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G. W. CRUDEN

FOOTBALL TROUSERS

Filed May 3, 1927

Fig. 1.

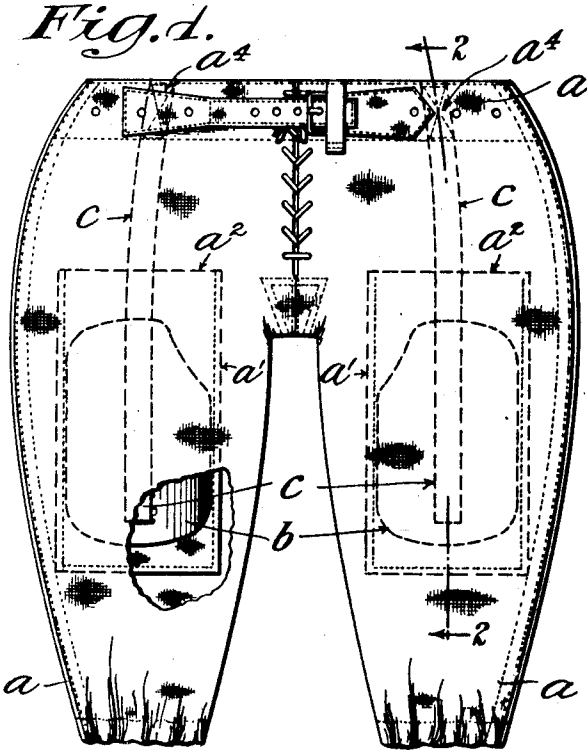


Fig. 2.

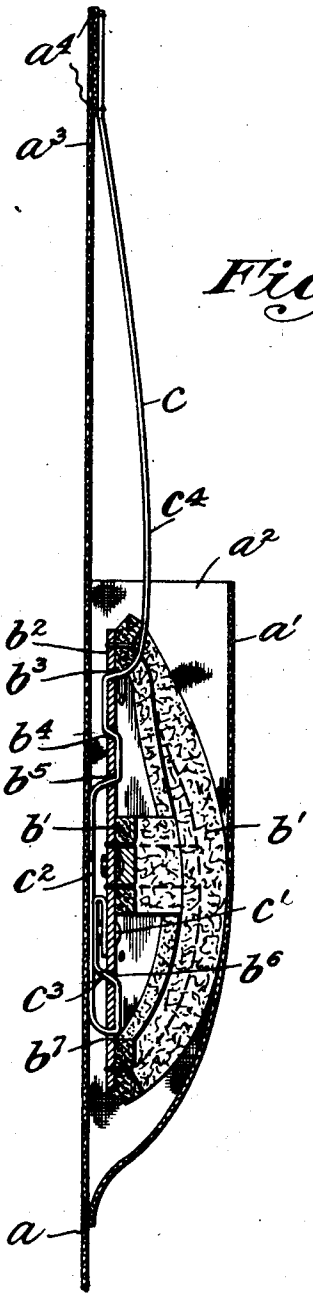
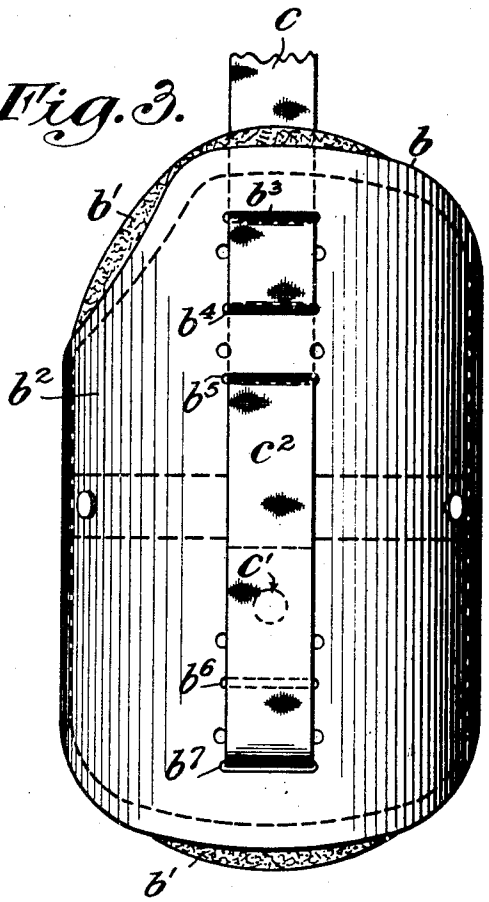


Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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FOOTBALL TROUSERS.

