Feb. 11, 1969 G. S. ENELOW 3,426,372

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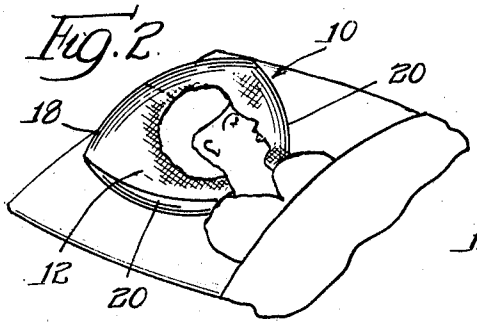


Fig. 2.

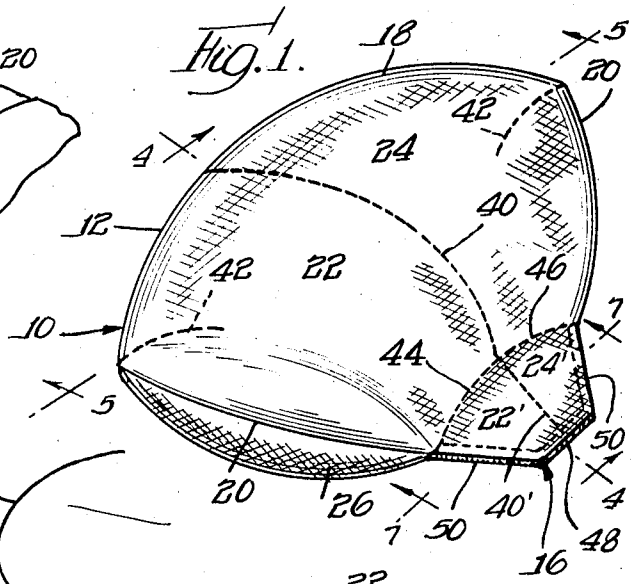


Fig. 1.

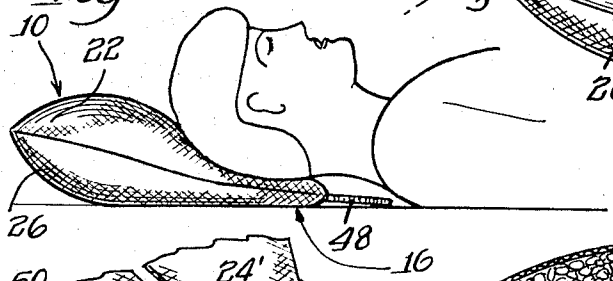


Fig. 3.

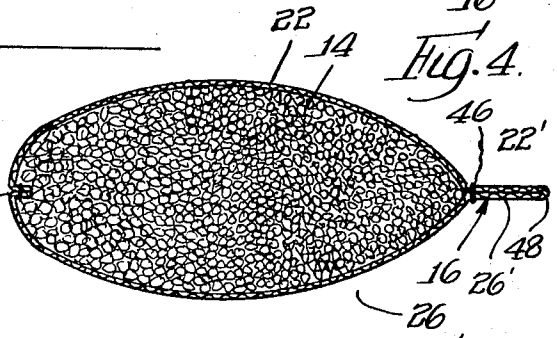


Fig. 4.

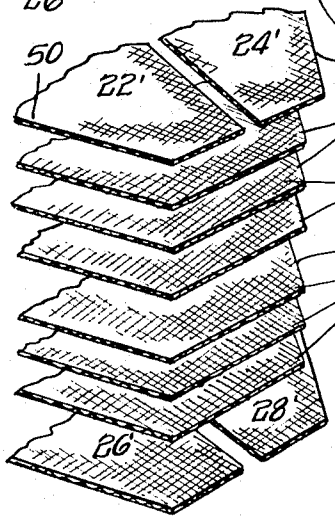


Fig. 6.

