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COVER SECURING MEANS FOR INFANTS

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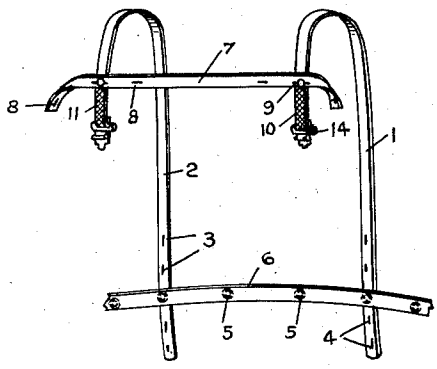



Fig-1

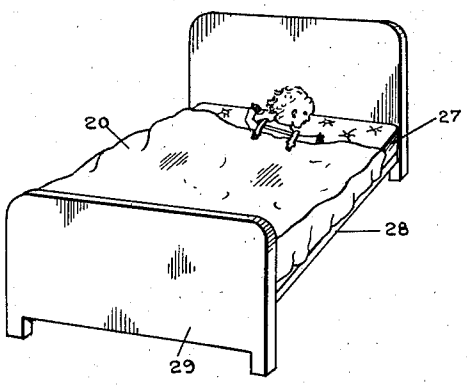



Fig-2

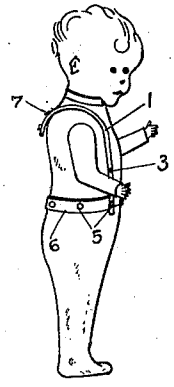



Fig-3

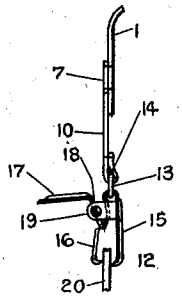



Fig-4

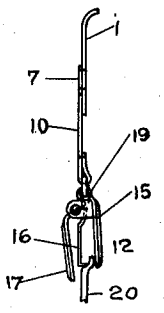



Fig-5

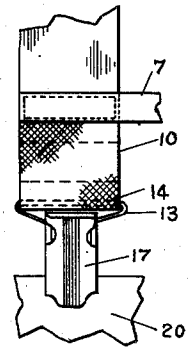



Fig-6

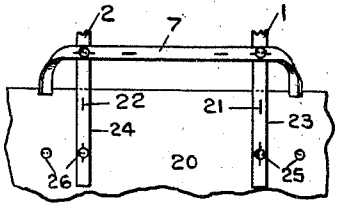



Fig-7

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## COVER SECURING MEANS FOR INFANTS

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8 Claims. (Cl. 2—111)

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The improvements relate to devices for securing and positioning a blanket or other covering over a sleeping infant in such a manner that the infant will not become uncovered while sleeping and will not be in danger of becoming entagled in the securing means. Their objects are to provide a simple, safe and effective device which will hold the covering in proper position on the sleeping infant, may be quickly and easily applied and removed and will not be put out of adjustment or permit the covering to be displaced or bind the child when it twists, doubles up or rolls its body.

Infants invariably sleep on their stomachs, and that is their normal sleeping position. If placed in a cot or crib in any other position, an infant will invariably twist and turn until it attains this normal position, and in doing so, is likely to become entangled in the covering or in the means provided for securing it. The present improvements are designed to secure the covering and maintain it in proper position with the child in this normal front-downward position and to insure against entanglement of the child in the covering or the securing means when it moves its body or limbs, as small children invariably do while sleeping, while awake and while lying prone. It also so connects the child with the covering that it will be prevented from rolling off its couch, moving out from under the covering or moving the said cover off its body. To this end the straps are designed to be secured to the waist portion of the child's sleeping garment at the front and to be positioned in such a manner that they cannot tighten around the child's neck or permit movement of the covering with respect to the child's body, by being passed freely up over the shoulders and around behind the child's head and neck, where they are held together and against spreading or contracting, and secured to the covering, all in such a manner that the covering will remain in proper position with respect to the child's body and neither the covering nor the securing straps can bind the child.

The improvements are illustrated in the accompanying drawings, referred to herein, in which—

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a cover securing and positioning means embodying the improvements;

Fig. 2 is a perspective of a child in sleeping position on a couch wearing the securing means shown in Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a view of a child wearing a sleeping garment and the securing means before said means is attached to the cover;

Fig. 4 is a side elevation of a detached back

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portion of the securing means and the cover clasp in open position;

Fig. 5 is a view similar to Fig. 4 with the clasp in closed and in cover gripping position;

Fig. 6 is a back view of the parts of Figs. 4 and 5; and

Fig. 7 is a similar view of a modified form.

