May 11, 1948. M. KAY 2,441,274

GARMENT

Filed Nov. 14, 1945 3 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 2

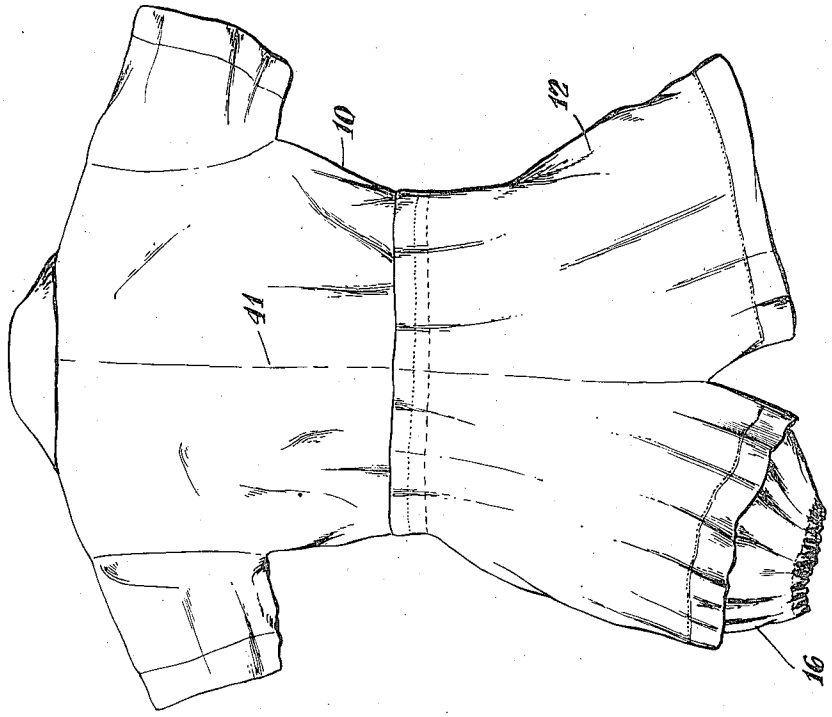
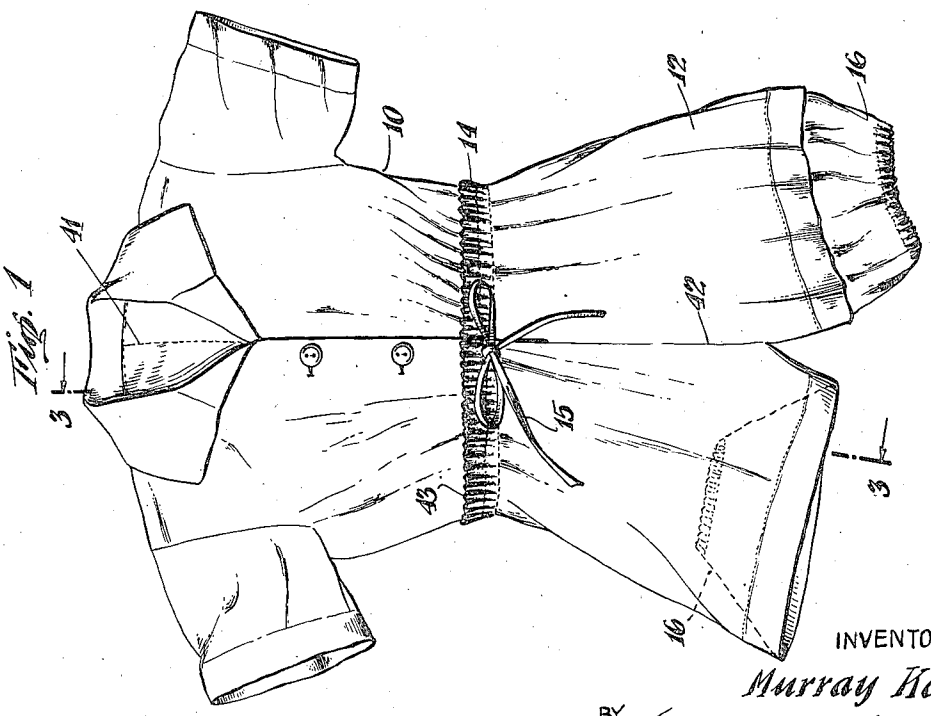


