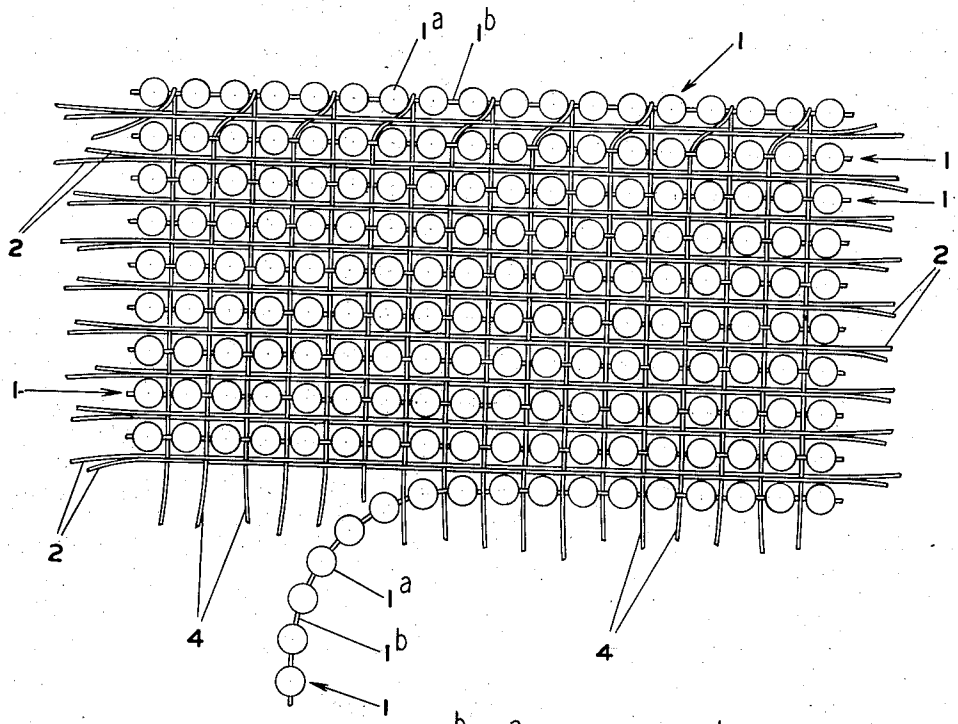
Feb. 26, 1935. W. D. BLATZ 1,992,856

WOVEN FABRIC

Filed Aug. 11, 1934

Fig. 1.



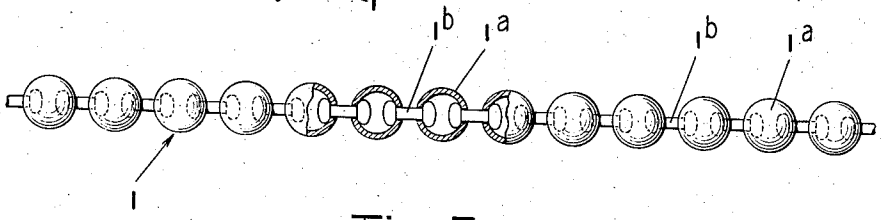


Fig. 2.

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WOVEN FABRIC

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2 Claims. (Cl. 139—420)

This invention relates to woven bodies or fabrics and more particularly to ornamental or decorative fabrics suitable for ladies' belts, ladies' handbags and other uses and it is an object of this invention to provide an improved woven fabric or body of the type described which may be readily woven upon the usual looms; is of a soft and flexible nature; of relatively light weight and which is formed, for the greater part, of metallicly connected beads or balls.

In the drawing—

Fig. 1 is a diagrammatic plan view drawn to an enlarged scale, of a portion of a woven fabric or body in accordance with this invention; and

Fig. 2 is a plan view drawn to a larger scale of a portion of a chain of beads or balls used in weaving the fabric, portions of some of the beads or balls being broken away to show the metallic links connecting the beads or balls more clearly.

As shown in the drawing, a woven fabric or body in accordance with this invention comprises parallel strands 1 arranged to form warps of the fabric and consisting of flexible chains of metallic beads or balls 1^a joined by metallic connecting links 1^b. Such chains are known in the trade as "bead chains", "ball chains" and "shot chains" and it is to be understood a chain of the type disclosed is indicated wherever any one of these terms is used in the specification and claims.

Between adjacent chains of beads are placed other warp strands 2 of a fibrous material, as cotton, linen, rayon, silk or other suitable material, so that the beads do not tend to fit in the spaces between the beads of adjacent chains. The strands 2 are manipulated individually, similarly to the strands 1, in the shifting of the warp strands for the reception of the weft strands 4 which may be of a material similar to the warp strands 2 or of other suitable material.

In the arrangement of the warp threads shown in the drawing, two warp threads 2 are placed between adjacent warp strands 1 and in separating for the weft threads alternate strands, irrespective of their nature, are raised and the other strands lowered so that the weft strands pass alternately above and below the warp threads.

The forward movement of the fabric after each movement of the shuttle carrying the weft thread is sufficient to move the warp strands the length of a bead and a link so that the weft thread 4 engages each warp strand 1, except the side strands, between each pair of adjacent beads of the chain. At each side warp strand 1 the weft thread 4 is returned so as to engage only the alternate links and the links engaged by the weft thread at one side warp strand 1 are staggered with respect to the links engaged at the opposite side warp strand.

The ball chains provide an ornamental fabric which is of greater strength and less weight than the usual bead fabrics and is especially suitable for ladies' belts and handbags as well as for other uses. The warp strands 2 aid in preserving the alignment of the warp strands 1 so that the beads lie in rows disposed at right angles. With the weft threads engaging the smooth metallic links between the beads there is no cutting of the weft threads and the rounded faces of the adjacent beads, or balls, secure the weft threads in position without danger of cutting so that the fabric while soft and flexible resists distortion under tension and resumes its normal shape immediately the strain is released.

Different effects may be obtained by use of beads of different metals or colors and different materials or colors for the other warp strands and the weft strands. While two fibrous warp threads have been shown between adjacent ball chains, it is to be understood that the number of such fibrous warp threads may be varied and the relation of the weft threads thereto changed within the scope of this invention.

What is claimed is:—

1. A woven fabric having all weft threads of fibrous material and one or more warp strands of ball chains comprising metallic beads joined by metallic links.

2. A woven fabric having weft threads of fibrous material and a warp of flexible metallic ball chains with one or more warp threads of fibrous material between the ball chains.

WARREN D. BLATZ.