In the said drawings, 1 and 2 represent the main straps which in the illustrative embodiment are provided with a series of buttonholes 3 and 4 adapted to receive buttons 5 on the waist portion 6 of the sleeping garment, so that the straps can be adjusted laterally with respect to each other and vertically to accommodate them to variations in the size of the child and for other purposes. The buttons 5 may be the buttons employed to connect the trousers and the jacket part of the sleeping garment or may be provided specially for the attachment of the straps where a one-piece garment is worn. The waist portion 6 is in the form of the ordinary waistband as shown but may have any other suitable form so long as it forms a part of the garment and is rigidly secured thereto. This character of the waist portion 6 and the firm attachment of the buttons 5 or other fastening means thereto are important since they insure a firm connection and anchorage for the straps and prevent the straps and their securements from slipping out of place or yielding materially when subjected to tension as when the infant attempts to wriggle or creep out from under the covering.

The straps 1 and 2 extend up from the waist portion to and over the shoulders and are connected with each other and given a maximum space limit by the cross strap 7. Between the waist attachment and the cross strap 7 these straps 1 and 2 are unattached to each other or to any other part, so that they are free to move laterally to a limited extent and to adjust themselves to the body of the child. Their spacing laterally is normally uniform throughout their length, and they may be moved to and from each other along the waist portion and the strap 7 without changing their parallel relation. However, this relation may be varied, if desired, by securing the straps closer together or farther apart on waistband or strap 7, as desired or necessity seems to require. The cross connecting strap 7 is provided with a series of buttonholes 8 and the straps with buttons 9 for the purpose of adjustment of the straps 1 and 2 thereon just referred to. In many cases it will be found preferable to have the ends of the straps 1 and 2 at the waist portion closer together than at the cross strap

portion, so that they will not have a tendency to slip off the child's shoulders under tension.

Beyond the cross strap 7 the extending portions 10, 11 may be made of elastic tape or otherwise made resilient so as to permit a limited movement of stretching and adjustment of the cover holder and covering to the body of the child. The main reaches of the straps, however, are inelastic and preferably made of strong, heavy fabric tape, as is also the cross connecting strap 7. The cross strap 7, however, may be made longitudinally resilient if the strap extensions 10 and 11 are not.

The clasp 12 may be of any usual form, but in the form shown it comprises a wire loop 13 held in a terminal loop 14 of the part 10 or 11, integral, resilient metal jaw members 15 and 16 through the junction part of which the wire loop passes and an angular compressing lever 17, 18 pivoted at 19 to close and lock the jaws on the blanket or other covering 20 and against their open spring when the part 17 is pressed downwardly until the part 18 is on dead centre with respect to the said pivot. But any other satisfactory form of detachable connection may be employed, and the ends of the straps may be buttoned or be permanently secured to the covering. In case of permanent securement or buttoning the buttons or securement will be within the edge of the covering, and where buttons are used the strap extensions 23 and 24 (Fig. 7) will be provided with buttonholes 21 and 22, and the covering with buttons 25 and 26. By this arrangement the covering may be brought close to the neck of the child and an adjustment provided vertically and laterally which can be made after the child is laid on the couch in proper position.

It will be seen from the foregoing description that the means for securing the blanket or other covering is entirely unattached to the child or its garment except at the waist and in front and that the only connection between this means and the covering is at the child's back and below the neck. The waist portion of the garment to which the securing means is connected is not in the nature of a belt or other close-fitting part but is at most nothing more than a waistband for joining the trousers and jacket portions of the sleeping garment, where a two-piece garment is worn. It is free, therefore, to rotate and to move up and down on the child's body to a considerable extent. These features permit the infant to move up and down and in rotary fashion with respect to the covering to a sufficient degree to change its position and adjust itself comfortably to that position, without causing any binding effect by the said means, the garment or the covering on any part of the body. At the same time the construction and arrangement and the connections of these parts are such that the child cannot separate itself from the covering or get out from under it to any substantial extent, and the arrangement will exercise a yielding restraint on any efforts to do so. The means provided, therefore, while very simple and easily applied and removed are highly efficient in protecting the child against exposure as well as from becoming entangled or bound therein. The movement of the infant to a position entirely under the covering is also prevented by the connection of the securing means and the waist portion which causes said means to move downwardly with the body and draw down with it the upper portion of the said covering before the head is covered to a sufficient extent to interfere with breathing.



In this function the cross strap prevents the securing means from passing over the head.

The covering 20, it will be understood, is usually secured at sides and foot by being tucked in between the mattress 27, the side rail 28 and foot 29 of the couch or by being otherwise attached to the mattress, but this is not essential.

Various changes may be made in the details of the embodiment shown and described herein without departing from the scope or essence of the invention as set forth in the appended claims.

What I claim is:

1. A pair of approximately parallel straps of substantially equal length, a garment comprising trousers, jacket and a connecting waist portion, means for securing the lower ends of said straps to the waist portion of said garment only and at definitely spaced apart points at the front thereof, said straps adapted and arranged to be passed upwardly over the front of the jacket portion and over the shoulders thereof and of an infant wearing the same on opposite sides of the neck and being unsecured between the said waist portion and a point behind the neck, a cross strap connecting said straps behind the neck and in proximity thereto, said straps extending downwardly beyond said cross strap a short distance and means on said extending portion for detachably securing said straps to a blanket or other covering for the infant.

