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P. R. WHITNEY

MANIKIN

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2 Sheets-Sheet 1

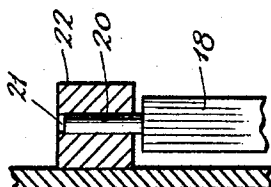


Fig. 3.

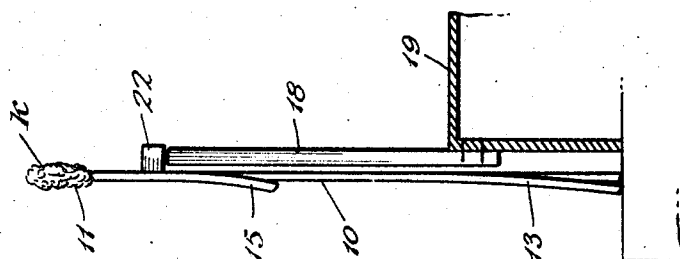


Fig. 2.

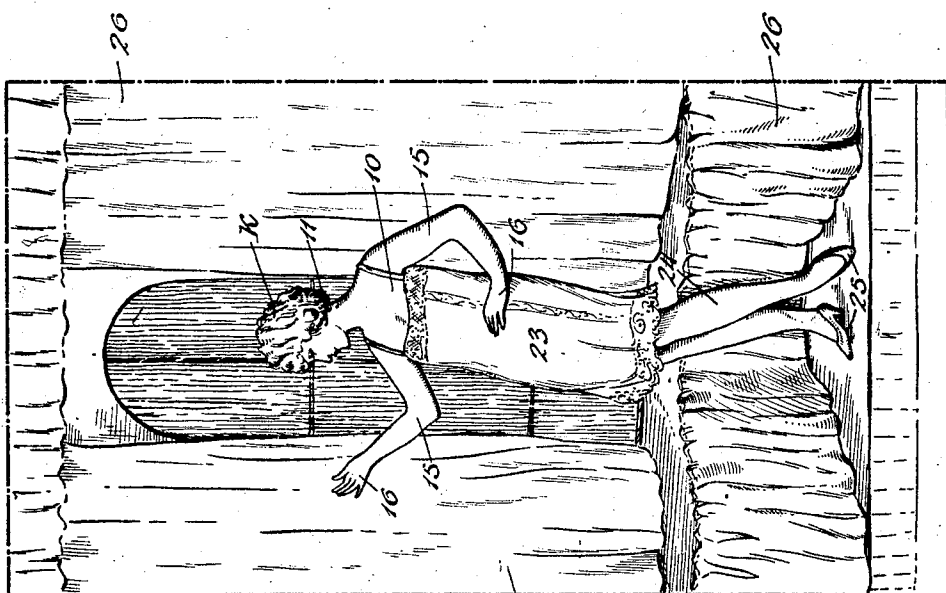


Fig. 1.

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MANIKIN.

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My invention relates to manikins of the class which are utilized for display purposes and has for its object to provide a manikin constructed in a novel and simple manner to have the poster appearance so much desired in many connections and to present effects which in addition to being highly artistic and ornamental are extremely natural and lifelike. Other more specific objects will appear from the description hereinafter and the features of novelty will be pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, which show an example of the invention without defining its limits, Fig. 1 is a front view of a draped manikin in an appropriate setting; Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the manikin; Fig. 3 is a fragmentary section on an enlarged scale showing a preferred mounting means; Fig. 4 is a front elevation of an undraped manikin on a somewhat enlarged scale; Fig. 5 is an enlarged section on the line 5—5 of Fig. 4; Figs. 6 and 7 are fragmentary enlarged sections on the lines 6—6 and 7—7 respectively of Fig. 4, and Fig. 8 is a detail, enlarged section on the line 8—8 of Fig. 4.

