

Sept. 2, 1952

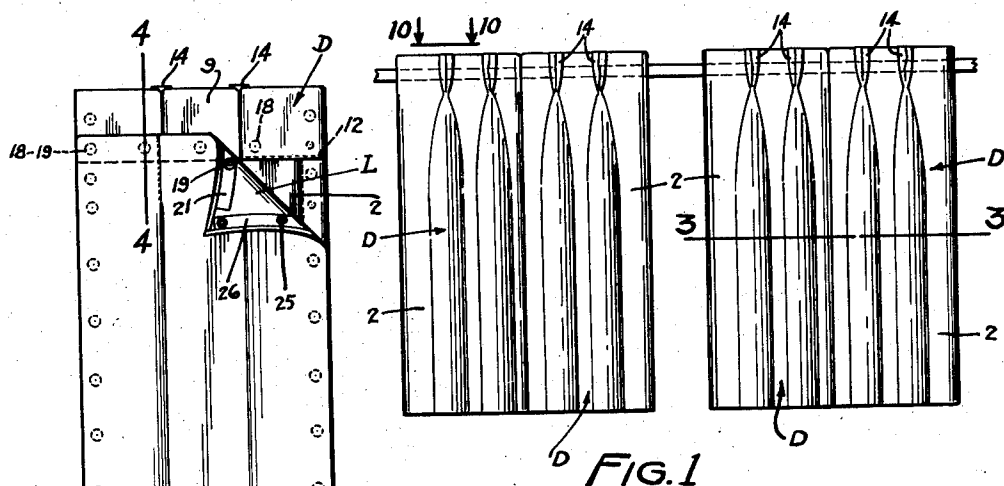
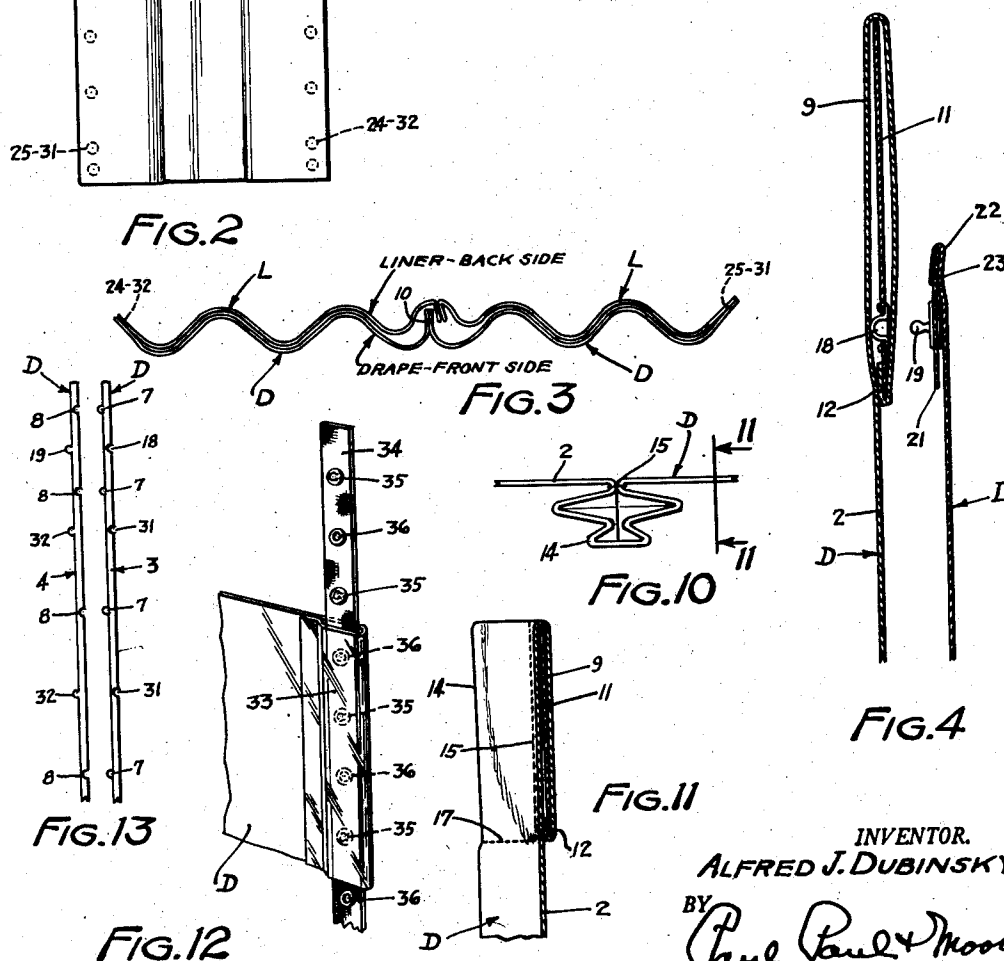
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2,609,043

