Aug. 25, 1953 E. E. SHILTONG 2,649,589

CHILD'S GARMENT

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Fig. 1.

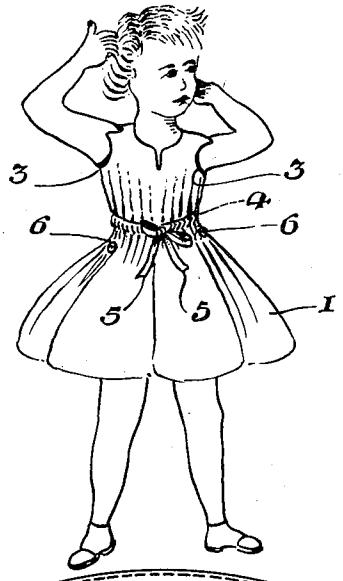
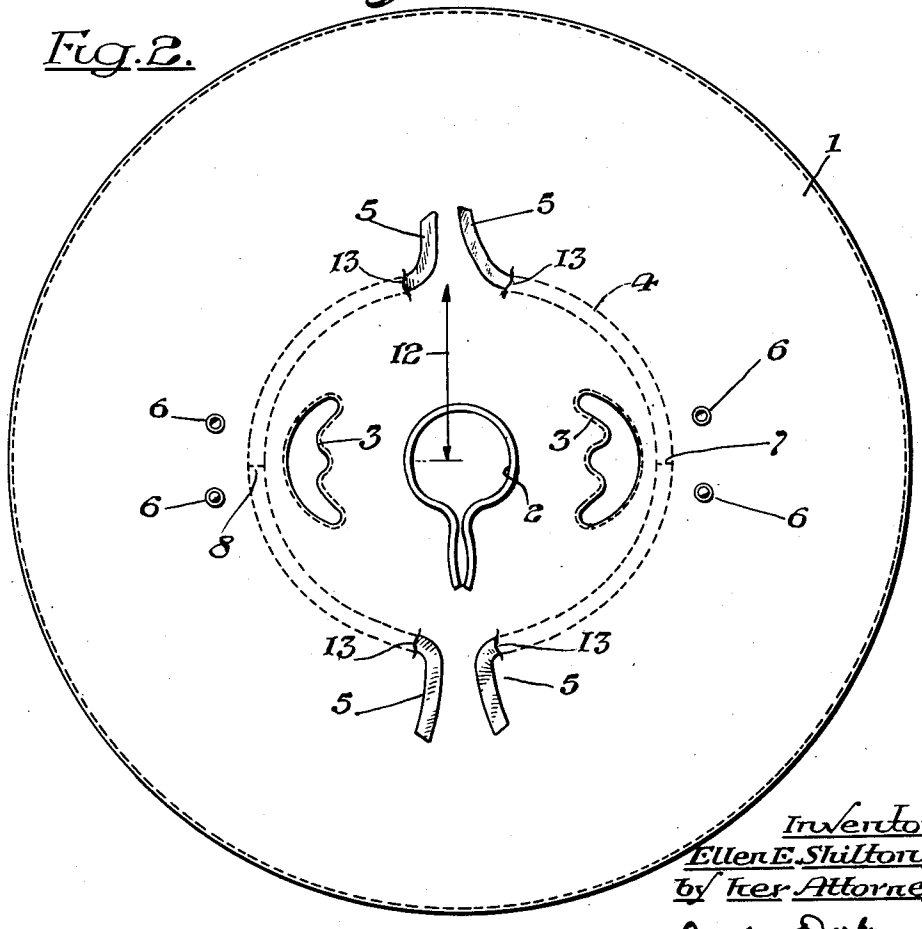


Fig. 2.



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Fig. 3.

