

Dec. 6, 1932.

E. J. BARCALO

1,890,358

PILLOW OR CUSHION

Filed March 14, 1932

Fig. 1.

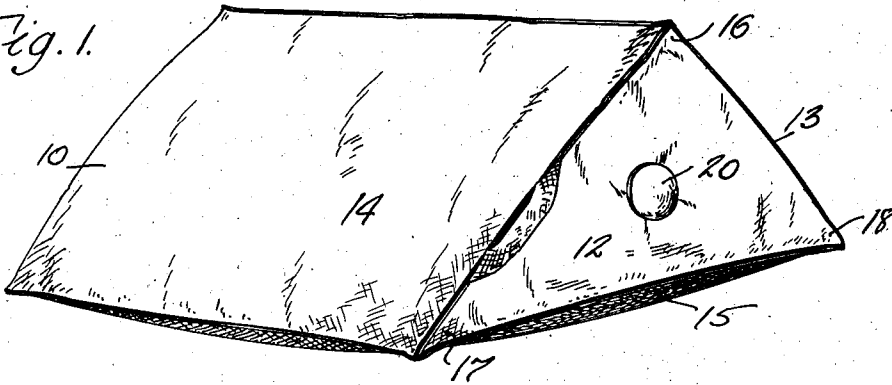


Fig. 2.

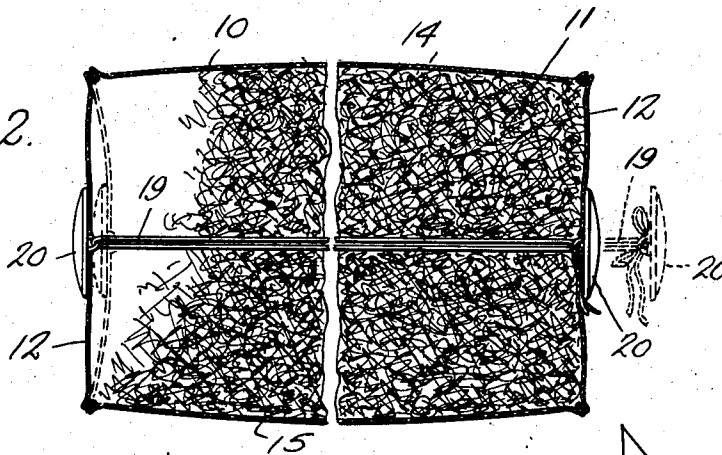


Fig. 3.

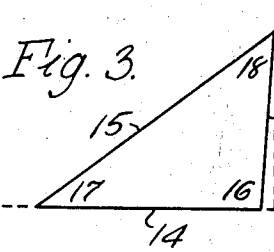


Fig. 4.

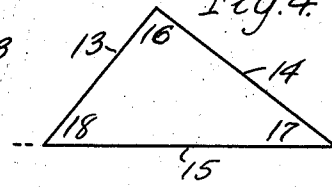


Fig. 5.

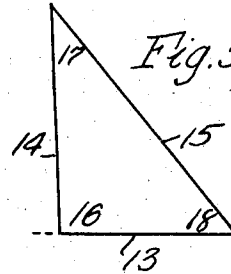


Fig. 6.

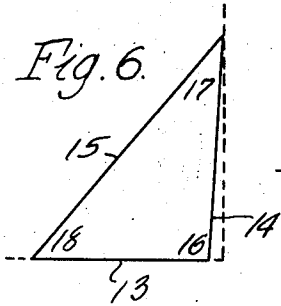


Fig. 7.

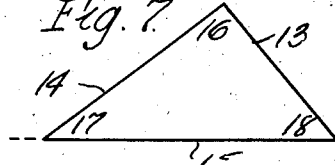
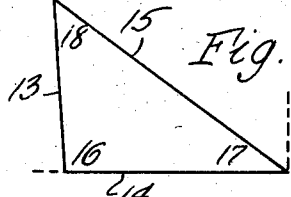


Fig. 8.



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PILLOW OR CUSHION

Application filed March 14, 1932. Serial No. 598,569.

This invention relates to pillows or cushions, and more particularly to a stuffed or soft pillow or cushion adapted for use on a bed or couch to provide a comfortable support or rest for the back, head or other portion of a person while reading or reposing.

The objects of the invention are to provide a pillow or cushion of the sort mentioned which is desirable for the use of readers and invalids, which is of novel form and construction adapted, by using it in different positions, to provide a comfortable support for the head, back or other portion of the user in different, desired recumbent or more or less sitting positions; also to provide a pillow of the sort mentioned having means which prevent objectionable deformation of the pillow in use and by which the pillow can be made firmer or softer, as may be desired, to better adapt it for different uses; also to provide a pillow having the other advantages and features of improvement hereinafter described and set forth in the claims.

