June 3, 1952 J. BERNHARD 2,599,429

DRAPERY HEADING

Filed Oct. 13, 1950 2 SHEETS--SHEET 1

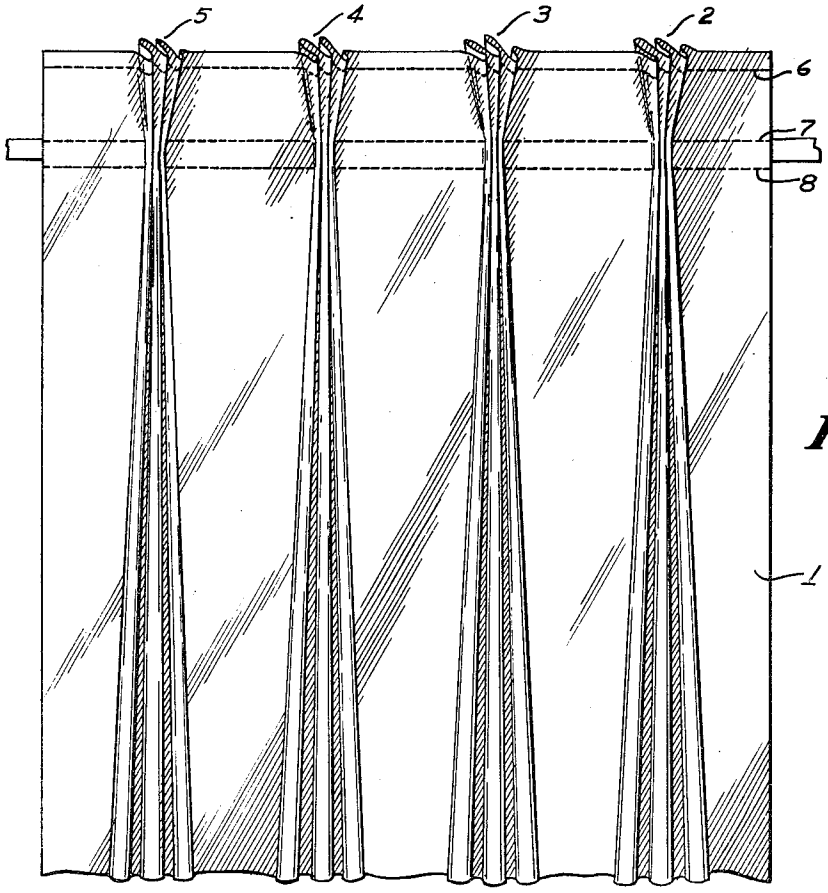


Fig. 1.

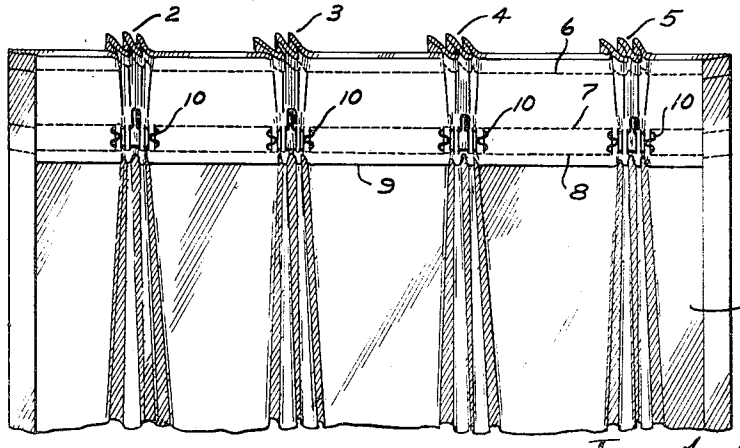


Fig. 2.

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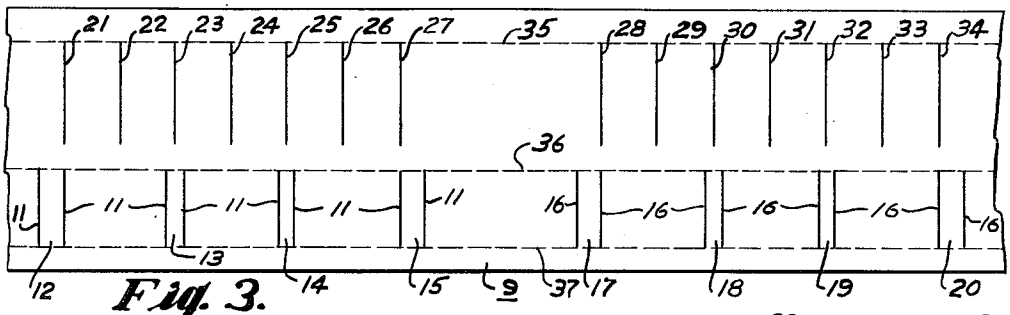


Fig. 3.