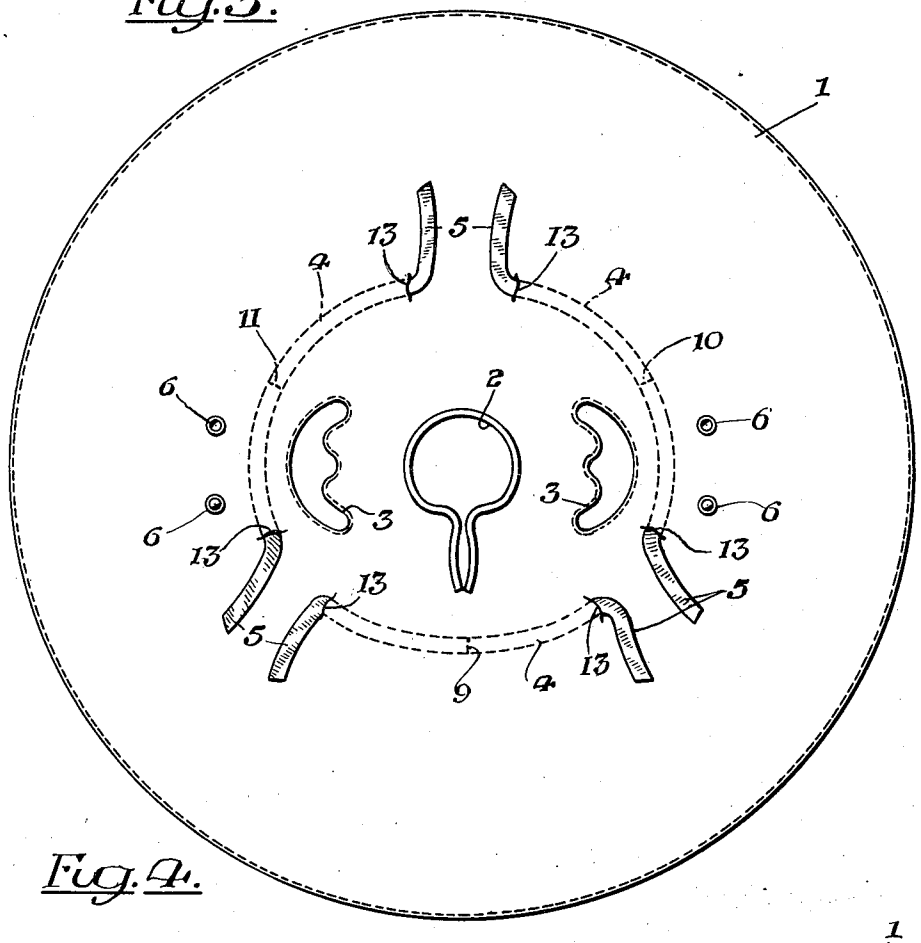
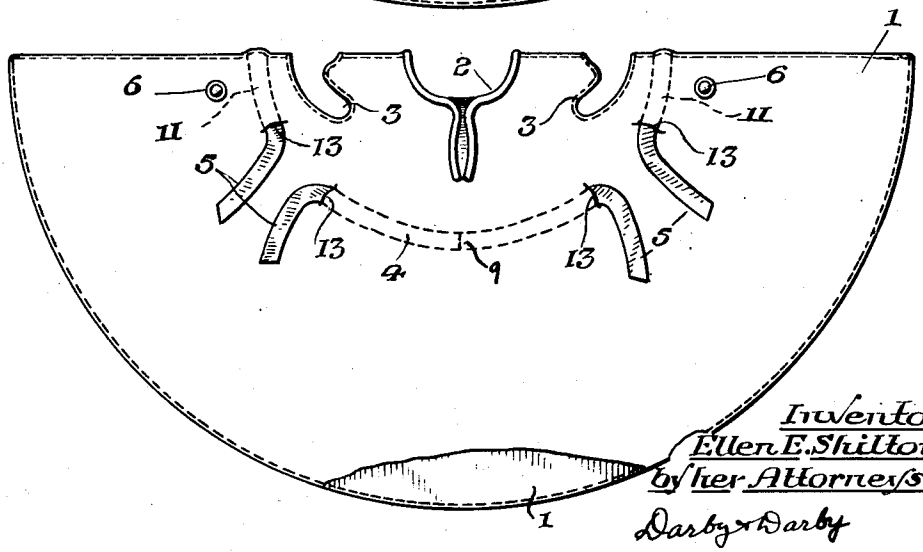


Fig. 4.



