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K. E. CUNNINGHAM

1,560,219

SEWING MACHINE ATTACHMENT FOR FOLDING AND GUIDING STRIPS OF FABRIC

Filed June 28, 1922

Fig. 1

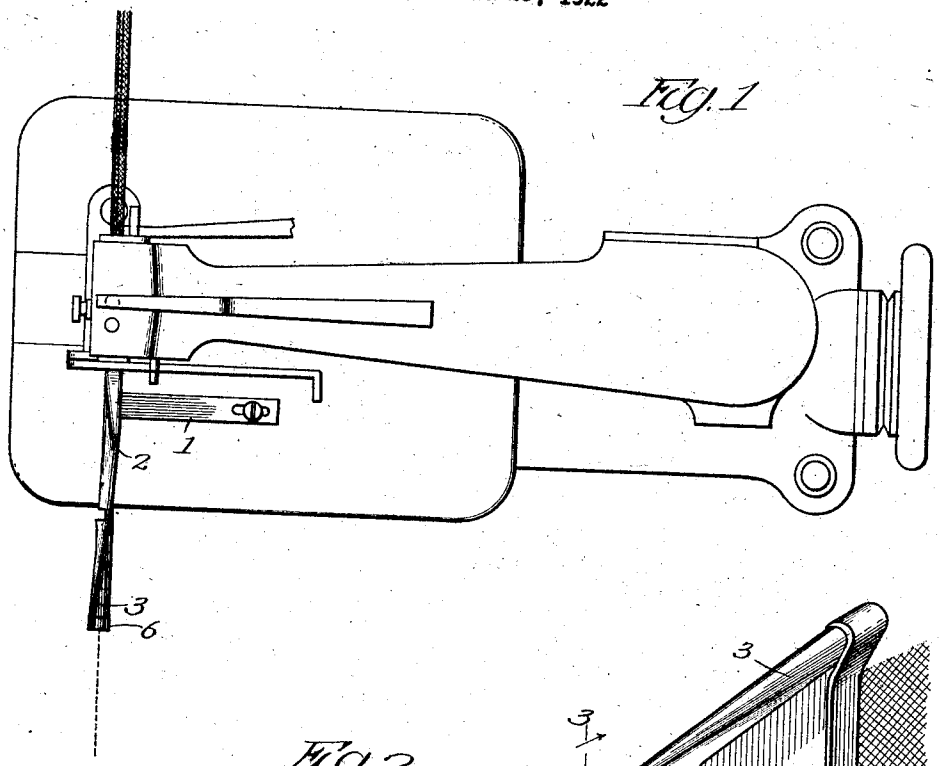


Fig. 2

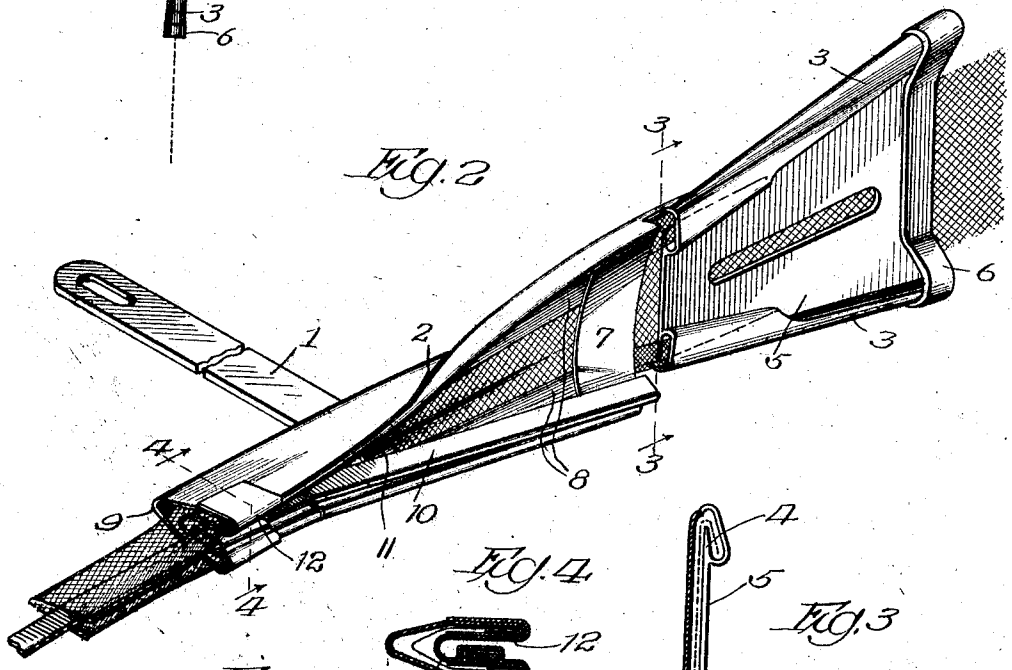
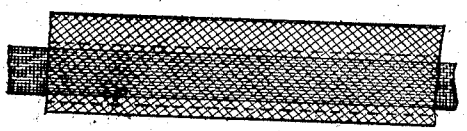


Fig. 4

Fig. 3

Fig. 5



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Her Attys

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

KATHERINE E. CUNNINGHAM, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNOR TO THE H. W. GOSSARD CO., OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, A CORPORATION OF ILLINOIS.

