Dec. 10, 1946. B. P. GARRISON 2,412,502

GARMENT

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Fig. 1.

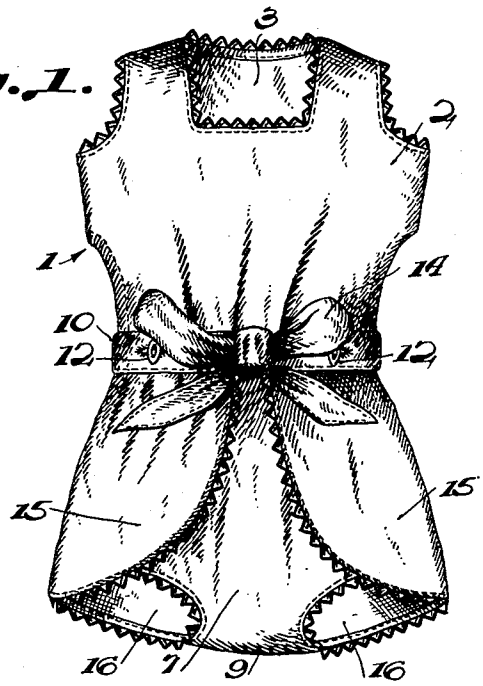
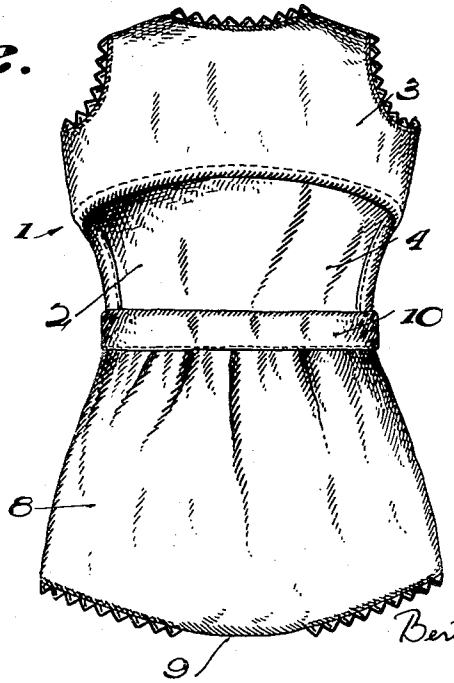


Fig. 2.



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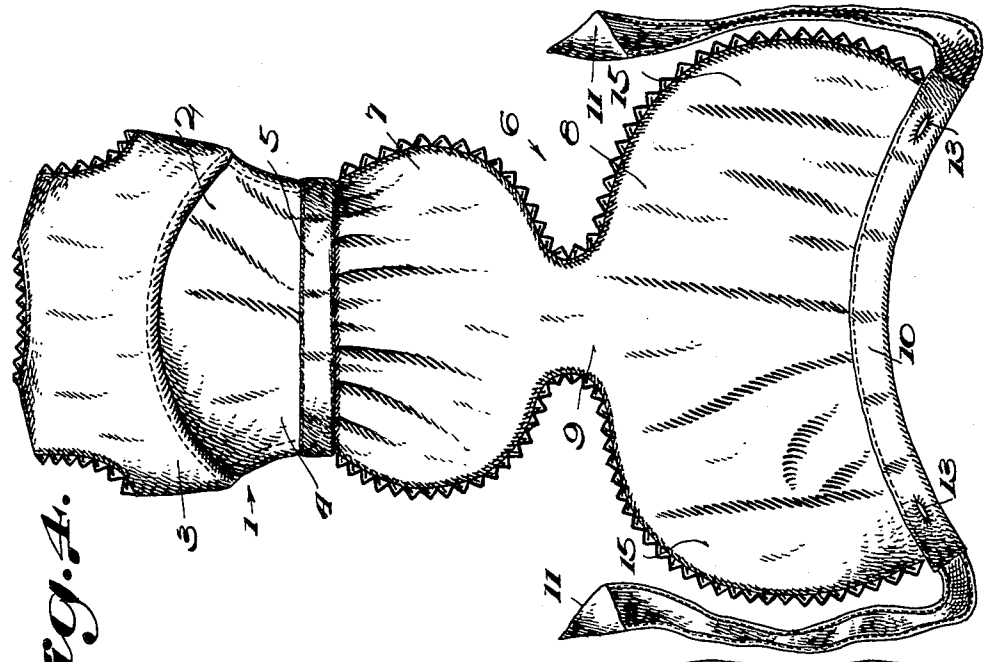

Fig. 4.

