

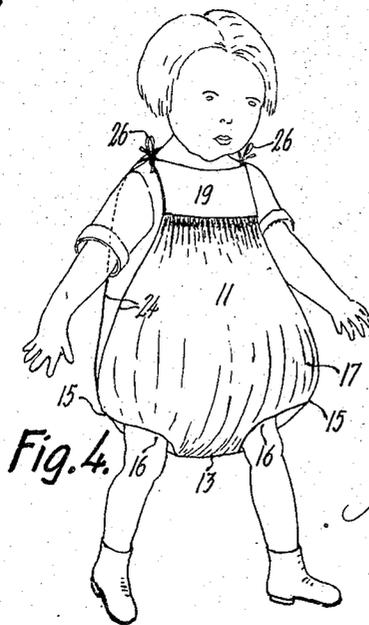
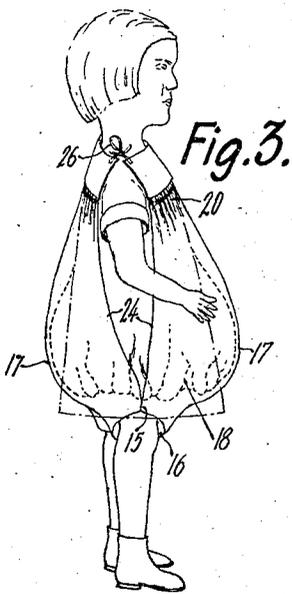
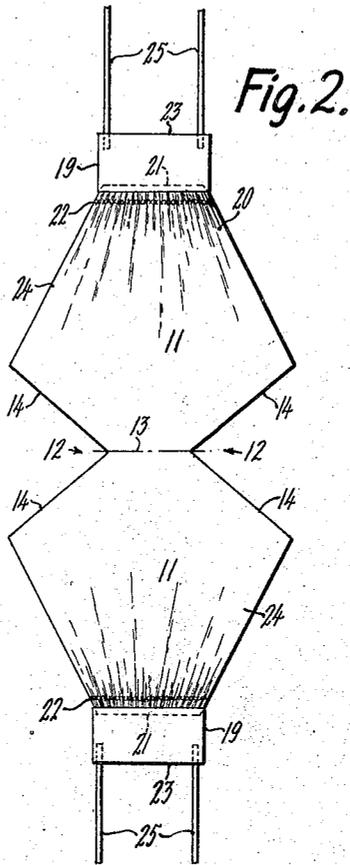
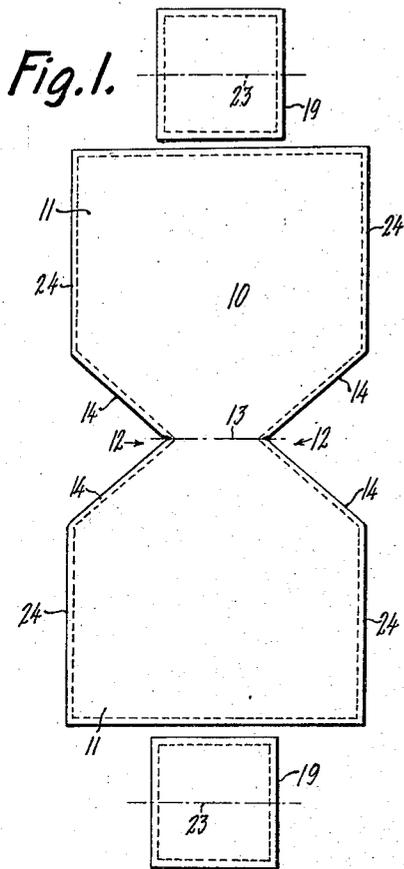
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DRESS PROTECTOR

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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## DRESS PROTECTOR

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This invention relates to an article of attire in the form of a temporary protector or slip-cover or slip-on for the dress of a girl up to the age of about five years.

5 The main object of the invention is to render it unnecessary to remove the dress in order to save it from becoming soiled, torn, or wrinkled while the child is playing upon the floor or ground, or romping.

10 It is desired to produce a simple, inexpensive, durable, attractive and easily laundered and easily donned dress-protector. The device is loosely fitting and includes a dress-pouch, and also front and back yoke-pieces  
15 from which the pouch hangs. Each of the yoke-pieces may be provided on both sides of the neck with shoulder-ribbons, and front ribbons may be tied over the shoulder to back ribbons, to hold the protector in place. A  
20 single-size protector can be supplied for use upon girls of different heights.

The dress-protector is in the form of a neck or yoke portion from which depends a waist portion combined with or merging into  
25 a trunk portion, expanding below the waist and forming a pouch or bag of ample dimensions to hold lightly the lower portion of the child's dress-skirt, which is usually gathered or otherwise rendered very full. The protector  
30 below the yoke is so amply pouched that it will loosely hold a very full skirt, so that the same is not objectionably cramped or wrinkled, but after removal of the protector, even when long in use, appears as fresh as  
35 before the protector was put on.

