Nov. 18, 1952 J. B. DE LEONE 2,618,266

DIAPER COVER

Filed Aug. 10, 1951

Fig. 1

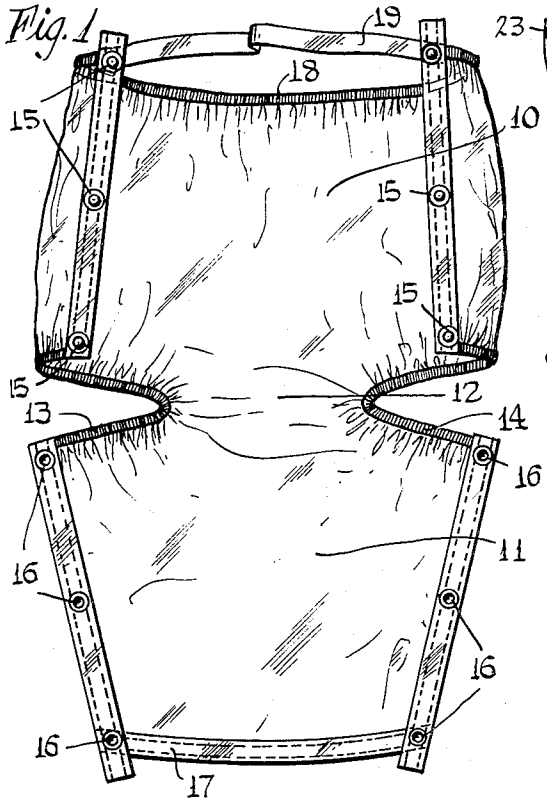


Fig. 3

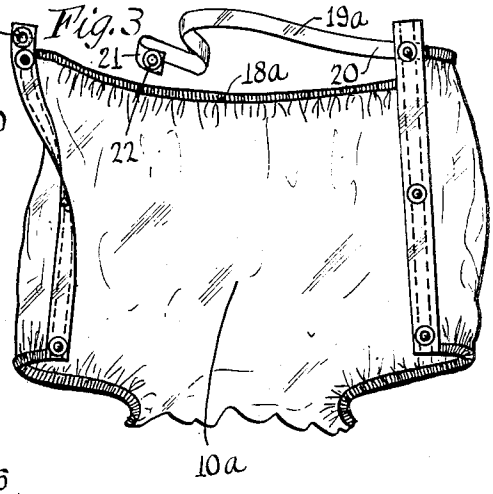


Fig. 4

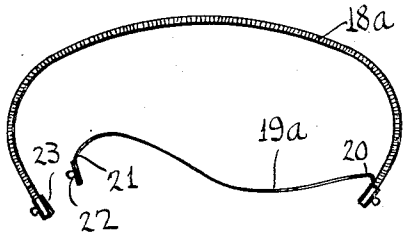
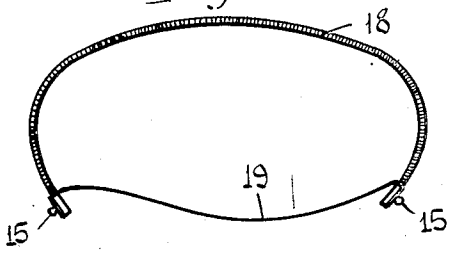


Fig. 2



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DIAPER COVER

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4 Claims. (Cl. 128—287)

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This invention relates to diaper covers, and more particularly to improvements therein which facilitate their use.

The more satisfactory diaper covers, or baby pants (as they are sometimes called) comprise a back panel the top of which is shirred and contains an elastic strip forming part of a waistband, and a front panel connected to the back panel or integral therewith through a crotch section. The side portions of the front and back panels are unconnected except by snap or other fasteners, and the margins of the crotch section are shaped to encircle the legs and have elastic margins.

In use, the diaper cover above described is placed under the rump of a diapered infant and then the front panel is passed up between the legs and the side portions of the front and back panel are joined by snap or other fasteners, the cover being held in place by the elastic waistband.

In changing the diaper, the snap fasteners of the diaper cover are opened and the front panel dropped to give free access to the diaper. However, it often occurs that during the changing of the diaper, the back panel of the cover becomes disarranged and has to be repositioned under the infant before the sides are again fastened.

According to the present invention, this inconvenience and bother of positioning the back panel of the diaper cover each time a diaper is changed or adjusted is avoided, and this is done in a very convenient and economical manner by providing a retaining strip on the back panel, forming in conjunction with the upper waistband margin of the back panel, a complete waistband.

By the provision of such a retaining strip, which extends over and across the abdomen of the infant, the back panel of the diaper cover is held in place while the diaper is being changed, and does not have to be repositioned and relocated after the change has been made.

In one form of this invention the retaining strip is permanently attached to both ends of the waistband portion of the back panel by being caught under the male parts of the top snap fasteners. This strip may be elastic, but I have found that it need not be since the waistband portion of the back panel contains sufficient shirring and elasticity to permit the waistband to be expanded and passed over the buttocks of the infant.

