June 3, 1952 E. Y. CALDE 2,598,759

GARMENT

Filed May 21, 1951 2 SHEETS—SHEET 1

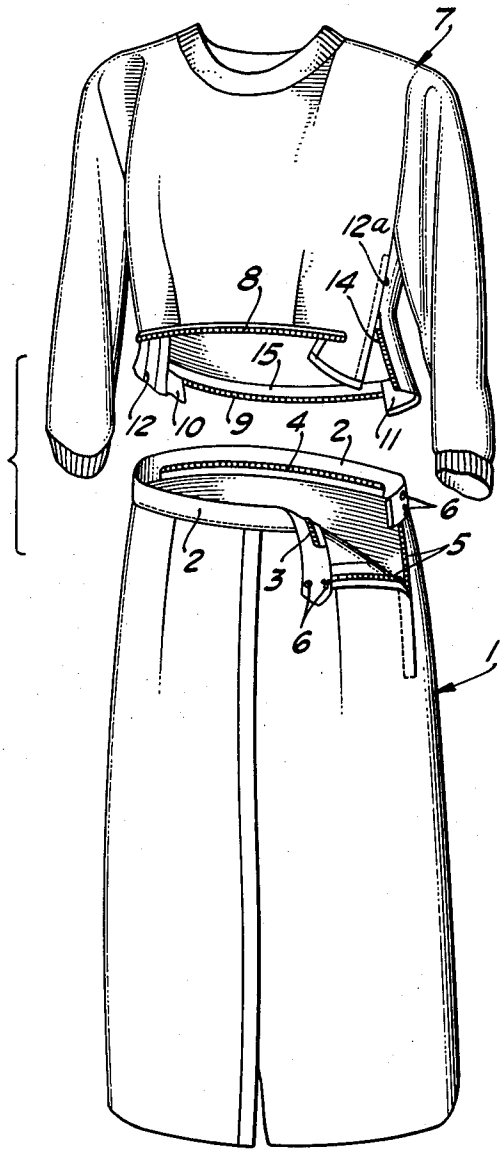


FIG. 1.

FIG. 2.

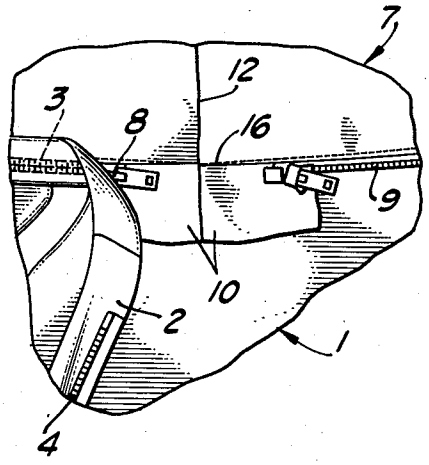
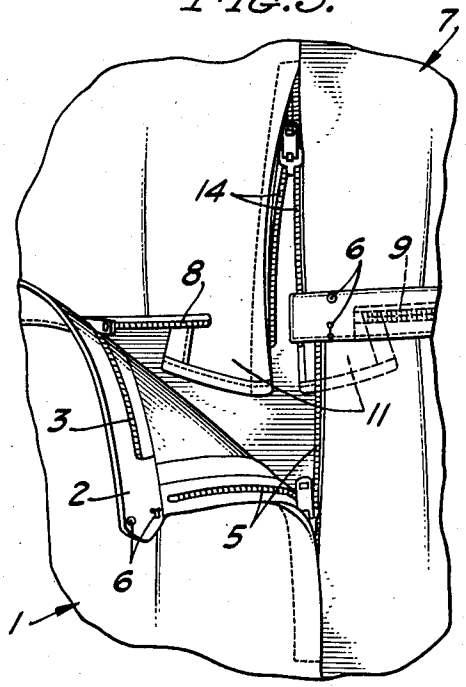


FIG. 3.



