May 5, 1953 G. F. PINSUTI 2,637,032

GARMENT SEAT CUSHION

Filed July 25, 1950

Fig. 1

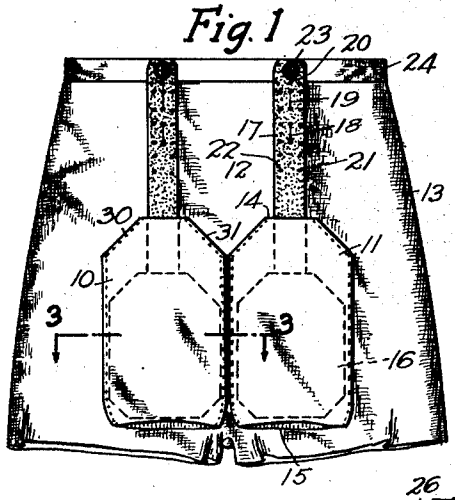


Fig. 2

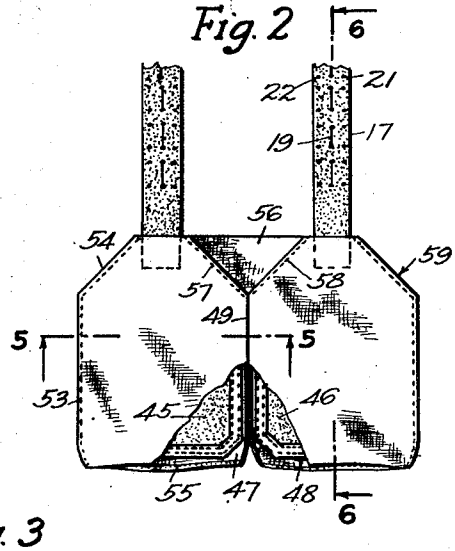


Fig. 3

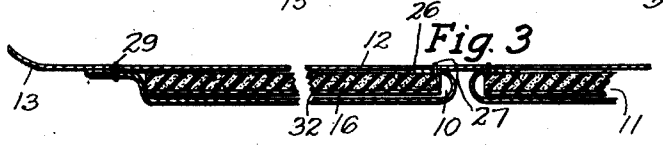


Fig. 4

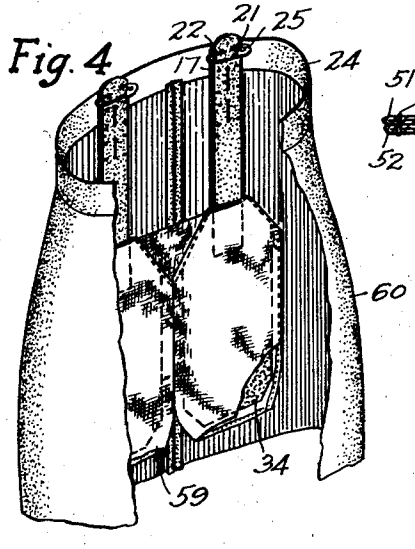


Fig. 5

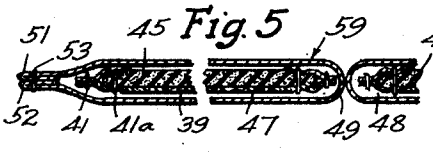


Fig. 6

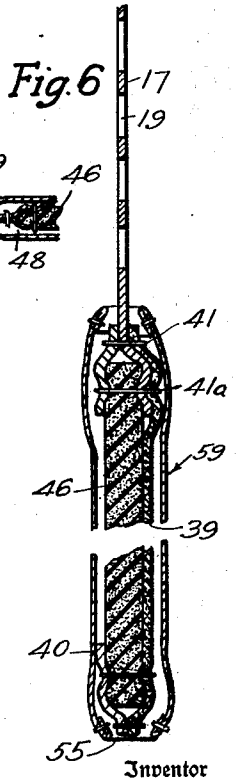
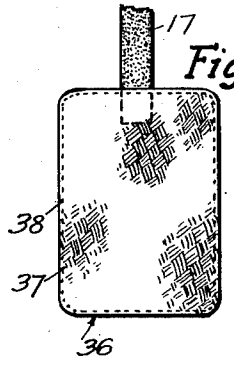


Fig. 7



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GARMENT SEAT CUSHION

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9 Claims. (Cl. 2—23)

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This invention relates to garment cushions and particularly to that type intended to avoid injury and discomfort to the sitting area of the wearer.

