

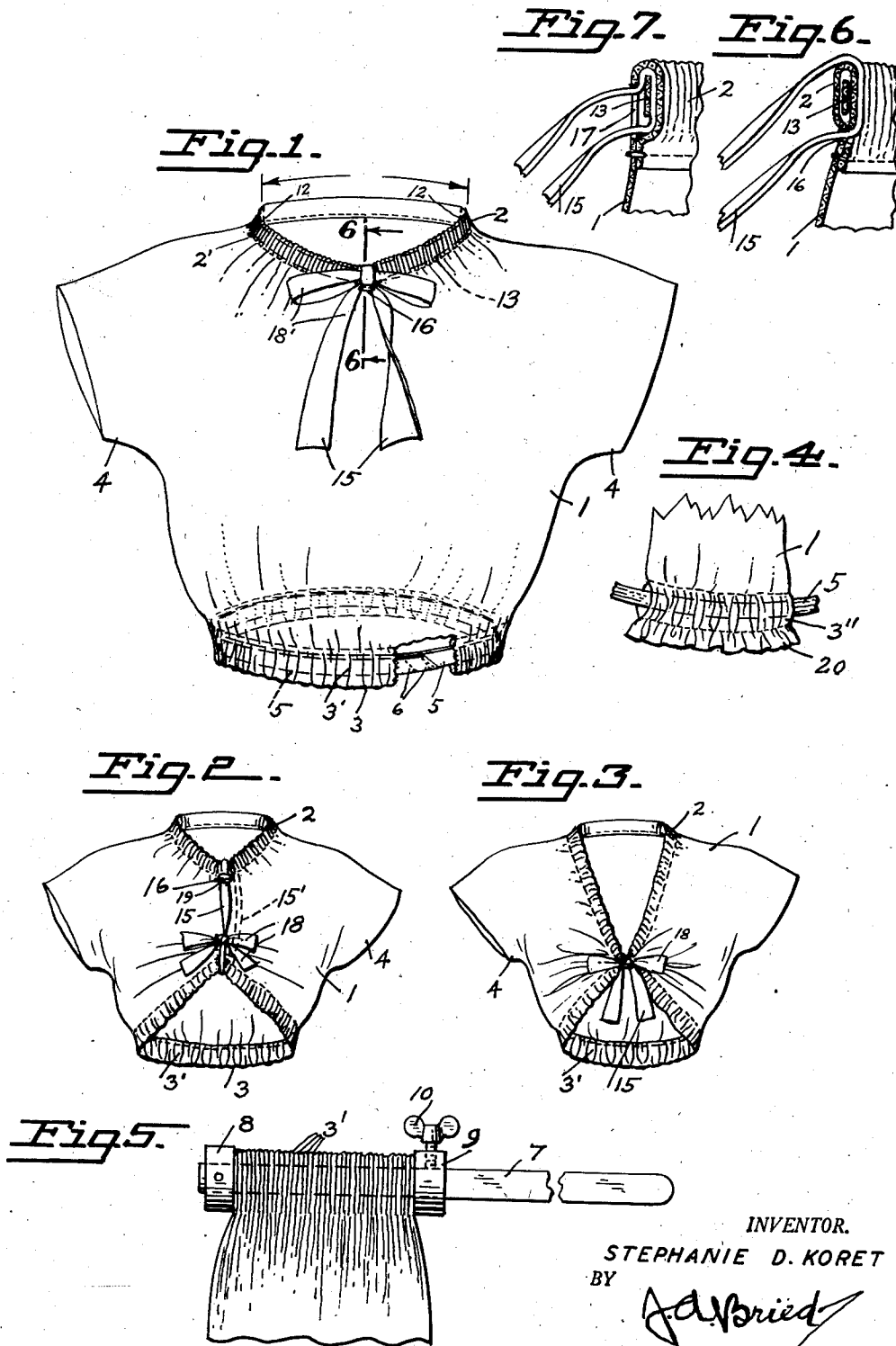
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GARMENT

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GARMENT

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This invention relates to women's garments in general which employ an elastic waistband or elastic neckband or the like and particularly to a combined blouse and halter type of garment incorporating such an elastic band portion.

The principal object of the invention is to provide improvements in women's garments incorporating elastic bands whereby more adjustment of the parts may be had than formerly, and particularly whereby a single garment such as a blouse may be converted to a halter.

Other features and advantages of the invention will appear in the following description and in the accompanying drawings.

In the drawings,

Fig. 1 is a front view of a woman's blouse shown slightly in perspective, and which incorporates some of the features of my invention, and

Fig. 2 is a reduced size view of the blouse of Fig. 1 shown partially transformed to a halter.

Fig. 3 is a view similar to that of Fig. 2 showing the complete transformation of the blouse.

Fig. 4 shows a small portion of the lower end of the garment modified with respect to the lower end of the garment of Fig. 1.

Fig. 5 is a side elevation showing the pre-crimping treatment to which the hem of the garment is subjected.

Fig. 6 is an enlarged cross sectional detail taken along the line 6—6 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 7 is a view like that of Fig. 6 showing a modification.

In further detail the figures show at 1 the body of a woman's blouse with a ruffled or crimped neckband 2 and a ruffled or crimped waistband 3, and in the present illustration the garment is shown formed with very short sleeves 4 but which may be made of any length or omitted insofar as the present invention is concerned, and like blouses generally, the garment is made full and easy fitting for the particular wearer.

Both the neckband and waistband are made tubular as by relatively deep hemming or equivalent and each contains an elastic band.

In the waistband the elastic band is designated 5 and is of endless construction, either prefabricated as an endless elastic band of the usual elastic construction containing textile materials combined with rubber strands, or of plain rubber or the like, or the elastic band may be made endless from an ordinary strip of elastic tape overlapped at its ends and the ends sewed together as indicated at 6 in Fig. 1 where the hem of the garment is broken away to show the endless elastic band.

