June 17, 1952 W. TOMARKIN 2,600,814

SCARF

Filed Dec. 24, 1949

FIG. 1

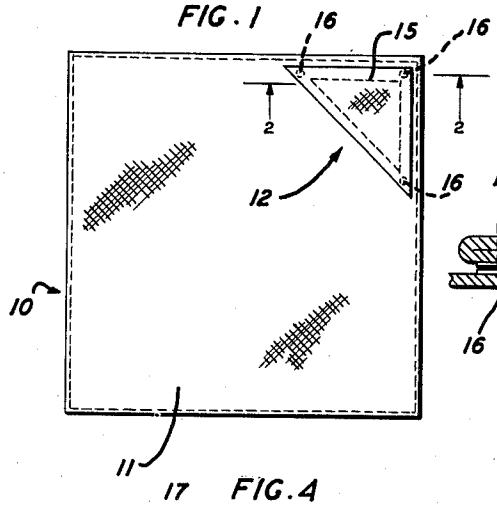


FIG. 2

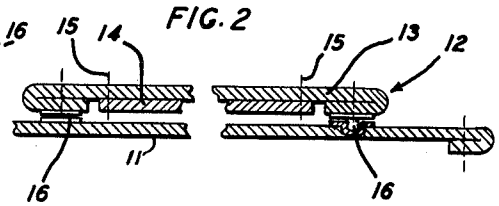
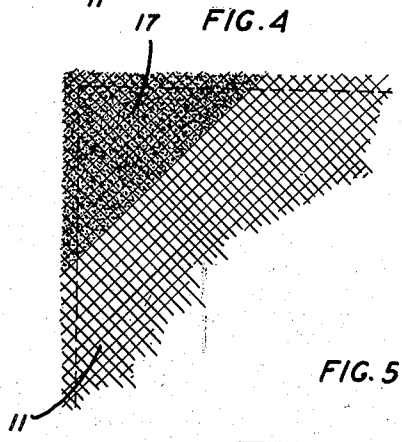


FIG. 3

FIG. 4



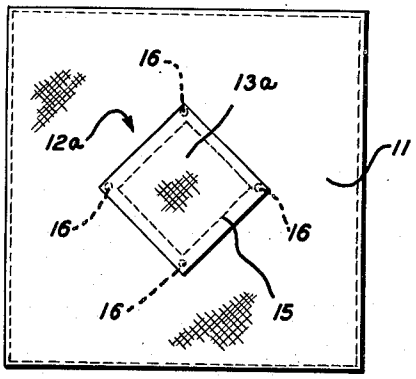
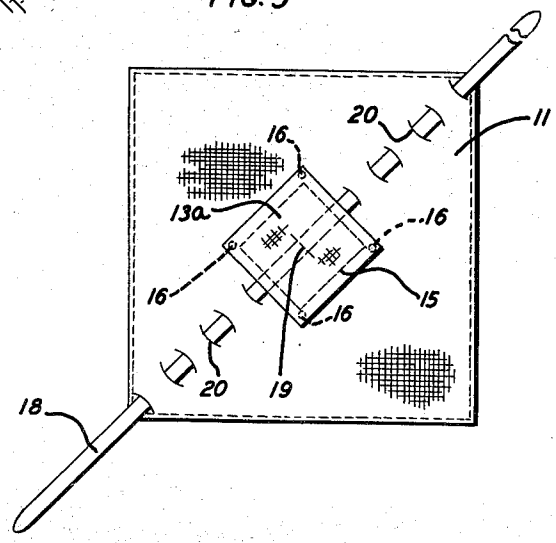


FIG. 5



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4 Claims. (Cl. 2—207)

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This invention relates to articles of wearing apparel such as scarfs. More particularly, the invention concerns scarfs which may be utilized in the form of a head dress, neckwear or as a sash.

Conventional handkerchief scarfs in the usual form of squares or rectangles, are formed from thin fabrics of silk, cotton, rayon or the like which are characterized by being of a limp nature. Such scarfs have little or no stiffness and when used as a head dress or covering, do not lend themselves to draping or shaping of the fabric to the head. With end portions of the scarf used for tieing purposes, the scarf must closely conform to the head of the wearer and cannot be shaped to the head of a particular wearer. The limpness of the scarf material appears to accentuate a tendency for head coverings formed from such a scarf, to move rearwardly off the head in the presence of a stiff breeze or wind. Accordingly, an object of this invention is to provide an improved scarf which is formed from a limp fabric but includes stiffened portions on selected areas thereof, whereby the scarf can be folded or otherwise converted into a head covering which may be shaped and draped relative to the head of the wearer and will retain its position on the head in the presence of a stiff breeze or wind.

