Aug. 3, 1954 J. SINGER 2,685,092

GARMENT HAVING BLIND BELT STRAPS

Filed March 22, 1951

3 Sheets-Sheet 1

FIG. 1

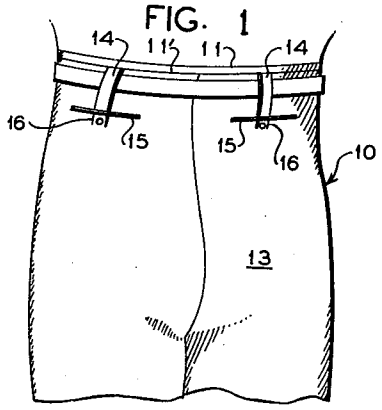


FIG. 2

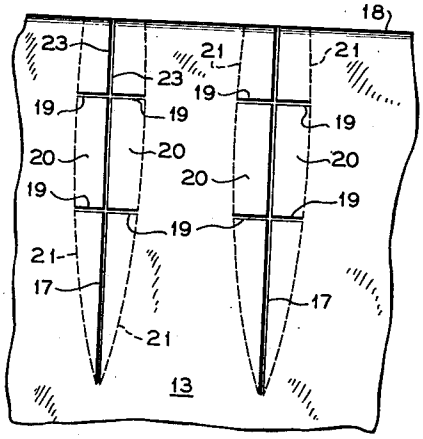


FIG. 3

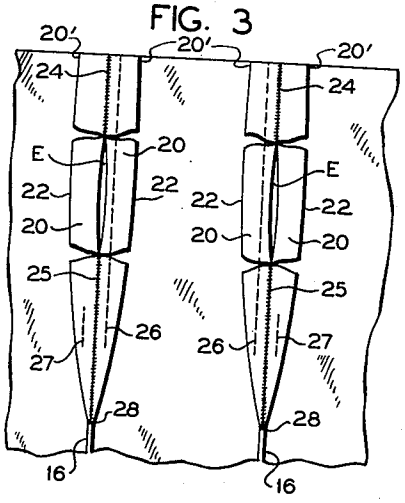
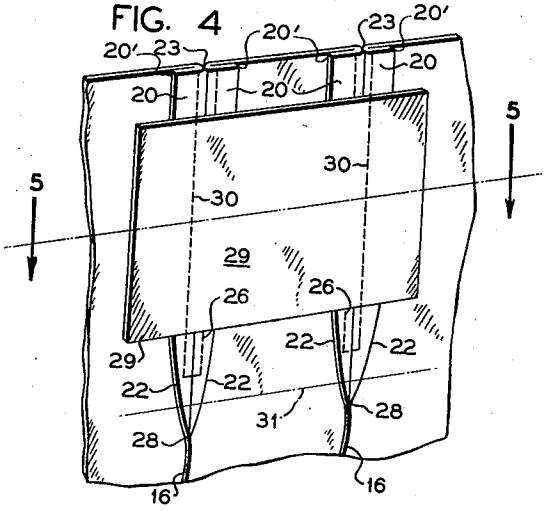


FIG. 4



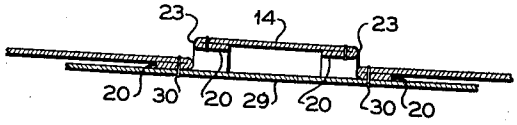
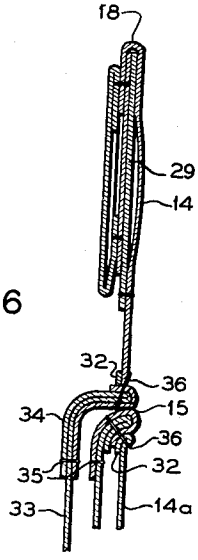


FIG. 5

FIG. 6



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Aug. 3, 1954 J. SINGER 2,685,092