SECTIONAL WINDOW DRAPERY AND LINER

Filed Dec. 4, 1950

2 SHEETS--SHEET 1



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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2

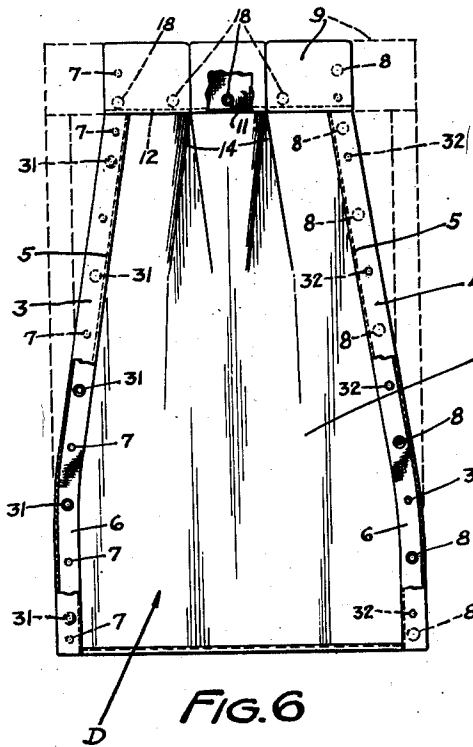


FIG. 6

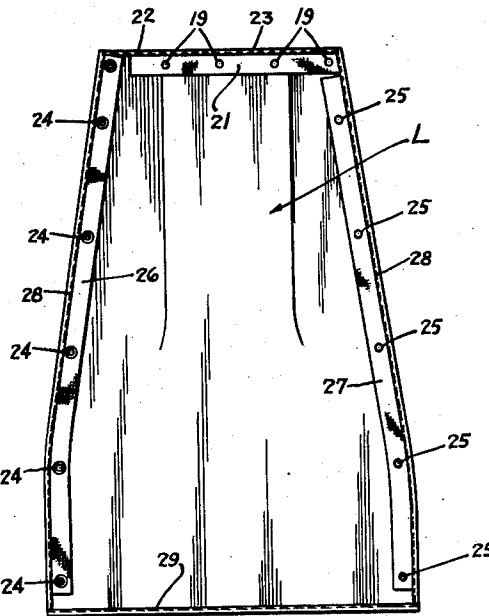


FIG. 7

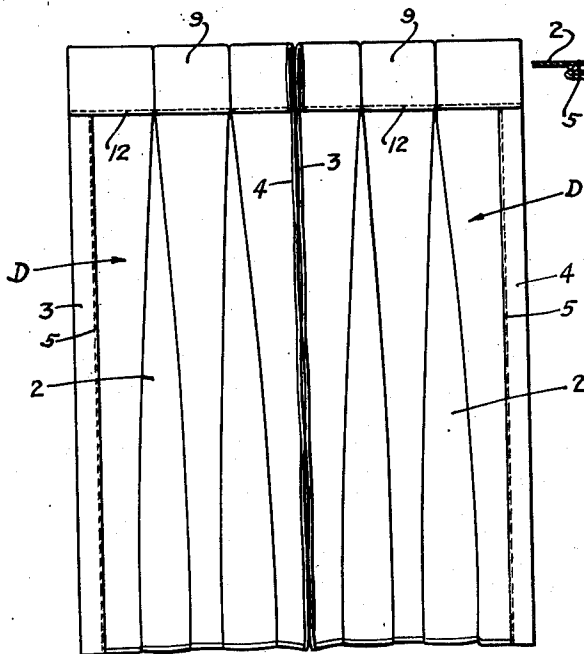


FIG. 5

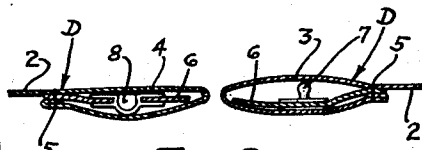


FIG. 8

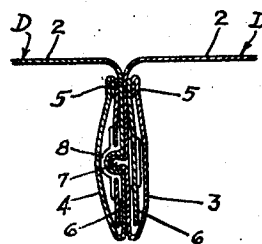


FIG. 9

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SECTIONAL WINDOW DRAPERY AND LINER

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6 Claims. (Cl. 160-124)

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This invention relates to new and useful improvements in window draperies; and more particularly to such draperies of the so-called pinch-pleated type which are usually hung by means of hooks or other hanger devices from rods, bars, tracks, and the like, whereon the draperies are horizontally slidable to facilitate placing the draperies in a desired location relative to the window.

Because of the wide variation in the widths of windows, it has heretofore been considered impractical to attempt to stock large quantities of ready-made draperies; and, as a result, it has been quite common to have the draperies for a given job "tailor made" for that particular job. This obviously has resulted in the cost of producing a set of draperies being maintained at a relatively higher level than would be necessary if the sizes of draperies were standardized so that they could be manufactured in mass production as a stock item. The present invention makes it possible to standardize draperies to one or possibly two sizes whereby they may be carried in stock in large quantities with the assurance that practically all sizes of windows may be equipped with stock draperies; and at a much lower cost than has heretofore been possible.

An important object of the present invention is to provide a composite window drapery composed of a plurality of standard size sections of like size, whereby the individual drape sections may be carried in stock by retailers with the assurance that any size window opening may be quickly fitted with a set of draperies by simply connecting together two, three or more such drape sections, as may be necessary to fit each window to be draped.

Another important object of the invention is to provide a composite window drape composed of two or more like drape sections secured together along their vertical side edges the full length or height of the drape, whereby when the composite drape is hung, it will have the appearance of a conventional one-piece drape.