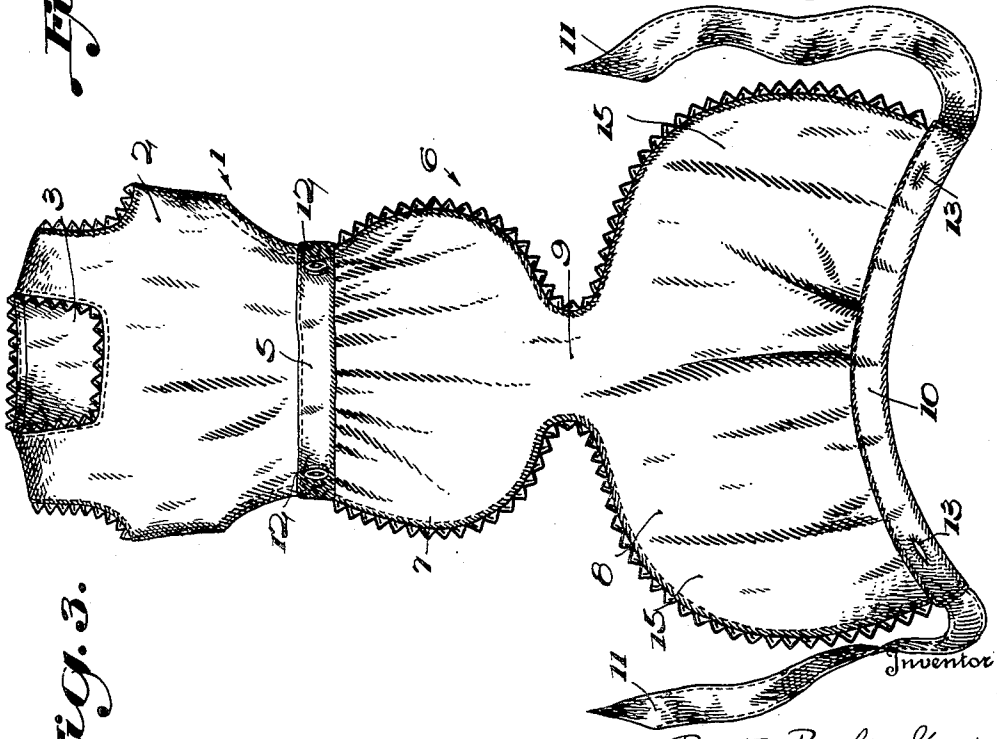

Fig. 3.

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Fig. 5.

