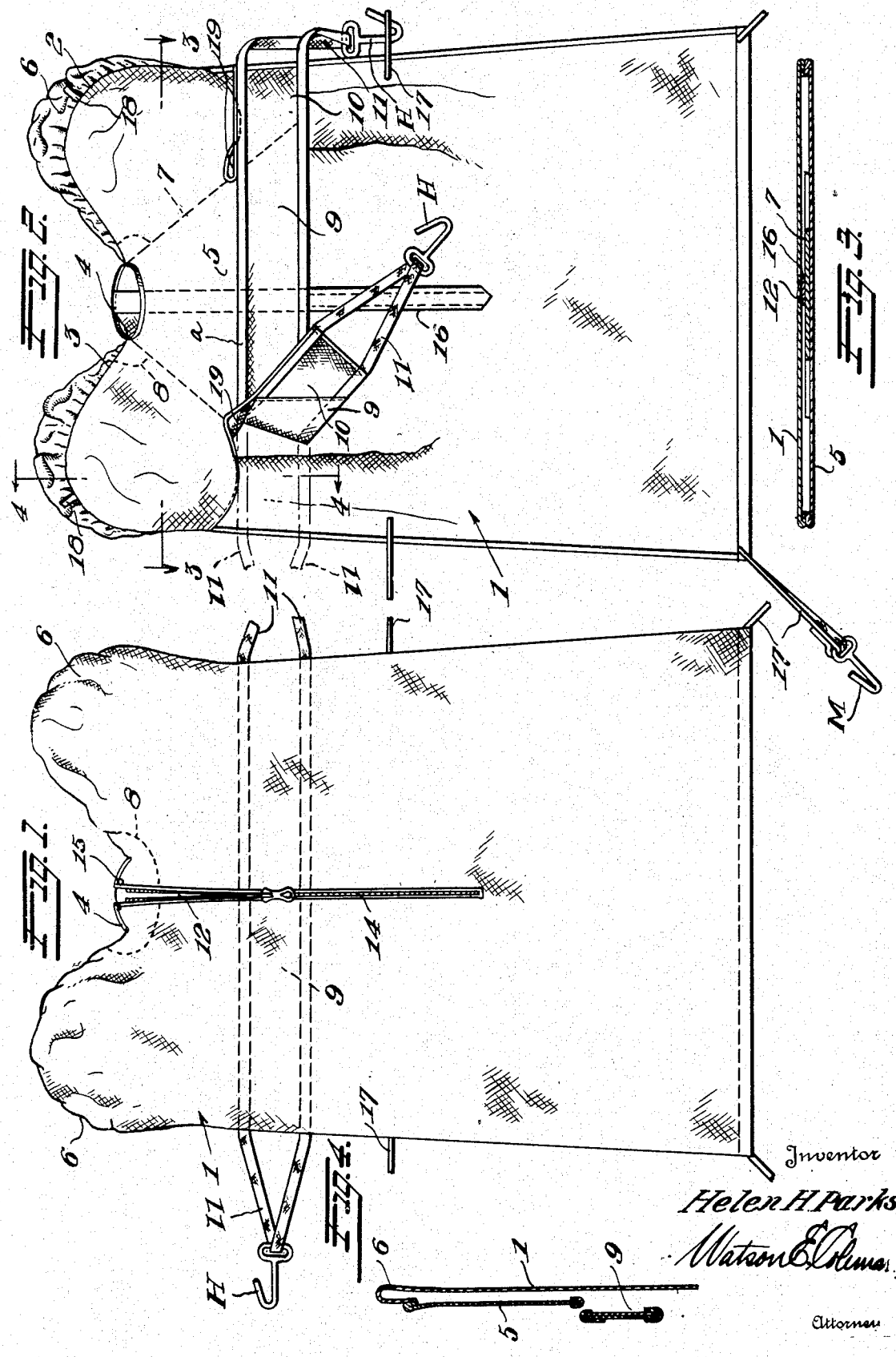
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SLEEPING COVER

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SLEEPING COVER

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This invention relates to a sleeping cover for infants, and it is primarily an object of the invention to provide a cover which will adequately protect the chest, shoulders, arms and hands of the infant yet at the same time allow the child freedom of movement.

