Oct. 7, 1969 N. L. BELKIN 3,470,568

SURGICAL HOSPITAL GARMENT

Filed March 27, 1968

Fig. 1.

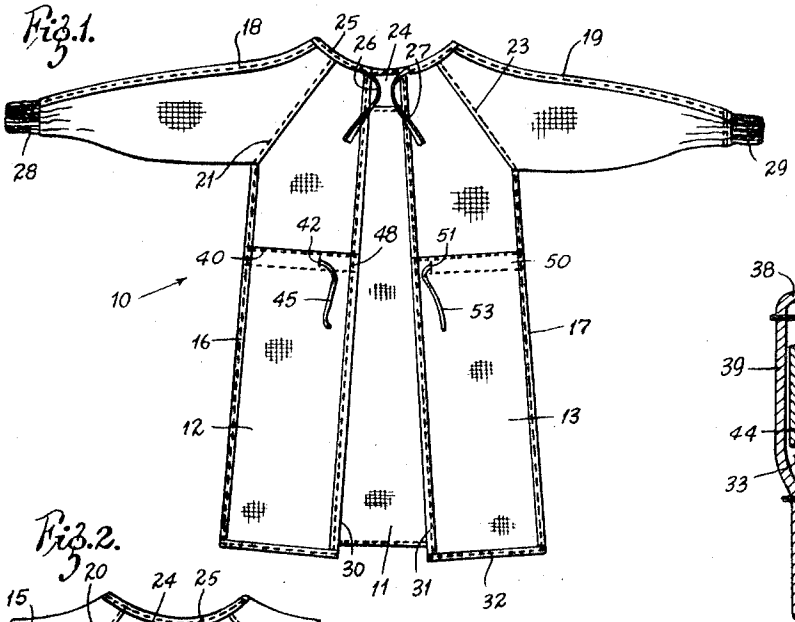


Fig. 4.

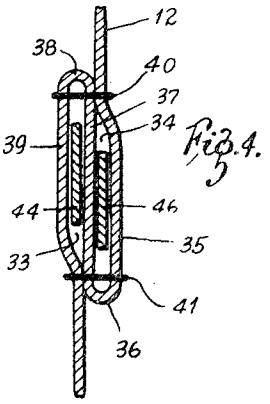


Fig. 2.

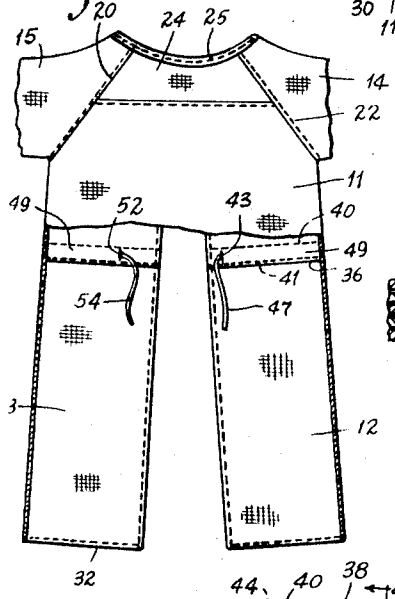


Fig. 5.

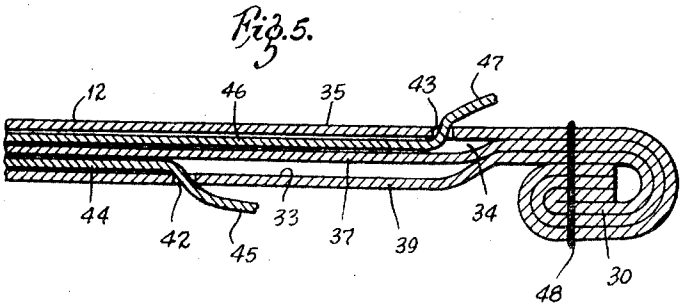
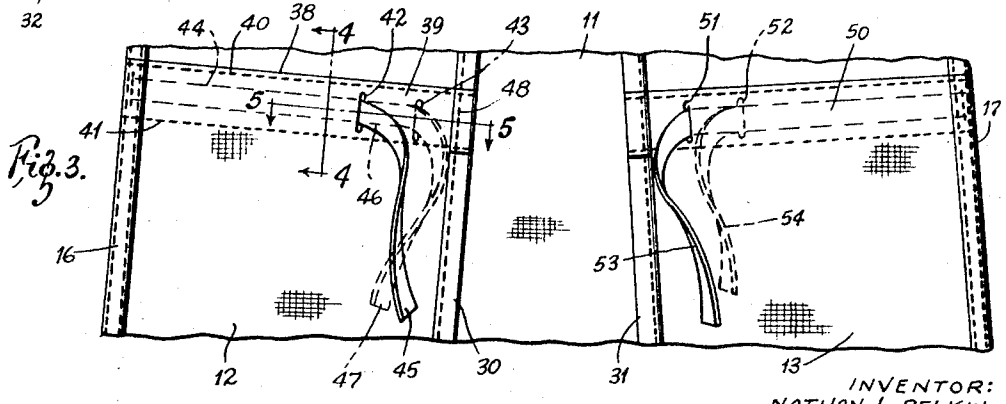


