

Nov. 2, 1948.

M. J. KRAFT

2,453,074

APRON

Filed Sept. 24, 1947

2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.

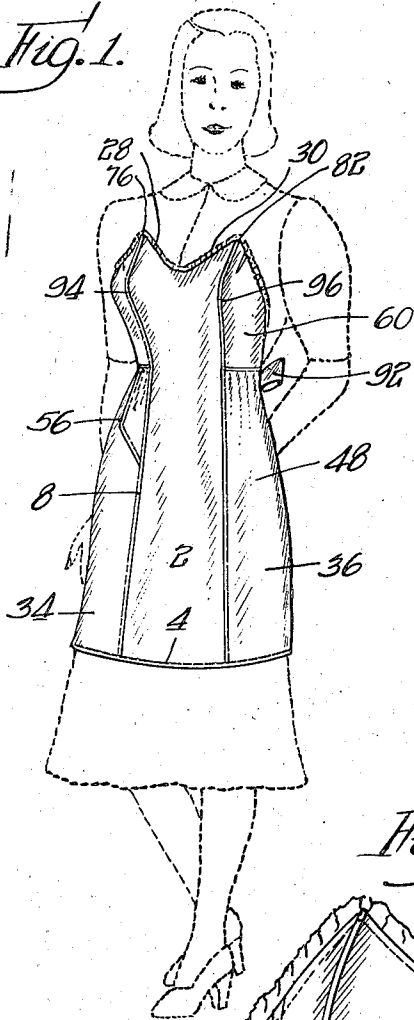


Fig. 2.

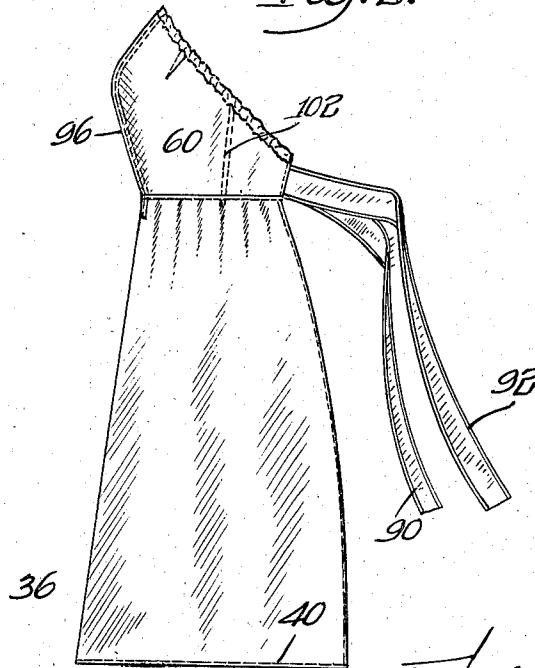


Fig. 3.

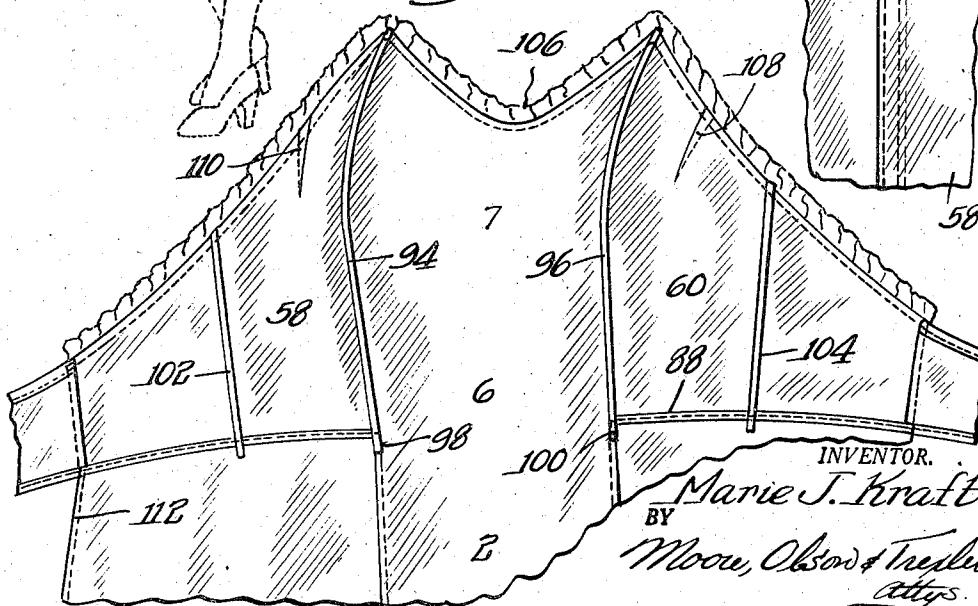
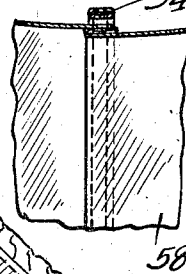


