

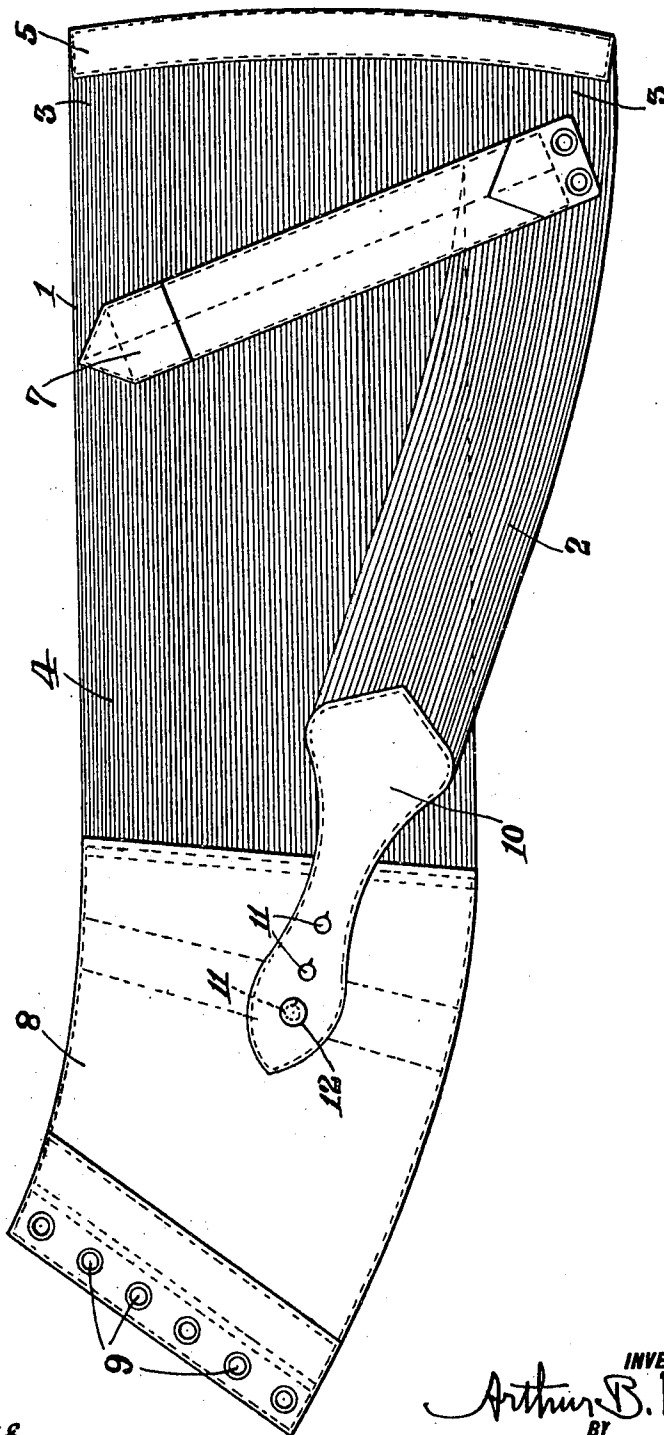
947,412.

A. B. KENDRICK.
ABDOMINAL BELT OR SUPPORTER.
APPLICATION FILED OCT. 3, 1908.

Patented Jan. 25, 1910.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.



WITNESSES:

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3 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 2.