Application filed May 3, 1927. Serial No. 188,452.

This invention pertains to trousers for use in games, such as football or the like, where it is desirable to provide padding or guards or other protective material in the garments worn by the players. It is customary to incorporate in football trousers, for instance, padding to protect the thighs of the wearer. But such padding must be positioned differently in trousers of different sizes in order to protect the wearer from injury. And in a game such as football the same pair of trousers may be worn at various times by different players who may vary greatly in size. It is, therefore, of importance to be able to change the position of the padding to afford proper protection.

It has heretofore been proposed to provide trousers with pads suspended from the waist section of the garment and disposed in pockets formed on the inner sides of the leg sections. But so far as is known no means have been provided whereby the relative height of the pads might be varied to afford proper protection to the thighs of wearers of different sizes. Accordingly, the present invention seeks to provide means to adjust the relative height of such pads wholly without the use of any metallic adjusting devices. Thus, the pads are provided with a series of slots through which are threaded tapes of elastic or non-elastic material, by means of which the pads, disposed within the pockets on the inside of the leg sections, are suspended from the waist section of the garment. The tapes pass alternately back and forth through the slots in such a manner that the height of the pads may be adjusted at will by merely drawing the tapes through the slots to the desired extent. The pads will be held in place in any adjusted position, wholly without the use of buckles or other metallic means by virtue of the manner in which the tapes are threaded through the slots.

The invention may be more fully understood from the following detailed description. The description should be read in connection with the accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a view in front elevation of a pair of trousers showing the protective pads suspended in place according to the invention;

Figure 2 is a sectional view taken in a plane indicated by the line 2—2 in Figure 1 and looking in the direction of the arrows; and

Figure 3 is a view of the protective pad showing the manner of adjustably suspending it from the tape.

The leg sections a, a, are formed on the inside thereof with pockets a', a'. The pockets are stitched to the leg sections on three sides but are open at the top as at a^2. Within the pockets a', a', are disposed the pads b, b, suspended upon tapes c, c, which are stitched to the waist section a^3 of the garment as at a^4, a^4.

The pads b, b, are formed of strips of soft, yielding, protective material b' stitched to sections b^2 of stiff, fibrous material shaped to the general contours of the thighs. The sections b^2 are formed with a series of slots. The tapes c are threaded through the slots b^3, b^4, b^5, b^6 and b^7 in the manner shown in Figures 2 and 3, the ends of the tapes being fastened to the sections b^2 as at c'.

It will be seen that the pads b, b, are maintained in position with the leg sections a, a, by the pockets a', a'. To adjust the height of the pads with respect to the waist of the garment the portion c^2 of the tape is pulled downwardly. The portion c^3 is then pulled upwardly, the extended portion lying between the portion c^2 and the surface of the sections b^2. The portion c^4 of the tape is then pulled taut and the tape will be prevented from slipping through the slots because of the manner in which it is threaded through them and because the extended portion c^3 will be engaged frictionally by the portion c^2 and the surface of the section b^2.

The pads are, of course, so mounted within the pockets that the protective material is on the inside adjacent the thighs of the wearer. The means for adjusting the relative height of the pads are such that no metallic buckles or other means which might cause injury are required. The adjusting means are wholly self-contained and form a part of the means whereby the pads are suspended upon the tapes.

Various modifications in the arrangement as shown and described may be made without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention and nothing which has been

said in this specification is intended as a limitation except as pointed out in the following claims.

What I claim is:

1. In a garment for athletic purposes having leg sections and a waist section, pads formed of protective material fastened to sections of stiff material, tapes to suspend said pads carried with waist section, pockets formed on the inner sides of the leg sections to maintain said pads in position, said tapes passing through slots formed in the stiff sections of the pads, whereby the height of the pads with respect to the waist section may be varied.

2. In a garment for athletic purposes having leg sections and a waist section, pads formed of soft yielding protective material stitched to sections of stiff material, slots in the sections of stiff material, tapes stitched at one of their ends to the waist section and fastened at their other ends to the sections of stiff material and passing through said slots, whereby the height of the pads with respect to the waist section may be varied, and pockets formed on the inner sides of the leg sections to maintain the pads in position.

3. Athletic trousers provided with thigh pads formed of a stiff protective material, slots in the pads, tapes carried at one of their ends with the waist section and fastened at their other ends to the pads and passing back and forth through the slots, whereby the height of the pads with respect to the waist section may be varied, and means to maintain the pads in position relative to the thighs of the wearer.

This specification signed this 26th day of April A. D. 1927.

GEORGE W. CRUDEN.