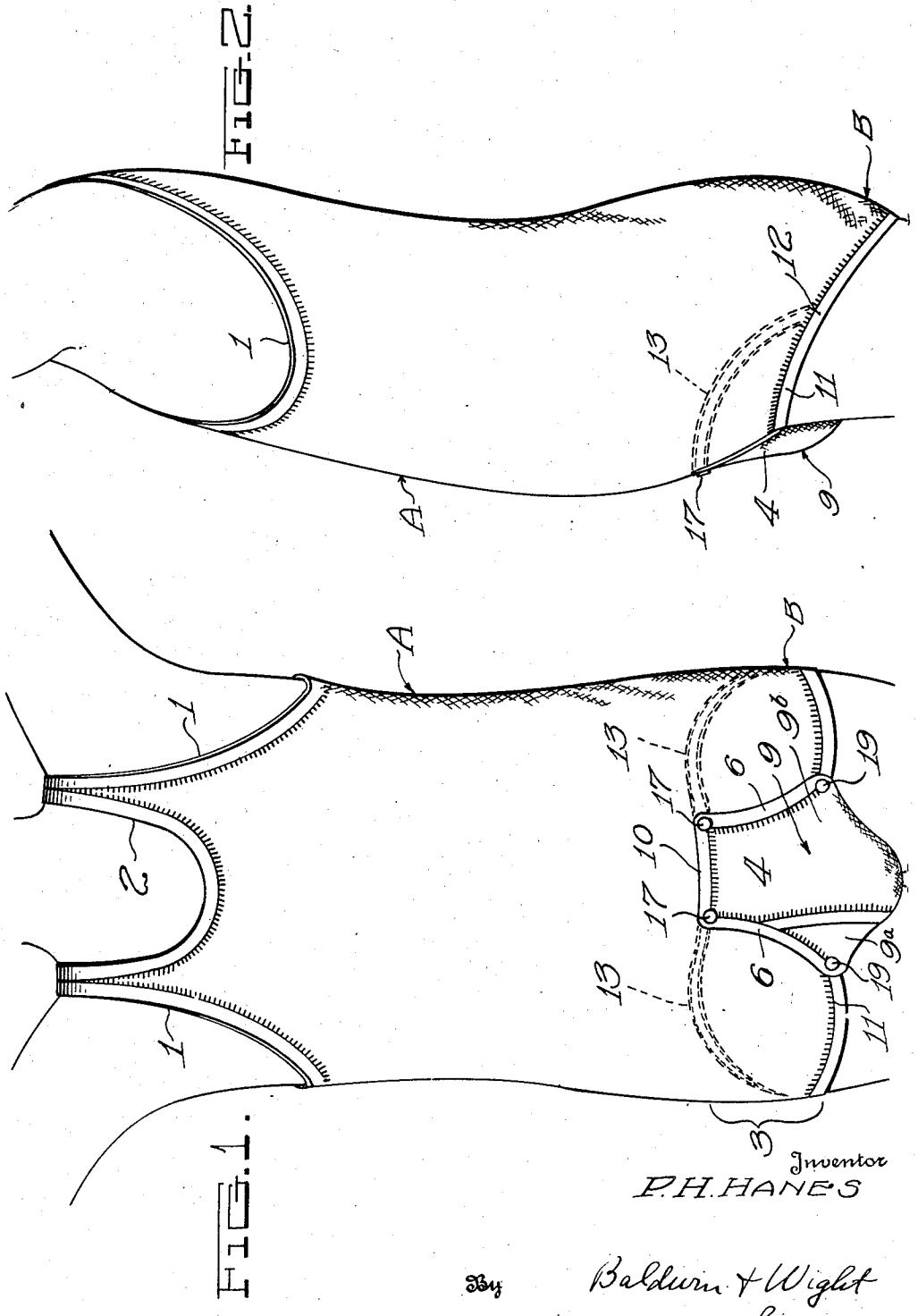
May 29, 1945. P. H. HANES 2,377,004

GARMENT

Filed Nov. 25, 1944 2 Sheets-Sheet 1



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Filed Nov. 25, 1944 2 Sheets-Sheet 2

FIG. 3.

