REVERSIBLE FRONT GARMENT

INVENTOR.
Martha C. O'Brien

ATTORNEYS.
This invention relates to garments of the reversible front type so that when one front becomes soiled, it may be overlapped by another front thereby doubling the service of the garment.

The principal object of the invention is to provide the inner sides of the respective fronts with tabs for facilitating fastening of the waist portion of the undergarment front on the inner sides of the garment and to cooperate with tabs and fasteners on the outer face of the garment in supporting the fronts thereof neatly and smoothly across the front of the wearer.

Other objects of the invention are to provide a waist or belt structure for this type of garment utilizing snap fasteners as distinguished from the customary buttons and ties; to provide a belt or waist structure which presents a symmetrical appearance at the respective sides of the garment; and to provide a belt or waist structure which is readily adjustable in either position of the fronts to effect a close fitted waist.

In accomplishing these and other objects of the invention hereinafter pointed out, I have provided improved structure the preferred form of which is illustrated in the accompanying drawings wherein:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a garment constructed in accordance with the present invention and showing the right front of the garment overlapping the left front, with the tabs secured to retain the fronts in order position on the wearer of the garment.

Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the upper portion of the garment showing the fronts thereof in open position to better illustrate the waist structure as well as the tabs and snap fasteners for securing the fronts of the garment in closed position.

Fig. 3 is a view similar to Fig. 2 showing the tab on the left front portion connected with the tab on the inside of the right front portion of the garment.

Fig. 4 is a horizontal section through the garment taken on the line 4—4 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 5 is a similar section showing the tabs in unmounted condition.

Fig. 6 is a view similar to Fig. 2 but showing the interior of the garment to better illustrate the inside tabs.

Fig. 7 shows the first step in reversal of the front portions of the garment, the tab on the left front portion being secured to the inner tab of the right front portion and the right front portion being moved in overlapping relation with the left front portion.

Fig. 8 is a similar view with the left front portion overlapping the right front portion and with the outer tab of the left front portion secured to the right front portion.

Referring more in detail to the drawings:

1 designates a garment constructed in accordance with the present invention and which is especially adapted for professional use by nurses, laboratory technicians, manicurists, waitresses and by other persons requiring a garment for longer service between laundering periods. The garment comprises attached blouse and skirt portions 2 and 3 interconnected by a waist or belt portion 4.

The garment may be provided with pockets 10 and 11 at the sides thereof which are positioned so that they are usable when the fronts 8 and 9 are in overlapping relation.

The waist or belt portion 4 interconnects the blouse and skirt portions and is secured by stitching 12. The ends of the belt project beyond the edges 10 and 14 of the respective front portions 8 and 9 to provide tabs 15 and 16 provided with socket members 17 and 18 of conventional snap fasteners with the sockets thereof arranged on the inner side of the tabs 15 and 16 as best shown in Fig. 6 to cooperate with stud members 19 and 20 of the snap fasteners and which are attached to the outer face of the waist or belt portion at the sides of the garment as best shown in Fig. 5.

In order to provide adjustability of the waist portion of the garment to the size of the wearer, the belt portions may be provided with additional stud members 21 and 22. The socket members 17 and 18 also cooperate with stud members 23—24 and 25—26 which, in accordance with the present invention, are attached to tabs 27 and 28 that are secured to the inner side of the belt or waist portion 4 at the respective inner sides of the garment as indicated at 29 and 30. Fig. 5 so that when the tabs 27 and 28 are flat against the inner face of the garment, the stud members 23—24 and 25—26 substantially register with the stud members 25—21 and 25—26 on the outer side of the garment. Thus when the left front 8 is to be overlapped by the right front 9, the socket member 17 on the left front 8 is connected with one of the stud members 25 or 26 carried by the tab 28, and the socket member 18 on the right
front 9 is connected with one or the other of the stud members 21 and 22 on the outer side of the left front 8.