GARMENT HAVING BLIND BELT STRAPS

Filed March 22, 1951

3 Sheets-Sheet 2

FIG. 7

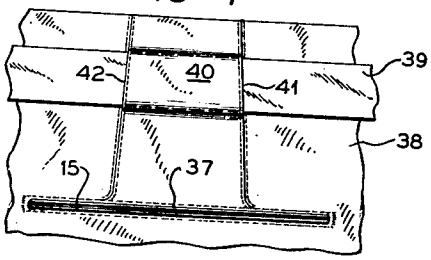


FIG. 8

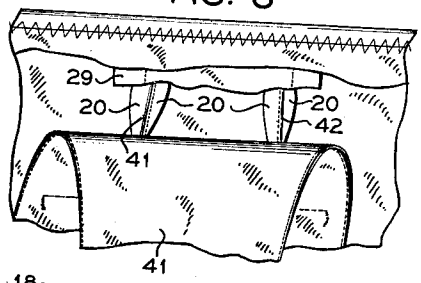


FIG. 9

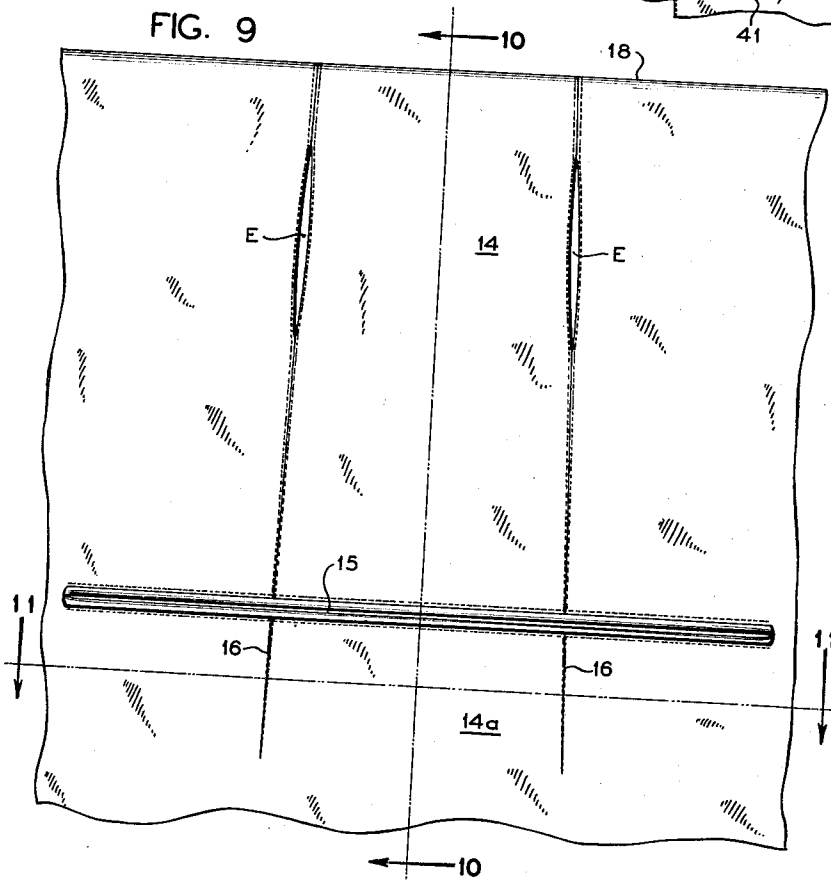
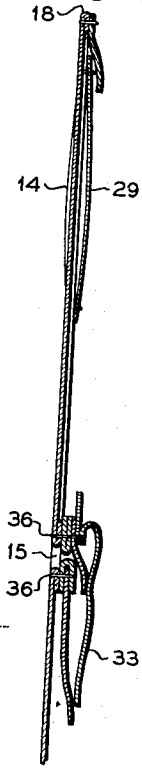


FIG. 10



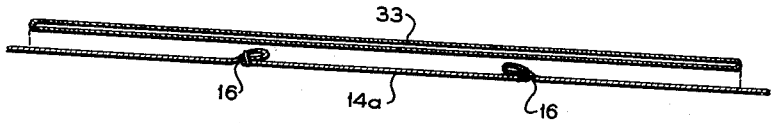


FIG. 11

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Aug. 3, 1954 J. SINGER 2,685,092

