

Nov. 14, 1961

B. J. YELTON
COMPOSITE GARMENT

3,008,147

Filed May 21, 1958

3 Sheets-Sheet 1

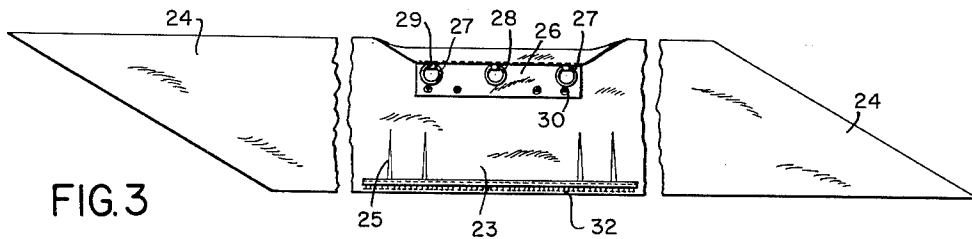


FIG. 3

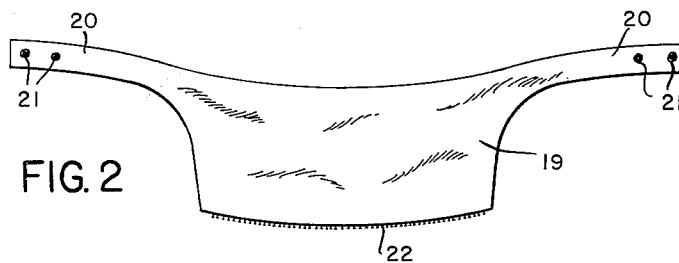


FIG. 2

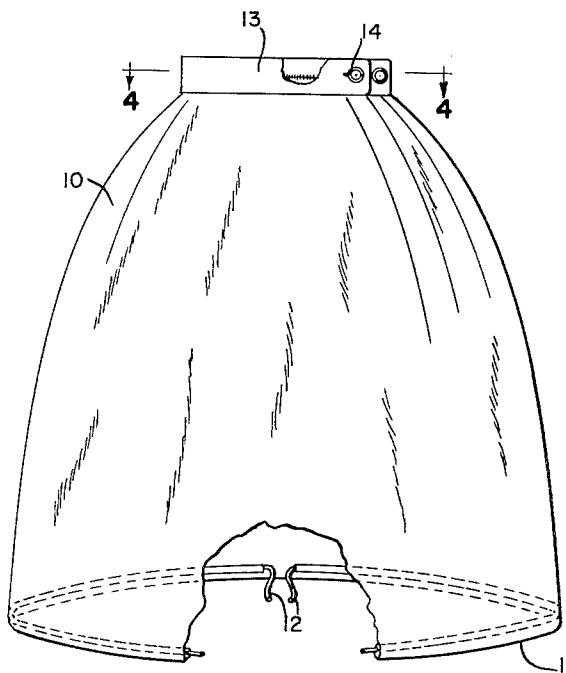


FIG. 1

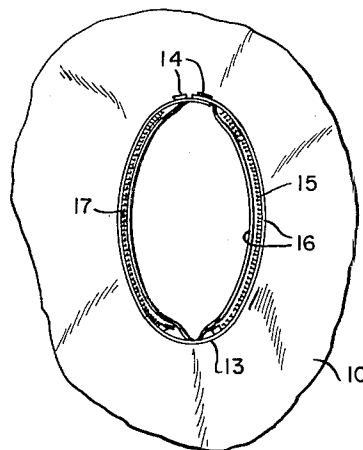


FIG. 4