When using conventional, limp fabric scarfs as a neck covering or muffler, the scarf when arranged about the neck in an upstanding position, has a tendency to droop and to expose the neck. Accordingly, another object of this invention is to provide an improved scarf of the character described wherein stiffened portions are so located on the scarf as to provide the folded scarf with a portion which may be disposed about the neck in an upstanding condition, such upstanding portion being adapted to resist drooping, the stiffened portions of the scarf being of a flexible character which permits the scarf to be readily converted and utilized as other forms of wearing apparel.

A further object of this invention is to provide a scarf formed of a limp fabric in a shape having greater extensibility in one direction than in other directions, together with inextensible tieing means secured to an intermediate portion of the fabric and extending along the direction of greater extensibility for securing the scarf in place, the scarf including portions which are movable relative to the tieing means for draping purposes when the scarf is worn as a head covering, neck piece or the like.

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Yet another object of this invention is to provide an improved scarf of the character described, which is of simple construction, is economical to manufacture, is readily converted from one form of use to another and is practical to a high degree in use.

Other objects of this invention will in part be obvious and in part hereinafter pointed out.

The invention accordingly consists in the features of construction, combination of elements and arrangement of parts which will be exemplified in the construction hereinafter described, and of which the scope of invention will be indicated in the following claims.

In the accompanying drawings, in which are shown illustrative embodiments of the invention:

Fig. 1 is a plan view of a scarf embodying the invention;

Fig. 2 is an enlarged sectional view taken on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a plan view of a scarf showing a modified form of the invention;

Fig. 4 is a fragmentary plan view of a portion of a scarf showing a further modification of the invention;

Fig. 5 is a plan view of a scarf, showing still a further modification of the invention.

Referring in detail to the drawing, 10 designates a scarf embodying the invention. The same comprises a square or rectangular sheet of fabric 11, which may be hemmed at the edges. The fabric 11 may be of silk, rayon, cotton or the like and is characterized by being of a thin, limp nature. The fabric may be imprinted or otherwise decorated or ornamented, in a manner well known in the art.

Means is provided for stiffening one or more selected areas of the scarf. To this end there is provided stiffening means generally designated as 12. Such stiffening means comprises a triangular shaped fabric member 13, which may be of the same type of material as fabric 11 and having the same ornamental pattern. The fabric member 13 may be hemmed at the edges to prevent raveling. Secured to the underside of member 13 is a triangular shaped fabric element 14 which may be buckram or other sized fabric which is flexible but of a stiff nature. The edges of element 14 are disposed slightly inwardly of the corresponding edges of member 13. The element 14 and member 13 may be secured together at the corners by stitching 15.

The stiffening means 12 is located in a corner of the fabric 11 with the element 14 disposed between fabric 11 and member 13. The stiffening

means may be detachably attached to fabric 11 by means of snap fasteners 16. One element of the snap fasteners 16 is secured at each of the corners of the stiffening means while the complementary elements are secured to fabric 11 in appropriate positions. In lieu of snap fasteners, single stitches may be used to attach the stiffening means to the fabric 11. In either case, the stiffening means may be readily removed from the fabric 11 to allow washing or cleaning of the same, as well as converting the fabric 11 to a conventional, limp scarf.

It will be apparent that the scarf 10 will not materially differ in appearance from a conventional, limp scarf. However, the stiffening means 12 provides results not found in conventional scarfs, when the scarf 10 is used as an article of wearing apparel such as a head covering, neck wear or as a sash. When using the scarf 10 as a head covering, the fabric 11 is folded along a diagonal line interconnecting the non-stiffened corners of the fabric. One of the thus folded portions of the fabric may be further folded in a manner to bring the stiffened corner portion to a forward position disposed intermediate the corners at the diagonal ends of the folded fabric. The folded scarf may then be positioned on the head with the stiffened portion located at the top of the head. The tieing ends of the scarf are brought below the chin, in the usual manner, to secure the scarf in place. The stiffened portion may be shaped by hand to give the scarf a desired configuration about the head. The element 14, being of a sized fabric, lends itself to such shaping operation.

It has been found that the inclusion of stiffening means in the scarf construction provides for a head covering which is not readily dislodged from the head in a stiff breeze. In addition, the stiffening means provides an anchorage for a hat pin which may be passed through the top of the head covering. With conventional, limp scarfs, a hat pin passing through the fabric is readily dislodged.