Fig. 1



INVENTOR

Murray Kay

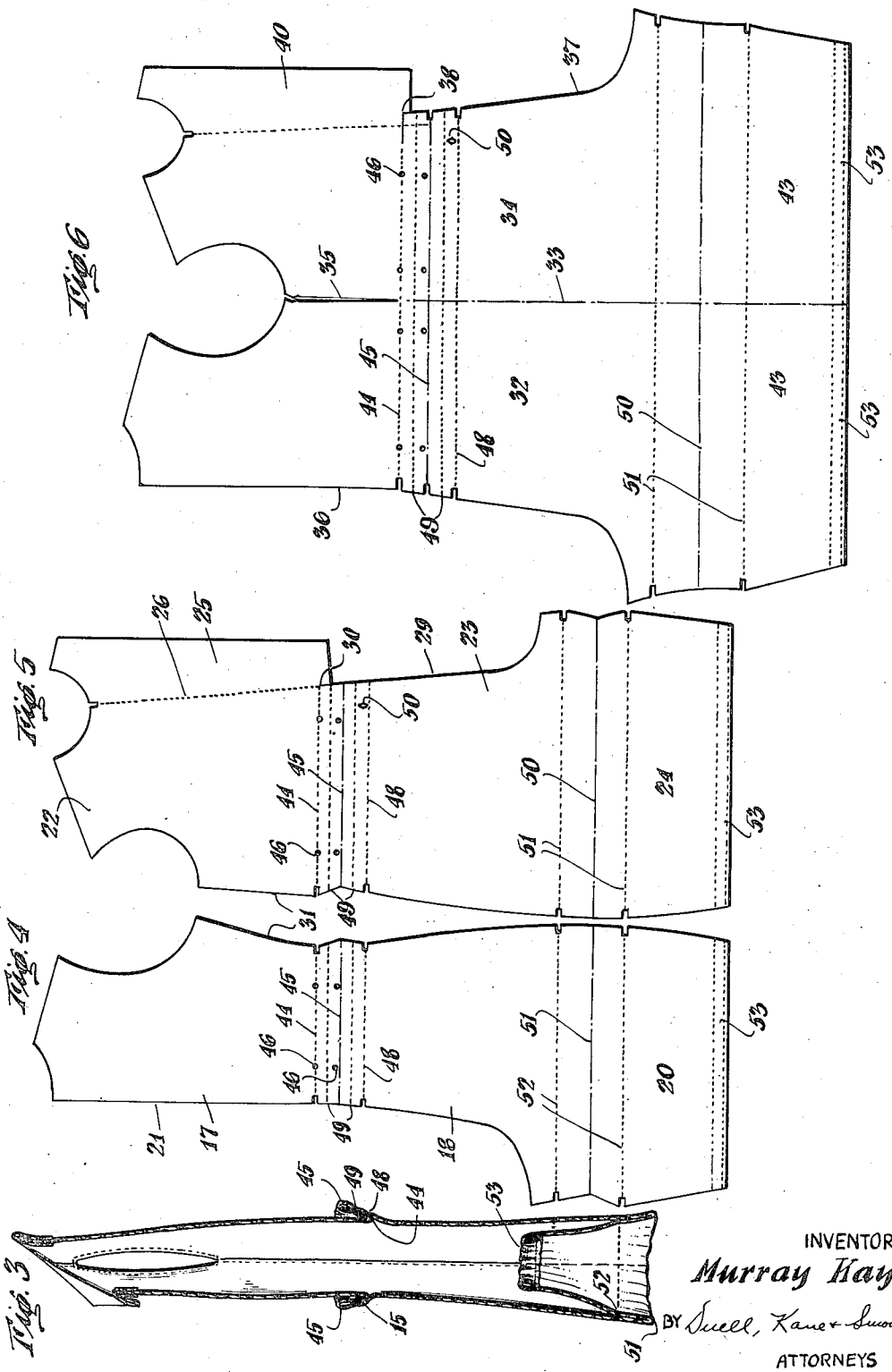
BY Duell, Kane & Smoot

ATTORNEYS

May 11, 1948. M. KAY 2,441,274

GARMENT

Filed Nov. 14, 1945 3 Sheets-Sheet 2



INVENTOR
Murray Kay
BY Sweet, Kane & Sweet
ATTORNEYS

May 11, 1948. M. KAY 2,441,274

GARMENT

Filed Nov. 14, 1945 3 Sheets-Sheet 3

Fig. 7

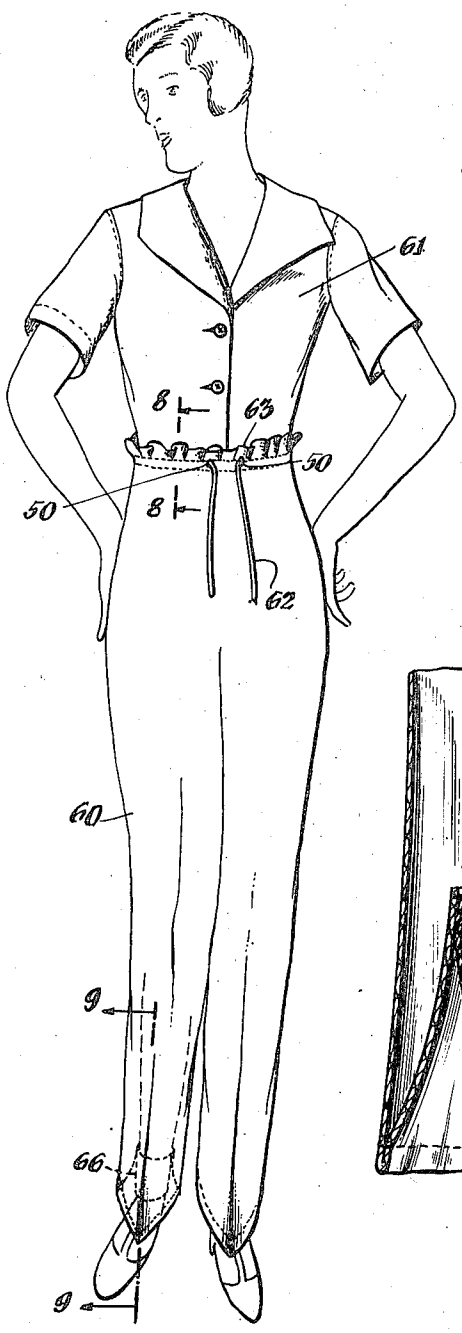


Fig. 8

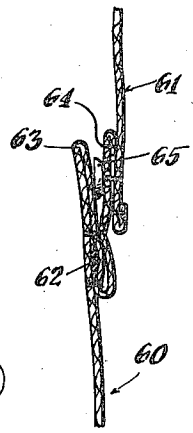


Fig. 10

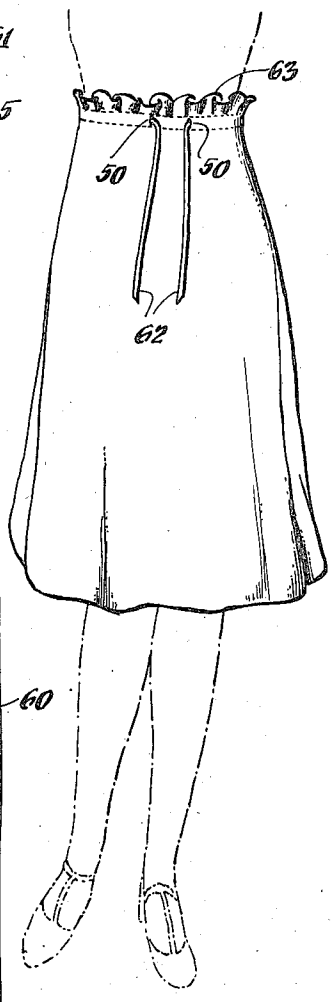
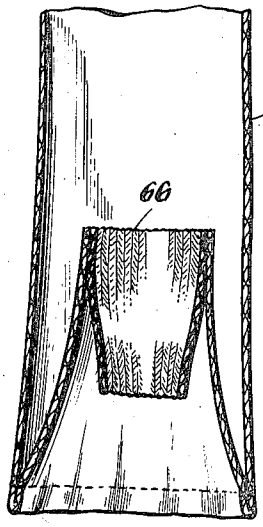


Fig. 9



INVENTOR

Murray Kay

BY Duell, Kane & Smoot

ATTORNEYS

Patented May 11, 1948

2,441,274

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,441,274

GARMENT

Murray Kay, New York, N. Y.

Application November 14, 1945, Serial No. 628,569

4 Claims. (Cl. 2—71)

1

This invention relates to an improved garment and particularly to playsuits and like garments suitable for sports or other active wear, pajamas or lounge garments, or apparel for general beach wear.

