April 16, 1946. J. KORET 2,398,538

PLEATED SKIRT

Filed Feb. 17, 1944

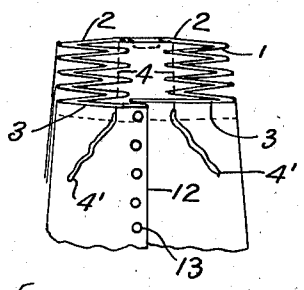


FIG. 3

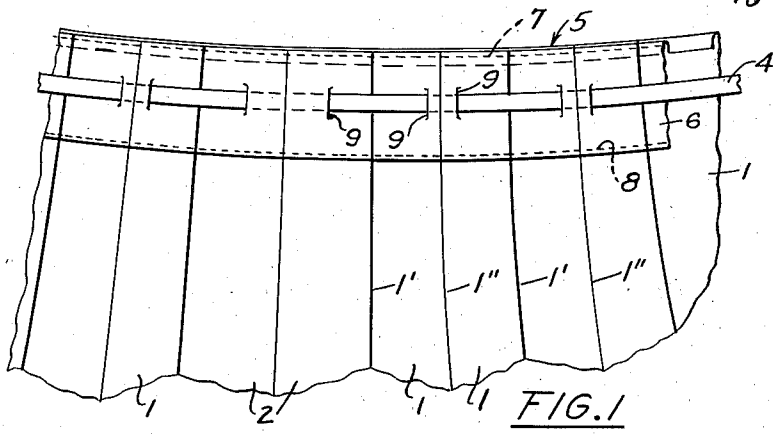


FIG. 1

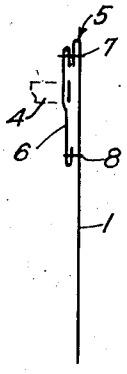


FIG. 2.

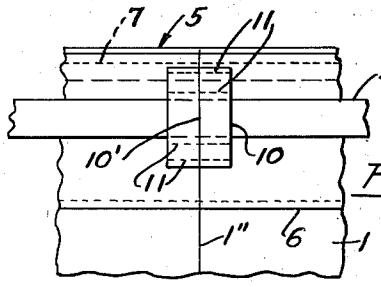


FIG. 6

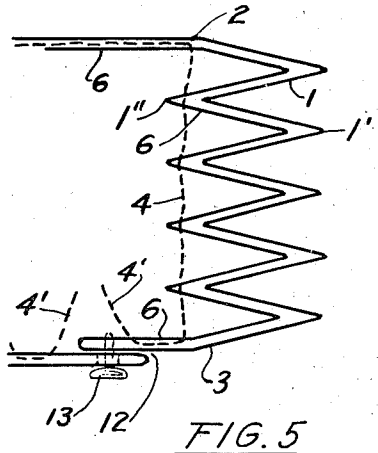


FIG. 5

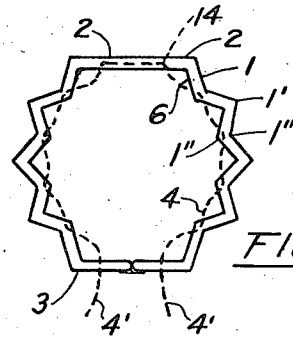


FIG. 4

INVENTOR.
JOE KORET
BY J. A. Bried
ATTORNEY.

Patented Apr. 16, 1946

2,398,538

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,398,538

PLEATED SKIRT

Joe Koret, San Francisco, Calif.

Application February 17, 1944, Serial No. 522,763

3 Claims. (Cl. 2—221)

This invention relates to pleated skirts of the type shown in my copending patent application filed under Serial Number 479,184, on March 15, 1943 (issued March 14, 1944, as Patent No. 2,344,-462), and has to do with improvements therein.

In the skirt of the pending application the pleats are accordion-like sections and extend from the lower edge of the skirt to the extreme upper edge of the skirt and arranged in such a way that the skirt folds flat into two adjacent stacks of pleats connected across the top and bottom of the stacks by flat or outfolded sections all held in this folded relation by a draw-string or tape, which passes in and out of the pleats around the waistband and is clearly exposed to view while the skirt is being worn.

The present improvement provides a construction at the waist-band portion of the skirt whereby the draw-string or tape is concealed or substantially concealed, yet causes the pleated skirt to fold flat into two adjacent stacks of pleated sections joined across the top and bottom of the stacks when the ends of the tape are pulled or the sections are pushed back along the tape.

In the drawing:

Fig. 1 is an elevation of a portion of the upper part of the skirt as seen from the inside of the skirt.

Fig. 2 is a vertical cross section of the waist-band portion of the skirt taken along the line 2—2 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a diagrammatic top view of the skirt in substantially flat folded position indicating the run of the draw-string tape.

Fig. 4 is a diagrammatic cross section of the waist-band portion of the skirt in almost fully opened out position illustrating the run of the draw-string tape.

