July 6, 1948. R. S. TEMKO ET AL 2,444,883

CURTAIN AND METHODS OF MAKING SAME

Filed April 23, 1946

Fig. 1.

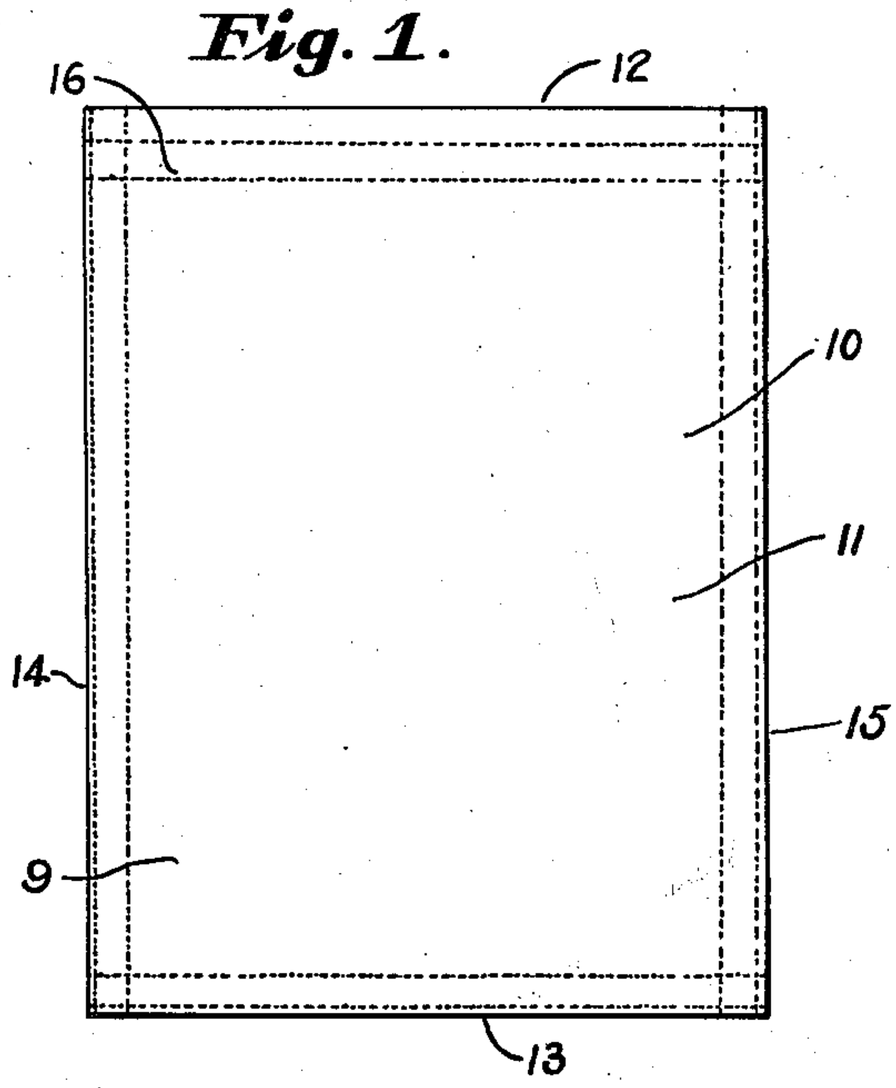


Fig. 2.