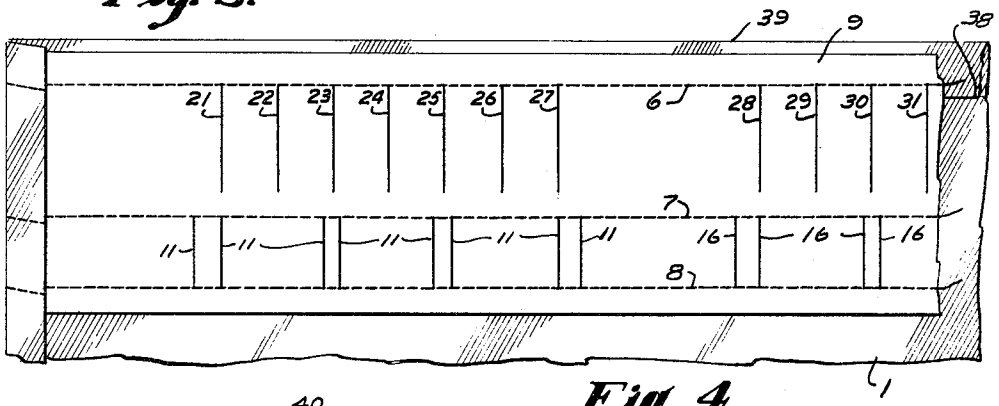


Fig. 4.

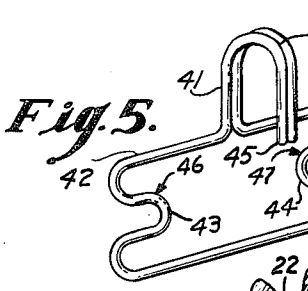


Fig. 5.

Fig. 6.

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2,599,429

DRAPERY HEADING

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Application October 13, 1950, Serial No. 189,920

6 Claims. (Cl. 160—348)

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This application relates to heading supports and particularly to an improved support for curtains, draperies and the like whereby they may be properly held in position.

Broadly, the invention relates to a heading support having a suspension hook comprising a main hook portion with means on the shank of the main hook extending laterally on both sides of the shank and having fabric engaging means on each end of the extension. The hook is preferably fabricated from a piece of wire and the means on the shank is rectangular in shape with the vertical sides of the rectangular portion curving inwardly toward the shank to form a U configuration on each side of the shank.

More narrowly, the invention relates to a heading support having in combination a tape adapted to be fastened to a drapery and a suspension hook member adapted to engage the tape. The tape is provided with a plurality of vertical straps aligned in a horizontal row so that when the hook member is in suspending engagement with the tape such member is positioned so that its main hook portion is in a plane normal to that of the tape and the laterally extending means in the plane of the tape. Also when in such position, the laterally extending means pass behind at least one strap on each side of the main hook shank with the strap engaging means, or U-shaped members on each of the vertical sides of the rectangular shaped extension, engage the outer surface of the outermost straps behind which the rectangular shaped extension passes on both sides of the main hook shank.

Preferably the tape has a plurality of vertical slits aligned in a horizontal row, such slits cooperating to form a plurality of horizontally spaced straps arranged in a plurality of horizontally spaced groups so as to form four straps in each group. The tape is also provided with a second row of vertical slits horizontally spaced in a horizontal row, above and parallel to the first row of slits. The second row of slits is arranged in a plurality of horizontally spaced groups corresponding to and in vertical alignment with the spaced group of straps. Each group of slits cooperates with its respective group of straps to form pleats in the tape at the position occupied by cooperating groups of slits and straps upon engagement of the straps in a group of straps with the hook member. Preferably each of the group of slits in the second row contains seven slits and preferably three pleats are formed in a group of pleats.

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An object of the invention is to provide a heading support which may be readily applied to curtains, draperies and the like and which will function to hold the curtains in proper position. Another object of the invention is to provide a heading support which is simple to construct and which may be fabricated at low cost.

For the purpose of illustrating the invention, there is shown in the accompanying drawings one form thereof which is at present preferred, although it is to be understood that the various instrumentalities of which the invention consists can be variously arranged and organized and that the invention is not limited to the precise arrangements and organizations of the instrumentalities as herein shown and described.

In the accompanying drawings, in which like reference characters represent like parts:

Figure 1 is a view of a drapery employing the invention as seen by the viewer when the drapery is in place.

Figure 2 is a fragmentary view of the back of the drapery of Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a tape backing for the drapery of Figures 1 and 2.

Figure 4 shows the tape backing of Figure 3 as just applied to the drapery.

Figure 5 is a perspective view of the preferred embodiment of the suspension hook.

Figure 6 is a fragmentary perspective view similar to Figure 2 showing the manner of assembling the heading support.