In another form of the invention, one end of the engirdling strip is permanently fastened to

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one side of the back panel and is connected to the other side thereof by a hook or snap fastener. With this form of the invention, it is merely necessary when applying the garment to slide the back panel under the infant, pass the engirdling strip across the abdomen, and fasten the loose end to the opposite side of the back panel to remain thus until it is desired to change the diaper cover itself.

Other features and advantages will hereinafter appear.

In the accompanying drawings:

Figure 1 is a plan view of the diaper cover, with the front panel unfastened from the rear and spread out flat.

Fig. 2 is a top end view of the back panel and retaining strip of the cover of Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a plan view of a back panel and retainer strip illustrating another form of the invention wherein the strip is permanently fastened to only one side portion of the back panel.

Fig. 4 is a top end view of the back panel and retaining strip of Fig. 3.

Referring to Figs. 1 and 2, the improved diaper cover of this invention comprises a back panel 10, a front panel 11, and a crotch section 12 which connects together the front and back panels and is preferably integral therewith. The panels 10 and 11 and crotch section 12 may be made of any garment material suitable for the purpose, as for example waterproof silk, soft flexible plastic, etc.

Elastic or expansible marginal portions 13 and 14 are provided on the panels 10 and 11 and on the crotch section 12 to form the usual leg openings when the diaper cover is assembled. Along the side marginal portions of the front and back panels cooperable separable fasteners 15 and 16 are disposed in the usual manner, to provide for securing the sides of the panels to each other to form pants.

The front panel 11 has a marginal waistband portion 17, and the rear panel 10 a marginal waistband portion 18, the latter being preferably shirred and provided with an elastic band to make it expansible.

In accordance with this invention I provide, in conjunction with the back panel 10, novel means for retaining the diaper cover, and especially the back panel, in position under the buttocks of an infant while the diaper is being changed.

This means, in the embodiments of the invention illustrated herein, comprises a thin, soft and flexible band or strip 19 adapted to extend across the abdomen of the infant and to be secured at

its ends to the marginal waistband portion 18 of the back panel. The strip 19 is formed from yard goods, preferably plastic of the series of vinyl polymers, as for example polyvinyl butyral, having a thinness on the order of a sheet of note paper whereby it is sanitary, easily cleaned, nonchafing, economical to fabricate and extremely durable. While such plastic is not considered to be elastic in the ordinary sense, it has the ability to stretch a limited amount and return substantially to its original shape, and is soft to the touch, making it well suited to the purpose disclosed herein. If desired, however, the strip 19 may be made of an elastic material such as rubber, preferably covered with cotton or fabric, or other suitable garment material, either elastic or not elastic.

As shown in Figs. 1 and 2 the retaining strip 19 is permanently secured at its ends to the waistband portion of the back panel 10 by means of the snap fasteners 15 used to secured the front and back panels. Thus the strip 19 in conjunction with the expansible waistband portion 18 of the back panel 10 forms a complete expansible waistband which may be easily and quickly slipped around that waist of the infant. When this is done, the infant may be diapered or changed without the back panel 10 of the diaper cover being dislodged from its proper position. It will be understood that to change a diaper the front panel 11 of the diaper cover is unfastened from the rear panel and laid out flat as illustrated in Fig. 1.

Another embodiment of the invention is illustrated in Figs. 3 and 4. In these figures a back panel 10*a* of a diaper cover is provided with a retaining strip 19*a* having one end 20 permanently attached to its waistband portion 18*a* and having its other end 21 provided with a separable fastener part 22 cooperable with a mating fastener part 23 on the portion 18*a*.

By this construction the waistband constituted by the strip 19*a* and band portion 18*a* of the back panel may be opened when applying the garment to an infant or removing it, thereby facilitating the operation somewhat, while at the same time the advantages of the retaining band are retained.

It will be noted that, in each instance (Figs. 2 and 4) the fastening of the retaining strip to the waistband portion of the back panel is done in

such a way that the end portions of the strip are doubled back on themselves and cover the backs of the fastener buttons, thereby minimizing the likelihood of the buttons coming in contact with the infant's skin, and this is a feature of the invention.

Variations and modifications may be made within the scope of the claims and portions of the improvements may be used without others.

I claim:

1. A diaper cover having a back panel provided with an expansible marginal waistband portion, a front panel, and a crotch section connecting together said panels; separable fastener means for securing together side portions of said panels; a retainer strip adapted to extend across the abdomen of an infant; and means securing the ends of said strip to the ends of the waistband portion of the back panel whereby a complete waistband is formed to retain the back panel in place under an infant when the cover is laid open and a diaper changed.

2. The invention as defined in claim 1, in which one end of said strip is removably secured to the waistband portion of the back panel, whereby the waistband formed by the strip and back panel may be opened to apply or remove the cover.

3. The invention as defined in claim 1, in which the strip comprises a soft flexible plastic ribbon of paper-like thinness, formed of a polyvinyl butyral resin.

4. The invention as defined in claim 1, in which both ends of the retaining strip are permanent-secured to the waistband portion of the back panel, the waistband formed thereby being expansible by virtue of the expansibility of said waistband portion.

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