Persons whose occupation, age or infirmities require then to sit for long periods are apt to experience discomfort when seated on a relatively hard seat, especially if they are not stout, due to the excessive pressure on the ischium bone on which the weight of the body principally rests in the ordinary sitting position. Seat cushions are not always available for such persons, nor for those sitting outdoors as on park benches or on the tree stumps, rocks or the ground at picnic or scenic areas. Consequently, discomfort caused by the hard seat or injuries due to splinters from wooden seats, or at least excessive wear of the fabric seat of the outer garment causing an undesirable shine at said seat, are not infrequent.

The present invention therefore contemplates the provision of normally concealed cushioning means adapted to be worn on the outside of a nether undergarment or on the inside of a nether outer garment, at the seat of such garment, to protect the sitting area of the wearer against discomfort and injury.

The invention further contemplates the provision of a substantially flat, inexpensive, light weight, resilent cushion of such dimensions and shape as to be substantially unnoticeable when worn, for cushioning the sitting area of the wearer when the wearer is seated, the cushion being so associated with a garment as to be readily removable therefrom when the garment is to be cleaned or laundered, an easily washable cover or pocket for the cushion being provided to maintain the cushion in a clean condition for transfer from one garment to another when desired.

The invention further contemplates the provision of a pair of similar yieldable cushions of inexpensive sheet material each designed to fit and to protect half of the sitting area of the wearer and each movable independently of the other to accommodate itself to peculiarities of the individual wearer, and of means for adequately but removably securing the cushions to a garment against slipping around inside of the clothes, the securing means being adjustable to compensate for the different sizes of different individuals.

The invention further contemplates the provision of a pair of seat cushions, one for each leg and adapted to be worn inside of a nether outer garment so as to be inoperative and unnoticeable when the wearer is standing or walking without

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interfering with any movement of the body or with dressing or undressing and when adjusted to the required height, becoming properly positioned at the sitting area of the wearer as the wearer is seated.

The various objects of the invention will be clear from the description which follows and from the drawing, in which

Fig. 1 is a rear elevational view of a nether undergarment such as men's drawers or women's bloomers, showing one form of the seat cushions applied thereto.

Fig. 2 is a front elevational view, with part of the front cover removed, of a separate pair of cushions adapted to be inserted into and worn in the interior of a nether outer garment.

Fig. 3 is an enlarged fragmentary horizontal sectional view of the cushion assembly taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 4 is a fragmentary perspective view with part of the front removed, of a nether outer garment such as a skirt or trousers showing the cushions removably pinned thereto and also showing part of the cushion cover removed.

Fig. 5 is an enlarged fragmentary horizontal sectional view of another form the cushion assembly, the section being taken on the line 5—5 of Fig. 2.

Fig. 6 is an enlarged fragmentary vertical sectional view of the cushion assembly taken on the line 6—6 of Fig. 2.

Fig. 7 is a front elevational view of another modified form of the cushion.

It will be understood that the seat cushions are preferably made in pairs for individual adjustment to the person without interfering with the crotch, that they may be arranged in pockets on an undergarment or within covers which are not directly secured to any garment, that they may be worn with any type of garment and can be removed or replaced at any time but need be removed only for cleaning purposes or for transfer to other clothes.

