

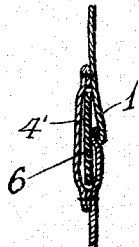
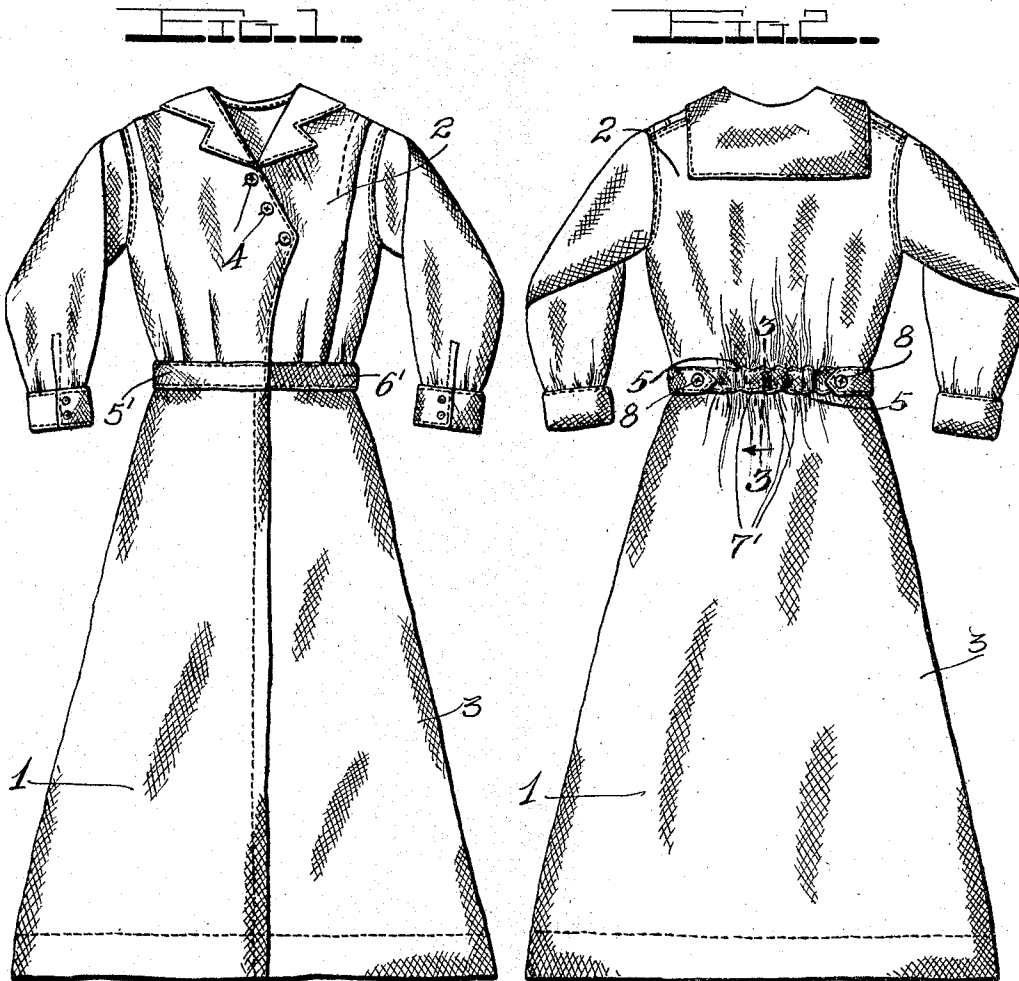
P. H. SCHULTZ.

DRESS.

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1,237,394.

Patented Aug. 21, 1917.



Witness

Chas. L. Gristauer.

Inventor

Philip H. Schultz,

By

William E. Buff.

Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

PHILIP H. SCHULTZ, OF WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS.

DRESS.

1,237,394.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, PHILIP H. SCHULTZ, a citizen of the United States, residing at Worcester, Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Dresses, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in wearing apparel and more particularly to women's wear. It has always been a difficult matter to make a lady's dress true to measure, especially where it is manufactured for the market. There are variations in exactness and comfort of fit in most makes of ladies' dresses.

It is well known that ladies' dresses are manufactured in standard sizes which conform to certain proportional measurements of a model or form. Dress measurements are referred to prescribed sizes of bust, waist line and hip as a basis of comparison. Women do not all have perfect figures. If a lady's waist should be either larger or smaller relatively to her proper bust measurement she would have difficulty in obtaining a ready-made dress to fit her more or less perfectly.