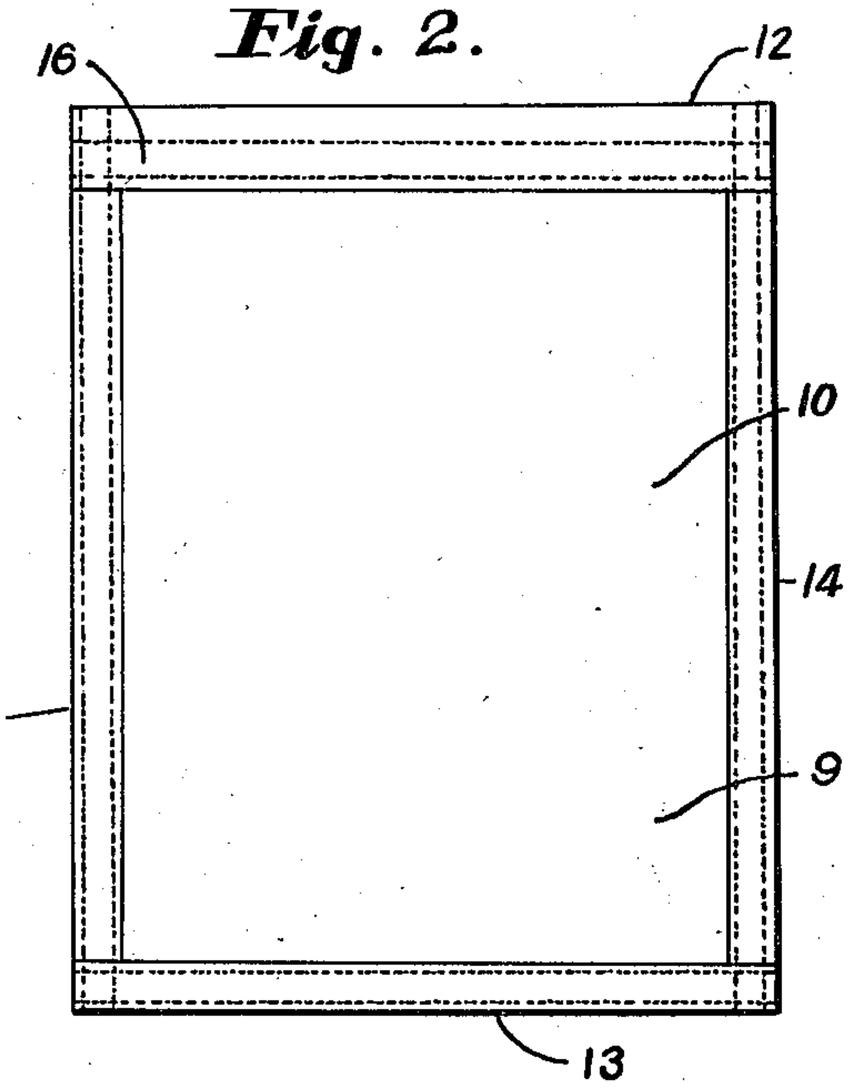


Fig. 3.