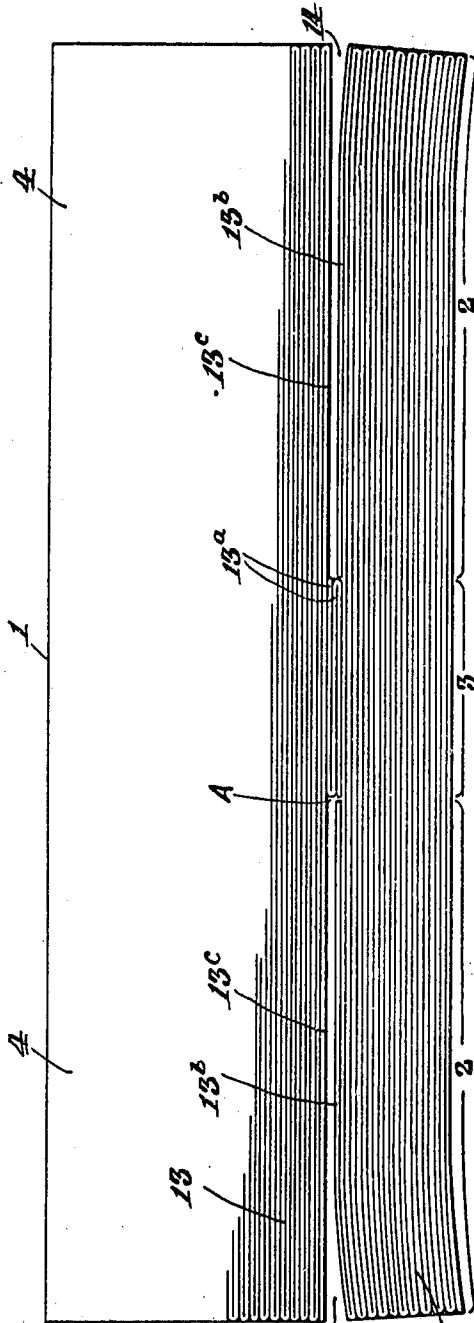
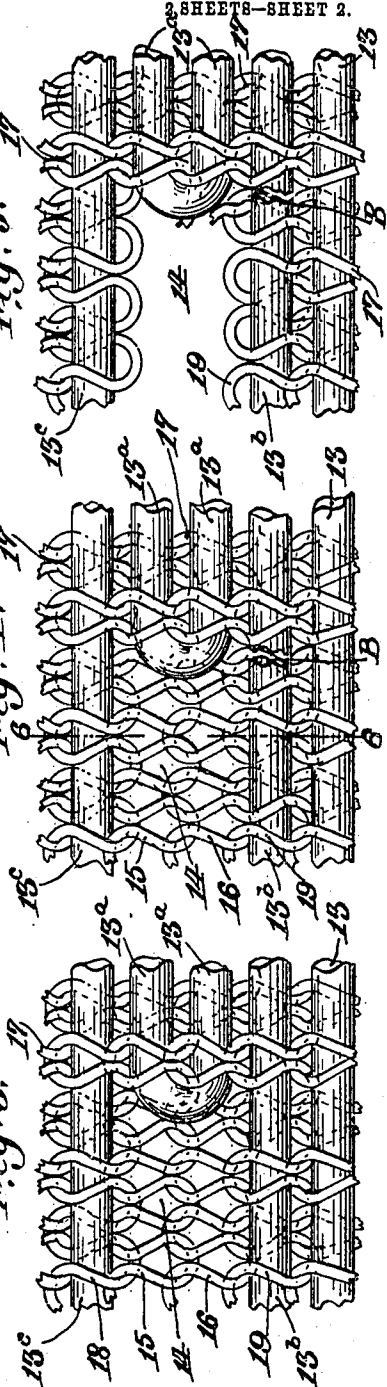


Fig. 6.

Fig. 4.

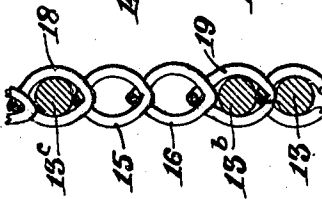
Fig. 3.



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Fig. 6.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ARTHUR B. KENDRICK, OF EAST ORANGE, NEW JERSEY.

ABDOMINAL BELT OR SUPPORTER.

947,412.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Jan. 25, 1910.