It is a main object of the invention to provide a garment having a combination of blouse and shorts or slacks, or blouse and skirt, in which the blouse and lower portions are integral with each other, a novel belt portion providing a highly decorative ruffled front at the waistline and permitting the same garment to cover a range of sizes without sacrifice of appearance.

It is another object of the invention to provide a garment combining integral upper and lower portions, with an improved belt construction creating the illusion of a separate blouse and shorts or skirt.

It is a further object of the invention to provide, in a garment such as a skirt, shorts, or slacks intended for wear with a blouse or skirt, an improved waistband to which the blouse or shirt may be buttoned or otherwise removably attached.

It is yet another object of the invention to provide a garment having shorts or slacks provided with an improved, concealed bloomer leg or cuff which prevents undue exposure of the body of the wearer while engaged in active sports.

It is a still further object of the invention to provide an improved method of manufacturing playsuits or like garments having a blouse and shorts, said method reducing the number of separately cut and sewed pieces and therefore resulting in a substantial saving in labor costs as against similar garments made by the conventional method.

It is a further object of the invention to provide an improved playsuit or the like, particularly for feminine wear, in which a concealed cuff makes possible the use of flaring or wide-legged shorts while preventing exposure of the body or undergarments of the wearer.

In conventional construction of garments embodying a blouse and skirt portion or a blouse and shorts portion, it is usual to form the blouse of four pieces of material, and the shorts, for example, of at least four more pieces, the respective pieces being sewed together by overlapping or turned seams. Each of the respective pieces requires individual cutting treatment and must be stitched together into the completed garment. A large proportion of the labor cost of such a garment is accounted for in the many stitching and seaming operations required.

2

In the belt portions of such conventional garments, it is necessary to make individual hems at the belt lines of the shorts and blouse portions, stitch the same together, and to face the interior with an additional piece of cloth so that ragged seams or exposed edges will not be a source of discomfort to the wearer.

The present invention provides means whereby a garment having a definite style appeal may be formed with one half of one quarter of the separate pieces of material commonly employed, therefore materially reducing the manufacturing time and correspondingly reducing the cost of the completed garment. Each seam requires about one inch of cloth, so the reduction in the number of seams, and the elimination of separate belt facing, effects a substantial saving in material cost.

Pursuant to one embodiment of the invention, the blouse and shorts, or blouse and skirt, are made of four pieces of fabric, cut to pattern so that when stitched together the blouse and lower portions are substantially in final form, the blouse requiring only the insetting of sleeves and collar. At the waistline, the material is folded in a reverse fold. Along the lowermost margin of such fold, a line of stitching passes through the three thicknesses of material, and parallel thereto and suitably above said lowermost margin, a second line of stitching passes through the two outermost folds. There is thus provided a passage through which a drawstring or ribbon may be run, to be tied either at the front or the rear of the waist. Upon tieing the drawstring, the upper portion of the belt area assumes an attractive ruffle which adds materially to the appearance of the garment while at the same time shaping the garment about the waist of the wearer.

The improved waistband construction may also be embodied in separate slacks, shorts, or skirt, with which a blouse or shirt may be worn.

Other features and advantages of the invention will be evident from the detailed description of the invention which follows.

In the accompanying drawings:

Fig. 1 is a front view of a garment embodying the present invention, said garment comprising a combined blouse and shorts;

Fig. 2 is a rear view of the same;

Fig. 3 is a section taken on the lines 3—3 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 4 is a plan view of one of the two identical pieces of material which form the back of the blouse and the shorts;

Fig. 5 is a plan view of one of the two identical pieces of material which form the front of the blouse and shorts;

Fig. 6 is a plan view of one of the two identical pieces of cloth which collectively provide the complete blouse and the complete shorts portion in a second illustrative embodiment of the invention;

Fig. 7 shows a garment comprising slacks and a separate shirt, the slacks embodying my improved waistband construction;

Fig. 8 is a section on lines 8—8 of Fig. 7, showing the reverse fold at the waistline of the slacks, with the lower portion of the shirt buttoned thereto;

Fig. 9 is a section taken on lines 9—9 of Fig. 7, showing my improved concealed cuff; and

Fig. 10 is a front view of a skirt having the waistband construction of Fig. 8.