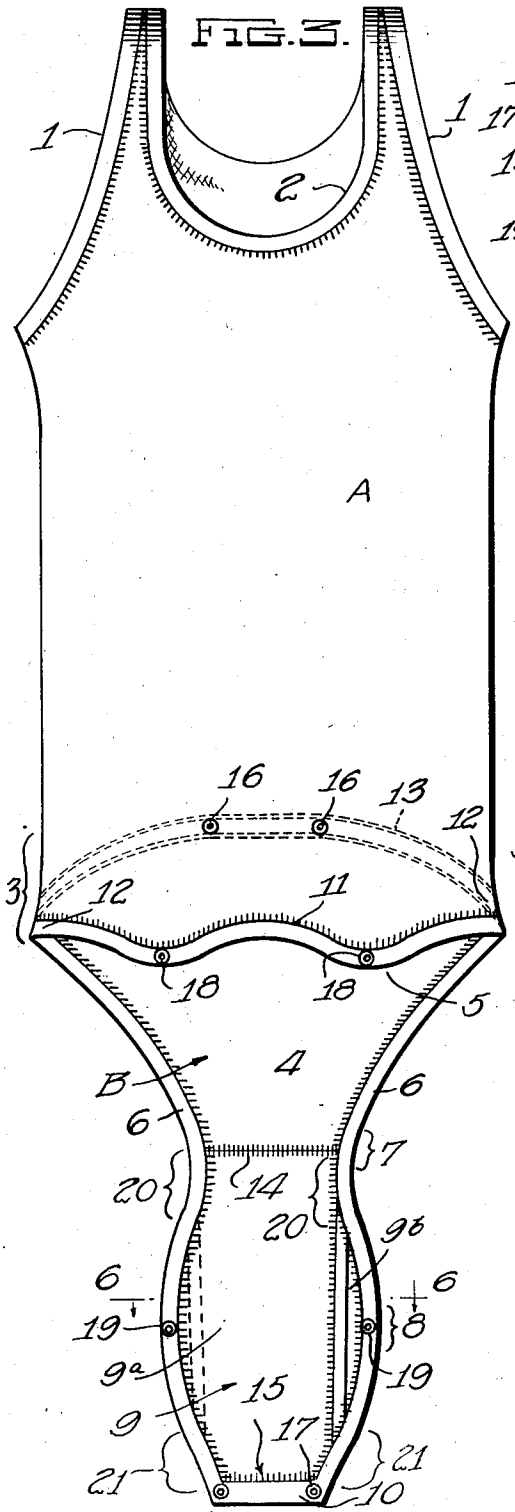


FIG. 5.

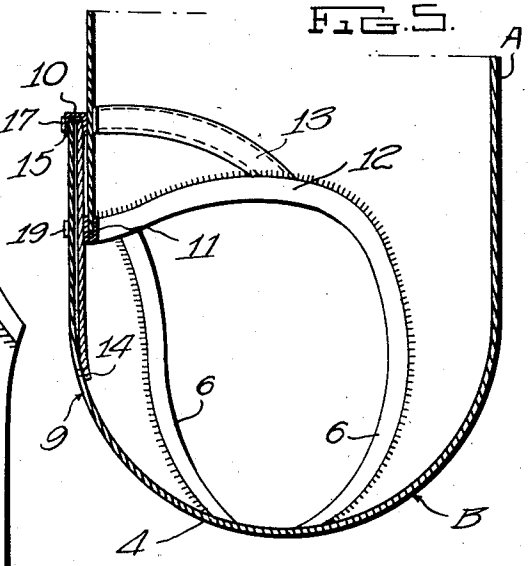


FIG. 4.

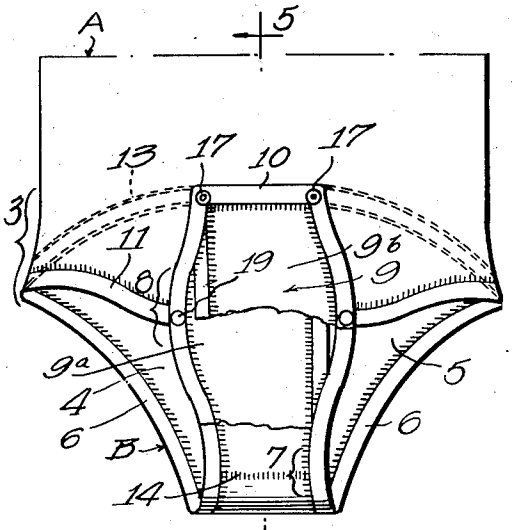
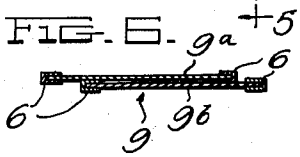


FIG. 6.



