Oct. 3, 1933. E. J. BARCALO 1,928,806

PILLOW

Filed Nov. 10, 1932

Fig. 1

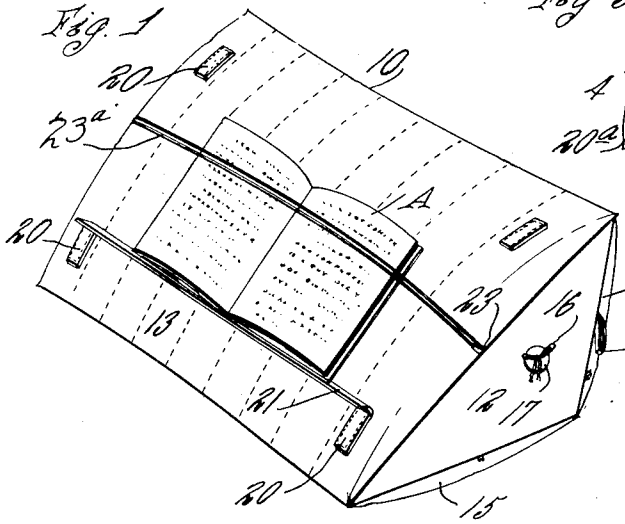


Fig. 3

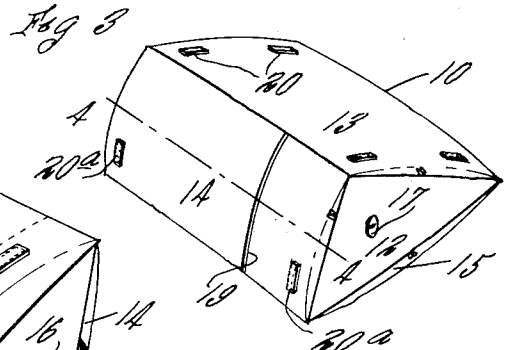


Fig. 7

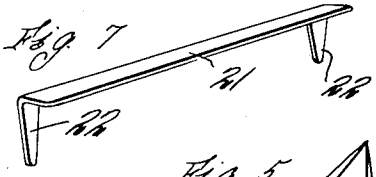


Fig. 2

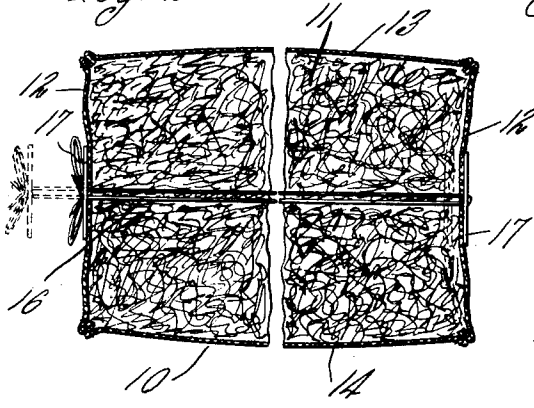


Fig. 8

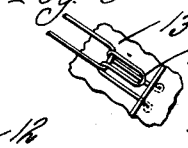


Fig. 5

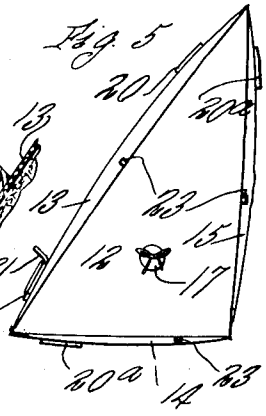


Fig. 6

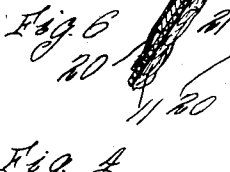


Fig. 4



Fig. 9

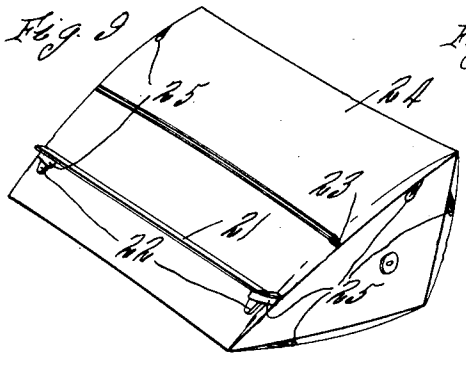
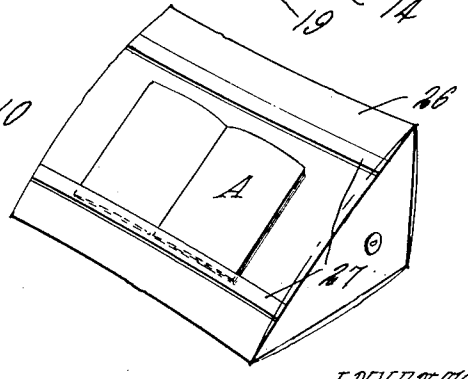


Fig. 10



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Patented Oct. 3, 1933 1,928,806

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

1,928,806

PILLOW

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Application November 10, 1932
Serial No. 642,091

18 Claims. (Cl. 45—57)

This invention relates to pillows or cushions such as may be used on beds or lounges, and also to support books, magazines, and the like in convenient reading positions.

An object of the invention is to provide a pillow or cushion which may also be used to support books, magazines and the like adjustably in various convenient reading positions.

Another object of the invention is to provide an improved pillow or cushion which may be used to support a person in a variety of different, comfortable positions or postures, and which may also be used to support books, magazines or similar articles in an inclined position convenient for reading, when the pillow or cushion is disposed upon the lap of, or in front of, the reader; with which the inclination of the articles so supported may be varied; with which the pages of a book or magazine may be confined against movement while so supported by the pillow; and which is relatively simple, convenient, attractive in appearance and inexpensive.

A further object of the invention is to provide an improved pillow of this type which is adapted to receive and hold various articles whose use is temporarily undesired.

Various other objects and advantages will be apparent from the following description of several embodiments of the invention, and the novel features will be particularly pointed out hereinafter in connection with the appended claims.

In the accompanying drawing:

Fig. 1 is a perspective of a pillow constructed in accordance with this invention, and illustrating one embodiment thereof;

Fig. 2 is a longitudinal, sectional elevation of the same, to illustrate the interior construction thereof and also means for adjusting the compactness of the pillow to some extent;