A further object is to provide each drape section with a plurality of closely spaced fastening elements along each side edge thereof, the full length of each drape section, whereby the vertical edges of adjacent sections may be quickly secured together to provide a composite drapery of any desired width, said fastening elements being substantially entirely concealed within the side hems of the drape sections.

Other objects of the invention reside in the simple and inexpensive construction of the drape

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sections, whereby they may be manufactured in large quantities at low cost; in the formation of two or more permanent pinch pleats in the upper portion of each drape section, whereby when two or more sections are secured together to provide a composite drapery, said drape sections, when suspended from an overhead support will assume a plurality of uniform folds or pleats the full length of the drapery; in the unique manner of securing the coacting fastening elements in the hems of the vertical side edges of each drape section, whereby they are completely concealed from view at all times; in the provision of a simple, inexpensive lining element having means coacting with means on the drape sections for detachably securing the lining elements to the drapes, the securing means for said lining elements being so fashioned that when the lining elements are secured to the drape sections, the securing means therefor are similarly concealed from view; and in the provision of a set of draperies which readily lends itself for cleaning regardless of size, in that the lining and drapery sections are readily detachable from one another, whereby the parts of a composite section may be laundered or otherwise cleaned as independent units.

These and other objects of the invention and the means for their attainment will be more apparent from the following description taken in connection with the accompanying drawings.

In the accompanying drawings there has been disclosed a structure designed to carry out the various objects of the invention, but it is to be understood that the invention is not confined to the exact features shown, as various changes may be made within the scope of the claims which follow.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a front view of a set of draperies made in accordance with the present invention.

Figure 2 is a back view of one of the drapery sections showing a liner detachably secured thereto;

Figure 3 is a sectional plan view on the line 3-3 of Figure 1, showing liner sections attached to the back side of a composite drapery;

Figure 4 is an enlarged detail sectional view on the line 4-4 of Figure 2, showing the wide hem at the top of each drapery section and the stiffening element provided therein.