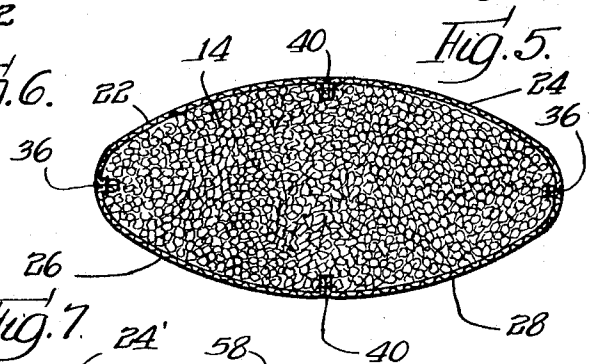


Fig. 5.

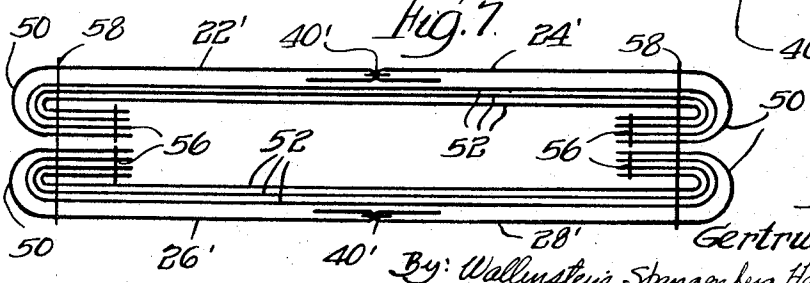


Fig. 7.

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Fig. 8.

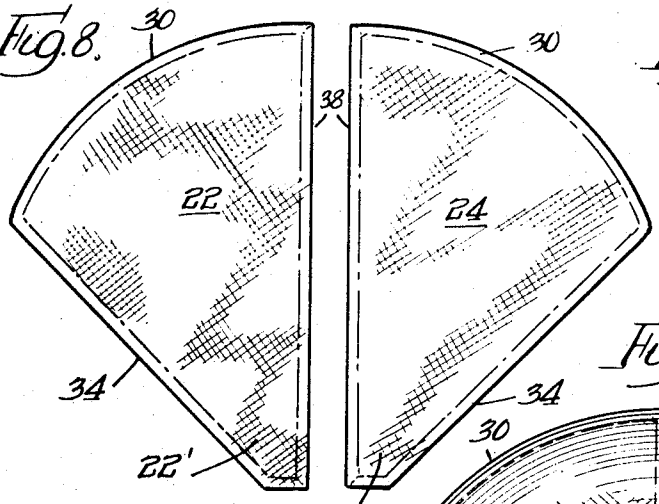


Fig. 10.

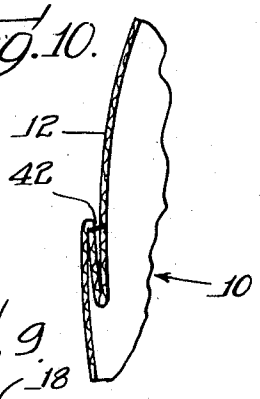


Fig. 9.

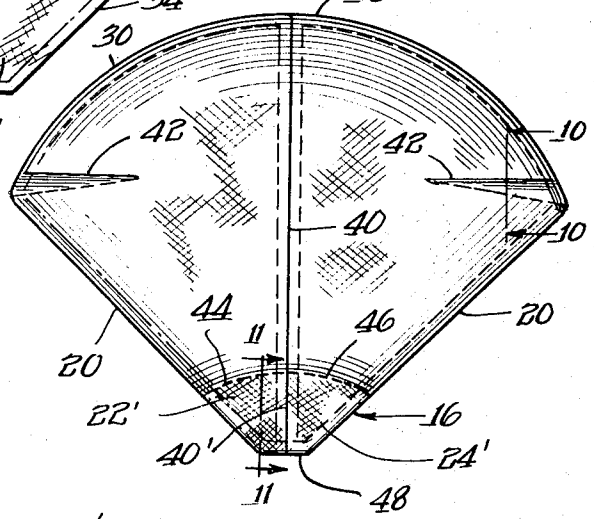


Fig. 11.

