The invention relates to a garment supporting belt which has been developed and used in connection with pajama trousers, in which connection it has certain important advantages, though it is capable of more general application.

The majority of pajama trousers belts consist of either a draw string or elastic band located in a tube or hem forming the top of the garment or they consist of a mesh fabric construction which is generally tubular and contains either a flat rubber band or a strip of fabric and rubber.

Both of these are undesirable in that when worn the fabric on the inside is creased and folded by contraction of the rubber, the creases being pressed into the skin during repose, causing discomfort and even injury, also the appearance of the garment is unsightly and both the tubular construction and the mesh belt have the appearance of underwear, which in various circumstances incident to wear is undesirable.

The improved garment has the advantage, viz. that when worn, there are no creases or folds at the inside of the belt, it is free of any tubular construction and there is no exposure of mesh fabric at the top of the garment or elsewhere, when the garment is worn. A further advantage is that there is no outside belt, the waistband being so constructed that the garment material extends without interruption to the top of the garment and it requires no adjustments such as tabs, buttons or back tie strings.

It is of interest that the waistband is so constructed that it stands wearing without apparent deterioration and it contains no sheet rubber which will stick to the tubing and shrivel when heat is applied as in pressing, the rubber which the belt contains, being well insulated and protected so that it is not affected by the heat applied for this purpose.

The garment supporting belt of the invention has various other advantages to be more fully discussed, including full and complete ventilation and lack of heating due to multiple thicknesses of fabric and sheet rubber.

In the accompanying drawing, I have illustrated the preferred and modified form of the invention in connection with so much of the pajama trousers garment as is necessary to a full understanding of the use of the same.

In the drawing:
Figure 1 is a perspective view of the preferred form of belt applied to a pajama trouser garment.

Figure 2 is a section on the line 2—2.

Figure 3 is a view corresponding to Figure 1 showing a modified form of garment.

Referring to the drawing by numerals, each of which is used to indicate the same or similar parts in the different figures, the construction shown comprises: a pajama trousers garment 1, having the usual front fly opening 2 and a belt or waistband 3, which is the important feature of the invention. In accordance with the preferred construction, the garment fabric 4 is hemmed at the top at 5, the top hem being turned inwardly and downwardly for about ½". Before the hem is stitched, however, a strip of elastic mesh fabric tape 6, which as shown is about 1½" wide, is caused to overlie the edge portion of the garment on the inside of fabric, the upper edge of the elastic mesh fabric tape 6, indicated by reference character 7, being placed in continuous contact with the upper edge of the hem 5, the entire width of the tape overlying the garment fabric on the inside and extending downwardly inside the garment. This elastic mesh tape is stretched to the desired degree and stitched to the garment fabric while stretched, preferably two lines of stitching 8 and 9 extend along the entire length of the waist at the top and bottom edges, the stitching extending through the elastic mesh tape and through the garment fabric. The top line of stitching 8, may be, to the best advantage, used to secure the top hem 5 of the garment fabric.

The elastic mesh tape in the preferred form consists of longitudinal rubber threads or strands 10, which are preferably double-wrapped with yarn as indicated at 11 and rubber strands thus wrapped are interwoven with yarn 13, forming a soft finish mesh tape, from which the rubber is preferably omitted at the top and bottom edges of the tape where the stitching occurs at 8 and 9.

In the form of garment shown, the elastic mesh tape extends under the fly hem 11 and the tape is stitched through the hem and through the fabric 4 at 12, so that the elastic mesh fabric tape is secured by stitching along the entire length of its top and bottom edges and also at its end edges by transverse stitching 12 and 14. It is further of interest that the material is shrinkproof or non-shrinkable, the yarn being completely shrunk before it is used for winding rubber strands and forming the elastic mesh tape.

It is of advantage that the elastic thus being sewn to the garment at its top and bottom for the entire length of the elastic mesh tape and also secured by stitching across the ends, the tape is prevented from breaking away at the 55.
ends, a source of failure which is of frequent occurrence in other garments. It is also of interest that the rubber is doubly insulated by two layers of yarn as to its surface exposed on the inside of the garment and insulated by three layers, i. e., two layers of yarn and one of fabric, from the outside so that in pressing it is well protected from the heat which prevents deterioration and shriveling of the rubber and consequent failure. This manner of stitching or sewing of the band prevents slipping of the thread rubber in the webbing. As distinguished from the garment belts which contain strips of sheet rubber, this type of band affords sufficient ventilation, being highly porous and the band being, as a matter of fact, composed of two thicknesses only, including the webbing, i. e., one thickness of webbing and one thickness of yarn fabric.

On account of the waistband or belt construction described, the garment as worn presents a smooth appearance as to the waistband and the garment material only is exposed to view, extending to the top of the garment. It is also of importance that as the elastic mesh tape contracts, it retains its smooth contour so that the waistband or belt presents no wrinkles to the skin on the inside. This is a source of discomfort in other garments of this general type which has been found highly objectionable, and which is completely eliminated by the device of the invention.

In Figure 3, I have shown a modified form of the invention in which the tape is applied as to the rear half of the belt only, as indicated at 15, the front half of the belt being lined with soft fabric at 16. By this construction, it is not only possible to avoid wrinkles but to maintain the front of the garment, when worn, entirely smooth and free of gathers or folds which is of considerable advantage in the matter of appearance, particularly combined with the features whereby the garment fabric presents an unbroken surface extending to the top edge of the garment.

I have thus described specifically and in detail, a garment embodying the features of my invention in the preferred and in a modified form in order that the manner of constructing, applying, operating and using the invention may be fully understood. However, the specific terms herein are used descriptively rather than in a limiting sense, the scope of the invention being defined in the claim.

What I claim is new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

A garment waistband comprising a single thickness of the garment fabric, continuous with the main fabric of the garment, the same being hemmed at the top edge and a strip of elastic rubber mesh fabric which contracts without wrinkling and has a soft inner surface which is presented to the body when the garment is worn, said strip extending along the entire waistline of the garment, overlying and registering with the upper edge portion of the garment on the inside, and completely covered thereby on the external surface of the garment, means securing the elastic mesh strip to the garment fabric comprising a line of stitching at the top edge of the same, said line of stitching securing both the hem and the top edge of the elastic strip, the elastic mesh strip being secured to the garment fabric throughout its length, so that the garment, when worn, presents a continuous unseamed substantially flat surface of the garment fabric at and near the waistband, the elastic rubber mesh fabric strip being concealed.

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