GARMENT HAVING BLIND BELT STRAPS

Filed March 22, 1951

3 Sheets-Sheet 3

FIG. 12

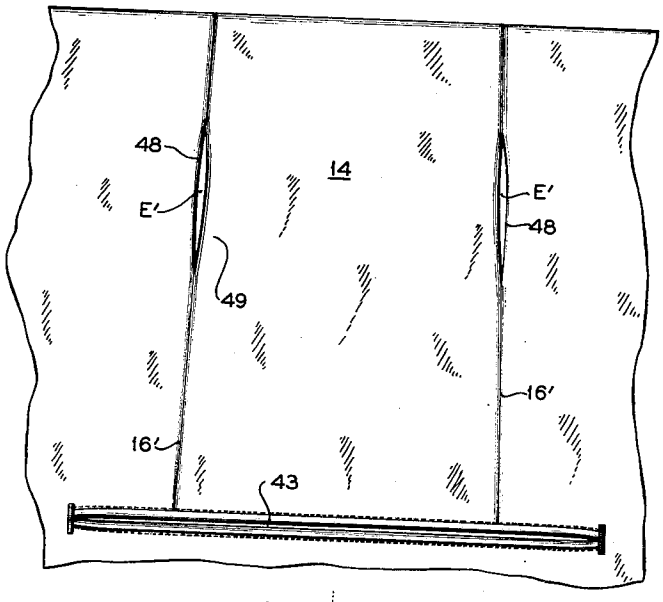
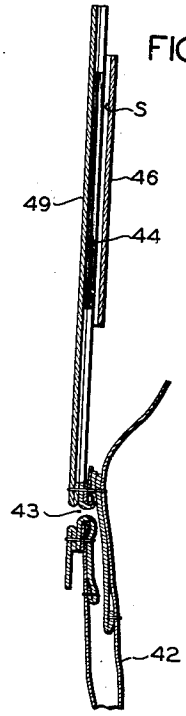


FIG. 14



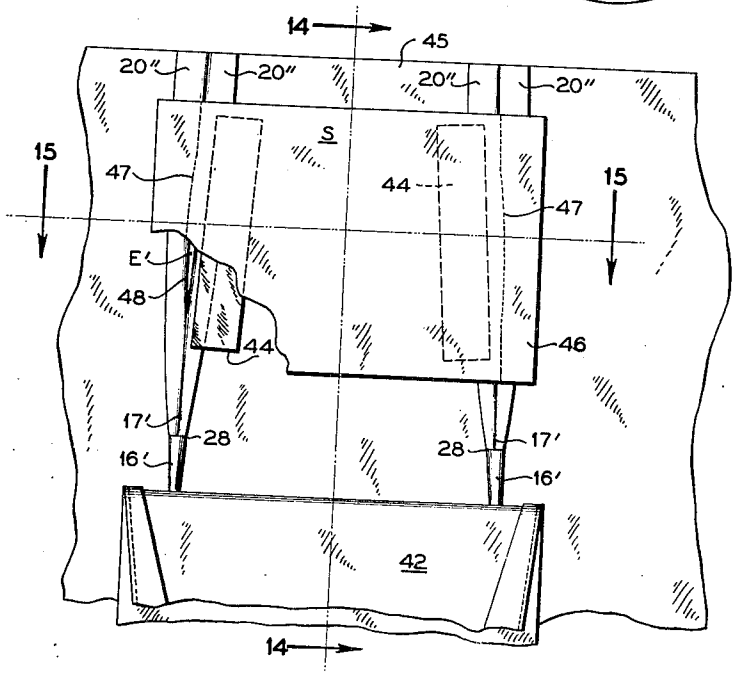
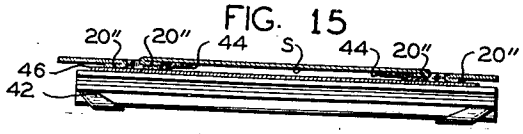


FIG. 13

FIG. 15



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,685,092

GARMENT HAVING BLIND BELT STRAPS

Joseph Singer, Hart, Mich.

Application March 22, 1951, Serial No. 216,933

9 Claims. (Cl. 2—227)

1

The present invention relates to garments such as trousers, slacks, shorts, skirts and other garments having detachable belts and particularly to garments having belt receiving channels of the type generally termed "blind belt straps" as being substantially indistinguishable visually from the remainder of the garment. The present invention is a continuation-in-part of my prior application filed February 10, 1949, Serial No. 75,671, now Patent No. 2,550,647, said latter application being a continuation-in-part of my application Serial No. 757,094 filed June 26, 1947, now abandoned. More specifically, the present invention relates to a concealed belt strap having concealed belt strap entries in the waist portion of a garment. While the present invention will be illustrated by utilizing the principles thereof for the production of belt straps in the back waist portion of a garment, it is considered that the same principle may be utilized in providing concealed belt entries in the front portion of the garment as, for example, in the front portion of a pair of trousers. In the specific form of the present invention, the belt strap and concealed belt entries are located above the hip pocket. In one form of the invention, fullness of material is provided above or below the hip pocket entry and this fullness of material is utilized to provide spaced pleats above or below the hip pocket entry.

