April 1, 1952 R. P. J. PETIT 2,591,372

SHOULDER PIECE

Filed May 10, 1949

Fig.1.

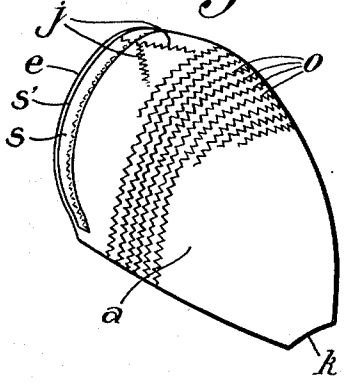


Fig.2.

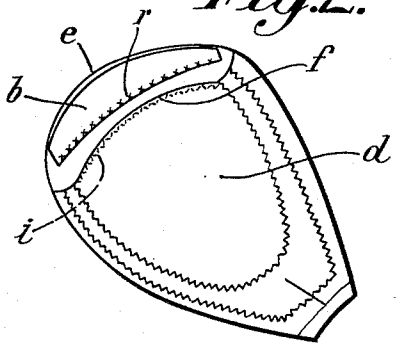


Fig.3.

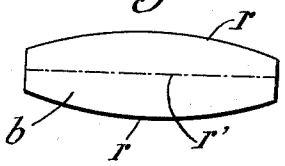


Fig.4.

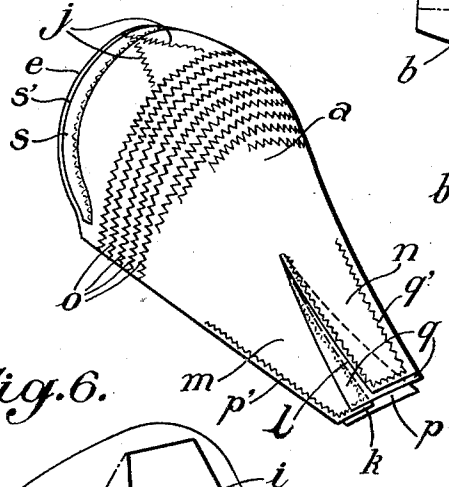


Fig.5.

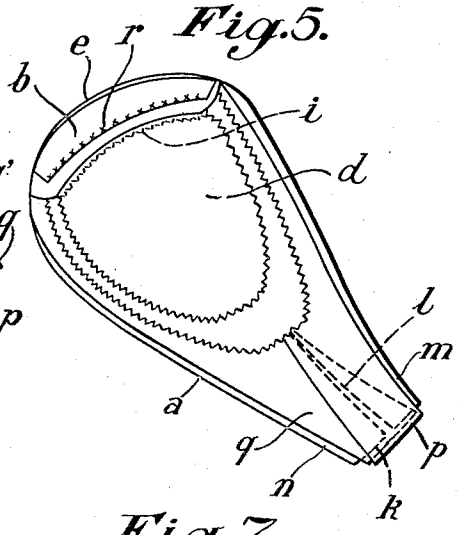


Fig.6.

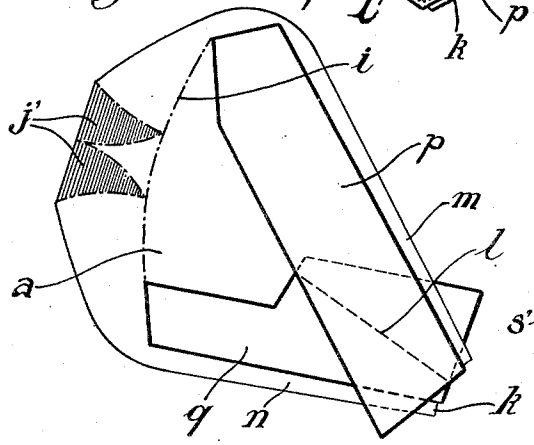
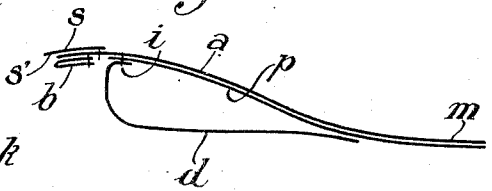


Fig.7.



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SHOULDER PIECE

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8 Claims. (Cl. 2—268)

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The present invention relates to shoulder-pieces and it has for its object to provide a shoulder-piece that will be light without however being liable to be deformed.

More particularly an object of this invention is to provide improved shoulder-pieces made up of an upper piece of resilient or reinforced fabric, to which is given the form of an arch stitched along one of its edges, straight or slightly curved, the most curved edge of a second or lower piece being placed below the first. Elastic shoulder-pieces are thus obtained, each of which is characterized by a small air cushion of which the extent is determined by the depth, variable at will, of the curvature of the lower piece.

Further objects are to provide various improvements and modifications in these shoulder-pieces, to reinforce them, to facilitate their adaptation to different types of persons to be clothed and to all shapes of shoulders required, and to allow the use of shoulder-pieces for fixing, in the required position, the other parts of clothing.

With these objects in view the shoulder-pieces according to this invention comprise the features hereinafter described with reference to the accompanying drawings, illustrating, by way of example, two embodiments of the invention:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of one type and

Figure 2 is a corresponding view of the inside of the shoulder-piece.

Figure 3 is a detail view.

Figure 4 is a perspective view of another type and

Figure 5 is a corresponding view of the inside of this shoulder-piece.

Figure 6 shows the same shoulder-piece before the stitching of the piece gives it the form of an arch.

Figure 7 is a longitudinal, axial section of the shoulder piece shown in Figures 4 and 5.

