

1,218,307.

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INFANT'S VEST.
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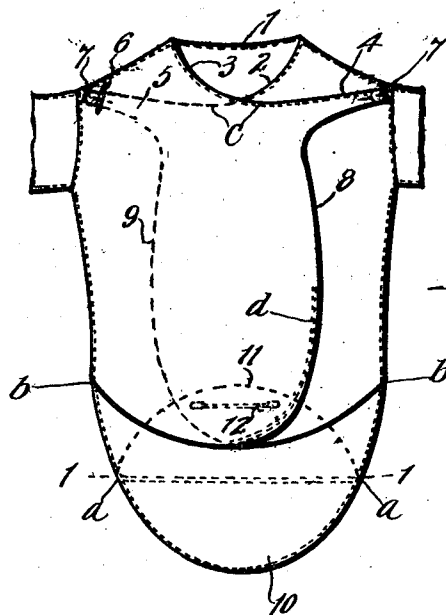


Fig. 1.

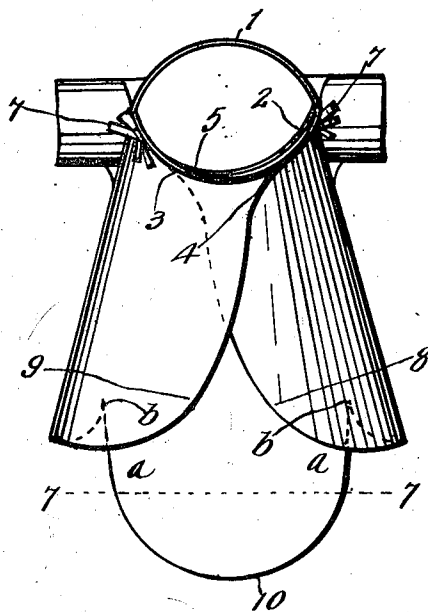


Fig. 2.

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INFANT'S VEST.

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Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HATTIE JANE PAGE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Grand Rapids, in the county of Kent and State of Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Infants' Vests, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in infants' vests, and its objects are: first, to provide a vest so cut and assembled that it will not be necessary to disconnect the neck fastenings when desiring to put the vest onto, or to take it off of a child; second, to provide a means whereby there will be no danger or opportunity of the vest spreading apart or becoming wrinkled and uncomfortable when on the infant, and, third, to provide a vest having the qualities hereinbefore claimed that may be readily converted into a napkin support.

These objects are attained by the construction and arrangement of parts shown in the accompanying drawing, in which similar reference characters refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

Figure 1 is a front elevation of the vest, and Fig. 2 shows practically the form of the vest when in condition to be placed upon an infant.

In cutting the fabric for making this vest the neck curves, 1, 2, 3, are properly formed and then a retaining strap, as 4, 5, is extended from the front parts of the neck curve. The strap 5 is passed under the lap 8 of the vest and is passed through an opening, as 6, and secured in place over the right shoulder of the child, practically on the shoulder seam, while the strap 4, extending from the neck curve 3, passes outside of the lap 8 and is secured to the left shoulder of the vest, all as indicated at 7, 7, in Fig. 1. With this construction the laps or folds 8 and 9 form a double breasted vest to thoroughly protect the thorax and lungs of the infant. While the straps 4 and 5 are shown in Fig. 1 as buttoned to the shoulder of the vest, it is not desired to restrict it to this form of fastening, as the adjustability of the neck opening, to be hereafter more fully explained, renders it possible to secure the ends of these straps in any available manner, as by buttoning, as in Fig. 1, by the use of tie strings made of baby ribbon, as in Fig. 2, by the use of hooks and eyes, or pins, or, even, by sewing the ends of the straps se-

curely to the body of the fabric. For very young infants the button fastening is preferable as it is not convenient to force a garment of this kind over the head and arms of children under five or six months old, as they are too feeble and helpless to assist in any manner in the process, but as soon as the child has attained an age when it can use a given degree of judgment, and can assist somewhat in the proper placing of the vest upon it, it is much more desirable to have the ends of the straps permanently secured to the shoulders of the vest, as by sewing, for the reasons: first, that by this means no hard substance, as a button, is present to press upon, and hurt the child, and, second, it is much more convenient as the danger of the straps becoming disconnected at 7, 7, when putting the vest onto a child, is wholly averted.

When putting on, or taking off this garment the two front folds of the neck, as 2, 3, should be taken hold of practically at *c*, in Fig. 1, and the straps 4 and 5 drawn outward until the neck of the vest assumes practically the position indicated in Fig. 2. When in this position the body of the vest naturally assumes the position shown in Fig. 2 so it is no trouble to throw it over the head of the child.

The extended flap 10 is designed to act a double purpose: first, it is to be folded upon the line 1—1 to the position indicated by the dotted lines 11, in Fig. 1 and there secured by passing a safety pin, or other available fastening device, as indicated at 12, through this flap and through both of the folds, 8 and 9 of the body of the vest, for the purpose of holding these folds securely in place so they cannot wrinkle, fold, or draw upward or sidewise, when on the child, and, second, it may be utilized to hold a napkin upon the child, the space between *a* and *b* being designed for the passage of the child's legs, it being understood, of course, that when on the child the part of the flap between the child's legs or between the points *a*—*a* will become conformed to the conditions, so as not to unduly spread the legs of the child, and so as to hold the napkin in proper, comfortable form for protecting the child and those holding him.

It is to be understood that no attempt has been made to give exact desired or needed forms, as, for instance, the flap 10 might

be more desirable if it were made proportionally narrower, or, perhaps, longer, or the folds 8 and 9 might be more desirable if wider, &c.

- 5 When this vest has been placed upon a child by passing it over his head without unfastening the straps 4 and 5 from the shoulders, all that is necessary to draw the shoulders and neck curves into proper place
10 is to take hold of the shoulders and ends of the straps at 7, 7 and draw gently outward and the vest will be drawn into proper position to fit comfortably on the child and so it cannot work out of place or become
15 disarranged without the direct effort of a nurse drawing upon the points indicated at c, in Fig. 1, as hereinbefore described, even with the point at 12 unsecured, but with the flap 10 in position 11 and there secured
20 there is no possible chance for the disarrangement of any part of the vest.

- The breast piece or lap 8 may, if desired, be securely attached to the lap 9, for a short distance at the lower end, as indicated by
25 the dotted lines 9, in Fig. 1, but I do not deem this of any advantage, as it renders it much more inconvenient to place the vest onto a very young child where the straps 4 and 5 have to be disconnected at 7, or onto
30 an older child where the straps 4 and 5 may be left secured at 7 but it is desirable

that the flaps or folds 8 and 9 be separated at the lower end, as in Fig. 2.

It will be readily understood that this neck and strap construction may be applied 35 to any form of infants', children's or ladies' waists, hence I do not desire to restrict myself to infants' garments, but have made the description upon these as really the most desirable class of apparel upon which 40 to use the device as shown.

What is claimed as new in this invention, and is desired to be secured by Letters Patent of the United States, is:—

In a child's vest, a closed back and an 45 open double-breasted front, the outer fold of the front having a slot through it near the junction of the shoulder seam and the armseye seam, a strap extending from one breast fold under the other breast fold and 50 through the slot and the free end securely connected with the shoulder at the point of connection of the shoulder seam and the armseye seam, a similar strap extending from the outer fold of the vest with the 55 free end extending to, and securely connected with the opposite shoulder at the point of connection of the shoulder seam and the armseye seam.

Signed at Grand Rapids, Michigan, July 60 18, 1916.

HATTIE JANE PAGE.