Fig. 3 is another perspective of the same article, but on a smaller scale and showing another face uppermost;

Fig. 4 is a sectional elevation through one face of the pillow to show the formation of a large pocket on a face thereof, the section being taken approximately along the line 4—4, Fig. 3;

Fig. 5 is an end elevation of the pillow shown in Figs. 1–4, and showing the small pockets on all three of the side faces;

Fig. 6 is an enlarged, sectional elevation of part of the case of the pillow at one of the small pockets which supports the book rest;

Fig. 7 is a perspective of the book rest of the same;

Fig. 8 is an enlarged view of a portion of the pillow to show one of the hooks to which an elastic cord is attached;

Fig. 9 is a perspective of another pillow, similar to that shown in Fig. 1 but illustrating a slightly different manner of supporting the rest shown in Fig. 7; and

Fig. 10 is a perspective of still another pillow constructed in accordance with the invention but illustrating another embodiment of the book rest.

In the embodiment of the invention shown in Figs. 1 to 8, the pillow includes a sack or case 10 of flexible sheet material, such as textile fabric, or leather, which is completely filled with a soft, loose, yielding or elastic filling or stuffing 11, such as hair, cotton, wool, kapok, feathers or any other suitable soft and more or less pliable or resilient filling material. This filling material is inserted into the sack or case without material compression of the filling material so as to make the pillow soft, pliable, and elastic, in contrast to mattresses, pads, cushions, and the like in which the filling material is materially compressed in filling, and is relatively firm and only slightly yielding. The ends 12 of the case or sack are triangular in shape, being preferably obtuse angled triangles, the obtuse angle of each end being slightly more than 90°, and these triangular ends are connected by rectangular faces 13, 14 and 15. Such a pillow is, therefore, triangular in transverse cross section. The edges of the triangular ends are preferably nearly, but not equal in length, and all the angles of the triangle also are preferably unequal, so that when the pillow is supported upon different side faces, the other side faces will make different inclinations to the supporting surface. The length of the pillow is preferably somewhat less or not longer than that of the usual pillow or cushion, and each edge of each triangular end has a length of at least approximately ten inches.