Other features and advantages will hereinafter appear.

In the accompanying drawings,

40 Figure 1 represents the unfolded main strip of cloth used in making the body of the protector, with leg-notches in its side edges midway from top to bottom. At this figure are also shown front and back yoke or neck-pieces in unfolded condition.

45 Figure 2 shows the upper part or waist portion of the baggy protector as gathered or shirred and attached to the folded neck-pieces or yokes, the latter having the shoulder-ribbons for suspending the protector.

50 Figure 3 shows a side view of the protector

worn by a girl, the substantially straight dot-and-dash outline representing the dress as worn without the protector, and the curved dotted-line form indicating the inturned or  
55 furred condition of the edges of the dress tucked within the pouch, which serves as a net or bag for the dress.

Figure 4 is a front view of the protector as worn.

Figure 5 shows the protector separately. 60

In making the protector, a single wide strip 10 of cloth may be employed. The ends of the strip may be regarded as the waist portions 11. About midway of its length a broad  
65 V 12 is cut in each of the opposite edges of the strip. The cloth is then folded across, the fold 13 extending from the point of one V to the point of the other. The sides 14 of  
70 each V are now superposed. The cloth layers are now sewn together or joined at the outer ends of the V's at 15, Figure 5, thus forming permanent leg-opening 16 in the sides of the  
75 garment, which has no attached breeches. At said fold line 13, the uncut width of the cloth between the approaching points of the V's is very great, this amplitude permitting  
80 the garment to extend down the thighs of the child, and allowing for freedom of movement of the legs.

The width of the original strip of cloth 10  
80 is greatly in excess of the body of the child, and forms a bag 17, Figure 5, to hold the dress and preserve its pristine condition. When the protector is donned, the lower portion of  
85 the dress may be loosely furled within the bag as at 18, but there is only a very slight and unobjectionable tucking in or inward bending of the bottom edges of the dress skirt and  
90 petticoats.

The neck or yoke pieces 19, although full  
90 width, are very narrow from side to side as compared with the original width of said original cloth strip; but the waist portion of the latter is gathered at its top and bottom  
95 as a 20 until it is equal to the width of the yoke-pieces, to which the ends of the gathered strip are attached at 21; and smocking or other ornamental stitching 22 can be used at  
100 the gathers. By the gathering at 20, the top of the bag is narrowed to match the width

of the yoke-piece, the bottom of the bag remaining full, to pouch the dress.

The protector as so far described includes the two yoke-pieces, each folded along line 23, the gathers 20 at the ends or tops of the cloth-strip or body portion 10 of the protector, and the leg-holes 16 provided by the V-cuts 12 at the folded bottom of the protector, secured together at their outer ends.

The gathering 20 is a valuable feature of the pouching 17 of the garment, because the dress-accommodating capacity of the protector is augmented at the front and back, as well as at the sides.

The sides 24 of the protector may remain open, consisting of the edges of the original cloth strip; and the arms of the child may extend through these openings, Figures 3, 4.

To the top of each yoke-piece are fastened ribbons 25, one at each side of the neck, making four ribbons; and these may be tied over the shoulders into bow-knots 26, thus constituting the support of the protector. The ribbons afford opportunity for adjustment, so that children of different heights can use the same protector; the top edges 23 of the yoke-pieces meeting at the sides over the shoulders of a small child, but said edges hanging some distance below the shoulders of a large child, and the ribbons going up from the yokes and being knotted over the child's shoulders.

In use, it is only necessary to insert the feet of the child through the holes 16 in the protector, and then knot the ribbons 25 over the shoulders, so that the protector is very quickly put on and removed.

The gathering 20 of the top ends or waist portion of the original cloth strip is also valuable for overcoming the liability of the dress-protector to become torn in use. The sewing of the outer ends of the V-cuts together at 15 avoids the necessity of the employment of buttons, which in some cases would be liable to be torn off and become lost; although the invention is not limited to a protector the outer ends of whose leg-holes are secured by sewing.

The garment is preferably reversible, since either yoke-piece can be worn at the front; and it is therefore equal in service to two pinafores, while being more efficient, since it keeps clean the bottom edges of the dress. The edges of the garment may be hemmed as shown.

The dress if desired may be smoothed straight front and back, and allowed to protrude at the sides between the lower side edges 24 of the protector, thus keeping the dress unruffled.

Variations may be resorted to within the scope of the invention, and portions of the improvements may be used without others.

Having thus described my invention, I claim:

65 A girl's dress protector comprising front

and rear portions cut from a single sheet of material with side cut out leg openings the front and rear portions of the garment being practically identical and attached to each other only adjacent said leg openings, yokes at the rear and front composed of material narrower than the body portion and having means for adjustably attaching said yokes together both front and rear of the body portion having gathers at their upper portions to decrease the size of the upper portions to correspond with the yokes and leaving the lower portions to form a pouch to loosely hold the lower portion of the dress of the wearer.

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