In the example illustrated in the drawing, the manikin is constructed in the form of a standing female figure and comprises a body 10 having a head 11 and legs 12 and 13, the latter of which comprises an independent element connected with the body 10 in any convenient manner, as for instance, by nails 14 as shown in Fig. 7; the arrangement is such that the leg 13 is capable of independent movement away from the leg 12 whereby the placing of stockings upon the manikin is facilitated whenever the type of the manikin and the dressing thereof requires these garments. The manikin further includes arms 15 and hands 16, both arms, in the example chosen for illustrative purposes being detachably fixed in place, for instance by fasteners 17 of the glove fastener type. The manikin is supported in an upright position, for instance by means of an upright standard 18, fixed upon a suitable base 19 and provided at its upper end with a peg 20 adapted to be removably received in the socket 21 of a block 22; the latter is fastened in place upon the body 10 at the back in any conventional manner, as by gluing, the block 22 being so located as to properly support the manikin in its intended posture, when said block is in place upon

the peg 20. In its display condition the manikin is draped with suitable clothing, as for instance, an undergarment 23, stockings 24, and slippers 25, it being understood that additional or substitute garments may be placed upon the manikin at will; the dressing and undressing of the manikin is greatly facilitated by the independent movability of the leg 13 and the detachability of the arms 15. As shown in Fig. 1 the manikin, suitably dressed, may be combined with a suitable setting 26 which may comprise the representation of a boudoir, ball room, beach or any other indoor or outdoor subject.

The detail construction of the manikin and the preferred method of making the same will now be described with reference to the example of the manikin shown in the drawing. As the first step, a drawing is made of the desired figure, the body, legs and arm portions of which drawing are then traced upon composition board or other suitable material *a*; after the tracing of these portions have been completed, the material *a* is cut along the lines thereof to form the body 10, the legs 12, 13 and arms 15 thereof; if, as in the illustrated example, the one leg 13 is to be independently movable and the two arms 15 are to be detachable, these members are separately cut. In such case blocks *b*, suitably fashioned, are fixed upon the material *a* at the proper ends of the aforesaid members and at contiguous portions of the body or other parts of the manikins; the blocks *b* may be fastened in place upon the material *a* in any conventional manner, as for instance, by means of nails *c* and constitute supports to which co-operating members of the fastening devices 17 or their equivalent are secured. A similar block *b'* is fastened to the material *a* by nails *c'* at a point on the body contiguous to the upper end of the leg 13 which is likewise provided with a block *b*²; as shown in Fig. 7, the material *a* forming the foundation of the leg 13 has its upper end in engagement with the material *a* of the body 10, the nails 14 serving not only to fix the block *b*² in place, but also serving to connect the upper end of the leg 13 with the body 10. The head 11 and hands 16 are preferably cut from light weight cardboard *d* and are padded with cotton or other suitable material *e*, which padding is covered with an inner covering of knitted fabric or its equivalent *f*, the latter being stitched or

sewed as indicated at *g* to shape the padding *e* and fabric *f* in a manner to simulate features, fingers and other parts of the body as may be required, to provide the natural forms and contour thereof. The head and hand sections, in this condition, are then placed in proper positions upon the material or backing *a* as indicated in Fig. 8, and the padding continued until the whole figure is covered with a padding of cotton or its equivalent *e* and presents the appearance and contour of the human figure. The knitted fabric or its equivalent *f* is then stretched over the entire surface of the padding and fastened upon the back of the composition board or equivalent material *a* or upon the back of the cardboard *d* with glue, paste or the like, as indicated at *h* in the drawings. The exposed surface of the covering of knitted fabric *f* is then covered thickly with a suitable cement, such as white rubber cement, and is allowed to dry for at least twelve hours, or for an equivalent drying period, which experience shows to be satisfactory.

As the next step, pieces of flesh colored rubber sheeting *i* of relatively high flexibility and light texture, large enough to cover various portions of the figure are pinned, tacked or otherwise temporarily secured upon cardboard or upon wood or other frames to prevent curling up, and are similarly covered upon one surface with the aforesaid cement; these coated sections or pieces of rubber are likewise permitted to dry for at least twelve hours or for an equivalent drying period which has been shown to give the desired results.