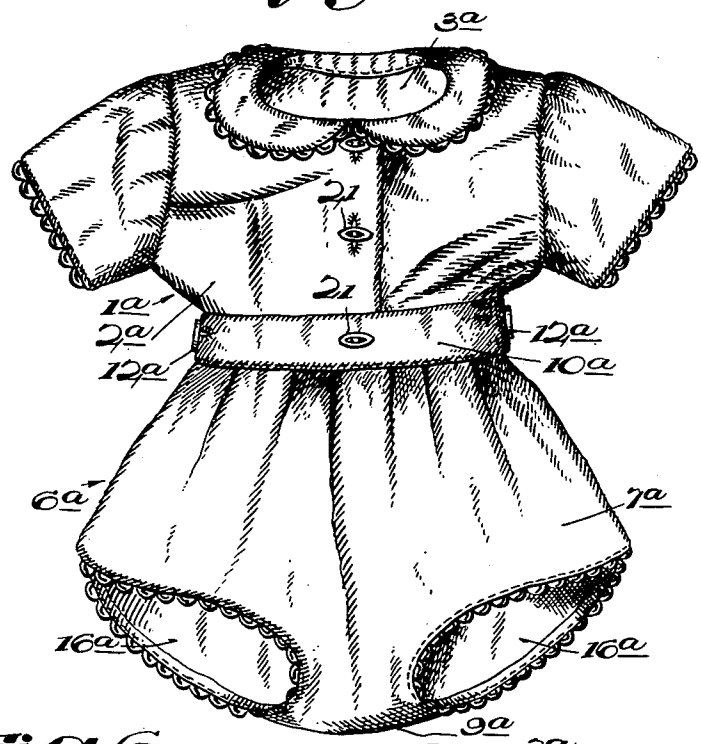
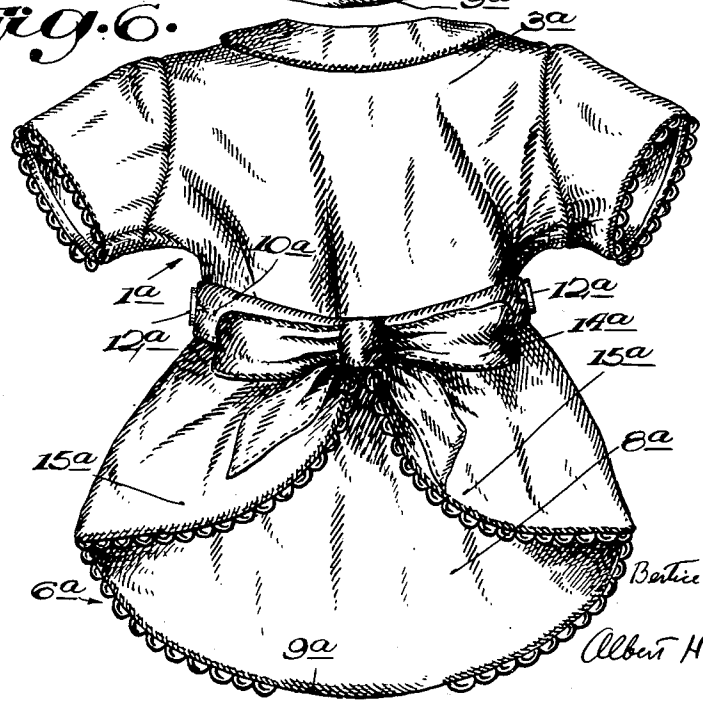


Fig. 6.



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GARMENT

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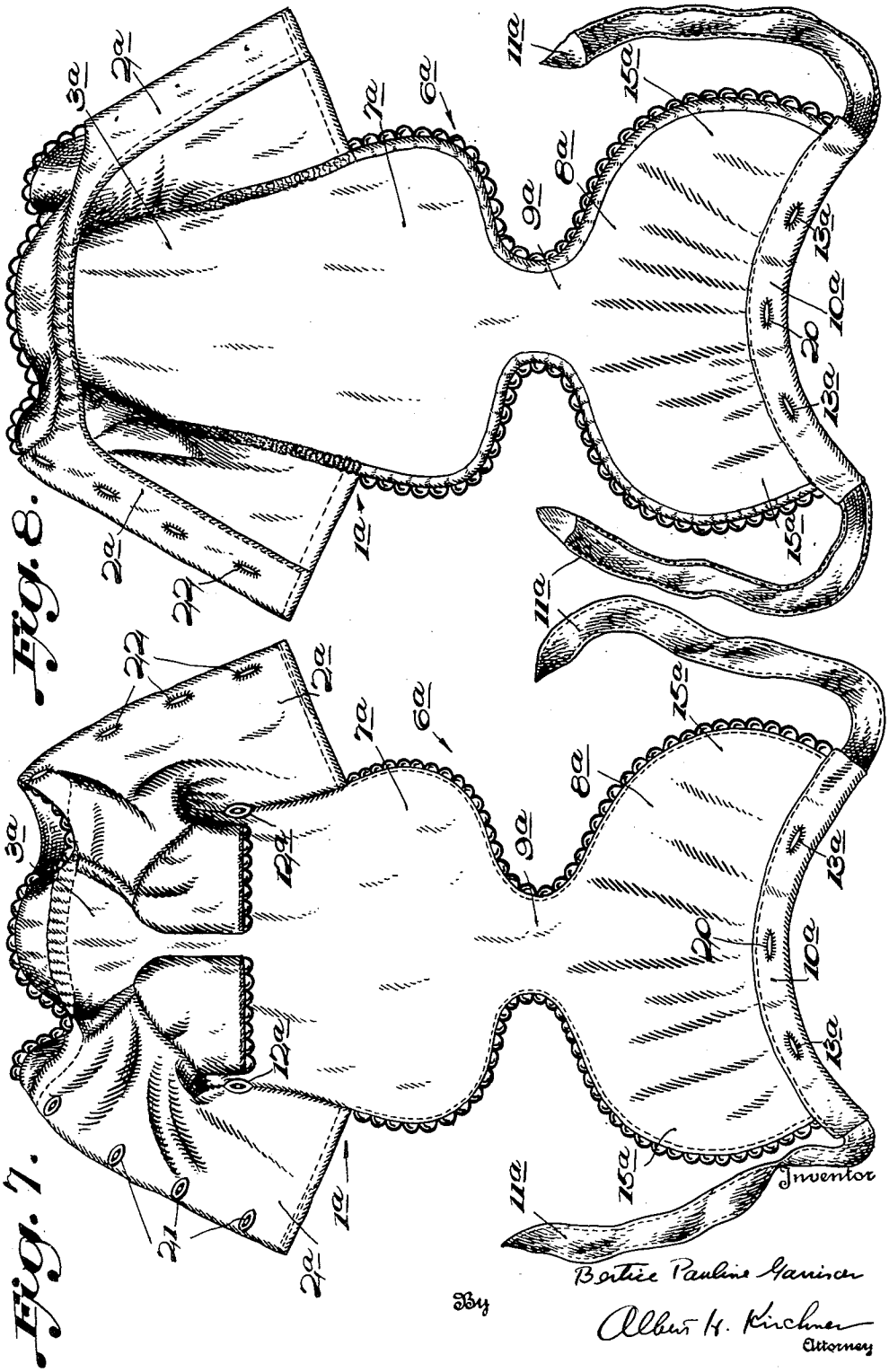

