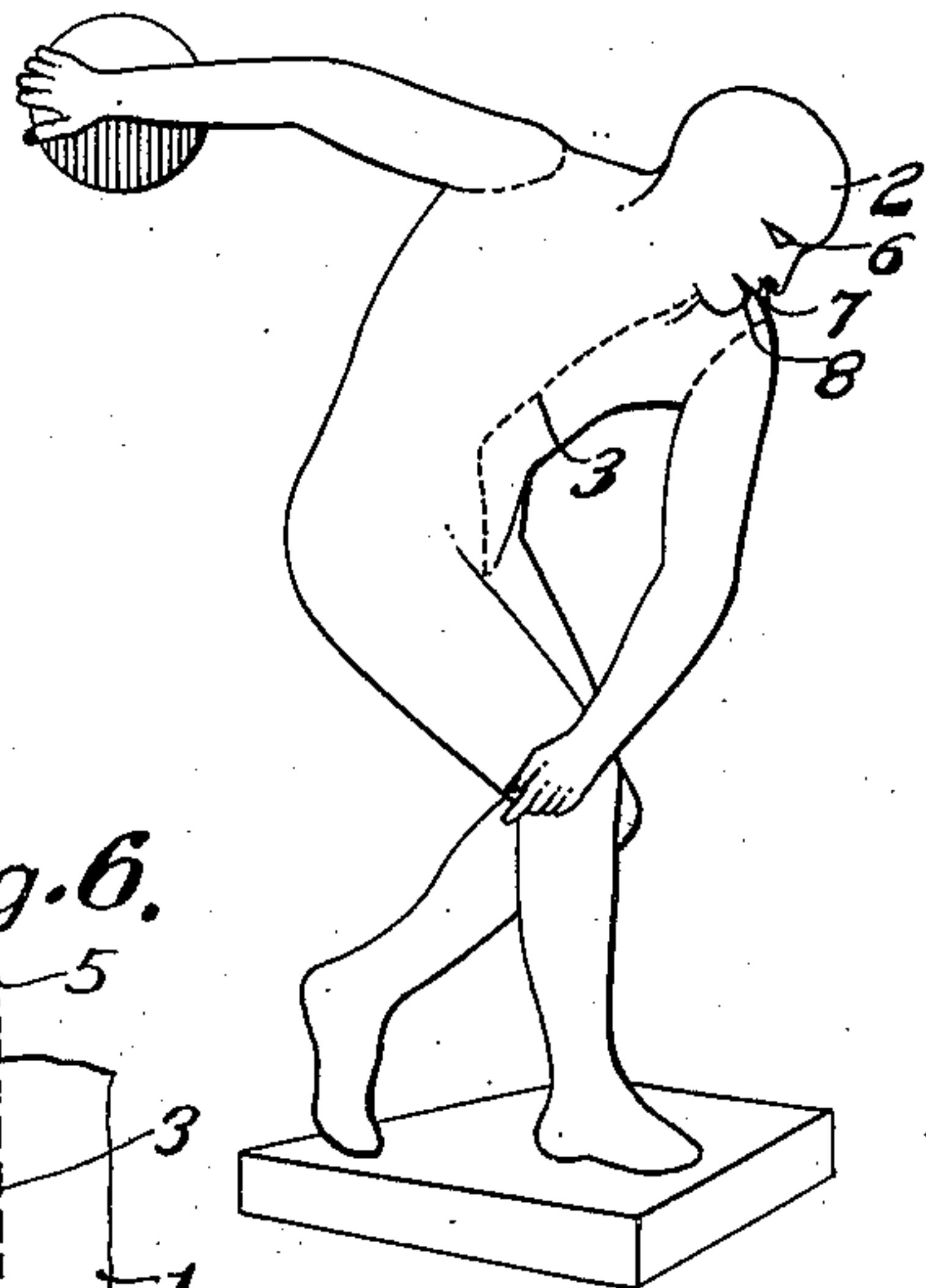
*Fig. 1*



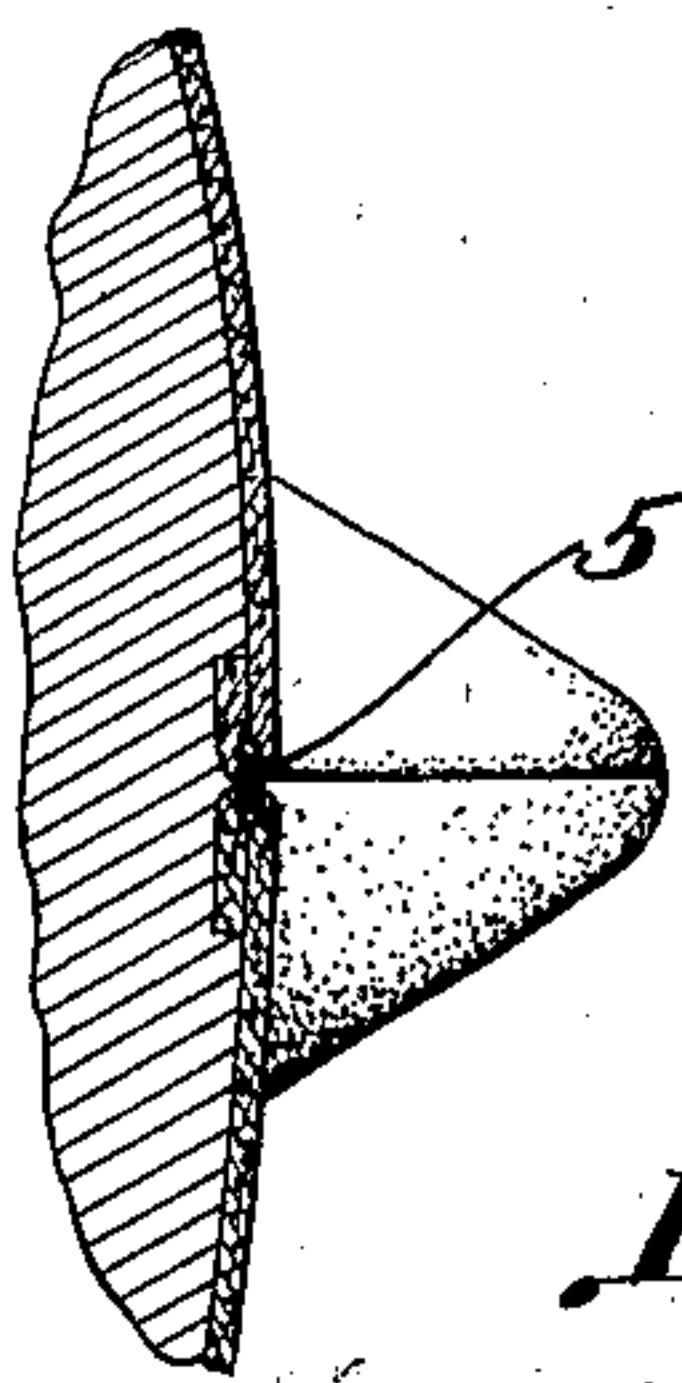
*Fig. 2*



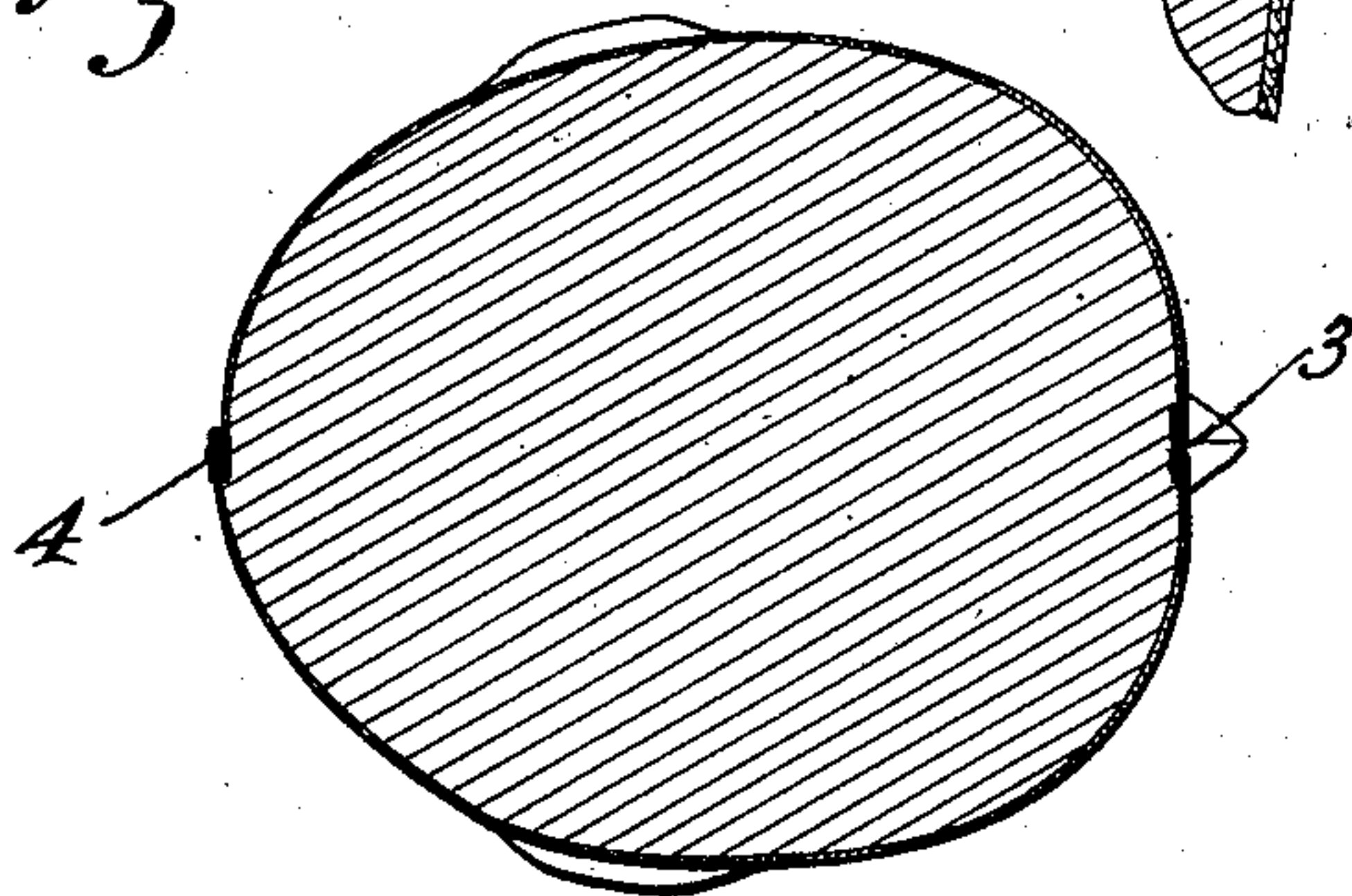
*Fig. 4*



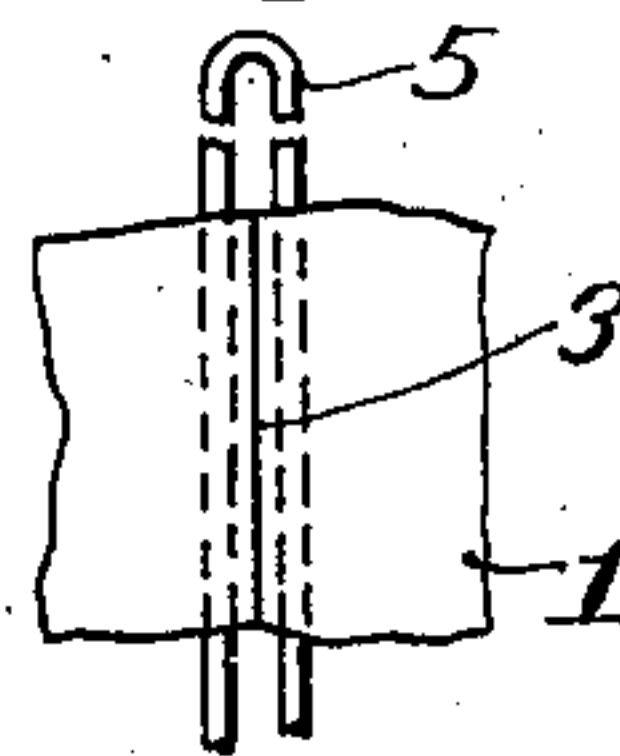
*Fig. 5*



*Fig. 3*



*Fig. 6.*



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## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,011,800

COSTUME

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## 1 Claim. (Cl. 2—206)

This invention relates broadly to costumes, and more particularly to a suit adapted to closely fit the body, whether it be human or animal.

An object of the invention is the provision of means adapted to closely encase the head in such a manner as to conform to the configurations of the face.

