April 9, 1929. H. PLOTKIN 1,708,107

OVERDRAPE

Filed Aug. 17, 1927

Fig. 1

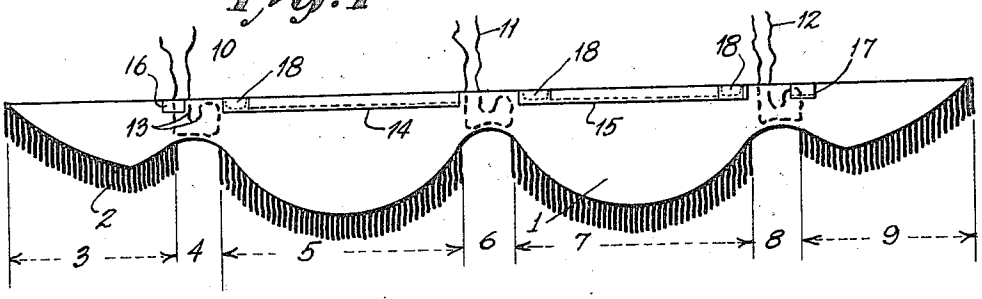


Fig. 2

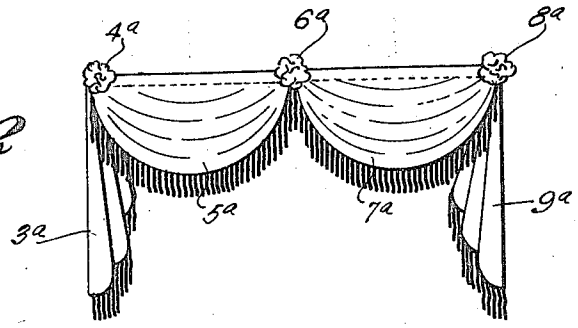


Fig. 3

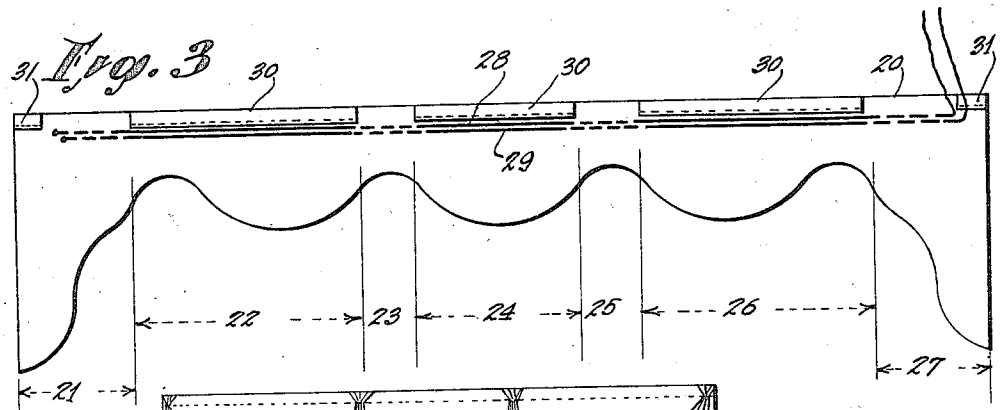
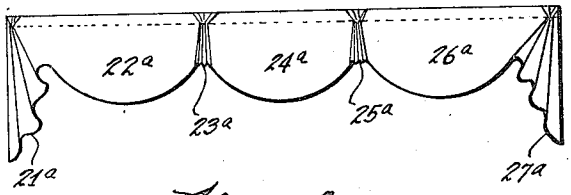


Fig. 4



INVENTOR.
Hyman Plotkin
BY Cornelius Zalinski Esq.
ATTORNEYS.

Patented Apr. 9, 1929. 1,708,107

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HYMAN PLOTKIN, OF BRONX, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO DAVID LIEBENSON, OF BRONX, NEW YORK.

OVERDRAPE.

Application filed August 17, 1927. Serial No. 213,515.

This invention is an overdrape adapted to be used more particularly in connection with curtains or other window dressings, wherein fabrics are draped to form festoons, jabots and rosettes in various arrangements and combinations for decorative purposes.

Decorations of this character are generally supported from the curtain rod or similar mechanical adjunct and the draping of the fabric is almost invariably accomplished by sewing together pieces of fabric of appropriate shape and then sewing or nailing these elements of design together in permanent draped form. The rosettes employed are generally made of separate pieces of material sewed into rosette form and thereupon permanently attached by stitching or nailing to the otherwise finished drapery. Thus in the finished draperies of the prior art, the festoons, jabots, rosettes, etc., are actually permanently sewed or nailed into the finished form and after being thus sewed and assembled are hung upon a curtain rod.