Patented Dec. 10, 1946

2,412,502

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,412,502

GARMENT

Bertice Pauline Garrison, Seattle, Wash.

Application February 26, 1945, Serial No. 579,808

8 Claims. (Cl. 2—67)

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The present invention relates to garments and more particularly to an article of outer wearing apparel intended especially for women and children.

The new garment covers the trunk or torso of the wearer, although it may optionally include sleeves, and is intended to be used as a sleeping garment, as a play suit or sun suit, as a pair of rompers, or for any similar informal sort of wear.

The principal objects of the invention are to provide an article of wearing apparel of the type indicated which will be attractive in appearance and design; which will be sufficiently light and scanty in coverage to leave the legs and thighs of the wearer exposed while providing adequate covering for the bust and hips; which will be exceedingly simple in pattern and structure; which can be put on and taken off by unusually quick and simple operations; which may be held on the person of the wearer by a single fastening; which will be inexpensive to make; which will be loose fitting and comfortable; which will readily accommodate itself to any bending and stretching movements of the wearer; and which will have numerous other and further advantages as will be evident from the description hereinafter of certain preferred forms of embodiment of the invention.

The accompanying drawings illustrate certain embodiments of the invention which have been manufactured commercially on a large scale and found to be entirely satisfactory and which are therefore at present preferred by me. However, these embodiments are selected merely to illustrate the principles of the invention and not for any purpose of limiting those principles to the precise details shown.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a front elevational view of one form of garment embodying the invention, with the parts shown in the positions which they assume when the garment is being worn;

Fig. 2 is a rear elevational view of the same garment, with the parts in the same positions as in Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a front elevational view showing the same garment with its lower portion opened, the parts being in the positions which they assume when the garment is being put on or taken off;

Fig. 4 is a rear elevational view of the same garment, with the parts in the same positions as in Fig. 3;

Fig. 5 is a front elevational view similar to

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that of Fig. 1 but showing a different type of garment embodying the invention;

Fig. 6 is a rear elevational view similar to that of Fig. 2 but depicting the garment shown in Fig. 5;

Fig. 7 is a rear elevational view similar to that of Fig. 3 but depicting the garment of Figs. 5 and 6; and

Fig. 8 is a front elevational view similar to that of Fig. 4 but depicting the garment of Figs. 5, 6 and 7.

Referring first to the embodiment of the invention shown in Figs. 1 to 4 inclusive, the garment comprises essentially a waist 1 which may be of any appropriate style and form and ornamented with any suitable trimming but which I prefer to make sleeveless and comparatively plain and simple, as shown. The waist includes a full length front section 2 and a shortened back section 3 which leaves an opening in the lower portion of the back as shown at 4.