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Patented May 29, 1945

2,377,004

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,377,004

GARMENT

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Application November 25, 1944, Serial No. 565,086

6 Claims. (Cl. 2—78)

This invention relates to garments and more particularly to combination body garments including a shirt part and a crotch or pants part.

In my co-pending application, Serial No. 496,319 filed July 27, 1943, now Patent No. 2,363,959 granted November 28, 1944, there is disclosed and claimed a garment of the class referred to which is formed as a unit including a shirt part and a short pants part, the latter comprising a flap extending from the back and bottom of the shirt part and being adapted to pass through the wearer's crotch for detachable connection to the shirt part in the waist region. The pants part or flap is sized so as to cover the wearer's buttocks and to fit similarly to so-called "briefs."

An object of the present invention is to provide an improved garment of the general class of the garment disclosed in the co-pending application in which the flap is shaped and constructed in a novel manner to provide greater comfort, better conformation and "fit," and more convenience.

Another object of the invention is to provide a garment of the character stated equipped with a new and improved arrangement of means or devices for connecting the flap front portion to the lower portion of the shirt front.

A further object of the invention is to provide a garment of the kind referred to in which the flap is formed of two panels connected together in zones spaced from each other longitudinally of the flap but which have their intervening longitudinal edges free of connection to each other, whereby the panels can be separated or pulled sidewise and an opening through the flap thus provided without unfastening the flap from the shirt part front. Other objects will become apparent from a reading of the following detailed description, the appended claims, and the accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a front elevation of a garment embodying the invention applied to a wearer;

Figure 2 is a side elevation of the garment shown in Figure 1, also shown as applied to a wearer;

Figure 3 is a plan view of the improved garment shown as lying out flat with a flap detached from the shirt front part and spread out in the same plane as the shirt part;

Figure 4 is a fragmentary view looking in the same direction as in Figure 3 but with parts broken away and with the flap shown as connected to the shirt front part;

Figure 5 is a section on the line 5—5 of Figure 4; and

Figure 6 is a section on the line 6—6 of Figure 3.

The illustrative embodiment of the invention shown in the accompanying drawings includes a generally cylindrically shaped body or shirt part A and a short pants part B both formed of knitted material which preferably is resilient or stretchable transversely of the longitudinal center line of the garment.

The shirt part A is formed similarly to a conventional sleeveless knit athletic undershirt having arm openings 1—1, a neck opening 2, and a waist region 3.

The short pants part B comprises a flap 4 the rear part 5 of which extends transversely substantially the full width of the shirt part and extends longitudinally from the lower back portion of the shirt part A.

When the flap is laid out as shown in Figure 3, its side edges 6—6 converge from the wide flap part 5 adjacent the shirt part A inwardly toward each other to a crotch zone of minimum width at 7, then diverge or widen to an intermediate zone 8 of maximum width in a flap front part 9, and then converge or again narrow to the free end 10 of the front part 9. The flap side edges 6 and free end 10 are reenforced, preferably with a binding formed of resilient knit material, and the lower edge 11 of the shirt front is similarly reenforced by a binding which continues as at 12 in the reenforcements along the flap edges 6.

In use, the garment is pulled on over the wearer's head, shoulders, and trunk, and the flap 4 is extended forwardly through the crotch and up in front of the abdomen for attachment to the shirt part front in the waist region. The shirt front is reenforced in the waist region in a manner to support the flap front evenly and to thereby maintain the whole garment smoothly fitted to the wearer, the reenforcement being so arranged and related to other parts of the garment as not to interfere with transverse yielding or stretching of the front of the shirt part A when the garment is being put on. In the illustrative embodiment, the shirt waist region reenforcing means comprises a non-resilient or non-yielding strip, for example a woven tape 13 which is stitched across substantially the full width of and on the inside of the waist region 3, the ends of the strip being turned down as shown in Figures 1 to 5 inclusive so as to meet the reenforce-

ments along the edges 6 of the flap 4, preferably at 12.