Fig. 3.



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SURGICAL HOSPITAL GARMENT

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U.S. Cl. 2—114 4 Claims

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A reversible gown having inner and outer ties located in tunnels formed by inner and outer folds of the gown panels.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

The gown with which this invention is illustrated may be of virtually any desired construction, and the one illustrated is only an example. In the illustrated gown, there is a skirt, comprising a front panel joined to two back panels. Sleeves are sewn to the upper edges of the front and back panels. A neck hem is sewn in the upper edges of the front and back panels and to the sleeves. Elastic cuffs are sewn to the ends of the sleeves. There are suitable ties joined to the neck hem.

Since this gown is particularly adapted for use as a hospital gown, it is tied at the back of the wearer. In this gown, the ties are shown at the waist, and it is the provision of a special tie arrangement that is of particular concern to this invention.

For this tie arrangement, the two back panels are folded twice to form a narrow band comprising three layers of material extending horizontally at the waist line. The edges of these layers are sewn together before the back panels are sewn to the front panels. The free edges of the thus formed back panels are hemmed.

Slits are formed in the inner and outer layers of the two tunnels. Ties are attached to the gown toward its front such as at the juncture between the front panel and the two back panels. There is a tie in the outer tunnel and in the inner tunnel of each back panel, each tie extending through its associated slit. By this arrangement, the gown is reversible because there are ties on both the inner and outer sides of the garment. Yet, the tie arrangement permits the formation of the tunnels by sewing on only one side without meticulous and difficult locating of extra fabric strips that would otherwise have to be sewn in place. The ties enable snug fastening of the gown to the wearer because they permit gathering of the back panels in the tie area. Also, the slits are located to provide overlapping of the back panels when the gown is worn regardless of the inversion of the gown.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

FIGURE 1 is a rear view of the garment.

FIGURE 2 is a front view of the garment with parts of the sleeves broken away and with the lower portion of the front panel broken away.

FIGURE 3 is an enlarged rear view of the tie arrangement for the garment.

FIGURE 4 is an enlarged view in section taken along the line 4—4 of FIGURE 3.

FIGURE 5 is an enlarged view in section taken along the line 5—5 of FIGURE 3.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

As shown in FIGURE 1, this gown **10** comprises a front panel **11**, back panels **12** and **13**, and arms **14** and **15**. Adjacent side edges of the front panel **11** and the back panel **12** are joined together along a seam **16**. Likewise, adjacent side edges of the side panel **11** and the back panel **13** are joined together along a seam **17**. The

arm **14** is closed along a seam **18**, and the arm **15** is closed along a seam **19**. The arm **14** is joined to the front and back panels **11** and **12** along seams **20** and **21**, and the arm **15** is joined to the front and back panels **11** and **13** along seams **22** and **23**.

As shown in FIGURE 2, the front panel **11** may include a separate panel **24** adjacent along the neck line. The neck line is provided with a hem **25**. Conventional tie strings **26** and **27** are sewn to the neck line **25**. There are elastic cuffs **28** and **29** sewn to the wrist areas of the sleeves **14** and **15**. Also, the free side edges of the back panels **12** and **13** are finished with hems **30** and **31**, and the bottom edge of the garment is finished with a hem **32**.

