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DRAPERY PLEAT FORMING ASSEMBLY

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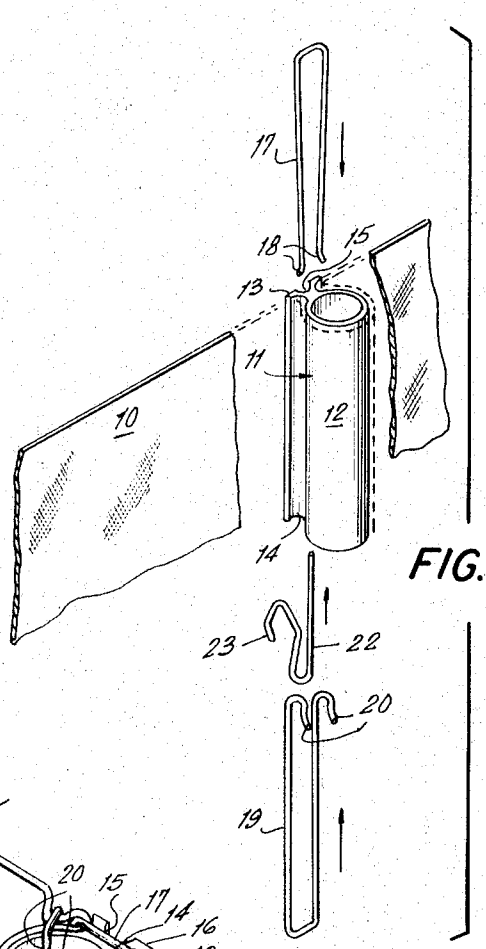


FIG. 1

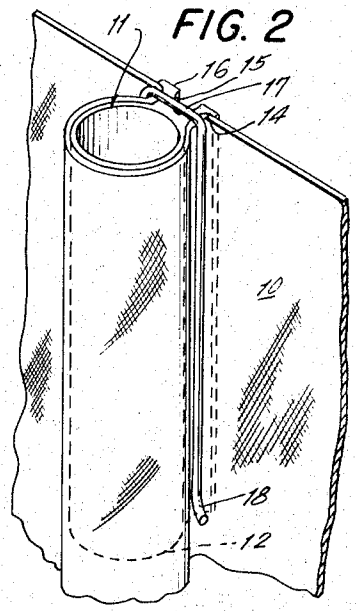


FIG. 2

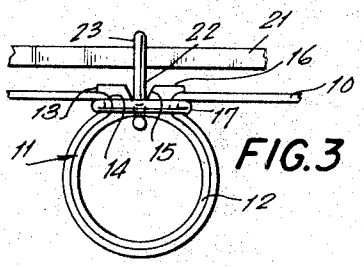


FIG. 3

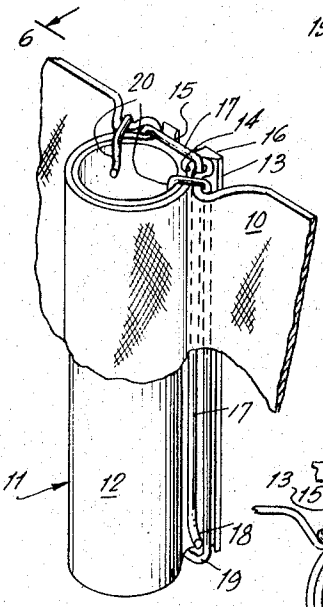


FIG. 4

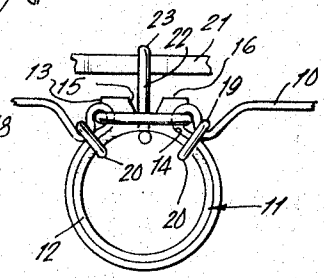


FIG. 5

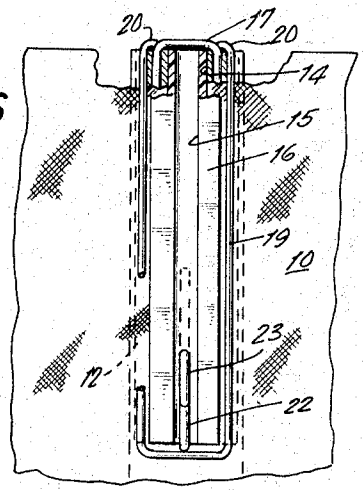


FIG. 6

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DRAPERY PLEAT FORMING ASSEMBLY

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2 Claims. (Cl. 160—348)

This invention relates to drapery hardware and specifically to assemblies for imparting a pleated appearance to the heading of curtains or the like.

Where it is desired to pleat a curtain, drapery or the like it has been the custom to sew various pleats into the heading of the material. In certain types of headings, stiff tubular inserts of buckram or the like have been incorporated for ornamental effects. In addition, to the time required to sew such headings, it is often necessary to remove the inserts and much of the stitching when the curtain or drape is to be cleaned.

Accordingly, it is an object of the present invention to provide an assembly which will form a pleated curtain or drape without additional sewing.

Another object of the present invention is to provide a drapery pleating device which may be applied in a minimum of time.

A further object of the present invention is to provide a drapery pleating device having a minimum number of parts.

An object of the present invention is to provide a drapery pleating device which will have the same appearance as sewn pleats.

Still another object of the present invention is to provide a drapery pleating device which can be removed quickly from the drapery for cleaning and storing purposes.

