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2,862,499

COMBINED ABDOMEN-SUPPORTING MEANS AND GARTER BELT

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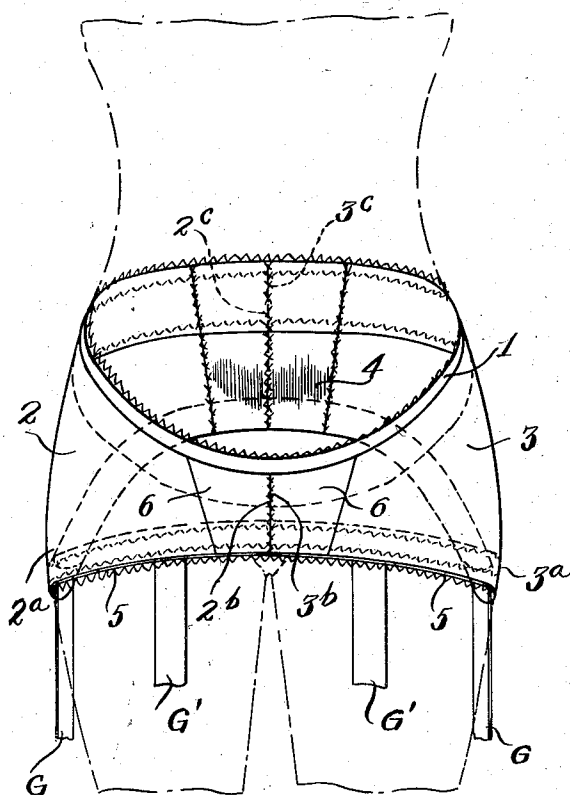


FIG. 1

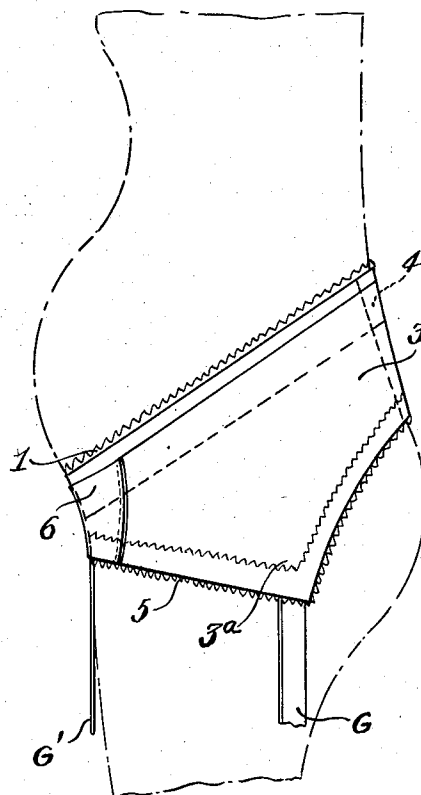


FIG. 2

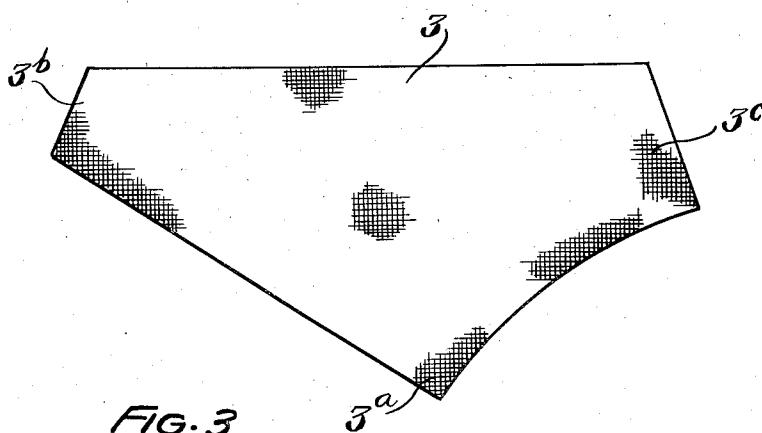


FIG. 3

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COMBINED ABDOMEN-SUPPORTING MEANS AND GARTER BELT

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2 Claims. (Cl. 128—535)

This invention relates to the general class of women's wearing apparel and consists of an improved form of maternity garment having a combined abdomen-supporting means and a garter belt.

The object of this invention is to devise such a garment in which there is provided a continuous closed longitudinally elastic band that is adapted to extend in an uninterrupted manner beneath the abdomen of the wearer and about the sacroiliac region of her body as well as the intermediate hip regions, and in which a form-fitting body of elastic material is attached to and depends from the continuous closed elastic band.

Another object is to devise such a garment with means for attaching garters thereto in such manner as to provide a snug fit of the body of the garment about the wearer.

