This invention relates to a body structure of flexible sheet material that can be used as either a shopping bag or an article of wearing apparel.

A principal object of the present invention is to provide a two-ply triangular-shaped fabric or plastic mesh body with the plies attached to each other along the side edges of the waist of the base adjacent each corner, the remainder of the plies being unattached.

Another object of the invention is to provide a device of this kind that can readily be folded for insertion into a purse or the like.

A further object of the invention is to provide a device of this kind that can readily be knotted either for forming a handle or for fastening on the body of the wearer.

For further comprehension of the invention and of the objects and advantages thereof, reference will be had to the following description and accompanying drawings and to the appended claims in which the various novel features of the invention are more particularly set forth.

In the accompanying drawings forming a material part of this disclosure:

FIG. 1 is a top plan view of a triangular-shaped body structure made in accordance with the preferred form of the invention.

FIG. 2 is a vertical sectional view of the body structure taken on the plane of the line 2-2 of FIG. 1.

FIG. 3 is a side perspective view of body structure showing the structure opened for and knotted for use as a shopping bag, items of food being shown therein.

FIG. 4 is a perspective view showing the structure used as a babushka.

FIG. 5 is a side elevational view showing the structure used as a turban.

FIG. 6 is a front elevational view showing the structure used as a collar.

FIG. 7 is a similar view showing the structure used as a side drape scarf.

FIG. 8 is a plan view showing the structure folded for use as a tie belt.

FIG. 9 is a front elevational view showing the structure used as a belt tied upon the body of the wearer.

FIG. 10 is a rear perspective view showing the structure used as an apron and the ends being tied upon the rear of the waist of the wearer.

FIG. 11 is a top plan view of a body structure embodying a modified form of the invention with a corner being shown folded over and having handle means for fastening the ends together without being tied.

FIG. 12 is a fragmentary perspective view showing how the ends of the modified structure are joined and the handle hung from a supporting rod.

FIG. 13 is a side edge view of the handle fastening parts of FIG. 12, the corners of the structure being shown interlocked, the rod being omitted.

FIG. 14 is a top perspective view showing the structure of FIG. 11 in condition to serve as a shopping bag and being transported by hand.

FIG. 15 is a perspective view of a body structure embodying yet another modified handle means serving to fasten the ends together, the structure being shown partly folded.

FIG. 16 is a perspective view showing the structure of FIG. 15 with the ends joined, one in the other, and the structure shaped to serve as a shopping bag.

FIG. 17 is a fragmentary perspective view of the tied ends of the body structure in the manner as shown in FIG. 3 and illustrating how with a hook the bag when filled can be supported from a top surface and thereby kept from falling over when rested.

Referring now in detail to the various views of the drawings, in FIG. 1, there is shown a fabric or plastic mesh body structure embodying one form of the invention and designated generally at 20. The structure has a substantially triangular shaped body 22 with one corner slightly rounded as indicated at 24 and with the other two corners 26 and 28 sharper. The body is formed of two plies of sheet material of mesh plastic, cloth fabric or paper material. The plies are closely spaced as shown in FIG. 2. The edges of the short sides are attached to each other by a row of stitching 30 which stitching continues around the one corner 24 and around the sharp corners 26 and 28 but for only a short distance as indicated at 32 inwardly along the bottom or base of the body adjacent each sharp corner as viewed in FIG. 1. The remainder of the material of the plies is unattached, thereby leaving an opening along the bottom as indicated at 34 in FIGS. 1 and 2 and through which the bag is filled with parcels. These lines of stitching 32 provide the corners 26 and 28 with a shape and a rigidity so that they can be used as handles for a bag or by which the structure can be tied to fasten it upon the wearer as wearing apparel.

In using the improved structure 20, the plies constituting the body 22 may be separated and manually pushed apart so as to spread the body to the open condition shown in FIG. 3. The sharp corners 26 and 28 may be grasped by the hands of the user and tied into a knot 36 thereby forming a shopping bag 38 with side openings 40 to receive items of food or parcels 42 as shown in FIG. 5.

