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INFANT'S BIB

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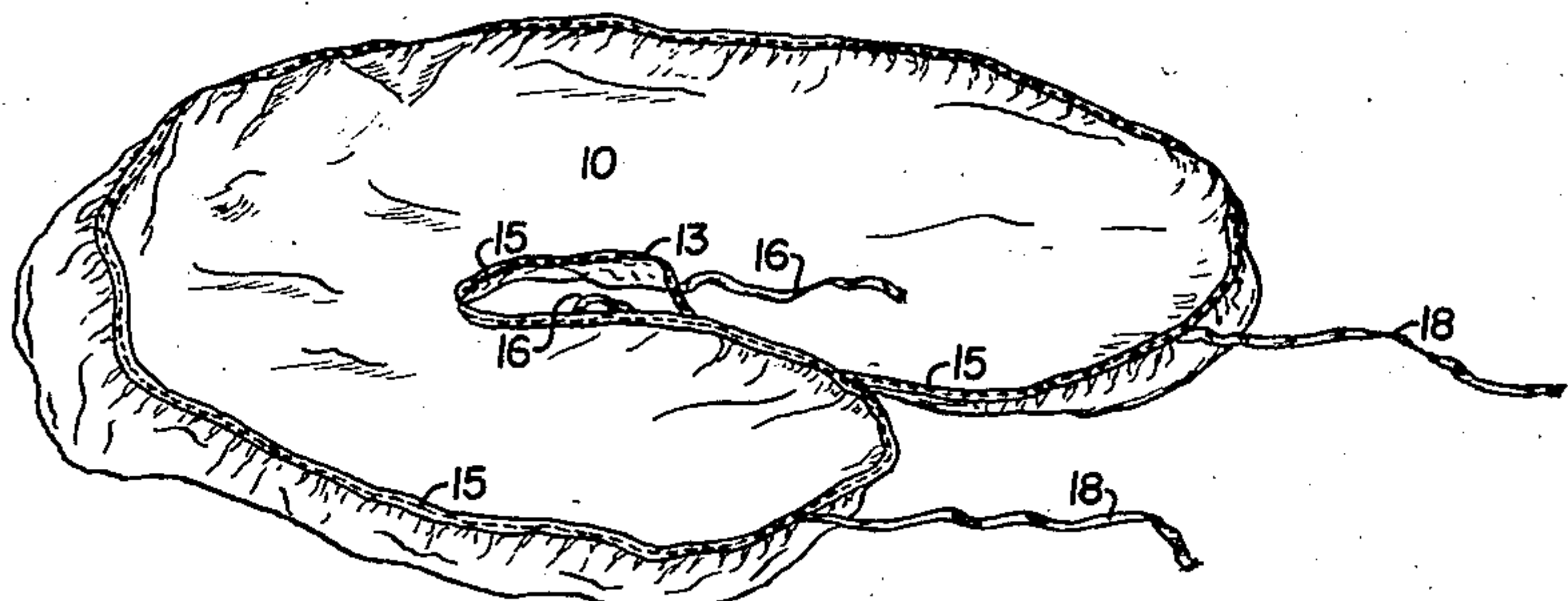