Figure 5 is a back view of a drapery composed of two sections having their adjacent side edges joined together the full length of the drapery;

Figure 6 is a back view of a drapery section,

partially broken away to show the location of the fastening elements within the side hems;

Figure 7 is an inside view of one of the liner sections;

Figure 8 is an enlarged detail sectional view showing the adjacent side edges of two drapery sections before they are connected together;

Figure 9 is a similar view showing the drapery sections of Figure 8 connected together;

Figure 10 is an enlarged fragmentary plan view on the line 10—10 of Figure 1, showing one of the permanent pleats in the top portion of each drape section;

Figure 11 is an enlarged detail sectional view on the line 11—11 of Figure 10;

Figure 12 is a fragmentary view showing a slightly modified construction; and

Figure 13 is a diagrammatic view illustrating the staggered relation between the male and female fastening elements in the side hems of each drape section.

An important feature of the present invention resides in the construction of a drapery composed of a plurality of drape sections, all of which are alike in size and construction, whereby they may be manufactured in quantity production at small cost and carried in stock by retailers, ready for immediate delivery and use.

The drapery sections are indicated by the reference character D, and all sections are identical in size and construction. Each section is preferably made from a single piece of fabric 2 having its opposed marginal side edges doubled back upon itself suitably stitched to provide side hems 3 and 4. Rows of stitching 5 complete the hems, which extend the full length of each section, as best illustrated in Figures 6, 8 and 9.

A suitable reinforcing tape 6 is provided within the hems 3 and 4 to slightly stiffen said hems and to provide a supporting means for a plurality of complementary fastening elements 7 and 8. Buckram has been found to provide an inexpensive material for thus stiffening the hems of each drapery section. Other materials suitable for the purpose may be used in lieu of buckram, if desired.

In the present instance, male snap buttons 7 are shown secured in the tapes 6 along the full length of the left-hand side edge of each drape section D, when looking at the section from its back side, as shown in Figure 6. Complementary snap buttons 8 of the female type are secured to the tape 6 at the opposite side edge of each drape section. Other fastening elements applicable for the purpose may be utilized in lieu of the snap buttons herein disclosed without departing from the scope of the invention.

A relatively wide hem 9 is provided at the top of each drape section, as illustrated in Figures 2, 4 and 6. A stiffening member 11, preferably of buckram or some such material, is provided within the hem 9 and extends the length thereof, as indicated in dotted lines in Figure 6. The stiffening member 11 is anchored in the hem 9 by a row of stitching 12 which secures the edge of the fabric to the body thereof in the formation of the hem 9, as clearly illustrated in Figure 4.

After the hem 9 has been completed, two or more vertically disposed pinch pleats 14 are formed in the top portion of the drape section, as indicated at 14 in Figures 1, 6, 10 and 11. These pleats are secured by a row of stitching 15 extending from the top edge of the hem 9 to the bottom 16 thereof, and then outwardly, as indicated at 17 in Figure 11, thereby to secure the

pinch pleats in correct formation. In some instances, it may not be necessary to run the row of stitching outwardly, as shown at 17, as the pinch pleats may retain their proper form by means of the stiffening member 11 provided within the hem 9, and which element is folded simultaneously with the fabric when forming the pleats 14, as will be noted by reference to Figure 10.

A series of female fastening elements 18 are shown secured to the stiffening member 11 within the top hem 9, adapted to cooperate with male fastening elements 19 provided in the upper marginal edge portions of a liner, generally designated by the reference character L, as best illustrated in Figures 4 and 7. The fastening elements 19 of each liner are shown secured to a stiffening tape 21 stitched to the upper marginal hem 22 of the liner L, by stitching 23.

Each liner is also provided at its opposed edges with male and female fastening elements 24 and 25. The fastening elements 24 and 25 of each liner section are shown secured in suitable stiffening tapes 26 and 27, respectively, which, like the tape 21 at the top of the liner, is stitched to the marginal side edges of the liner by stitching 28. It is to be understood that the fabric constituting the body of the liner has its side edges hemmed simultaneously as the tapes are secured thereto by the stitching 28. The lower edge of each liner is also hemmed, as indicated at 29.