In FIG. 4, the structure is shown worn as a babushka 44 formed by merely folding the body of the structure along the center of the width thereof and tying the corners 26 and 28 into a knot 46 under the chin of the wearer.

The structure 20 may be also folded into narrow folds 48 and the folds placed around the head and tied at the corners 26 and 28 into a knot 50 thereby forming a turban 52 as shown worn in FIG. 5.

In order to convert the structure 20 into a collar as shown at 54 in FIG. 6, the body 22 is folded in the direction of the blunt corner 24 into narrow folds 56 and the sharp corners 26 and 28 crossed. A brooch 58 for example may be secured through the crossed corners to prevent displacement thereof.

In FIG. 7, the structure 20 is shown worn over the shoulders of the user as a side drape scarf 60 formed by folding the body 22 in the direction of the blunt corner 24 into narrow folds 62 and tying the corners 26 and 28 into a knot 64.

FIG. 8 illustrates the structure 20 folded into a rectangular shape in plan with straight long edges 66 so as to form a belt 68 with the corners 26 and 28 projecting at the
ends of the belt. In FIG. 9, the belt 68 is shown worn by encircling it around the waist of the wearer and tying the corner ends 26 and 28 into a knot 70. In FIG. 8, a change purse 72 is shown preparatory to insertion into the belt 68 and in FIG. 9 the purse is shown supported and protected inside the belt 68, between the belt and the body of the wearer.

In FIG. 10, the structure 20 is shown worn as an apron 74 by merely encircling the body of the wearer with the body 22 of the structure and tying the corners 26 and 28 into a knot 76 at the rear of the waist of the wearer.

Referring now to the modified form of structure shown in FIGS. 11 to 14, inclusive, herein the structure 20' differs from the structure 20 of FIG. 1 in that at the corner 26' of the body 22' a combined hook and keeper device 89 is fastened to the corner and forms an extension thereof. The device 89 consists of an elongated rectangular shaped flat bar 82 formed at one end in a hook extension 84. The other end of the bar is fastened to the material of the corner by rivets 86. A key-hole slot 88 is formed in the body of the flat bar adjacent the hook extension.

At the opposite corner 28', an elongated flat bar 90 is fastened at one end to the material of the corner by means of a rivet. The other end of the bar 90 forms an extension of the corner and terminates in a circular key 94 with a gooseneck portion 96. The key 94 is slightly smaller than the keyhole 88.

In use, the plies constituting the body 22' are separated and manually pushed apart so as to spread the body to the open condition shown in FIG. 14. The key 94 is inserted into and through the keyhole slot 88 in the keeper 80 thereby interlocking the corner end 26' to the corner end 28' and forming a shopping bag 38' as shown in FIG. 14. If it is desired to support the shopping bag 38' off the floor, it is only necessary to lift the handle 102 as shown in FIG. 12 and place it on a horizontal rod 102 as shown in FIG. 12, the open construction of the handle permitting this operation.

Another modified form of structure 20'' is shown in FIGS. 15 and 16 wherein the structure 20'' merely differs from the structure 20 in that a hole 106 is formed on the extreme end of corner 26'' and a string 108 is knotted at 108' and held in the extreme end of the other corner 28'' and the other end of the string is formed with a loop 110 so that it can be pulled through the hole 106 in the corner 26''.

In emulative use, the corner 28'' is inserted into and nested in the pocket 112 formed at the corner 26''. The loop 110 of the string is inserted into the opening 106 and the string is pulled outward therethrough from the pocket 112. Thus, the corner 26'' is supported upon the corner 28'' and the weight of the shopping bag is transmitted to corner 28''. The string 108 by means of its loop 110 tied thereto serves as a carrying handle for the bag as shown in FIG. 16. In FIG. 17, a handle 113 of double-ended hook shape has its end 112 thrust under the knot 36 of the bag 38 of FIG. 3, supporting food items and its other hook end 114 provided with a vacuum cup 115 and adapted to overlie and attach to a stop supporting surface 116. In this manner the bag when filled will be supported upright without the bag being filled to lose the items.

