

June 8, 1948.

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2,442,749

LADY'S RAINCOAT

Filed March 15, 1946

2 Sheets-Sheet 1

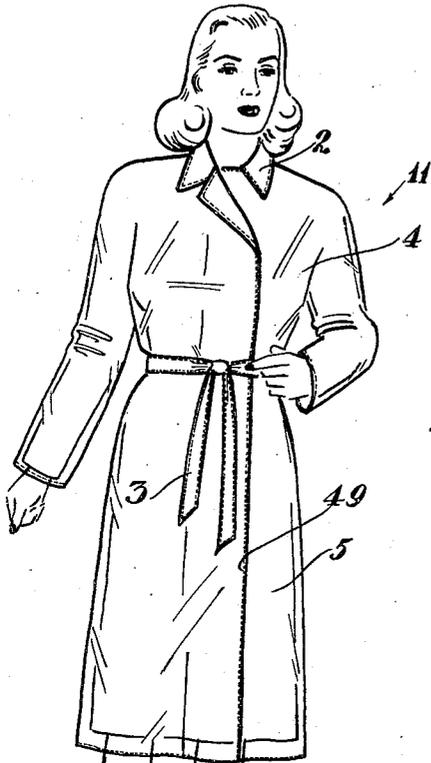


FIG. 1

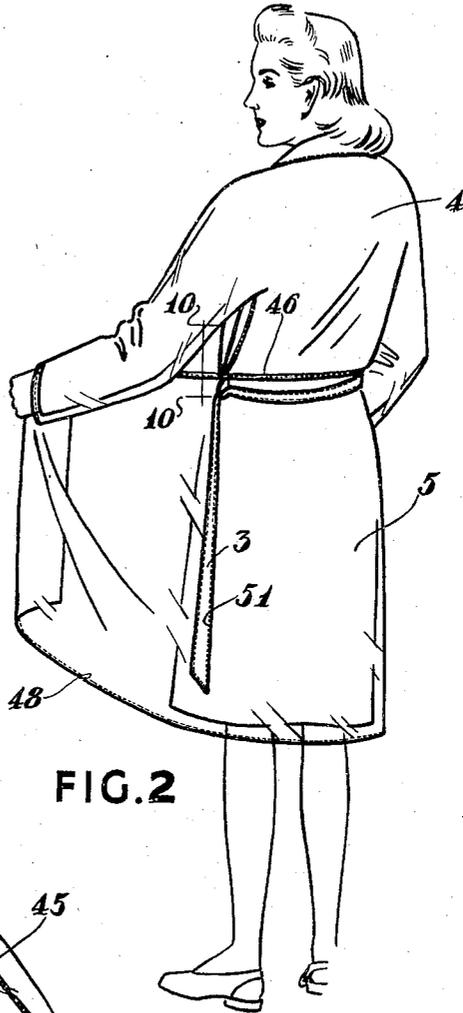


FIG. 2

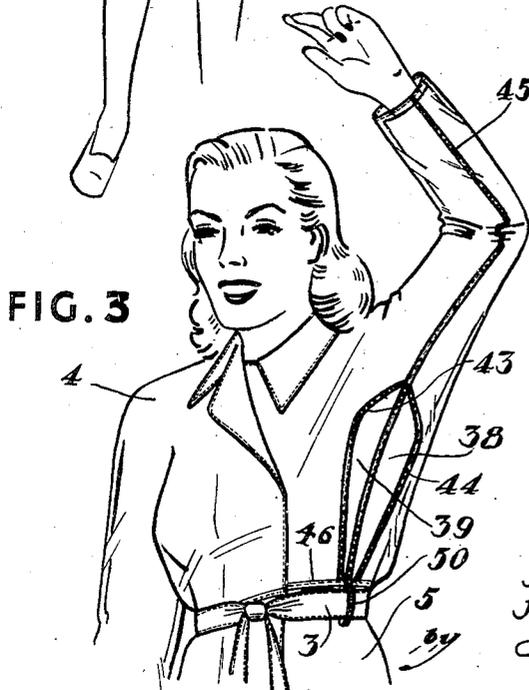


FIG. 3

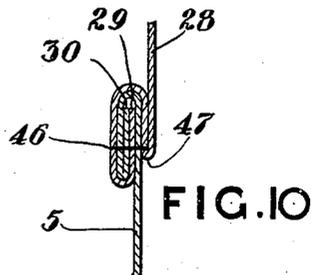


FIG. 10

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2 Sheets-Sheet 2

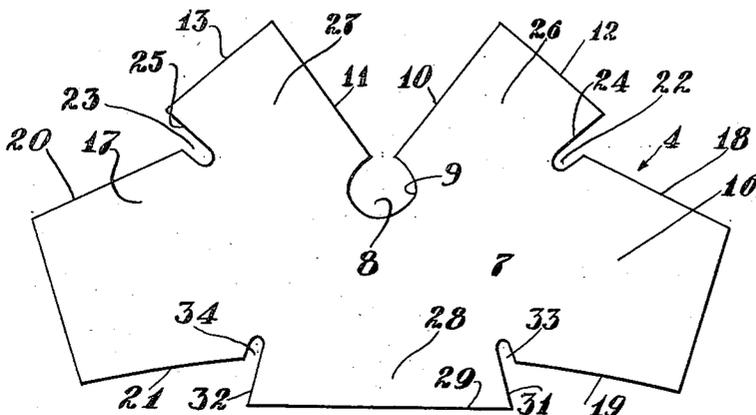


FIG. 4

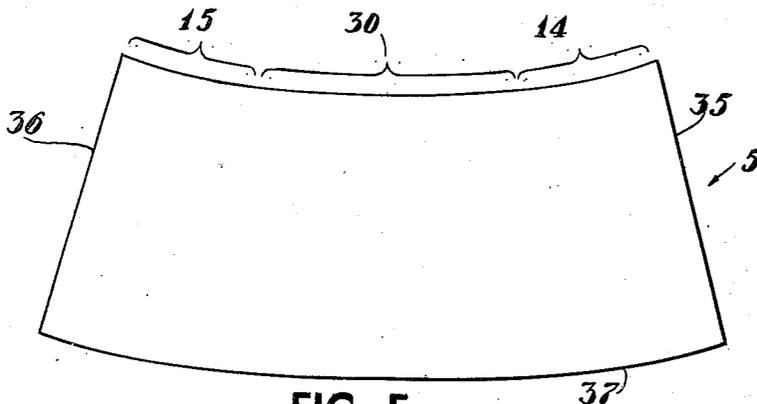


FIG. 5

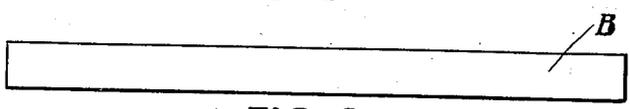


FIG. 6

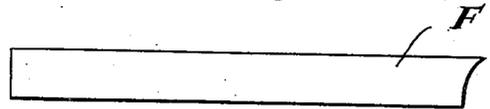


FIG. 7

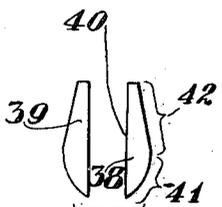


FIG. 8

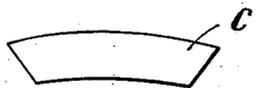


FIG. 9

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## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,442,749

## LADY'S RAINCOAT

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Application March 15, 1946, Serial No. 654,596

4 Claims. (Cl. 2—87)

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This invention pertains to apparel, and relates more especially to women's raincoats. Customarily such coats have been made of rubberized or moisture-repellent material, the parts being cut and seamed together following the usual practice in making ordinary clothing, except that the seams may be treated for example with rubber cement or the like in the endeavor to prevent leakage. Such prior garments, made of waterproof or moisture-repellent textile material, are usually stiff and lack good draping qualities; if really waterproof they are quite often heavy and clumsy and out of keeping with the expected daintiness and styling of other articles of women's wear; sewed seams tend to open up after use, permitting leakage, and the colors available in such waterproof fabrics are limited in range and usually dull and uninteresting. The present invention has for objects the provision of a raincoat especially for women's or children's use, which is actually waterproof; which has no exposed seams in its upper portion; which is very light in weight and which drapes with substantially the same effect as fine dress fabrics; which may be of highly pleasing colors in a wide range of shades; and which if desired may be substantially transparent.

