

Sept. 21, 1937.

C. DAYHUFF ET AL

2,093,713

BEDDING ARTICLE

Filed Aug. 6, 1936

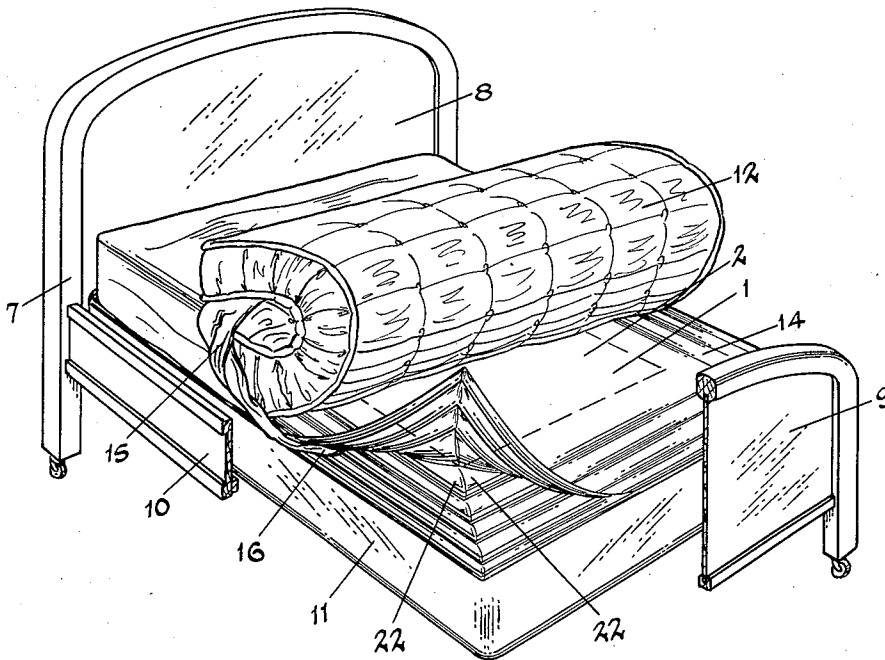


Fig 1

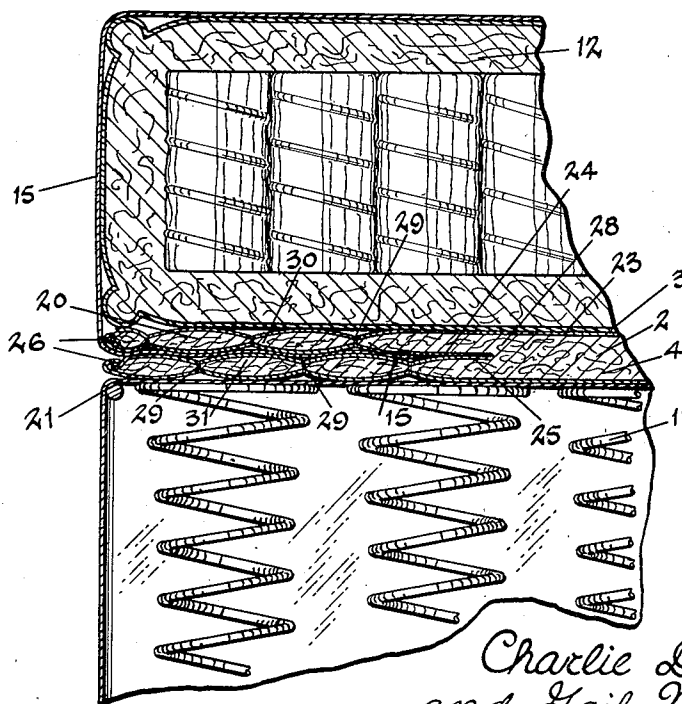


Fig 2

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## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,093,713

## BEDDING ARTICLE

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Application August 6, 1936, Serial No. 94,658

## 1 Claim. (Cl. 5—354)

Our invention relates to bed clothes and to the art of preparing a bed for occupancy. The invention particularly relates to an article of under bedding on which an occupant of the bed is adapted to be supported during occupancy.

The invention has for an object to provide means disposed intermediate the bedstead and the bed clothes for separating the bed clothes from direct contact with the bedstead, thereby protecting the clothes. Another object of the invention is to provide an article of bedding having means for seizing and retaining bed clothes in an installed relation to other articles of bedding. The invention has another object in the provision of bed clothing seizing means which, by its construction and installable relation to said bed clothes grips the same with an increased pressure during occupancy of the bed, but which enables easy assembly of the bed clothes for occupancy and insures maintenance of assembled relation during occupancy.

Our invention has for a particular object to provide a readily washable and cleanable inexpensive article of bedding adapted to be disposed intermediate the bed slats or springs and the bed mattress for separating the ticking of the mattress and the bed sheet and covers from direct contact with said slats or springs. Thus, the invention provides means for protecting said ticking, bed sheet, and covers from dirt and rust collecting on said slats or springs which would tend to cause rapid deterioration or rotting of said ticking to the spoilage of said mattress and ruination of said bed sheets and covers. Said means also acts to prevent frictional wear of the mattress ticking by rubbing and sliding of the mattress over said slats or springs in the course of subsequent normal occupancies of the bed. Further, said means provides a padded resistance to shearing effects on the mattress ticking that is developed between the cushioning means or springs of the mattress and the cushioning means and springs of the bedstead during occupancy.