One principal object of the present invention is to produce a novel construction of garment having novel concealed belt straps or loops in the waist portion of the garment.

Another object of the invention is to provide a structure of the character set forth in which fullness of material is provided above and/or below the hip pocket entry.

Another object of the invention is to provide a garment in which the material at the waist portion which has been slit in parallel slits is folded on fold lines to provide downwardly tapered opposed flaps having a general V-shaped configuration, each of said flaps diminishing in width from the top end to the bottom end of the flaps and thereby providing a fullness of material adjacent the lower end of the flaps, said fullness of material, on blind-stitching the flaps together, forming at the lower extremities of the flaps and as a continuation of the flaps, pleats. These pleats are formed when flaps of each pair of flaps are blind-stitched together from each end of the flaps for a predetermined distance, an intermediate portion adjacent the interior edges of adjacent flaps being left free to provide a tunnel strap having concealed belt entries.

2

Another object of the invention is to provide on the flaps transversely cut indicator slits which indicate to the operator producing the trousers the upper and lower extremities where stitching is to be terminated so that tunnel strap entries may be provided. The transverse slits also perform the dual function of preventing the flaps from bunching together when they are turned over and blind-stitched the entire length of the flaps including the material which is used to form the pleats at the lower extremities of the flaps. In one form of the invention, these pleats or darts may be omitted.

Another object of the invention is to provide an adhesive strip for securing in a flat position one flap of a pair of flaps, said adhesive being secured to one face of the flap and to the interior surface of the trousers. This functions to reduce the amount of stitching required and greatly accelerates the speed at which a number of trousers may be manufactured.

The present invention resides not only in the trouser structure but also in the method of producing the trousers. The method consists in forming in the waist portion of a garment a belt strap having concealed belt entries comprising slitting the material of the garment along a plurality of spaced slit lines extending longitudinally downward from the waist region of the garment, folding the edges of the material at each slit in opposite directions along fold lines to provide downwardly tapered opposed flaps in a general V-shaped configuration, each of said flaps diminishing in width from the top end to the bottom end thereof and thereby providing an increasing fullness of material adjacent the lower extremities of the flaps, bringing said material fold lines together and blind-stitching the flaps of each pair of flaps together for a predetermined distance from each end of the flaps, while leaving an intermediate portion adjacent the flaps free from each other to provide a tunnel strap having concealed belt entries.

In one modification, the material is slit transversely along upper and lower transverse slit lines spaced apart, said slit lines corresponding to the upper and lower ends of the concealed belt entry. In this manner, the transverse slit lines serve as indicators for the position of the lower and upper ends of the concealed belt entry.

In one form of the invention the edges of the flaps are brought together while forming pleats from the fullness of material adjacent the lower extremity of each pair of flaps. Then the flaps of each pair of flaps are blind-stitched together for a predetermined distance from each end of

the flaps while leaving an intermediate portion adjacent the flaps free from each other to provide a tunnel strap having concealed belt entries. As the flaps are brought together, the fullness of material is brought together to form the pleat and when blind-stitching the flaps together, the blind-stitching is extended to blind-stitch the sides of the pleat together. In the above method in all of its variations, a cover strip may be attached within the garment; that is, on the rear surface of a pair of trousers for example, to span the space between the concealed belt entries.

In accordance with the invention, there is provided a garment having a belt strap having concealed belt entries in the waist portion, said garment having at its waist portion circumferentially spaced pairs of flaps with vertically extending slits therein between adjacent flaps of each pair of flaps, each flap of each pair of flaps being folded in opposite directions upon fold lines to provide downwardly tapered opposed flaps in a general V-shaped configuration, said flaps diminishing in width from the top end to the bottom end and providing a fullness of material between the lower extremities of the flaps, said flaps of each pair of flaps being stitched together for a predetermined distance from each end of the flaps, the flaps of each pair of flaps being free of each other at an intermediate portion adjacent the flaps to provide a tunnel strap having circumferentially spaced belt entries adapted to receive a belt. Preferably the flaps of the garment are brought together to form pleats from the fullness of material produced by having the flaps diminish in width from the top end to the bottom end of the flaps. These pleats or darts are stitched together. When trousers are being produced, the belt strap having concealed belt entries may be in the back waist portion and above each hip pocket entry. Of course, the structure set forth may be utilized in other garments of the character herein previously referred to.