A further object is to provide a raincoat which is easy to don and doff, which requires no buttons, snaps or similar fasteners to hold it in place, which is pleasing in style and appearance, and which is strong and durable. Other and further objects and advantages of the invention will be pointed out in the following more detailed description and by reference to the accompanying drawings, wherein

Fig. 1 is a perspective front view of the garment as it appears when worn;

Fig. 2 is a three-quarters perspective rear view of the garment, showing it open at the front;

Fig. 3 is a fragmentary perspective view, showing the upper portion of the garment, as worn, with one arm raised to show the underarm construction;

Fig. 4 is a plan view of a blank which constitutes the yoke of the garment;

Fig. 5 is a plan view of a blank which constitutes the skirt of the garment;

Fig. 6 is a plan view of a blank employed in making the belt of the garment;

Fig. 7 is a plan view of a strip of material employed as a facing at the front of the garment;

Fig. 8 is a plan view illustrating the two parts of a gusset employed beneath the arm;

Fig. 9 is a plan view of a collar blank; and

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Fig. 10 is a fragmentary vertical section, to large scale, substantially on the line 10—10 of Fig. 2, showing a desirable form of seam for uniting the yoke and skirt of the garment.

Referring to the drawings, the numeral 1 designates the garment as a whole, the garment comprising a collar 2, a belt 3, minor elements of trim, and but two major parts, to wit, the one-piece yoke 4 with which the sleeves are integral, and the one-piece skirt 5.

The material chosen for making the various parts of the garment is completely waterproof and consists of a thin, tough, pliable, sheeted, synthetic resin, for instance plasticized vinyl chloride. Material of this general character is sold under the trade name "Koroseal," and is readily available as a commercial product. This material may be obtained in almost any desired color, and transparent or translucent, if desired, and is not injuriously affected by oil or grease or by exposure to the air or normal climatic conditions. It may be obtained in as pliable a form as desired, and without any tackiness or tendency to deteriorate during use. Such material has a soft pleasing feel, it is not cold to the touch like usual waterproof materials, and it drapes in substantially the same way as ordinary textile fabrics. While the parts of the garment made of this material may be united by sewed seams in the same way as garments made of textile material and as here illustrated by way of example, it is readily possible, when using this sheeted synthetic resin, to form the joints by a heat sealing operation so that no stitching is necessary. For some purposes it may be desirable to employ a combination of sewing stitches and heat sealing in forming the leak-tight joints between the parts.

A garment made from material such as just referred to is extremely light, weighs but a few ounces, as the material may be very thin, for instance 0.004 inch thick, and is very pliable. Thus the garment may be rolled up or folded into a very small package easily disposable in an ordinary travel bag; but when unfolded its draping qualities are such that wrinkles quickly shake out and disappear.

The yoke 4 (Fig. 4) is a unitary piece of the material; and comprises a central or shoulder portion 7 having a neck opening 8 bounded by a curved edge 9 which intersects the forwardly divergent straight edges 10 and 11, respectively, the latter edges, in the completed garment, constituting the upper edge portions of the front closure. These edges 10 and 11 intersect (at substantially right angles) the edge portions 12 and

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13 respectively, which, in the completed garment, extend substantially horizontally at the level of the waistline and to which are secured the right and left portions 14 and 15 (Fig. 5) respectively of the upper edge of the skirt 5. The yoke blank also comprises the sleeve portions 16 and 17, integral with the central portion 7, the sleeve portions having longitudinal edges 18 and 19, and 20 and 21, respectively. The edges 18 and 20 terminate at narrow U-shaped notches or recesses 22 and 23, respectively, which define the rear edges 24 and 25 respectively of the breast portions 26 and 27 of the garment.