In the accompanying drawing:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a pillow or cushion embodying my invention.

Fig. 2 is a sectional view thereof showing the adjustable stay for the pillow.

Figs. 3 to 8 inclusive are diagrammatic views showing different positions in which the pillow is adapted to be used.

The pillow or cushion preferably comprises a case or sack 10 of flexible woven or other suitable fabric enclosing or containing a yielding or elastic filling or stuffing 11, which may be made of hair, cotton or other suitable soft and more or less pliable or resilient material adapted to form a comfortable cushioned support for the head, shoulders or other portion of the body of a person.

The pillow is made of triangular or substantially triangular shape in longitudinal cross section, having opposite substantially triangular ends 12 and three connected sides 13, 14 and 15 extending between and connecting the corresponding edges of the triangular ends. Preferably, the triangular ends of the case are of substantially the shape shown, each having three different or un-

equal angles, of which the angle 16 is a slightly obtuse angle, and the other two angles 17 and 18 are acute angles of different degrees. It is believed that the best practical results are obtained by making the pillow with substantially the angles indicated in the diagrammatic Figures 3-8, and with the sides 13, 14 and 15 approximately 11, 14 and 18 inches in width respectively. A stay or tie device, which preferably connects the central or intermediate portions of the opposite triangular end walls of the case limits the extent to which said ends can spread or bulge outwardly under the pressure of the filling, due to weight on the sides 13, 14 or 15 of the pillow. This stay device may consist, as shown, of a tape or cord 19 extending through the filling of the pillow and attached to buttons 20 or other suitable tuft devices externally engaging the two triangular ends of the pillow, the tape or cord 19 being attached to the shank or eye of one or both of the buttons by tying or otherwise so as to adapt the tape or cord to be shortened or lengthened between the buttons more or less; and thereby more or less compress the filling of the pillow and resist outward spreading or bulging of the ends under weight or pressure on the pillow. This stay prevents undue deformation of the pillow in use, and the pillow can be made firmer or softer by appropriately tightening or loosening the stay.

By reason of the described shape of the pillow, it is adapted to be used in any of the six different positions shown in Figs. 3-8, said several positions affording different desired results.

Fig. 3 shows the pillow resting on the side 14 with its widest side 15 facing forwardly and sloping at a low or gradual incline; Fig. 4 shows the pillow resting on its side 15 with the narrowest side 13 facing forwardly and at a steeper slope than the forward side in Fig. 3; and Fig. 5 shows the pillow placed with the side 14 of the intermediate width facing forwardly and in substantially upright position. These three positions can be obtained by simply turning the pillow in the same direction from one to the other of the positions mentioned.

In addition to these three positions, by inverting the pillow end for end and then turning it as before, the widest side 15 can be placed forwardly but extending to the maximum height at a steep angle; or the side 14 of intermediate width can be placed forwardly and extending at a low angle; or the narrowest side 13 can be placed forwardly and extending substantially upright, as shown respectively in Figs. 6, 7 and 8.

Figs. 3 and 7 show the forward supporting side of the pillow extending at the same angle, but in Fig. 3 the upper corner of the pillow can be close to or rest against the head of the bed or couch, whereas in Fig. 7 the upper corner will be spaced forwardly away from the head of the bed or couch. Similarly, Figs. 4 and 6 show the forward side of the pillow extending at the same angle but the Fig. 4 position provides a short steep supporting surface disposed forwardly away from the head of the bed or couch, while in Fig. 6 the forward supporting surface extends higher and close to or against the head of the bed or couch. Likewise, Figs. 5 and 8 show respectively high and low substantially upright, forward supporting faces of corresponding angularity.

Thus, in the position shown in Fig. 3, the pillow is adapted to support the back, shoulders and head of the user in a reclining position, with the head against the head board or other support. While in the position of Fig. 7 the back or shoulders are adapted to be supported in the same position, with the head free above the corner of the pillow in front of the head of the bed or couch.

In the position shown in Fig. 6, the back, head and shoulders are adapted to rest against the pillow in a more nearly upright position, while in the position shown in Fig. 4, the same angle of support is provided, but leaves the head and shoulders free above the pillow out of contact with the head of the bed or couch. In the positions shown in Figs. 5 and 8, the pillow provides respectively a high or low, substantially upright back support spaced forwardly away from the head of the bed or couch. These different possible positions of the pillow adapt it to meet the changing needs of readers, invalids or convalescents and afford them the maximum comfort by providing a cushioned support to suit various different postures of the body. Thus, the pillow furnishes supporting surfaces of different slope, extent and position, without the recognized objections inherent in the adjustable, rigid back supports heretofore used. The pillow being soft, pliable and resilient, or elastic conforms somewhat to the irregularities in one's body and provides maximum comfort for the body in all of the six positions of the pillow. This is an important advantage over cushions filled with compressed, firm and relatively rigid materials such as mattresses, in chair cushions, and in the wedge shaped

cushions commonly used by automobile drivers to fill the space between their backs and the upright seat wall. Because of the obtuse dihedral triangle in the pillow, it follows that when a person leans laterally against the upstanding face forming one side or leg of the obtuse dihedral angle, while the pillow is resting upon the face forming the other leg of the obtuse dihedral angle, the pillow will yield somewhat at its upper part, yet the upstanding face will still form approximately a right dihedral angle with that face of the pillow which is horizontal and lowermost.