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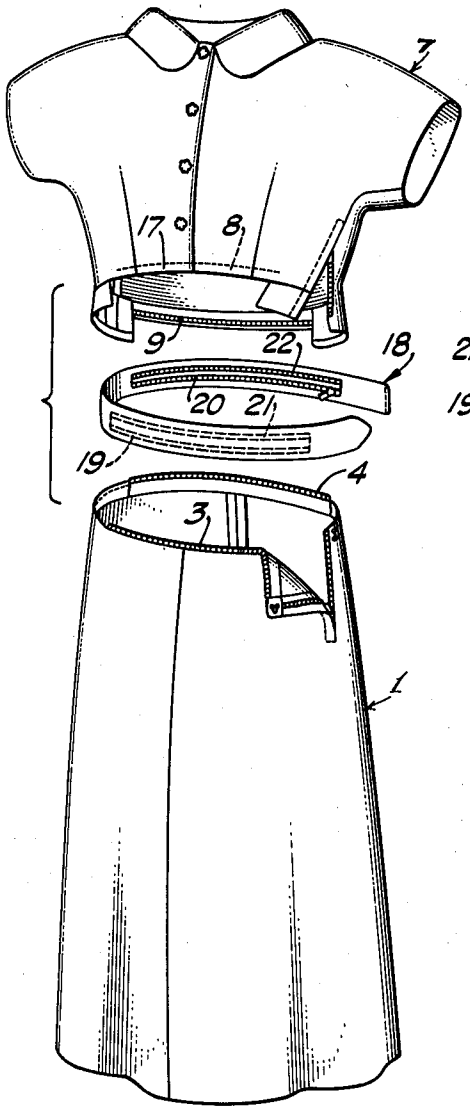


FIG. 4.

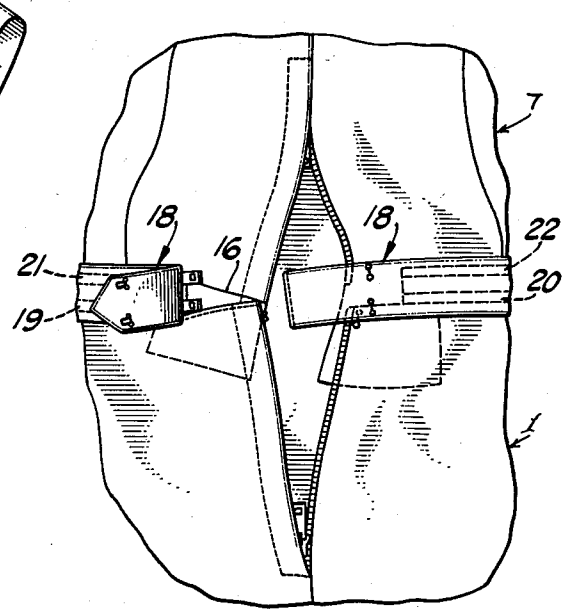


FIG. 5.

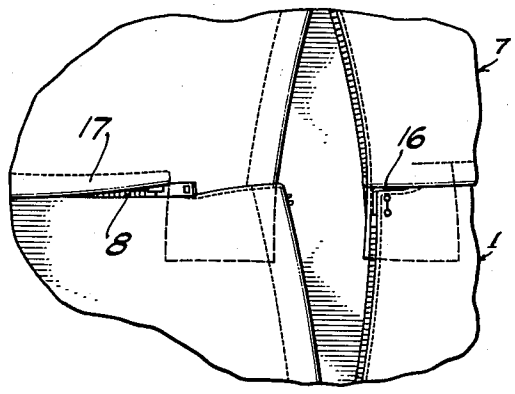


FIG. 6.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,598,759

GARMENT

Eleanor Y. Calde, Los Angeles, Calif.

Application May 21, 1951, Serial No. 227,405

5 Claims. (Cl. 2—70)

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My invention relates to garments, more particularly to women's combination garments wherein various garment components may be readily joined or separated to provide a wide variety of garment styles with comparatively few garment components. Included in the objects of my invention are:

First, to provide a woman's combination garment wherein the top and bottom components are readily separated or joined together at the waist and so arranged that within a selected size range, the top and bottom components may be interchanged with other top or bottom garment components.

