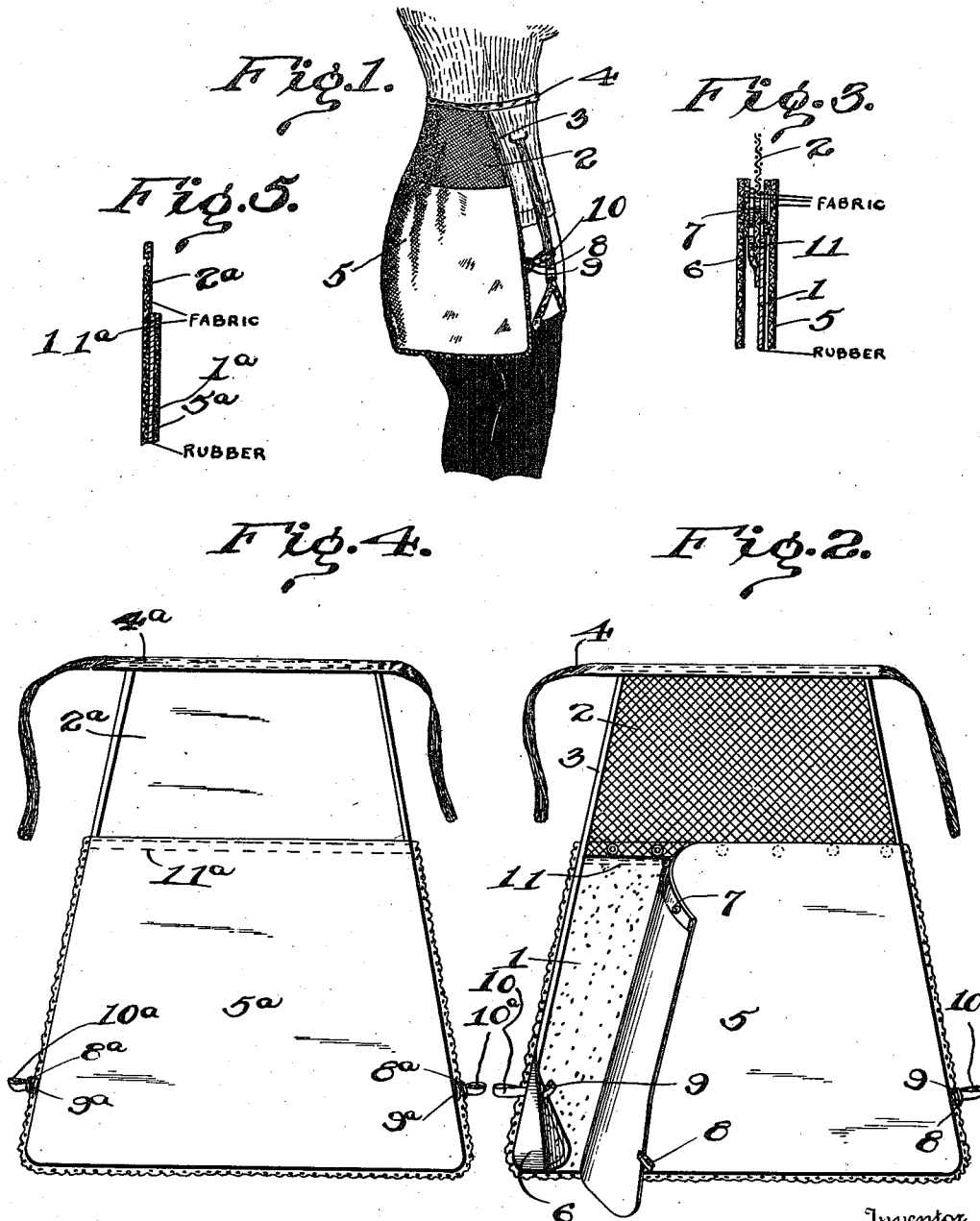


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CATAMENIAL APRON.
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1,386,777.

Patented Aug. 9, 1921.



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CATAMENIAL APRON.

1,386,777.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MAUDE SINCLAIR GEORGE, citizen of the United States, residing at St. Louis, in the county of St. Louis and State of Missouri, have invented a new and useful Catamenial Apron, of which the following is a specification.

The present invention is a sanitary or catamenial apron to be worn by women over a rear portion of the person during certain periods, for the purpose of protecting the garments from menstruation, or may be ordinarily worn for the purpose of protecting light and delicate garments from being soiled by perspiration and the like.

The object of the invention is to provide a light, cool and odorless article of the above nature having an extremely neat appearance and possessing features of construction permitting its several parts to be sterilized and laundered, thereby assuring a high degree of sanitation. The object of the invention also includes the provision of an apron which is applicable to the varying types of the human form and which will maintain its properly adjusted position against embarrassing disarrangements and conform to the body in whatever position it assumes to insure protection against soiling of the outer garments and comfort to the wearer.

Sundry other objects and features of the invention will appear from the following description, fully describing the invention, and from the appended claims.

In the drawings which illustrate the invention,

Figure 1 is a view showing the apron being worn;

Fig. 2 is an enlarged detail view of one form of the apron contemplated by the invention;

Fig. 3 is a fragmentary sectional view of the apron shown in Fig. 2;

Fig. 4 is a face view of another form of the invention, and

Fig. 5 is a fragmentary section of the form of the apron shown in Fig. 4.

Referring particularly to the form of the invention shown in Figs. 2 and 3, a substantially square sheet of impervious material such as rubber, or preferably steam-cured dental dam rubber has secured by stitching or the like to the upper edge thereof a substantially square section of net 2. The outer edges of rubber and net are bound by a suitable braid 3, in order to prevent undue tear-

ing of the materials. To the upper edge of the net section is suitably secured, such as by stitching, a tape or belt 4, which is to extend around the waist of the wearer and to be tied or otherwise fastened.

