

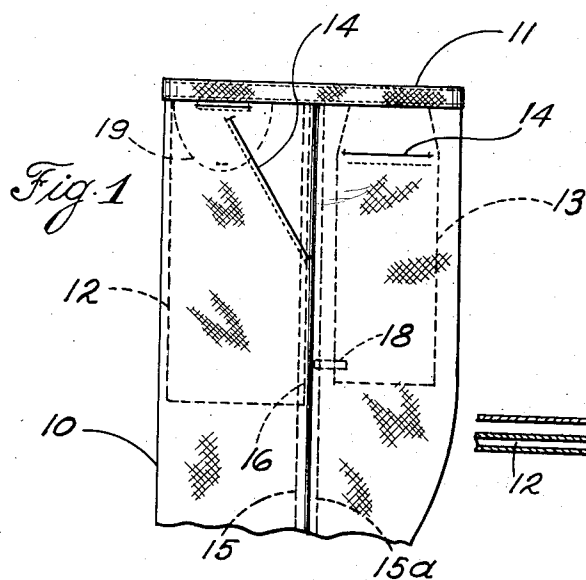
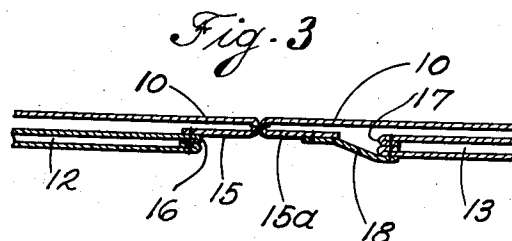
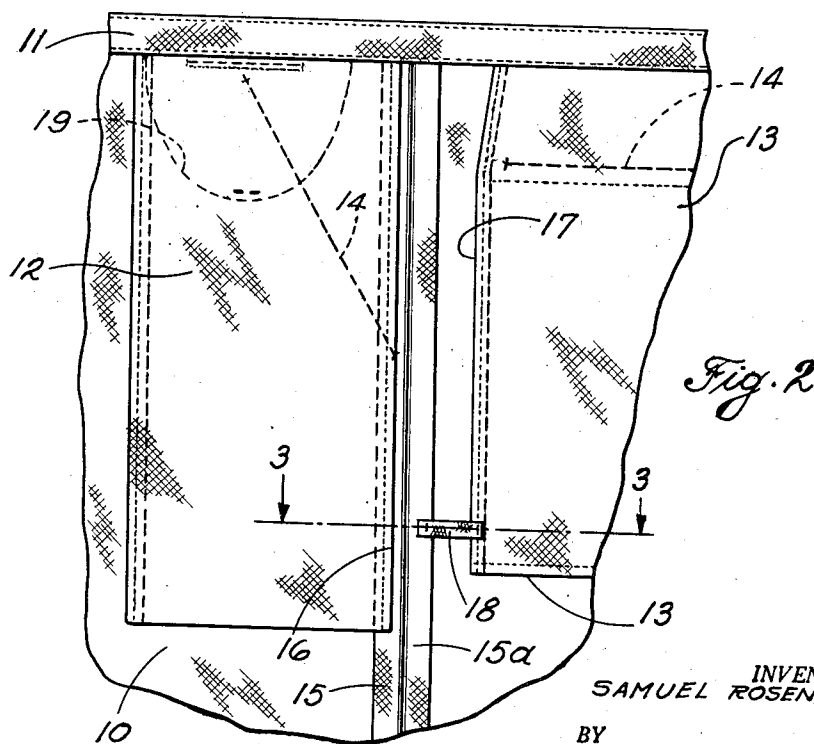
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POCKET STRUCTURE FOR WASHABLE WORK CLOTHES

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POCKET STRUCTURE FOR WASHABLE WORK CLOTHES

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This invention relates to improvements in washable work clothes such as coveralls, jackets, work pants and similar garments, the object of the invention residing in the provision of a pocket structure which is stitched to restrain inversion thereof, and prevent wadding of the material during washing operations.

The primary advantages of the improvements reside in the time and effort saved in a laundry in readjusting the pockets that have turned inside out in the washing machine and smoothing out the wadded material prior the pressing operation. Statistically, there are hundreds of thousands of pairs of cotton pants processed each week in commercial laundries and many thousands more in domestic activities. Time studies show that $\frac{3}{4}$ of the pants had an average of two pockets turned inside out after washing operations, and that the time consumed in pushing the pockets back into normal position is approximately 10 to 12 seconds per pair of trousers. In a commercial industrial plant engaged exclusively in laundry servicing of factory work clothes where approximately 10,000 pairs of pants are processed in a single day, it has been found that about 21 man hours or 2 to 3 employees may be eliminated by the use of the improved pocket structure of the present invention. The consequent economy inures directly to the many thousands of factory employees whose work clothing is daily laundered by commercial industrial laundries, to say nothing of the advantages enjoyed by domestic washing and ironing of garments embodying the improved pocket design.

In addition to the foregoing objects, the invention further contemplates a structure in which the pockets constitute a reinforcing element for the contiguous portion of the garment and also minimizes wear of the pockets and the fabric adjacent thereto.

Other objects of the invention and advantages more or less ancillary to the foregoing, and the manner in which all the various objects are realized, will appear in the following description, which considered in connection with the accompanying drawings, sets forth the preferred embodiment of the invention.