Fig. 4.



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Fig. 5.

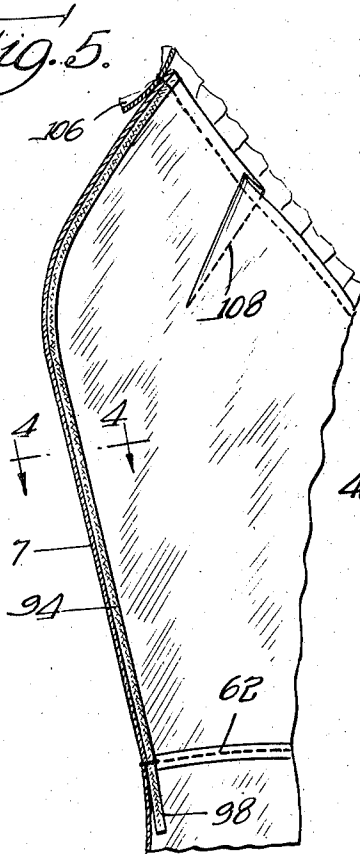


Fig. 6.

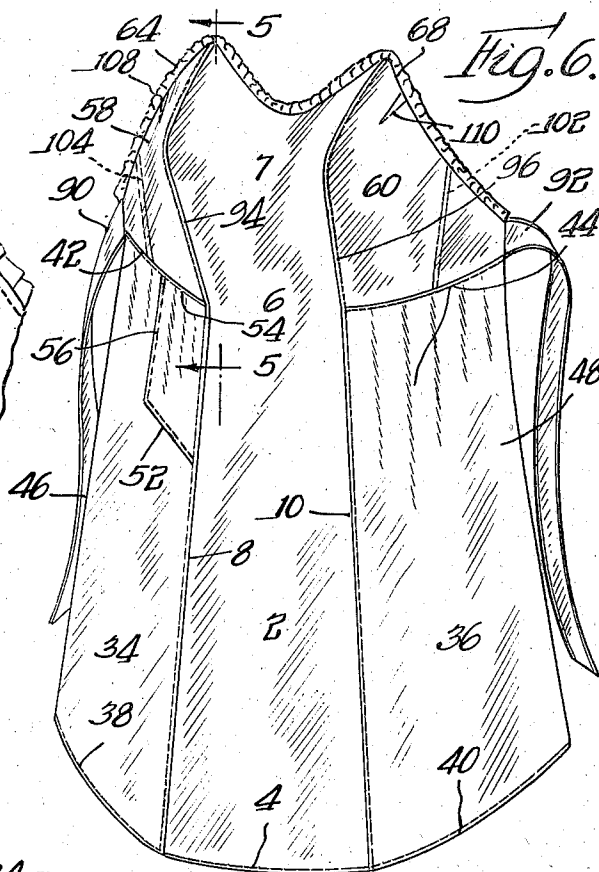
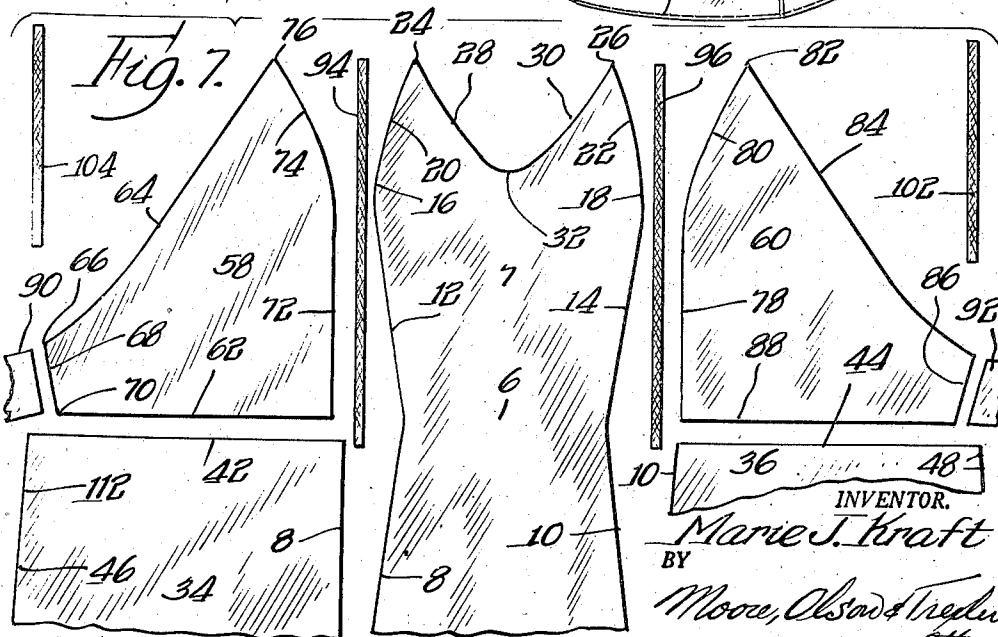


