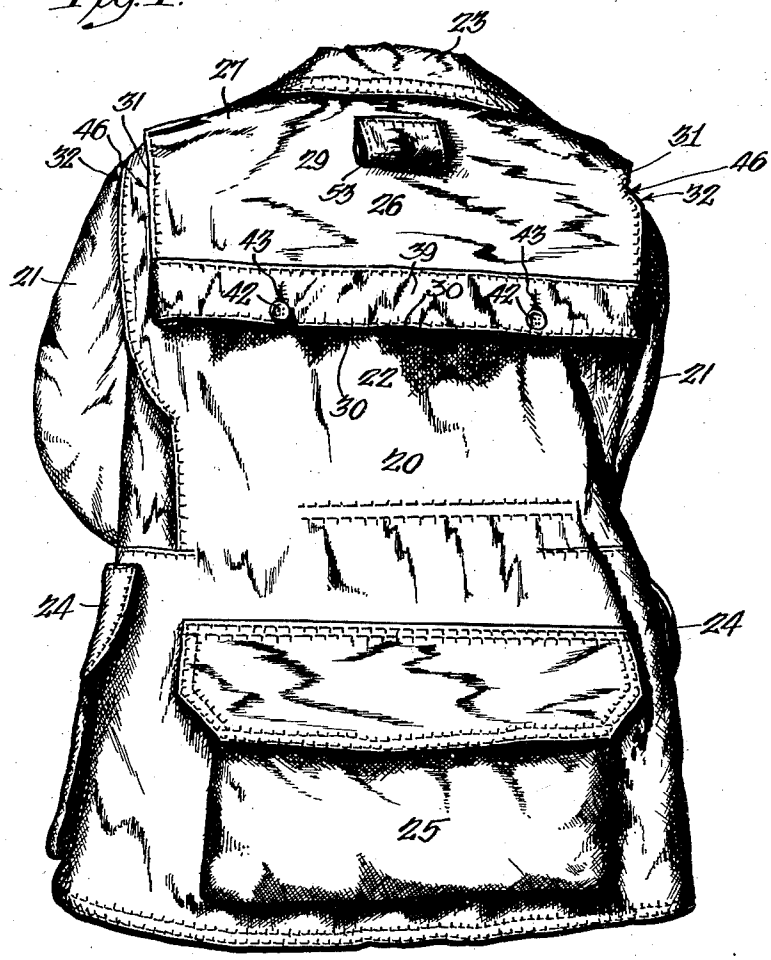
Aug. 31, 1948. C. H. MASLAND, 2ND 2,448,449

COAT

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Fig. 1.



