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L. SEVERANCE

2,319,089

HOSPITAL GARMENT

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Fig. 1

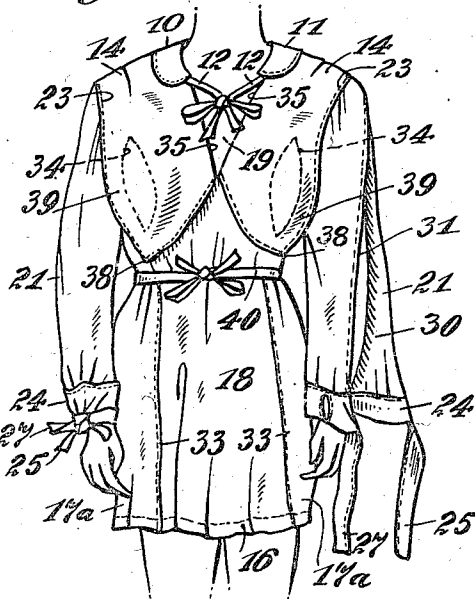


Fig. 2

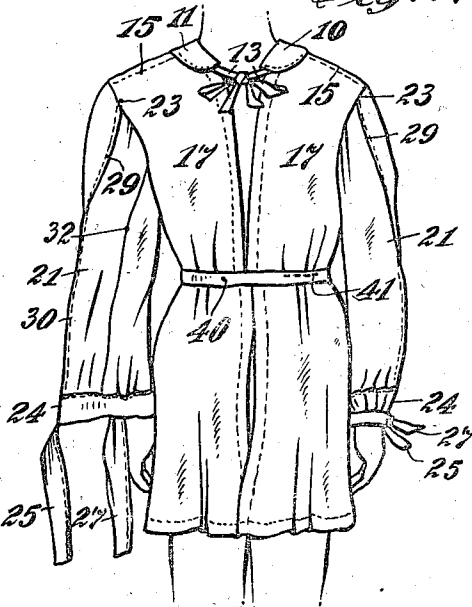
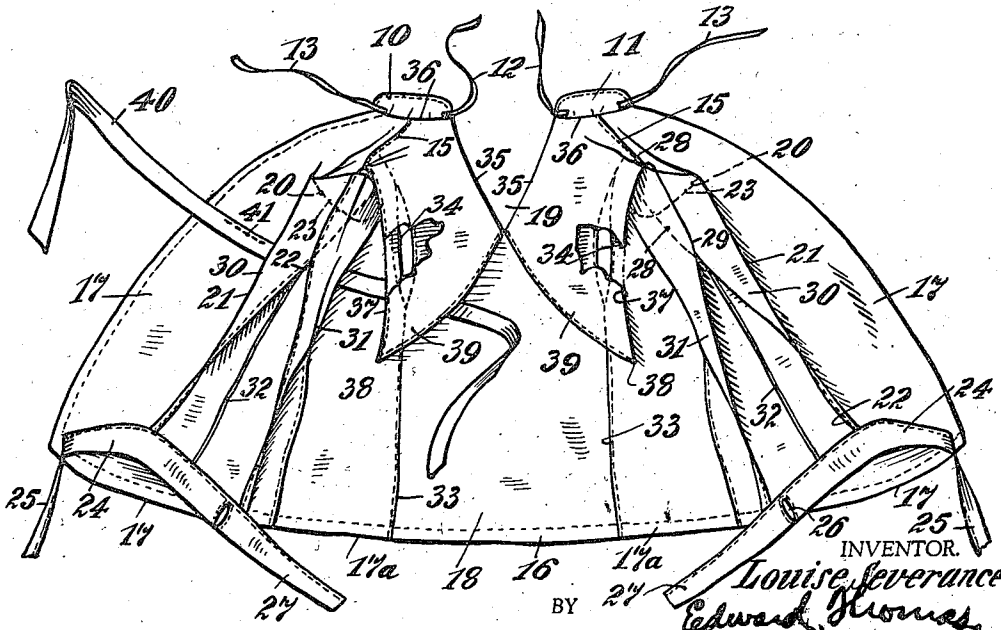


Fig. 3



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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HOSPITAL GARMENT

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Application September 22, 1939, Serial No. 296,021

1 Claim. (Cl. 2—114)

This invention relates to hospital garments. It is designed to meet all requirements of post operative care, general examinations without undue exposure of the patient, dressings, bandaging, intravenous feeding, blood transfusions, blood tests, intravenous anesthesia, stimulants and any treatment administered by hypodermic. Care of arm fractures and casts without destruction of the garment (which is the practice now in hospitals. The garment now in use requires that the sleeve be cut from the garment entirely to meet the need of arm fracture treatment). This invention also makes it possible to massage or bathe any one part of the body without exposing any other part of the body at the same time.

The present garment now in general hospital use is of box like design and proportions and has but one opening at the back held together by numerous strings. This does not meet the requirements of easy accessibility to the body for treatment and necessitates undue exposure as well as unnecessary exertion to the patient caused by its lack of adaptability to various treatments required in nursing the patient, adding avoidable handicaps to his or her recovery and there is no hospital garment now in use which is designed to function for the nursing mother.

The garment herein illustrated is in the form of a maternity garment, which is so adapted that it may be put on or removed with a minimum amount of physical effort to the patient or undue exposure of any part of the body to air or draught.

Nerve shock caused by critical operations, Caesarean births, severe accidents and prolonged periods of pain cause extreme sensitivity to air and the touch of human hands irrespective of how gentle an effort is made to administer any necessary treatment and assistance. The present garment now in use, penalizes and exacts a wholly unnecessary toll from such patients.

