

Oct. 29, 1935.

A. L. FLESH

2,018,665

GARMENT

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Fig. 1

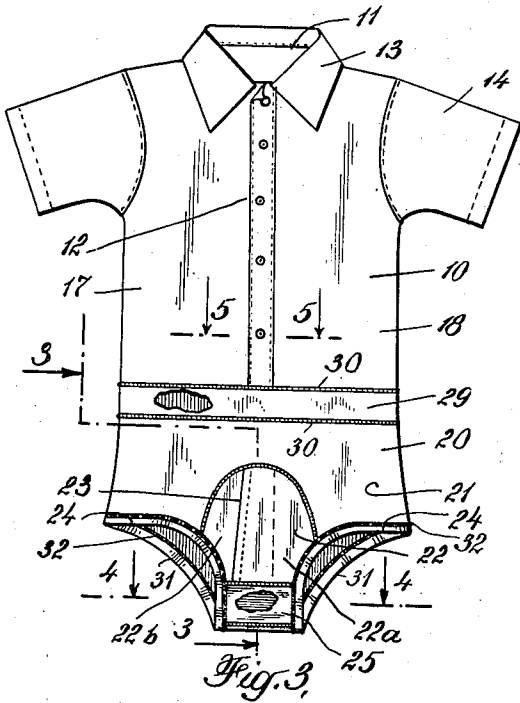


Fig. 2

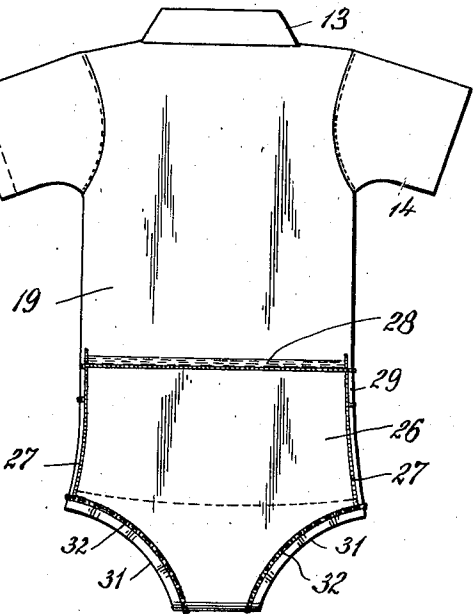


Fig. 3

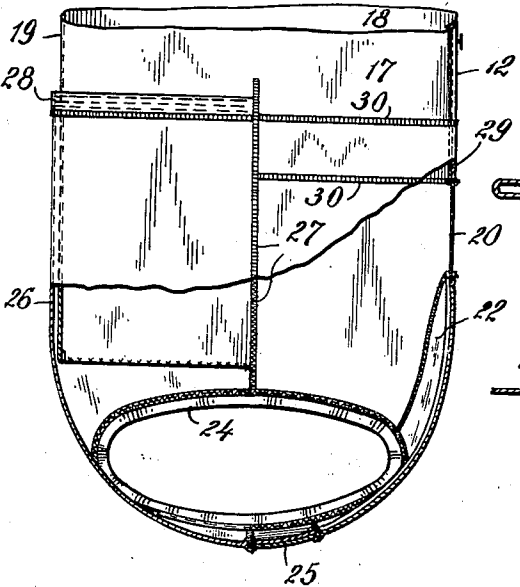


Fig. 4

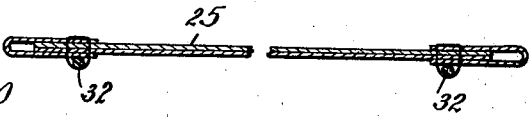
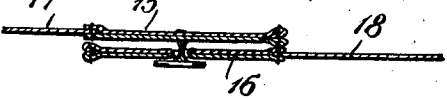


Fig. 5



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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GARMENT

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3 Claims. (Cl. 2-77)

This invention relates to garments and is con-
cerned more particularly with a novel garment
which, when worn, has the appearance of an ordi-
nary outer shirt, but which also serves the pur-
poses of an athletic supporter and underwear
of the trunks type. The new garment is specially
suited for athletic wear, and it may be cut in sizes
and styles appropriate for men, women, and chil-
dren. For purposes of explanation, a man's style
of garment will be illustrated and described in
detail, and the differences between such a gar-
ment and those for women and children will be
readily understood.