Fig. 1

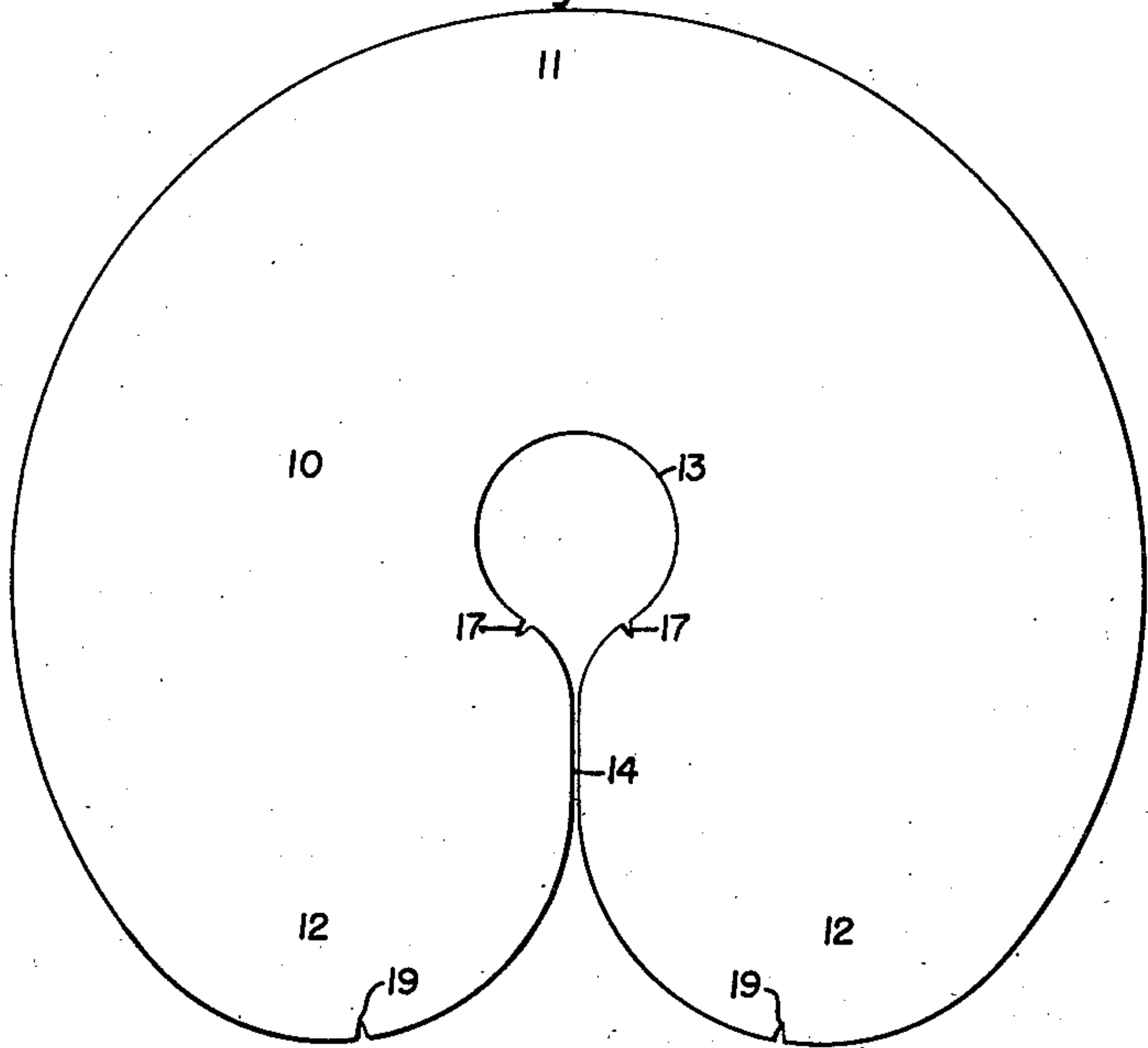


Fig. 2

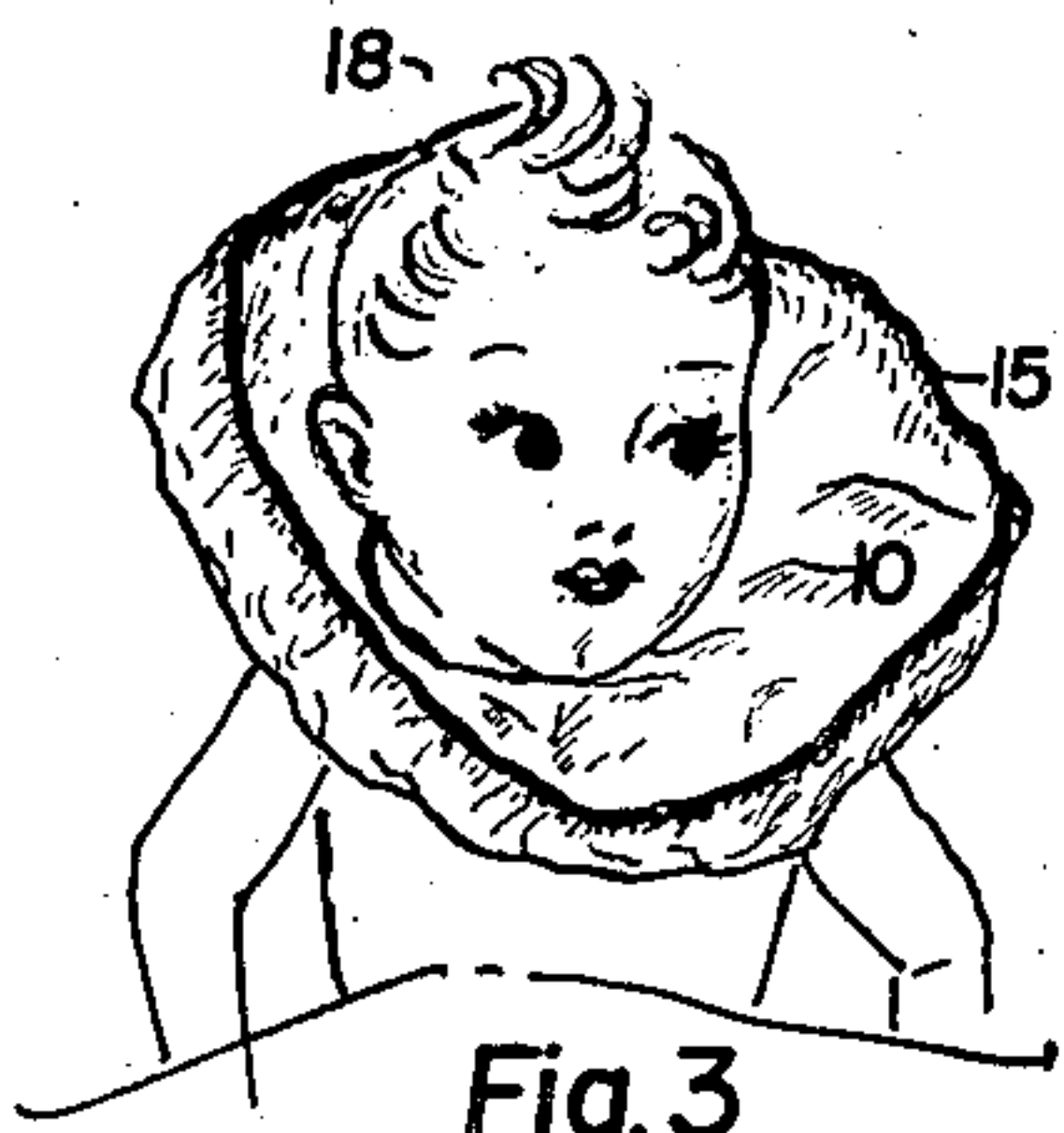


Fig. 3



Fig. 4

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5 Claims. (Cl. 2-49)

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This invention relates to bibs adapted for wear by infants to accomplish the usual purpose of protecting clothing and bedding against soilage by food wastes and oral emissions, and has as an object to provide an improved bib of high protective efficiency in any of the various usual positions of the wearer.

A further object of the invention is to provide an improved infant's bib that is simple, economical, and practical of manufacture.

A further object of the invention is to provide an improved infant's bib that is convenient of attachment in position of wear to and of removal from the wearer.

A further object of the invention is to provide an improved infant's bib that is size-conformable to the wearer in a secure attached adjustment productive of no wearer discomfort.

A further object of the invention is to provide an improved infant's bib that cleanses simply and readily and that is susceptible of production from liquid-impervious sheet material.