The present invention will be described in connection with the accompanying drawing, wherein:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view from the rear of a pair of trousers showing the blind belt straps of the present invention;

Fig. 2 is an interior view of a rear panel of a pair of trousers showing the longitudinally extending and the transverse slits, the broken lines indicating lines on which the material adjacent the longitudinally extending slits is folded;

Fig. 3 is an interior view from inside the garment showing the portions adjacent the slits drawn together and sewed;

Fig. 4 is a rear elevational view disclosing the folded flaps and the cover strip in place;

Fig. 5 is a horizontal section on line 5—5 of Fig. 4;

Fig. 6 is a vertical cross-section showing the manner of securing the back pocket of a garment by stitching and disclosing the relationship of the pocket to the blind belt strap;

Fig. 7 is a rear exterior elevation of a portion of a pair of trousers embodying the present invention and showing a blind belt strap, and the pocket opening below the blind belt strap;

Fig. 8 is a rear elevational view from the inside of the trousers showing the parts behind those shown in Fig. 7;

Fig. 9 is an enlarged elevational view of a portion of a pair of trousers setting forth the tunnel loop or tunnel strap manufactured in accordance with the present invention and also

showing a hip pocket at the hip region intermediate the lengths of the stitched slits and adjacent the lower extremities thereof, the pleats or darts of the invention also being set forth;

Fig. 10 is a vertical cross-section taken on line 10—10 of Fig. 9;

Fig. 11 is a horizontal cross-section taken on line 11—11 of Fig. 9;

Fig. 12 is an exterior view of a portion of a garment showing the hip pocket positioned immediately adjacent the lower extremity of the stitched flaps;

Fig. 13 is a rear elevational view of a modified form of garment illustrated in Fig. 12 with certain parts broken away;

Fig. 14 is a vertical cross-section taken on line 14—14 of Fig. 13; and

Fig. 15 is a horizontal cross-section taken on line 15—15 of Fig. 13.

Referring to the drawing, the trousers 10 have a waistline portion 11 and on either side of the rear panel 13 of the trousers there is provided a loop or strap 14 having entries E as shown in Fig. 9, said straps or loops 14 being spaced from and above each hip pocket entry 15.

In the form of the invention shown in Figs. 1, 9, 11 and 12, pleats or darts 16 are also provided. As shown in Fig. 2, the goods of the rear panel 13 is slit on a plurality of slit lines to produce vertical slits 17 extending downwardly from the waist region of the garment and preferably from the waist edge 18, although a waistband may be attached to the edge 18 and the slits 17 will then be initiated at the edge 11' which is below the waistband. The material 13 is slit transversely of the longitudinally extending slits, as at 19. There are thereby provided upper and lower transverse slits spaced apart a distance corresponding to the upper and lower ends of a concealed belt entry, said slits serving to define the location of the belt entries E during the process of producing each belt strap. These transverse slits also serve the purpose of avoiding bunching up of the flaps 20 when folded on the fold lines 21. It is not necessary that both flaps 20 of a pair of flaps be transversely cut at a distance apart equivalent to the belt entry E in the finished garment, since the extent of the belt entry can well be indicated by the upper and lower slits 19 in one flap 20. It is to be noted that the fold lines 21 preferably converge downwardly so that by folding on these lines, the respective edges 22 of each pair of flaps 20 will also converge downwardly on the fold edges 23 being brought together. Stated differently, when the edges 23 at each slit are folded in opposite directions along the fold lines 21, there are provided downwardly tapered opposed flaps 20 in a general V-shaped configuration, each of said flaps diminishing in width from the top or upper end 20' of the flap to the bottom end thereof to thereby provide an increasing fullness of material adjacent the lower extremities of the flaps. The material fold lines or fold edges 23 are brought together and the flaps 20 are blind-stitched for a predetermined distance from each end of the flaps while leaving an intermediate portion adjacent the flaps free of each other to provide a tunnel strap having concealed belt entries. More specifically, the folded edges are blind-stitched together at their upper parts by stitching 24 and at their lower parts by stitching 25, as shown in Fig. 3. The fold edges are left free of each other for a predetermined distance to thereby form the belt strap entries E and the belt strap 14. Preferably extending downwardly

