W. P. SWEENEY.

UNION SUIT.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 28, 1921.

1,435,756. Patented Nov. 14, 1922.

Fig. 1

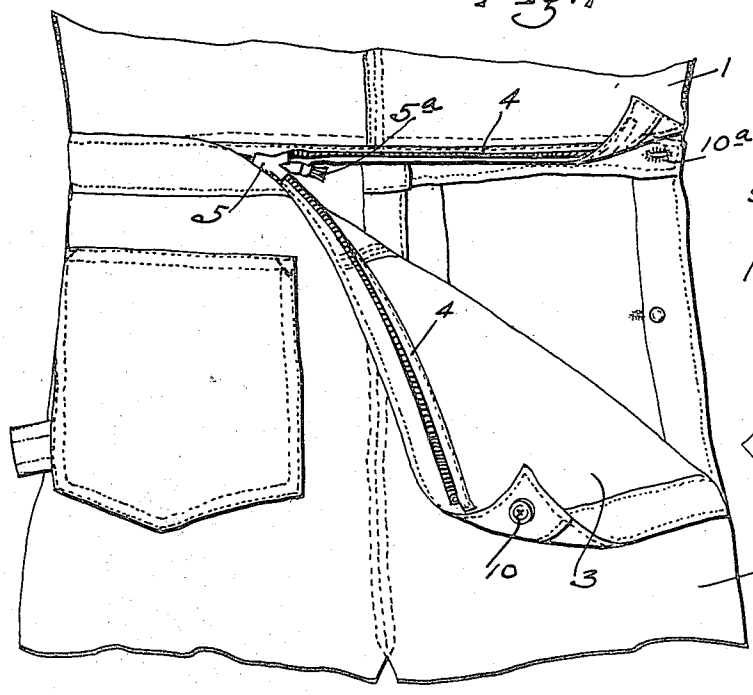


Fig. 3

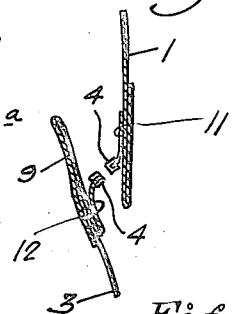


Fig. 5.

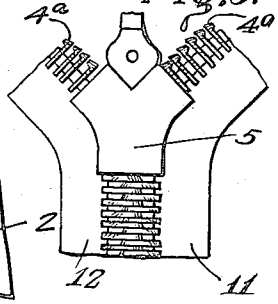


Fig. 2

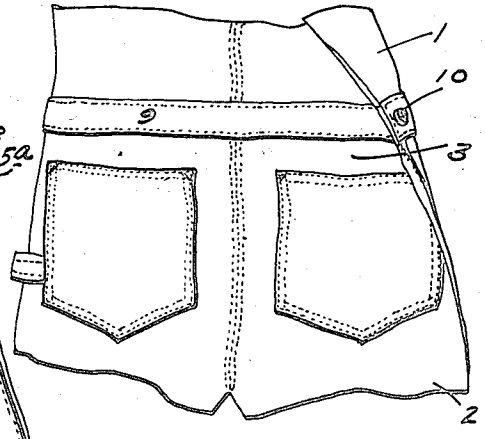
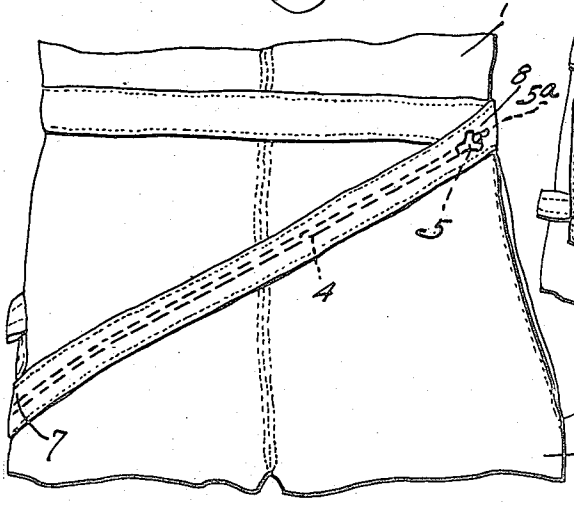


Fig. 4



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM P. SWEENEY, OF MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA.

UNION SUIT.

Application filed May 28, 1921. Serial No. 473,387.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM P. SWEENEY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Minneapolis, in the county of Hennepin and State of Minnesota, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Union Suits; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to a garment, and particularly to a garment comprising a union suit, and is especially designed to be used as an overall suit or as a child's play garment.

It is an object of this invention to construct a one-piece garment having an open flap adjacent the waist portion, which flap is arranged to be quickly and easily closed by a special form of fastening device. The invention comprises, therefore, the combination of this fastening device with the opening flap of a garment.