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FIG. 6

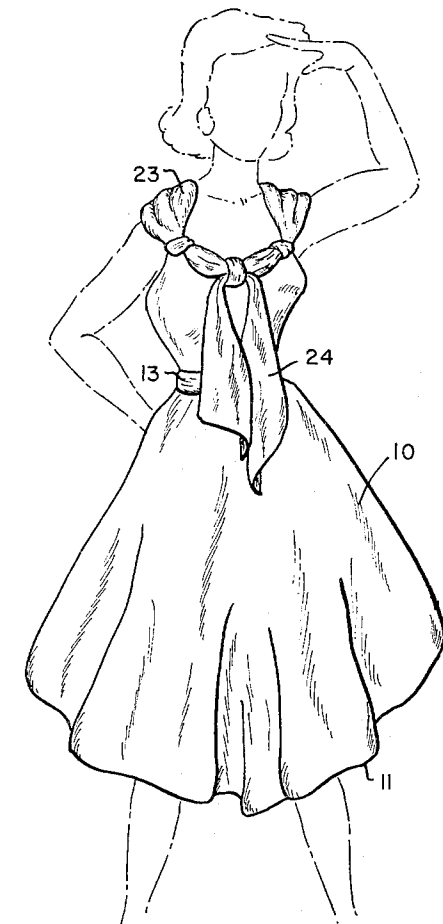


FIG. 7

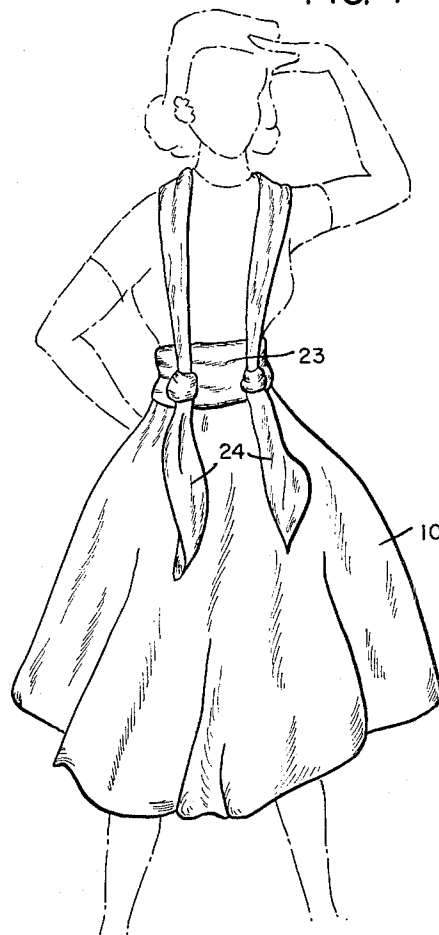
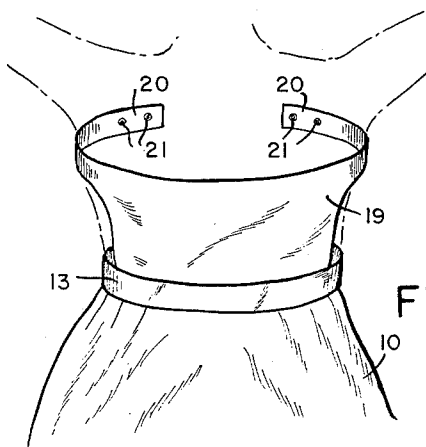


FIG. 5

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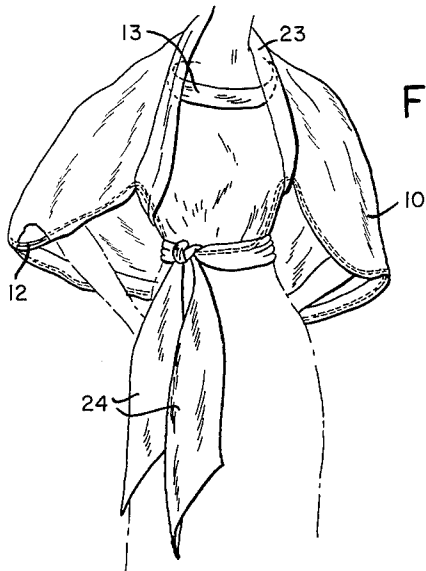


