

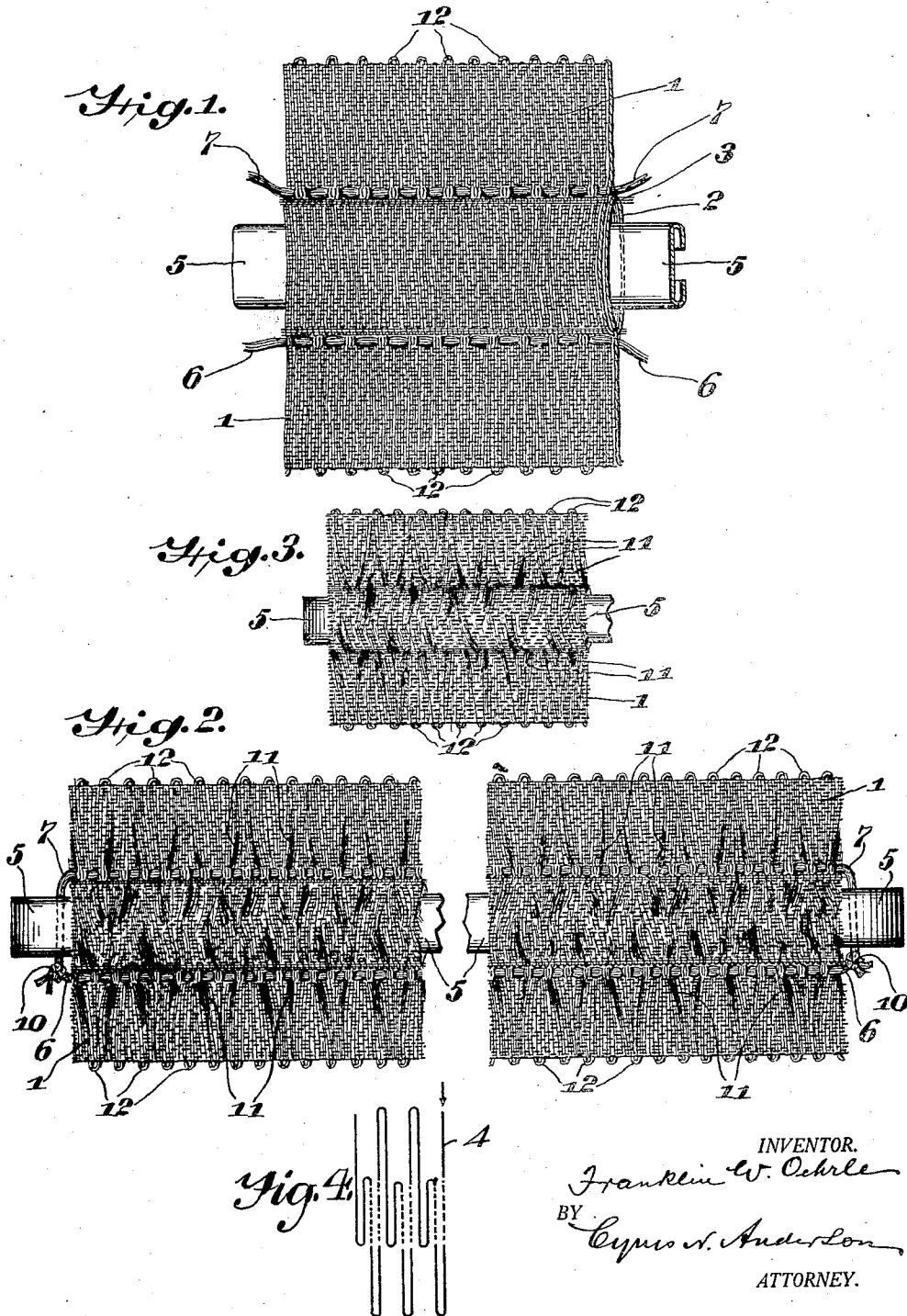
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VALANCE FOR WINDOW DRAPERIES

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VALANCE FOR WINDOW DRAPERIES.

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My invention relates to improvements in valance ruffles for hangings of various kinds, such as window curtains or draperies, and it has for its general object to provide a suitable fabric of suitable shape with means whereby it may be readily placed in position over the upper end of a curtain or drapery and converted into ruffled form if desired.

It is also an object of the invention to provide a fabric having a pocket or passage way extending longitudinally thereof through which means may be extended for supporting the said fabric.

Another object of the invention is to provide a strip of suitable material and shape with a pocket or passage way extending longitudinally thereof and having means extending longitudinally of and in engagement with the said fabric for effecting contraction of the length of the latter in order to convert it into ruffled or shirred form to adapt it for use as a valance ruffle.

To these and other ends the invention comprehends the construction as hereinafter described in detail, particularly pointed out in the claims, and as illustrated in the drawing in which I have illustrated one convenient form of embodiment of the invention. However, it will be understood that changes in the details of construction may be made within the scope of the claims without departing from the said invention.

