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E. FRIEND

2,139,305

CORSET

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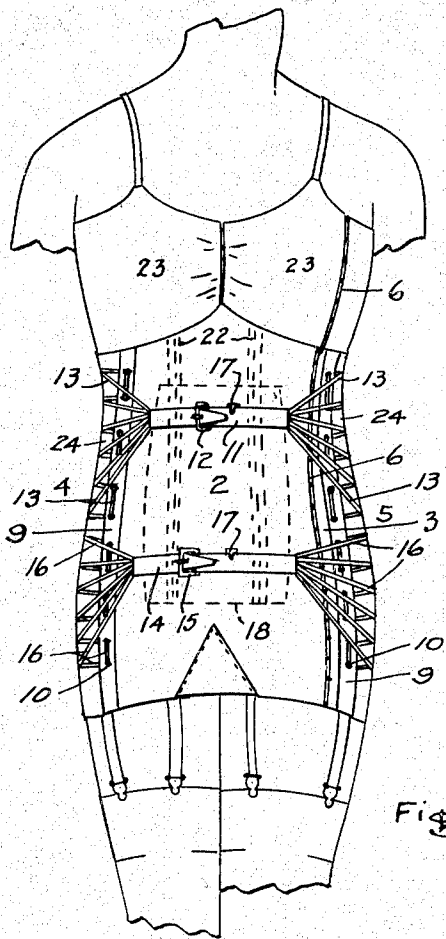


Fig. 1.

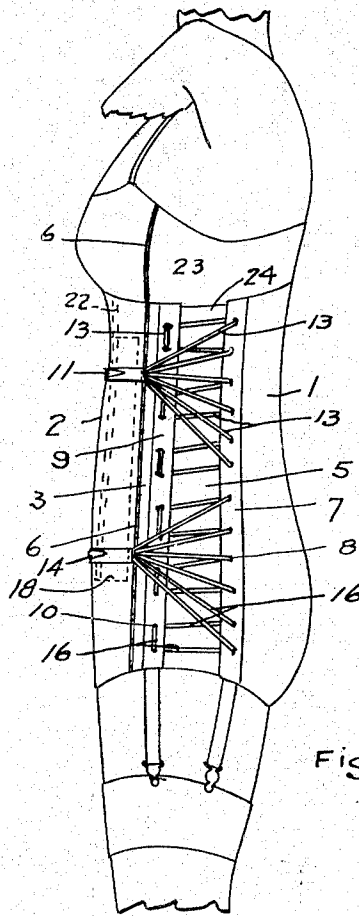


Fig. 2.

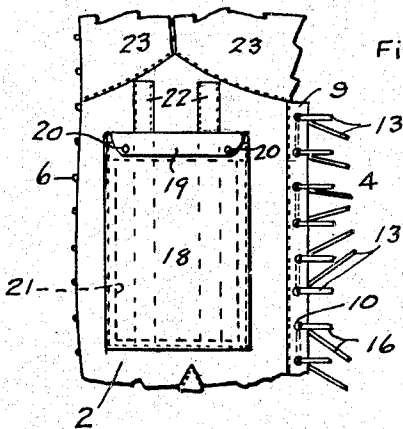


Fig. 3.

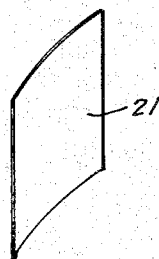


Fig. 4.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,139,305

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1 Claim. (Cl. 2-39)

My invention relates to corsets and similar garments and has special reference to such corsets intended for daily wear rather than bandages for special purposes such as supports after a surgical operation or maternity corsets.

The objects of my invention are, first, to provide a corset which will properly and adequately support the trunk of the body without interfering with its freedom of motion and adjustment; second, to provide such a corset as will flatten the abdominal regions so that there is no sagging or abnormal distention thereof; and third, to provide such a corset of simple construction, easy to don and to adjust, and comfortable to wear.

I attain these and other objects by the devices and arrangements illustrated in the accompanying drawing, in which—

Fig. 1 is a front view of my improved corset in use; Fig. 2 is a side view thereof; Fig. 3 is an elevation of a part of the inner side of the front of the corset, showing the pocket therein; and Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the metal plate adapted to lie within said pocket.