Second, to provide a woman's garment wherein slide fasteners are used to join the upper and lower garment components across the front and rear of the waist and means are provided on both sides of the garment to permit alteration of the waistline without changing or disturbing the slide fasteners.

Third, to provide a combination which, by proper selection of the upper and lower garment components, may be converted from a dress in which the upper and lower components match or appear to be permanently joined to a dress having a contrasting upper and lower component, or to a suit comprising a blouse and skirt combination and which, when employed as a blouse and skirt combination, not only maintains the blouse in place at all times but also reduces substantially the amount of material otherwise required in the blouse.

Fourth, to provide a garment of this class which may be so arranged that the upper garment component may be lengthened or shortened with a minimum of alteration.

Fifth, to provide a garment of this class wherein the skirt may be joined directly to the blouse or other upper garment component or the two components may be attached to an intermediate belt member.

With the above and other objects in view as may appear hereinafter, reference is directed to the accompanying drawings in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a garment embodying my invention with the upper and lower garment components shown separated.

Figure 2 is an enlarged fragmentary elevational view showing the right side of the garment components of Figure 1 partially attached together and illustrating particularly the tab means which facilitates alteration of the waistline.

Figure 3 is a similar enlarged elevational view showing the opposite side of the garment with the upper and lower components partially joined and illustrating the manner in which vertical slide fasteners may be employed to facilitate the donning or removal of the garment without separation of the upper and lower garment components.

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Figure 4 is a perspective view similar to Figure 1, illustrating the manner in which an intermediate belt may be interposed between the garment components.

Figure 5 is a fragmentary elevational view showing the left side of the garment illustrated in Figure 4 with the components partially fastened together with the belt interposed.

Figure 6 illustrates the garment components joined directly together with the intervening belt omitted.

Reference is first directed to Figures 1, 2 and 3. My garment comprises a lower garment component or skirt 1, having a waist band 2. Attached so as to be concealed by the waist band is a front slide fastener element 3 and a rear slide fastener element 4. These elements extend respectively, across the front and rear of the garment but are separated from each other at the sides thereof. At one side, between the slide fastener elements 3 and 4, the skirt is provided with a vertical slide fastener unit 5 which terminates at the waist band 2. The waist band is split adjacent the vertical slide fastener unit 5 and is provided with snaps or hooks 6.

An upper garment component 7 is provided which may be a blouse or may be so related to the lower component as to appear to be a part of a dress. The lower margin of the upper garment component is provided with a front slide fastener element 8 and a rear slide fastener element 9 which are adapted to be joined respectively to the slide fastener elements 3 and 4 so that the garment components may be attached. The extremities of the slide fastener elements 8 and 9 are spaced from each other, and at the sides of the upper garment components between slide fastener elements 8 and 9, depending side tabs 10 and 11 are provided. These tabs fit within the lower garment component when the two components are joined. The side tab 11 is divided vertically by a slide fastener unit 14 which, when the garment components are joined, aligns vertically with the slide fastener unit 5 as indicated in Figure 3.

The sides of the upper garment components as well as the lower garment components are provided with seams 12 and 12*a* which divide the side tabs into corresponding sides of the lower garment component so that the waistline may be reduced or expanded to improve the fit of the garment. The seam 12*a* in the upper garment component is divided adjacent its lower end to form a placket which has mounted thereon the elements of the slide fastener 14. Ample allowance is provided in mounting fastener 14 to provide for the aforementioned waistline alteration. It will be observed that such alterations may be done without disturbing the slide fastener elements 3, 4, 8 and 9, that is, the problem of altering the garment is not complicated by the man-

ner in which the garment components are joined but, if anything, the problem of alteration is simplified.

If desired, the slide fastener units 8 and 9 may be mounted on hems 15 so that the upper garment component may be lengthened or shortened. If this is done, the side tabs 10 and 11 are not integral with the upper garment component but are joined by a horizontal seam 16.