from the waist edge 13 are stitch lines 26 which are closely adjacent one of the flap edges 23. When the cover strip 29 is positioned to span within the interior of the garment the space between the belt entries, an additional line of stitching 30 is used to secure the cover strip 29 in place, said stitching also passing through the material and securing in place the other edge 23 of the remaining flap 20. The stitch line 26, if desired, may extend upwardly a short distance as indicated in Fig. 3 for stitch line 26. However, the stitching 26 and 27 may be eliminated and the stitching 30 relied upon to hold the flaps 20 in place. As stated, the stitched lines 30 are closely adjacent a portion of one fold edge of each pair of fold edges 23 and extend through the front surface of the rear trouser panel and assist in holding folded edges to which it is applied in place, that is, prevent the component parts of the fold edge portions from separating and/or fraying. The stitch lines 26 and 27 are usually made before the cover strip 29 has been fixed in place in the rear of the garment, as illustrated in Fig. 4. The stitching 30 is then made after the cover piece 29 has been put in place.

It is to be noted that in one form of the invention the flaps 20 terminate in a blunt portion 28 which are continuous with the pleats 16, as shown in Figs. 3 and 4.

The cover strip 29 prevents the end of the belt being inserted in a belt loop or belt strap from passing through the gap behind the loop or strap to feed between the trousers and the underwear.

The material below each belt strap 14 is slit transversely along the line 31 and turned under to form hems 32. Each pocket 33 of the usual bag-like form has its upper edge which is provided with bindings 34, secured by stitching 35. The bindings 34 project between the hems 32 and are there secured by stitching 36.

It is desired to point out that when the fold edges 23 are brought together at the top of the trouser panel and blind-stitched as set forth, the fullness of material below or above the hip pocket entry provides material for the pleats 16 which are in alinement with the fold edges 23, as shown in Figs. 3, 4, 10 and 11. The pleats 16 may be omitted and then there is a fullness of material either above or below the hip pocket, it being pointed out that in the form of invention shown in Figs. 7, 8 and 12 to 15, inclusive, the darts or pleats may be positioned above the hip pocket entry.

It is desired to point out that in one form of the invention the belt strap or loop 14 is integral with the lower hip portion 14^a of the trouser panel. In other words, the waistline portion extends downwardly and merges into the hip portion 14^a. This arrangement with the pleat 16 below or above the hip pocket entry 15 provides a form-fitting hip member. Therefore, in accordance with the present invention, there is provided a waist region built-in strap or loop 14 supporting the back of the trousers over the trousers hip region, and a form-fitting hip region therebelow imparting to the trousers a more trim appearance. This arrangement at the same time provides a substantial support for the trousers.

In the form of the invention shown in Figs. 7 and 8, the flaps 29 formed from the material 38 of the trousers terminate at the entry 37 of the pocket 15. In this modification of the invention, for purposes of illustration a portion of a belt 39 has been disclosed as passing through a tunnel loop 40. In Fig. 8, where the reverse side of the structure thus described is illustrated, the upper portion 41 of the pocket has been disclosed in downward position. Normally this portion would conceal the flaps 20.

In the form of the invention shown in Figs. 12 to 15, inclusive, the flaps 20'' are blind-stitched for a substantial distance below the termination of the slits 17'. Since the flaps 20'' are downwardly tapered in a general V-shaped configuration, each of the flaps diminishing in width from the top end to the bottom end thereof, there is provided a fullness of material adjacent the lower extremities of the flaps 20'', and this fullness of material is taken up by providing the pleated portions 16' disposed interiorly of the garment. In this form of the invention the hip pocket 42 having a pocket entry 43 is located immediately adjacent the lower extremity of the pleated portion 16', as shown in Fig. 12. The assembly of the hip pocket and the garment is identical to that previously described and further description is, therefore, not necessary.