The invention also has for an object to provide a cover of this kind which may be easily laundered and which is so constructed as to accommodate all natural movements of the infant during sleep such as turning, kicking, sleeping with arms above the head, sleeping prone, etc.

It is a particular object of the invention to provide a cover of this kind which is provided at its upper part with arm pockets that are comparatively short and full and which, while allowing plenty of freedom for the arms, cannot accidentally cover the face.

A further object of the invention is to provide a cover of this kind which is provided at its upper portion with a back member together with means for maintaining such back member smooth and straight upon the bed.

The invention has for a still further object to provide a cover having arm pockets and wherein such arm pockets have associated therewith means whereby such pockets may be anchored in a manner to restrain the infant as when trying to suck a hand through the cover or a tendency to crawl down under the covers.

The invention consists in the details of construction and in the combination and arrangement of the several parts of my improved sleeping cover whereby certain important advantages are attained and the article rendered simpler, less expensive and otherwise more convenient and advantageous for use, as will be hereinafter more fully set forth.

The novel features of my invention will hereinafter be definitely claimed.

In order that my invention may be the better understood, I will now proceed to describe the same with reference to the accompanying drawing, wherein:

Figure 1 is a view in top plan of a sleeping cover constructed in accordance with an embodiment of my invention;

Figure 2 is a view in bottom plan of the cover as herein disclosed with certain of the parts folded back;

Figure 3 is a detailed sectional view taken substantially on the line 3—3 of Figure 2;

Figure 4 is a detailed sectional view taken substantially on the line 4—4 of Figure 2.

The cover as herein disclosed may be made of any desired material to suit various seasonal and climatic conditions. It is to be stated, however, that contrary to general belief, keeping an infant covered is more of a warm weather than a winter problem because in warm weather the infant is more inclined to kick off the covers. My improved cover, therefore, is particularly adapted for warm weather use and may serve as the only covering necessary. If made of a light material, such as muslin, the cover may be used in very hot weather yet restrain the child in a comfortable position in bed and ward off the chill which generally comes after midnight. However, the cover may be made of blanketing material for winter or any other character of goods as preferred.

My improved cover as herein disclosed comprises a sheet 1 of desired material and of such dimensions preferred. It is of advantage to have the sheet 1 of a width in excess of the width of the crib or kindred bed upon which it is used. This sheet 1 is of a general rectangular form except that its upper or top corner portions are rounded off, as at 2, with the intermediate or central top portion cut down a material distance, as at 3, to the neck 4.

Extending across the upper portion of the sheet 1 is a back member 5 which extends downwardly along the sheet 1 a material distance or to a point at substantially the middle of the back of the infant with whom the cover is used.

This back member 5 is flat and has its upper marginal portions cut to conform to the cutting of the adjacent top portion of the sheet 1. This back member 5, however, is of a length less than the width of the sheet 1 at the adjacent portion thereof so that in attaching the marginal portion of the sheet 1 to the marginal portions of the back member 5 such portion of the sheet 1 of necessity must be shirred. This results in the formation at the opposite sides of the neck 4 of relatively large and roomy pockets 6 to receive the arms of the infant and allowing the infant to freely move its arms so that no hindrance or obstruction will be given to the natural movements of the infant particularly during sleep such as turning, kicking, sleeping with arms above the head or extended, sleeping prone, etc. It is to be especially noted, however, that these arm pockets 6 while comparatively short and full and giving plenty of freedom to the arms, cannot accidentally cover the face.

The upper portion of the back member 5 is

provided with a substantially triangular back facing 7 and said back member 5 and upper portion of the sheet 1 are provided with the bias neck facings 8. These facings 7 and 8 serve to strengthen and reinforce the neck portion of the sheet 1 and back member 5 against wear and strain and also to provide smooth surfaces at points of greatest friction as a child turns and more particularly in such cases where the cover is made of blanket material. The neck facings 8 also prevent chafing and irritation of the neck of the infant from blanket materials.

