

SKIRT.

APPLICATION FILED JULY 2, 1909.

947,479.

Patented Jan. 25, 1910.



WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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Specification of Letters Patent.

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Application filed July 2, 1909. Serial No. 505,545.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SOLOMON COHN, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the city of New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Skirts, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to apparel and particularly to skirts for women's use, and it consists in such a combination of parts as permits the one skirt to be readily adjusted to fit nicely, persons of different waist line measurements or the same person at times when the waist line measurement differs from that of former times.

It is particularly adapted for use as what is termed a maternity skirt.

Figure 1, is a view of such skirt, in place, with the plackets closed and the adjustments made to cause it to fit the form of the wearer (indicated). Fig. 2, shows the same skirt with the fastenings released, ready to be assumed by the wearer. Fig. 3, shows said skirt as it would appear when draped upon a form of ampler proportions than Fig. 1.

In making this skirt, a sufficient number of breadths of suitable lengths and shape 4, 5, 6, &c., are seamed together, but in assembling these breadths, care is taken that one breadth 4, of considerable width, shall be at the central part of the rear part of the skirt, and the 7, 8, seams which join this breadth to the others, are terminated some distance—usually 9 inches, or thereabout below the waist line, thus leaving double placket openings, one at each side of the center of the back, between that part of the side edge 9 (or 10) of said breadth 4, which is not secured to the adjacent breadth by the ordinary seam, and the said adjacent breadth.

The adjacent edges 9, 10 of said rear breadth and the edges 11, 12 of the side breadths 5, 6 may be finished as desired, usually by facing them and strengthening them at the ends of the seam, by gussets or in other suitable ways.

The upper edges of the breadths of the skirt are provided with a belt 14 of such size, preferably, as will nearly encircle the waist of the wearer when at its smallest limit, and at each end, said belt is preferably provided with the socket part—16 and 17 of a spring fastening.

The upper edge of the breadth 4 is graduated to fit the form, going higher toward each side and is provided with a binding 15 in the form of a short strip of belting, to which I secure a series of closely set studs 18, 19, to correspond with and complete the spring fastenings of which sockets 16, 17 are the other parts. The belt 15 is also provided with string 20, 21 extending from end to end of belting strip 15 and projecting from the respective ends. It is adapted to reach about the wearer's waist, with sufficient surplus to be conveniently tied.

From a point, preferably a little above the upper ends of the seams 7, 8 and extending downward to the bottom of the skirt, I form plaits 22, increasing in width from the upper to the lower ends.

I have spoken of the part 4 as a breadth, but in practice, it is formed of several pieces seamed together the entire length, and thus forming substantially one piece, or the placket openings may be made by slitting the material of integral breadths at appropriate places. My use of the term breadth is not limited in its significance to exclude such construction.

It will also be noted that I form extra plaits, 23, 24, in part 4, one on each side of the center, running from the belt line to the bottom of the garment. They serve the double purpose of giving extra fullness to the back, and of graduating the distance between seams 8 and 7 so as to preserve the symmetrical appearance of the skirt when adjusted to accommodate ampler proportions, as hereinafter set forth.

When constructed as described, this skirt, open as shown in Fig. 2, may be easily passed over the head, as is common, and arranged upon the person, who then takes the strings 20, 21, in hand and drawing belt 15 snugly to the waist, secures it by tying them together, a matter rendered very easy by reason of the fact that the strings reach to and are to be secured together at the front. Then having taken care that the center line of breadth 4 is at the center of the back, the wearer takes hold of the free ends of the belt 14 and drawing it smoothly over the form, secures them by simply springing socket 16, over one of the studs 18 and socket 17 over one of the studs 19. Having properly adjusted the belt part 15, the adjustment of 16 and 17 to the proper studs 18 and

19 will be very easy, since they will naturally reach to a point evenly spaced from the center line of said belt portion 15.

It will thus be manifest that the adjustment of this skirt to a smooth fit, is much more conveniently done than if it were necessary to adjust the skirt before putting it on, and, if it did not fit exactly, taking it off for further adjustment. Again, the strings extending from the rear breadth to the front of the body make it possible to adjust the central line of the breadth from a point where the hands are more free to be used with skill and comfort than if that primary and controlling adjustment could only be made at the back or side.

Having once adjusted this skirt, if the form assume ampler proportions, that will not interfere at all with the securing of a smooth fit. The rear breadth will be brought to its proper location and the side plackets closed in exactly the same manner as before, the difference being that the sockets 16 and 17 will merely reach and be sprung over the studs of the series 18 and 19, which are a little farther from the center line of the belt portion 15, than were those first used, and the plaits 22 will, if necessary open slightly (or considerably) to accommodate the situation.

When the greater amplitude is succeeded by smaller proportions, or the skirt is used by a small person, the adjustment to that situation may be accomplished in the same way and with equal ease.

Since the edges 9, 10, are entirely separate from the edges 11, 12, the skirt will fit much more smoothly, than if the skirt were merely made too large and then folded over. Any folding of material at the waist line is substantially certain to create an objectionable protuberance wholly inconsistent with a satisfactory fit, but when one part overlies—smoothly—the next part, as it does in this skirt, such objectionable protuberance is avoided.

The arrangement of two plackets open-

ing one at each side of the center of the back, beside the functions already named accomplishes two other desirable results. First: They are not so liable to open with the bending of the body in sitting down, as are those centrally located. Second: There being two, the adjustment of each side of the skirt may be independently made, and therefore more easily made, than if both must be adjusted from one point at the back, and the fastening being upon independent studs, the bunched look, attendant upon the securing of any thickness, one upon the other, is also avoided.

What I claim as my invention and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:—

In a skirt, the combination of a central rear breadth, separated from the side breadths for a portion of its length, together with side and front breadths, the rear upper extremities of which, at the belt line, extend over portions of the rear breadth, a belt portion secured to the upper part of the rear breadth and provided with a series of fastenings on each side of the center line, bands leading from said belt portion and adapted as described to be fastened at the front and to hold the rear breadth centrally while the side breadths are being secured, an independent belt portion secured to the upper part of the remainder of the skirt and provided at each end with a fastening, complementary to the fastenings on the adjacent part of the first belt portion, a series of plaits, widening as they descend, formed in the skirt from a line above the bottom of the placket openings, and double placket openings, one on each side, between the rear breadth and the respective side breadths, all substantially as set forth.

Signed at New York in the county of New York and State of New York this 24th day of June A. D. 1909.

SOLOMON COHN.

Witnesses:

BENNO LEWINSON.

WM. ROSENBAUM.