With the foregoing and other objects in view, my invention consists in the construction, arrangement, and combination of elements as hereinafter set forth, pointed out in my claims, and illustrated by the accompanying drawing, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a typical embodiment of the invention as constructed and arranged ready for practical use. Figure 2 is a plan view of the sheet material blank from which the body of the improved bib is constituted. Figure 3 is a view of the bib according to Figure 1 as positioned for use on a body-erect wearer. Figure 4 is a view of the bib according to Figure 1 as positioned for use on a recumbent wearer.

In the construction of the improvement as shown, a blank 10 of appropriate, flexible, sheet material is cut to approximately the form and proportions shown in Figure 2 to constitute the major, or body, portion of the bib. The sheet material from which the blank 10 is formed may vary widely as to nature and decorative pattern within the essential limits of flexibility and cleansability significant to the ultimate product, and while development of the blank 10 from ordinary fabric sheets of various weights, fineness, and character is within the contemplation of the invention, it is manifestly to be preferred that the blank be formed from liquid-impervious sheet material slightly resistant to flexure, such as glazed or coated fabrics, rubber or rubberized sheets, and synthetic resin, or so-called "plastic" sheets. Whatever may be the particular sheet material utilized for the purpose, the blank 10 is

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cut to the modified cardioid form of Figure 2 and to a size exceeding that desired for the finished bib, the outline of the blank 10 being characterized by a substantially semi-circular zone 11, a pair of like, opposed lobes 12 arcuately merging with and convexly overlapping beyond the projection of the zone 11 circular arc, and a symmetrical indentation marking the inward mergence of the lobe 12 adjacent marginal arcs. Approximately concentric with the zone 11 marginal arc, a central, circular opening 13 is formed in the blank 10 in a size slightly less than the smallest neck size with which the bib is intended to be used, and the indentation marking the mergence of the lobe 12 adjacent arcs is continued as a cut 14 radially of the blank extending to the opening 13 where it smoothly and arcuately merges with the outline of the latter. The blank 10 is thus divided on the side remote from the zone 11 to permit separation of the lobes 12 and draping of the blank on and about the neck of an infant received in the opening 13.

With the blank 10 prepared in the form and proportions shown and hereinabove described, the entire free marginal outline of the blank, including the periphery of the opening 13 and the edges separated by the cut 14, is uniformly contracted and shortened by a moderate interfolding or "gathering" of the material therealong and a tape or binding 15 is secured to and preferably as a finish edge over the so-contracted blank margin to permanently retain said margin in its shortened condition and to induce said margin to upstand from and to overlap somewhat relative to inwardly-adjacent areas of the blank 10 in a disposition characterized by a depressed, or dished, relationship of the blank 10 main area to the blank free margin. As is readily apparent, the tape or binding 15 may be of flexible strip material the same as or different from that of the blank 10 and may be secured to the gathered or interfolded blank free margin in any appropriate manner, as by means of stitching, or otherwise, as the nature of the materials employed may permit. Likewise obvious is the fact that shortening of the blank free margin by gathering or interfolding thereof serves to somewhat enlarge the effective area of the neck opening 13 and to reduce the effective area of the blank 10, and that the degree of such gathering or interfolding of the blank free margin will not only determine the ultimate effective bib size but will also determine the extent to which the blank 10 major area is dished or pouched relative to the free edge margin.