The central portion of the back member 5 has its lower margin free from the sheet 1 and said lower marginal portion of the member 5 is continued by a straight band 9 which has its opposite end portions for a considerable distance free and unobstructed to provide flaps 10. Stitched to the upper and lower marginal portions of the band 9, and flaps 10 are the reinforcing tapes *a*. The extremities of these tapes *a* at each side of the cover have secured thereto the end portions of an elastic web 11 providing a loop. Engaged with each of the webs 11 is a hook member H to be secured to the spring of a crib or bed at one side of the mattress on the spring. The hook member H is of a type that easily hooks but assures a secure connection and such hook is also of a type that cannot be damaged in laundering and particularly when passing through a wringer. The hook member H is preferably made of rustproof steel.

The flaps 10 preferably form the only anchorage of the back member 5 so that the arm pockets 6 will be left free to turn with the infant. In applying the cover to the bed the band 9 is drawn and held smoothly across the bed.

The upper portion of the sheet 1 at substantially the center of the neck 4 is cut or slit downwardly, as at 12, to a point preferably below or beyond the back member 5 and its associated band 9. This slit 12 is adapted to be maintained closed by the fastening elements 14 preferably of a zipper type, while the neck 4 is further provided at its end portions with the conventional separable fasteners 15 preferably of a snap type. One marginal portion of the slit 12 has disposed therealong an under facing strip 16 to prevent any of the fastening elements 14 from contacting the infant.

The sheet 1 at its lower end and also at points in relatively close proximity to the band 9 is provided at its opposite side marginal portions with the elastic tapes 17 each of which carries a hook member M to provide means for securing the sheet 1 and particularly the lower portion thereof to the spring or other parts of a crib or bed.

The upper end portions of the back member 5, as herein disclosed, are provided with the loops 18 to permit tapes, cords or pins to be used to anchor the arm pockets 6 to the bed or crib to restrain the infant when the infant has a tendency to suck his hands through the cover; tends to crawl down under the cover, etc.

The inner extremities of the upper marginal portions of the flaps 10 and the adjacent marginal portions of the back member 5 have secured thereto the strengthening gores 19.

It is believed to be obvious that the cover as herein disclosed is one that can easily be laundered and maintained in a sanitary condition and that it is also one which can be easily used. It is also believed to be apparent that the cover, as herein disclosed, is one that is relatively light in weight and can be easily folded or compacted to be packed in a bag with other clothing for the infant. This is of advantage because it is well known that when away from home the use of a familiar cover will generally cause an infant to promptly go to sleep as by the use of a familiar cover the child does not have to overcome a feeling of strangeness. It is also believed to be apparent that the cover may be quickly and easily applied and can be readily used with or without a pillow.

A mother by placing a hand at the child's back can lift it to a sitting position, as for the purpose of giving a drink, without unfastening the covering in any way. The infant is also easily accessible for attention.

From the foregoing description it is thought to be obvious that a sleeping cover constructed in accordance with my invention is particularly well adapted for use by reason of the convenience and facility with which it may be assembled and used, and it will also be obvious that my invention is susceptible of some change and modification without departing from the principles and spirit thereof and for this reason I do not wish to be understood as limiting myself to the precise arrangement and formation of the several parts herein shown in carrying out my invention in practice except as hereinafter claimed.

I claim:

1. A sleeping cover for infants comprising an elongated sheet having its upper corner portions rounded with the central part of said upper portion cut down a material distance to the neck, a back member extending across the upper portion of the sheet, the top and side marginal portions of the back member and the sheet being connected except at the neck, the lower marginal portion of the back member being free of connection with the sheet, the marginal portions of the sheet secured to the back member being shirred to provide arm pockets, and a back band having its central portion secured to the central portion of the lower free margin of the back member, the extremities of the back band constituting flaps.

2. A sleeping cover for infants comprising an elongated sheet having its upper corner portions rounded with the central part of said upper portion cut down a material distance to the neck, a back member extending across the upper portion of the sheet, the top and side marginal portions of the back member and the sheet being connected except at the neck, the lower marginal portion of the back member being free of connection with the sheet, the marginal portions of the sheet secured to the back member being shirred to provide arm pockets, a backband having its central portion secured to the central portion of the lower free margin of the back member, the extremities of the back band constituting flaps, and elastic anchoring means carried by the outer end portions of the flaps.

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