CHILD'S SLIP

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The present invention relates to a child's slip and more particularly to a child's slip having an elastic bodice portion and means incorporated in the slip to increase its size so that it may be altered to fit the wearer as she grows.

It is well known that small children's garments lose their usefulness not because they have worn out or otherwise become shabby and unfit for wear, but because the wearer has outgrown them. This is especially true of little girls' clothing, since the little girl is less likely to subject the garments to the abuse given them by small boys.

It is, therefore, an object of the present invention to provide a garment which will have a greater span of useful life in that it is adapted to be enlarged. Means are incorporated in the garment for enlarging the size thereof readily and simply. A plurality of such means are provided. Some being adapted to enlarge the slip above the waistline and others to provide greater length downwardly from the waist line. These two provisions for adjustment in size along with the self-adjusting property of the entire garment and the growth of the child combine to insure a proper fit of the garment over a substantial range of the child's growth.

Since, as is obvious, the anatomy of all girls is not of standardized proportions, it is important that the upper portion of the slip be adjustable to accommodate the varying body dimensions that different wearers may possess. It is impractical, if not impossible, to manufacture garments possessing the infinite variety of proportional anatomical relationships, which nature has provided and it is therefore an object of the present invention to provide a child's slip which is so constructed that the upper portion molds itself to the body of the child, conforming exactly to the shape and dimensions thereof. It is therefore also for this purpose that a slip embodying the present invention is constructed in its upper or bodice portion entirely of an elasticized fabric.

Little girls, like their older counterparts, desire garments, even undergarments, that possess that lacy, feminine look. It is for this reason that slips for small girls are trimmed with lace. Heretofore it has been difficult to place a lace trimming on an elasticized fabric and it is another object of the present invention to provide means for overcoming the difficulties heretofore encountered in placing a non-elastic lace trimming on an elasticized fabric.

These and other objects and advantages of the present invention will be more readily apparent from the following description and drawing one specific embodiment thereof. In the drawing:

Fig. 1 is a front view of a child's slip embodying the present invention;
Fig. 2 is a partially broken away rear view thereof;
Fig. 3 is an enlarged detail view showing a segment of the upper edge of the slip shown in Figs. 1 and 2;
Fig. 4 is a sectional view taken along line 4—4 on Fig. 1; and
Fig. 5 is a sectional view taken along line 5—5 on Fig. 1.

The particular embodiment of the invention illustrated in the drawing comprises an elasticized bodice portion 10 and a lower skirt portion 11. The bodice portion is primarily elastic circumferentially about the body of the wearer. The lower skirt portion comprises a plurality of panels, a front panel 12, two side panels 13, a rear panel 14 and a bottom circumferential panel 15.

The slip is provided with the customary shoulder straps 16 which are secured at both ends to the upper bodice portion 10. As can be seen best in Fig. 4 the shoulder straps 16 are provided with an overlapping portion held in position by stitching 17. When it is desired to enlarge the garment, the stitching 17 is removed, the overlap will, of course, pull right out; this will increase the length of the shoulder straps by an amount equal to the overlap. It should be noted that the overlapped portion is pressed flat during the manufacture of the slip so that it will assume a position parallel to the rest of the strap 16 prior to the removal thereof.

As can be seen clearest in Fig. 5, a similar overlap is provided along the waistline of the garment between the bodice portion 10 and the skirt portion 11. The fabric of the skirt portion, here of the panel 12, is secured at its upper edge to the lower edge of the elasticized fabric 18 of the bodice portion 10 by seam 18 and is overlapped and again secured by seam 20. By removing seam 20 the skirt can be lengthened an amount equal to the distance between the two seams 18 and 20. Thus the two provisions for enlarging the garment cooperate to permit proportional enlargement with increases both above and below the waist line, and since the bodice is elasticized it, too, will conform properly to the wearer's body as she grows.

Fig. 3 shows clearest the structure of the garment about the upper edge of the bodice portion...
and the structure provided to permit the securing of lace along the upper edges of the elasticized fabric 18 of which the bodice portion 10 is constituted. Inserted between the elasticized fabric 18 and the lace 22 is an elasticized element 23.

The structure described and illustrated and the method set out below may be employed wherever it is desired to secure a substantially inelastic trimming such as lace to a substantially elastic fabric. The elastic fabric may be any of the many types commonly used, some of which are tricot acetate with elastic members sewn or woven therein, multifilament crepe, many knitted fabrics, with or without elastic yarns therein, and, in fact, any fabric which is substantially elastic may be trimmed with a substantially inelastic trimming according to the invention set forth herein.

The elasticized element is secured to the fabric 18 and the lace 22 is secured to the elasticized element 23. It is this elasticized element 23 which permits the lace 22 to be applied to trim the upper edges of the bodice portion 10. The lace 22 is provided with a lattice work portion 24 immediately adjacent to the elasticized element 23.

In the manufacture of the garment the elasticized element 23 is stretched a substantial amount; while in the stretched condition the lace 22 is secured to the elasticized element 23. The elasticized element 23 is then permitted to return to its normal unstretched position and in this condition is sewn on to the elasticized fabric 18 of the bodice portion 10.

Since the lace 22 is secured to the elasticized element 23 while the element 23 is held in the elongated position, the lace will be slightly gathered when the element 23 returns to its normal position and will not hinder or in any way limit the natural expansion of the elasticized fabric 18 of the bodice portion 10.

I claim:

1. A child's slip comprising a bodice portion, a skirt portion, and shoulder straps, said bodice portion being made of an elasticized fabric having pronounced horizontal stretchability, and the upper edge of said skirt portion being joined to the lower edge of said bodice portion and folded upwardly with part of the material of said skirt portion at the waist of the slip overlaying said bodice portion and again joined thereto a small distance above the first mentioned juncture and then folded downwardly, whereby the slip may be lengthened by repositioning the first mentioned juncture with respect to the last mentioned juncture.

2. The child's slip of claim 1, wherein a portion of each of said shoulder straps overlies another portion of the same strap.

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