April 11, 1939. E. F. ALEXANDER 2,154,059

ARTICLE OF APPAREL

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FIG. I

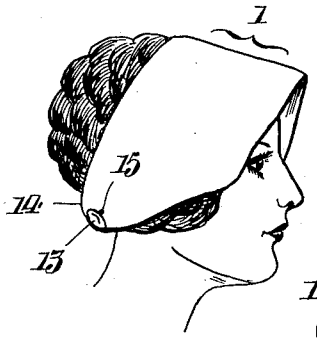


FIG. VI

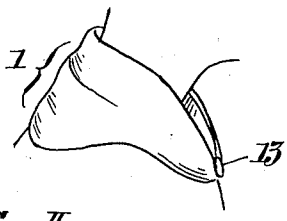


FIG. V

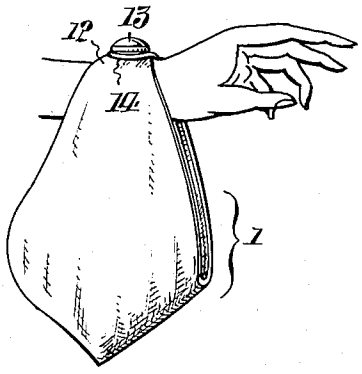


FIG. II

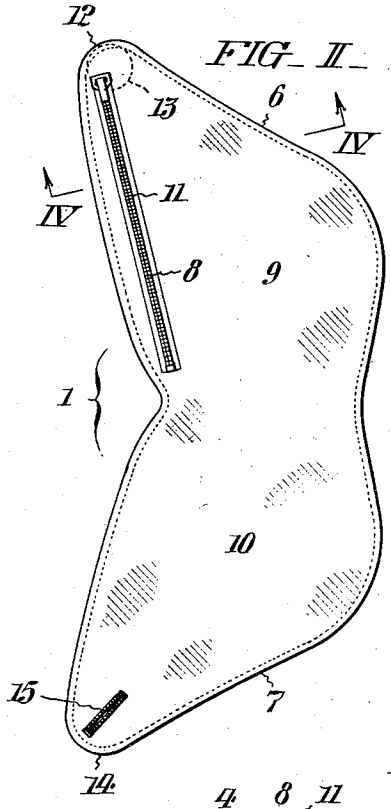


FIG. III

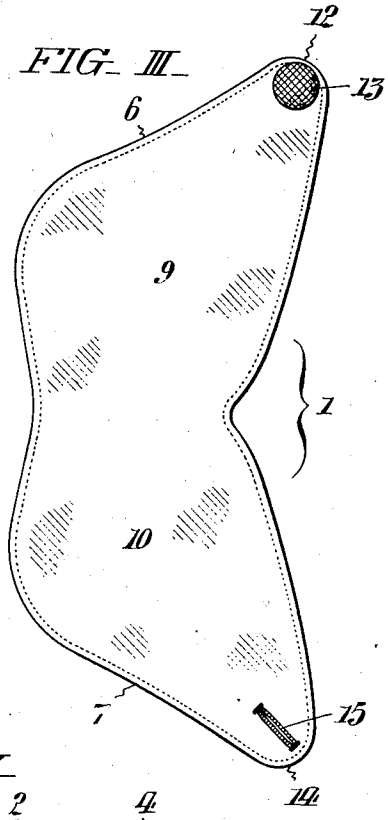
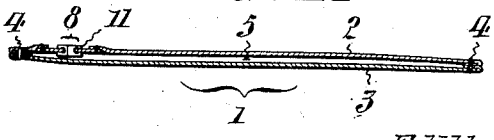


FIG. IV



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April 11, 1939. E. F. ALEXANDER 2,154,059

