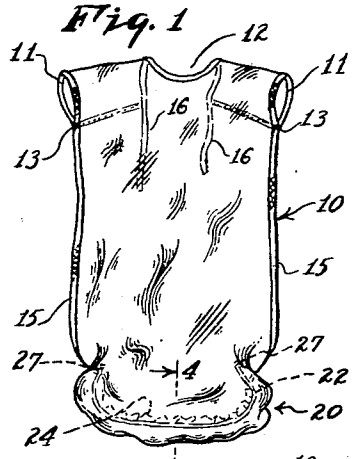
Sept. 11, 1956 M. C. LIPSCOMB 2,762,053

BIB WITH TRAY COVER

Filed July 20, 1953

Fig. 1



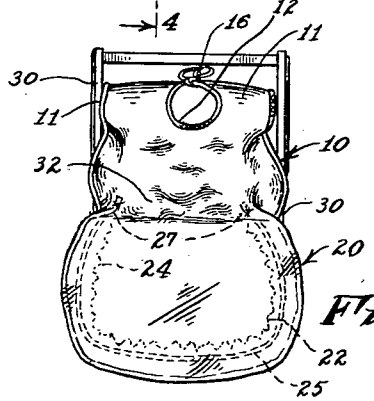


Fig. 3

Fig. 2

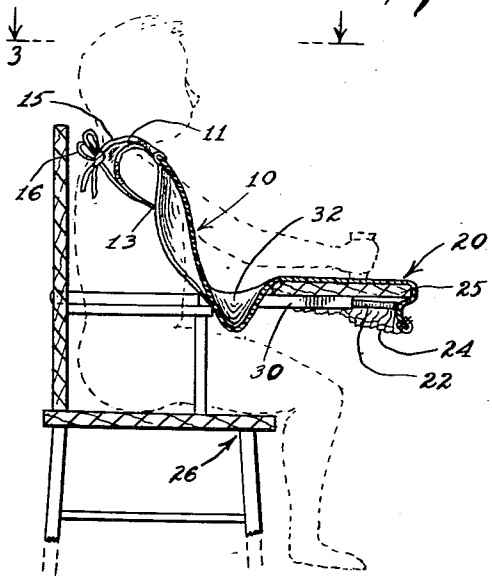
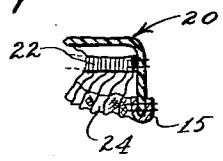


Fig. 4



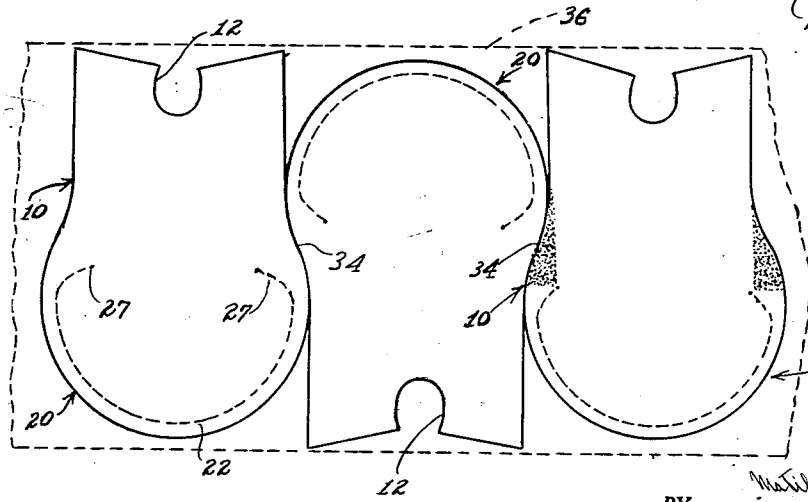


Fig. 5

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BIB WITH TRAY COVER

Matilda C. Lipscomb, Little Rock, Ark.

Application July 20, 1953, Serial No. 369,019

1 Claim. (Cl. 2—49)

This invention relates to a cover garment which can be worn by children, while eating, for the purpose of protecting the child's clothes and the tray of the high chair from having food spilled on them. The garment is made with an integral construction so that the bib portion merges with the tray cover portion and eliminates the possibility of food being spilled in the child's lap, or falling down behind the tray onto the floor.

It is an object of the invention to provide an improved cover garment, of the character indicated, which is more practical than those of the prior art. Although the invention provides an elastic for holding the garment on the tray of a high chair, the gathers produced by the elastic are confined to the portion of the garment beyond the front and sides of the high chair tray. It is a feature of the construction that there are no gathers in the material between the child and the tray. Thus, the portions of the cover garment, on which food can be spilled, are all smooth and can be cleaned by merely wiping the surface or dipping the garment in water.

Another object of the invention is to provide a cover garment which is economical to manufacture. Sleeves are provided by merely tacking the corners of wide, rearwardly-folded straps, and the bib and tray cover portions of the garment are made with reverse curves that permit the garment blanks to be cut from bolt material with a minimum of waste.

One feature of the invention relates to a construction whereby the cover garment protects the arms as well as the tray of the high chair, and another feature of the construction provides a deep pocket behind the tray cover portion of the garment, and over the child's lap when in use, for catching spilled milk or other liquid.

Other objects, features and advantages of the invention will appear or be pointed out as the description proceeds.