Another object of the invention is the provision of a suitable costume of the class referred to which readily adapts it for various stage effects; the production of an entire scene in silhouette. The costume to this end may be in certain colors, as silver, gold, black or variegated, et cetera. The production of silhouettes both for motion pictures and on the stage requires at the present time expert lighting, due to the fact that the actors must have specially prepared material, the face covered with suitable paint, and the like. With my invention, however, the face is encased with a glove-tight fitting fabric, as is likewise the body, and by dimming the lighting, all figures appear in silhouette with resulting pleasing effect upon the eye of the observer. It is also within the purview of my invention to so arrange the glove fitting material that hair may be simulated in the material, or any other effect upon the said material. Within the purview of my invention, any feature of the body may be accentuated, made more perfect, or grotesque.

It is also apparent that various configurations, such as drawings and paintings of various designs, may be placed upon the suit as may be desired. As an example, iridescent material may be used, which will glow in the dark, and yet show the entire outline of the body of its wearer.

Other objects of the invention, adaptations and uses thereof will readily suggest themselves to those skilled in the art, and with the specific objects of inexpensiveness of construction, attractiveness, ready adaptability for use and service in view, the invention consists in the novel and useful provision, formation, construction, association and relative arrangement of parts, members and features, all as shown in a certain embodiment in the accompanying drawing, described generally, and more particularly pointed out in the claim.

In the drawing:

Figure 1 is an elevation of the costume in actual use,

Figure 2 is a side elevation of an encasing member for the head of a wearer incorporating the invention,

Figure 3 is a sectional view on the line 3—3 of Figure 2,

Figure 4 is a perspective view showing one use of the invention,

Figure 5 is an enlarged view, partly fragmentary, of a modification of the invention,

Figure 6 is a front elevation representing modification of the structure disclosed in Figures 1, 2, 3 and 4.