The yoke also comprises the back portion 28 having the lower edge 29 which terminates at narrow U-shaped notches or recesses 33 and 34 respectively, which define the right and left side edges 31 and 32, respectively of the back. The lower edge 29 of the back member 28 is united, in the completed garment, to the central portion 30 of the upper edge of the skirt 5, the length of this upper edge of the skirt substantially equaling the aggregate lengths of the edges 12, 13 and 29 of the yoke. The unitary, one-piece skirt has the upwardly convergent forward edges 35 and 36, respectively, which, in the completed garment, form continuations of the edges 10 and 11 of the yoke to define the front closure for the garment. The skirt also has a downwardly concave upper edge and a downwardly convex lower edge 37 which extends uninterruptedly about the garment from one side to the other.

As illustrated in Figs. 3 and 8, a substantially kite-shaped elongate gore structure is provided at each armscye of the garment, this gore structure comprising two gore members 38 and 39 of substantially identical shape, but arranged reversely, each having a straight inner edge 40, and an outer edge which comprises a curved portion 41 and a substantially straight portion 42.

As illustrated in Fig. 6, there is provided a strip B of material for use in making the belt, and strips F of material (Fig. 7) employed in facing the garment at its front, there being two such strips, one being used at each side of the garment. The collar 2 is formed from a blank C, as shown in Fig. 9.

In making up the garment, a pair of gore members 38 and 39 is first sewed to the yoke at each side of the latter, so that the curved edge 41 of each core extends along the shorter side of one of the notches 22 and 33, respectively, with the edge 42 of each gore extending along the longer side of the respective notches, the gore members being secured to the yoke by seams 43 and 44 (Fig. 3). The edges 18 and 19 of the sleeve are now united by the longitudinally extending underarm seam 45 extending from the wrist ends of the sleeves and which continue beyond the edges 18 and 19 and unite the straight edges 40 of the gore members 38 and 39, this seam thus bisecting the gore structure and continuing down to and terminating at the lower ends of the edges 24 and 31. It is understood that the same operation is performed in introducing the gores beneath each arm.

The upper edge of the skirt 5 is now united (Fig. 10) to the edges 12, 29 and 13 of the yoke by a seam 46 whose stitches catch the lower end of the gore, at each side of the garment. This seam is preferably so formed, by interfolding their marginal portions, that the upper edge 30 of the skirt and the lower edge 29 of the yoke to which it is united, are disposed between several plies of the material, as illustrated in Fig. 10, and so that

a fold 47 of the yoke is directed downwardly at the outside of the garment so as to overlap the outer surface of the upper margin of the skirt and conceal the stitches. Thus any water running down the outer surface of the yoke will drip directly down from the water-shedding edge 47 without any substantial possibility of entering the interior of the garment through the seam. If desired, the plies of fabrics at the seam may be cemented, or heat sealed, either in addition to or as a substitute for the sewed seam, but the sewed seam formed as illustrated is amply waterproof, it being noted that the stitches which form this seam do not extend through the outer ply of the yoke member. The skirt 5 may now be hemmed at its lower edge 37, a seam 48 uniting the plies of the hem. The facing strips F are secured to the front of the garment, one at each side, one facing extending from top to bottom of the garment along the edges 10, 35, and the other along the edges 11, 36, respectively, the facing strips being secured by seams 49 (Fig. 1) or other appropriate means. Belt-retaining loops 50 (Fig. 3) are attached to opposite sides of the garment, preferably substantially in line with the underarm seam 45 and at points adjacent to the seam 46, and the belt blank B is folded to form two plies with the edges of the blank concealed between them, the plies being secured together by appropriate seams 51 (Fig. 2). The belt is now introduced into the loops 50 at opposite sides of the garment, and the garment is ready for use. In donning the garment, the user thrusts her arms into the sleeves, then wraps the right-hand forward portion of the garment over the left, and draws them together by means of the belt and ties the belt in a knot at the front. No other fastening means is requisite.