A feature of the present invention is its use of a rigid core member which is completely hidden from view within the finished pleat.

Another feature of the present invention is its use of a hold-down clip to conceal the entire drapery pleating device.

A further feature of the present invention is its use of simple, easily applied elements to form the pleat.

The invention consists of the construction, combination and arrangement of parts, as herein illustrated, described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawing, forming a part hereof is illustrated one form of embodiment of the invention, in which drawing similar reference characters designate corresponding parts, and in which:

FIGURE 1 is an exploded view partly broken away of a complete embodiment of the present invention.

FIGURE 2 is a somewhat isometric view of the drapery pleating device shown in FIGURE 1, partly assembled.

FIGURE 3 is a top plan view of the assembly shown in FIGURE 2.

FIGURE 4 is a somewhat isometric view of the completely assembled draping pleating device.

FIGURE 5 is a top plan view of the assembly shown in FIGURE 4.

FIGURE 6 is a view taken on line 6—6 in FIGURE 4, looking in the direction of the arrows.

Referring to the drawings and particularly to FIGURES 1, 2 and 3, **10** indicates a portion of the upper edge of a length of drapery material. The material **10** is wrapped around a tubular core member **11** in the manner indicated by the dashed lines. The core member **11** is formed of some suitably rigid material such as nylon, polyethelene, polystyrene or the like and is of a length which will support the entire pleat. A flanged longitudinal rib **13** is formed integral with the tubular core

and extends rearwardly of the tubular body portion **12** thereof.

The rib **13** is undercut as indicated at **14** for its entire length on both sides thereof and is provided with a longitudinal groove **15** on the rear surface **16**. The undercut portion **14** of the rib **13** is adapted to receive a somewhat U shaped metal drapery clamping pin **17**. The clamping pin **17** is slipped over the drapery **10** and into the undercuts **14** in the manner shown in FIGURES 2 and 3, to secure the core **11** to the drapery. The clamping pin **17** is formed with outwardly turned end portions **18** to prevent the pin **17** from damaging the drapery as it is pressed into the undercut portions **14** of the flange **13**.

From an examination of the assembly shown in FIGURES 2 and 3, it will be apparent that the metal clamping pin **17** can be seen at each side of the pleat. In order to hide the clamping pin **17** and give the pleat the appearance of a sewn pleat there is provided a second U shaped clip **19** hereinafter referred to as a "hold-down" clip.

The hold-down clip **19** is provided with two hook-like members **20** at the free ends thereof. The hooks **20** are of a size which will permit them to engage and overlie the drapery **10** and the core **11** at the top of the assembly as shown in FIGURES 4–6. As the hooks **20** are shipped into place from the rear of the pleat, they carry with them the drapery material **10** folding it back upon itself in the manner shown. The clamping pin **17** is thus concealed by the folded material. The hold-down clip **19** is secured to the assembly by forcing it over the flanged rib **13** until it lies along the recess formed by the clamping pin **17** and the cylindrical body portion **12** of the core **11**, as shown in FIGURES 5 and 6.

The hooks **20** also help to keep the core **11** from slipping upwardly out of the drape **10**, thereby improving the appearance of the pleat. Since the hooks **20** are located at the top rear of the finished pleat they are almost invisible.

The drapery **10** may be provided with any desired number of spaced pleats by repeating the operations hereinabove set forth. With the drapery fully pleated it can be secured to any of the well known curtain rods **21** by slipping a curtain hook **22** (best shown in FIGURE 1) into the longitudinal groove **15** of the flanged rib **13** in the manner shown in FIGURE 6. The curtain hook **22** is inserted at the bottom portion of the core **11** so that when its rod engaging portion **23** is coupled to the rod **21** the drapery heading will cover the rod **21** in the customary manner. Since the drapery is completely pleated before the curtain hooks are applied, it is possible to handle the drapery and hang it without curtain hooks catching in the drapery material. Each hook can be inserted as the drapery pleat is coupled to the rod.

When it is desired to clean the pleated drapery **10**, it is merely necessary to remove the curtain hook **22**, snap the hold-down clip **19** off the rib **13** and slide the clamping pin **17** out of the undercut portion of the rib **13**. The drapery **10** will then be a flat, unpleated member which can be cleaned and ironed with ease.

From the foregoing it will be seen that there has been provided a drapery pleating assembly which is easy to apply and disassemble and which will nevertheless have the appearance of hand sewed articles.

Having thus fully described the invention, what is claimed as new and desired to be secured by Letters Patent of the United States, is:

1. A drapery pleat forming device for application to the upper portion of drapery material comprising an elongated tubular core to receive the drapery therearound, a longitudinally disposed flanged rib on said core extending outwardly thereof, said rib being laterally undercut at opposite sides thereof to receive a portion of the

drapery, a clamping pin comprising a rod-like member doubled back upon itself securing the drapery material within the undercut portions of the rib, and a hold down clamp comprising a substantially U shaped member applied to the drapery material as it emerges from the clamping pin from the rib side of the assembly and received upon the flanged rib and overlying the clamping pin whereby the drapery material is doubled back upon itself to hide the said clamping pin.

2. A device according to claim 1 in which the free ends of the hold-down clamp are bent back upon themselves to form hooks receivable within the core over the top thereof whereby the clip is secured to the core.

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