In the drawing:

Fig. 1 is a view in front elevation of a portion of fabric embodying the invention, said fabric being shown in unruffled or unshirred condition and being mounted upon a window curtain rod;

Fig. 2 is a view in front elevation of a valance ruffle, shown in ruffled or shirred condition, mounted upon a window curtain rod;

Fig. 3 is a view in front elevation of a fragmentary portion of ruffle showing a modified construction; and Fig. 4 is a diagrammatic view indicating the course of the weft thread through a strip of fabric embodying the invention.

Referring to the drawing: 1 designates a strip of fabric woven or otherwise produced having a pocket, as indicated at 2, formed by returning the weft threads at intervals, as indicated at 3 in Fig. 1 and as shown in

Fig. 4. In Fig. 4 is illustrated the course of the weft thread 4 back and forth transversely of the strip of fabric, depicted in the drawing as illustrative of the invention. Beginning with the right-hand side of said Fig. 4, it will be seen that the first thread shown extends from edge to edge of the strip of fabric with an intermediate portion thereof shown in dotted lines to indicate that it is located in the underneath part of the pocket structure. Upon its return it again passes through the underneath part of the pocket, as indicated by the dotted lines, but does not complete its course to the opposite upper edge of the strip. On the contrary, it is returned through the upper or opposite portion of the pocket, as indicated in full line, back to the lower edge of the strip and then again back through the upper portion of the pocket to the opposite upper edge of the strip. The course as thus described is repeated over and over throughout the length of the strip. It will be seen that by this construction the portions of the fabric upon the opposite sides of the pocket embody the same number of weft threads as do the portions thereof which constitute the pocket structure. A supporting rod 5 or other means is adapted to be inserted through the pocket 2 for supporting the ruffle. In the process of weaving the fabric for the ruffle shown in Figs. 1 and 2 draw strings or cords 6 and 7 are interlocked with the transversely extending threads of the fabric upon opposite sides of the pocket and adjacent to the edges thereof. The adjacent or adjoining opposite ends of these draw strings are adapted to be connected together by tying, as indicated at 10.

In the construction as shown in Fig. 3 these draw strings are omitted and the ruffled or shirred effect is produced by contracting or partially collapsing the fabric upon the rod or bar 5 between the opposite ends thereof.

In the use of the fabric a supporting rod, such as 5 or the like, is inserted through the pocket or passageway and thereafter the fabric 1, comprising the pocket structure, is adjusted upon said rod so as to ruffle or shirr the same as indicated at 11 in Figs. 2 and 3. In the construction as shown in Figs. 1 and 2 the fabric is adapted to be ruffled or shirred by adjusting the draw strings or

cords 6 and 7 so as to shorten the same. These cords having been adjusted so as to provide the fullness desired in the ruffled or shirred effect, the adjacent ends thereof are tied together as indicated at 10 in Fig. 2 so that the said ruffled or shirred effect or condition of the fabric is maintained permanently. In the case of the fabric as shown in Fig. 3 in which the draw strings or cords are omitted, the ruffled or shirred effect is produced, as already stated, by adjusting the same upon the rod 5 as to contact or partially collapse the same therein. In such case, preferably, the length of the strip forming the ruffle should be such that its opposite ends would contact with abutments at the opposite ends of the bar 5 so that the fabric would be in practice held in such contracted or partially collapsed condition.

It will be seen that by weaving or otherwise forming a fabric with a pocket or passageway, as described, I have provided means whereby a valance ruffle may be quickly mounted and formed upon a supporting means, such as a rod or the like.

It will be apparent that in the formation of the strip which is adapted to be shirred to form the ruffle one or both of the edges thereof may be provided with projections such as indicated at 12 for purposes or ornamentation. One or both of the edges of the fabric strip may be provided with any suitable configuration for ornamental or other purposes, such as is known to the weaving art.

Having thus described my invention what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. As an article of manufacture, a strip of woven fabric adapted for use as a valance for window draperies, said strip having reversely turned threads located at close intervals therein forming a pocket and also having draw strings located upon the opposite sides of said pocket, which strings are interlocked with the transversely extending threads of said fabric and the said fabric being adapted to be adjusted upon the said draw strings to convert the same into ruffled form.

2. As an article of manufacture, a strip of woven fabric adapted for use as a valance for window draperies, said strip having certain of the transversely extending threads thereof reversely looped to form a pocket intermediate its opposite edges and said strip having longitudinally extending draw strings located upon the opposite sides of said pocket in adjacent relation thereto, the said strings being interlocked at intervals with the said transversely extending threads and the said fabric being adapted to be adjusted upon the said draw strings to produce the said ruffle.

3. As an article of manufacture, a valance for window draperies consisting of a strip of woven fabric having reversely turned weft threads located at close intervals therein forming a pocket which extends from end to end of the said strip, which pocket is adapted to receive a supporting bar.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my invention, I have hereunto signed my name this 20th day of November, A. D., 1924.

FRANKLIN W. OEHRLE.