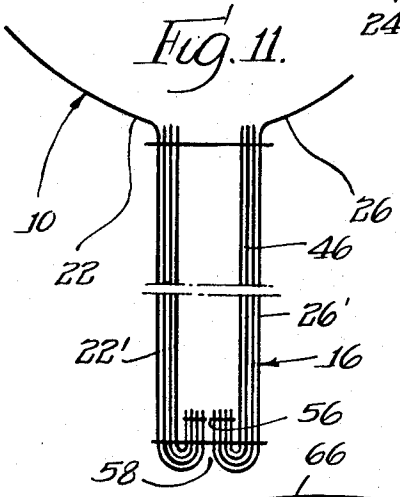


Fig. 12.

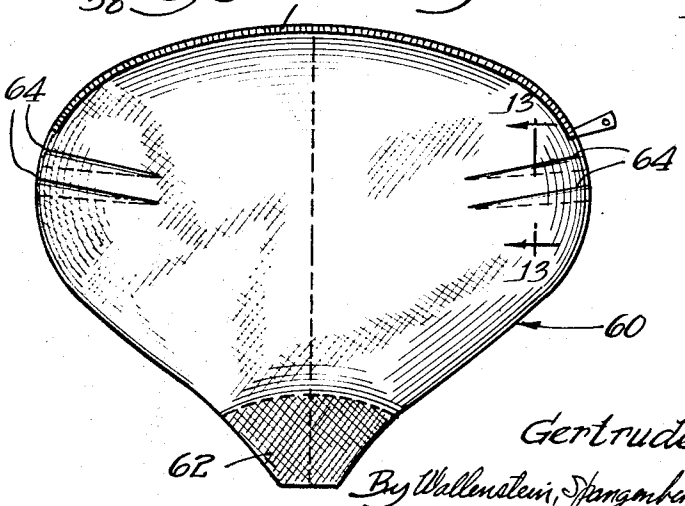
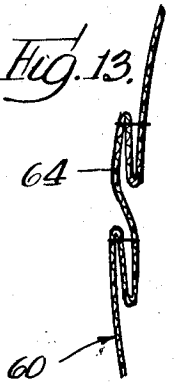


Fig. 13.



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U.S. Cl. 5—337 6 Claims
Int. Cl. A47g 9/00

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A fan-shaped pillow carrying preferably a non-matting compressible, particulate foamed filler material, and having a tab, extension or handle formed integral therewith to enable the pillow to be drawn into correct placement with relation to the head and the longitudinal axis of the spine of the user.

Background of the invention

It has been recognized that the type of pillow used for sleeping can affect body activity during sleep and the extent of the benefits to the body resulting from sleep. Thus, for example, it has been recognized that the amount of tossing and turning a normal individual does while sleeping is due, in part, to the type of pillow used. In addition, clenching and grinding of the teeth which, technically, is referred to a bruxism, are directly influenced by the type of pillow used, as are neck and shoulder tensions and lower back strains experienced during sleep. In accordance with the present invention there is provided a pillow which among other things, in the normal individual, induces more restful sleep and substantially eliminates the aforementioned physical discomfitures attributable to sleeping pillows as heretofore made.

Summary of the invention

Briefly, the pillow of this invention comprises a generally triangularly shaped pillow tick having a curved upper margin and converging side margins. In the preferred embodiment of the invention, the pillow tick is formed from four panels of fabric of substantially the same dimensions. The pillow is provided with an integral, essentially flat, preferably triangularly truncatedly shaped tab, extension or handle having a curved upper margin and converging side margins which are joined to and are substantially colinear with the converging side margins of the pillow tick. The handle advantageously is formed from multiple layers of the same fabric used in making the pillow tick, and the lower ends of the panels from which the pillow tick is formed desirably comprise the outer layer of the handle. By making the handle of the same fabric as the pillow, any shrinkage of the fabric due to washing or cleaning will be substantially uniform and there thus will be substantially no resulting distortion of the pillow tick or the handle. Confined within the pillow tick, above the handle, is a particulate, non-matting, compressible foamed filler material, especially desirably a foamed plastic material. The pillow advantageously is encased in a removable pillow case having the same general shape as the pillow. The pillow case has a compartment for the handle of the pillow to facilitate gripping of the handle and manipulation of the pillow into a desired position.