At the expiration of the aforesaid drying periods the rubber sheeting *i*, still upon the cardboard, frame or equivalent support is placed upon the padded figure with the cement covered surface of the rubber sheeting in surface engagement with the cement covered surface of the knitted fabric *f* and pressed well into place to cause the rubber sheeting *i* to adhere to the fabric *f*. The cardboard, frame or other supports by which the rubber sheeting is carried are then removed, after which any surplus which may exist in the rubber sheeting *i* is cut or trimmed away; the trimming operation is such that a margin of one inch or more is left on the rubber sheeting *i*, which margin is turned over and back upon the composition board *a* or its equivalent and cemented or otherwise permanently secured thereto. In this condition the outer covering of rubber constitutes the skin of the figure and conceals the stitches *g*, it being understood that the rubber sheeting *i* is caused to follow the surface contour of the figure, when it is cemented in place. The figure is now ready to be painted, water colors preferably being used for producing the eyes, lips, etc., and

a wig *k* of real or artificial hair being secured upon the head 11 to complete the manikin; ordinary rouge and powder may be applied to the face to complete the appearance of reality in the figure. The surface characteristics of the rubber sheeting *i* which constitutes the outer covering of the manikin are such that the latter presents the appearance of the human skin in a very life-like manner; because of the physical characteristics of the rubber sheeting in combination with the padded construction of the figure, the manikin is also very life-like to the touch and is peculiarly adapted for treatment, as to clothing, cosmetics and the like, in the same way as an actual human being.

The manikin may be made in any characteristic position, either sitting, standing or otherwise, and is capable of being artistically incorporated as a part of any type of setting, either outdoor or indoor, such as the representation of a beach, ball room, boudoir, etc. The manikin presents the poster appearance so much desired at the present time and is capable of being utilized in many different ways; different garments may be draped upon the figure at intervals and the settings may be changed as often as desired to produce different effects. A plurality of sets of arms may be provided with each manikin to enable it to be given the appearance of different postures at will. The display manikins will not break or melt and accordingly may be used in place of wax figures and the like; these manikins are also less expensive to produce than wax figures.

Obviously the novel construction and arrangement described hereinbefore may be utilized with equal efficiency in the production of figure representative of animal life and the term "manikin" as used in the description is accordingly to be construed as referring to any type of figure for which the invention is adapted.

Various changes in the specific form shown and described may be made within the scope of the claims without departing from the spirit of the invention.

I claim:

1. A display manikin comprising a padded foundation, an inner covering whereby said padding is given a predetermined surface contour, and an outer covering of rubber of high flexibility and light texture secured in surface engagement with said inner covering.

2. A display manikin comprising a backing, a padding thereon, a fabric covering whereby said padding is fixed in place, and an outer covering of rubber of high flexibility and light texture secured in surface engagement with said fabric covering.

3. A display manikin comprising a body, arms and legs of relatively heavy backing material, a head and hands of relatively

lighter backing material combined therewith, padding located on said backing materials, a covering of knitted fabric enclosing said padding, and an outer covering of rubber of high flexibility and light texture secured in surface engagement with said fabric covering and concealing said stitching.

4. A display manikin comprising a backing, a padding thereon, a fabric covering whereby said padding is fixed in place, and an outer covering of rubber of high flexibility and light texture secured in surface engagement with said fabric covering, in combination with an upright rigid support on which said manikin is removably supported.

5. A display manikin comprising a backing, padding on said backing, a fabric covering whereby said padding is secured upon said backing, stitches passing through said

backing, padding and fabric covering for giving a predetermined surface contour to said manikin, and an outer covering of rubber of high flexibility and light texture secured in surface engagement with said fabric covering and concealing said stitching.

6. The method of making a display manikin which consists in tracing a predetermined design upon a backing, cutting said backing along the lines of said design, covering one surface of said backing with padding, securing a fabric covering over said padding, and cementing an outer covering of rubber of high flexibility and light texture in surface engagement with said fabric covering.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand.

PHEBE RAE WHITNEY.