FIG. 8

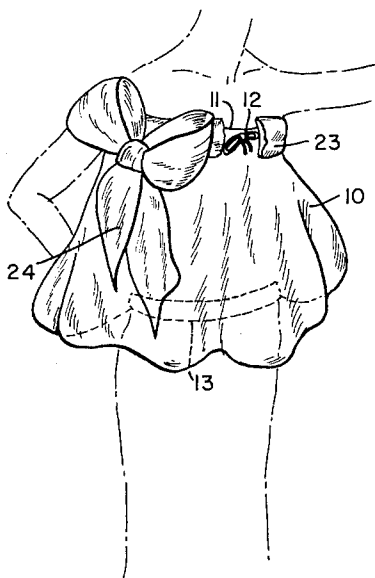


FIG. 10

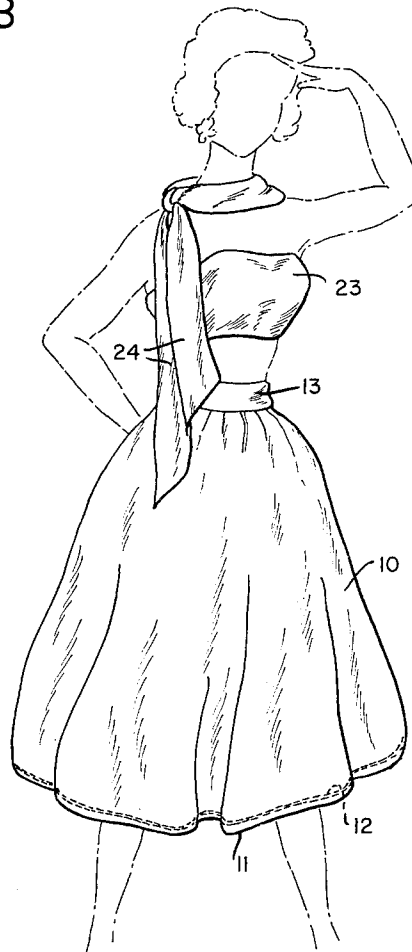


FIG. 9

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COMPOSITE GARMENT

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Filed May 21, 1958, Ser. No. 736,893

2 Claims. (Cl. 2-70)

This invention relates to wearing apparel for the feminine sex. More specifically it relates to articles of clothing which may be worn in a number of ways to provide garments of different types and styles.

Apparel of various kinds which may be worn in a variety of ways has been used heretofore. However, the apparel items of the present invention, because of their unusual construction, permit the wearer to select any one of a relatively large number of types of garments and styles thereof.

Not only does the present invention permit the selection and use of various types and styles of apparel but various structural advantages are also provided.

Accordingly, it is an object of the present invention to provide a plurality of articles of feminine apparel which may be worn altogether as an ensemble or in various combinations to provide a large number of basic types and styles of dress.

A further object is to provide separable skirt, back and bodice elements which are so constructed and designed that they may be assembled on the wearer to provide an ensemble having a pleasing appearance and which is adaptable to a wide range of figures.

These and other objects of the invention will become apparent from the following description taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings wherein:

FIG. 1 is an elevation of the skirt, with portions broken away for greater clarity;

FIG. 2, an elevation of the outside of the back member;

FIG. 3, a fragmentary elevation of the inside of the sash or bodice member;

FIG. 4, a section on the line 4-4 of FIG. 1;

FIG. 5, a rear view illustrating the manner of connecting the skirt to the back member;

FIG. 6, an example of an ensemble forming one style of dress from the three items of FIGS. 1, 2 and 3;

FIG. 7, an example of a jumper formed from the items of FIGS. 1 and 3;

FIG. 8, an example of a Mexican style blouse formed from the items of FIGS. 1 and 3;

FIG. 9, an example of a halter and skirt formed from the items of FIGS. 1 and 3; and

FIG. 10, an example of a smock formed from the items of FIGS. 1 and 3.

Briefly stated, the invention comprises a skirt having fastening elements at its waistband, a back member adapted to be secured to the band at the rearside thereof and having a pair of straps to partially encircle the chest of the wearer, and a bodice or sash having means for attachment to the front side of the waistband of the skirt and having other engaging members at its upper portion and being of considerable length so that it may serve as a sash, halter or straps in various ways.

With further reference to the drawings a skirt member 10 has at the lower edge 11 a hem within which a drawstring 12 may be positioned. The skirt is cut full so that it may be draped or bloused in various ways and has a waistband 13 at its upper edge the ends of which may be connected by suitable fastening members 14. The front edge of the waistband has a half of a concealed zipper or other fastening member 15 mounted intermediate and at the junction of a pair of band members 16 forming the outer and inner members of the waistband 13. At the rear side of the waistband 13 another zipper half 17 is similarly mounted,

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With reference to FIG. 2 a back member is shown having a main portion 19 and a pair of straps 20 provided with a fastening means 21. With particular reference to FIG. 5 it will be apparent that the straps 20 are adapted to encircle the wearer's body above the bust line. At its lower edge the back member has a zipper or other separable fastening means 22 which may be engaged with the separable fastening member 17 on the skirt to form a continuation thereof as indicated in FIG. 5.

In FIG. 3 a bodice or sash member is shown having a central portion 23 with elongated ties 24 extending therefrom. In order to reduce the length of the lower portion of the central part of the bodice member in comparison with its upper region darts 25 are taken across said lower portion. At the upper portion on the inner side an underlay or flap 26 is attached which extends substantially across the central portion and has mounted on it a pair of outer rings 27 and a central ring 28 secured by loops 29. In the drawing the outer rings 27 are spaced slightly less than shoulder width apart. Across the lower edge of the flap 26 a plurality of separable fasteners 30 are provided by means of which the straps 20 of the back member 19 may be attached to the underlay in accordance with the dimensions of the wearer. A zipper half 32 is mounted at the lower border of the central portion for engagement with the zipper half 15 of the skirt waistband. Ties 24 may vary in length but the bodice member should preferably be approximately 8 to 12 feet long in order to form the various garments and styles.