By tightening or loosening the stay connecting the end walls of the pillow, the pillow can be made firmer or softer, to best suit the comfort of the user.

I claim as my invention:

1. A pillow comprising a soft resilient filling and a flexible enclosing case therefor of substantially triangular shape in cross section having opposite end walls each of substantially triangular shape in cross section having opposite end walls each of substantially triangular shape with unequal angles and sides, and three substantially rectangular side walls of unequal widths connecting said end walls and an adjustable stay connecting intermediate portions of said end walls and adapted to be adjusted to variably limit the bulging of said end walls and more or less soften or compress the pillow.

2. A pillow comprising a case formed of freely flexible sheet material, and filled with relatively soft, pliable, elastic material, said pillow as filled being relatively soft, pliable and elastic, substantially triangular in transverse cross section, of substantially pillow length, and having rectangular side faces connecting the triangular ends, the two shorter edges of each triangular end being nearly but not equal in length and at least approximately one foot in length, and including between them an angle of about a right angle, whereby each of the three side faces will provide a supporting face of substantial proportions and width, and the pillow will provide a supporting surface at any of a plurality of different inclinations to the horizontal, depending upon which of its side faces the pillow is resting upon.

3. A pillow comprising a case formed of freely flexible sheet material, and filled with relatively soft, pliable, elastic material, said pillow as filled being relatively soft, pliable and elastic, substantially triangular in transverse cross section, of substantially pillow length, and having rectangular side faces connecting the triangular ends, the two shorter edges of each triangular end being nearly but not equal in length and at least approximately one foot in length, and including between them an obtuse angle of slightly more than 90 degrees, whereby each of the three side faces will provide a supporting face of sub-

stantial proportions and width, and the pillow will provide a supporting surface at any of a plurality of different inclinations to the horizontal depending upon which of its side faces the pillow is resting upon, the obtuse dihedral angle of the pillow insuring an approximately right dihedral angle after the pillow yields by forces acting thereon in a direction tending to close the obtuse dihedral angle.

4. A pillow comprising a case formed of freely flexible sheet material, and filled with relatively soft, pliable elastic material, said pillow as filled being relatively soft, pliable and elastic, substantially triangular in transverse cross section, of substantially pillow length, and having rectangular side faces connecting the triangular ends, the two shorter edges of each triangular end being nearly but not equal in length and at least approximately one foot in length, and including between them an angle of about a right angle whereby each of the three side faces will provide a supporting face of substantial proportions and width, and the pillow will provide a supporting surface at any of a plurality of different inclinations to the horizontal, depending upon which of its side faces the pillow is resting upon, and a tie connecting the interior areas of opposite end faces of the pillow to limit bulging of said end faces, when pressure is applied to the side faces of the pillow.

5. A pillow comprising a case formed of freely flexible sheet material, and filled with relatively soft, pliable, elastic material, said pillow as filled being relatively soft, pliable and elastic, substantially triangular in transverse cross section, of substantially pillow length, and having rectangular side faces connecting the triangular ends, the two shorter edges of each triangular end being nearly but not equal in length and at least approximately one foot in length and including between them an angle of about a right angle, whereby each of the three side faces will provide a supporting face of substantial proportions and width, and the pillow will provide a supporting surface at any of a plurality of different inclinations to the horizontal, depending upon which of its side faces the pillow is resting upon, and a tie connecting the interior areas of opposite end faces of the pillow to limit bulging of said end faces, when pressure is applied to the side faces of the pillow, said tie being selectively adjustable in length to allow limited bulging of the ends and through it a change in the dihedral angles between the side faces of the pillow.

EDWARD J. BARCALO.

CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION.

Patent No. 1,890,358.

December 6, 1932.

EDWARD J. BARCALO.

It is hereby certified that error appears in the printed specification of the above numbered patent requiring correction as follows: Page 2, lines 88, 89 and 90; claim 1, strike out the words "in cross section having opposite end walls each of substantially triangular shape"; and that the said Letters Patent should be read with this correction therein that the same may conform to the record of the case in the Patent Office.

Signed and sealed this 14th day of February, A. D. 1933.

(Seal)

M. J. Moore,
Acting Commissioner of Patents.