E. GRACE.

MATERNITY CORSET.

APPLICATION FILED AUG. 9, 1917.

1,267,657.

Patented May 28, 1918.

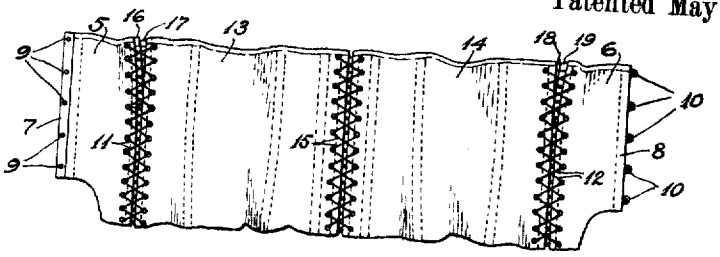


FIG. 1

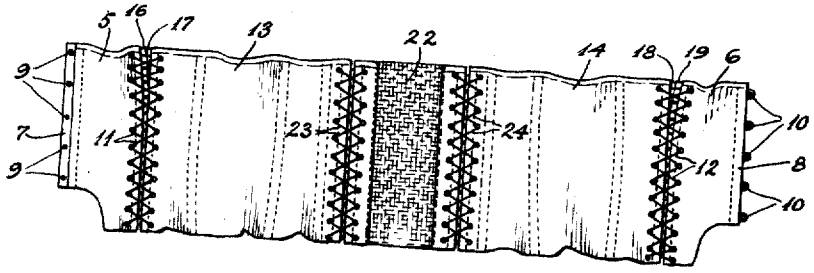


FIG. 2

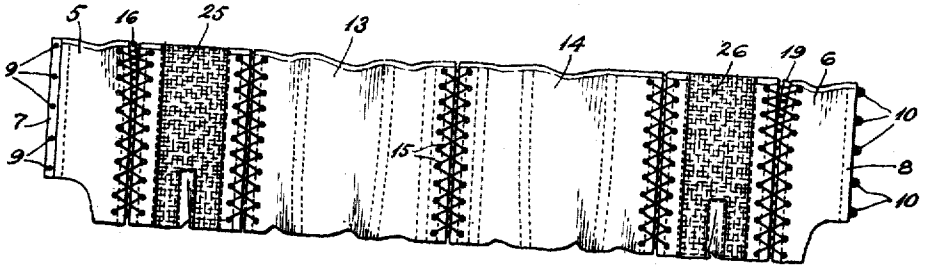


FIG. 3

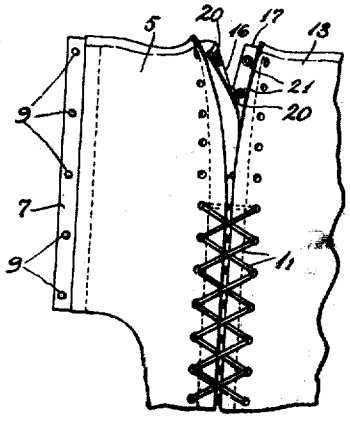


FIG. 4

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MATERNITY-CORSET.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDNA GRACE, citizen of the United States, residing at Hoquiam, in the county of Chehalis and State of Washington, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Maternity-Corsets, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in maternity corsets, and the object of my invention is to provide a maternity corset which shall embody a plurality of sections all of which sections or certain ones thereof, as may be required at different times, may be so relatively disposed and separably united that said corset shall be adapted comfortably to fit and properly to support a woman's bust, waist, abdomen and hips, before pregnancy, during pregnancy and after the birth of a child.

A further object of my invention is to provide a maternity corset which shall be adapted to be modified and adjusted, as may be required at different times, unyieldingly and comfortably to fit a non-pregnant woman and yieldingly to fit the same woman during different stages of her pregnancy.

I accomplish this object by devices illustrated in the accompanying drawings wherein Figure 1 is a view in outer side elevation of a corset embodying my invention as arranged unyieldingly to fit a non-pregnant woman;

Fig. 2 is a like view of the same as arranged to fit the woman during an early stage of her pregnancy;

Fig. 3 is a like view of the same as arranged to fit the same woman during a later stage of her pregnancy; and

Fig. 4 is an enlarged view, in a like elevation, of details of the same.