The front section 2 of the waist terminates in its lower portion in a waistband zone at about the level of the waist of the wearer. In the present instance the garment is provided with a definite waistband 5. Depending from this waistband, and preferably integral with it or permanently sewed to it, is a lower panel 6 which includes an upper relatively narrow section 7 connected at its upper edge to the waistband, and a lower, relatively wide section 8. The two sections are integral and are joined together by a constricted crotch zone or section 9. The lower section 8 terminates at its bottom in a hemmed edge which may be given the form of a belt 10 and which may have belt members 11, 11 extended from its opposite end edges.

A button 12 may be secured at each opposite side of the front of the waistband 5, and buttonholes 13 may be provided in the belt 10 for cooperation with these buttons.

The garment is worn with the waist 1 passed over the head and shoulders of the wearer and with the lower section 8 of the panel 6 turned up in the rear in approximate parallelism to the plane of the upper section 7 so that the belt 10 is at approximately the waistline, more or less alined with the waistband 5 at the front of the garment. The buttons 12 and holes 13 are engaged, and the belt sections 11 are carried around to the front of the garment where they are tied as in the bow form shown at 14 in Fig. 1.

It will be noted that the comparatively narrow section 7 of the panel 6 lies in the lower front of the garment, while the wider section 8

of this panel extends around the rear, with its side margins 15, 15 carried around to the front, to supplement the coverage provided by the section 7. In this position of the sections it will be noted that openings for the legs of the wearer are provided at 16, 16, these openings being defined by the adjacent portions of the edges of the crotch zone 9, the upper and lower sections 7 and 8 of the panel 6, and the side margins 15 of the section 8.

The garment is put on by an extremely quick and simple operation, as will be evident from a comparison of Figs. 3 and 4 with Figs. 1 and 2. With the parts in the open position shown in Figs. 3 and 4, the waist is donned, then the lower, wide section 8 of the depending panel 6 is passed between the legs and pulled up the back, and then the belt members 11, 11 are tied as the bow 14 at the front of the waistband zone. The buttons 12 may be left disengaged with their buttonholes 13, or they may be engaged, at the option of the wearer.

The embodiment of the invention shown in Figs. 5 to 8 inclusive is generally quite similar to that which has been described hereinabove, the principal difference being that in the embodiment of Figs. 5 to 8 inclusive the panel which includes the upper and lower sections for covering the trunk or torso of the wearer from the waist down is connected to and depends from the back of the garment, or from the waistband zone of the back, rather than from the front as in the embodiment shown in Figs. 1 to 4 inclusive.

Thus, referring to Figs. 5 and 6, it will be noted that this type of garment includes a waist 1*a* having a front section 2*a* and a rear section 3*a*. There is no opening corresponding to the opening 4 of Fig. 2, nor any definite waistband like that shown at 5 in Fig. 2. However, there is a panel 6*a* having an upper, relatively narrow section 7*a*, a lower, relatively wide section 8*a*, and an intermediate, connecting crotch zone or section 9*a*, all corresponding to the respectively similar parts of the previously described embodiment, with the sole exception that the panel depends from and is connected permanently to the rear section 3*a* instead of the front section 2*a* of the waist 1*a* as would be the case if the two embodiments were identical.

The panel 6*a* terminates at its lower edge in a belt 10*a* having outwardly extending belt members 11*a* adapted to be tied as a bow 14*a* at the back of the garment, as shown in Fig. 6. This belt may have a pair of outer buttonholes 13*a* for receiving the buttons 12*a* positioned in about the waistband zone, at the extreme sides thereof, as shown in Figs. 5, 6 and 7. A central buttonhole 20 may be provided in the belt 10*a* for optional engagement with one of the buttons 21 of the waist, after that button has been passed through the buttonhole 22 of the waist, if the waist is made in the front-buttoned style shown at 1*a*. Of course this waist might be made in the closed, slip-over style shown at 1 in Figs. 1 to 4 inclusive, just as it might be made without the sleeves of that embodiment.

With the wider section 8*a* of the panel 6*a* passed between the legs of the wearer and held up in front, in approximate parallelism to the plane of the narrower section 7*a* which hangs at the back of the garment, side margins 15*a* of the section 8*a* are folded over the side margins of the section 7*a* at the back of the garment, as shown in Fig. 6. This arrangement provides leg openings 16*a*, quite similar to those

shown at 16 in the other illustrated embodiment of the invention.