The scarf 10 may also be folded to provide a neck covering or muffler. In this case, the folds are so arranged that the stiffening means is located in an intermediate portion of the folded structure. The folded scarf may be arranged about the neck, with the stiffened portion keeping the neck covering portion in an upstanding position. The neck covering portion will not droop to expose the neck, as is often the case with conventional, limp scarfs. A similarly folded scarf construction may be used as a sash or the like, the stiffened mid portion serving to retain the transverse portions of the scarf in extended position.

The stiffening means for fabric 11 may take forms other than that of a triangle and may be located in positions other than corners of the fabric. In Fig. 3, the stiffening means 12*a* may be of square shape, comprising a square of limp fabric 13*a* with a square of stiffened fabric, not shown, secured to the underside thereof. The stiffening means may be arranged with the sides thereof disposed at an angle to the sides of the fabric 11 and may be detachably secured by snap fasteners 16 at the corners thereof. This construction may also be folded to provide a head covering, a muffler or a sash, with the stiffened portion suitably disposed so as to impart the desired characteristics to the scarf as a whole, as described above.

It is understood that the stiffening means may take other geometric shapes and may be associated with scarfs of non-rectilinear shape such as elliptical shapes and the like.

In lieu of stiffening means which is separable from the scarf fabric, the fabric may be stiffened at selected areas by applying a coating 17 of glazing material to a corner portion, as shown in Fig. 4. Such glazing material is preferably of a transparent character and non-injurious to the fabric to which it is applied. Colorless plastic solutions, sizes or the like may be used. It is understood that such coatings may be applied to predetermined areas and in predetermined geometric shapes.

In conventional scarfs, the fabric displays residual extensibility in a direction diagonally of the weave thereof. Such extensibility usually results in a loosening of the scarf when used as a head covering, after the scarf has been apparently tightly tied under the chin of the wearer. As shown in Fig. 5, the scarf 11 is provided with inextensible tieing means in the form of a tape 18. The tape 18 is located on the fabric along the direction of greatest extensibility. The mid portion of tape 18 is anchored against longitudinal movement by stitching the same to the stiffening means at 19. The unsecured portions of the tape are restrained against lateral movement by being threaded through perforations 20 formed in the fabric 11 and extending towards opposite corners.

It is apparent that the use of the tape 18 in securing the scarf in place when used as a head covering or the like, eliminates any possibility of extension of the scarf fabric which would loosen the head covering with respect to the head of the wearer. Additionally, the scarf fabric is adapted to be moved relative to the tape, to permit shaping and draping the scarf fabric relative to the head of the wearer. Similarly, the scarf may be ruffled when used as a neck covering or muffler. It is understood that the inextensible tieing tape 18 may be used in conjunction with scarfs of various geometrical shapes wherein the fabric has greater extensibility in one direction than in other directions.

It will thus be seen that there are provided scarfs in which the several objects of this invention are achieved and which is well adapted to meet the conditions of practical use.

As various possible embodiments might be made in the above described invention, and as various changes might be made in the embodiments above set forth, it is to be understood that all matter herein set forth or shown in the accompanying drawing, is to be interpreted as illustrative and not in a limiting sense.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent:

1. A scarf comprising a limp fabric piece which is extensible in one direction and is substantially inextensible in another direction, a stiffening element secured to a selected area of said piece located inwardly of the edges thereof, elongated, inextensible tieing means having a portion thereof attached to said stiffening element with other portions in contact with said fabric piece and extending in the direction of extensibility of said fabric piece, and means for retaining said tieing means against lateral movement while permitting longitudinal movement relative to contacting portions of said fabric piece.

2. A scarf comprising a limp fabric piece which has greater extensibility in one direction than in a direction at an angle 45° thereto, inextensi-

ble, elongated tieing means disposed in contact with said fabric piece and extending along the direction of greater extensibility and means for retaining said tieing means against lateral movement while permitting relative movement between said tieing means and said fabric piece longitudinally of said tieing means.

3. A head covering comprising a scarf of limp fabric incapable of retaining a bent shape when disposed on a flat surface and including opposite end portions for securing the covering on the head of a wearer, and a non-resilient fabric member having a stiffness greater than that of said limp fabric and capable of being bent into a given shape and retaining said shape at all times secured to a selected area of said limp fabric such that said member is located along an edge of the head covering in use, whereby said scarf may be manipulated into a predetermined shape on the head of the wearer and retained in said shape.

4. A scarf comprising a limp woven fabric incapable of retaining a bent shape when disposed on a flat surface, and a non-resilient woven fabric member having a stiffness greater than

that of said limp fabric and capable of being bent into a given shape and retaining said shape at all times secured to a selected area of said limp fabric such that upon folding said scarf to desired form, said member is located along an edge of the folded scarf, whereby said scarf may be manipulated into a predetermined shape and retained in said shape.

WANDA TOMARKIN.

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