Fig. 7.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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APRON

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Application September 24, 1947, Serial No. 775,934

1 Claim. (Cl. 2—48)

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This invention relates to an apron, and particularly to a strapless apron.

Among the objects of the present invention is to provide an apron which has no neckband which would otherwise ride and bind the neck.

Another object of the invention is to provide a strapless apron which allows great freedom of the body in doing household duties, and which is also attractive.

Yet another object of the invention resides in providing a strapless apron wherein the bust and bustline are formed in a manner to hug and accentuate the bust in such a manner that the apron will cling to the natural contours of the body without the use of the usual shoulder straps.

Yet another object of the invention resides in providing an apron having stays formed therein which will maintain the bust portion of the apron in proper conforming relation to the natural bust of the body and whereby shoulder straps are eliminated.

Another object of the invention resides in providing a pleasing, economical apron free of shoulder straps or neckbands which will conform to the natural contours of the body and remain in position and yet will present an attractive appearance.

These and other objects of the invention will be apparent from a perusal of the following specification when taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, wherein:

Figure 1 is a front perspective view of the strapless apron in position upon a woman;

Figure 2 is a side elevational view of the apron shown in Figure 1;

Figure 3 is an inside view of the upper portion of the apron showing the stitching and the manner of forming the bust portion of the apron;

Figure 4 is a section taken on the line 4—4 of Figure 5;

Figure 5 is a sectional view taken on the line 5—5 of Figure 6;

Figure 6 is a front enlarged view of the apron; and

Figure 7 is a somewhat diagrammatic or pattern view of the various pieces which go to make up the front and particularly the upper front portions of the apron.