Referring to the drawings, Figure 1 shows a drapery 1 as it appears to a viewer when the drapery is in place. Such viewer will see groups of pleats 2, 3, 4 and 5 and three lines of stitching 6, 7 and 8. The number of groups of pleats, of course, will depend upon the width of the drapery and the span between the groups.

From the back of the drapery of Figure 1 there is seen, as shown in Figure 2, the drapery 1, tape 9 and a plurality of hooks 10. The hooks 10 are adapted to engage a rod or similar device for hanging the drapery 1 which, for clarity of illustration, is not shown.

Figure 3 shows the tape 9 as it appears before it is attached to the drapery 1. Such tape is of suitable width and varying in length depending upon the width of the drapery to which it is to be attached. The tape may be composed of any suitably stiffened material such as buckram. The fabric in the tape may be

cotton or canvas cloth or the like stiffened with a natural or synthetic sizing material and if desired it may even be composed of properly flexible plastic sheeting material.

Arranged in a horizontal row are a plurality of slits cut into the tape so as to form a plurality of groups of straps containing four straps in each group of straps as is illustrated in Figure 3. Slits 11 form a group of four straps 12, 13, 14 and 15 and slits 16 cooperate to form a second group of straps 17, 18, 19 and 20. The number of groups of straps thus formed will depend upon the width of the drapery on which the tape 9 is applied as well as the spacing of the straps and groups of straps.

The tape is also provided with a second row of vertical slits horizontally spaced in a horizontal row above and parallel to the row of slits comprised by slits 11 and 16. The second row of slits is arranged in a plurality of horizontally spaced groups of slits corresponding to and vertically aligned with the spaced group of straps. As shown in Figure 3, each group of slits in the second row contains seven slits which are capable of cooperating with their respective groups of straps to form three pleats in the tape when the tape is attached to the drapery and the drapery is hung. Thus slits 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26 and 27 are capable of cooperating with straps 12, 13, 14 and 15 respectively, to form three pleats. Likewise, slits 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33 and 34 are capable of cooperating with straps 17, 18, 19 and 20 to form three pleats.

It will be noted that with any two straps in a group of straps there are associated three slits in the row of slits above the row of straps. Thus, for example, straps 12 and 13 are associated with slits 21, 22 and 23. Likewise, straps 13 and 14 are associated with straps 23, 24 and 25, and so on.

To form a pleat having the best appearance it is desirable that the first and last slit in a group of slits, in the second row of slits, be vertically aligned with the inner slit cooperating to make up the innermost and outermost strap in the row of straps. Thus, for example, slit 21 is in vertical alignment with the inner slit of strap 12 in the group in which strap 12 comprises one of the straps. Likewise, slit 27 is in vertical alignment with the inner slit comprising strap 15 in the group of straps of which strap 15 is a part.

Tape 9 preferably is marked with three lines 35, 36 and 37 which indicate the line of stitching along which the tape may be sewn to the drapery. Such lines may be suitably marked on the tape, by the use of an indelible ink for example. Stitching when applied to lines 36 and 37 reinforces the straps 12—15 and 17—20. Likewise, a line of stitching along line 35 serves to reinforce the upper extremities of slits 21—27 and 28—34. However, any number of lines of stitching may be indicated on the tape and stitching may be applied to all of them; of course, no line of stitching should be used between lines 36 and 37 unless it is desired to shorten the straps 12—15 and 17—20.

The tape 9 may be attached to the drapery 1 as shown in Figure 4. To attach the tape as shown in Figure 4 the drapery is laid flat on a flat surface. The top edge of the drapery 38 may be folded back over itself so that when the tape is applied the edge 38 will be below the line of stitching 6. The tape 9 is then laid flat on the drapery a suitable distance below the fold-line 39 in the top of the drapery, after which lines of

stitching 6, 7 and 8 may be made, thereby binding together the drapery 1 and the tape 9. Instead of attaching the tape 9 to the drapery 1 by means of the lines of stitching, any other suitable method for attachment may be used, such as, for example, the side of the tape 9 facing the drapery may contain a suitable composition which will cause the drapery and the tape to adhere and stick to each other upon the application of heat and/or pressure.

The hook 10 which is adapted to be attached to the tape 9 is shown in detail in Figure 5. It comprises a main hook portion 40 having a shank portion 41 to which is attached a rectangular member 42 extending laterally on both sides of the shank 41. The vertical sides of the rectangular member 42 are bent to form U-shaped configurations or tabs or fingers or the like 43 and 44 therein with the base of each U curving inwardly toward the shank 41. The hook 10 may be of unitary construction and fabricated from metallic wire. Any suitable material may be used. Likewise, the main hook portion 40 instead of forming two wire prongs may be a single element and the rectangular member 42 may be a separate element suitably attached to the shank 41.