In that illustrative embodiment of the invention shown in Figs. 1 and 3, suitable similar pockets as 10 and 11 are formed in any suitable manner to be later explained in more detail, on the rear surface 12 of a nether undergarment 13 such as a pair of shorts, drawers or bloomers. Each of the pockets is open both at the top edge 14 thereof and at the bottom edge 15, but the opening in the top edge is of lesser width than that in the bottom edge to insure against any danger of the cushion creeping upwardly out of the pocket. A suitable substantially flat cushion

16 is inserted into the pocket as by passing the upstanding strap 17 thereof upwardly through the relatively wide bottom opening and then through the relatively narrow top edge opening and then pulling upwardly on the strap to draw the required length of the strap out of the pocket and to pull the cushion 16 completely into the pocket. Preferably as shown, the pocket is somewhat higher than the height of the cushion to permit the cushion to be adjusted vertically within the pocket by pulling out the straps more or less. To secure the cushion in its adjusted position, the attaching strap 17 is provided with a series of vertically spaced apart button holes 18, 19 and 20 as well as vertically spaced pairs of horizontally aligned pin-receiving holes as 21, 22.

To adjust the cushion within the pocket relatively to the surface 12 of the garment, the cushion and its strap are raised or lowered in the pocket to position the cushion according to the requirements of the wearer, whereafter the button 23 on the waistband 24 of the garment is passed through the nearest button hole of the strap. If no buttons are wanted or provided on the waistband, the strap is secured in any other suitable manner as by means of a safety pin 25 (Fig. 4) passed through a selected pair of pin holes 21, 22 in the strap and through the waistband. Obviously, any other well known means for attaching a garment to the body may be used to hold the straps 17, such as a belt, band or the like.

The pocket itself may be made of one or more pieces of fabric overlying the surface 12 of the garment and stitched thereto at the side edges of the overlying piece. As shown, the pocket 10 is formed by stitching the inturned inner side edge portion 26 of the overlying piece of fabric to the rear of the garment as by the stitching 27. The other or outer side edge portion is inturned and similarly stitched by the stitching 29. The pocket 11 is similarly formed of another similar overlying piece of fabric. If it is desired that a single piece of fabric be used, said piece is similarly stitched to the garment at the side edges of the piece as by the stitching 29 and is also stitched along its middle by a vertical line of stitching to form the two pockets in an obvious manner. The upper edge of the overlying sheet is preferably reduced in width adjacent the top opening of the pocket to approximately that of the strap 17 by bevelling or rounding and stitching down either or both of the side portions 30, 31 of said edge, whereby said portions serve as stops preventing the cushion from being pulled out of the pocket under the stresses of normal use. The pockets may be made as far apart or as close together as may be found necessary to fit the individual wearer and of the proper height and width to receive cushions of the proper dimensions, the pockets being connected together by the seat portion of the undergarment which forms one face of each pocket.

The cushions themselves may also take a variety of different forms and may be made of various materials. As best shown in Fig. 3, the cushion 16 is made of a flat sheet of sponge or foam rubber of substantial thickness and provided with an integral backing sheet 32 of rubber or cloth adhesively secured in place without stitching and arranged on the face of the sponge rubber sheet nearer the body. As shown in Fig. 4, the cushion 34 is cut from a sheet of resilient wool felt or the like without any backing whatever. In Fig. 7 is shown a cushion 36 having a resilient layer provided with a backing 37 of woven straw stitched thereto as by the peripheral stitching 38. In Figs. 2, 5 and 6, the sponge rubber or foam rubber cushion member is backed by the leather or cloth sheet 39, the peripheral edge portions of the member being sandwiched between the edge tape 40 of imitation leather or the like and which projects beyond the edges of the member, and the backing sheet 39. The lower end of the strap 17 (Fig. 6) is arranged between the sheet 39 and the cushion member and is stitched in place by the same peripheral stitching 41a which secures the tape and the sheet 39 to the cushion member, an additional outer line of stitching as 41 securing the tape and the sheet directly together. In any case, the cushion is soft, yieldable and sufficiently resilient to retain its flat shape and is of sufficient substantial thickness to prevent discomfort when the wearer is seated on a hard surface. The cushion is also readily washable and is easily kept clean and in a sanitary condition.