In accordance with the invention the flap 4 is formed in its front portion 9 to provide for better fit, more comfort, and convenient access. To this end the front part 9 comprises two mutually superposed panels 9^a and 9^b which are joined to each other along lines 14—15 crossing the longitudinal center line of the flap 4 and spaced from each other longitudinally of the center line (see Figure 3). The side or longitudinal edge portions of the panels 9^a and 9^b are free from connection to each other and consequently the panels can be pulled sidewise when desired to provide an opening substantially in the middle of the flap front portion 9 without unfastening the latter from the shirt part A.

Means are provided for detachably fastening the flap front part 9 in the position shown in Figures 1, 2 and 3. Two upper fasteners 16—16 are secured to the shirt part front on opposite sides of the longitudinal center line of the flap 4, and preferably are attached to the reenforcing strip 13. Cooperating fasteners 17—17 secured to the free edge 10 of the flap 4 where the panels 9^a and 9^b are joined are adapted to be attached to the fasteners 16—16. Below the fasteners 16—16 lower fastening devices 18—18 are secured to the reenforced edge 11 of the shirt part front respectively on opposite sides of the center line of the flap part 4 and spaced more widely therefrom than the fasteners 16—16. Fastening devices 19—19 adapted to cooperate with the fastening devices 18—18 are secured respectively to the reenforced edges of the panels 9^a—9^b at the zone 8 of maximum width of the flap front part 9. One device 19 is attached to a longitudinal edge portion of the panel 9^a which extends laterally beyond the adjacent longitudinal edge of the panel 9^b. The other device 19 is attached to the opposite longitudinal edge portion of the panel 9^b which extends laterally beyond the adjacent longitudinal edge of the panel 9^a.

The shape of the flap 4 with its wide rear top part 5, narrow crotch portion 7, and front portion 9 widened at 8 and then narrowed at 10 provides for ample coverage of the legs, buttocks, and groin with a smooth fit and with consequent comfort. The forming of the front portion 9 of the two flaps 9^a and 9^b, which have their side edges free from connection to each other, enables an opening to be provided easily by merely pulling the panels laterally in opposite directions, it being unnecessary to release any of the fasteners.

The extreme ends of the panel side edges may be stitched together in the regions 20—21 (see Figure 3) which assists in maintaining the panels normally in overlapping relationship. However the flap front portion 9 between the stitched regions 20 and 21 is composed of panels having side edge portions free from connection to each other, which enables the panels to be drawn laterally to provide an opening as previously explained.

The garment shown embodies the invention in the form now preferred but it will be understood that changes may be made without departing from the invention as defined in the claims.

I claim:

1. A garment of the character described comprising a generally cylindrically shaped body portion; and a flap extending from the lower rear end of said body portion and being wide adjacent said body portion, and narrowing towards its opposite end to provide a crotch portion, and a front portion adapted to overlap and be connected to the lower front part of said body portion, said front portion including two superposed panels joined to each other along lines which cross the longitudinal center line of said flap and are spaced from each other along said center line, each of said panels having longitudinal edge portions between said lines free from connection to the other of said panels; and means for fastening said flap front portion to said body lower front portion.

2. A garment of the character described comprising a generally cylindrically shaped body portion; and a flap extending from the lower rear end of said body portion and being wide adjacent said body portion, and narrowing towards its opposite end to provide a crotch portion, and a front portion adapted to overlap and be connected to the lower front part of said body portion, said front portion including two superposed panels joined to each other along lines which cross the longitudinal center line of said flap and are spaced from each other along said center line, each of said panels having longitudinal edge portions between said lines free from connection to the other of said panels; upper fastening means on said body portion front above the bottom edge thereof; cooperating fastening means on said opposite end of said flap where said panels are joined; two lower fastening devices on said body portion front below said upper fastening means and located respectively on opposite sides of said flap longitudinal center line; and two cooperating fastening devices, one on a free longitudinal edge portion of one of said panels and the other on the opposite longitudinal edge of the other of said panels.

