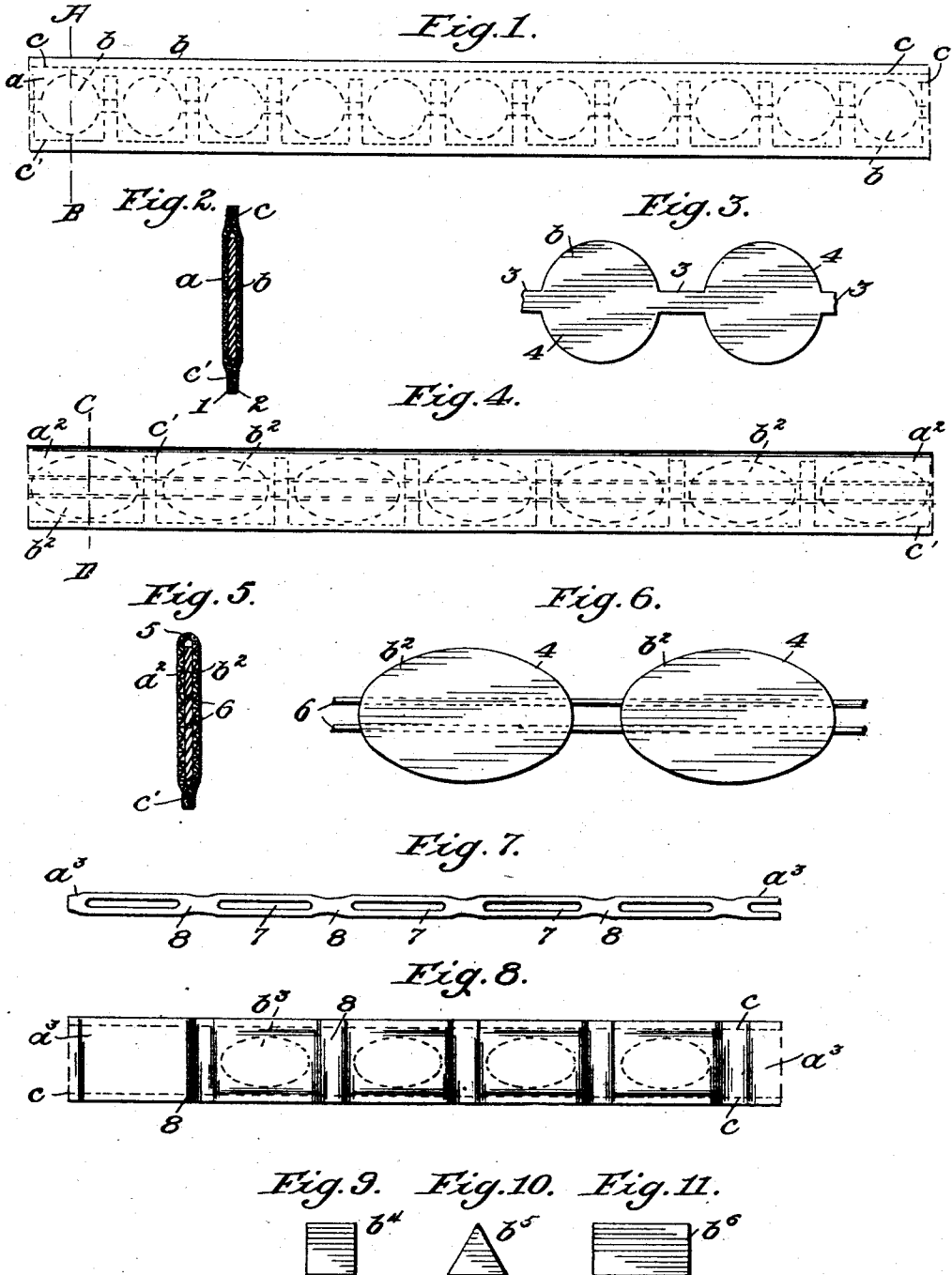


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DRESS WEIGHT.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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DRESS-WEIGHT.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWARD J. BROOKS, a citizen of the United States of America, and a resident of East Orange, in the State of New Jersey, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Dress-Weights, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to "dress weights" for use by dress and cloak makers as means for weighting depending portions of such garments in order to make them hang in proper shape; and it consists in a new article of manufacture embodying the novel features of construction hereinafter particularly described and claimed.

The leading object of this invention is to adapt an easily handled and attached form of dress weight to be manufactured and sold in the shape of a continuous tape-like woven fabric, flat and of uniform width, from which any required length may be cut by means of ordinary scissors, and which can be furnished in any desired color so as to match the lining of the article to be weighted.