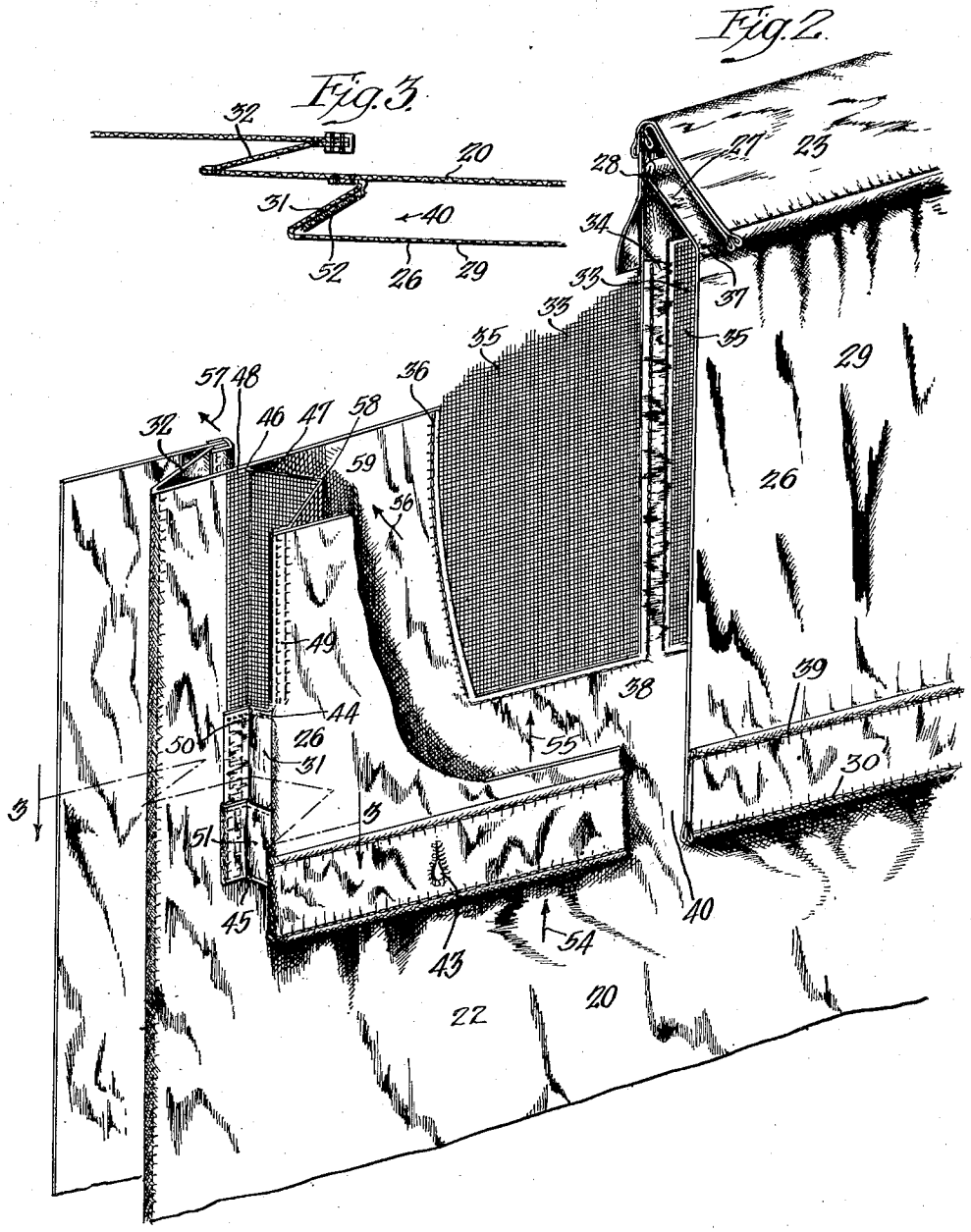
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Fig. 2.



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2,448,449

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,448,449

COAT

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Application October 3, 1946, Serial No. 700,953

7 Claims. (Cl. 2—94)

1

My invention relates to coats and the like, particularly of the character employed for hunting, fishing and sportswear.

A purpose of my invention is to improve the means for ventilating coats while preventing discomfort to the wearer through the introduction of rain or subjecting the wearer to the effects of a draft.

A further purpose is to provide ventilation of a coat or the like by chimney effect, and to utilize circulation produced by chimney effect to remove moisture from the body of the wearer.

A further purpose is to provide an opening, desirably screened, in the back of a coat below the collar, and preferably in the middle of the back, to extend a cape standing out from the back of the coat across the back and over the opening, closing the cape at the top and back, leaving an opening at the bottom in open position and closed in an alternate position at the bottom, aand obtaining ventilation through preferably screened ports at the upper portions of the sides of the cape.

A further purpose is to employ a cape of substantially greater fullness than the back of the coat in both horizontal and vertical directions and to insure bulging of the cape by stiffening applied preferably in the sides and desirably also in the bottom of the back of the cape.

A further purpose is to construct a cape of substantially rectangular form, permitting adequate cross section in a bottom vent, and cooperating ample cross section in end vents.

A further purpose is to permit ventilation flow through a cape from a bottom vent to an end vent, with pick up of moisture to be evaporated at openings in the back beneath the cape.

Further purposes appear in the specification and in the claims.

In the drawings I have chosen to illustrate one only of the numerous embodiments in which my invention may appear, choosing the form shown from the standpoint of convenience in illustration, satisfactory operation, and clear demonstration of the principles involved.