Application filed October 3, 1908. Serial No. 456,083.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ARTHUR B. KENDRICK, a citizen of the United States, residing at East Orange, in the county of Essex and State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Abdominal Belts or Supporters, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to abdominal belts or supporters, the object being to provide an elastic belt or supporter of simple and efficient construction which may be readily adapted to the wearer, and which may be worn with ease and comfort.

A further object of the invention is to provide a belt having a main body portion provided with fashioning strips adapted to overlap and be attached to the main body portion, said body portion and fashioning strips having elastic threads extending continuously therethrough and woven into a fabric of knitted threads.

The invention consists in the novel construction and arrangement of parts which will be hereinafter fully described and particularly claimed.

Figure 1 is a view of one half of my improved abdominal belt or supporter, both halves being alike. Fig. 2 is a view of a blank or main body of elastic fabric from which the belt is constructed. Figs. 3, 4, and 5 are views of a portion of the blank shown in Fig. 2, enlarged, showing successive steps in the production thereof. Fig. 6 is a vertical section, as on the line 6-6 of Fig. 4.

1 designates the main body portion of the belt or supporter, and 2 the fashioning strips therefor. The main body portion 1 and fashioning strips 2 are constructed from a piece of elastic fabric comprising longitudinal elastic threads woven into a network of knitted threads, as will be hereinafter described. The central portion 3 of the main body portion 1 is wider than the end portions 4 thereof, and the fashioning strips 2 extend from the widened central portion 3 of the body portion 1 and form continuations thereof. The main body portion 1 is provided with a central stay or stiffening piece 5, and lateral stays or stiffening pieces 7, one on each side of the central piece 5. These stays 5 and 7 are sewed on to the main body portion 1 and each lateral stay 7 inclines upwardly away from the central stay 5, the lower portion of each lateral

stay being secured to the main body portion 1 at the junction of the widened portion 3 thereof and a fashioning strip 2. Sewed on to each end of the main body portion 1, is a finishing piece 8, which may be of leather or any suitable material, the outer edge of which is provided with eyelets 9 for the reception of a lacing by means of which the two ends of the belt may be drawn together upon the wearer. Each fashioning strip 2 overlaps the main body 1, as shown in Fig. 1. The free end of each fashioning strip 2 has sewed thereon a finishing piece 10, which may be of leather or any suitable material. This piece 10 is provided with a series of eyes 11, any one of which is adapted to engage a button or projection 12 on the finishing piece 8 of the main body portion. By engaging different eyes 11 with the button or projection 12, the degree of fullness of the main body portion between the ends of the fastening piece may be regulated, to meet the varying requirements of the wearer of the belt.

I have found that by providing an abdominal belt or supporter of the construction hereinbefore described, many of the disadvantages of prior constructions wherein the belt is fashioned by shirring or otherwise reducing the width of the ends below that of the central portion, are obviated, and a substantially smooth, comfortably fashioned belt is provided, which may be adjusted as previously mentioned.

In constructing my improved abdominal belt or supporter, I employ a blank of the form shown in Fig. 2, wherein 1 is the main body portion of the belt, and 2 the fashioning strips therefor. The central portion 3 of the body portion 1 is wider than the end portions 4 thereof, and fashioning strips 2 extend from the widened central portion 3 of the body portion 1 and form continuations thereof, as shown. This blank is formed of longitudinally extending elastic threads 13, which are woven into a network of knitted stitches (not shown in Fig. 2, but shown, very much enlarged, in Figs. 3, 4, 5, and 6, and indicated at 17, said figures showing the fabric at the point marked A in Fig. 2). The elastic threads 15 extend continuously and uninterruptedly through the fashioning strips 2 and the central widened portion 3 of the body portion 1, as shown in Fig. 2. The fashioning strips 2 are separated from the end portions 4 of