While I have illustrated and described the preferred embodiments of my invention, it is to be understood that I do not limit myself to the precise constructions herein disclosed and that various changes and modifications may be made within the scope of the invention as defined in the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A body structure having a substantially triangular-shaped body of two plies of flexible sheet mesh material, the edges of the plies being attached to each other along two sides of the body, the edges of the plies at the other side being attached along the base for a short distance inwardly thereof, adjacent each corner, the remainder of the material of the plies being unattached.

2. A body structure having a substantially triangular-shaped body of two plies of flexible sheet mesh material, the edges of the plies being attached to each other along two sides of the body, the edges of the plies at the other side being attached along the base for a short distance inwardly thereof, adjacent each corner, the remainder of the material of the plies being unattached, said other side of the body providing an opening between the ends of the stitched edges thereof through which the bag may be filled.

3. A body structure having a substantially triangular-shaped body of two plies of flexible sheet mesh material, the edges of the plies being attached to each other along two sides of the body, the edges of the plies at the other side being attached along the base, for a short distance inwardly thereof adjacent each corner forming semi-rigid corners, said semi-rigid corners being sharp, the other corner being blunt, the remainder of the material of the plies being unattached, said other side of the body having an opening between the ends of the stitched edges thereof.

4. A shopping bag structure having a substantially triangular-shaped body of two plies of flexible sheet mesh material, the edges of the plies being attached to each other along two sides of the body, the edges of the plies at the other side being attached for a short distance inwardly thereof adjacent each corner, forming semi-rigid corners, said semi-rigid corners being sharp, the other corner being blunt, the remainder of the material of the plies being unattached, said other side of the body having an opening between the ends of the stitched edges thereof, and a key and keeper assembly on the sharp corners forming extensions thereof for holding said corners detachably interlocked.

5. A shopping bag structure having a substantially triangular-shaped body of two plies of flexible sheet mesh material, the edges of the plies being attached to each other along two sides of the body, the edges of the plies at the other side being attached for a short distance inwardly thereof adjacent each corner, forming semi-rigid corners, said semi-rigid corners being sharp, the other corner being blunt, the remainder of the material of the plies being unattached, said other side of the body having an opening between the ends of the stitched edges thereof, and a key and keeper assembly on the sharp corners forming extensions thereof for holding said corners detachably interlocked.

6. A shopping bag structure having a substantially triangular-shaped body of two plies of flexible sheet mesh material, the edges of the plies being attached to each other along two sides of the body, the edges of the plies at the other side being attached for a short distance inwardly thereof adjacent each corner, forming semi-rigid corners, said semi-rigid corners being sharp, the other corner being blunt, the remainder of the material of the plies being unattached, said other side of the body having an opening between the ends of the stitched edges thereof, and a key and keeper assembly on the sharp corners forming extensions thereof for holding said corners detachably interlocked.

7. A shopping bag structure having a substantially triangular-shaped body of two plies of flexible sheet mesh material, the edges of the plies being attached to each other along two sides of the body, the edges of the plies at the other side being attached for a short distance inwardly thereof adjacent each corner, forming semi-rigid corners, said semi-rigid corners being sharp, the other
corner being blunt, the remainder of the material of the plies being unattached, said other side of the body having an opening between the ends of the stitched edges thereof, one of said sharp corners having a hole in the extremity thereof, a string secured at one end to the extremity of the other sharp corner, said string having a loop on the other end thereof, said string adapted to be threaded through the hole in the corner for forming a shopping bag structure, said loop serving as a handle when the shopping bag structure is formed.

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