Completing the improved bib ready for practi-

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cal use, complementary ties 16 are end-stitched or secured to points of the opening 13 margin similarly spaced from and adjacent the intersection of the cut 14 therewith, such points of tie attachment being indicated by the marks 17 of Figure 2, and complementary ties 18 are similarly end-stitched or secured to points of the lobe 12 convex margins similarly spaced relative to the cut 14 and adjacent the lobe crowns, as indicated by the marks 19 of Figure 2. The ties 16 are employed in a usual and obvious manner to snug the opening 13 about the neck of a wearer and are tied at the nape of the wearer's neck to dispose the circular arc zone 11 of the bib below the chin and over the upper chest of the wearer in position, by virtue of its pouched conformation, to entrap food wastes and oral emissions impinging upon said zone in both erect and and recumbent wearer positions, while the ties 18 are employed to join points of the bib margin behind the wearer's head and to consequently overlap adjacent sides of the lobes 12 in a manner to pouch the bib body entirely about and around the opening 13, thus completing a flexible basin disposed to collect and retain wastes and emissions in virtually every position the wearer may attain. The ties 18, when interengaged, function to further shorten the bib free margin and to correspondingly deepen the bib body pouch, the degree of lobe 12 overlap and the depth of bib body pouch being susceptible of same adjustment within the range of the tie 18 lengths. Use of the ties 16 and 18 facilitates adaptation of a given bib size to use on infants of varying size and age and obviates all occasion for the presence of hazardous, or otherwise undesirable, metallic fastenings.

Since changes, variations, and modifications in the form, construction, and arrangement of the elements shown and described may be had without departing from the spirit of my invention, I wish to be understood as being limited solely by the scope of the appended claims, rather than by any details of the illustrative showing and foregoing descriptions.

I claim as my invention:

1. A bib of the character described comprising a centrally-apertured flexible sheet body of modified cardioid outline characterized by juxtaposed marginal lobes separable on a line radially of said body and intersecting the central aperture thereof, the free edge margin of said sheet being uniformly gathered, an edge binding of less length than the ungathered sheet body free margin secured to and closing entirely about the uniformly-gathered said free edge margin to pouch the sheet body area, and ties selectively and adjustably interengageable to unite spacedly-adjacent points on said free edge margin at each end of the line of lobe separation.

2. A bib of the character described comprising a flexible sheet body of modified cardioid outline formed with a central aperture, like, convex, juxtaposed lobes characterizing the sheet body outline and separable on a line radially of said body and intersecting said central aperture, the free edge margin of said sheet being uniformly gathered, an uninterrupted edge binding of less

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length than the ungathered sheet body free margin secured to, to hold in uniformly gathered condition, and to close entirely about the margins of said lobes, line of lobe separation, central aperture, and sheet body area to pouch the latter, and ties selectively and adjustably interengageable to unite spacedly-adjacent points on said free edge margin at each end of the line of lobe separation.

3. The organization according to claim 2, wherein said ties are constituted as a pair of complementary ties individually end-secured to points of the central aperture free edge margin on opposite sides of the line of lobe separation and a second pair of complementary ties individually end-secured to a point of the lobe free edge margin adjacent the crown apex of each lobe.

4. In a bib of the character described, a flexible sheet body of modified cardioid outline formed with a central aperture and characterized by like, juxtaposed, marginal lobes separable on a line radially of the body and intersecting said aperture, the free edge margin of said sheet being uniformly gathered, an uninterrupted edge binding of less length than the ungathered sheet body free margin secured to, to hold in uniformly gathered condition, and to close entirely about the margins of said lobes, line of lobe separation, central aperture, and sheet body area to pouch the latter, complementary ties end-secured to points of said aperture free edge margin on opposite sides of the line of lobe separation, and complementary ties end-secured to points of the lobe free edge margins adjacent the lobe crown apices.

5. In a bib of the character described having a flexible sheet body of modified cardioid outline formed with a central aperture and characterized by like, juxtaposed, marginal lobes separable on a line radially of the body and intersecting said aperture, a uniformly-gathered free edge margin along and about said lobes, line of lobe separation, central aperture, and sheet body area, an uninterrupted edge binding of less length than the ungathered free edge margin permanently secured to, to close entirely about, and to hold said free edge margin in uniformly gathered condition, whereby to pouch the sheet body area, and means for selectively and adjustably interengaging points of the central aperture edge binding on opposite sides of the line of lobe separation and points of the lobe crown edge binding on opposite sides of said line.

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