In the present instance the fastening elements at the left hand side edge of the liner, when viewed as shown in Figure 7, are of the female type, and the fastening elements at the opposite or right hand side edge are of the male type.

One of the outstanding features of the present invention resides in the manner in which two or more drape sections D may be secured together to provide a composite drapery, and whereby the fastening elements are completely concealed from view so that the finished drapery has the appearance of a "tailor made" job.

As best illustrated in Figures 8 and 9, the fastening elements 7 and 8 in the side edges of each drapery section are concealed within the hems 3 and 4. They are so fashioned that when a male fastening element 7 is engaged with a female fastening element 8, as shown in Figure 9, a portion of the fabric of each hem is forced into the female fastening element by the male fastening element. It is to be understood that the construction of the fastening elements 7 and 8 is such that portions of the fabric may readily be forced into the female element 8 by the male element 7 when securing together the adjacent marginal edges of two drape sections, without noticeably marring the fabric.

When joining together the side edges of adjacent drape sections, the adjacent side hems 3 and 4 are preferably inwardly turned, as shown at 10 in Figure 3, whereby the joints between adjacent drape sections D are substantially completely concealed from view, when facing the front side of a composite drapery. All of the drape sections D are identical in construction, so that any desired number of such sections may be secured together to provide a completed drapery of any desired length.

If a single drape section D is to have an inner liner attached thereto, the inner liner is placed against the back side of the drape section, as shown in Figure 2, and the male fastening elements 25 are then operatively engaged with the

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complemental female fastening elements 31 on the drape section, and the female fastening elements 24 on the opposite side edge of the liner are operatively engaged with the complementary male fastening elements 32 on the drape section. The fastening elements 19 in the top of the liner are similarly engaged with the complemental fastening elements 18 of the drape section. When the liner is applied to the drape section, as above described, and as shown in Figure 2, the fastening elements are completely concealed and the composite drape section will have the appearance of a conventional "tailor made" drapery. It is to be understood that pinch pleats are also provided in the upper portion of the liner so that when the latter is applied to the drape section, it will assume a series of longitudinal folds of pleats, extending the full length of the drape, similar to those in each drape section.

In Figure 3 there is illustrated a composite drapery comprising two drapery sections D and two liner sections L secured together to provide the composite drapery. As here shown, the joint between the adjacent edges of the two drapery sections D is turned inwardly, or in a direction towards the back side of the drape, whereby it is completely concealed from the front side of the drapery. Conversely, the adjacent side edges of the two liner sections which are united to form the joint between the two liners, are turned in the opposite direction, or towards the drape sections D, whereby the joint between the two liner sections is likewise completely concealed, when looking at the completed drapery from the back side thereof.

In Figure 12 there is illustrated a slightly modified method of securing the fastening elements in the hems of the drape sections D. As here shown, each drape section D is provided at its opposite edges with hollow hems 33 in which is inserted a stiffening tape 34 to which the fastening elements 35 and 36 are secured. In this construction the ends only of each stiffening tape 34 are secured to the ends of the hems 33, whereby the fastening elements may readily, if desired, be detached from the drape section by simply releasing the ends of the tape 34 and withdrawing said tapes from their respective hems 33. The hems 33 in which the tapes 34 are supported are preferably open at their tops and bottoms to facilitate withdrawing the tapes therefrom, when released. This is particularly desirable when the drapes are made of a fabric or other material which may be rather sheer or translucent so that the tapes 34 may be seen through the fabric, when supported in the hems. When using such fabric, the tapes in the hems at the outer edges of the draperies are removed.

The composite drapery, when completed, may be hung as any conventional drapery for traveling or sliding movement upon suitable rods or tracks, or they may be hung in fixed positions adjacent the sides of a window. When so suspended, the draperies will assume a plurality of longitudinal folds or pleats, as indicated in Figure 1, because of the fixed pinch pleats 14 formed in the upper portions of the drape sections D. These folds or pleats may be spaced in any suitable manner along the length of the top of each drape section to provide the desired pleat formation in the drapery, when hung.