Referring to the drawings, the garment shown in Fig. 1 comprises a blouse portion 10 and a shorts portion 12, said portions being of integral material; in other words, there is no seam uniting the blouse and shorts portion. The waistline is defined by a belt portion 14, through which runs a drawstring, belt or the like 15 as later explained.

Figs. 1 and 2 show the garment as provided with an integral inner or concealed cuff 16, one of said cuffs being exposed to show its relationship to the leg of the garment, although it is to be understood that the said cuffs are normally worn inverted, as indicated in dot-dash lines in Fig. 1 to conceal the cuff from view.

As later appears, the body of the garment may be formed from either two or four pieces of material. When the garment as shown in Fig. 1 is formed from four pieces of material, two identical pieces form the back of the garment and two identical pieces provide the front. Fig. 4 shows one of the back forming pieces, as the same comes from the bench of the cutter. There is an upper back section 17 and a lower back section 18, respectively, for the blouse and shorts. When the concealed cuff is to be embodied in the garment, the lower section 18 has an extension 20 which forms one half portion of the said cuff. It is understood that two identically shaped pieces of material, when sewed together along the edge 21, form the complete back portion of the garment.

The front panels, of which one is shown in Fig. 5, comprise an upper section 22 and a shorts section 23 the said shorts section similarly having the cuff extension 24 to cooperate with extension 20 of Fig. 4. Each front panel has a facing portion 25, which, in the completed garment, is folded along the dotted line 26 and lies at the inside of the finished garment. The illustrated armhole cutouts and neck configuration may be as desired.

The two front-forming pieces are sewed together along the marginal edge 29, said edge commencing at 30, at the upper waistline area. The assembled front and rear panel sections are stitched together along their common marginal edges 31. Sleeves and collar pieces are inset and sewed as is conventional in the art.

The garment shown in Figs. 1 and 2 may also be made with but two pieces of material; Fig. 6 shows one of the two identical pieces of cloth which when sewn together along their outermost edges, provide the complete blouse and shorts portion of the garment. In Fig. 6, the panel 32 to the left of the dot-dash line 33 forms

half of the complete back, whereas the panel 34 forms half of the complete front. At 35, a slit is provided to facilitate the attachment of the sleeve to the armhole. The two pieces are sewn together along the full length of their respective outer margins 36, and along the length of the outer margin 37, commencing at the point 38, which is immediately below the facing portion 40. The seams resulting from the stitching as aforesaid are the front and rear central vertical seams 41, 42, the dot-dash line 33 representing the fold line which provides the outer side marginal edges of the garment. Fig. 6 shows the lower portions 43, 43, which collectively form the concealed cuff 16 when this feature is provided in the completed garment.

In Figs. 4, 5 and 6, the lines 44, 45 are fold lines along which the material is folded to provide my improved waistline construction. To aid in the location of said fold lines, marks such as the holes 46, are provided. After the respective garment portions are stitched together as aforesaid, the garment is folded in a reverse fold as shown in Fig. 3, wherein the line 45 forms the free upper edge of the belt portion, and the line 44 forms the concealed lower margin of the belt area. The material is stitched through three folds along the line 48 and through two folds along the respective lines 49. Said lines of stitching provide a tunnel or passage through which the drawstring 15 is run. The fold lines and stitching lines of Fig. 6 are identical with those of 4 and 5.

It is noted from Fig. 3 that there is no seam at the inner belt portion of the garment, as is required in the conventional garment of this type; in other words, the material in my improved garment is smooth right down to the line of stitching at 48. Accordingly, it is unnecesary to provide a separate inner facing strip to finish off the waistline.

The belt or drawstring emerges from the waistband at the holes 50, see Fig. 7, said holes being disposed about one and one half inches on each side of the front central seam. Figs. 4 and 6 show the position of the holes 50 with respect to said seam.

To provide the concealed cuff, the leg portions of the garment are folded inwardly along line 51 and stitched together along the overlapping lines 52. A hem is provided at 53 to provide for the running of elastic or other suitable material so that the cuff will resiliently engage the thigh of the wearer.

As appears from Figs. 1 and 3, the unsecured upper marginal edge 43 of the belt portion gives the appearance of a garment consisting of a separate blouse tucked into the belt line of the shorts, skirt, or other lower garment portion. When the drawstring is tightened about the waist of the wearer and tied, there is a gathering in the front portion of the garment, which provides an attractive ruffled effect. The spacing of the holes 50 prevents bunching of the waistline at the center of the garment when the belt is tied. The gathered waistline also gives a stylish shaping to the garment. A garment cut to one standard pattern will encompass a relatively large range of sizes because of the attractive gathered effect at the waist, and the body-conforming lines resulting from the drawstring or belt.