Preferably strips 44 of adhesive material are employed to retain in position the opposed edges of the flaps 20''. The adhesive strips 44 partially adhere to the opposed edges 20'' and to the interior surface S of the trouser waist portion 45 between the points of termination of the tunnel strap entries E' as shown in Figs. 12 and 13. The exterior flap of each pair of flaps 20'' has stitched thereto a cover strip 46 along the interior stitched lines 47, said stitching serving to anchor the edge 48 of each belt entry E' of the belt strap 49.

I claim:

1. A pair of trousers having a back waist portion, a pair of hip pocket entries therein, and a belt strap having concealed belt entries above each hip pocket entry, said trousers having extending at least partially above each pocket entry circumferentially spaced pairs of flaps with a vertically extending slit therein between adjacent flaps of each pair of flaps, each flap of each pair of flaps being folded in opposite directions upon fold lines to provide downwardly tapered opposed flaps in a general V-shaped configuration, said flaps diminishing in width from the top end to the bottom end thereof and providing a fullness of material between the lower extremities of the flaps, the flaps of each pair of flaps being stitched together for a predetermined distance from each end of the flaps, said flaps of each pair of flaps being free of each other at an intermediate portion adjacent the flaps to thereby provide a tunnel strap having circumferentially spaced belt entries adapted to receive a belt.

2. A pair of trousers having a back waist portion, a pair of hip pocket entries therein, and a belt strap having concealed belt entries above each hip pocket entry, said trousers having extending at least partially above each pocket entry circumferentially spaced pairs of flaps with a vertically extending slit therein between adjacent flaps of each pair of flaps, each flap of each pair of flaps being folded in opposite directions upon fold lines to provide downwardly tapered opposed flaps in a general V-shaped configuration, said flaps diminishing in width from the top end to the bottom end thereof and providing a fullness of material between the lower extremities of the flaps, said flaps having been brought together to form pleats from said fullness of material adjacent the lower extremity of each pair of flaps, the flaps of each pair of flaps being stitched together for a predetermined distance from each end of the flaps, said flaps

of each pair of flaps being free of each other at an intermediate portion adjacent the flaps to thereby provide a tunnel strap having circumferentially spaced belt entries adapted to receive a belt, and a cover strip within the garment spanning the space between the concealed belt entries.

3. A pair of trousers having a back waist portion, a pair of hip pocket entries therein, and a belt strap having concealed belt entries above each hip pocket entry, said trousers having extending at least partially above each pocket entry circumferentially spaced pairs of flaps with a vertically extending slit therein between adjacent flaps of each pair of flaps, each flap of each pair of flaps being folded in opposite directions upon fold lines to provide downwardly tapered opposed flaps in a general V-shaped configuration, said flaps diminishing in width from the top end to the bottom end thereof and providing a fullness of material between the lower extremities of the flaps, the flaps of each pair of flaps being stitched together for a predetermined distance from each end of the flaps, said flaps of each pair of flaps being free of each other at an intermediate portion adjacent the flaps to thereby provide a tunnel strap having circumferentially spaced belt entries adapted to receive a belt, and a cover strip within the garment spanning the space between the concealed belt entries.

4. A garment having in the waist portion thereof a belt strap having concealed belt entries, said garment having circumferentially spaced pairs of flaps with a vertically extending slit therein between adjacent flaps of each pair of flaps, each flap of each pair of flaps being folded in opposite directions upon fold lines to provide downwardly tapered opposed flaps in a general V-shaped configuration, said flaps diminishing in width from the top end to the bottom end thereof and providing a fullness of material between the lower extremities of the flaps, said flaps having been brought together to form pleats from said fullness of material adjacent the lower extremity of each pair of flaps, the flaps of each pair of flaps being stitched together for a predetermined distance from each end of the flaps, said flaps of each pair of flaps being free of each other at an intermediate portion adjacent the flaps to thereby provide a tunnel strap having circumferentially spaced belt entries adapted to receive a belt.

5. A garment having in the waist portion thereof a belt strap having concealed belt entries having upper and lower ends, said garment having circumferentially spaced pairs of flaps with a vertically extending slit therein between adjacent flaps of each pairs of flaps, at least one of said flaps being provided with upper and lower transverse slits spaced apart a distance corresponding to the upper and lower ends of a concealed belt entry, each flap of each pair of flaps being folded in opposite directions upon fold lines to provide downwardly tapered opposed flaps in a general V-shaped configuration, said flaps diminishing in width from the top end to the bottom end thereof and providing a fullness of material between the lower extremities of the flaps, said flaps having been brought together to form pleats from said fullness of material adjacent the lower extremity of each pair of flaps, the flaps of each pair of flaps being stitched together for a predetermined distance from each end of the flaps, said flaps of each pair of flaps being free of each other at an intermediate portion adjacent the flaps to thereby provide a tunnel strap having circumferentially spaced belt entries adapted to receive a belt.