Referring to the drawings

Fig. 1 is a front elevational view of a pair of trousers embodying the improved pocket structure;

Fig. 2 is an elevation as viewed from the inside of the pants shown on an enlarged scale and illustrating the structure of the front and hip pockets and a fragmentary portion of the pants;

Fig. 3 is a transverse sectional view through the garment the section being taken on a plane indicated by the line 3—3 in Fig. 1.

Referring first to Fig. 1, the garment comprises a pair of work pants including leg portions 10, hip and waist portions 11, of conventional form, and side and hip pockets 12 and 13 stitched in the usual manner around the pocket opening 14 in the garment. The pants are tailored with seam over-laps 15 and 15a of a requisite width to overlie the outer edges 16 of the side pockets 12 of the pants and the seam over-laps 15 are stitched along the

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edges 16 throughout the length of the pockets, thus holding the material flat, smooth and parallel with the contiguous panels of the hip and waist portions 11 of the garment at all times, especially during the washing operation. Anchorage of the pocket fabric in the manner described above also prevents the pockets from becoming turned inside out while in a washing machine. The latter condition obviously necessitates a costly hand labor operation to correct before the pants are put through a pressing machine or ironed by hand as in the home.

The garment is also provided with hip pockets 13 tailored with the inner edges 17 thereof, in proximity with over-laps 15a of the pants and tabs or straps 18 are sewed to the free edges of the seam over-laps 15a and to the lower ends of the hip pockets 13 in order to restrain movement of the hip pocket material during the washing operation. As in the former case, this structure eliminates the arduous labor of smoothing out the pockets and/or turning them inside out prior the pressing operation of the garment.

When the pants are provided with a watch pocket 19 the fabric in one fold thereof is sewed or tacked to the contiguous layer of the material of the side pocket 12.

In laundry work, it has been found that the watch pocket 19 turned inside out in the washing machine more frequently than the other pockets; in fact this condition is so prevalent that some machine shops using the rental-laundry service have requested the pants manufacturers to omit the watch pockets from the garment in order to economize in the labor of readjustment.

As pointed out above, the advantages of the anchored pockets (both side and hip) inure to the benefit of the laundry where substantial economics are realized in labor costs by the elimination of the pulling, turning, and flattening manipulation of the pocket material before pressing. A further advantage of the pocket structure resides in the outer appearance of the garment and condition of the pockets after pressing. No matter how careful the pressing operator may be, the pockets, when made as formerly, with loose free ends, frequently became folded down over themselves during pressing which, when ironed in this condition, produced a closed pocket and a lumpy appearance on the outer face of the garment.

In machine pressing, it is the practice to draw the open waist band of the pants over a padded plate or buck, simultaneously centering the side seam of the pants thereon. Since the side pockets are secured to the side seams throughout their length and the lower ends of the hip pockets are also attached to the side seams, it is axiomatic that the fabric of the pockets will follow the direction of pull of the entering side seam, thus effecting the self-adjustment of the captive pockets upon the pressing buck incident the descent of the heated pressing shoe of the machine.

Although the foregoing description is necessarily of a detailed character, in order that the invention may be completely set forth, it is to be understood that the specific terminology is not intended to be restrictive or confining, and that various rearrangements of parts and modifications of detail may be resorted to without departing from the scope or spirit of the invention as herein claimed.

What is claimed is:

1. A pair of washable working pants including a waistband and leg portions, a side seam in each leg portion, free over-lapping edges in said side seams, a rectangular side pocket in each leg portion, the length of each side pocket being approximately double the width thereof, each of said side pockets having a hand opening in the upper portion thereof between said waistband and its contiguous side seam, the length of said opening being no greater than one-half the length of the pocket, the top of each pocket being sewed to said waistband and the near

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edge of each pocket being sewed throughout its length to the adjacent over-lapped edge of its contiguous side seam, whereby the pocket is restrained from turning inside-out and protruding through said hand opening during the washing operation of the pants, and the material of the pocket is smoothed and flattened when the side seam of the pants is drawn over the buck of a pressing machine.

2. A pair of washable working pants including a waistband and leg portions, side seams in said leg portions, free over-lapping edges in said side seams, rectangular side pockets in said pants, the length of said side pockets being approximately double the width thereof, each of said side pockets having a hand opening in the upper portion thereof between said waistband and its contiguous side seam, the length of said opening being no greater than one-half the length of the pocket, the top of each pocket being sewed to said waistband and the near side edge of each pocket being sewed throughout its length to the adjacent overlapped edge of its contiguous side seam, whereby the free lower corner of the pocket is restrained from turning inside-out and protruding through said hand opening during the washing operation of the pants.

3. A pair of washable working pants including a waistband and leg portions, a side seam in each leg portion, free over-lapping edges in said side seams, rectangular side pockets in said pants, the length of said side pockets being

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approximately double the width thereof, each of said side pockets having a hand opening in the upper portion thereof between said waistband and its contiguous side seam, the length of said opening being no greater than one-half the length of the pocket, the top of each pocket being sewed to said waistband and the near side edge of each pocket being sewed throughout its length to the adjacent over-lapped edge of its contiguous side seam, a hip pocket in each leg portion, said hip pocket being of a length at least twice the width thereof, the upper end thereof being sewed to said waistband, each of said hip pockets having a hand opening in the upper portion thereof of a width no greater than one-half the length of the hip pocket, a strap having one end thereof sewed to the lower corner of each hip pocket nearest its respective side seam, and having the other end of said strap sewed to the adjacent over-lapping edge of said side seam.

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