A stay, draw string, or tie device 16 preferably extends through the pillow from end face to end face, is carried through apertures protected by grommets in the end faces and adjustably attached to buttons 17, so that by tightening the stay or tie device 16, which may for convenience be a cord or ribbon, the ends of the pillow may be drawn together to different extents. By lengthening the stay or tie device 16, the ends of the pillow may be allowed to bulge out to different extents, and when the filling is so displaced by the bulging of the ends, the inclination of the different faces of the pillow will change to some extent. The stay 16 may be either elastic or inelastic as desired.

A loop 18 of suitable tape may be secured to the pillow at any suitable point, such as to the case or sack along the piping at one edge thereof, as shown in Fig. 1, and this loop forms a convenient handle by which the pillow may be carried, or hung up when not in use. The faces of the pillow may be quilted or not, as may be desired, (see Fig. 1) and one of the faces, such as the face 14, may have a pocket 19 formed therein and opening in a direction endwise of the pillow. Various articles, such as glasses, handkerchiefs, small magazines, or other similar articles may, when not in use, be disposed in such a pocket. Such a pocket may easily be formed by forming the face 14 of two superposed layers of fabric of different lengths which are stitched together along the edges of the pillow.

A pillow of this type may be used in various different positions, such as to form props at different inclinations for a person desiring to sit or be supported in different postures or at different inclinations. To such a pillow or cushion I add a rest which cooperates with the side faces of the pillow to support books, magazines, or similar articles in inclined reading positions. For example, the case or sack may be provided, upon one or more faces, with narrow pockets or loops 20, these pockets being arranged in pairs along opposite side edges of the pillow, the pockets along or adjacent one side edge of the pillow opening toward the pockets adjacent the opposite side edge of the same face of the pillow. A bar 21 serves as the rest and is provided with depending angular feet 22 which are received in the pockets 20 along either side edge of a side face of the pillow, as shown in Fig. 1. The bar or rest 21 thus forms a flange or ledge extending away from the side face of the pillow against which it is placed, and holds a book magazine or other article A, that may rest upon this inclined face of the pillow, from sliding down this inclined face. For example, in Fig. 1, this rest or bar 21 is adjacent the lower edge portion of the face 13 when the pillow is resting upon the side face 15.

By turning the pillow over upon another side face, the side face 13 will make a different inclination to the horizontal or to a supporting surface for the pillow, because the dihedral angle between the faces 13 and 14 is different than the dihedral angle between the faces 13 and 15.

When the pillow is tipped over or turned to rest upon the face 14, the rest 21 should be removed from the position shown in Fig. 1, reversed end to end, and the feet 22 of the bar then inserted into the other pair of pockets 20 along the opposite side edge of the face 13. The pockets 20 may be patch pockets or internal pockets. Similar pairs of pockets 20*a* may be provided upon the faces 14 and 15 adjacent the side edges of those faces which meet the face 13. The face 13, being the largest face, may provide a more stable support for the pillow when the pillow rests upon this largest face and the other faces 14 and 15 then are used as the inclined faces to support the books or other articles.

The rest 21 is attachable to the pockets 20*a* provided upon the faces 14 and 15 in the same manner that it is attachable to the pockets 20 of the face 13, and should be placed upon the face of the pillow which gives the proper inclination to the magazine, book, or other article which the reader desires to place thereon. In order to keep the pages of a book or magazine resting upon the rest 21 from turning unintentionally, I may provide small hooks 23 at both ends of each of the faces 13, 14 and 15 so that an elastic cord 23*a*, such as a rubber band, may be engaged releasably with the hooks at the end of any side face of the pillow and stretched therebetween so as to extend over the book, magazine, or other article that is resting against that face of the pillow. Obviously, the elastic cord may be stretched in order to facilitate the removal of the book or magazine or to enable one to turn the pages thereof. The hooks 23 may, for convenience, be the small hooks forming a part of hook and eye units used on ladies' garments or small buttons and would not interfere with the normal use of the cushion. The band 23*a* also could be hooked at its ends over the buttons 17.

