Sept. 2, 1930. R. A. PIDGEON 1,774,613

ELASTIC CORSET

Filed June 17, 1926

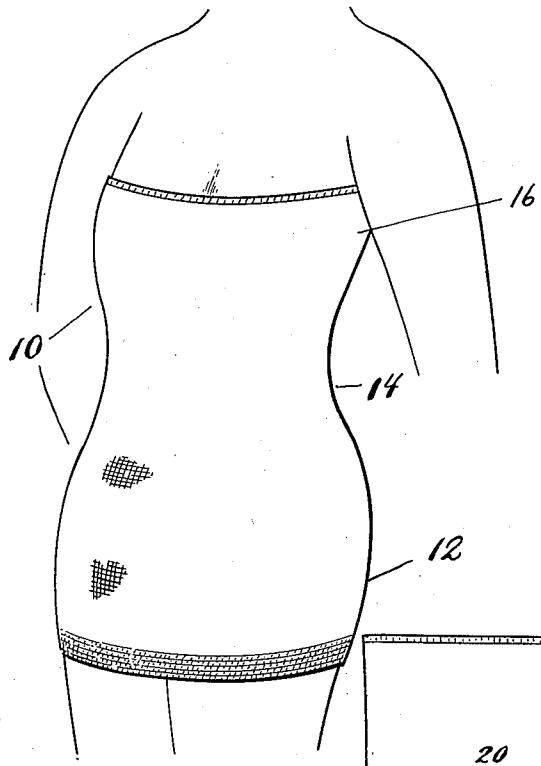


Fig. 1.

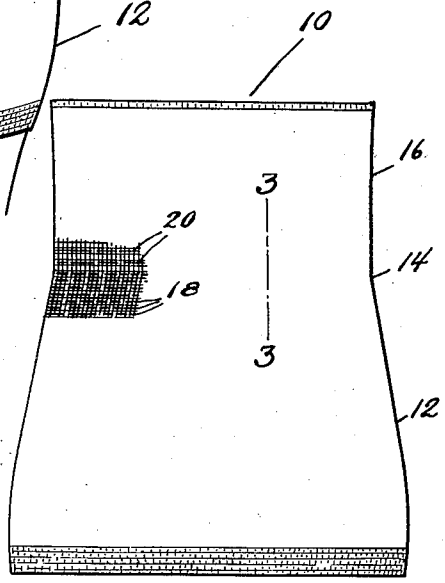


Fig. 2.

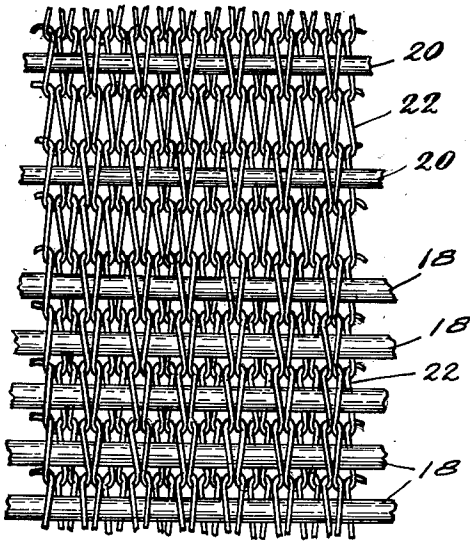


Fig. 3.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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ELASTIC CORSET

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This invention relates to form-reducing and form-shaping garments and has for an object the provision of a unitary, ideal-form-shaped, seamless and endless elastic corset which combines the functions of a girdle and a brassière in reducing and moulding the body, and avoids the discomfort occasioned by the seams or edges of prior garments for similar purposes, and by the use of a separate girdle and brassière.

A further object is the provision of an elastic form-reducing garment which is inherently porous or ventilated, so that it may be worn without discomfort to the wearer.

A yet further object of the invention is the provision of an elastic corset composed of sections having different degrees of compression, as a corset having a hip-portion adapted to exert a heavy, and a bust-portion adapted to exert a light, compression on the body of the wearer.

A further object of the invention is generally to improve the construction of form-reducing and form-shaping garments.

Fig. 1 is a perspective view illustrating the manner in which the corset embodying the invention is worn.

Fig. 2 is a front view of the corset and illustrating particularly the shaping thereof.

Fig. 3 is a detail taken along line 3—3 of Fig. 2, and illustrating the construction of the upper and lower portions of the corset.