Referring now to the drawings in detail, the invention provides an apron which can be formed of any desired type of fabric or other material, such for instance as cotton, rayon, silk, or any type of plasticized polyvinyl chloride, rubber hydrochloride, or any type of thermoplastic resinous material or any sheet material capable of

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being cut to pattern and stitched. The present invention is preferably made of a number of sections suitably cut to pattern form and stitched together in a manner to produce an apron as shown in Figure 1. The apron is formed with a main front panel 2 which flares slightly outwardly downwardly being wider at the bottom as a 4 than at the waist portion 6. This is accomplished by forming the vertical elongated lines 8 and 10 in flared formation. From the waistline upwardly the longitudinal edges 12 and 14 flare outwardly and are curved at the portions 16 and 18 and thence taper gradually inwardly as at 20 and 22 to form an apex 24 and 26. From these apical points the panel 2 is cut diagonally inwardly as at 28 and 30 to meet at the point 32 which is vertically disposed centrally of the longitudinal center of the panel 2. The bottom portion of the apron on each side of the longitudinal lower edges 8 and 10 has stitched thereto along the edges 8 and 10 two additional panels 34 and 36 which at the bottom terminate flush as at 38 and 40 with the bottom line 4 of the panel 2. The upper edges 42 and 44 of the panels 34 and 36 terminate at the waistline or substantially at the waistline, which corresponds with the locus 6 of this same portion of the panel 2. It is to be understood that the panels 2, 34 and 36 are stitched throughout their conjoining edges 8 and 10. The panel 34 is provided with an outer vertical edge 46 which forms the rear edge of one side of the apron and the panel 36 is provided with the vertical edge 48 which forms the opposite vertical rear edge of the apron. If desired, a pocket such as 50 may be stitched into position, as shown at 52 and 54, and is stitched likewise to the vertical line of stitching 8, the pocket being open as at the vertical line 56. This pocket terminates along the waistline 42 of the panel 34.

The upper or bust portion of the apron is composed of the upper portion 7 of the front panel 2 and preferably four upper panel portions 58 and 60. These panels 58 and 60 are identical in construction but are reversely arranged with respect to the upper portion 7 of the central panel 2. For instance, panel 58 is provided with a substantially horizontal bottom edge 62 which is disposed at the waistline and is stitched to the top edge 42 of the panel 34. This panel has a diagonal under the arm edge 64 which terminates at the point 66 and merges into a substantially normally disposed short side 68 the lower edge of which, as at 70, merges in the bottom edge 62. The other edge of the panel 58 is substantially straight as at 72 for substantially half of its

vertical height and then curves laterally of the vertical line 72 as at 74 to join as at 76 with the under the arm edge 64. In short, the edge 74 curves away from the vertical toward the outer portions or lines 68 of this panel. In this same way the panel 60 is provided with a vertical edge 78 which at its upper portion curves outwardly as at 80 to join the apex 82, the diagonal under the arm line or edge 84, and the lower portion of this edge 84 joins a short edge 86 that corresponds to the edge 68 of the opposite panel 58. The lower edge 88 of this panel 60 corresponds to the waistline edge of the edge 62 of the opposite panel 58. One piece 90 of an apron strap is stitched to the edge 68 of the panel 58 and an opposite piece of an apron strap such as 92 is stitched to the edge 86 of the opposite panel 60. The lower edge 88 of the panel 60 is stitched to the upper edge 44 of the panel 36 so that the two waist lines 42 and 44 are in registration with relation to the narrow portion 6 of the panel 2.

From the foregoing it will be noted by reference to Figures 6 and 7 that when the panel 58, including its upper portion 7, and the panel 60, are stitched along the lines 8, 10, 12 and 14, the latter including 72 and 78, by reason of the manner in which the curved walls 20, 22, 74 and 80 are curved outwardly or away from each other when these edges are stitched together, a substantial fullness or bust effect is imparted to the upper portion of the apron. However, prior to or after the stitching together of these edges 72, 78, 16 and 76, stays of desired material are incorporated as a part of the bust portion of the apron. These stays are relatively elongated strips of stay material, the same being flexible but possessing sufficient inherent rigidity whereby to hold the bust portion of the garment in upright position so that it will tend to cling to the bust of the wearer, and this effect is aided by the fullness of the bust portion of the apron, formed by the curved pattern lines hereinbefore described and shown in Figure 7 as at 16, 18, 72 and 78 in a manner so that they will conform to the natural bust of the wearer and the bust portion will thus be held in this position independently of any straps or neck attachments of any kind.