In order to provide a symmetrical appearance at the respective sides of the belt or waist portions and the outer sides thereof are provided with tabs 31 and 32 similar to the inside tabs 27 and 28. The tabs 31 and 32 are secured to the outer face of the belt portion as indicated at 33 and 34 to provide free ends 35 and 36 which are slipped with the socket members 37 and 38 adapted to connect with one of the outer stud members 25 or 21.

When one of the socket members 17 or 18 of the tabs 15 or 16 is engaged with the outer stud, the adjacent tab, for example the tab 31, is turned reversely in contact with the outer side of the underlying front portion as shown in Fig. 9. The socket member 39 of the tab 32 may then be engaged with the rearmost stud member 22 to retain that tab smoothly against the garment and cooperate with the tab 15 in presenting a symmetrical appearance at the respective sides of the garment.

The garment is donned in the manner of a coat and one of the front portions is carried across the front of the wearer, for example the left front portion 8, and the socket member 17 of the tab 15 is engaged with one or the other of the stud members 25 or 21. To present a symmetrical appearance and cover the studs 10 and 22, the socket member 33 of the outer tab 32 is engaged with the stud 22 as shown in Fig. 4.

The right front 9 may be worn over the left front 8 until the right front is soiled. The tab 16 is then disengaged from its connecting stud, and the garment is opened to expose the socket member 17 on the left front which may be readily disengaged from its connecting stud on the tab 28. The soiled right front 9 is then drawn across the front of the wearer and the socket member 18 thereof is connected with one of the stud members of the tab 27 to secure and support the free edge of the right front. The left front 8 is then extended over the soiled right front 9 and the socket member 30 of the tab 36 is disengaged from the stud member 22 so that the tab 36 may be folded retroactively, after which the socket member 17 on the left front 8 is engaged with the stud 19 or 22 as desired. A clean front is now presented so that the garment may be worn until that front is soiled.

Thus the reversible fronts 8 and 9 provide for longer service of the garment between laundering periods and permit the wearer to present a clean neat appearance for a longer time while wearing the same garment.

While I have mentioned specific uses for the garment, the structure may be carried out in a house dress, apron, or coverall without departing from the spirit of the invention.

It is obvious that the inner tabs facilitate attachment of the underlapping front portion and that they cooperate with the connections of the overlapping front to provide a straight set of the front of the garment.

What I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. In a garment of the type comprising overlapping right and left front portions having a belt line, inner tabs fixed to inner side faces of the garment substantially in registry with terminal edges of said right and left front portions and substantially at the belt of the garment, said inner tabs having free ends, tabs on said terminal edges of the right and left front portions substantially at the belt line and in registry with the inner tabs for alternate connection with said inner tabs depending upon which of said front portions is undermost, fastener elements on the outer sides of the garment substantially corresponding with the elements for alternate engagement with said cooperating element on the tabs of said front portions to fasten the outermost portion, and outer tabs secured to the respective sides of the front portions for alternately covering the elements on the outer sides of the garment depending upon which of said side portions is outermost and having elements corresponding to said cooperating elements on the tabs of said front portions to engage said elements on the outer side of the garment for symmetry in appearance on the outer side of the belt line of the garment.

2. In a garment of the type comprising overlapping right and left front portions and having an attached belt extending across said front portions, inner tabs fixed to inner side faces of the garment substantially in registry with terminal edges of said right and left front portions and substantially at the belt of the garment, said inner tabs having free ends, tabs on said terminal ends of said belt and in registry with the inner tabs for alternate connection with said inner tabs, depending upon which of said front portions is undermost, fasteners having one element on the free ends of each of the inner tabs and a cooperating element on the tabs of said belt to fasten the outermost portion, and outer tabs having a width corresponding with the width of said belt and having ends of a shape corresponding to the shape of the belt tabs, said outer tabs being secured to the belt at the respective sides of the front portions for alternate connection with said cooperating elements on the outer sides of the belt depending upon which of the front portions is outermost and having elements corresponding to said cooperating elements at the terminals of the belt to engage said elements on the outer sides of the belt for symmetry in appearance regardless of which of said front portions is outermost.

MARTHA C. O'BRIEN.

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