In the form of the invention shown in Figs. 2, 4, 5 and 6, a pair of cushions 45, 46 is provided for use interiorly of any nether garment without any change in the construction of the garment. Instead of making cushion pockets on the outside rear of an undergarment, the cushion-receiving pockets 47, 48 are formed in a separate flexible and washable cover preferably of suitable fabric, the cover remaining unattached to the garment by any stitching and being connected thereto only by buttoning or otherwise fastening the cushion straps 17 in place. As best seen in Fig. 5, the pocket-forming sheet for each pocket is folded at its middle as at 49 to form the integral inner side edge of the pocket and the side edges 51, 52 of the sheet are inturned, brought together and stitched as by the stitching 53, the pocket being partly closed at the top edge by the bevelled or rounded parts 54 and thereby being partly open at the top edge and open at the bottom edge 55.

A triangular connecting strip 56 is inserted at the adjacent bevelled parts of the pockets and secured by the stitching 57, 58 to prevent the pockets from slipping about uncontrolledly and to connect the pockets permanently at the top, though the pockets are otherwise independent of each other and are unconnected at the adjacent side edges thereof to permit them to lie in different planes if necessary when in use. In this case, the cushions removably contained in the pockets may be of substantially the full size of the pockets because the adjustment in height is effected by moving the entire cushion assembly 59 consisting of the cushions, the straps thereof and the cover therefor as a unit up or down to the correct position and then securing the straps 17 to the garment. Since the cushion pockets are connected only at the top, they do not extend across the crotch and do not interfere with movement or with sitting. If desired, the pockets may be made of a single piece folded in half to a width twice that of a single pocket. In such case, beside the stitching 53, 57 and 58, two additional vertical lines of stitching are made along the middle line of the folded sheet to divide the sheet into pockets and a cut is then made between said two lines to separate the pockets which remain independently adjustable in different planes while remaining connected at the top.

As shown in Fig. 4, the cushion assembly 59 is arranged in place inside of a nether garment such as a skirt or pair of trousers or slacks 60

and between the garment and the body of the wearer with the backed surface of the cushion positioned toward the body if the cushion is backed by the sheets 32, 37 or 39. The height of the assembly being adjusted, the ends of the cushion straps 17 are secured to the waist band by the pins 25 passing through a selected pair of pin-receiving holes 21, 22. If suspender buttons are provided on the waistband, the straps are buttoned thereto. Or they may be buttoned or pinned to an ordinary belt or band arranged at the waist band.

It will be seen that in either form of the pockets, the cushions are removed when the cover therefor or the garment is to be laundered, the cushions being placed into a fresh cover or into a clean garment for reuse. It will also be seen that I have provided effective seat cushions associated with a nether garment and adapted to be positioned between an outer garment and the wearer's body for preventing undue pressure, discomfort or injury when the wearer is seated on a hard surface or for a relatively long period, that the abrading effect of such hard surface on the outer garment adjacent the cushions is substantially reduced, thereby reducing the wear and avoiding the production of objectionable shine on the garment seat, that the height of the cushions is readily adjustable to fit the wearer's preferences, that the cushions may easily be secured in place and removed when desired, that they are unnoticeable whether the wearer stands or sits, that they do not interfere with the usual garments or with the putting on or taking off of such garments, that they may be made of any desired thickness to accommodate lean persons and that they are well designed to accomplish their intended purposes.

While certain specific forms of the invention have herein been shown and described, various obvious changes may be made therein without departing from the spirit of the invention defined in the appended claims.

I claim:

1. A seat-cushioning assembly comprising a pair of seat cushions arranged in side by side relation and adapted to be arranged as a unit at the seat portion of a nether garment, means connecting the cushions comprising a flexible pocket removably holding each cushion, each pocket being closed at the side edges thereof and being open at the top and bottom edges thereof and means connecting the pockets, a strap secured to each cushion and extending loosely out through the open top edge of the pocket, each of the pockets being of fabric and having stitched together inturned outer side edge portions and an integral fold at the inner side edge thereof, each of the straps having vertically spaced apart button holes therein and also having a series of vertically spaced apart pairs of pin holes, the folds of the respective pockets being adjacent each other and being otherwise independent of each other and independent of the cushions.