The disadvantages inherent in this prior practice are numerous. For example, there is a tremendous amount of work involved in properly forming and stitching the parts together in a permanent finished form, and because these forms are permanently stitched or nailed, it obviously follows that it is practically impossible to efficiently launder draperies of this character as heretofore made, without practically dismantling the entire assembly. This is for the reason that in the draping of fabrics and in the formation of rosettes, the fabric is manipulated into a large number of relatively close folds which accumulate dirt and dust and require cleaning or washing from time to time. The dust and dirt can be readily removed by well known cleaning processes, but such processes require the pressing or ironing of the fabric after cleaning or washing and if it is attempted to iron these folds, the soft æsthetic appearance of the drapery is lost.

For these reasons, cleaning or washing of draperies made in accordance with prior practice is seldom if every attempted when the draperies are such as to require pressing after cleaning or washing and it is the universal practice to use such draperies until they become soiled and thereupon replace them with new draperies of the same or different design as may be desired. Furthermore, for the reasons stated, it has not heretofore been considered practical to utilize light color wash fabrics for the fancy decorative forms used in the heavier darker drapes.

With the foregoing considerations in mind, the object of the present invention is to provide a valance or overdrape in which may be included rosettes, jabots, festoons, French plaits, etc., the construction being such that while possessing the æsthetic appearance of draperies made under prior practice, the construction will be susceptible to laundering in flat form. In other words, a drapery embodying the present invention although possessing in its normal condition festoons, jabots, rosettes and French plaits, is so constructed that without dismantling any part of the structure, the fabric from which the drapery is formed can be laid out flat for cleaning or washing and pressing.

In practically carrying out the invention, the drapery is cut in the form of a flat blank of suitable size and shape to suit conditions and with this blank is associated draw strings incorporated in the structure by running a cord or tape through the fabric after the manner of a running stitch. The path of the draw string through the fabric will of course depend upon the particular artistic form which it is desired to produce.

For example, in the formation of rosettes, the draw string will extend about a predetermined area of the blank which it is desired to form into a rosette and intermediate the length of this draw string a relatively long stitch is taken to catch substantially the center of the portion which is to form the rosette. When a draw string is thus associated with the fabric blank, the drawing of the string tight will bring about a gathering of the material along the path of the string and in so doing will form a fabric tuft, the center of which is drawn down by the long stitch referred to to form a rosette. At the same time the gathering of the fabric to form a rosette will form adjacent portions of the fabric blank into loose flowing plaits. If a plurality of rosettes are formed in the blank in spaced apart relation, the intermediate portions of the blank will, when the draw strings are tightened, drape into festoon form and if one free end of the blank projects beyond the next adjacent rosette that end of the blank will droop in loose flowing folds and constitute a jabot. Similarly if a draw string is passed longitudinally through

the blank from one lateral edge to the other thereof, with spaced apart portions of the string sewed through the fabric after the manner of a running stitch, it would follow that these latter portions of the fabric will be plaited when the string is tightened and if two draw strings are employed in parallel relation with the running stitches thereof staggered with respect to one another, French plaits will result. The upper side of the blank from which the finished drapery is adapted to be supported from a curtain rod or similar device is provided with a suitable hem but the hem is omitted at those longitudinal portions of the blank as are intended to be plaited or gathered in order not to interfere with the gathering operation.

After the draw strings are tightened, they may be tied in a suitable readily detachable knot and small pockets may be sewed on to the blank into which the loose ends of the strings may be tucked away in concealed position.

It will be apparent that a drapery constituted as stated may be made flat by merely untying the draw strings and permitting them to loosen and thus the drapery of the present invention can be easily and efficiently washed and laundered.

Features of the invention, other than those specified, will be apparent from the hereinafter detailed description and claims, when read in conjunction with the accompanying drawings.

The accompanying drawing illustrates different practical embodiments of the invention, but the constructions therein shown are to be understood as illustrative, only, and not as defining the limits of the invention.

Figure 1 shows a blank for an overdrape embodying the present invention.

Figure 2 shows the overdrape as it appears in use.

Figure 3 shows another blank and illustrates a modified form of the invention.

Figure 4 illustrates an overdrape formed from the blank of Figure 3.