The reducing and form-shaping or molding corset embodying this invention comprises a tubular knitted fabric web 10 of suitable length which is entirely without seams or separated sections. The fabric preferably is knitted on a circular knitting machine and is shaped during the knitting process to provide an enlarged lower portion 12, a reduced intermediate or waist portion 14 and a slightly enlarged upper portion 16, which portions are adapted to conform with the hips, waist and bust respectively, of the wearer. The tubular fabric is rendered elastic throughout by the inclusion of horizontal courses of covered elastic rubber threads 18 and 20 which are laid in between the loops 22 of the courses of yarn of the fabric in the process of knitting. The rubber thread is continuous throughout its courses. The tension on the rubber thread is adapted to be varied as may be necessary and in any suitable and well understood manner, for the herein novel purpose of attaining the desired shape of the tubular fabric, and the corset. The thread may be under relatively slight tension where the hip-portion 12 of the tubular fabric is being knitted; and the tension may be gradually increased, as the knitting progresses, to draw in the fabric-loops and thereby draw in and shape the fabric at the waist. Preferably, the shaping of the corset is effected entirely by varying the tension of the elastic threads. For certain purposes, however, some if not all of the shaping of the corset may be effected by varying the tension on the yarn threads, in the usual manner, and the rubber threads will then be laid in the yarn courses under but little tension.

The corset is adapted to have such length as to extend, on the body or torso, from above the breasts to below the hips, and is adapted to have a compressional effect on the body throughout its length. The hip-portion 12 of the corset, or that portion from and below the middle is adapted to have a greater compressional effect than the bust portion 16, or that portion above the middle. To this end, the elastic threads 18 in the lower portion of the corset are heavier than the threads 20 in the upper portion thereof and are closer together, as by being in every yarn course of the fabric, while the courses of the threads 20 are farther apart, as by being in every other yarn course.

In this manner, the corset compresses the hips and abdominal regions of the body the most strongly while it exerts a gentle yet firm pressure on the breasts and thus comfortably shapes and molds the figure along pleasing natural lines which give the appearance of an uncorseted body. Since the corset is of one piece and is seamless and endless, it cannot cut into the body and flesh cannot collect beneath the corset in unsightly and uncomfortable folds.

The corset is in the nature of a "step-in" in that the upper or brassière-portion is

adapted to be turned down over the hip-portion so that the corset can be drawn up over the hips. The brassière-portion can then be drawn up over the breasts.

The garment here shown is adapted to be completed, ready for wear, by the addition of shoulder straps and hose supporters.

I claim:

1. An elastic corset having a bust-portion and a hip-portion said corset being composed of a seamless, tubular, knitted unitary fabric having courses of elastic threads contained in the courses of the knitted fabric, with the elastic thread in the bust-portion of the corset more yielding than the elastic thread in the hip-portion of the corset.

2. An elastic corset having a bust portion, and a hip-portion said corset being composed of a seamless, tubular, knitted, unitary fabric having courses of heavy rubber thread contained in the courses of the hip-portion of the corset and courses of light rubber thread contained in the courses of the bust-portion of the corset.

3. An elastic corset having a bust-portion and a hip-portion said corset being composed of a seamless, tubular, knitted, unitary fabric having a course of heavy rubber thread in each yarn course of the hip-portion of the fabric and a course of light rubber thread in each alternate yarn course of the bust-portion of the fabric.

4. An elastic corset having bust, hip, and waist portions said corset being composed of a seamless, tubular, knitted, unitary fabric having a course of heavy rubber thread on each yarn course of the hip-portion of the fabric and a course of light rubber thread in each alternate yarn course of the bust-portion of the fabric, and said bust and hip-portion being larger than the waist portion of the fabric.

5. An apparel garment comprising a continuous girdle section of elastic fabric having circumferentially continuous strands of elastic material therein, and a brassière section also of elastic fabric and also having circumferentially continuous strands of elastic material therein, the said sections being merged at substantially the waistline and the strands of elastic material in the said sections being so arranged that the resistance to tension of the fabric of the girdle section is appreciably greater than the resistance to tension of the fabric of the brassière section.

6. An apparel garment comprising a continuous girdle section, and a continuous brassière section, the said sections being merged at substantially the waistline and both wholly made of elastic fabric having circumferentially continuous elastic strands therein, the elastic strands in the girdle section being spaced closer than the elastic strands in the brassière section whereby the girdle section offers greater resistance to tension than the brassière section.

In testimony whereof, I have signd my name to this specification.

ROBERT A. PIDGEON.