Figure 1 is a rear elevation of the improved coat of the present invention.

Figure 2 is a broken perspective of the cape of Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a section of Figure 2, on the line 3—3.

In the drawings like numerals refer to like parts.

Describing in illustration but not in limitation and referring to the drawings:

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In the prior art it has been common particularly in raincoats and sportswear to provide ventilating openings to assist in evaporation of moisture from the body. Many of these constructions have been largely ineffectual because of the fact that openings were used with protections against introduction of rain or the like, but without any special means to induce circulation across the openings to maintain a flow of ventilating air which could pick up moisture. Thus in many instances the openings have been largely ineffective unless the user was exposed to a strong wind which could introduce circulating air into contact with the body to pick up the body moisture.

Many of the prior constructions involve introduction of numerous eyelets or the like and application of flaps under the arms and at other similar locations, presenting serious construction problems, causing discomfort to the wearer and frequently being comparatively ineffectual in operation.

In accordance with the present invention, the ventilating cape is conveniently located at the back of the coat immediately adjacent the collar, making it possible to cover the necessary top seam by the collar and improve the appearance of the cape by extending it under the collar.

In the structure of the invention, no change whatever need be made in the seam of the sleeve or in the armpit construction, and the usual pleats to give added fullness adjacent the points of insetting of the sleeves are not impaired.

As shown in the drawings, a coat **20** embodying my invention has sleeves **21**, a back **22**, a collar **23**, suitably of roll construction, side pockets **24** and a back pocket **25**. While in the embodiment shown, the coat is primarily intended for hunting and fishing service, it will be understood that any suitable type may be employed, and that the invention may be embodied in coats of other characters.

On the back of the coat, below the collar I mount a cape **26** suitably of substantially rectangular construction, as shown in Figure 1, having a top **27** stitched to the back of the coat at **28**, suitably adjacent the shoulder and beneath the collar, and having a back portion **29** extending desirably about half way to the waist, ending in a bottom edge **30**. Sides are provided at **31** adjacent the sides of the coat, but suitably slightly inside the line of the sleeves to permit the inclusion of side pleats **32** adjoining the sleeve line as well known in the art.

Below the collar and preferably in the center of the shoulder portion of the back of the coat,

I provide a ventilation opening 33 (preferably divided into two parts, Figure 2) suitably of generally rectangular configuration, and desirably separated by a central fabric rib 34 extending vertical at the midline of the back of the coat, and separating the parts of the ventilating opening.

The ventilating opening is suitably protected by a screen 35, preferably made of nylon or plastic insect screen or screen cloth, suitably stitched to the back of the coat at 36. The insect screen 35 performs several functions. In the first place it prevents the introduction of insects and the like through the ventilating opening 33, so that the ventilating opening cannot become a source of discomfort. In the second place, the screen 35 is desirably of a stiffness approximating that of the fabric of the back of the coat so that bulging or forming of the coat to the contour of the figure of the wearer is accomplished uniformly across the back, including the space of the ventilating opening, without irregular transmission of pull, and without the nonuniform hanging of the coat which would otherwise result in many cases.

Furthermore, the screen 35 distributes more uniformly load applied to the fabric, as for example when the coat is caught or snagged on a limb of a tree or in briers, preventing the tendency which otherwise occurs to tear at points of stress concentration adjoining the corners of the ventilation opening and the like.

The cape 26 extends entirely over the ventilation opening, and desirably for a short distance below the lower ends thereof, so as to prevent the likelihood of intrusion of water or mud into the ventilation opening from the bottom of the cape.

As viewed in vertical section seen at the center of Figure 2, the top 27 of the cape bulges out from the back 20 of the coat diagonally beneath the collar (and as seen in Figure 1 on either side of the collar) until an outer corner 37 is reached, at which point the back 29 of the cape, standing well out from the back of the coat so as to provide an air chamber 38 beneath the cape and over the ventilating opening 33, extends down along the back portion 29 substantially parallel to the back of the coat. Along the bottom edge of the back of the coat I suitably provide a stiffening rib 39 comprising one or more layers of fabric, which tends to make the back of the cape hang straight and, in open position, hang well away from the back of the coat to provide a bottom port 40 fully across the cape and between the cape and the back of the coat as shown in Figures 2 and 3.