A feature of importance is that the waistband hem is thickly shirred or crimped as at 3' so that it may be pulled outward considerably, and the elastic band 5 within it is perfectly free of any

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attachment to the hem or garment so that the shirrs may be bodily moved about relative to or on the band to bring most of them in front or at any other point where extra fullness is desired.

Besides this, the shirrs are preferably preformed under pressure and heat, preferably before the garment is completed. This may be done by sliding the hem of the flat goods over a loosely fitting flat bar 7 (see Fig. 5), and against a stop block 8, while taking care to have the shirring 3' thus produced substantially uniform, and then forcing the shirrs all tightly together as by a sliding collar 9 and securing it in place on the rod as by a hand screw 10. The shirring may also be done on a hot fluting machine, and similarly clamped on the rod.

After the shirring is clamped tightly on the bar 7 as described, it is steamed to heat and moisten it, and then dried thoroughly before removing from the rod. This treatment insures an even attractive result and in which the shirring will open and close along the preformed crease lines with an accordion effect. The shirring may also be done on a hot fluting machine, and similarly clamped on the rod.

The neckband is also a tubular hem with an elastic within, that is made somewhat differently as the shirring 2' extends about the front and sides of the neck opening only for about half the circumference of the neckband, while the rear half substantially as comes within the length designated by the arrows on Fig. 1 is not shirred and preferably does not contain an elastic band. The elastic band in the forward portion of the neck band is dotted in Fig. 1 at 13 and it terminates at the side of the neck adjacent the center of the shoulder and is sewed in place at its ends as by stitching 12, 12.

The strip of elastic 13 which extends through the shirred portion of the neckband is elastic enough to permit easy stretching of the front side of the neckband substantially to the bottom of the garment, and the elastic band 6 of the waistband is of similar grade. But the rear half of the neckband is limited in flexibility to that of the goods so that it will preferably stretch very little if any between the points embraced by the arrows of Fig. 1.

To complete the garment a long ribbon 15 is provided which may simply be passed vertically inside of the central front of the blouse and the free outer ends of the ribbon respectively be brought over the top of the neck and forwardly around the under edge of the garment and tied together in front, preferably in a bow knot, so as to draw the front neckband downward and the front lower hem upward to any degree as to the position shown in Fig. 2 or to the position shown in Fig. 3, or any point between.

To maintain the ribbon centrally disposed with

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the neckband a slot or "buttonhole" 16 may be provided through the front wall of the blouse adjacent the lower line of the neck hem 2 and the ribbon passed through and brought forward over the top of the neck bank as shown in Figs. 6 and 1 and thus surround both the neckband hem as well as the elastic strip 13 within it, or the slot or "buttonhole" may be vertically disposed as at 17 in Fig. 7 in the forward side only of the neckband hem, and the ribbon passed in and around the elastic strip 13 only and out again as shown in Fig. 7.

With either arrangement of Figs. 6 or 7 the ribbon is then preferably tied in a simple knot 19 at the front of the neck before passing one end down inside of the blouse as dotted at 15' in Fig. 2 to come out around the lower hem of the blouse and tie to the other end of the ribbon into a bow knot 18 either at the lower part of the front of the blouse, or at the neck as at 18' in Fig. 1 or at any point between.

The amount of drawing together of the ribbon ends before tying the knot determines whether the final effect is that of Fig. 2 or 3, produced by stretching the elastic bands in both the lower hem and front portion of the neck hem, or whether the ribbon is merely tied in a bow at the neck as in Fig. 1 without passing around the upper and lower elastic bands to draw them more or less together.

The shiftability of the pre-creased shirring around the waistband is of particular importance when the garment is adjusted in the form of a halter as shown in Fig. 3 in order to insure a fully ruffled margin on the two upwardly slanted lower front edges.

In Fig. 4 is shown a variation of the shirring of the hem 3" enclosing the elastic band 5, and in which showing the goods is extended beyond the lower edge of the hem in the form of flounces 20.

While I show and prefer a ribbon 15 as the flexible strip for drawing the neck opening down and the lower end of the garment upward, it is evident that it may be a tape, string, lace, strip of chamois, leather, flat chain, or any similar flexible device, and any such device is intended to be covered in my claims.

Having thus described my improvements in an elastic hemmed woman's garment what I claim is:

1. A woman's garment for the upper portion of the body provided with a shirred neckband with an elastic band therein normally substantially contracted, also a shirred waistband with an

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elastic band therein normally substantially contracted, a flexible tie strip arranged at the front of the garment in a manner for drawing the front center of the neckband down and the front center of the waistband up toward one another and holding them in such position, and an opening at the front of the neckband passing said tie strip so that the strip may be passed over the neckband and its contained elastic band.

2. A woman's garment for the upper portion of the body provided with a shirred neckband with an elastic band therein normally substantially contracted, also a shirred waistband with an elastic band therein normally substantially contracted, a flexible tie strip arranged at the front of the garment in a manner for drawing the front center of the neckband down and the front center of the waistband up toward one another and holding them in such position, and an opening at the front of the neckband arranged for said tie strip to pass into the neckband around the elastic band and out for tying in front.

3. A woman's garment for the upper portion of the body provided with a shirred neckband with an elastic band therein normally substantially contracted, also a shirred waistband with an elastic band therein normally substantially contracted, a flexible tie strip arranged at the front of the garment in a manner for drawing the front center of the neckband down and the front center of the waistband up toward one another and holding them in such position, and said tie strip passing through an opening at the neckband around the elastic band and one end passing downward within the garment and upward over the lower edge of the waistband and tied in use to the other end of the tie strip at the front of the garment.

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