It may be noted that since the yoke and sleeves are integral and since the only seams in the sleeves are the seams 43, 44 and 45, all of which are at the under side of the sleeve, there is no crevice through which moisture may enter the upper portion of the garment. Likewise, as above described, the only seam which unites the yoke to the skirt is so fashioned that moisture cannot enter through this seam. The garment being made of a waterproof material and without exposed seams, is thus completely waterproof.

While one desirable embodiment of the invention has been illustrated by way of example, it is to be understood that the invention is broadly inclusive of any and all modifications falling within the scope of the appended claims.

We claim:

1. A wrap-around raincoat which, except for collar, belt and usual trim elements, consists of but two pieces of waterproof material, to wit, a one-piece skirt and a one-piece yoke, the latter comprising right and left breast portions, sleeve portions and a back portion, the yoke having narrow U-shaped recesses at the intersections of the sleeve portions with the breast and back portions respectively, the length of the upper edge of the skirt portion substantially equaling the aggregate lengths of the lower edges of the back and breast portions of the yoke, a waterproof joint uniting said edges of the yoke and skirt, a gore extending longitudinally of each sleeve at each armscye of the garment, an underarm seam extending uninterruptedly from the wrist end of each sleeve to the upper edge of the skirt, said seams bisecting the respective gores, and a belt constructed and arranged to hold the garment closed at its front when in use.

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2. A wrap-around raincoat of thin, transparent, water-proof, flexible material which comprises a one-piece skirt and one-piece yoke, the latter comprising right and left breast portions, sleeve portions and a back portion, the yoke having narrow U-shaped recesses at the intersections of the sleeve portions with the breast and back portions respectively, the skirt being united by a sewed seam at its upper edge to the yoke, the lower portion of the yoke extending downwardly to form a water-shedding fold below and concealing the stitches forming the seam, each sleeve having an underarm seam extending uninterruptedly from its wrist end to the upper edge of the skirt, and an elongate substantially kite-shaped gore extending longitudinally of each sleeve at each armscye, the lower end of each gore being caught by the stitches which unite the skirt and yoke, and each underarm seam substantially bisecting its respective gore.

3. A wrap-around raincoat of thin-transparent, water-proof, flexible material and which comprises a one-piece skirt and a yoke, the latter comprising right and left breast portions, sleeve portions and a back portion, the yoke having narrow U-shaped recesses at the intersections of the sleeve portions with the breast and back portions respectively, the skirt being united by a sewed seam at its upper edge to the yoke, each sleeve having an underarm seam extending uninterruptedly from its wrist end to the upper edge of the skirt, and an elongate gore extending longitudinally of each sleeve at the armscye, each gore comprising two substantially like elongate pieces each having a curved outer edge and a substantially straight inner edge, the curved outer edges extending along and being united to the margins of the U-shaped recesses and the substantially straight edges being juxtaposed and united by the stitches of the underarm seam, one end of the gore being caught into

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the seam which unites the skirt and yoke, and the underarm seam substantially bisecting the corresponding gore.

4. A wrap-around raincoat of thin water-proof, flexible material and which comprises a one-piece skirt and a yoke the latter consisting of a single piece of material and comprising right and left breast portions, sleeve portions and a back portion, the yoke having narrow U-shaped recesses at the intersections of the sleeve portions with the breast and back portions respectively, the skirt being united by a sewed seam at its upper edge to the yoke, each sleeve having an underarm seam extending uninterruptedly from its wrist end to the upper edge of the skirt, and a kite-shaped gore at each armscye, each gore comprising two substantially like elongate pieces each having a curved outer edge and a substantially straight inner edge, the curved outer edges extending along and being united to the margins of the U-shaped recesses and the substantially straight edges of the pieces being juxtaposed and united by the stitches of the underarm seam, one end of the gore reaching down to the upper edge of the skirt and being secured to the latter.

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