As shown in Figure 5, the rectangular member 42 including the U-shaped members 43 and 44 all lie in the same plane. Instead of this arrangement the U-shaped members may be of the "turned-over" type with their base U portions lying in a plane parallel to the rest of the rectangular member and between the shank 41 and a tip 45 of the main hook portion 40. The lateral extension on either side of the shank 41 instead of being in the form of the rectangular member 42 may terminate adjacent the base of each U-shaped member 43 and 44, for example at points 46 and 47, thus making the lateral extensions on either side of the shank a J-form in shape. For best results however, the suspension hook 10 is in the form illustrated in Figure 5.

After attaching the tape 9 to the drapery 1 as shown in Figure 4, the suspension hooks 10 are attached to the tape in the manner shown in Figure 6. The rectangular portion 42 of the hook 10 may be inserted so that the right-hand extension (as viewed in this figure) from the shank 41 passes under straps 14 and 15 and so that U-shaped member 44 engages the outside surface of the strap 15. In like manner the rest of the rectangular member extending on the left side of the shank 41 is inserted in straps 13 and 12. The completely assembled hook appears as is shown in Figure 6 associated with groups of pleats 3 and 4. For example in pleat group 3, hook 10 engages straps 17, 18, 19 and 20.

Before inserting the hook for each group of pleats 2, 3 and 4, it is preferable to bend the tape, where the groups of pleats are to occur, into the form in which the pleats will finally appear when the hook is inserted. Thus, referring to Figures 3 and 6, the tape is bent outward toward the surface of the outer drapery along the slit 21, then inwardly along the slit 22, outwardly along the slit 23, then inwardly along the slit 24, then outwardly along slit 25, inwardly along slit 26 and outwardly along slit 27. After inserting the hook crease-finished pleats may be formed by running a hand along the line of each of the slits in a group.

If desired the hook and strap arrangement alone may be used to suspend the drape without the pleat formation. Thus, for example, in

Figure 6 the straps 12, 13, 14 and 15 may engage the hook in the manner indicated but without any of the pleats formed along the slits 21—27 and these slits may be dispensed with. Likewise, instead of using four straps to suspend the drapery two or more straps may be used with at least one strap on either side of the shank 41. In such an arrangement an even number of straps are desirable with the same number of straps on each side of the shank of the hook. Any number of pleats may be used in a group of pleats and where such is the case, a corresponding number of slits similar to slits 21—27 and straps 12—15 may be used. In addition, where a large number of pleats are used in a group of pleats, a single relatively large hook may be used for each group or one or more hook members of relatively small size may be used for such group.

The present invention may be embodied in other specific forms without departing from the spirit or essential attributes thereof, and it is therefore desired that the present embodiment be considered in all respects as illustrative and not restrictive, reference being had to the appended claims rather than to the foregoing description to indicate the scope of the invention.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to protect by Letters Patent:

1. A suspension member for a drapery heading, said member having a generally rectangular body-portion including substantially horizontal and parallel top and bottom edges, an integral hook extending from one horizontal edge, and an integral tab at each end of said rectangular body-portion.

2. A suspension member for a drapery heading, said member having a generally rectangular body-portion including substantially horizontal and parallel top and bottom edges, an integral hook extending from one horizontal edge, an integral tab at each end of said rectangular body-portion, the end of each of said tabs extending generally toward the center of said body-portion.

3. A suspension member for a drapery heading, said member being formed of a single continuous piece of wire and having a generally rectangular body-portion, the ends of said wire terminating in a hook extending away from the center of one edge of said rectangular portion, said wire forming the ends of said rectangular portion being

bent into generally U-shaped tabs extending inwardly toward the center of said rectangular portion.

4. A suspension member for a drapery heading, said member having a rectangular body-portion formed of wire and including generally horizontal and parallel top and bottom edges, one of said horizontal edges adapted to engage and support drapery thereon, an integral hook extending from one of said horizontal edges, the ends of said rectangular portion each having integral U-shaped tabs to secure said suspension member to said drapery.

5. A drapery support including a tape having a plurality of vertical slits therein and at least one drapery hook having a generally rectangular body-portion with horizontal top and bottom edges and an integral tape securing finger at each end, the rectangular-body-portion of said hook adapted to pass through the vertical slits in said tape whereby to support said tape on one of the horizontal edge-portions, said fingers securing said body-portion to said tape after passing through a slit therein.

6. A drapery support including a tape having a plurality of vertical slits therein and at least one drapery hook having a generally rectangular body-portion with horizontal top and bottom edges and an integral tape securing finger at each end, the rectangular body-portion of said hook adapted to pass through a plurality of vertical slits in said tape whereby to support said tape in pleated fashion on one of the horizontal edge-portions, said fingers securing said body-portion to said tape after passing through the last of said slits.

JOSEPH BERNHARD.

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