3. A garment of the character described comprising a generally cylindrically shaped body portion; and a flap extending from the lower rear end of said body portion and being wide adjacent said body portion, and narrowing towards its opposite end to provide a crotch portion, and a front portion adapted to overlap and be connected to the lower front part of said body portion, said front portion including two superposed panels joined to each other along lines which cross the longitudinal center line of said flap and are spaced from each other along said center line, each of said panels having longitudinal edge portions between said lines free from connection to the other of said panels, one of the longitudinal edge portions of each of said panels being extended laterally beyond the adjacent longitudinal edge portion of each other of said panels; upper fastening means on said body portion front above the bottom edge thereof; cooperating fastening means on said opposite end of said flap where said panels are joined; two lower fastening devices on said body portion front below said upper fastening means and located respectively on opposite sides of said flap longitudinal center line; and two cooperating fastening devices respectively on said laterally extended panel edge portions.

4. A garment of the character described comprising a generally cylindrically shaped body portion; and a flap extending from the lower rear end of said body portion and being wide adjacent said body portion, and narrowing towards its opposite end to provide a crotch portion, and a front portion adapted to overlap and be connected to the lower front part of said body portion, said front portion including two superposed panels joined to each other along lines

which cross the longitudinal center line of said flap and are spaced from each other along said center line, each of said panels having longitudinal edge portions between said lines free from connection to the other of said panels; upper fastening means on said body portion front above the bottom edge thereof; cooperating fastening means on said opposite end of said flap where said panels are joined; two lower fastening devices on said body portion front below said upper fastening means and being spaced from each other and respectively on opposite sides of said flap longitudinal center line and further therefrom than said upper fastening means; and two cooperating fastening devices, one on a free longitudinal edge portion of one of said panels and the other on the opposite longitudinal edge of the other of said panels.

5. In a one-piece garment of the character described, a resilient knitted shirt part; a resilient knitted short pants part comprising a flap including a rear buttocks-covering portion and a crotch and front portion, said front portion comprising two superposed panels joined to each other along lines which cross the longitudinal center line of said flap and are spaced from each other along said center line, each of said panels having longitudinal edge portions between said lines free from connection to the other of said panels; a non-resilient strip secured to the shirt front in the waist region and extending transversely across the shirt front with its ends terminating respectively at the side extremities of the garment, said strip being secured to said shirt part along an arc with its central part being highest and at the middle of the shirt part front whereby said shirt part front can be stretched transversely when the garment is being put on; upper fastening means on said non-resilient strip; cooperating fastening means on the free end of said flap front portion where said panels are joined; two lower fastening devices on said shirt front part below said upper fastening means and located respectively on opposite sides of said longitudinal center line; two cooperating fastening devices, one on a free longitudinal edge portion of one of said panels and the other on the opposite longitudinal edge of the other of said panels; and reenforcing means extending along the side edges which form leg openings and the front edge of said flap, said strip joining with said flap edge reenforcing means thus forming a continuous support or reenforcement for the bottom of the garment for preventing its being stretched out of shape.

6. A one-piece garment of the character described comprising a resilient knitted shirt part and a resilient knitted short pants part comprising a flap including a buttocks-covering portion and a crotch and front portion, said buttocks-covering portion extending from the bottom of the back of said shirt part where said buttocks-covering portion is substantially as wide as said shirt portion, and narrowing towards said crotch portion which is much less wide than said shirt part, said flap widening again in the intermediate part of said front portion and then again narrowing at the free end of said front portion, said flap front portion including two superposed panels joined to each other along lines which cross the longitudinal center line of said flap and are spaced along said center line, each of said panels having longitudinal edge portions between said lines free from connection to the other of said panels; upper fastening means on said shirt part front above the bottom edge thereof; cooperating fastening means on the narrow free end of said flap front portion; two lower fastening devices on said shirt art front below said upper fastening means and respectively on opposite sides of said flap longitudinal center line; and two cooperating fastening devices at the widened intermediate part of said front portion, one on a free longitudinal edge of one of said panels and the other on the opposite longitudinal edge of the other of said panels.

PLEASANT H. HANES.