Brief description of the drawings

FIG. 1 is a view in perspective of an embodiment of the pillow of the present invention;

FIG. 2 is a fragmentary view in perspective of said embodiment of the pillow in use;

FIG. 3 is a fragmentary side view in elevation of said embodiment of the pillow in use showing the relative position of the pillow in relation to the head and neck of a user;

FIG. 4 is a vertical sectional view taken substantially along line **4**—**4** of FIG. 1;

FIG. 5 is a vertical sectional view taken substantially along line **5**—**5** of FIG. 1;

FIG. 6 is an exploded view of the layers of fabric and the portions of the panels comprising the handle of said embodiment of the pillow;

FIG. 7 is a vertical sectional view taken substantially along line **7**—**7** of FIG. 1;

FIG. 8 is a plan view of a pair of fabric panels used in making said embodiment of the pillow;

FIG. 9 is a plan view of said embodiment of the pillow;

FIG. 10 is a vertical sectional view taken substantially along line **10**—**10** of FIG. 9;

FIG. 11 is an enlarged vertical sectional view taken substantially along line **11**—**11** of FIG. 9;

FIG. 12 is a plan view of an embodiment of a pillow case for use in connection with said embodiment of the pillow; and

FIG. 13 is an enlarged fragmentary vertical sectional view taken substantially along line **13**—**13** of FIG. 12.

Description of the preferred embodiment

Referring, now, in greater detail to the drawings, the preferred embodiment of the pillow **10** illustrated is generally triangular in shape and comprises a pillow tick **12** containing a filler material **14**, and an integral tab, extension or handle **16**. The pillow tick **12** has an upper, curved edge **18** and substantially straight converging side edges **20**—**20**. The pillow tick **12** advantageously is formed of four panels **22**, **24**, **26**, and **28** of a suitable fabric, the lower ends **22'**, **24'**, **26'**, and **28'** of which desirably comprise the outer covering of the handle **16**.

The panels **22** and **26**, and the panels **24** and **28**, are essentially mirror images of each other and are joined in opposed relation along their curved upper margins **30**—**30** by stitching **32**, and along their outer side margins **34**—**34** by stitching **36**—**36**. The joined pairs of panels **22** and **26**, and **24** and **28**, in turn, are joined together along their inner margins **38**—**38** by centrally disposed stitching **40**—**40**. The panels are tucked and stitched upwardly of the juncture of the curved edge **18** and the side edges **20**—**20** to provide inwardly extending darts **42**—**42**.

The handle **16**, as shown, is generally triangularly truncatedly shaped, having an upper, curved edge **44**, defined by stitching **46**, a blunt lower edge **48**, and substantially straight converging side edges **50**—**50** which are essentially colinear with the converging side edges **20**—**20** of the pillow tick **12**. As best seen in FIGS. 6 and 7, the handle **16** advantageously comprises a plurality of generally triangularly truncatedly shaped layers of fabric **52**. While in the embodiment shown, six layers of fabric are utilized, four layers are preferred. As indicated hereinabove, the lower ends **22'**, **24'**, **26'** and **28'** of the panels **22**, **24**, **26** and **28** overlie the layers **52** comprising the handle **16** and form the outer covering thereof. In forming the handle **16** of the pillow of this invention, half, in the present instance three, of the layers **52** are joined along their converging side margins **54**—**54** to the corresponding opposed margins **50**—**50** of the lower ends **22'** and **24'**, and **26'** and **28'**, of the panels **22** and **24**, and **26** and **28**, by stitching **56**—**56**. The stitched margins are then folded inwardly and the entire assembly, including the layers **52** and the end margins of the lower ends of the panels, are joined together by stitching **58**—**58**. The stitching **46** which defines the upper, curved edge **44** of the handle **16** serves to firmly anchor or lock the layers **52** and the lower ends of the panels in place thereby to preserve the shape of the handle throughout the life of the pillow. The centrally disposed stitching **40'**—**40'** through the handle **16** is an extension of the

stitching **40—40** and does not, in the embodiment shown, join the lower ends of the panels to layers **52**. The length of the handle **16** is variable. Generally speaking, the length of the handle as measured along the stitching **40'—40'** will range from about 3 to 6 inches.