In carrying out the present invention, draperies may be made embodying any number of festoons, rosettes and jabots, but in Figures 1 and 2, for the purpose of illustration, I have shown one having two festoons, three rosettes, and two jabots. To produce a construction of this character, I employ a blank, such as illustrated at 1 in Figure 1. This blank may be of any suitable fabric and may be made in one piece or several pieces sewed together as may be desired. In any event, it is a flat blank.

Fringe illustrated at 2 is associated with the lower edge of the blank though any suitable binding may be employed in lieu thereof. The upper edge of the blank is substantially straight, while the lower edge thereof is curved to form the festoons and jabots desired in the finished product. The contour of this lower edge will of course vary in accordance with the different designs and the present invention is not restricted to the particular shaping shown.

The blank of Figure 1 may be divided for the purpose of description into several longitudinal sections designated at 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9, respectively. The sections 3 and 9 are intended to form the jabots 3^a and 9^a of Figure 2, the sections 4, 6 and 8 are adapted to form the rosettes 4^a, 6^a and 8^a of Figure 2, and the sections 5 and 7 are adapted to form the festoons 5^a and 7^a of Figure 2.

The gathering of the blank from flat form into the form of Figure 2 is accomplished thru the employment of three draw strings operating within the sections 4, 6 and 8 of the blank and serving primarily to form the rosettes. These draw strings are designated 10, 11 and 12. They all operate in the same way and are associated with the blank in the same manner. Thus the draw string 10 is sewed through the fabric of the blank after the manner of a running stitch to substantially enclose the greater portion of the section 4 and is thereupon fastened into a relatively large loop or long stitch 13 which passes through substantially the center of the portion 4, long stitches of this loop being at the back of the blank which is shown in Figure 1.

The free ends of the draw string 10 extend from the upper edge of the blank. If this draw string is tightened, it will gather the fabric along all portions thereof through which the string extends in the form of running stitches, so as to form a tuft while the long stitch or loop 13 will draw down the center of the tuft to produce the rosette formed as viewed from the front of the blank.

The draw strings 11 and 12 are manipulated in the same manner as stated with respect to the draw string 10 and as the strings are tightened they are tied to maintain the rosettes in form. The formation of the rosettes as stated will simultaneously cause a gathering of the blank in a vertical direction at the lateral edges of the sections 3, 5, 7, and 9 so as to transversely plait or gather these sections at their edges and in so doing these sections will be formed into transversely extending loose flowing folds, clearly apparent in Figure 2. The sections 5 and 7 are provided along their upper edges with hems 14 and 15 and short hem portions 16 and 17 are provided on the sections 3 and 9 and through the hems 14, 15, 16 and 17 a curtain rod may be passed to support the drape in desired position with respect to a window or other opening. The loose ends of the draw strings may be tucked into pockets 18 sewed on to the hems. When it is desired to wash and launder the drape, it is only necessary to remove it from the cur-

tain rod and untie the draw strings whereupon it may be laid out flat and may be laundered in a simple and efficient manner.

In Figures 3 and 4, I have illustrated the present invention as employed in the formation of French plaits in a drape. Here a blank 20 may be divided for decorative purposes into sections 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26 and 27. The sections 21 and 27 are adapted to form jabots 21^a and 27^a of Figure 4. The sections 22, 24 and 26 are adapted to form the festoons 22^a, 24^a and 26^a of Figure 4 and the sections 23 and 25 are adapted to form the French plaits 23^a and 25^a of Figure 4.

One draw string may be employed but two are preferably used. They are designated 28 and 29 and extend through substantially the entire width of the blank. In the sections 21, 23, 25 and 27, they are interstitched with the fabric after the manner of a running stitch, while in the sections 22, 24 and 26, they extend without stitching throughout the widths of these sections so as to overlie the back of the blank which is shown in Figure 3. The left hand ends of these cross strings are knotted and the right hand ends extend free as shown. It is important to note that in the running stitches of the respective draw strings in the sections 21, 23, 25 and 27 that the stitches are staggered with respect to one another. When this arrangement is used, the drawing of the strings tightly will cause the sections 21, 23, 25 and 27 to be closely gathered and form French plaits apparent in Figure 4 of the drawings.

No plaiting will occur in the sections 22, 24 and 26. The sections 22, 24, and 26 are provided at their upper edges with hems 30 for a curtain rod and short hem portions 31 are provided at the ends of the sections 21 and 27 to cooperate with the rod and properly support the jabots. A suitable pocket similar to the pocket 18 may be provided for the free ends of the draw strings after they have been tightened and tied.