In these figures, *a* represents the upper or main part of the shoulder-piece, *b* is the reinforcing piece and *d* the lower piece which is cut on the bias and is provided with a curved edge *f*. This edge is stitched, as shown in Figures 1 and 2, along a line *i* set off from the edge *e* of the piece *a*. Owing to the difference between the curvature of this seam *i* and the more accentuated curvature of the edge *f*, the piece *a* tends to be raised in the form of an arch. The piece *a* can alternatively be stiffened by a lining and a series of seams *o*.

The edge *e* of the piece *a* may, in this case, be more or less curved. When the arch formed by

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the shoulder-piece is desired to have a very pronounced curvature, this arrangement allows a pleat *j* to be put in the piece *a*, thus making it possible to modify the shape of the shoulder-piece at will.

The reinforcing piece *b* is preferably formed here by a band of strong fabric of which the longitudinal edges *r* have a slight curvature as shown in Figure 3. When put in place, this band is folded along its middle line *r'*, and stitched under the piece *a*, along its superposed edges *r*. Being placed thus, the band *b* can easily be sewn to the lining of the garment to support it.

Alternatively, there may be sewn on to the piece *a*, a little back from the edge *e* a ribbon *s*, a border *s'* remaining free so that the edge of the upper part of the garment sleeve can be sewn thereto.

The above features are also contained in the embodiment shown in Figures 4 to 6. In this, the shoulder-piece is further provided with bands which extend towards the neck, in which they can be sewn to the neck of the garment. For this purpose the piece *a* has, beginning at its edge *k* near the neck, a longitudinal slit *l*, which divides this part of the piece *a* into two parts *m* and *n*, and there is sewn under each of them respectively a strip *p*, *q*, the seam of the parts being shown by *p'* and *q'* in Figures 4 and 5.

Figure 6 shows the pieces *a*, *p* and *q* of the shoulder-piece, seen from the inside thereof, spread out on one another. At *i* there is shown the seam of the edge *f* of the lower piece *d* (which piece is not shown for clearness) and *j'* shows the surfaces folded under the pleats *j*.

Figure 7 shows how piece *a* tends to be raised in the form of an arch and further shows the space between the members *a* and *d* which constitutes an air cushion.

Due to this arrangement, there is obtained not only a strengthening of the shoulder-piece by the strips *p*, *q*, but it is possible to spread out the shoulder-piece at the side of the neck by opening the slit *l* to a greater or less extent, according to the shape desired. When the slit is closed, the strips *p* and *q* cross so as to allow the piece to open without any interruption of fabric. Put in the correct position, the superposed parts of the strips *p* and *q* are sewn together after which the part of these strips near the collar can be sewn between the top and bottom of the collar.

It is to be understood that the shape of the parts of the shoulder-piece shown can be modified without departing from the scope of the invention as defined by the following claims.

I claim:

1. A shoulder-piece comprising, in combination, an upper piece of resilient fabric having a wide end and a narrow end, a shorter under piece of fabric of similar shape cut on the bias and having at its wide end a curved edge, said under piece having its edges lying inwardly of the upper piece of fabric and having all its edges sewn to said upper piece, the seam securing the curved edge of said under piece to said upper piece being along a substantially straight line drawn on said upper piece, whereby the shape of an arch is imparted to said upper piece and a closed air pocket is formed between said upper piece and said lower piece.

2. A shoulder-piece as claimed in claim 1, wherein the seam securing the curved edge of said under piece to said upper piece is set off from the wide end edge of said upper piece, a reinforcing piece of strong fabric being sewn to the portion of said upper piece between said seam and the wide end edge of said upper piece.

3. A shoulder-piece as claimed in claim 1, wherein the seam securing the curved edge of said under piece to said upper piece is set off from the wide end edge of said upper piece, a reinforcing piece of strong fabric being sewn to the portion of said upper piece between said seam and the wide end edge of said upper piece, said reinforcing piece being formed of a curved band of strong fabric folded along its middle line and stitched under said upper piece along its superposed edges, and a ribbon sewn over said upper piece at the wide end thereof, said ribbon having a free edge a little back from the wide end edge of said upper piece.

4. A shoulder-piece as claimed in claim 1, having pleats in the wide end of said upper piece accentuating the curvature thereof.

5. A shoulder-piece comprising in combination an upper piece of resilient fabric of elongated shape having a wide end and a narrow end, an under piece of fabric of similar shape but considerably shorter than said upper piece; said under piece being cut on the bias and having at its wide end a curved edge, said under piece having its edges sewn to said upper piece, the seam securing the curved edge of said under piece to said upper piece being along a substantially straight line drawn on said upper piece, whereby the shape of an arch is imparted to said upper piece and an air cushion is formed between said upper piece and said lower piece, said upper piece being slit longitudinally from its narrow end edge to the said under piece, thus forming two flaps, and a strip of strong fabric sewn to each of said flaps.

6. A shoulder-piece as claimed in claim 5, wherein the said strips are stitched to said flaps on the under side of said upper piece, and said under piece is sewn over said flaps.

7. A shoulder-piece as claimed in claim 5, wherein said strips overlap each other.

8. A shoulder-piece comprising in combination an elongated upper piece of resilient fabric having a long edge at the shoulder end and a short edge at the neck end, an under piece of similar shape but considerably shorter sewn along its edges to said upper piece, said under piece having a curved edge sewn to said upper piece along a substantially straight line thereby imparting an arched shape to said upper piece, the seam securing the curved edge of said under piece being set off from the said long edge of said upper piece, a reinforcing strip of strong fabric sewn to the portion of said upper piece between said seam and said long edge, said upper piece being slit longitudinally from said short edge a substantial depth thus forming flaps at the neck end of said upper piece, and strips of strong fabric sewn to said flaps.

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