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CHILD'S GARMENT

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7 Claims. (Cl. 2—75)

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The object of this invention is to provide a child's garment and method of making the same, which is simple and inexpensive to manufacture, attractive in appearance, and which has many advantages in use.

The garment is primarily designed as a child's dress which may be used as a play dress or as a party dress.

In the drawings—

Figure 1 is an elevation of a child wearing a dress made in accordance with my invention;

Figure 2 is a plan view of the garment of Figure 1;

Figure 3 is a plan view of a modification; and

Figure 4 is a partial one-half plan view of another modification, which also illustrates an advantage of the garment in folding.

The same reference numerals refer to similar parts in all the figures.

In accordance with my invention, the dress is made from a single piece of fabric, without seams, as is indicated in Figures 2, 3 and 4. Referring to Figure 2, the fabric 1 is simply cut in a circle and hemmed, bound, faced, or otherwise trimmed, around the outside of the circle, which outside will be the bottom of the dress in use. An opening 2 is cut for the head and two openings 3 for the arms. These openings are also hemmed or otherwise finished. A piece of tape is sewed in position around the waistline to form a casing, as indicated by the reference numeral 4, so that a ribbon or other drawstring 5 may be carried through the casing to emerge at openings 13, in order to draw in the fullness to the size of the child's waist measure when the ribbons or other drawstrings are drawn together and tied in a bow as shown in Figure 1. The openings 13 may of course be made and finished in any suitable manner. If it is desired to reduce the fullness of the skirt, fasteners such as snap fasteners 6 may be used to snap the two sides of the dress together after it is put on, or other suitable means may be used for this purpose.

Instead of the casing 4 sewed to the under side, beading or tape may be sewed to the upper surface through which the ribbons or drawstrings 5 may be passed. Where beading is used the ribbon may be passed in and out to obtain a desired decorative effect; or openings may be made in the fabric itself for the passage of the ribbons in and out. Of course any other suitable means may be used to accomplish the same purpose.

I have indicated the use of two ribbons 5 in

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Figure 2 sewn, respectively, at the sides at points 7 and 8. Of course, only a single ribbon could be used but in this case the ends, when drawn together, will be longer than would ordinarily be desired for tying a bow. However, various arrangements of casings, beadings, and ribbons may be used.

The garment may of course have provision for fastening the opening 2 at the neck which may take any suitable form. If binding is used at the neck it may be extended to provide tie strings.

The modification indicated in Figure 3 uses three ribbons which may be sewed at the points 9, 10 and 11, and when drawn together in use may be tied to form two bows in the front, one on each side, and one bow in the center at the rear.

In Figure 4 I have illustrated the same garment shown in Figure 3 except that the snap fasteners 6 have been omitted and the garment is shown folded once to illustrate the advantage of the garment in packing.

Although I have illustrated and described my garment as being made from a single piece of fabric with no seams, it is of course possible to use panels of fabric sewed together, if desired, while retaining some of the advantages of my construction. Since fabrics ordinarily do not come wider than approximately thirty-nine inches, it is necessary to use more than one piece to produce a garment for a larger girl than can be made from a single piece of fabric. A garment made from a single piece of fabric thirty-nine inches wide will be large enough to fit a girl up to approximately five years, although it may be made larger by sewing a ruffle, flounce, or lace (or simply an additional piece of fabric) to the bottom.

It will be obvious that my garment has the advantage of great simplicity and economy in manufacture since no seams, buttons, or button holes are required and only very simple cutting operations and simple stitching are necessary. It also has other advantages which are important.

Another great advantage is that it is very attractive when worn, and at the same time very serviceable. It has the attractive appearance of a dress which is shirred, gathered or pleated around the waistline without involving the labor or inconvenience in use, packing, storing, and laundering associated with such construction.

