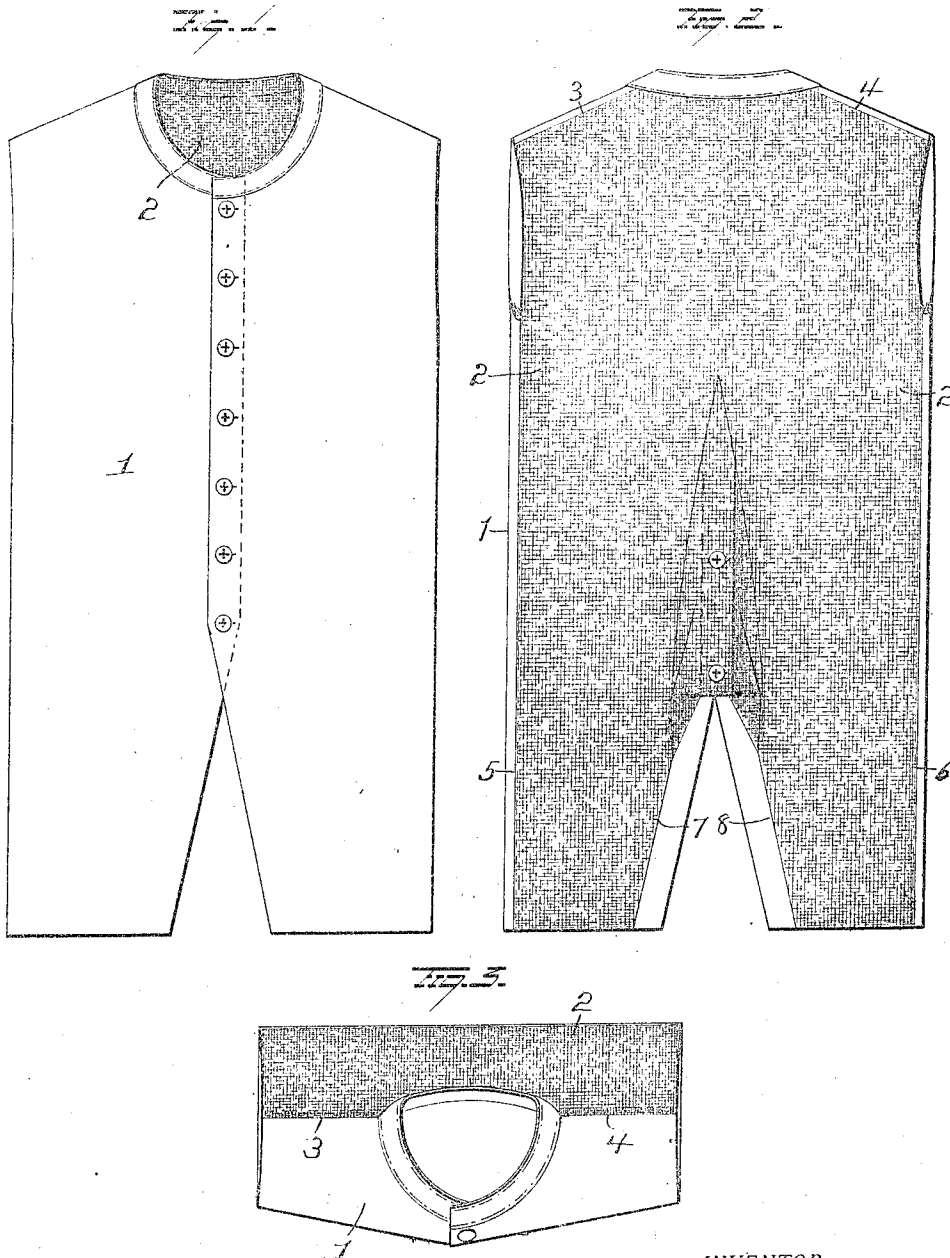


F. F. LEWIS.
UNDERWEAR.
APPLICATION FILED MAR. 27, 1908.

935,158.

Patented Sept. 28, 1909.



WITNESSES
E. J. Nottingham
G. J. Downing.

INVENTOR
F. F. Lewis
By H. A. Seymour
Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANK F. LEWIS, OF JANESVILLE, WISCONSIN, ASSIGNOR TO LEWIS KNITTING COMPANY, OF JANESVILLE, WISCONSIN.

UNDERWEAR.

935,158.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANK F. LEWIS, of Janesville, in the county of Rock and State of Wisconsin, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Underwear; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention consists in an improvement in underwear and relates especially to that class of underwear known as union suits or one piece under garments.

This class of underwear has proved popular and has gone into extensive use largely owing to the fact that the weight of such garments is carried by the shoulders and hence obviates many of the objectionable features of the two part suits, among which is the sagging of the drawers, and also the disarrangement of the undershirt about the waist portion of the body.

Union suits as ordinarily made, are formed of knitted elastic fabric which insures the wearer, freedom of movement without liability of overstraining and tearing the garment. The objections urged against this class of underwear is its clinging or form fitting nature, which is aggravating and causes considerable discomfort in warm weather.

The object of my improvement is to obviate these objectionable features by providing a union suit in which its whole front portion is made of inelastic or comparatively inelastic woven material, while its whole rear portion is made of elastic knitted material. As thus made, the inelastic front portion will not cling to the body, but will insure a perfectly loose and comfortable fit at all times, while the elastic rear portion permits perfect freedom of the wearer without danger of injury or tearing the garment.

With these objects in view my invention consists in certain features of construction and arrangement of parts and material as will be hereinafter described and pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a view in front elevation of my improve-

ment. Fig. 2 is a rear view, and Fig. 3 is a plan view of the upper or shoulder portion of the same.

1 represents the front portion of the garment which is made of inelastic or comparatively inelastic woven material and 2 represents its rear portion which is made of elastic knitted material. The front and rear portions are united across the shoulders by the seams 3, 4; from the lower edges of the arm holes, to the bottom of the garment by the side seams 5, 6, and from the crotch to the bottom by the seams 7, 8. The front and rear portions may be united by any desired form of seams, which may be reinforced if deemed necessary.

Under garments embodying my improvement are prevented from clinging to the body by providing a free circulation of air about the body due to the looseness of fit of the inelastic woven material of which the front portion is made, while the elastic knitted fabric of which the rear portion is made allows of ample freedom of movement of the wearer, without danger of tearing the garment.

The only transverse seams employed for uniting the two halves of the garment, are the short seams across the shoulders while the longitudinal seams on the opposite sides of the garment, and those inside its leg portions, firmly secure the two sections together. By this construction, the entire back of the garment may be made of a continuous piece of elastic knitted fabric, and of uniform elasticity throughout its length, while the entire front may be made of a continuous piece of comparatively inelastic fabric, which will insure the free circulation of air to all portions of the body. As thus constructed the garment can be produced at a minimum cost, and constitutes a very slightly and finished article of wear.

Having fully described my invention what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters-Patent, is,—

A union under-garment having the front of its body and the front of its leg portions made of comparatively inelastic material and constituting the sole front of the garment,

and having the rear of its body portion and the rear of its leg portions made of elastic woven material, said elastic material extending continuously from the top to the lower edge of the garment and constituting the sole rear portion thereof, said garment having seams over the shoulders between the front and rear portions and having seams extending from the arm holes to the lower

ends of the leg portions and from the crotch to the lower end of the leg portions.

In testimony whereof, I have signed this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

FRANK F. LEWIS.

Witnesses:

JOHN M. WHITEHEAD,
FLOSS M. APPEBY.