2. A pair of approximately parallel straps of substantially equal length, a garment comprising trousers, jacket and a connecting waist portion, means for securing the lower ends of said straps to the waist portion of said garment only and at definitely spaced apart points at the front thereof, said straps adapted and arranged to be passed upwardly over the front of the jacket portion and over the shoulders thereof and of an infant wearing the same on opposite sides of the neck and being unsecured between the said waist portion and a point behind the neck, a cross strap connecting said straps behind the neck and in proximity thereto, said straps extending downwardly beyond said cross strap a short distance and means on said extending portions for detachably securing said straps to a blanket or other covering for the infant, and said straps, cross straps and extending portions being otherwise unattached to the garment or body of the wearer and free for independent lateral and vertical movement.

3. A pair of approximately parallel straps of substantially equal length, a garment comprising trousers, jacket and a connecting waist portion, means for securing the lower ends of said straps to the waist portion of said garment only and at definitely spaced apart points at the front thereof, said straps adapted and arranged to be passed upwardly over the front of the jacket portion and over the shoulders thereof and of an infant wearing the same on opposite sides of the neck and being unsecured to and free from the garment, the wearer and each other between the said waist portion and a point behind the neck, a cross strap connecting said straps behind the neck and in proximity thereto, said straps extending downwardly beyond said cross strap a short distance and means on the portions of said straps beyond the shoulders for detachably securing said straps to a blanket or other covering for the infant.

4. A pair of approximately parallel straps of substantially equal length, a garment comprising trousers, jacket and a connecting waist por-

tion, means for securing the lower ends of said straps to the waist portion of said garment at different and definitely spaced apart points at the front thereof, said straps adapted and arranged to be passed upwardly over the front of the jacket portion and over the shoulders thereof and of an infant wearing the same on opposite sides of the neck and being free and unsecured between the said waist portion and a point behind the neck, said straps extending downwardly beyond the neck a short distance and means to engage said extending portions for detachably securing said straps to a blanket or other covering for the infant, comprising said covering, fixed projecting members secured thereto and longitudinally spaced portions with which the straps are provided for engaging said members.

5. A pair of approximately parallel straps of substantially equal length, a garment comprising trousers, jacket and a connecting waist portion, means on the garment and straps for securing the lower ends of said straps to the waist portion of said garment at definitely spaced apart points at the front thereof, said straps adapted and arranged to be passed upwardly over the front of the jacket portion and over the shoulders thereof and of an infant wearing the same on opposite sides of the neck and being free and unsecured between the said waist portion and a point behind the neck, a cross strap connecting said straps behind the neck and in proximity thereto, said straps extending downwardly beyond said cross strap a short distance and means on said extending portions for detachably securing said straps to a blanket or other covering for the infant.

6. A pair of approximately parallel straps of substantially equal length, a garment comprising trousers, jacket and a connecting waist portion, means for securing the lower ends of said straps to the waist portion of said garment only and at definitely spaced apart points at the front thereof, means for adjusting laterally said securing means, said straps adapted and arranged to be passed upwardly over the front of the jacket portion and over the shoulders thereof and of an infant wearing the same on opposite sides of the neck and being free and unsecured between the said waist portion and a point behind the neck, a cross strap connecting said straps behind the neck and in proximity thereto, said straps extending downwardly beyond said cross strap a short distance and means on said extending portions for detachably securing said straps to a blanket or other covering for the infant.



7. A pair of approximately parallel straps of substantially equal length, a garment comprising trousers, jacket and a connecting waist portion, means for securing the lower ends of said straps to the waist portion of said garment only and at definitely spaced apart points at the front thereof, said straps adapted and arranged to be passed upwardly over the front of the jacket portion and over the shoulders thereof and of an infant wearing the same on opposite sides of the neck and being free and unsecured between the said waist portion and a point behind the neck, a cross strap connecting said straps behind the neck and in proximity thereto, means for adjusting the length of the cross strap between said first named straps, said straps extending downwardly beyond said cross strap a short distance and means on said extending portions for detachably securing said straps to a blanket or other covering for the infant.

8. A pair of approximately parallel straps of substantially equal length, a garment comprising trousers, jacket and a connecting waist portion, means for securing the lower ends of said straps to the waist portion of said garment only and at definitely spaced apart points at the front thereof, said straps adapted and arranged to be passed upwardly over the front of the jacket portion and over the shoulders thereof and of an infant wearing the same on opposite sides of the neck and being free and unsecured between the said waist portion and a point behind the neck, a cross strap connecting said straps behind the neck and in proximity thereto, said straps extending downwardly and being of resilient material beyond said cross strap a short distance and means on said extending portions for detachably securing said straps to a blanket or other covering for the infant.

DANIEL HALPERIN.


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