Requiring no buttons, it may have no buttons which can be lost in laundering or otherwise, and it may be slipped onto a child and adjusted very quickly and easily with no buttons to manip-

ulate. Not only is the washing operation simplified during the laundering process but, much more important, as the dress spreads out completely flat, it may be ironed by machine. It may be ironed by hand in less than one minute as against a much more extended time, up to twenty minutes or even longer, for ironing other dresses for the same size child, particularly those having gathers, pleats, or other frills which make ironing complicated.

Another great advantage of the garment is that it may be folded flat like an handkerchief and stored in a very small space without wrinkling, or packed in a small space for traveling, with a minimum of wrinkling when unpacked. Thus, in traveling, a large number of garments may be taken along as the space requirements per garment are very small.

In Figure 2 I have indicated a radius line 12 from the center of the garment to the ribbon line in back. I have discovered that the length of the distance 12 from the center of the garment to the ribbon line in back, and the corresponding dimension from the center of the garment to the ribbon line in front, should each be approximately one inch less than a true circle and should be approximately six inches long for a fabric thirty-six inches wide before hemming. The distance, however, from the center of the fabric to the ribbon line under the armpits should be aproximately seven inches. Unless the ribbon line is made in this variation from a true circle I have found that there is a tendency for the front of the dress to bunch up in front above the ribbon.

While I have described certain modifications of my invention, it will be obvious to those skilled in the art that other variations are possible and I do not desire to be restricted to the specific details shown.

What is claimed is:

1. A child's garment adapted to extend from the shoulders of the wearer to below the abdomen, said garment being cut circular so that it will lie flat when open, said garment being provided with an opening at the center for the head and with openings for the arms disposed at opposite sides of the head opening, and means disposed between the arm openings and the periphery of the garment for gathering the waist.

2. A child's garment adapted to extend from the shoulders of the wearer to below the abdomen, said garment being cut circular so that it will lie flat when open, said garment being provided with an opening at the center for the head and with openings for the arms disposed at opposite sides of the head opening, and means partially encircling the garment disposed between the arm openings and the periphery of the garment for gathering the waistline.

3. A child's garment adapted to extend from the shoulders of the wearer to below the abdomen, said garment being cut circular so that it will lie flat when open, said garment being provided with an opening at the center for the head and with openings for the arms disposed at opposite sides of the head opening, means disposed between the arm openings and the periphery of the garment for gathering the waist, and fastening means for taking in extra fullness in the skirt.

4. A child's garment adapted to extend from the shoulders of the wearer to below the abdomen, said garment being cut circular from a single piece of fabric so that it will lie flat when open, said garment being provided with an opening at the center for the head and with openings disposed at opposite sides of the head opening for the arms, and means disposed between the arm openings and the periphery of the garment for gathering the waist.

5. A child's garment adapted to extend from the shoulders of the wearer to below the abdomen, said garment being cut circular from a single piece of fabric so that it will lie flat when open, said garment being provided with an opening at the center for the head and with openings at opposite sides of the head opening for the arms, and ribbons partially encircling the garment between the arm openings and the periphery of the garment for gathering the waistline in use.

6. A child's garment adapted to extend from the shoulders of the wearer to below the abdomen, said garment being cut circular from a single piece of fabric so that it will lie flat when open, said garment being provided with an opening at the center for the head and with openings at opposite sides of the head opening for the arms, means disposed between the arm openings and the periphery of the garment for gathering the waist, and fastening means for taking in extra fullness in the skirt.

7. A child's garment adapted to extend from the shoulders of the wearer to below the abdomen, said garment comprising a circular piece of fabric which will lie flat when open, said garment being provided with an opening at the center for the head and openings at opposite sides of the center opening for the arms, means disposed between the arm openings and the periphery of the garment for gathering the waist, said waist gathering means being closer to the center of the fabric at the front and back than at the sides.

ELLEN E. SHILTONG.

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