The stays 94 and 96 are preferably stitched along the vertical stitched lines joining the sections 12, 20, 72 and 74, and 14, 78, 22 and 80.

The stays in the present instance are preferably formed of featherbone material, which is well known in the art and is used for staying the bib portion of the apron and across the bust line it is sprung into the material to accentuate the bust. In other words, Figure 3 shows the manner in which the lower ends 98 and 100 of the stays 94 and 96 cross and lie below the waistline. Figure 4 shows the manner in which the stays 94 and 96 are stitched to the panels.

In addition to the front stays I prefer to provide stays under each of the arms to help sustain the bib or bust portion of the apron. These stays, such as 102 and 104, are shown as being stitched substantially midway of the width of the panels 58 and 60 and in a manner so that the stays 102 and 104 lie substantially under the arms of the wearer and help sustain the bib. The apron is so cut that with the stays and ties at the back, the apron will cling to the natural contours of the body. The panel lines 42 and 44 are cut with fullness at the hip line to allow for full freedom of movement of the body. It is to be noted that in sewing the edges 62 and 88 of the

upper panels 58 and 60 to the top edges 42 and 44 of the lower panels 34 and 36, provision is made for fullness or gathers whereby fullness around the hip is provided. In this connection, the rear portions such as 46 and 48 extend well around the hips of the wearer when in position, so as to give freedom of movement of the hips. This is due to the manner in which these side panels are cut and gathered and stitched, and also to the stays 102 under arms of the wearer which tend to hold up the entire bib portion of the apron.

If desired, an ornamental ruffle, such as 106, may form a border for the upper portion or edge of the bib or bust portion of the apron.

In use the apron is placed in position as shown in Figure 1 and the two apron ties 90 and 92 are then passed around the body and tied, and it will be seen that the cut fullness will form a bust-like portion conforming to the body of the wearer and that the sewed-in stays, together with the ties 90 and 92, will maintain the bib or upper portion of the apron in upright position without the use of shoulder straps or neckbands which would otherwise ride and bind the neck and are a source of constant discomfort in the ordinary type of apron.

In addition to the fullness cuts heretofore described, the panels 58 and 60 are provided with substantially triangular shaped tuck portions which are sewed along the lines 108 and 110 to accentuate the fullness. The tuck portion is also sewed along the upper edge lines 64 and 84 either before or after the ruffle is sewed to this upper edge. This ruffle is shown as extending entirely along the upper edge of the bib portion and it may or may not be used, as desired.

It is to be understood that in instances where the material is capable of such construction, instead of stitching, the material may be interconnected along the edges of the panel means by heat sealing or by adhesives or otherwise.

In certain instances I may form the upper curved portions of the stay means with body-conforming or bust-conforming curved portions or stays in accordance with the teachings of Chamberlain et al. Patent 2,424,740, issued July 29, 1947. In this latter instance the lower portions of the stay means which lie below the bust and between the bust and the waistline may be formed straight, the stay means being preferably formed of featherbone, and so curved that the portion that rigidifies the bust means is curved in accordance with the teachings of said patent and the lower portion of the stay means is straight and preferably uncurved.

It is of course understood that the means for attaching around the waist of the wearer, instead of being apron ties, may be any type of means forming extensions of the side panels under the arms, which button or otherwise interconnect.

It is apparent that many widely different embodiments of this invention may be made without departing from the spirit and scope thereof, and therefore it is not intended to be limited except as indicated in the appended claim.

Having thus described by invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

A neckless and strapless apron comprising a lower apron portion and an upper bib and bust covering portion including a central panel and side panels secured thereto in the bust covering portion, flexible rigidifying means secured substantially at the connection between each side

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panel and the central panel and providing for general and relatively loose conformation with the bust of the wearer, and interconnectible attaching means substantially at the waistline of the wearer for securing the apron around the waist of the wearer.

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