Referring now with particularity to the drawing, I have provided a costume comprising a suit 1 including body, leg and arm portions, which is adapted to closely encase the body of its wearer. The head is also encased or covered by suitable material 2, the neck portion of said head being separable in the present instance from the body encasing material 1. Referring to Figures 2 and 3, the fabric is glove-fitting upon the head and neck in such a manner as to conform to the general outline of all protuberances of the anatomy, such as the nose, mouth, chin, forehead, and the like. In order to accomplish this result, I have discovered that the seam for the fabric should be placed substantially along a median line, as indicated by the dotted line of Figure 1, at 3, this line separating the head or skull so that the seam passes centrally of the bridge of the nose, jaw, chin and forehead. The seam is illustrated in Figure 3 where it is shown that two portions of the fabric are united. The fabric rearwardly of the skull is adapted to be overlapped, as shown at 4, the overlapped portions being secured in working relation in any suitable manner, such as by snaps, hooks and eyes, or the like. The fabric is likewise glove-fitting and the seam 3 acts to prevent stretch of the fabric in the zone of the seam. It might appear at first instance that the seam would not function in the manner specified but actual experience and tests show that the seam positioned as aforesaid actually causes the fabric to glove-fit the face without any bulging between sides of the nose and the cheeks. It is, of course, realized that the fabric must be of glove-fitting character such as, for instance, the type of material used in the manufacture of fabric gloves which closely conforms to the shape of the fingers and the hands. Thus, if the fabric is not stretched too tightly, the seams will permit the remaining portion of the fabric to closely conform to the face or for that matter to the body of its wearer. The ears may be accommodated as indicated in Figures 2 and 3. In place of using the seam alone, a bendable material, such as a wire, may be placed within the seam for the purpose of causing the fabric to more closely approximate the contour of the face or for producing various grotesque features; for



instance, a deep bulge or convexity of the nose, and the forehead shaped differently. Cardboard may be used, if the general character of the mask or encasement has been predetermined. However, it is apparent that with my invention, a pre-determination of the exact configuration desired is not necessary if the wire is used, or the actual configuration may be followed by utilizing the invention, as shown in the figures. Figure 5 is a view similar to Figure 3, the wire being shown in place at 5.

The body portion including the legs and arms may be seamed as desired, the seams in all instances being indicated by the dotted lines. Furthermore, the mask for the head will have an extended neck portion adapted to either overlie the body portion or be encased therebeneath, preferably the latter. Also the body portion of the material may have cut away portions, as indicated at 6, 7 and 8 to accommodate the eyes, nostrils, and the mouth.

As stated in the objects, hair may be painted upon the head member of the costume if desired, or the hair portion may be molded to form in the fabric. As further stated in the objects, the suit itself may be of different colored materials, such as silver, gold, variegated, and the like.

In actual operation, the different actors are encased in material of the character stated. If flesh color, the entire body appears in the nude; if black, then the actors, taking a dancing scene for instance, will appear to be in silhouette. The silhouette appearance, particularly if the actors are all women, may be further enhanced as to beauty by placing over the wearing apparel a sheer drape or gown so that the general body figure is readily seen therethrough, then by proper lighting from behind, all of the actors appear dark. This is particularly useful in motion pictures when it is desired to show scenes in silhouette. A particular object is the use of the invention for mo-

tion picture purposes, and particularly cartoons, a large number of which appear in silhouette. Therefore, it is possible to use human actors with suits incorporation my invention representative of various characters. Usually the characters are drawn by skilled painters or draftsmen at great expense to a producing company; however, with my invention, the same effects are accomplished with human actors at reduced expense.

In Figure 4, I have illustrated the use of my invention upon the body of a wearer indicating the discus thrower. Thus, with my invention, the suit would be in pure white or in gold or silver, or any other color desired, giving pleasing effects for stage purposes, particularly while posing.

So far as the inventor is aware, and after some experience in the art to which this invention appertains, there has been produced no type of suit which is so constructed as to be glove-fitting over the head and in such a manner as to readily conform to the features of the head and face. The inventor is aware that tights have been used upon the body but the general combination of a body and head encasing material for the purpose intended by this invention has, so far as the inventor is aware, never been practiced in a satisfactory manner.

Such material as glove silk and material of the character such as employed for the making of tights may be readily employed in the practicing of my invention, although I do not specifically confine my invention in use to such materials.

I claim:

As a new article of manufacture, a flexible fabric mask for the head, constructed and arranged to completely enclose the head and glove-fit the head of the wearer, and a bendable wire within the mask extending lengthwise and centrally of the front thereof.

CONCHITA MARINA GUIROLA DE DUBOIS.