2. A seat-cushioning assembly comprising a pair of juxtaposed seat cushions, a fabric pocket for each cushion open at the top and bottom edges, each of the pockets being of a single sheet of material having an integral fold at the inner side edge thereof and being stitched at the outer side edge thereof, the folds of the pockets extending part way only between the top and bottom edges of the pockets, the remainder of the edge of each pocket between the top edge thereof and the top of the fold thereof being stitched, a strap extending from each cushion out of the top of the pocket, said strap having a series of spaced longitudinal slits therein, each slit terminating in an enlarged hole at each end thereof and a flexible connecting member secured to the upper portions of the pocket assembly and holding the top portions only of the pockets against separation.

3. The seat-cushioning assembly of claim 2, the connecting member being in the form of a substantially triangular piece of sheet material and stitching securing said triangular piece to the upper portions only of the pockets.

4. A holding member for a seat cushion comprising a pair of flexible pockets arranged in side by side relation and each partly open at the top edge thereof and open at the bottom edge thereof, a flexible connecting member joining the upper portions only of the pockets, the lower portions of the pockets being movable relatively to each other laterally and transversely, a cushion in each pocket, and a strap secured to the top part of each cushion and projecting out of the pocket, said strap having a series of longitudinally spaced perforations therein.

5. A seat-cushioning assembly for use at the seat of a garment and comprising a pair of substantially flat seat cushions arranged in side by side relation and each of a sheet of soft yieldable material of substantial thickness, an elongated perforated strap secured to each sheet and extending therefrom and a pair of flexible pockets, one for each of the cushions, each of the pockets comprising a sheet of material having an integral fold at the inner side edge of the pocket, each of the pockets having an opening at the top edge thereof for the passage of a strap out of the pocket and having a wider opening at the bottom edge thereof for the insertion of the cushion into the pocket, the upper portions of the pockets tapering upwardly and inwardly, and a flexible connecting member of a piece of material independent of the garment and of the pockets securing only the upper portions of the pockets together for handling as a unit, the remaining parts of the pockets being movable relatively to each other and separable to a limited extent.

6. The seat-cushioning assembly of claim 5, the straps having spaced button holes and spaced pin-receiving holes therein.

7. A seat-cushioning assembly comprising a pair of substantially flat seat cushions arranged in side by side relation and each of a sheet of soft yieldable material of substantial thickness, an elongated perforated strap secured to each sheet and extending therefrom and a pair of flexible pockets, one for each of the cushions, each of the pockets having an opening at the top edge thereof for the passage of a strap out of the pocket and having a wider opening at the bottom edge thereof for the insertion of the cushion into the pocket, the upper portions of the pockets tapering upwardly and inwardly, the straps having spaced button holes and spaced pin-receiving holes therein, a nether garment, and stitching securing the side edges of the pockets to the garment.

8. A seat-cushioning assembly adapted to be arranged within and at the seat portion of a nether garment, said assembly comprising a first pocket of a single sheet of material folded to present an integral fold along the major part of the inner side edge thereof and tapered to converge upwardly along the top parts of the inner and outer side edges thereof, the adjacent side

edge portions of the sheet and the adjacent tapered portions of the sheet being inturned, stitching securing the inturned portions, a first cushion within the pocket, a second pocket of a single sheet of material folded similarly to the sheet of the first pocket to present an integral fold adjacent the fold of the first pocket and having similar inturned edge portions and similar stitching for said portions, a second cushion within the second pocket, a perforated strip secured to the top part of each cushion and extending out of the pocket, the top and bottom edges of each pocket being open, and connecting means for the assembled cushions and pockets holding said assembled cushions and pockets in side by side relation, the folds of the pockets being below the connecting means and being relatively movable into and out of a coplanar position and toward and from each other and being movable relatively to the connecting means.

9. The seat cushioning assembly of claim 8, the connecting means comprising a triangular sheet of material above the folds of the pockets and stitched by the stitching to the tapered side edges of the pockets.

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