Feb. 4, 1941. G. R. HILBY 2,230,492

CHILD'S CRIB GARMENT

Filed May 31, 1939

FIG. 2

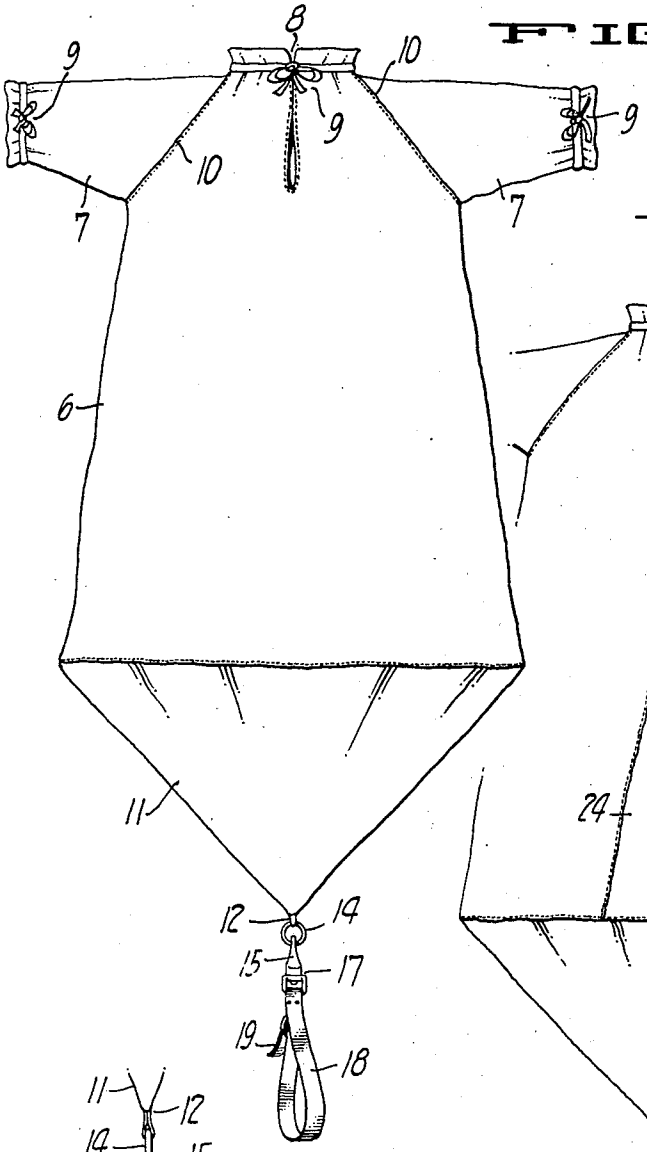


FIG. 1

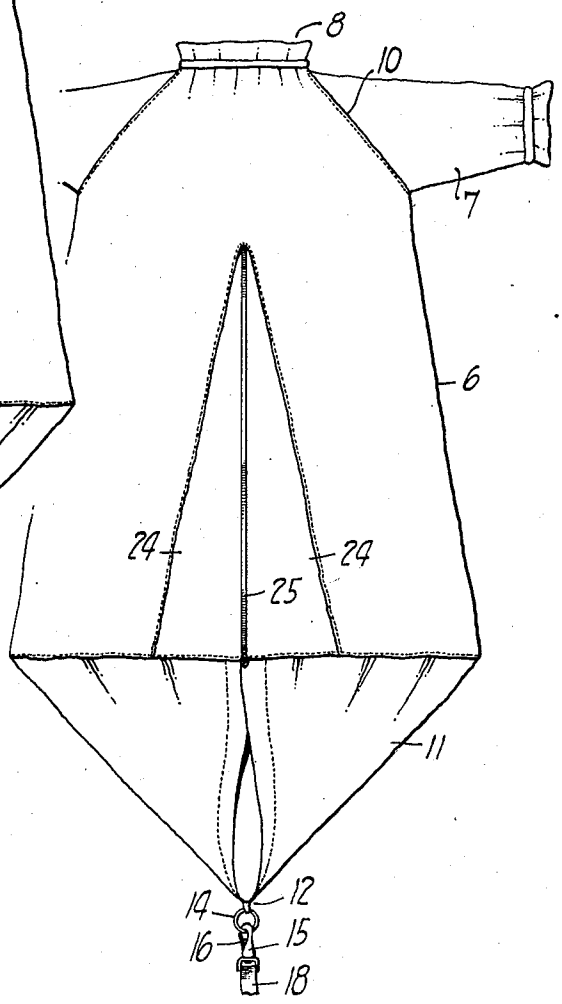
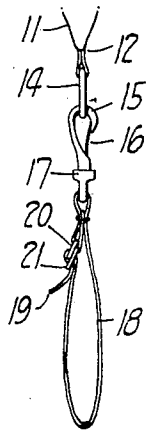