ARTICLE OF APPAREL

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FIG. VII



FIG. XI

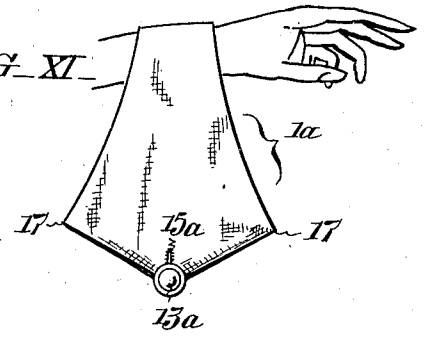


FIG. VIII

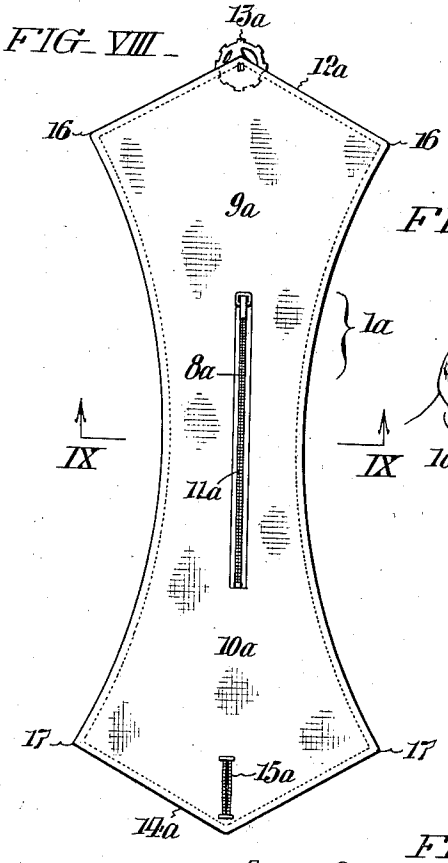


FIG. XII

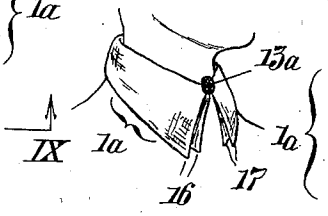


FIG. IX

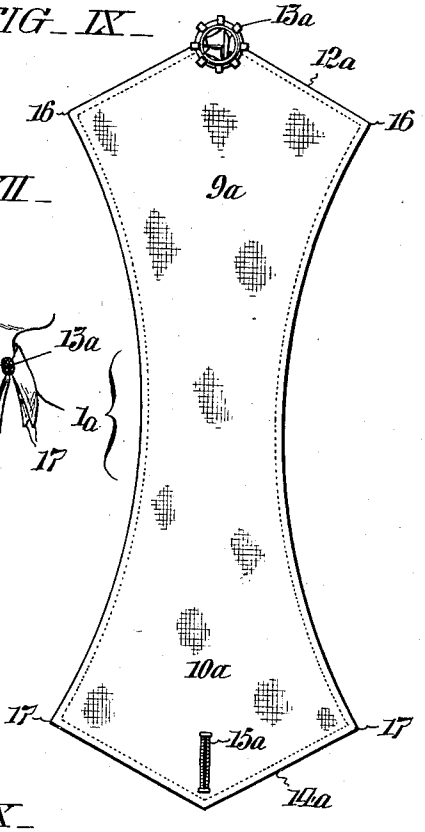
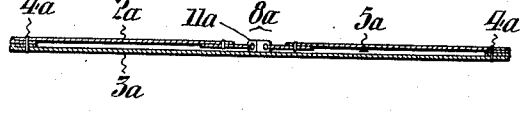


FIG. X



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Patented Apr. 11, 1939 2,154,059

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,154,059

ARTICLE OF APPAREL

Edith F. Alexander, Haverford, Pa.

Application February 1, 1938, Serial No. 188,036

4 Claims. (Cl. 2—196)

This invention relates to apparel, and it has reference more particularly to articles of apparel capable of multiple uses.

The chief aim of my invention is to provide an article of apparel which is readily and quickly convertible for use either as a head covering, as a neck piece or scarf, or as a handbag, which is neat and highly attractive in any condition of use, and which, moreover, can be produced at small cost.

Other objects and attendant advantages will appear from the following detailed description of the attached drawings, wherein

Fig. I is a view showing one form of my invention arranged for use as a head covering.

Fig. II shows the inner face of the article when laid out flat.

Fig. III is a view similar to Fig. II but showing the outer face of the article.

Fig. IV is a cross-sectional taken as indicated by the arrows IV—IV in Fig. II.

Fig. V is a perspective view showing the article arranged for use as a handbag.

Fig. VI is a perspective view showing the article arranged for use as a neck piece or scarf.

Figs. VII–XII are views corresponding to Figs. I–V showing a modified embodiment of my invention.

Referring to Figs. I–VI of these illustrations first, my improved article of apparel has the form of a flat band 1 made from two thicknesses of fabric 2, 3 which are seamed around the edges after the manner shown at 4 in Fig. IV, with incidental provision of a pocket 5 in the interior of the band, in its thickness. As pictured in Figs. II and III, the band 1 has the configuration of a butterfly, that is to say, it is flared symmetrically outward in opposite directions from its transverse medial axis to its ends, whereof the edges 6, 7 are complementarily inclined in respect to said medial, so that beyond the region of flare the ends of the band are tapered. The space or pocket at the interior of the band 1 is accessible through a slit opening 8 in one side of said band within the area of the lobe or wing 9 of the latter, see Figs. II and IV, the slit being closable by a slide fastener conventionally indicated at 11. Attached to the opposite side of the lobe or wing 9 adjacent the tip end 12 of the band (Figs. II and III) is a securing means in the form of a button 13, and at the tip end 14 of the lobe or wing 10 is a complemental securing means in the form of a button hole 15 capable of receiving said button. As will be seen from Figs. II and III, these tips 12, 14 are the end corners of the band lobes 9, 9 which are more remote from one another.