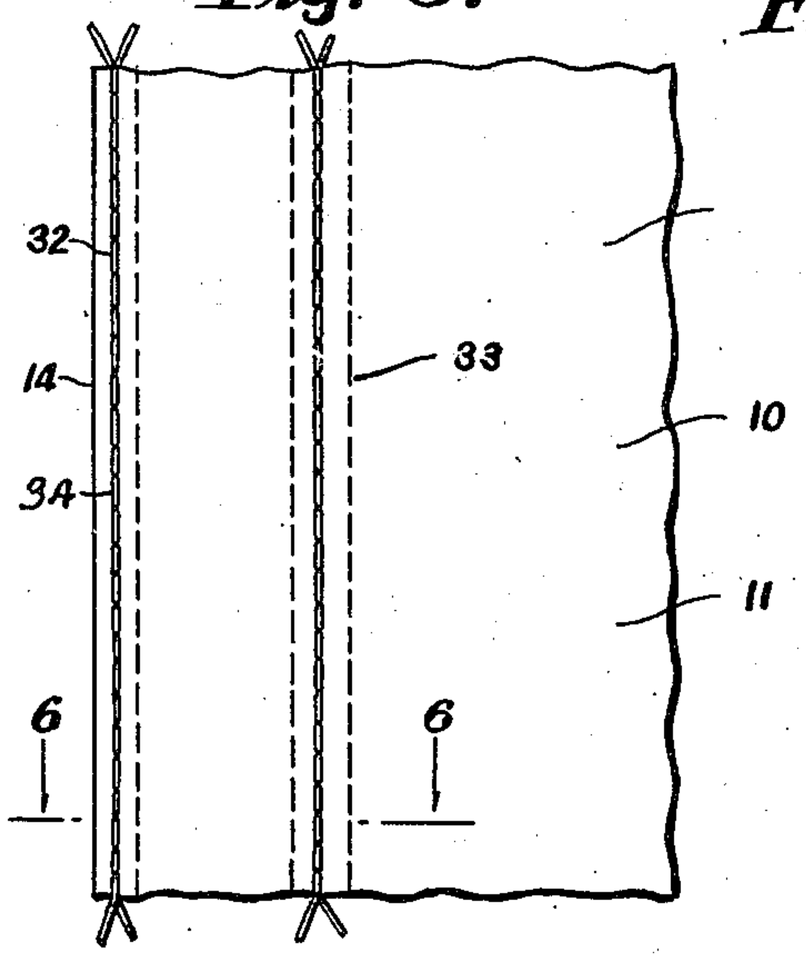


Fig. 4.

Fig. 5.

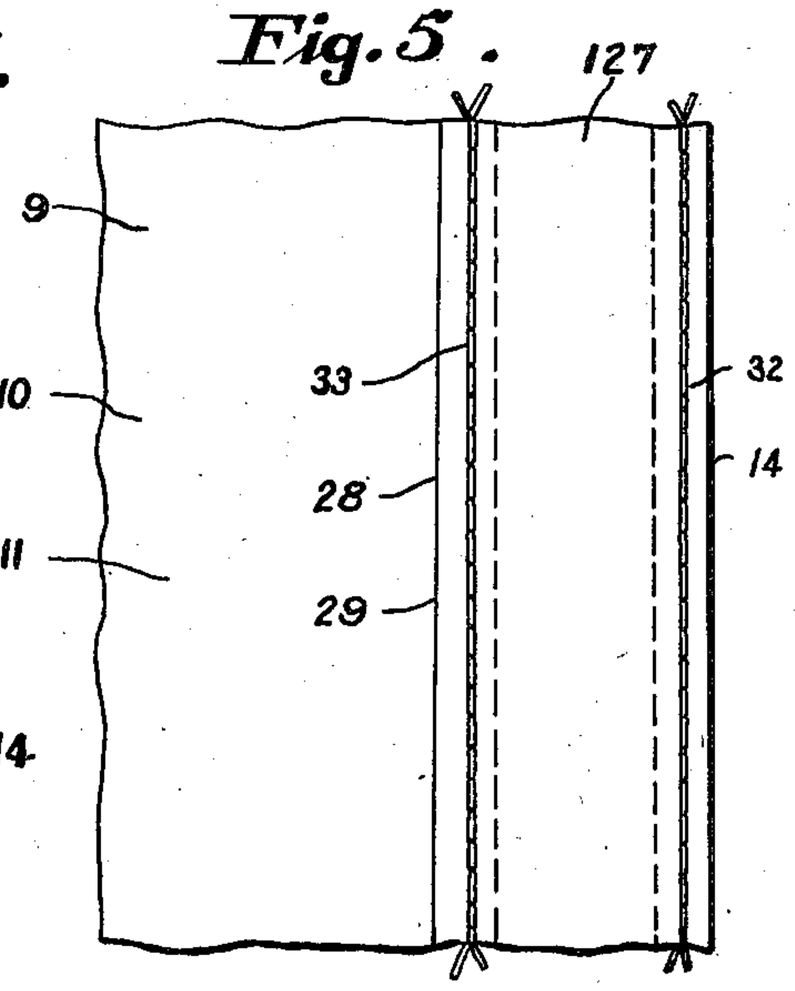
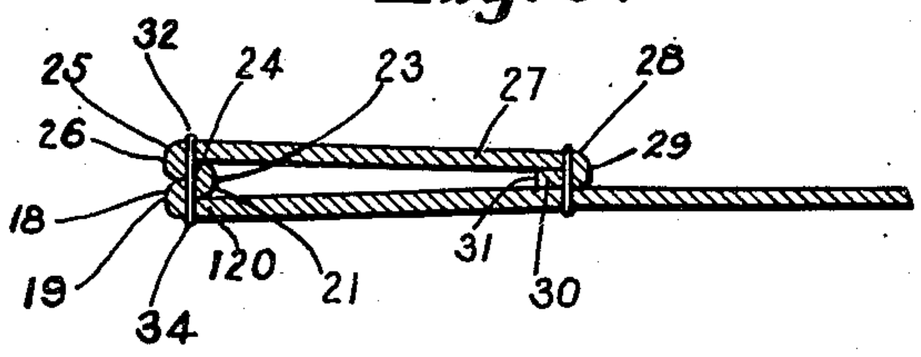