It will be apparent that when the back member is worn with the skirt and bodice member the straps 20 will be positioned across the top of the wearer's bust line as indicated in FIG. 5, which will support the straps and assist in holding up the upper portion of the bodice member.

In order that the bodice member may properly fit the bosom of the wearer and also may serve as a halter, sash, belt, jumper suspenders or the like it should be cut on the bias as indicated.

Although a variety of garments and styles are illustrated it should be understood that they are merely representative of a few of the numerous ones which may be formed.

The dress of FIG. 6 may be formed by all of the items of FIGS. 1 to 3, the back member being fastened to the skirt as indicated in FIG. 5 and the front or bodice connected by the zipper half 32 to the front zipper half 16 of the skirt with the separable fastener members 21 of the back member being secured to the fastening members 30 on the underlay of the bodice member. The ties 24 of the bodice member are either tied or crossed at the back of the wearer and then brought over the shoulders and through the outer rings 28 on the underlay of the bodice member where they may be tied, and are then passed through the central ring and tied. If an open or sunback dress is desired, the back member is omitted.

In the jumper of FIG. 7, the bodice member is wrapped as a sash around the waist of the wearer and tied or crossed over the wearer's back and then brought over the shoulders and down through the outer rings 28 of the bodice member. When worn in this manner the bodice member serves as a belt and as suspenders for the skirt.

The blouse of FIG. 8 is formed by placing the skirt waist around the neck of the wearer whose arms remain under the skirt. The fullness of the skirt is bloused around the wearer's upper arms and its lower edge tucked at the waist. The bodice tie has its central portion 23 around the back of the neck of the wearer and is tied

or crossed at the wearer's back and the ends brought around and tied at the front to form a waistband around the lower edge of the skirt as indicated.

In FIG. 9 the bodice is worn around the chest of the wearer without engaging the zipper elements. The ties are crossed or tied at the back and brought around the neck to form a knot at one side as indicated.

In order to form the smock of FIG. 10 the waistband of the skirt is placed around the wearer's waist with the skirt upside down and by using the drawstring 12 the lower edge of the skirt is drawn snugly around the chest above the bustline. The bodice member is then used as a sash around the body above the bustline and over the edge of the skirt having the drawstring.

Among the garments or styles which may be formed from the items described are: a complete dress with full skirt and front and back coverage; a sunback dress, omitting the back member; skirt and halter, omitting the back member and fastening between the bodice and skirt; a beach cape and halter, using the skirt as a cape at the shoulders and the bodice as a halter; a Mexican style blouse, as described; a jumper, as described; and a skirt alone or with sash.

It will be apparent that the present invention includes three items of apparel which may be worn in various combinations and in various ways to provide a highly versatile and practical wardrobe from a minimum number of members.

It will be obvious to those skilled in the art that various changes may be made in the invention without departing from the spirit and scope thereof and therefore the invention is not limited by that which is illustrated in the drawings and described in the specification, but only as indicated in the accompanying claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A composite garment comprising a skirt having a main portion and a waistband, separable fastening means at the front and rear portions of the waistband, a back member having a central portion and a strap extending from the upper region of each side of said central portion, each strap having separable fastening means remote from said central portion, other separable fastening means at the lower region of the central portion of said back member for engagement with the separable

fastening means at the rear portion of the skirt waistband, and a bodice member having a central portion, separable fastening means at the lower region of said bodice member for engagement with the separable fastening means at the front portion of the skirt waistband, other separable fastening means at the upper region of the central portion of said bodice member for engagement with the fastening means on the straps of said back member, said bodice member having a tie of substantial length extending from each side of its central portion and whose ends may be joined as a sash or halter around the wearer.

2. A composite garment comprising a skirt having a main portion and a waist band, separable fastening means at the front of the waist band, a bodice member having a front central portion, separable fastening means at the lower portion of said central portion for engaging said fastening means of said waist band, ring-like engaging means at the upper region of said central portion, and a tie of substantial length extending from each side of said central portion, said ties being adapted to pass around the wearer's body and over the shoulders and engage the ring-like fastening means at the upper region of said bodice member and to have their ends connecting intermediate said ring-like engaging members whereby said bodice member is supported by said ties.

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