In the drawing, forming a part hereof, in which like reference characters indicate corresponding parts in all the views:

Figure 1 is a front view of a cover garment having a bib portion and a tray cover portion made in accordance with this invention;

Figure 2 is a sectional view through the cover garment of this invention when worn by a child with the tray cover portion placed over a high chair tray;

Figure 3 is a plan view of the garment shown in Figure 2, the view being taken along the line 3—3 of Figure 2;

Figure 4 is a greatly enlarged, fragmentary sectional view, taken on the line 4—4 of Figure 1; and

Figure 5 is a diagrammatic view showing the way in which the cover garments are cut from bolt or sheet stock from which they are made.

The cover garment shown in Figure 1 has a bib portion **10** with wide shoulder straps **11** on opposite sides of a neck recess **12**. The shoulder straps **11** are folded rearwardly and tacked by stitching **13** to the side edges of the bib portion. Experience has shown that this tacking of the outward corners of the free ends of the shoulder straps **12** is sufficient to provide sleeves for the cover garment, and permits a closer and hence more protective fit across the child's chest.

The garment is preferably made of waterproof material which is limp and which has a smooth surface, at least on its upper side. Many of the plastic materials are suitable for the purpose, such as chlorinated rubber, and vinyl chloride with other ingredients.

The cover garment has binding **15** around its entire edge, including the edges of the neck recess **12**, one portion of the binding which extends to the corners of the neck recess **12** is run beyond the ends of the recess to form ties **16** by which the cover garment is held on the child.

The cover garment also has a tray cover portion **20** with an elastic band **22** extending across the front and down both sides of the tray cover portion. This elastic band is attached to the underside of the material from which the tray cover portion is made. Ordinary machine stitching, extending through the plastic, or other material of the cover garment, has been found satisfactory. The elastic band **22** is sewed to the tray cover portion **20** with the elastic in a stretched condition so that when it returns to its normal retracted condition, it pulls the front and side edges of the tray cover portion of the garment into gathers **24**, allowing this portion to fit snugly over high chair trays of various sizes and shapes.

When the tray cover portion **20** is placed over a tray **25** of a high chair **26**, the elastic **22** is stretched and at least some of the gathers are eliminated. A comparison of Figures 1 and 2 shows the way in which the tray cover portion **20** is expanded when placed over the tray **25**.

It is a feature of the invention that the gathers **24** are located under the front and sides of the tray **25**, and that there are no gathers extending across the cover garment at the rear of the tray or between the child and the tray. As previously explained, this leaves all of the surfaces, on which food can be spilled, free of gathers in which liquid or other food could lodge and be difficult to remove.

Toward the rear of the tray cover portion of the garment, the end portions of the elastic band **22** converge toward one another at locations **27**, shown in Figure 5. This figure shows the cover garment spread out flat with the elastic band **22** stretched and all of the gathers eliminated.

This construction, with the elastic band **22** extending under the sides and the rearward corners of the tray **25**, causes the sides of the bib portion, just behind the tray **25**, to flare outwardly over arms **30** of the high chair, thus providing protection for the arms.

The bib portion **10** is long enough to extend downwardly and form a deep basinlike pocket **32** between the side edges of the garment and immediately behind the tray **25**. This deep pocket holds food, milk, water or other liquid that is spilled and that flows rearwardly from the tray. Without this pocket **32**, some or all of this liquid would run down on the floor, even if the bib were wide enough to protect the child's clothes.

The pocket **32** is formed because of the extra length of the bib portion **10** and also because of the way in which the rearward ends of the elastic band **22** pull the side edges inward and make the side edges of the bib portion flare upwardly and outwardly immediately behind the tray **25**.

Figure 5 shows the shape of the blanks from which the cover garment is made. The front of the tray cover portion is large enough and preferably curved in order to accommodate it better to high chair trays of different shapes. The side edges of the blanks, in the region near the rearward end of the tray cover portion, continue the curvature of the front beyond a maximum width so that

the edge portion will converge slightly toward the middle level of the garment.

The shape of the side edges is symmetrical above an intermediate point **34** for a substantial distance so that the blanks, turned in opposite directions as shown in Figure 5, can be cut from a piece of sheet or bolt material **36** with a minimum of waste. The stippled areas in Fig. 5 show the portion of a bib which cover the arms of the high chair.

The preferred embodiment of the invention has been illustrated and described, but changes and modifications can be made and some features can be used in different combinations without departing from the invention as defined in the claim.

I claim as my invention:

A cover garment for protecting the clothes of a child and a tray of a high chair from spilled food, said garment having a body including a bib portion, and tray cover portion, said tray cover portion being wider than the bib portion and having front and side edges, an elastic band secured to the tray cover portion along and adjacent to said front and both side edges of the tray cover portion for gathering said front and said side edges, the bib portion and tray cover portion of the garment merging with one another along a smooth continuous surface, the elastic band having end portions that converge toward one another and terminate within the body of the garment at the region where the bib portion and tray cover portion merge, and the ends of the elastic band being spaced from one another by most of the width of the tray cover portion but by a distance substantially less than the width of the bib portion of the garment so that the bib portion has its sides beyond the elastic band, the bib portion and tray cover portion being constructed of a single sheet of flat material whereby it can be laid out on a plane surface for cleaning.

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