Fig. 6.



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CURTAIN AND METHOD OF MAKING SAME

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2 Claims. (Cl. 2—243)

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This invention relates generally to curtains and more particularly to a novel and useful curtain construction of the edge portions of the curtain panel, and is a division of our co-pending application filed March 14, 1944, Serial No. 526,418, now Patent No. 2,400,788, dated May 21, 1946.

The desirability of having extra weight in a curtain at the margins thereof for the purpose of obtaining a more nearly uniform hanging has been recognized heretofore in the curtain art, but prior constructions have been open to objection because of certain structure or use characteristics which are remedied by the present invention.

Among the objects of the present invention lies the provision of curtain panel edge structure wherein additional weight or "body" is obtained at the margins of the curtain panel without the addition of extra weight providing elements. In the present construction, the additional weight or "body" at the margins of the curtain panel is obtained by folds or lamination of the material of which the curtain panel is composed. While it has been known to obtain additional weight or "body" by this general procedure such prior art constructions have been of an unbalanced nature so that when the individual threads of which the curtain panel material was composed were subjected to varying degrees of humidity, the threads in changing their length or twist caused a consequent twisting or rolling of the curtain edge. This effect was most noticeable in curtain panels composed of relatively finely woven fabric, the very fabric which required the greatest amount of edge weighting. In accordance with the present invention a balanced effect is obtained at the curtain panel edge by a symmetrical folding of the curtain panel material.

An advantage of the present construction lies in the fact that since weight is obtained at the edges of the curtain panel by a laminating of the same material of which the curtain panel is composed when the curtain is laundered or cleaned all of the material both in the body of the curtain panel and at the edge has the same shrinkage rate so that distortion of the curtain panel due to different materials being incorporated therein is avoided.

Another object of the present invention lies in the provision of curtain construction having the herein mentioned desirable qualities and yet which is of such a simple nature that the same may be rapidly fabricated in a large scale at low cost. The present structure and method gives

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rise to economies in the execution thereof as will more fully appear hereinafter.

Another object herein lies in the provision of laminated edge curtain panel structure which provides not only a symmetrical balance of weight so as to produce a correspondingly balanced hanging but also provides a balanced appearance so that the finish of the curtain edge is substantially identical when viewed either from the front side of the curtain panel or the rear side thereat.

Another object herein lies in the provision of curtain panel edge construction wherein curtain edge portions in laminated arrangement are secured at a plurality of points along a plurality of spaced vertical lines in the curtain, as hanging, by a single row of stitches.

Another object herein lies in the provision of laminated edge construction in curtain panels wherein the laminations are obtained by a plurality of folds. The relatively open portions of the folds are interconnected at a plurality of points so as to maintain the laminations formed by the folds in a substantially permanent interrelation, whereby these folds are prevented from shifting out of position with relation to each other not only while the curtain is hanging in use but also during laundering and/or pressing steps. By virtue of the interconnection of the relatively open panels of the curtain panel edge, dust and lint are inhibited from entering therein while the curtain is in use or during any cleaning process.