In the present instance, the fastening elements for connecting together the drape and liner sections, are shown in the form of snap buttons. Obviously, other forms of securing elements may

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be utilized in lieu of those shown, if practical, without departing from the scope of the invention. The arrangement of the fastening elements or snap buttons may also be varied, as may be desired, so long as they are completely concealed when two or more drape sections and liners are secured together in the formation of a composite drapery. It is also to be understood that any material which may serve as an adequate stiffening means in the hems of each drape section, and for securing the fastening elements thereto, may be utilized without departing from the scope of the invention.

The novel construction of the individual drape and liner sections D and L, respectively, will clearly simplify the construction and manufacture of draperies. It also enables distributors and retailers to stock such sections in large quantities in varied colors and patterns, because by making the draperies out of standard, or stock sections, a drapery of any desired width may be quickly made up, by simply selecting a plurality of drape sections of the desired material and design, and joining them together, as hereinbefore set forth. A set of draperies so constructed may be made as attractive and pleasing in appearance as any "tailor made" drapery, and will have a material advantage in price, in that the sections thereof may be fabricated in quantity production at very low cost, and it requires no expensive hand work skill to assemble the sections of each set of draperies. An unskilled person may quickly and without error, construct a set of draperies of any desired width in a minimum of time, and with the assurance that each set of draperies so constructed will be accurate and will conform to the selected size and design.

As hereinbefore stated, the novel composite drapery herein disclosed may readily be manufactured in quantity production as a stock item in that each set of draperies will comprise one, two or more sections, depending upon the width of the window. They may also be made variable in length by providing a series of fastening elements across the bottom end of each drape section D, and another series of complemental fastening elements across each drape section at a location spaced upwardly from the bottom row of fastening elements. By the provision of two series of fastening elements in the lower portion of each drape section, the lower marginal edge portion of each drape section may be folded upwardly over and against the body of the section and secured in such position, whereby the drape sections may be shortened.

The foregoing detailed description has been given for clearness of understanding only, and no unnecessary limitations should be understood therefrom, but the appended claims should be construed as broadly as permissible in view of the prior art.

I claim as my invention:

1. A window drape section having its marginal side edges doubled back to provide hollow hems, and a stiffening member having a plurality of fastening elements secured thereto supported in each hem, whereby the fastening elements are secured thereto and completely concealed from view.

2. A window drape section according to claim 1, wherein the coacting fastening elements of adjacent drape sections are so fashioned that they may be interlocked with one another with a wall of their respective hems clamped therebetween.

3. A window drapery composed of a plurality of like sections, each section comprising a piece of fabric having its top edge portion folded upon itself to provide a relatively wide hem, and the vertical side edges of each drape section being doubled back to provide relatively narrower hollow hems, fixed pinch pleats in the upper portion of each drape section, complemental fastening elements completely enclosed within and the side hems of said drape sections for securing together the edges of adjacent sections to provide a composite drapery, comprising a plurality of like drape sections, the fastening elements concealed in the contiguous hems of adjacent drape sections being capable of interlocking engagement with one another with a wall of each hem interposed therebetween.

4. A window drapery according to claim 3, wherein additional securing elements are concealed within the top and side hems of each drape section for detachably securing a plurality of liner sections to the composite drapery.

5. A window drapery composed of a plurality of like drape sections, each section comprising a piece of fabric having its upper edge folded to provide a relatively wide hem, and the opposed side edges of each drape section being doubled back to provide relatively narrower hollow hems, tapes fixed in the side hems of each drape section, a plurality of male and female fastening elements secured to said tapes for detachably securing together the contiguous edges of adjacent drape sections, said male and female fastening elements being arranged in alternate relation the length

of their respective tapes, and said tapes and fastening elements being completely concealed within their respective hems, and certain of the fastening elements of one hem being engageable with certain of the fastening elements in the hem of an adjacent drape section, thereby to secure together said hems with a wall of each hem interposed between each pair of complemental fastening elements.

6. A window drapery composed of a plurality of like sections, each section comprising a piece of fabric having its upper edge folded to provide a relatively wide hem, and the marginal side edges of each drape section being doubled back to provide relatively narrower hollow hems, a tape having a plurality of fastening elements secured thereto, and supported within the hollow hems at the side edges of each tape section, and at least one end of each hollow side hem being open to permit the insertion of a tape therein, or the withdrawal of the tape therefrom.

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