When the cape is permitted to be open, this bottom port 40 is of the full length of the cape from side to side of the coat, and has a width corresponding to the distance which the back 29 of the cape stands out from the back 20 of the coat as seen in Figures 2 and 3, and as controlled by the dimensions of the sides 31.

When it is desired to close the bottom port, this can be accomplished by buttoning buttons 42 on the back of the coat through button holes 43 at the lower edge of the back of the cape, pulling the bottom of the cape in close against the back of the coat, and partially collapsing the fabric in the sides 31 to prevent ventilation through the ventilating opening 33. The closing of the bottom port 40 is likely to be desirable in cold weather or in extreme wind, but is not ordinarily necessary in case of rain.

On the upper portion of each side 31 of the cape, desirably extending from some point 44 part

way up each side to the top of the side, the side panel 45 is interrupted to provide a side port 46 at each side of the coat. The side port 46 cooperates with the bottom port 40 for ventilation purposes when the bottom port 40 is open. The side port 46 is suitably covered throughout its length by a screen 47 preferably of nylon or plastic insect or fly screen as used on the screen 35. The screen 47 is stitched to the back of the coat at 48 and to the back of the cape at 49, and suitably stitched at its top and bottom at 50 (only the bottom being shown). The stiffening 39 on the back of the cape is desirably carried over the side panel 45 at the bottom at 51, and inside the side panel 45, and suitably extending to the bottom of the side ventilating opening, I provide a stiffening panel 52, which assures that, when permitted by loosening the buttons 42, the side panel will stand out well away from the back of the coat and will tend to bulge the entire cape away from the back of the coat, causing the back of the cape to clear adequately from the back of the coat.

This bulging action of the cape is assured not only by the presence of the stiffening at 39, 51, 52, extending across the lower perimeter of the cape to its point of joining the back of the coat, but is also made possible by the fullness of the cape, since, as seen in Figures 2 and 3, the length of material in horizontal section across the cape is substantially greater than the length of material in horizontal section across the back of the coat, and the length of material in vertical section down the cape is substantially greater than the length of material in vertical section to a corresponding point down the back of the coat.

It will be evident of course, that the coat may be provided with the usual accessories, such as a loop 53 at the back of the cape below the collar, for hanging up of the garment.

In operation, with the buttons 42 unbuttoned and the bottom port 40 open, the rectangular air chamber 38 extending vertically inside the cape from top to bottom and from side to side will permit circulation vertically and to the sides as indicated by an arrow 54 at the bottom showing introduction of outside air into the port 40, with flow of air at 55 inside the cape, over the ventilating opening 33, and to the side at 56 and finally out through the side port 47 as shown by the arrow 57. Similar ventilation will occur at the other side of the coat to the other side port (not shown).

The ventilation shown is encouraged due to chimney effect, since the warm air as it becomes heated by contact with the body through the ventilating opening 33 will tend to rise and flow out the side ports.

An important feature of the invention is that advantage is taken of the normal circulation of warm air rising from below through the bottom port 40 and flowing out above and at the sides through the side ports 46. This flow of outside air then picks up moisture from the body through the ventilating openings 33 and provides comfort to the wearer.

The important correlation between the bottom port 40 and the side ports 46 will be quite evident when it is understood that closure of the bottom port 40 by buttoning of the buttons 42 effectively renders the side ports inoperative, so that even without collapsing of the cape against the back and partial closing of the side ports due to crimping of the netting 47 at 58, no appreciable cooling or ventilation through the ventilating opening 33

will occur with the bottom port closed. The wearer is therefore quite comfortable in cold weather with the bottom port closed notwithstanding that the side ports remain open.