In this garment, a single tie assembly is provided at the waist of the garment **10**. This tie assembly may be differently located, and there may be more than one. To form the tie assembly, the back panels **12** and **13** are folded to form two tunnels **33** and **34**. For each panel **12** and **13**, this is done by simply folding the panel over on itself twice to provide an inner layer **35**, a fold line **36**, a middle layer **37**, another fold line **38**, and an outer layer **39**. The layers **35**, **37**, and **39** are held together by lines of stitching **40** and **41**.

There is a slit **42** formed in the outer layer **39**. The slit **42** is spaced several inches from the hemmed edge **30** of the panel **12**. Another slit **43** is formed in the inner layer **35**. The slit **43** is spaced only a slight distance from the hemmed edge **39** of the panel **12**.

A tie string **44** is positioned within the tunnel **33** with its inner end sewed to the garment adjacent the sewn line **16** between the panels **11** and **12**. The free end **45** of the tie string **44** extends through the slit **42**. Another tie string **46** is located within the tunnel **34**. Its inner end is also sewed to the garment adjacent the sewn line **16** between the panels **11** and **12**. The free end **47** of the tie string **46** extends through the slit **43**.

As FIGURE 5 illustrates, the three layers **35**, **37**, and **39** are folded over to form a portion of the hem **30**, with stitching **48** locking that portion of the hem.

In the other rear panel **13**, two tunnels are formed in exactly the same way as just has been described, and details are not shown except for the appearance of the inner layer **49**, and the outer layer **50** shown in FIGURES 2 and 3. On this panel **13**, however, the slit **51** in the outer layer **50** is located very near the seamed edge **31**, whereas the slit **52** in the inner layer **49** is located several inches from the seamed edge **31**. There is a tie string **53** in the outer tunnel having its inner end sewed to the garment adjacent the sewn seam **17** and its free end extending through the slit **51**. Another tie string **54** is positioned in the inner tunnel and extends through the slit **52**, with its inner end sewn to the garment adjacent the sewn edge **17**.

This garment **10** is easy to make and can be made by conventional operations. The only difference is that the panels **12** and **13** are folded as illustrated in FIGURES 4 and 5 to form the inner and outer tunnels before the panels **30** and **31** are seamed and before they are sewed to the other parts of the garment. Also, as the panels **12** and **13** are sewed to the front panel **11**, the tie strings **44**, **46**, **53**, and **54** may be positioned in place so that their ends within the tunnel are sewn in place at the same time as the panels **12** and **13** are sewn to the panel **11**.

The garment **10** is completely reversible. Therefore, when the garment is removed, and is inverted, as usual, particularly because of the elastic cuffs **28** and **29**, it need not be reinverted. The ties **44** and **53** are used to tie the garment in the condition illustrated. In the inverted condition, the ties **46** and **54** are used. In both conditions, the locations of the slits **42**, **43**, **51** and **52** assures that one back panel will overlap the other one when the gown is tied snugly to the wearer.

Since the ties are joined to the gown adjacent the front panel **11**, they provide adjustability for different sizes of wearers. Such adjustability is not possible with fixed ties joined to the gown near the seamed edges **30** and **31**.

Various changes and modifications may be made within the purview of this invention as will be readily apparent to those skilled in the art. Such changes and modifications are within the scope and teaching of this invention as defined by the claims appended hereto.

What is claimed is:

1. A gown having panels with free edges adapted to be brought together by a tie assembly, the tie assembly comprising inner and outer tunnels formed in each panel substantially normal to its said free edge, each inner and outer tunnel combination being defined by a double fold of the panel to form inner, outer, and middle layers of the panel at the tunnel area, the three layers being joined together at their sides by stitching a slit in the outer and inner layers of each inner and outer tunnel combination, a tie string in each inner tunnel and having an inner end joined to the garment and a free end extending through the slit in the inner layer, a tie string in each outer tunnel and having an inner end joined to the garment and a free end extending through the slit in the outer layer.

2. The gown of claim **1** wherein the slit in the outer layer of one panel is spaced further from the said free edge of the one panel than the slit in the outer layer of the other panel and wherein the spacing of the slits in the inner layers is opposite to the foregoing.

3. The gown of claim **1** wherein the tie assembly is located adjacent the waist area of the gown.

4. The gown of claim **1** wherein the slits are spaced from the said free edges.

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U.S. Cl. X.R.

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