Similar numerals of reference refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

Referring to the drawing it will be seen that my improved corset comprises two main parts, a back section 1, and a front section 2. The front section 2 is provided with a narrow fastening strip 3. As clearly shown in the drawing the section 1 and the front section 2 are adjustably secured together, on the wearer's right side by lacing 4, as hereinafter described. Similarly the back section 1 and the fastening strip 3 are adjustably secured together, on the wearer's left side by the lacing 5. The front part 2 and the fastening strip 3 are releasably secured together by any desired form of fastening, such as snaps, hooks, or other means, as shown at 6, in Figs. 1, 2 and 3.

The vertical borders of the rear section 1 are suitably reinforced at 7 and are provided with a series of holes 8, which may be substantially equally spaced apart. In the drawing twelve such holes 8 are shown. The adjacent edges of the front portion 2 and the fastening strip 3 are similarly reinforced at 9 and are provided with holes 10 substantially corresponding in position with the said holes 8.

An upper strap 11, formed in two pieces adjustably secured together by the buckle 12, or otherwise, is provided at each end with three looped laces 13, both of whose ends are secured to the ends of the strap 11. Each lace 13 extends from the end of the strap 11, to which it is se-

cured, rearward to pass over the rear reinforcing 7 and inward through one of the holes 8 therein thence under the reinforcing strips 7 and 9 and outward through the corresponding hole 10, thence on the outer side of the strip 9 to the next adjacent hole 10 and back through the corresponding hole 8 and again forward to the end of the strap 11 to which it is secured.

Similarly, a lower strap 14 is provided with an adjusting buckle 15 and each end is secured to the ends of three lacing loops 16, each of which is laced as above described for the loops 13.

Thus it is readily seen that by adjusting the buckles 12 and 15 the space between the front 2 and the back 1 of the corset may be adjusted to bring the corset to the desired degree of tightness. A pair of hooks 17 are secured to the front part 2 of the corset and are adapted to extend downward over the upper edges of the said straps 11 and 14 to hold them down against any tendency to slide upward which the movement of the wearer may cause.

A pocket 18 is secured to the inner side of the front 2 of the corset, said pocket being positioned to cover the central part of the abdomen. The pocket 18 may be provided with a flap closure across its upper end, and said flap 19 may be provided with one or more suitable snap fasteners 20, or other suitable securing means whereby the open end of the pocket may be closed.

A thin plate 21 (Fig. 4) preferably of Duralumin, or other suitable material, is formed with substantially straight surface vertically but which is slightly curved horizontally, thus making the plate quite flexible in a horizontal direction but of considerable stiffness in a vertical direction. This plate 21 is placed within the pocket 18.

When the straps 11 and 14 are drawn taut they press the plate 21 inward across its upper and lower portions and, since the plate is stiff vertically, they thus apply an inward pressure on the abdomen over a large area and hold the abdomen in along substantially straight vertical lines. Since the plate 21 is slightly curved horizontally the side edges do not protrude and the plate bends to the general contour of the body.

The corset may be provided with suitable ribs or stays 22 and with a cloth corselette 23 sewed to its upper edge, and with side strips 24 of cloth between the above-described reinforcing strips 7 and 9 and under the lacing thereof.

It is to be understood that the invention illustrated and described herein is in the preferred form but that many variations may be made in

the details thereof without departing from the spirit of my invention, as outlined in the appended claim; and that the words and terms used in the description and claim are chosen for convenience but are intended to be as generic in their meaning as the art will permit.

Having, therefore, described my invention what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:—

10 In a garment of the corset type, a girdle portion having front and rear sections provided with substantially vertical side edges with the side edges of the front section spaced forwardly from the side edges of the rear section, a stiff

plate carried by the front section, and lacing means connecting the vertical edges of the sections at the upper and lower parts thereof, said lacing means comprising upper and lower groups of laces with the laces of each group connected to said vertical edges at spaced intervals and the ends of the laces of each group converging to form means for attaching belt ends, belt means connecting the lacing ends at each side and extending across said plate whereby tensioning of the belt means simultaneously effects drawing of the section edges toward each other and pressure on said plate.

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