A mother suffering debility and extreme exhaustion directly following the birth of a child is still further handicapped by a garment now in general hospital use which fails to meet the requirements of breast feeding without undue exertion resulting from the inaccessibility to the breast and undue exposure to other parts of the body of the mother while nursing, made unavoidable by its present clumsy design and construction.

According to this invention this maternity model of coat for hospital use meets all requirements of normal treatment and convales-

cence and adequately meets all requirements for any unforeseen complications that may arise, such as easy accessibility to the breasts to take care of any excess drainage of milk and all medicinal applications required in treatment of them, together with all intravenous treatments through the arm without removing the garment from the shoulder; all treatment necessitating the use of hypodermics; all abdominal bandaging and dressings without removing the garment or having to raise the garment above the abdomen. The body can be made entirely free from any interference of the gown for all vaginal examinations and treatment and this feature insures perfect freedom while the bed-pan is in use.

A split collar is shown with a device for closing it in the back and front, and split sleeves with overlapping edges which close at the wrist so the arm is entirely covered, and when necessity demands it the arm can be exposed from shoulder to hand without exposing any other part of the body.

It is a garment that fulfills all the psychological requirements of attractiveness in its design and construction as well as all utilitarian needs and functional necessities.

Other features and advantages will hereinafter appear.

In the accompanying drawing,

Figure 1 shows the garment as seen from the front.

Figure 2 is a similar back view.

Figure 3 is a front view of the garment as spread out.

The garment is shown as having a right hand section 10 of a collar, and a left hand section 11 of the collar which are provided with front tying strings 12 and back tying strings 13.

Each collar section 10 and 11 forms the turned over edge of a shoulder piece 14 which is made by stitching together at a shoulder seam 15 a front breadth 16 and a back breadth 17, with an intermediate side breadth 17a.

The front breadths 16 are shown as connected by a front 18 extending entirely across the front of the garment below the elongated neck opening 19, while the two back breadths 17 are stitched to the side breadths 17a, but are free at their other edges.

To put on the garment the front breadth 16 may be laid face up on the patient with the front strings 12 untied, and the arm hole 20 beneath one shoulder seam 15 is passed over the patient's hand and up the patient's arm to the shoulder.

The arm hole easily slips up patient's arm

because the sleeve 21 is shown slit at 22 from the seam 23 by which the sleeve material is stitched to the front breadth 16 and back breadth 17, and extending through the cuff 24. The nurse, therefore, in putting the garment on a patient that can hardly be stirred merely has to gather the rear breadth 17 in folds, hold the folds in one hand and slip the arm hole up the patient's arm.

When the rear breadth 17 lies at the patient's shoulder the bight of the sleeve 21 may be folded over the patient's arm, and the cuff 24 tied by passing one cuff string 25 around the patient's wrist, through an opening 26 in the cuff near the other string 27 of the same cuff, and then tying the free ends of the strings 25 and 27 around the patient's wrist.

The sleeve 21 tends to work itself together because the slit at 22 is formed by overlapping edges 28 and 29, of the sleeve, the underlying edge 28 being the edge of the back breadth of the sleeve 21 and shown springing from the arm hole 20 about an inch or more in front of the shoulder seam 15. The edge 28 is the front edge of the back breadth 30 which forms part of the sleeve 21, and that breadth 30 is cut full so as to conform to a moderate bend of the elbow. The front breadth 31 of the sleeve 21 has its edge 29 stitched to the seam of the armhole 20 an inch or more back of the shoulder seam 15, so that this front breadth 31 overlies the sleeve back sleeve breadth 30, and along its opposite edge is stitched by a seam 32 to the front sleeve breadth 30, the seam 32 shown as springing from the arm hole 20 at the point where the back breadth 17 is stitched to the side breadth 17a.

The seam terminates at the cuff 24, about midway between the edge 29 from which the tie 27 springs and the opening 26, so that the edge 29 overlies the edge 28 at the cuff 24 by about two inches when tied in place. This permits the front sleeve breadth 31 to be cut full and yet tend to overlie the back sleeve breadth 30.

One sleeve of the garment may thus be put on the patient. It is equally easy to slip the patient's other hand through the other armhole without effort, because, when the neck ties 12 and 13 are untied, the neck opening 19 is shown

as permitting that shoulder of the garment and its arm hole to be stretched well on toward three feet away from the first arm hole.

The nurse is thus able to put both sleeves of the garment on a patient with arms almost outstretched with no need to do more than slightly lift the arms, one at a time.

When both arms of the patient have been slipped into their sleeves the body of the garment may be adjusted to smooth it out in position, and the two back ties 13 tied and then adjusted and then the front ties 12 tied, and the patient is comfortable without even having to move the head if the back ties 13 are tied at one side of the neck before the garment is finally pulled into shape.

The seams 33 by which the front breadth 17 is stitched to the side breadths 17a may be left open at 34 and the edges of the opening 34 hemmed, thus providing an opening for each breast.

In the form shown each opening 34 is adapted to be covered by a pointed cape 39 stitched to the margin 35 of the neck opening 19, to the collar seam 36 at the top, and to the shoulder seam 15. From the end of the shoulder seam 15 the edge hem 37 comes down to the point 38.

The garment may include a sash or belt 40 which is shown as stitched at 41 to one of the back breadths 17, at the waist line, shown about half way down the garment.

Having thus described certain embodiments of this invention, what is claimed is:

A garment including a continuous front covering both shoulders, slit sleeves having continuous fronts and backs, slit cuffs at the ends of the sleeves, devices for closing the cuffs to cause each sleeve to close its slit, a centrally slit back attached at the shoulders and sides to the front, a collar split at the back and split at the front, said front split extending down said front far enough to enable the shoulder end of the back to be pulled over and then slipped up the patient's arm and slid into place without moving the patient, and fastening devices for the front and back of the collar.

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