The filler material **14** utilized in stuffing the pillow **10** of the present invention advantageously is shredded or particulate in form and is non-matting, moth-proof, and is firmly, but comfortably, compressible. While a wide variety of materials, both natural and synthetic, can be used for this purpose, optimum results are attained with a foamed plastic material such as polyurethane, polyethylene, polystyrene, polyvinyl chloride, polyvinyl acetate, polymethylmethacrylate, or the like. A sufficient quantity of the filler material should be employed to impart a firm, full, but ready and comfortable compressibility to the pillow.

While the size of the pillow of the present invention can be varied, it is preferred that it be relatively small. Thus, for example, excellent results can be achieved with a pillow having an upper curved margin of from about 22 to about 26 inches, and converging side margins, including the side margins of the handle, of from about 10 to 14 inches. A pillow having the dimensions indicated, when stuffed with shredded or particulate polyurethane foam, will have an overall weight in the range of about ½ to about 1¼ lbs., usually about ¾ lb., more or less.

The pillow can be provided with a pillow case or slip **60** of the same general overall shape of the pillow **10**, as shown in FIGS. 12 and 13. The pillow case **60** has a compartment **62** formed therein for receiving the handle **16**. The pillow case, as shown, has two pairs of inwardly extending darts **64—64** formed therein to eliminate wrinkles. A zipper **66** desirably is attached to the upper curved margin of the pillow case to facilitate insertion and removal of the pillow **10**.

The pillow is shown in use in FIGS. 2 and 3. When a user is in a supine position, as illustrated, the pillow should be placed under the head with the upper, curved margin thereof pointed in the same direction as the top of the head of the user. The handle **16**, on the other hand, will be pointed in the same direction as the feet of the user, and will be located under the nape of the neck and will be substantially aligned with the longitudinal axis of the spinal column of the user. The handle enables the user to adjust the pillow by pulling it downwardly until a position is achieved which provides optimum comfort to the user and proper alignment of the head with respect to the spinal column.

Compression of the central portion of the pillow by the head of the user does not have any appreciable effect on the fullness of the pillow on either side of the head

of the user. This condition tends to keep the head and spinal column of the user in proper alignment thereby eliminating tensions and strains in the area of the neck, shoulders and lower back during sleep.

It should be understood that various modifications may be made in the preferred form of the invention described above without deviating from the broader aspects of the invention.

What is claimed is:

1. A pillow comprising a generally triangularly shaped pillow tick having a curved upper margin and converging side margins, a substantially flat handle for the pillow having an upper margin adjacent the pillow tick and converging side margins joined to and substantially colinear with the converging side margins of the pillow tick, said handle being integral with the pillow and serving to enable the pillow to be adjusted by the user to enable the axis of the curved upper margin of the pillow tick to be substantially aligned with the longitudinal axis of the spine of the user when the user is in a supine position, and particulate, non-matting, compressible foamed filler material for the pillow tick, said filler material being confined within the curved upper and converging side margins of the pillow tick and the upper margin of the handle.

2. A pillow in accordance with claim **1** wherein the handle is essentially flat and is formed of multiple layers of the same fabric as the pillow tick.

3. A pillow in accordance with claim **2** wherein the pillow tick encases said layers comprising the handle and forms the outer layer of the handle.

4. A pillow in accordance with claim **1** wherein the pillow tick is formed of four generally triangularly shaped panels of substantially the same dimensions.

5. A pillow in accordance with claim **1** wherein the foamed filler material comprises small pieces of a foamed non-rigid plastic.

6. A pillow in accordance with claim **1** including a removable pillow slip of the same general shape as the pillow, said pillow slip having a compartment for the handle of the pillow to facilitate manipulation of the pillow into a desired position by the handle.

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