the main body portion 1 by slits 14, and during the manufacture of the blank shown in Fig. 2, the longitudinal elastic threads 13 are woven into the knitted network successively throughout the length of the blank shown in Fig. 2, until the slits 14 are reached. At this point in the production of the blank, two longitudinal threads 13^a are inserted which extend through the central widened portion 3 of the blank and terminate at the inner ends of the slits 14, while the knitting operation proceeds and knits a network across the slits 14 as shown in Figs. 3, 4, and 6. After the two threads 13^a are inserted, the threads 13 are again extended the full length of the blank until the widened portion 3 of the main body portion 1 and the fashioning strips 2 are produced. Thus it will be seen that when the blank is first produced the slits 14 are closed by a network of knitted stitches comprising the two threads 15 and 16, the thread 15 being knitted into the last row of stitches or thread, 18, of the end portion 4, and the thread 16 being knitted into the first row of stitches or thread 19 of the fashioning strips 2.

After the blank shown in Fig. 2 has been produced with the network of knitted stitches closing the slits 14 as just described, the threads 15 and 16 are removed from the slots 14. Before this is done, however, it is necessary to remove the first elastic thread 13^b of each fashioning strip 2 adjacent the slits 14, and reinsert it into the loops of the thread 19 of the knitted fabric, 17. This is necessary for the reason that, as each longitudinal elastic thread is inserted in a horizontal row of knitted stitches, the longitudinal elastic thread extends horizontally through the loops which extend downwardly from the next knitted thread above. Therefore, it will be seen that if the threads 15 and 16 are removed from the slits 14, the lowermost thread 13^c of the body portion 1 will remain in the loops of the thread 18 and thus prevent unraveling, while the uppermost elastic thread 13^b of the fashioning strips 2 will not extend through the loops of the thread 19 of the knitted fabric, thus permitting the unraveling of the thread 19 and the successive knitted threads engaged therewith of the fashioning strips 2 (see Fig. 3). To avoid this unraveling of the knitted fabric of the fashioning strips 2, before cutting or removing the threads 15 and 16 from the slits 14, I remove the upper elastic thread 13^b of each fashioning strip 2 and reinsert this thread 13^b so that it will extend through the loops of the thread 19 when the threads 15 and 16 are

removed as shown in Figs. 4 and 5; Fig. 4 showing the reinserted thread 13^b before the removal of the threads 15 and 16 from the slit 14, and Fig. 5 showing the position of the thread 13^b in the loops of the thread 19 after the removal of the threads 15 and 16 from the slit 14.

After the blank has been produced as just described, the finishing pieces 8 and 10 are sewed on to the ends of the body portion 1, and the fashioning strips 2 respectively, and the stays 5 and 7 are sewed on to the body portion to produce my complete abdominal belt or supporter.

Having thus described my invention, I claim:—

1. An abdominal belt or supporter comprising an elongated body portion having a central portion wider than the end portions, fashioning strips forming continuations of the wide central portion of the body portion, and means for securing the ends of the strips to the body portion, said body portion and said fashioning strips being composed of longitudinal elastic threads woven into a fabric of knitted threads, said elastic threads extending continuously through the wide central portion of the body portion and through the fashioning strips forming continuations thereof, and said fabric of knitted threads extending continuously from top to bottom of the wide central portion of the body portion.

2. An abdominal belt or supporter comprising an elongated body portion having a central portion wider than the end portions, fashioning strips forming continuations of the wide central portion of the body portion, and means for securing the ends of the strips to the body portion, said body portion and said fashioning strips being composed of longitudinal elastic threads woven into a fabric of knitted threads, said elastic threads extending continuously through the wide central portion of the body portion and through the fashioning strips forming continuations thereof, said fabric of knitted threads extending continuously from top to bottom of the wide central portion of the body portion, and the outermost elastic threads of the adjacent edges of the body portion and the fashioning strips being inclosed by loops of the knitted threads.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

ARTHUR B. KENDRICK.

Witnesses:

J. WILLIAM KENDRICK,
SAMUEL SADDINGTON.