SEWING-MACHINE ATTACHMENT FOR FOLDING AND GUIDING STRIPS OF FABRIC.

Application filed June 28, 1922. Serial No. 571,469.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, KATHERINE E. CUNNINGHAM, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Sewing Machine Attachments for Folding and Guiding Strips of Fabric, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to an attachment intended to be used with sewing machines of either the single needle or two needle type, and is designed to provide for the insertion of an elastic tape in a tubular sheath formed of a strip of net or gauze, such as is used in the manufacture of ladies' wear to form a shirred edge upon lace or netted garments, or upon apparel or other articles of thin material of any kind which it is desired to construct in such manner. The object of my invention is the provision of a simple and efficient attachment by means of which the gauze strip from which the sheath is formed will be folded as it is fed to the sewing machine, and the tape fed between the folds, so that the completed strip of sheathed tape will be rapidly and continuously produced. My invention resides in the construction and arrangement of the different parts and members of the device which I have invented for the purpose of accomplishing the results mentioned, the essential elements thereof being more particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

In the drawing, Figure 1 is a plan view of a sewing machine to which my novel attachment is shown applied; Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the attachment, detached; Figs. 3 and 4 are cross sections of the device on planes indicated by the dotted lines 3—3 and 4—4 respectively of Fig. 2, and Fig. 5 is a plan view of the completed stitched strip.

The same reference characters indicate the same parts in all the figures of the drawing.

The guide members of my novel attachment are secured to a base plate 1 arranged to be clamped by a clamping screw to the bed plate of the machine to hold the device in proper working relation to the sewing mechanism, as is usual in hemmers and other attachments designed for more or less similar purposes. Rigidly mounted upon the base plate is the tapered guide scroll 2 which is arranged to fold the strip of net as it passes through it to the sewing mechanism. At its receiving end the scroll 2 is formed with guide rolls 3 which are inclined towards each other and act upon the edges of the strip to fold them inwardly over the edges of recurved inner extensions 4 of such flanges. A plate 5 secured to the extensions 4 and to a cross strip 6 at the rear of the attachment and having its inner face adjacent and parallel with the guide scroll along its central zone serves to confine the center portion of the strip of material smoothly in place as the edges are being turned. From the ends of the extensions 4 the strip passes rearwardly between the inner face of the scroll 2 and a cross band 7, the folded edges being confined between inturned marginal flanges 8 and the tapered rear portion of the scroll and its flanges curve into approximate parallelism at the rear end of the device so that the strip emerges at the nose 9 doubled along its center line and with its edge folds in vertical alignment.

A tape-guide 10 is secured to the cross band 7 before mentioned, and to an intermediate cross band 11 and a rear cross band 12 at the nozzle which is parallel with the rear end of the scroll 2. As is obvious, however, a continuous sheet of metal arranged to lie in the positions occupied by the flanges 8 and cross bands 7, 11 and 12 parallel with the rear portion of the scroll 2 and along its central zone, might be employed for the purpose of smoothly guiding and confining the strip of net passing under such parts. The rear end of the tape guide is arranged to deliver the tape equidistant between the needles, and the proportions and adjustment of the parts is such that the two lines of stitching will lie on opposite sides of the tape and provide at the doubled edge of the strip formed by its central fold a two-ply margin which may be arranged at the edge of the garment to which it is applied to form a neat finish. The tape is more narrow than the doubled strip of net, and preferably the tape is delivered nearer to the folded edges of the strip than its doubled edge (that is, the edge formed by doubling it on its center line) whereby a relatively wide marginal section outside the line of stitching on that side will be formed. It will be understood that the completed strip is sewed smoothly along its folded-in margin to the edge of the garment or article to which it is to be

applied, and the attached sheath and adjacent portion to the garment gathered as desired by slipping the sheath upon the tape into pleats or folds, so that when the ends of the tape are secured to the sheath or a portion of the garment an elastic shirred edge will be formed.

It is obvious that if desired the line of stitching along the doubled edge at the center fold of the center fold strip may be omitted, in which case a single needle sewing machine may be used. The particular construction of the stitching mechanism and other parts of the sewing machine is of course wholly immaterial, other than that proper provision must be made for securing the attachment to the machine in proper working relation to its sewing and feeding mechanisms.

I claim:

1. An attachment of the character described for two-needle sewing machines and comprising guide members arranged to initially form edge folds in a strip of fabric passing through the attachment, guide members arranged to receive the strip thus folded and further fold it along a central line to bring the edge folds into super-position, and a tape guide arranged to deliver a strand of relatively narrow tape between the sides of the doubled strip, said attachment being arranged to deliver the tape between said needles, whereby marginal sections of the strip outside the lines of stitching will be formed at opposite sides of the tape.

2. An attachment of the character described for two-needle sewing machines and comprising guide members arranged to initially form edge folds in a strip of fabric passing through the attachment, guide members arranged to receive the strip thus folded and further fold it along a central line to bring the edge folds into super-position, and a tape guide arranged to deliver a strand of relatively narrow tape between the sides of the doubled strip, nearer to the folded edges than to the doubled edge, said attachment being arranged to deliver the tape between said needles, whereby at the doubled edge of the strip a relatively wide marginal section outside the line of stitching on that side will be formed.

KATHERINE E. CUNNINGHAM.