Referring now to Fig. 9, the pillow 24 is similar to the pillow illustrated in Figs. 1 to 8, except that the pockets 20 and 20*a* may be replaced by small loops 25 along the piping at the ends of the pillow to receive the feet 22 of the rest 21. Such loops may, for convenience, be formed of small pieces of tape which are secured to the piping at the end edges of the pillow, and may properly be considered as pockets.

In the embodiment of the invention shown in Fig. 10, the pillow 26 is similar to that shown in Figs. 1 to 9, except that in place of the rigid rest bar 21 and the pockets or loops on the pillow which releasably support the rest 21, I provide, as the rest, shallow pockets 27 extending in directions from end to end of the pillow on one or more faces at approximately the positions occupied by the rest 21 on the pillow shown in Figs. 1 to 9. These shallow pockets open toward the opposite side edges of the same face of the pillow, and receive and serve as a rest for books, magazines, or other similar articles which one may desire to support upon an inclined face of the pillow. A book or magazine A is shown so supported in this manner by a rest or pocket 27 in Fig. 10. The pockets 27 may, for convenience, be formed by running a narrow strip of fabric from end to end of the pillow, adjacent to, but spaced somewhat from, each side edge of the face, and securing it at its ends to the pillow.

The edge of the strip nearest the adjacent side edge of the pillow is also secured to the pillow to provide a pocket of shallow depth opening toward the opposite side edge of the same side face of the pillow. With this arrangement, it is unnecessary to have the elastic cord to hold the pages from unintentionally turning because the shallow pocket will receive only a portion of a book or magazine at its lower end but just enough of it to hold the book or magazine open at any page selected. To turn a page, it is merely necessary to lift the book or magazine out of the shallow pocket, turn the page, and slide the book or magazine back into the pocket. These pockets may be provided on one or more of the side faces of the pillow to take the place of the pockets or loops which support the rest bar 21 on the pillow.

It will be observed that the pillow constructed in accordance with this invention may be used to support a person in different, more or less inclined or upright postures by turning the pillow into different positions in which it rests upon different side faces, and because of its softness and elasticity, it will support a person in these different postures with a maximum of comfort. If one desires to use the pillow as a book or magazine support for reading, the pillow is placed on the lap of a person, or on a suitable support in front of a person, and the pillow turned until it rests upon any desired side face of the pillow

which will present an inclined face facing the reader and making the desired angle to the lap or other support for the pillow. One may press upon the pillow with one's hand to change its shape slightly or make minor adjustments in the inclination of the book or magazine supported on the pillow, and this range of adjustment may be increased to some extent by tightening or loosening the stay or tie 16 where it connects to the buttons 17.

In Figs. 1 to 9, the rest bar 21 is attached to the pillow adjacent the lower edge of the inclined face which is used to support the book or magazine, and in the embodiment of the invention shown in Fig. 10, the book or magazine is slid slightly at its lower end into the shallow pocket 27 along the lower edge of the same inclined face. When the magazine or book is not in use, it may be disposed in the pocket 19 on the face 14 where it will always be conveniently accessible. Such a pillow is of particular value for invalids or semi-invalids, and greatly lessens the amount of service and attention which attendants must give to such invalids.

Different people, because of different personal eye conditions, or because of particular eye glasses used, find it desirable, and often necessary, when reading to have the book or magazine being read, supported at just the proper position and inclination in front of them. This position or inclination of the book or magazine must frequently be changed when the reader changes his position. For example, if a person is propped up in bed and attempting to read, the position or inclination of the book or magazine being read will change with the changes in the position of the reader. If the reader slides down into the bed somewhat, the inclination of the book or magazine should be increased, and if the reader sits up more erectly, then the inclination of the book or magazine can be, and often should be, decreased. The position of the book or magazine often is dependent upon whether the reader is using multi-focal eyeglasses or eyeglasses of different strengths. With this pillow, it is possible and very easy for the reader to support the magazine or book in any suitable position, and to change this position as it becomes necessary or desirable.