It is believed that the uses and advantages of the second illustrated embodiment of the invention will be as evident as those of the first. It is also believed that the drawings and the foregoing description sufficiently explain the points of similarity between the two types of garment by which each embodies the generic invention pointed out by the claims appended to this application. Numerous details of the illustrated embodiments of the invention may be varied considerably within the scope of the appended claims. Thus, for example, the shortened back section 3 of the waist 1 of the Figs. 1–4 embodiment of the invention may be further reduced so as to amount to a mere strap for engagement around the wearer's neck, or the waist may be modified so that it amounts to nothing more than a front section 2 with an opening for the wearer's neck. This design is particularly appropriate when the garment is to be made as a bathing suit, in which field backless garments are popular. Again, the proportions between the upper, crotch and lower sections 7, 9 and 8 of the panel 6 may be altered, even to the point of making them all of about the same width, although I prefer the proportions shown in the illustrated embodiments because objectionable fullness in the crotch is thereby eliminated and a better fit is achieved. The belt means 10, 11, 11 may be reduced to the form of a mere string, and it may be tied or otherwise secured around the waist of the wearer beneath or outside of the waistband zone of the front of the garment. In other words, if the panel sections 7 and 8 are of the same or approximately the same width, it becomes immaterial whether the margins of the front overlap or underlap those of the rear section. The garment can be worn either way. The choice will depend on the preference of the wearer, or perhaps on whether the garment is put on by first securing the neck opening about the wearer's neck or by first tying the belt means in place and thereafter slipping the head through the neck opening or, if the neck opening is split, by closing it around the neck.

Other modifications in the illustrated embodiments, all within the scope of the appended claims, will suggest themselves to those skilled in the art.

I claim:

1. A garment of the class described comprising a waist having a front section and a back section and having in its lower portion a waistband zone, a panel extending downwardly from the lower portion of the waist and comprising a relatively narrow section connected at its upper edge to one of the waist sections and a relatively wide section connected with the narrow section by a constricted crotch zone, said wide section being turned up toward the other waist section in approximate parallelism to the plane of the narrow section to provide leg openings on opposite sides of the crotch zone, and the side margins of the wide section being folded over the outside of the side margins of the narrow section so that the side margins of the wide section substantially cover and conceal the side edges of the narrow section throughout their whole extent except the portions thereof adjacent to the crotch zone, and separable fastening means for supporting the transverse free edge of the wide section at substantially the level of the waistband zone.

2. A garment as claimed in claim 1, in which the panel is connected at its upper edge to the front section of the waist, the wide section of the panel forms the rear lower portion of the garment, and the side margins of the wide section are disposed across the front lower portion of the garment.

3. A garment as claimed in claim 1, in which the panel is connected at its upper edge to the back section of the waist, the wide section of the panel forms the front lower portion of the garment, and the side margins of the wide section are disposed across the rear lower portion of the garment.

4. A garment as claimed in claim 1, in which the transverse free edge of the wide section of the panel is provided with button holes and the waistband zone is provided with buttons engaging said button holes.

5. A garment as claimed in claim 1, in which a belt member extends outwardly from each side of the transverse free edge of the wide section of the panel in substantial alinement with said edge, said members being adapted to be tied together at approximately the upper center of the narrow section of the panel.

6. A garment as claimed in claim 1, in which the transverse free edge of the wide section of the panel is provided with button holes and the waistband zone is provided with buttons engaging said button holes, and in which a belt member extends outwardly from each side of said

edge in substantial alinement therewith, said members being adapted to be tied together at approximately the upper center of the narrow section of the panel.

7. A garment of the class described comprising a waist having a front section including in its lower portion a waist band zone and a back section shorter than the front section and terminating at its bottom above the level of the waistband zone, a panel extending downwardly from the lower portion of the waist and comprising a relatively narrow section connected at its upper edge to the front section of the waist and a relatively wide section connected with the narrow section by a constricted crotch zone, said wide section being turned up toward the back section of the waist in approximately parallelism to the plane of the narrow section to provide leg openings on opposite sides of the crotch zone, and the side margins of the wide and narrow sections overlapping each other, separable fastening means for supporting the transverse free edge of the wide sections at substantially the level of the waistband zone, and an open space being left at the back of the garment between the bottom edge of the back section of the waist and the transverse free edge of the wide section of the panel.

8. A garment as claimed in claim 7, including cooperating buttons and buttonholes provided on the waistband zone and the upper edge of each side margin only of the wide section.

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