The apron of this invention is intended to be supplementary to the usual napkins and bandages and to be worn over the rear portions of the body. The net section 2 is of such dimensions as will permit the impervious section 1 to extend from a point slightly below the hips to a point slightly above the bend of the knee, the net being provided for coolness and ventilation.

The opposite faces of the impervious sheet 1 are covered by covers 5 and 6 of suitable cloth fabric, such as lawn, nainsook, muslin or the like to render the apron comfortable if worn next to the flesh, and to enhance its appearance. The covers will take the same general shape as the sheet 1, but, however, are slightly larger in order to conceal the rubber sheet. Complementary members of snap fasteners 7 are secured, respectively, along the upper edges of the covers 5 and 6 and are adapted to interengage with each other through the mesh of the net section 2, as shown in Fig. 3. This arrangement or construction provides for any desired adjustment of the covers 5 and 6 relative to sheet 1, as the snaps 7 may fasten through the net section 2 at any point in its area.

To maintain the covers 5 and 6 at all times over the rubber sheet 1 and in order to prevent the lower part of the apron moving out of position on the wearer, loops 8 and 9 are provided on the side edges of the cover 5 and rubber sheet, respectively, at a point adjacent their lower edge. A loop 10 of greater length is provided on each side edge, and each loop 10 is to extend through the adjacent loops 8 and 9 on the corresponding edge of the sheet 1 and cover 5 and is to be engaged by the usual garter of the wearer, which may extend the loops 10, the primary features of this arrangement being facility of manipulation, inexpensiveness to produce and positive insurance of the proper position of the apron at all times.

By reason of the snaps, the covers 5 and 6 may be readily detached from the apron and laundered, while the rubber section may be sponged, boiled or otherwise sterilized. Obviously several covers may be supplied with each apron, in order that they may be interchanged when desired, and as the covers

become soiled. While it is not primarily intended to use absorbent pad, etc., with the apron of this invention, as it is to supplement the usual bandage, the cloth cover 5 or 6 lying next to the skin, as the case may be, will absorb a portion of the emission not received or retained by the bandage. The intermediate impervious sheet 1 will prevent the menstrual flow from staining the outer cover of the apron. The apron as a whole may be of any desired shape or design; however, it is preferred to have its longitudinal side edges converge upwardly toward the belt 4 in order to give it such shape as will conform more readily to the body. With this tapered formation, it will be readily seen from Fig. 1 that the lower portion of the apron is of a width such as will extend fully across and cover the rear portion of the body so as to fully protect the outer garments and to give sufficient fullness so as not to impede locomotion.

The form of the invention shown in Figs. 4 and 5 is substantially the same as the one previously described, and corresponding parts will be denoted by the same characters raised by the exponent a ; the difference between the two embodiments being that the net portion 2 is dispensed with and the cover section 6^a is extended upwardly beyond the impervious sheet 1^a to provide the section 2^a, corresponding to the net section 2, shown in Figs. 2 and 3. Also, instead of removably fastening the covers 6^a and 5^a, these covers and the impervious sheet 1^a are stitched together at their upper edge, as indicated at 11. This embodiment of the invention is also provided with loops 8^a, 9^a and 10^a on the side edge of the cover 5^a, the sheet 1^a and the cover 6^a, respectively, similarly to those shown in Figs. 2 and 3.

It is apparent that, while the covers 5^a and 6^a of this embodiment are not detachable, they can be removed from the impervious sheet 1^a to permit of laundering and to uncover the sheet 1^a so that it may be suitably cleansed or sterilized.

Having thus described the preferred embodiments of the invention in detail, it is to be understood that certain changes in the construction, combination and arrangement of parts may be made which fall within the legitimate scope of the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

1. An apron of the kind described comprising a sheet of impervious material, a

section of net-like material secured to the upper edge of the impervious sheet, a pair of cover sheets of textile, arranged on opposite sides of the impervious sheet, interengaging fastening elements on the upper edge portion of said cover sheets and adapted to penetrate through the net section when in engagement, whereby the cover sections are detachably maintained in position.

2. An apron of the kind described comprising a sheet of impervious material, a section of net-like material secured to the upper edge of the impervious sheet, a pair of cover sheets of textile, arranged on opposite sides of the impervious sheet, interengaging fastening elements on the upper edge portion of said cover sheets and adapted to extend through the net section at any point in its area to engage with each other, whereby the cover sheets are detachably and adjustably maintained in position, and interengaging means on each side edge of each cover sheet and said impervious sheet adjacent their lower edge to maintain said sheets together and in spread condition and to engage an article of apparel on the wearer to maintain the apron in position.

3. An apron of the kind described comprising a sheet of impervious material and being trapezoidal in form, a section of net like material trapezoidal in form and having its widest end secured to the narrowest end of said impervious sheet, the side edges of said sheet and net section being substantially in the same straight line, a pair of cover sheets of textile material arranged on opposite sides of the impervious sheet, said cover sheets also being trapezoidal in form, detachable fasteners arranged on the upper edge of said cover sheets and adapted to extend through the net section at any point in its area to engage with each other, whereby the cover sheets are detachably and adjustably maintained in position, and loops on each side edge of each cover sheet adjacent the lower edge thereof, one of said loops on each side of the apron being adapted to extend through the adjacent loop on the other sheet, and to engage with the garter of the wearer, whereby the lower portion of the apron is maintained in position fully spread around the legs of the wearer at the knee portions.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand.

MAUDE SINCLAIR GEORGE.