These objects and other incidental ends and advantages will more fully appear in the progress of this disclosure and be pointed out in the appended claims.

In the drawings in which similar reference characters designate corresponding parts throughout the several views:

Figure 1 is a reduced front elevational view of a curtain panel embodying a first form of the invention.

Figure 2 is a rear elevational view of Figure 1.

Figure 3 is an enlarged fragmentary front elevational view of a portion of the curtain panel and edge as taken from the left margain of the curtain in Figure 1.

Figure 4 is an end elevational view as seen from the left of Figure 3.

Figure 5 is a rear elevational view of Figure 3.

Figure 6 is a fragmentary horizontal sectional view as seen from the plane 6—6 on Figure 3.

For the purpose of clarity in the disclosures and the drawings the thickness of the parts has

been exaggerated particularly in the sectional views.

Turning now to the first embodiment of the invention illustrated in Figures 1–6, inclusive, the curtain generally indicated by numeral 10 may be of any desired size and includes broadly the curtain panel 11, a top edge 12, a bottom edge 13 and side edges 14 and 15. As the curtain is normally hung, the side edges 14 and 15 are vertically disposed, usually longitudinally of the curtain. While only a single curtain 10 is shown, it will be obvious to those skilled in the art to which the present invention relates that a plurality of corresponding curtains may be hung in pairs or in any other desired arrangement. The curtain 10 may be provided in a well known manner with a rod carrying passage 16 disposed adjacent the top edge 12. In normal use, all of the materials or parts lying below the rod carrying passage 16 are supported by the portions of the curtain at the rod carrying portion.

As will more fully appear in the progress of this disclosure, the present invention relates particularly to the edge portions of the curtain panel, and the advantageous effects thereof may be utilized to advantage in the top edge 12. The top edge 12, if so treated, will also present a more desirable appearance, although the need for the avoidance of puckering or twisting along the top edge of the curtain panel is not so necessary because of the fact that a ruffle appearance at this area is usually found and because the curtain panel is supported in position against undesired twisting by the rod itself (not shown).

Since the edge formation of the curtain panel is substantially identical in a repetitive series therealong, a detailed description of a portion thereof will suffice for all. The curtain panel 11 may be composed of any suitable planar base material 9 well known in the art. As best seen in Figures 3, 5 and 6, the panel 11 at the edge 14 is folded inwardly upon itself to form a first fold 18, the bight or bend 19 of which is closed along the outer free edge of the curtain; the portions 20 and 21 being lapped and in juxtaposition. The portion 21 of the base 9 is again reversed in the position thereto to form a second fold 22 having a bight or bend 23, and the base material 9 then continues outwardly of the curtain panel to form the portion 24, which juxtaposes the portion 21. From this point forward, the base 9 is again reversed in direction to form the third fold 25, the bight or bend 26 of which is disposed outwardly in substantially the same manner as the bight 19 while the base fabric portion 27 juxtaposes the previous mentioned portion 24. The base 9 continues inwardly of the curtain panel to form the band portion 27 and is reversed again in direction at the fourth fold 28, the bight 29 of which faces inwardly and terminates in the portion 30, the original free edge of the fabric 9 being indicated by numeral 31. The position taken by the parts is clearly shown in Figure 6.

The parts in the positions as described are maintained by two sets of stitches, a first set generally indicated by reference character 32 and a second set indicated by reference character 33. The second set may be referred to as the inner set of stitches and they may be in the form of a single row of lock stitching.

A set of stitches 32 includes a row of longitudinally directed stitch sections 34 which are spaced from and parallel to the edge 14. Thus, the set of stitches 32 forms a single line of longitudinally directed stitch sections 34.