By means of my invention variations such as are described above are taken care of. The characteristic features thereof are simplicity and effectiveness. Plaits are formed in the waist and skirt of the dress and there is an elastic band in the belt of the dress which allows for the necessary adjustments so as to cause the dress to shape itself to the form. In this way every advantage is gained the same as if a dress were made to order to fit the exact measurements of any form, the result being the same as the dress can be made to fit any woman, perfect figure or not.

With the above and other objects in view my invention consists in the arrangement, combination, and details of construction disclosed in the drawings and specification and then more particularly pointed out in the appended claim.

In the drawings wherein similar reference characters designate similar parts,

Figure 1 is a front elevation of the dress. Fig. 2 is a back elevation of the dress.

Fig. 3 is a cross sectional view taken on line 3—3 of Fig. 2 showing the manner of mounting the elastic band to be described.

Referring to the drawings which are merely illustrative of my invention, there

are disclosed all the essential features of my invention. The dress, which may be of any suitable form and style is designated 1 and includes the waist 2 and the skirt 3 secured together in any desirable way. Any number of variations may be resorted to in practice as to the means for fastening together the parts of the waist. As illustrated buttons 4 are used as a means of detachably securing the front sides of the waist together. A belt 4' is provided in the nature of an extra strip secured to the dress so as to join both waist and skirt together. The belt 4' has its ends secured together in the front of the dress by any desirable means (not illustrated) such as by hooks and eyes.

It will be noticed that plaits 5 are formed in the belt and an elastic band 6 is mounted in the belt so as to provide the necessary expansion of the dress. The elastic band 6 is of a lesser length than said belt and hence the plaits result, these plaits of course also extending across both skirt and waist. Both the elastic band and the belt are secured around the waist line of the dress. It will be seen that preferably, the dress has two side belts 5' and 6' secured thereto, which, as already explained, are detachably secured together at the front of the dress. Buttons 8 are secured upon the short belt section 7' and openings are formed in the side belts 5' and 6' through which the buttons project so as to connect the two side belts together at the back of the dress.

In practice a dress size 36 has three standard measurements: 40 in. bust; 27 waist line; 41½ hip, referred to inches. This represents a perfect form. But suppose a lady who has a 36 in. bust takes a 28 or 29 waist and a 45 in. hip. Therefore a regular 36 in. dress will not fit her.

My improvement is adapted to allow her to obtain a perfect fit under these circumstances. For example, if a regular 36 in. standard size dress be provided with my improvement the dress will take care of at least three different sizes and variations in sizes, a perfect 36, a 38, or a 40. But suppose a lady having a 36 in. bust has a larger waist and hip than regular 36, for instance a 38 or 40 the dress will gradually expand over both skirt and waist at the same time as perfectly as if made to measure. Therefore if a lady has a perfect waist line and hip and her bust happens to be larger than the ordinary she must naturally have to get

a larger size than when the old style of dress is in use. But where my improvement is used this would not be necessary as the dress would give due to the plaits and would fit her perfectly. All this has been satisfactorily demonstrated by a try-out.

It will thus be seen that I have provided a simple, inexpensive and highly efficient dress which can be manufactured at a very small expense. It permits a greater degree of adjustment to be obtained and also more comfort than is possible where the present-day styles of dresses are used. It will be seen that when the elastic band begins to stretch the plaits play out and in this take care of whatever variation in fit it is desired to eliminate. Numerous modifications may be resorted to in practice without departing in principle from the details of construction herein disclosed.

What I desire to claim and secure protection thereon is the following:—

A dress consisting of skirt and waist hav-

ing detachable front portions, means for securing together the detachable front portions of said dress, a channeled strip crimped to provide a series of plaits, a rubber band incased in said channeled strip, the ends of said rubber band and of said strip being secured to the back of said dress so that, when said rubber band is not under tension and expansion, said channeled strip will remain crimped, two side belts extending around the waist line of said dress and having their ends secured together in front of said dress, and buttons carried by said channeled strip at its opposite ends, said side belts having openings through which said buttons extend so as to connect said belts to said channeled strip.

In witness whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

PHILIP H. SCHULTZ.

Witnesses:

JOSEPH FRIEDMAN,

BERNARD SCHULTZ.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."