This, as well as other objects and advantages of the invention will appear from the following description made in connection with the accompanying drawings in which like reference characters refer to the same parts throughout the different views and in which

Fig. 1 is a rear view of the portion of the garment adjacent the waist showing the flap in partly open condition;

Fig. 2 is a similar view showing the flap closed;

Fig. 3 is a vertical section through the opening in the garment showing the upper part of the flap 3 and the lower part of the bottom portion 1 slightly separated;

Fig. 4 is a view showing a modification;

Fig. 5 is a view in elevation on an enlarged scale showing the fastening devices.

Referring to the drawings, a portion of a one-piece garment is shown comprising the part 1 extending above the waist and the portion 2 extending therebelow. The front and rear portions of the garment are divided along one side for some distance below the waist portion and the garment is also divided transversely substantially at the waist line, preferably, as shown at the rear. These two divisions form a flap portion 3 which when opened is of substantially triangular shape extending from the waist line at one side of the garment to the bottom of the above mentioned division at the other side of the garment. The flap 3 is provided along its upper edge with a folded strip 9 secured thereto and the lower edge of the portion 1 is shown as folded over to produce a wide hem. The outer side of said hem portion and the inner side of the strip 9 have secured thereto strips 11 and 12, respectively to the free edges of which are attached fastening devices 4. Each of the members 4 comprise a series of closely arranged locking members 4^a which, when brought together, as shown at the left of the fastening member 5 in Fig. 1, interengage with each other and become locked so that the same cannot be separated by stress exerted in a line normal to their length. The members can be readily separated, however, by a spreading stress applied therein at the right of the closing member 5, as seen in Fig. 1. The closing member is shown somewhat in detail in Fig. 5 and is a development of that described in the patent to Judson No. 557,208 of March 31, 1896. It is sufficient for the present invention to know, as stated above, that the fastening device can be readily separated by spreading stress applied to the members 4 and one side of the member 5 and can be very quickly closed by moving the member 5 to the right, as seen in Fig. 1, by taking hold of the extension member 5^a attached thereto. With this structure, it will be seen that the flap 3 can be almost instantly opened and just as easily and quickly closed.

In Fig. 4, is shown a modified form of the garment in which the same is divided at the side from the waist portion to a point 6 some distance below the waist and the garment is then divided along the diagonal line running from the point 7 to the point 8 at the opposite side of the waist portion, thus forming a triangular flap 6—7—8. The fastener in this modification will be applied along the line 7—8.

It will be noted that the fastening members 4 and 5 will be covered by the upper edge of flap 3 when the same is in closed position.

In order to hold the corner of flap 3 in the closed position to which it is moved by the fastener closing member 5, said corner is provided with a button 10 or other fastening means and a co-operating fastening means shown as a buttonhole 10^a is provided at the edge of the front side of the garment. The

buttonhole is arranged to be easily buttoned over the button 10, and the front portion of the garment thus overlies the vertical edge of the flap 3. In Fig. 2 the side of the garment is shown as bent over to show the button in buttoned position. A similar fastening will be used at the corner of the flap shown in Fig. 4.

The garment has been found to be exceedingly useful in practice and to be especially adapted for a play garment for young children. It will be obvious that the garment, however, will be adapted for many other uses as the fastening member can be made in various sizes and weights.

It will, of course, be understood that various changes may be made in the form, details and arrangement of the device without departing from the scope of applicant's invention, which, generally stated, consists in the matter shown and described and set forth in the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

1. An overall garment having an opening at the side extending downwardly a short distance from the waist portion, an opening extending across the garment and connecting with the said first mentioned opening to form a flap, a strip secured to the outside of the upper portion of the garment adjacent the lower edge thereof, a strip secured to the inside of the flap adjacent the upper edge thereof, each of said strips carrying at its free edge a series of interengaging fastening members, said members being so constructed and arranged that when closed, they are locked against separation by a stress normal to the length of said strips but separable by a spreading movement applied to the ends of said strips, and means for causing interengagement of said members, said fastening means being so disposed as to be concealed by the upper edge of the flap when in closed position.

2. An overall garment having an opening at the side extending downwardly a short distance from the waist portion and another opening extending from one end of the first mentioned opening laterally across the rear of the garment to form a flap, a strip secured to the outside of the upper portion of the garment adjacent the lower edge thereof, a strip secured to the inside of the flap adjacent the upper edge thereof, each of said strips carrying at its free edge a series of interengaging members, a slidable member moving in engagement with said series of members to bring the same into engaged position, said members being so constructed and arranged that when closed they are locked against separation by a stress normal to the length of said strips but are separable by spreading movement applied to the ends thereof, said interengaging members being so disposed as to be concealed between the bottom portion of the upper part of the garment and the upper portion of said flap, and additional means at the corner of the flap and on the upper part of the garment for holding the flap in closed position.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

WILLIAM P. SWEENEY.