Other objects will be set forth in the general description which follows.

A sheet of drawings accompanies this specification as part thereof.

Figure 1 is a face view of a portion of a dress-weight strip constructed according to the present invention; Fig. 2 represents a magnified cross section on the line A—B, Fig. 1; Fig. 3 is a face view on the same scale as Fig. 2 of a portion of the series of weights represented in dotted lines in Fig. 1; Fig. 4 is a face view of a portion of another dress-weight strip illustrating a second species of the improved dress weights; Fig. 5 represents a magnified cross section on the line C—D, Fig. 4; Fig. 6 is a face view of a portion of its series of weights on the same scale as Fig. 5; Fig. 7 is an edge view of a portion of the body member of another species of the improved dress weights; Fig. 8 is a face view of a portion of another dress weight strip embodying the body member represented by Fig. 7, and Figs. 9, 10, and 11 are face views of alternative weight members detached.

Like reference characters refer to like parts in all the figures.

The improved dress-weight article of manufacture in each of the species is composed of a flexible tape-like body, a or a^2 or

a^3 , of flat woven fabric of uniform width; flat weights, b or b^2 or b^3 or b^4 or b^5 or b^6 , of lead or the like, arranged flatwise with reference to said body, between two thicknesses thereof, or so that both faces of the weights are covered, and in longitudinal series, and secured against edgewise displacement; and stitching, c , c' , by which the parts are united, and which serves or assists to prevent the edgewise displacement of the individual weight members. The body members in common are obviously adapted to be of any color required to match the lining of the dress or cloak to be weighted, and serve to inclose and conceal the weight members; the weight members in any of their forms are adapted to be made of any required weight, so as to adapt them for garments of greater or less stiffness; and pieces of the required length for sufficient weight may be cut off between successive weights, and sewed in place between the lining and the outer goods in customary manner.

In the species represented by Figs. 1, 2 and 3, the body member a consists of two flat tapes, 1 and 2; the weights b are connected by connecting portions, 3, Fig. 3, integral with the weight portions, 4, the whole being cast, or stamped from sheet lead or the like; and the stitching c , c' , serves to unite the tapes 1 and 2, and to form a pocket for each weight between the two tapes, as indicated in Fig. 1.

In the species represented by Figs. 4, 5 and 6 a single wide tape having a lengthwise fold, 5, Fig. 5, forms the body member a^2 ; the weight member b^2 consists of flat weight portions 4, united by thin wires or cords, 6, Fig. 6, upon which the suitably spaced weight portions are made fast; and the stitching c' serves simply to complete pockets for the individual weight portions as represented in Fig. 4.

In the species represented by Figs. 7 and 8 the body member a^3 , represented by Fig. 7, is woven with pockets, 7, separated by portions, 8, of suitable length in the direction of the length of the strip; the weights b^3 are not connected with each other except by the body member, and the stitching c serves simply to close the pockets 7 at the lateral edges of the body member.

The weights are preferably round or oval as represented in Figs. 1 to 8, inclusive; but may be of other shapes as illustrated by

Figs. 9, 10 and 11, which represent respectively a square weight, b^4 , a triangular weight, b^5 , and an oblong weight, b^6 .

The stitching c , c' , in the first species consists of a straight line of stitching (c) near one edge and a zig-zag line (c') to complete the row of pockets; in the second species it consists of a single zig-zag line, (c') and in the third species it consists of two straight lines (c) near the respective longitudinal edges.

The weights are preferably of soft lead, but suitable alloys may obviously be substituted, and other like modifications will suggest themselves to those skilled in the art.

Having thus described said improvement, I claim as my invention and desire to patent under this specification:

1. A dress-weight article of manufacture having a flexible tape-like body of uniform width composed of flat woven fabric, stitching interacting with said body to complete a longitudinal series of interspaced pockets, and flat weights of lead or the like arranged flatwise with reference to said body within said pockets, and secured against edgewise displacement by said stitching.

2. A dress-weight article of manufacture

having a flexible body composed of two textile tapes of flat woven fabric and of uniform width, flat weights of lead or the like arranged flatwise with reference to said body and in a longitudinal series between said tapes, a straight line of stitching uniting said tapes near one edge, and a zig-zag line of stitching near the other edge of the tapes completing a pocket for each weight with suitable interspaces.

3. A dress-weight article of manufacture having a flexible tape-like body of flat woven fabric and of uniform width, a flat weight-strip of lead or the like composed of disk-shaped weight portions and narrow easily severed connecting portions integral with said weight portions forming suitable interspaces, and stitching whereby said strip is fastened within said body and secured against the edgewise displacement of said weight portions when the article is cut at any point, substantially as hereinbefore specified.

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