The concealed cuff portion may be omitted, if desired; it would, of course, be omitted where a skirt or slacks formed the lower part of the garment, rather than the illustrated shorts.

Figs. 7 and 10 show slacks and a skirt, respectively, in which the reverse fold at the waistline forms the ruffled front effect and provides an inner belt portion to which a blouse may be buttoned or secured by snap fasteners or the like.

Fig. 7 shows a garment comprising slacks 60 and a conventional blouse 61. As shown in Fig. 8, the waistband of the slacks has the reverse fold construction providing a tunnel for the drawstring 62 and the ruffled top line 63. The inner free waistband 64 is preferably provided with a plurality of buttonholes to accommodate buttons 65 on the lower margin of the blouse, although it will be understood that the inner waistband may have the buttons and the blouse formed with the buttonholes.

As shown in Fig. 9, the cuff of the slacks extends inwardly and upwardly and there may be provided knitted or elastic-cuff 66 which, see Fig. 7, embraces the ankle of the wearer and is thus particularly suitable for skating, skiing, or gardening. In lieu of the elastic cuff, it will be understood that the slacks may be provided with an elastic band such as is illustrated with respect to Fig. 3.

Fig. 10 illustrates a skirt having the waistband construction shown in Fig. 8; with the skirt any blouse or sweater may be worn, it being understood that it is not necessary to secure the blouse or the like to the waistband as previously described.

Although the invention has been described by making a fully detailed reference to the certain presently preferred embodiments, such detail of description is to be understood in an instructive rather than a limiting sense, many changes being possible within the scope of the claims hereto annexed.

I claim:

1. A garment comprising a blouse portion and a trousers portion integral therewith, the area of demarcation between said blouse and trousers portions comprising an integral triple fold of material; a line of stitching extending circumferentially about the garment through said triple fold; a second line of stitching extending circumferentially about the garment above the first-named stitching and passing through only two of said three folds of material at a location substantially beneath the upper margin of said triple fold; and concealed drawstring means within the portion defined by said first and second named lines of stitching.

2. A garment for external wear, having a waistband portion integral with the material of the garment and comprising the said material folded on itself to provide a relatively wide circumference strip having three thicknesses, the lower

margin of said strip being stitched circumferentially around the garment through said three thicknesses, and said strip also being stitched circumferentially around the garment through the outer two thicknesses and immediately above the first-named stitching to provide narrow drawstring passage disposed well beneath the upper edge of said strip.

3. A garment having integral blouse and lower portions, comprising elongate strips of material united along their vertical marginal edges to provide a blouse portion and a lower portion for the garment, said united panels of material having a reverse fold at the waistline of the garment to provide a relatively wide circumferential strip comprising three layers of material, the uppermost edge of said strip being visible when the garment is worn; a circumferential line of stitching passing through said three layers of material at the lowermost edge thereof; a second circumferential line of stitching disposed above the first-named line but substantially beneath the upper edge of said strip, said second line passing through the outermost layer and through at least one of the other layers to provide a horizontal passage for the accommodation of a drawstring; the free upper edge of said circumferential strip giving the visual effect, when the garment is worn, of a separate blouse portion tucked beneath the lower portion of the garment.

4. A garment for external wear, comprising two elongate strips of material united along their vertical marginal edges and at their upper transverse edges to provide a blouse portion and a lower portion for the garment, the vertical seams resulting from the joinder of said strips of material being at the center of the back and front of the garment respectively; said strips of material being shaped intermediate their vertical margins to form armscyes, and said strips having a slit extending downwardly from the base of each armscye portion to permit the attachment of a sleeve thereto.

MURRAY KAY.

REFERENCES CITED

The following references are of record in the file of this patent:

UNITED STATES PATENTS

Number	Name	Date
Re. 15,910	Berry	Sept. 9, 1924
838,922	Vernon	Dec. 18, 1906
886,735	Sprague	May 5, 1908
898,511	Schneider	Sept. 15, 1908
2,075,414	Wheeler	Mar. 30, 1937
2,324,856	Leary	July 20, 1943