The invention consists in other features and advantages which will appear from the following description and upon examination of the drawing. Structures containing the invention may partake of different forms and still embody the invention. To illustrate a practical application of the invention, we have selected an article of bedding as an example of the various structures and details thereof that contain the invention and shall describe the selected structure hereinafter, it being understood that variations may be made without departing from the spirit

of the invention. The particular structure selected is shown in the accompanying drawing and described hereinafter.

Fig. 1 of the accompanying drawing illustrates the article of bedding selected for purposes of illustration in an assembled relation to a bedstead and other articles of bedding. Fig. 2 illustrates an enlarged view of a partial section of the article of bedding embodying our invention and of bed parts with which said article is preferably designed to associate.

An article of bedding embodying the features of our invention has a flexible central body portion, preferably of a flat enclosing and enveloping form, which contains a medium of resiliency or padding substance. The central body portion is surrounded by a padded and flexible perimetrical or edge portion which is bifurcated substantially along a plane parallel to and between the surface planes of the body portion and forming a pocket like assembly to receive a bed sheet or bed covers. The facing surface of each bifurcation has raised areas and depressed areas which are so disposed on said facing surface that a raised area fits into a depressed area of the facing surface of the other bifurcation to grip the bed sheet or cover disposed between the bifurcation.

As illustrated in the accompanying drawing, our invention may be embodied in a pad 1. The pad has a central envelope body portion 2. The body portion 2 may be formed of an enclosing sheet material 3 which is preferably filled with a suitable padding material 4. The body portion 2 is of a dimensional area approximating a large percentage of the occupational area of the bed 7, on which the pad is to be installed.

The bed 7 may have the usual head piece 8, foot piece 9, and rails 10 which support within their assembled extension suitable bed springs 11. The pad 1 is adapted to be placed over the springs 11 so as to receive a mattress 12 in superimposed relation to said pad. Preferably, the pad is placed so that said central body portion 2 is located centrally of the horizontal area occupied by said springs 11 and mattress 12.

Surrounding the central body portion 2 of the pad 1 is an edge portion 14 which has the elements of the means for seizing other articles of bed clothes, such as a bed sheet 15, and operative to retain the same in an assembled relation with respect to the mattress 12, such as one illustrated at 16 in Fig. 1 of the drawing, from which the sheet 15 is shown partially withdrawn. The edge portion 14 comprises superimposed layers or extensions 20 and 21 of the central portion 2 form-

ing a bifurcated edge. Each extension may be formed by extending the sheeting 3 forming the surfaces of the central portion until the total area occupied by the sheeting is substantially equal to the entire area of the bed springs 11 and mattress 12 and then bighting the sheeting 3 and laying the same along a line parallel to and between lines common with the upper and lower surfaces of the central portion 2. Preferably, however, and as shown in the drawing, instead of bighting the sheeting, a separating piece of sheet goods 22 is folded along a fold line 23 and each leg portion 24 and 25 formed by said fold is located in superimposed relation to each other and extends outwardly to join with the edge of the sheeting 3. The pieces 22 are interjoined along seams that extend on a bias to fold line 23. Thus, the distance of overlay of the leg portion 24 on the leg portion 25 is greater at the corners than between the corners providing thereby additional tucking space for the bed sheet 15 and other advantages hereinafter described.

The described interjoined assembly of the sheeting 3 to the goods 22 to comprise the edge bifurcations of the pad may be provided with a suitable resilient filling medium, such as the padding 28. In order to maintain the padding in desirable distribution throughout the bifurcations and to form surface protruding and recessed areas thereon, each bifurcation may be stitched along a plurality of spaced stitch lines 29. The said stitching preferably extends through the portion of the sheeting 3 forming one side of each bifurcation and the leg portion of the goods 22 forming the other side of the bifurcation. Also it is desirable that said stitching be drawn tautly as to move and hold portions of the sheeting and goods 22 in closely spaced relation. Thus, areas 30 of surface depression are formed along said stitch line and protruding surface areas 31 are formed intermediate said stitch lines on each leg portion 24 and 25 forming the facing surfaces of the bifurcations.

The stitch lines 29 are so located that a protruding area 31 of one bifurcation registers with

a recessed or depressed area 30 of the other bifurcation. Thus, when the bed sheet 15 is located between the bifurcations, the sheet will be gripped between said bifurcations with a pressure dependent on the load borne by the pad 1. Thus, when the bed is occupied and the bed sheet is urged by the occupant to move from its installed relation to the other articles of bedding, the sheet will be held by said bifurcations with an increased pressure to prevent said withdrawal. Thus, it will be appreciated that we have provided an article of relative low cost which may be subjected to the rigors and strains exerted normally at the point of contact between the bed springs and mattress to absorb and bear the same for the protection and longevity of the mattress and its ticking.

We claim:

A bedding article forming a means adapted to be located intermediate bed springs and a bed mattress to prevent contact as between said bed springs and mattress and wear of said mattress and to receive within itself to enclosingly retain bed clothing as may be assembled over said mattress and comprising a flexible flat padded central body portion adapted to be located centrally of the area occupied by said bed spring, the body portion entirely surrounded by a padded edge portion, the edge portion being bifurcated along a line parallel to the plane of the body portion, the infacing surface of each bifurcation having a plurality of parallel lines of stitching extending parallel to the edge of each bifurcation to form a plurality of parallel ridges, each of said ridges extending parallel to the immediately adjacent edge and spaced from each other a distance so that each ridge of each infacing surface of each bifurcation extends between like ridges of the other infacing surface of the other bifurcation and so that when said bed clothing is inserted between said bifurcations, the inserted portion is caused to substantially assume a wave-like appearance and be held against ready withdrawal.

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