Fig. 5 is a diagrammatic enlarged cross sectional view of the partially folded pleats at one side of the skirt illustrating the run of the tape between the layers of cloth at the waist-band and showing the final ends of the tape brought back within the skirt for tying.

Fig. 6 shows a modified guide for the draw-string tape.

In further detail Fig. 3 indicates the manner of flat folding of the pleated sections 1 into two adjacent stacks connected across at top and bottom of the stacks by somewhat wider flat or outfolded sections 2, 3 and which sections are collapsed to folded position by means of a draw-string tape 4 which passes in and out through openings in the inner tips of the pleated sections as indicated and with its final ends 4' extending through the wider sections 3 for tying into a bow at the outside of the skirt. This diagram is substantially like the diagram in Fig. 5 of my copending patent application referred to except that in that figure the tape openings were adjacent the outer tips of the pleated sections. But the present invention differs in a further most important respect in the fact that the tape passes in and out of openings formed in the inner wall of the waist-band portion without being visible at all from an outer view of the skirt, as when worn, and as will appear from the larger view of the drawing to be described.

In Figs. 1 and 2 the actual relation of the draw-string tape to the body of the skirt is clearly shown. Here the pleated sections 1 are indicated as outwardly projecting pleated lines 1' and inwardly projecting pleat lines 1'' and which extend from the extreme upper edge 5 of the waist-band portion of the skirt flaringly to the extreme lower edge (not shown) of the skirt. The wider sections 2—3 which connect across the double stack of pleated sections as shown in Fig. 3 may be pleated or plain or may consist of several outfolded pleated sections to connect the folded stacks of pleated sections to permit the flat folding of Fig. 3 and preferably the pleat lines 1' and 1'' are made permanent by stitching as shown and described in my aforesaid pending application.

In the present construction the waist-band portion is preferably made of at least two layers of cloth, either by doubling the goods over inwardly at the waist-band portion or sewing a separate band-like layer 6 in place as by marginal stitching 7 and 8 while leaving the two layers free between these rows of stitching, and if desired an additional layer or layers may be used in the waist-band portion. The inner layer or layers are formed with pleat lines corresponding to the lines 1' and 1'' of the skirt and additionally formed with slits 9 or "button holes" spaced slightly to opposite sides of each inwardly projecting pleat line only to provide guiding loops at said inwardly projecting pleat lines through which the draw-string tape 4 passes as clearly shown in Fig. 1.

At the wider panels 2 and 3 the slits 9 for the tape are spaced to coincide with those at the inner apices of the pleats so as to align with them when the skirt is collapsed or folded to the position of Fig. 3.

Instead of the tape passing through slits made in the inner layer of the waist-band portion, it is manifest that small vertically disposed tape

loops 10 may be sewed as at 11 or otherwise secured in place over the inner pleat lines 1'' and under which the draw-string tape 4 extends, as shown in Fig. 6. In this construction the waist-band portion of the skirt may or may not be doubled, lined, or reinforced. The tape loop 10 may be divided or cut through along the pleat line 1'' as at 10' so it will fall into pleated formation easier when the skirt is collapsed to the position of Fig. 3.

While the final ends of the draw-string tape 4 may emerge through the outer wall of the waist-band portion (as indicated in Figs. 3 and 4) for tying, if desired the ends 4' of the tape 4 may be returned to the interior of the skirt as indicated in Fig. 5 and be drawn and tied by simply turning the waist-band portion down slightly to facilitate this and the ends tucked within the skirt.

The skirt is conveniently formed with a slit or fly 12 at the point of tying, and this may be closed as by buttons 13, zipper, or hooks as may be desired.

The diagram Fig. 4 shows the waist-band portion of the skirt as almost expanded and illustrates the run of the draw-string tape 4 in and out of the inner layer 6 of the goods, and making it invisible from outside when on a wearer.

If desired the tape 4 may be stitched or otherwise secured in place to the skirt at points 14 or terminated and secured at these points as this will avoid any tendency to collapse the wider panel 2 if the tape is drawn too much.

My use of the words tape or draw-string tape herein is to be taken as including the use of any type of draw-string, tape, belt, lace, or chain used in the manner indicated in the drawing or the equivalent of the showing.

I therefore claim:

1. In a pleated skirt having accordion pleated sections extending through the waistband portion and arranged to fold into adjacent flat stacks connected across the top and bottom of the stacks by extended sections, the pleats of said pleated sections having inwardly projecting pleat lines alternating with outwardly projecting pleat lines, guiding loops for a drawstring provided at said inwardly projecting pleat lines, and a drawstring extending along the inside of the waistband through said guiding loops in a manner to collapse the skirt to flat folded position when the drawstring is drawn relatively to the skirt, said loops and drawstring passing therethrough being within the skirt and normally concealed from view from the outside of the skirt when worn.

2. A pleated skirt in accordance with claim 1 in which said drawstring has its free ends arranged for tying together within the skirt.

3. A pleated skirt in accordance with claim 1 except in which said drawstring has its free ends extending through the skirt and arranged for tying together on the outside thereof.

JOE KORET.