FIG. 3



INVENTOR
George R. Hilby
BY Robert N. Eckhoff
ATTORNEY

Patented Feb. 4, 1941

2,230,492

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,230,492

CHILD'S CRIB GARMENT

George R. Hilby, San Francisco, Calif.

Application May 31, 1939, Serial No. 276,528

2 Claims. (Cl. 128—134)

This invention relates to a child's crib garment, particularly one enabling the child to be selectively restricted in its movement in a crib or bed so that, while the child is free to move about under the covers and turn over, it cannot move up in the crib and get up from under the covers, or kick off the covers.

The problem of keeping small children under the covers is one to which the attention of parents has been long directed, and the prior art contains such devices as harnesses for restricting movement of the child. These are generally objectionable inasmuch as the child is not accustomed to the harness and has difficulty sleeping in such a structure. In addition, the harness, unless very confining, may be easily disarranged and incapable of restraining the child under the covers. In addition, such a harness cannot prevent the child generally from kicking the covers off unless the harness is very restrictive in confining the child.

Other devices suggested in the prior art include a covering sheet having a T-opening through which the neck and head of the child is inserted. This is objected to by parents and pediatricians because of the danger of choking or suffocating the child.

The child's garment of the present invention is free from all these objections, for the garment, being such that the child is unrestricted except as to the two undesirable movements previously mentioned, that is, kicking off of the covers, and moving up in the bed to get out from under the covers, provides the desired control over the child's position in a crib, without discomfort or harm to the child.

It is in general the broad object of the present invention to provide a novel child's garment for restricting the child so that the child remains under the cover in the bed.

The invention includes other objects and features of advantage, some of which, together with the foregoing, will appear hereinafter wherein the present preferred form of child's garment of this invention is disclosed.

In the drawing accompanying and forming a part hereof

Figure 1 is a plan view of the child's garment of the present invention.

Figure 2 is a rear view of the child's garment, while Figure 3 is a side elevation of a restraining strap employed with the garment.

In accordance with this invention I provide a garment for a child having a body portion 6, sleeves 7, and a neck opening 8.

The sleeve and neck openings are each adapted to be drawn into an enclosing position by suitable means such as draw and tie strings 9, although these can be omitted and other means employed if desired. The sleeves 7 are generally set into the body of the garment with the so-called raglan sleeve indicated at 10. This type of sleeve construction is preferred because it does not bind the shoulders of the child. However, another type of sleeve construction can be employed if desired. The garment can be made of any suitable material such as outing flannel. In its body portion it is generally made full so that the infant has adequate room, although around the arms, shoulders, and neck, the garment should be made to fit fairly well.

In accordance with this invention, the body portion 6 of the garment is made of a length normally longer than the child and along the bottom of the body portion, or at least a portion thereof, I attach a generally triangular end portion 11. In the drawing I have shown the triangular end portion as a separate member attached to the body portion by suitable means such as sewing. This end portion is preferably made of cotton or other smooth material because it facilitates the child's moving about in the bed, the cotton presenting less friction to the covers than the outing flannel of which the body is made.

If desired, the entire garment can be made in one piece and of one material. The end portions can be made in a triangular shape and attached only to the bottom of the garment. In this case the child may be able to kick off the covers if the garment body is made too full.