Referring to the drawings, throughout which like reference numerals indicate like parts, the numerals 5 and 6 respectively designate the left hand front section and the right hand front section of a corset, on the outer vertical edge portion of each of which sections 5 and 6 is inserted a metal stay, as stays 7 and 8, respectively; of well known form, which stays 7 and 8 are provided with catches 9 and eyes 10, respectively, whereby said vertical edge portions of said sections 5 and 6 may be releasably and closely united in a well known manner.

As shown in Fig. 1, the inner vertical edge portions of the sections 5 and 6 are separably united by lacing strings 11 and 12, respectively, to the adjacent vertical edge portions of two sections 13 and 14, respectively, which are interposed between said sections 5 and 6, and whose other vertical edge portions are separably connected together by lacing strings 15 in a manner well known.

Thus arranged, the sections 5, 6, 13 and 14 form an unyielding corset which, like a corset of the most common form, is adapted to be worn by a woman both before pregnancy and after the birth of a baby, and, in the latter case, in order to permit the baby to gain access to the mother's breast both of the sections 5 and 6 are laced to the adjacent sections 13 and 14, respectively, only throughout a portion of the distance from their bottom edges to their top edges, the upper portions of the inner sides of the adjacent vertical edge portions of the sections 5 and 13 and of the sections 6 and 14 being provided with flaps 16 and 17 and flaps 18 and 19, respectively, like the flaps 16 and 17 shown by an enlarged view in Fig. 4, which flaps 16 and 17 and the flaps 18 and 19 are provided with fasteners, like the fasteners 20 and 21 shown in Fig. 4 whereby the flap 16 can be releasably fastened to the flap 17, and the flap 18 in a like obvious manner can be fastened to the flap 19.

In Fig. 2 are shown the same sections 5, 6, 13 and 14 and another section 22 which is inserted between and laced to the sections 13 and 14 by lacing strings 23 and 24, respectively, and which section 22 embodies an elastic woven fabric portion that will stretch under tension thereby to adapt the corset yieldingly and tightly to fit the changing contour of a woman's body during an early stage of her pregnancy.

In Fig. 3 is shown the sections 5, 6, 13 and 14, the section 22 not being present, but instead of said section 22 there are added two sections 25 and 26, the section 25 being disposed between sections 5 and 13, while the section 26 is disposed between the sections 6 and 14.

The sections 25 and 26 are made chiefly of a highly elastic woven material that will stretch under tension thereby to adapt the corset always yieldingly and tightly to fit the changing contour of a woman's body during a latter stage of her pregnancy.

Thus the structure of Fig. 3 is an extension of the structure of Fig. 2 and the structure of Fig. 2 is an extension of the structure of Fig. 1.

In an abnormal case, during the last stage of her pregnancy, a woman may require that the structure of Fig. 3 be extended, in which case the section 22 may also be added to said structure of Fig. 3 by disposing it between the sections 13 and 14 thereof in an obvious manner.

Obviously change may be made in the forms, dimensions and number of parts of my invention without departing from the spirit thereof.

What I claim is:

1. A corset of the class described including a plurality of separable sections, some of which are non-elastic and the rest of which are elastic, said non-elastic sections being adapted to be separably connected to form a non-elastic corset which is adapted to be converted into an elastic corset of a desired one of different larger sizes by interposing a required number of said elastic sections between and connecting them to the non-elastic sections.

2. A corset of the class described including two similar non-elastic back sections and two similar non-elastic front sections adapted to be separably connected to form a non-elastic corset, and three elastic sections, one of which is adapted to be interposed between and detachably connected to the back sections to form a larger and elastic corset for use by a woman in early stages of pregnancy, and each of the other two elastic sections being adapted to be interposed between and detachably connected to one of the front sections and one of the back sections to form a still larger and highly elastic corset for use by a woman in later stages of pregnancy.

In witness where, I hereunto subscribe my name this 3rd day of August, A. D., 1917.

EDNA GRACE.