The pillow used as the book or magazine support, is soft and light, and does not cause discomfort when supported upon one's lap. This is particularly important when used for invalids where heavy or rigid magazine supports resting upon the lap would be very uncomfortable to the reader. The pillow also conforms itself somewhat to the lap and consequently is more stable than would be a rigid or smooth support. The pillow also, because of its softness, will not slip along the lap, especially at each slight movement of the reader.

The pockets 20 in Figs. 1 to 8 are shown as in the nature of patch pockets, but it will be understood that internal pockets opening externally only as slits or small apertures are equally useful and may be used instead. While I have described my preferable form of the invention as embodied in a pillow filled with loose, pliable, elastic material, it will be understood that the pillow may be formed of other soft or elastic material within the broadest concept of the invention.

It will be obvious that various changes in the details, which have been herein described and illustrated in order to explain the nature of the invention, may be made by those skilled in the art within the principle and scope of the invention as expressed in the appended claims.

1. A pillow comprising a case filled with relatively soft, elastic material, said pillow being substantially triangular in transverse cross section and of approximately pillow length, the angles of the triangle being unequal and the three sides of the triangle having unequal lengths, a rest extending in a direction lengthwise of the pillow and adjacent the lower edge of one inclined side face of the pillow, and means carried by the pillow and engageable with said rest for removably attaching it thereto.

2. A pillow filled with relatively soft material and being, in transverse cross section, of polygonal shape, a rest disposed in a position to extend endwise of one of the side faces of the pillow and adjacent a side edge thereof, and means removably confining said rest to said pillow, whereby when said side face is uppermost and in an inclined position, a book, magazine or similar article may be supported on said rest and pillow in a position convenient for reading.

3. A pillow filled with relatively soft material and being polygonal in shape in transverse cross section, a rest, and means for removably confining said rest to a side face of said pillow in a position adjacent the lower edge thereof, whereby said rest may support a book, magazine or similar article disposed flat against that side face in a convenient reading position.

4. A pillow filled with relatively soft material, a rest extending in a direction lengthwise of the pillow over one side face thereof and adjacent an edge thereof, whereby it will support a book, magazine or similar article resting thereon and lying flat against that side face, and means extending from end to end of the pillow at a point between said rest and the opposite edge of that side face for confining said books, magazine or similar article to that side face of said pillow.

5. A pillow filled with relatively soft material and being triangular in shape in transverse cross-section, a rest extending in a direction lengthwise of the pillow over one side face thereof and adjacent an edge thereof, whereby it will support a book, magazine or similar article resting thereon and lying flat against that side face, and a hook secured to each end portion of the pillow intermediate the opposite side edges of said side face of said pillow, whereby a flexible cord may be connected between said hooks to confine said book, magazine or similar article to said side face of said pillow and hold the pages of said book, magazine or article in a flat position against said pillow.

6. A pillow comprising a case filled with a relatively soft material and being substantially triangular in transverse cross section, the angles and edges of the triangle being unequal, a rest, and means adjacent the side edges of the largest face of said pillow for confining said rest removably to said face along either of those side edges, whereby a book, magazine or similar article may be supported on said rest against said largest face and in an inclined position thereon, whether said pillow is resting upon one or the other of its other side faces.

7. A pillow comprising a flexible sack filled with relatively soft elastic material, said pillow being approximately a right triangle in transverse cross section, with the legs of the triangle unequal in length, and a rest extending in a direction lengthwise of the pillow over a face thereof and adjacent a side edge portion of the pillow, whereby a

book, magazine or similar article may be supported by said rest on an inclined face of said pillow.

8. A pillow comprising a flexible sack filled with relatively soft, elastic material, said pillow being approximately a right triangle in transverse cross section, with the legs of the triangle unequal in length, a rest extending in a direction lengthwise of the pillow over a face thereof and adjacent a side edge portion of the pillow, whereby a book, magazine or similar article may be supported by said rest on an inclined face of said pillow, and a stay connecting opposite end faces of said pillow and selectively adjustable in length.