6. A pair of trousers having a back waist portion, a pair of hip pocket entries therein, and a belt strap having concealed belt entries above each hip pocket entry, said trousers having extending at least partially above each pocket entry circumferentially spaced pairs of flaps with a vertically extending slit therein between adjacent flaps of each pair of flaps, each flap of each pair of flaps being folded in opposite directions upon fold lines to provide downwardly tapered opposed flaps in a general V-shaped configuration, said flaps diminishing in width from the top end to the bottom end thereof and providing a fullness of material between the lower extremities of the flaps, said flaps having been brought together to form pleats from said fullness of material adjacent the lower extremity of each pair of flaps, the flaps of each pair of flaps being stitched together for a predetermined distance from each end of the flaps, said flaps of each pair of flaps being free of each other at an intermediate portion adjacent the flaps to thereby provide a tunnel strap having circumferentially spaced belt entries adapted to receive a belt, opposed edges of said flaps being adhered to the interior surface of the trousers by adhesive material.

7. A pair of trousers having a back waist portion, a pair of hip pocket entries therein, and a belt strap having concealed belt entries above each hip pocket entry, said trousers having extending at least partially above each pocket entry circumferentially spaced pairs of flaps with a vertically extending slit therein between adjacent flaps of each pair of flaps, each flap of each pair of flaps being folded in opposite directions upon fold lines to provide downwardly tapered opposed flaps in a general V-shaped configuration, said flaps diminishing in width from the top end to the bottom end thereof and providing a fullness of material between the lower extremities of the flaps, said flaps having been brought together to form pleats from said fullness of material adjacent the lower extremity of each pair of flaps, the pocket entry of each hip pocket being located immediately adjacent the lower extremity of the pleats, the flaps of each pair of flaps being stitched together for a predetermined distance from each end of the flaps, said flaps of each pair of flaps being free of each other at an intermediate portion adjacent the flaps to thereby provide a tunnel strap having circumferentially spaced belt entries adapted to receive a belt.

8. A pair of trousers having a back waist portion, a pair of hip pocket entries therein, and a belt strap having concealed belt entries above each hip pocket entry, said trousers having extending at least partially above each pocket entry circumferentially spaced pairs of flaps with a vertically extending slit therein between adjacent flaps of each pair of flaps, each flap of each pair of flaps being folded in opposite directions upon fold lines to provide downwardly tapered opposed flaps in a general V-shaped configuration, said flaps diminishing in width from the top end to the bottom end thereof and providing a fullness of material between the lower extremities of the flaps, said flaps having been brought together to form pleats from said fullness of material adjacent the lower extremity

of each pair of flaps, said pleats being disposed interiorly of the trousers and above and adjacen each hip pocket, the flaps of each pair of flaps being stitched together for a predetermined distance from each end of the flaps, said flaps of each pair of flaps being free of each other at an intermediate portion adjacent the flaps to thereby provide a tunnel strap having circumferentially spaced belt entries adapted to receive a belt.

9. A pair of trousers having a back waist portion, a pair of hip pocket entries therein, and a belt strap having concealed belt entries above each hip pocket entry, said trousers having extending at least partially above each pocket entry circumferentially spaced pairs of flaps with a vertically extending slit therein between adjacent flaps of each pair of flaps, each flap of each pair of flaps being folded in opposite directions upon

fold lines to provide downwardly tapered opposed flaps in a general V-shaped configuration, said flaps diminishing in width from the top end to the bottom end thereof and providing a fullness of material between the lower extremities of the flaps, said flaps having been brought together to form pleats from said fullness of material adjacent the lower extremity of each pair of flaps, said pleats being disposed interiorly of the garment and below and adjacent each hip pocket, the flaps of each pair of flaps being stitched together for a predetermined distance from each end of the flaps, said flaps of each pair of flaps being free of each other at an intermediate portion adjacent the flaps to thereby provide a tunnel strap having circumferentially spaced belt entries adapted to receive a belt.

No references cited.