The band 1 is convertible into a head covering by placing it about the head (with the pocket slit at the inside) and interengaging the button 13 with the button hole 15 at the nape of the neck, and by virtue of its butterfly configuration produces an attractive bonnet-like hat. As clearly shown in Fig. I, the band 1 is of length and width to extend around or encircle the head and afford substantial coverage, and to be held on the head properly by the joining together of the band ends by the securing devices 13, 15. On interconnecting the button 13 with the button hole 15, the band 1 also becomes a sling for the purposes of a handbag which may be grasped in the hand, or, as shown in Fig. V, hung over the arm with the pocket slit 8 concealed at the in side. The band may also be utilized as a neck piece or scarf as shown in Fig. VI.

In the form shown in Figs. I—VI, my improved article of apparel is particularly advantageous to women bathers for beach wear, and for the purpose of such wear, is in practice made from relatively cheap washable material such as sheet rubber, cotton, etc. When arranged and employed as a head covering, the device not only protects the top of the crown, but shades the eyes, as will be evident from Fig. I. When arranged as a handbag, the pocket of the band may be used for cigarettes, matches, goggles, and other small articles essential to the comfort and enjoyment of the bather.

The modified form of my invention featured in Figs. VII–XII is like that of Figs. I–VI except as regards the configuration of the band 1*a* and the location of the access opening 8*a* for the pocket 5*a*. Here the flaring lobes 9*a* and 10*a* are symmetrical with both the longitudinal and transverse medial axes of the band, and the opposite ends are tapered somewhat with formation of obtuse angular tips 12*a*, 14*a*. The slit 8*a*, in this instance, extends longitudinally of the band 1*a*, and while centrally located with respect to the ends, is offset somewhat to one side of the longitudinal median as shown in Fig. VIII. As in the first described embodiment, the button 13*a* is attached adjacent the tip on the side of the band opposite to that occupied by the slit 8*a*, and a button hole formed adjacent the tip 14*a*. The button and button-hole are shown in Figs. VIII and IX as substantially on the longitudinal axis or medial of the band 1*a*. All other features in Figs. VII–XII not specifically mentioned but having their counterparts in the first de-

scribed embodiment are identified with the same reference numerals previously employed, with addition however of the letter "a" in each instance for convenience of distinction and preclusion of the necessity for repetitive description.

When the band 1a is to be converted for use as a head coverng, it is first folded along its longitudinal median, with the slit 8a at the inside, and then applied about the head so that the ends 12a and 14a meet at the forehead, whereupon the button 13a is engaged with the button hole 15a as in Fig. VII. The effect here produced is that of a tiara, with the superposed coincident corners 16, 16 and 17, 17 of the joined tapered ends 12a, 14a prominently upstanding together, at the front of the head.

To convert the modified device into a handbag, the band 1a is doubled on its transverse median (without longitudinal pre-folding), and the button 13a engaged in the button hole 15a with resultant formation of a sling for convenience of carriage in the hand, or, as suggested in Fig. XI, over the forearm.

For use as a scarf, the band 1a is longitudinally folded and placed about the neck as shown in Fig. XII.

The modified band 1a, like the band 1 first described, may be made from washable material for bathers' wear. It is, however, to be understood that either type may, if desired, be produced from more expensive materials like plain or figured silk, satin, and plush or the like with a jewelled or other highly-ornamented fastener button, for dress wear, in which case the pocket is intended to serve as a repository for gloves, cosmetics, etc.

It is to be understood that my improved article of apparel may be shaped otherwise than herein illustrated by way of example depending upon the effect desired in the head gear conversion of the same or to conform with seasonal style changes. I moreover do not consider myself confined to the precise details of construction and arrangement herein illustrated and described, since these can be extensively varied within the scope of the appended claims.

Having thus described my invention, I claim:

1. A combination handbag and head covering comprising a fabric band of length and width to encircle the head and afford substantial coverage therefor, and having in its thickness a pocket with an access opening thereto; and cooperative securing devices at the opposite ends of said band for joining said ends together, either to hold the band around the head as a covering, or to form a sling to be worn over the arm as a handbag.

2. An article according to claim 1 wherein the band flares wider from its transverse medial toward both ends.

3. An article according to claim 1 wherein the band flares wider from its transverse medial toward both ends, substantially symmetrically with respect to its longitudinal medial axis, and the securing devices are substantially on said longitudinal axis, so that the band can be folded lengthwise and worn around the head with the four corners of its joined ends prominently upstanding together.

4. An article according to claim 1 wherein the band is substantially of butterfly configuration, with its securing devices at its corners which are more remote from one another, so that it forms a bonnet shading the eyes when it is worn around the head as set forth.

EDITH F. ALEXANDER.