9. A pillow comprising a flexible case filled with relatively soft, elastic material, said pillow being triangular in transverse cross section, and with the legs of the triangle unequal in length, said case having pockets formed in one side face thereof, and a rest engaged releasably in said pockets and extending in a direction lengthwise of and across a side face of the pillow but adjacent a side edge of the pillow, whereby when the side face having the rest is in an inclined position with said side edge lowermost, a book, magazine or other article may be supported in an inclined position on said face of the pillow by said rest.

10. A pillow comprising a flexible case filled with soft, elastic material, said case being triangular in transverse cross section, and means releasably attached to said pillow, adjacent opposite ends thereof, so as to extend in a direction lengthwise of said pillow but somewhat spaced from an edge thereof, whereby when a book, magazine or other article is supported on a face of said pillow, said means will aid in confining said article to the pillow.

11. A pillow comprising a flexible sack filled with relatively soft, resilient material and substantially triangular in transverse cross section, and a bar having legs extending therefrom and releasably attachable to said pillow so that the bar may extend in a direction endwise of the pillow and engage a side face thereof, whereby when a book, magazine or other article is placed on said face of said pillow while said face is in an inclined position, said article may be held against downward sliding movement thereon by said bar.

12. A pillow comprising a case formed of freely flexible sheet material and completely filled with a relatively soft, loose, elastic material, said pillow being substantially triangular in transverse cross section, with the angles of the triangle unequal and the larger angle being an obtuse angle of slightly more than 90 degrees, and the sides of the triangle which include the obtuse angle being nearly but not of the same length, and means extending endwise of the pillow along one or more of the side faces of the pillow for preventing a book or magazine resting on that side face of the pillow from sliding off the pillow when that face is in an inclined position.

13. A pillow comprising a case formed of freely flexible sheet material and filled with relatively soft, loose, pliable, resilient material, said case being completely filled without material compression of the filling material, and means extending in a direction endwise of the pillow on one or more side faces thereof for limiting the sliding of a book or magazine down that side face of the pillow when that face is in an inclined position.

14. A pillow comprising a case formed of freely flexible sheet material and filled with relatively soft, loose, pliable, resilient material, said case being completely filled without material compression of the filling material, but being substantially triangular in transverse cross section, means extending in a direction endwise of the pillow on one or more side faces thereof for limiting the sliding of a book or magazine down that side face of the pillow when that face is in an inclined position, the dihedral angles between the side faces of the pillow being unequal, and the largest angle being about a right angle, whereby the different side faces of the pillow when uppermost will make different inclinations to the supporting surface of the pillow and will provide inclined supports at different inclinations for books or magazines resting thereon.

15. A pillow comprising a case formed of freely flexible sheet material and filled with relatively soft, loose, pliable, resilient material, said case being completely filled without material compression of the filling material, but being substantially triangular in transverse cross section, means extending in a direction endwise of the pillow on one or more side faces thereof for limiting the sliding of a book or magazine down that side face of the pillow when that face is in an inclined position, the dihedral angles between the side faces of the pillow being unequal and the edges of the triangle being nearly but not equal, and a tie connecting opposite end faces of the pillow and adjustable in length to selectively restrict the bulging of the end walls of the pillow.

16. A pillow comprising a case of freely flexible sheet material and filled with relatively soft, loose, elastic, pliable material, said pillow being substantially triangular in transverse cross section and being completely filled without material compression of the filling material, said pillow having upon one or more of its side faces a shallow pocket extending in a direction endwise of the pillow, whereby when a book or magazine is placed on a face of the pillow having said shallow pocket, the lower edge of the book or magazine may be inserted in the shallow pocket which prevents sliding of the book or magazine downwardly on said face and the pages of the book or magazine will be held against turning by the same pocket.

17. A soft resilient pillow, of approximately pillow length, and having a book or magazine rest extending in a direction endwise of the pillow upon one of the side faces of the pillow.

18. A combination pillow and article support comprising a soft resilient pillow or cushion, and a rest member detachably connectable to the pillow adjacent the end portions thereof, and when so connected to the pillow abutting, and extending in a direction endwise along, a side face of said pillow, whereby when said pillow is supported with said face in an inclined position, said rest member may limit the tendency to slide, of a book, magazine or similar article which may be resting upon said inclined face.

EDWARD J. BARCALO.