The rectangular form of the cape permits very large cross section of the bottom port **40** and adequate cross section of the side ports **46**, so as to assure proper ventilation from the ventilating opening. The ventilating opening preferably is not carried fully across to the side of the coat, leaving a portion of the back of the coat at **59** immediately inside of each of the side ports which is unbroken, and can permit drainage, down along the back of the coat and out the bottom port **40**, of water which may be brought in through the side ports **46**, from rain, splashing or the like. While this drainage space is desirable, this feature has been improved by an invention of Harry M. Hutchinson, forming the subject matter of a co-pending application, Serial No. 700,114, filed September 28, 1946 for Hunting and fishing garment.

In view of my invention and disclosure variations and modifications to meet individual whim or particular need will doubtless become evident to others skilled in the art, to obtain all or part of the benefits of my invention without copying the structure shown, and I, therefore, claim all such insofar as they fall within the reasonable spirit and scope of my claims.

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

1. A coat having a collar and a back below the collar in which an opening is provided, a cape of substantially rectangular form having sides and extending substantially across the back below the collar and over the opening, closed at the top and back and having an opening across the bottom and openings in the upper ends of the sides and stiffening in the sides adapted to bulge the cape away from the back of the coat.

2. A coat having a collar and a back provided with an opening adjacent the center below the collar, a cape having sides and extending across the back below the collar and over the opening, closed at the top and back and open at the bottom and sides, means for stiffening the sides to bulge the cape away from the back and means for stiffening the lower edge of the cape at the back.

3. A coat having a collar and an opening in the back below the collar, a screen in the opening, and a cape having sides and extending across the back below the collar and over the opening, closed at the top and back and open across the bottom and at the upper portions of the sides, screens in the opening in the sides and means for bulging the cape away from the back.

4. A coat having a collar and back, there being a ventilation opening in the back below the collar and toward the center with respect to the shoulders, a cape extending over the opening below the collar and having a back portion which is generally in conformity with but well spaced from the back of the coat and side portions which are transverse to the back portion of the cape and extend directly out from the back of the coat, the cape having side ports in the sides adjoining the tops of the sides of the cape and a bottom port in open position extending across the bottom whereby air circulation can be provided up through the bottom port and out the side ports.

5. A coat having a collar and back, there being a ventilation opening in the back below the collar and toward the center with respect to the shoulders, a cape extending over the opening below the collar and having a back portion which is generally in conformity with but well spaced from the back of the coat and side portions which are transverse to the back portion of the cape and extend directly out from the back of the coat, the cape having side ports in the sides adjoining the tops of the sides of the cape and a bottom port in open position extending across the bottom, whereby air circulation can be provided up through the bottom port and out the side ports, and stiffening ribs in the sides which tend to maintain the back of the cape bulged away from the back of the coat and the side ports wide open.

6. A coat having a collar and back, there being a ventilation opening in the back below the collar and toward the center with respect to the shoulders, a cape extending over the opening below the collar and having a back portion which is generally in conformity with but well spaced from the back of the coat and side portions which are transverse to the back portion of the cape and extend directly out from the back of the coat, the cape having side ports in the sides adjoining the tops of the sides of the cape and a bottom port in open position extending across the bottom whereby air circulation can be provided up through the bottom port and out the side ports, a screen secured to the edges and covering the ventilating opening, screens secured to the edges and covering the side ports and stiffening ribs in the sides of the cape for bulging the cape away from the back, the stiffening ribs being located adjacent the lower edges of the cape at the back.

7. A coat having a collar and a back, there being a ventilating opening in the back below the collar and toward the center with respect to the shoulders, a cape extending over the opening below the collar and having a back portion which is generally in conformity with but well spaced from the back of the coat and side portions which are transverse to the back portion of the cape and extend directly out from the back of the coat, the cape having side ports in the sides adjoining the tops of the sides of the cape and a bottom port in open position extending across the bottom, whereby air circulation can be provided up through the bottom port and out the side ports, the back of the coat inside the side ports being unbroken for a substantial distance at either side toward the ventilating opening in order that moisture coming in through the side ports may flow down over the unbroken portion of the back of the coat and out the bottom port, and stiffening ribs in the sides of the cape to bulge the cape away from the back of the coat.

CHARLES H. MASLAND, 2ND.

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