It will be apparent that when these draw strings are loosened the blank may be laid out flat for laundering.

In both of the structures which I have described, jabots are provided, but it will be understood that they may be omitted in the structure of Figure 1 for example by merely dispensing with the sections 3 and 9 of the blank and they may be added to the structure of Figure 1 by merely forming depending portions on the blank at the sections 4, 6 and 8 or in one of them. I do not limit the invention to the particular number of festoons employed or to the use of jabots. These are optional and they may be used in any number at the option of the designer. Moreover, the number of rosettes used may similarly vary.

An important feature of this invention is that it produces for the first time a drape with rosettes and festoons which can be laid out flat for laundering or otherwise without in anywise dismantling any part of the structure or ripping out any stitches necessary to maintain the proper configuration of the parts in the finished form.

The foregoing detailed description sets forth the invention in its preferred practical form, but the invention is to be understood as fully commensurate with the appended claims.

Having thus fully described the invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. An overdrape or similar article comprising a flat fabric blank provided with draw strings threaded through predetermined portions of the blank after the manner of running stitches and overlying another portion of the blank and adapted to be tightened to gather the running stitched portions of the blank to form folds therein and to leave those portions of the blank which the strings overlie ungathered.

2. An overdrape or similar article comprising a flat fabric blank provided with draw strings threaded through predetermined portions of the blank after the manner of running stitches and overlying other portions of the blank and adapted to be tightened to gather the running stitched portions of the blank to form folds therein and to leave those portions of the blank which the strings overlie ungathered, and supporting hems on those portions of the blanks which remain ungathered.

3. An overdrape or similar article comprising a flat fabric blank, a draw string woven through a portion of the blank after the manner of a running stitch and along a path which causes the string to substantially enclose a portion of the blank, a portion of the length of the string being diverted from its running stitch path to form a loop passing through substantially the center of the enclosed area of the blank, whereby when the draw string is tightened, the running stitched portion of the fabric will be gathered to form a bulge while the loop in the draw string will draw down the center of the bulge to produce a rosette.

4. An overdrape or similar article comprising a flat fabric blank, a draw string woven through a portion of the blank intermediate its ends after the manner of a running stitch and along a path which causes the string to substantially enclose a portion of the blank, a portion of the length of the string being diverted from its running stitch path to form a loop passing through substantially the center of the enclosed area of the blank, whereby when the draw string is tightened, the running stitched portion of the fabric will be gathered to form a bulge while the loop in the draw string will draw down the center of the bulge to produce a rosette, those

portions of the fabric adjacent the rosette being simultaneously formed by the formation of the rosette into gathered folds.

5. An overdrape or similar article comprising a flat fabric blank, a draw string woven through a portion of the blank after the manner of a running stitch and along a path which causes the string to substantially enclose a portion of the blank, a portion of the length of the string being diverted from its running stitch path to form a loop passing through substantially the center of the enclosed area of the blank, whereby when the draw string is tightened, the running stitched portion of the fabric will be gathered to form a bulge while the loop in the draw string will draw down the center of the bulge to produce a rosette, and a pocket into which the loose ends of the draw string may be tucked away in concealed positions after the string has been tightened and tied.

6. An overdrape or similar article comprising a flat fabric blank, spaced apart portions of which are substantially enclosed by adjustable draw strings, threaded through the fabric after the manner of a running stitch and adapted when tightened to gather said portions of the fabric to form bulbous bulges in the fabric.

7. An overdrape or similar article comprising a flat fabric blank, spaced apart portions of which are substantially enclosed by adjustable draw strings, threaded through the fabric after the manner of a running stitch and adapted when tightened to gather said portions of the fabric to form bulbous bulges, leaving the intermediate portions of the blank ungathered longitudinally, and longitudinally extending supporting hems formed on the ungathered portions of the blank.

8. An overdrape or similar article comprising a flat fabric blank, spaced apart portions of the upper part of which are substantially enclosed by adjustable draw-strings threaded through the fabric after the manner of a running stitch and adapted, when tightened, to gather said portions of the fabric in both vertical and lateral directions to form various portions of the blank simultaneously into bulges and festoons.

9. An overdrape or similar article comprising a flat fabric blank provided in its upper portion with adjustable draw-strings extending in both vertical and lateral directions and adapted, when tightened, to gather the blank both laterally and vertically to form the same into festoons, said blank being adapted to be returned to flat condition by subsequent loosening of the draw-strings.

In testimony whereof I have signed the foregoing specification.

HYMAN PLOTKIN.