Other objects will appear from the following description and claims when considered together with the accompanying drawing.

Fig. 1 is a front elevation illustrating the manner in which the present garment is intended to be worn;

Fig. 2 is a side elevation thereof;

Fig. 3 is a view illustrating one of the two duplicate blanks from which the body of the garment may be formed.

It is to be understood that the present form of disclosure is merely for the sake of illustration and that there might be devised various modifications thereof without departing from the spirit of my invention as herein set forth and claimed.

A continuous longitudinally elastic band 1 of two-inch width, for instance, has its two ends sewed together and is adapted to extend entirely about the body of the wearer, the seam being located at the rear in the present form of garment.

Duplicate blanks 2 and 3 of power net or other like material are of the form illustrated in Fig. 3 of the present drawing and are sewed together at points corresponding to the middle of the front and rear parts of the garment. These blanks are of approximately triangular form with two of their corners squared, corresponding to the positions of the front and rear seams between these two blanks. That is to say, these two blanks have the downwardly extending corners portions 2a, 3a and the front squared end portions 2b, 3b and the rear squared end portions 2, 3c. The rear end portions are wider than the front end portions; and these blanks are so formed and arranged that the lower corners thereof will be positioned at points corresponding to practically the points of attachment for the rear or outer garters G. Garters G' may be attached to the front parts of the garment at points corresponding approximately to the front middle lines of the wearer's thighs. The lower rear edge portion of the power net blank, in each instance, may be folded upon itself for purposes of reinforcement; and a longitudinally elastic tape 5 may be attached along the lower front edges of the blanks 2 and 3 for the same purpose.

It will be seen that the more narrow part of the gar-

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ment body is adapted to occupy position beneath the abdomen of the wearer's body for uplifting engagement therebeneath, while the wider part of the garment is adapted to have engagement with the sacroiliac region of the body of the wearer. At the rear of the garment and extending across the inside of the rear seam between the two blanks 2 and 3, I may provide a satin reinforcement 4 of substantially inverted trapezoidal form; while at the front I may provide a satin reinforcement 6 of substantially inverted trapezoidal form upon the outside of the power net and across the front seam between the two blanks 2 and 3.

It is to be observed that the power net blanks have their upper edges doubled upon themselves and secured to and along the outside of the elastic band 1 which will extend partially above the upper folded edge of the power net. However in the front part, corresponding to the reinforcement 6, the lower edge of the band 1 may be unattached so as to permit extreme freedom of these parts in accommodating themselves to the contour of the abdomen of the wearer during the progressive stages of pregnancy.

The reinforcement 6 may have some hidden fulness provided at its upper edge by holding the same and the band 1 in stretched condition while they are being sewed together. This, together with the inverted trapezoidal form of the member 6, will provide an upwardly and outwardly inclined form for the front part of the garment so as to be most naturally adapted for supporting engagement beneath the enlarged abdominal region of the body of the wearer.

In the same manner there may be provided also a hidden fulness in the power net where it joins the band 1 so as to ensure smooth condition of the power net when the garment is applied to the body of the wearer.

It is to be understood that instead of power net I may employ other materials with suitable stretch, as for instance elastic satin or lace.

Also, it is to be understood that instead of cutting the blanks so as to be joined at the front and rear of the garment, as above described, they may be cut so as to be joined at the opposite sides thereof. The present form is, however, to be preferred since the blanks are of duplicate form, which is calculated to facilitate manufacture.

The downward tension of the garters at the lower corners of the power net will serve to hold the same in firm, snug engagement with the body of the wearer according to the contour of the wearer's body in this particular region, this being made possible by the universal elasticity of the power net or like material that may be employed.

Thus I have provided a garment that is adapted for snug fitting engagement about the body of the wearer and for effective support of the abdominal region of the wearer's body and also firm engagement with her sacroiliac region. Furthermore, this garment is of comparatively simple form of construction and may be manufactured and sold at a comparatively low price because of the few parts and the duplicate form of the body blanks.

What I claim is:

1. A garter belt and abdomen-supporting means comprising a closed body of elastic material of less height in the front than in the rear thereof, said body of material in the front being adapted to engage exclusively beneath the abdomen of the wearer's body, and said body of material in the rear thereof being adapted to have engagement with the sacroiliac region of her body, said body of material being inclined downwardly from the front and rear thereof towards opposite points at the two sides of the garment, a pair of garters attached to said body of material at points corresponding approximately

to the front median lines of the wearer's thighs, and a garter attached to each side of said body of material at a point where said downward inclinations thereof meet.

2. The same structure as recited in claim 1 hereof and in which said body of material consists of duplicate blanks each of substantially triangular form with squared corners corresponding to the front and rear of the garment and in which said blanks are connected together at their squared corners.

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