The generally triangular end portion is attached to the body portion with its apex 12 away from the body portion. To the apex is securely attached means for rotatably securing the apex to a fixed member on the bed or crib and positioned beyond the apex so that, if the child trys to move up in the bed, it cannot do so. Thus, at the apex I attach ring 14 and to the ring is attached a hook 15 having a spring closure 16. The hook carries rotatably attached thereto a suitable base 17, the hook structure described providing a swivel hook construction well known in the art. To the base 17 a strap 18 is secured. This strap is adapted to be extended about the fixed member at the bottom of the child's bed, more or less permanently, the strap being adjusted and secured in position by extending its end 19 through rings 20 and 21 so that the strap is locked therein in a well known manner. The

rings are carried by a portion of the strap 18 extended through the base 17 and suitably secured thereto.

In place of the ring and swivel hook connection, any other attaching means can be employed which permits ready rotation of the garment relative to the support to which strap 18 is attached. Thus, instead of providing the hook and swivel connection, the bottom of the garment can carry a suitable tie string which is tied each time the baby is placed in the bed. However, this is objectionable in that the child cannot be readily removed and the tie is difficult to fasten in place.

To facilitate caring for the child, the triangular end portion is preferably left open along the upper face thereof, this opening coinciding with a suitable opening in the body portion of the garment. As appears in Figure 1, inserts 24 are made in the garment, each insert being of a triangular shape, to give the body of the garment fullness. Along adjacent edges of the garment is placed suitable means enabling the edges to be drawn together and secured, such as the usual zipper construction 25, although tie strings, button and buttonholes, or other fasteners, and the like can be employed.

From the foregoing I believe it will be apparent that I have provided a simple, inexpensive garment enabling an infant to be restrained in its bed to only the extent necessary to keep the child under the bed covering. This includes securing of belt 18 to some member on the bed and fastening of a sheet or blanket over the child at about its chest so that it cannot rise up in the bed. The securing of a sheet or blanket over the child's body by pins or tie strings is well known to those skilled in the art. In use, the baby is readily placed in the garment by spreading the garment out flat with zipper 25 in open position. The baby is seated on the body portion and the sleeves and neck opening are then readily worked into position and fastened. Thus, a minimum of handling is necessary. The garment is quickly secured in place by snap hook 15; a prior art structure includes as many as eight tie strings.

The triangular end portion is preferably set on about a 45° angle so that the garment is not too long. In fullness, it corresponds to that of the body portion so the infant is free to kick and move its legs. The triangular end enables the baby to turn easily, placing any pull evenly on the baby's shoulders and not on its neck.

I claim:

1. A child's garment having a neck opening, sleeves and a body portion extending away from said opening and said sleeves and of a length normally longer than that of a child wearing said garment, and an end garment portion secured along the bottom of said body portion, said end garment portion being generally triangular in shape with its apex away from said portion and cooperating with said body portion to permit a child wearing said garment to move its feet and legs freely and particularly to turn over even though the child is covered with bed clothes in a normal manner, said garment portion being adapted to be secured at its apex to a fixed member positioned beyond said apex for only rotational movement to restrain a child in said garment from moving out from under said bed clothes or kicking off said bed clothes.

2. A child's garment having a neck opening, sleeves and a body portion having a front and a back and extending away from said opening and said sleeves and of a length normally longer than that of a child wearing said garment, and having an opening in the front thereof extending from the bottom of said body portion upwardly to adjacent said neck opening, means for selectively securing together those portions of said body portion providing said opening, and an end garment portion secured along the bottom of said body portion, and having an opening therein continuing the first mentioned opening in the front of said body portion, said end garment portion being generally triangular in shape with its apex away from said body portion and cooperating with said body portion to permit a child wearing said garment to move its feet and legs freely and particularly to turn over even though the child is covered with bed clothes in a normal manner, said garment portion being adapted to be secured at its apex to a fixed member positioned beyond said apex for only rotational movement to restrain a child in said garment from moving out from under said bed clothes or kicking off said bed clothes.

GEORGE R. HILBY.