It may thus be seen that by virtue of the construction just described, the edge 14 of the panel 11 is strengthened and reinforced by the positioning at said edge of four separate laminations of the base fabric 9 and that such reinforcement is located right at the edge most likely to receive undue wear and stress. Not only do the laminations of the fabric strengthen the edge but also they add weight right at the edge which causes the curtain to take on a better hung appearance. This is so because when the edge is of relatively light nature, that is to say, insufficiently weighted, there is a tendency for the fabric thereat to twist and wrinkle and otherwise become deleteriously affected by the weight of the curtain as it extends below any given point on the edge and by changes in humidity and twist of set of the fabrics and the thread making up the base fabric 9. Since the laminations formed by the portions 20, 21, 24 and 27 are composed of the identical material of which the balance of the curtain panel 11 is composed, expansion or contraction of individual threads due to changes in humidity or during washing or laundering will not disadvantageously affect the position and general texture of the parts. This may be contrasted with curtain edge reinforcing constructions in which a new material or filler differing from the base material of the curtain panel is introduced to add weight along the curtain edge. By virtue of the peculiar arrangement of the first set of stitches 32 with relation to the folded parts, the folds and laminations are substantially prevented from shifting with relation to each other so that no special manipulation of the parts is needed to properly place them for a pressing or ironing operation after cleaning or laundering.

As may be seen from a perusal of Figure 6, the laminations formed by the portions 21 and 24 are equally balanced by the overlying portions 20 and 27 at the front and rear respectively. This balanced arrangement of the parts also acts to prevent unkempt twisting or curling of the edge of the curtain, an undesirable effect frequently encountered where edge weighting is attempted by rolling the edge thereof, particularly in the more delicate fabrics which are otherwise most desirable for decorative window treatment.

As best seen in Figures 3 and 5 with the exception of the fourth fold 28 and its exposed fourth bight or bend 29, the appearance of the front of the curtain 10 at the vertical edges and the horizontal lower edge thereof (the portions most usually viewed by the user) is substantially identical with the rear surface thereof. This is a distinct advantage since, when curtains are hung, very frequently portions of the rear surface of the curtain (the rear surface being that surface which is nearest the window or other building opening with which the curtain is associated) are exposed to the view of persons facing the curtain from the front. This condition occurs when the curtains are blown by the wind or when they are deliberately rotated at the vertical edges thereof in certain draping arrangements or where tie backs are used. It is to be noted in connection with the last mentioned arrangement of the edges that although the edges themselves are turned toward the room, that is to say toward the front of the curtain panel, this turning is a deliberate one and the decorative hanging and the visual effect thereof is hurt by a twisting, coiling or curling of the actual curtain edge, that

is to say outwardly of the set of stitches 33 or of the longitudinal stitched sections 34.

It may thus be seen that we have disclosed a novel and useful curtain construction which produces increased edge weighting and balanced sewn edge construction in curtains by a simple and economical method and construction.

We wish it to be understood that we do not desire to be limited to the exact details of construction shown and described, for obvious modifications will occur to a person skilled in the art.

We claim:

1. Curtain construction comprising: a curtain base fabric, having a fabric edge; said base fabric being folded inwardly upon itself to form a first fold having a first bight, being folded again to form a second fold having a second bight, being folded again to form a third fold having a third bight; said first and third bights being located next to each other at the outer edge of the curtain to form the curtain edge, said second bight being located inwardly of the curtain edge and positioned oppositely to said first and third bights; said base fabric edge being folded upon itself to form a fourth fold having a fourth bight; and a set of stitches penetrating said first and third folds and securing the same in position.

2. Curtain construction comprising: a curtain

base fabric having a fabric edge; said base fabric being folded inwardly upon itself to form a first fold having a first bight, being folded again to form a second fold having a second bight, and being folded again to form a third fold having a third bight; said first and third bights being located next to each other at the outer edge of the curtain to form the curtain edge, said second bight being located inwardly of the curtain edge and positioned oppositely to said first and third bights; said base fabric edge being folded upon itself to form a fourth fold having a fourth bight; a first set of stitches penetrating said first and third folds and securing the same in position; and a second set of stitches securing said fourth fold in position against the body of the base fabric.

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