Reference is now directed to Figures 4, 5 and 6. It is not necessary to provide an external waist band for the lower garment component. The slide fastener elements 3 and 4 may be disposed in the upper margin of the lower garment component. If this is done, the corresponding upper slide fastener elements 8 and 9 may be set slightly within the upper garment component so as to provide a concealing fold 17. By this arrangement, the upper and lower garment component may be made of similar material and when joined, give the appearance of a "single-piece" or complete dress. This is of considerable importance as it expands the range of style and color combinations which may incorporate my invention.

If the external waist band 2 is omitted, a belt 18 may be substituted so that the lower portion of the dress may be converted into a skirt. The belt 18 is provided with slide fastener components 19, 20, 21 and 22 which mate respectively, with slide fastener elements 3, 4, 8 and 9. Thus, the belt may be interposed or omitted as desired. By arranging the slide fastener elements in close proximity, the change in height of the skirt from the floor is not appreciably varied.

It is contemplated that within selected size ranges, all of the slide fastener elements will be the same length so that a purchaser may have a wide selection of top and bottom garment components which may be combined in many different variations.

The front or rear slide units comprising components 3 and 8 or 4 and 9 may be divided at the front or back or both, as the case may be. This is desirable, for example, if the upper garment is a blouse buttoned or otherwise fastened down the front or back.

Having fully described my invention, it is to be understood that I do not wish to be limited to the details herein set forth, but my invention is of the full scope of the appended claims.

I claim:

1. A combination garment comprising, an upper garment component, a lower garment component, separate front and rear slide fastener units having mating elements on the front and rear confronting margins of said components, and depending tab extensions at the sides of said upper garment component between the separate slide fastener elements of said upper garment, said tabs being of a width substantially equal to the space between adjacent ends of said front and rear slide fastener units.

2. A combination garment comprising, an upper garment component, a lower garment component, separate front and rear slide fastener units having mating elements on the front and rear confronting margins of said components, depending tab extensions at the sides of said upper garment component between the separate slide fastener elements of said upper component, said tabs extending substantially the distance between adjacent ends of said front and rear slide fastener units, a vertical placket in one side of said upper and said lower components, the upper placket extending through one of said tabs,

and fastener means adapted to close said plackets and to at least partially close said tab.

3. A combination garment comprising, an upper garment component, a lower garment component, separate front and rear slide fastener units having mating elements on the front and rear confronting margins of said components, depending tab extensions at the sides of said upper component between the separate slide fastener elements of said upper component, said tabs being of a width substantially equal to the space between adjacent ends of said slide fasteners, and vertical slide fastener units in at least one side of said upper and lower components between the front and rear slide fastener elements for permitting unfastening of the waists of said components to facilitate robing and disrobing without separation of said upper and lower components, one of said tabs being divided and said vertical slide fastener unit in said upper garment extending at least partially into said tab.

4. A combination garment comprising, an upper garment component, a lower garment component, both said components having waist encircling ends and vertical seams and seam allowances at the sides of said components to permit expansion and contraction of said waist ends, separate front and rear slide fastener units having mating elements on the front and rear confronting margins of said components, depending tab extensions at the sides of said upper garment component between the separate slide fastener elements of said upper garment, said tab extensions having a lateral width to substantially fill the space between adjacent ends of said slide fasteners, vertical slide fastener units aligned with one of said seams in each of said upper and lower components and being mounted with allowances adapted to permit expansion and contraction of said waist ends, said vertical slide fastener in said upper garment extending at least partially into one of said tabs.

5. A combination garment comprising, an upper garment component, a lower garment component, separate front and rear slide fastener units having mating elements on the front and rear confronting margins of said components, depending tab extensions at the sides of said upper garment component between the separate slide fastener elements of said upper garment, said tabs extending substantially the distance between adjacent ends of said front and rear slide fastener units, and a belt member having a front and a rear pair of slide fastener elements adapted to join to the slide fastener elements of said upper and lower garment components and be interposed between said garment components.

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