The new garment comprises an upper section or
top, which has the ordinary form of an outer shirt,
and this section is provided with the usual neck
opening and a front opening extending downward
therefrom to a point slightly below the waistline.
The outer shirt section may be formed either with
or without an attached collar and it may have
short sleeves commonly employed in athletic
shirts, or sleeves of the ordinary length. Con-
nected to the lower end of the outer shirt section
of the garment is a lower section or bottom, which
constitutes the supporter and may also be cut to
form trunks. This lower section includes a front
member which may be provided with a fly open-
ing and a rear member having a free upper
edge extending across the garment and providing
a drop seat. The bottom edges of the front and
rear members are connected together in such
manner as to leave leg openings and preferably
the connection is resilient in a direction through
the crotch when the garment is worn. If desired,
this connection may be made by means of a crotch
insert.

For a better understanding of the invention,
reference may be made to the accompanying
drawing in which

Fig. 1 is a view of the new garment in the front
elevation with certain parts broken away;

Fig. 2 is a view of the garment in rear eleva-
tion; and

Figs. 3, 4, and 5, are sectional views on the lines
3-3, 4-4, and 5-5, respectively, of Fig. 1.

Referring to the drawing, the garment illus-
trated includes a top section 10 which has the form
of an outer shirt, this section having a neck
opening 11 and a front opening 12. In the con-
struction illustrated, the garment is provided with
an attached collar 13, but this collar may be
omitted if desired. The section 10 is also shown
as provided with short sleeves 14 of the athletic
type, but longer sleeves may be used, or the
sleeves may be wholly omitted.

The front opening 12 is closed by the usual over-
lapping hems 15 and 16 on the two portions 17
and 18 making up the front of the shirt, the under-
lying hem 15 being provided with buttons which
are received in button holes in the overlapping
hem 16. The front opening extends downward
from the neck opening to a point slightly below
the waistline of the garment.

The back 19 of the top section is of ordinary
construction and extends down substantially be-
low the waistline of the garment, having the usual
form of the tail of a shirt.

At its lower end, the upper section is connected
to the lower section or bottom, generally desig-
nated 20, and this lower section constitutes the
supporter part of the garment and may, if desired,
be cut in the form of trunks, as illustrated. The
lower section includes a front member 21, which
may be secured by stitching to the lower end of
the front of the outer shirt section, or may be
formed as a continuation thereof. This front
member 21 is provided with a fly opening and, for
this purpose, may be provided with an insert 22
centrally of the lower edge thereof. The insert 22
is formed of a pair of members 22a and 22b, which
overlap lengthwise of the garment to provide a fly
opening, and the overlapping member 22a has a
free edge 23, which extends from a point at the
top of the insert 22 at one side of the middle there-
of along a generally diagonal line toward one edge
of the insert. By forming this edge so that it ex-
tends diagonally, as described, the edge is under
lengthwise strain at all times when the garment
is being worn, and this prevents the edge from
sagging and the opening from gaping. The insert
22 extends downwardly beyond the lower edges 24
of the member 21 and at its lower end, the insert
may be connected to an insert 25 which extends
through the crotch when the garment is worn and
is connected to the central portion of the bottom
edge of the back 26 of the lower section.

The insert 25 is made of a material which is
extensible in the direction in the length of the
garment, and is preferably of resilient material
as, for example, the insert 25 may be made of
a knitted material having its wales extending
transverse of the garment, two or more thick-
nesses of such material being usually employed
for the insert. If increased resilience is desired,
the insert 25 may be made of a fabric in which
resilient yarn is employed, such for example, as
that commercially known as "Lastex". By mak-
ing insert 25 resilient, the lower section of the
garment fits the body snugly and provides the
desired support. If desired, the insert 25 may

be dispensed with and in that case, the lower edge of the insert 22 is connected directly to the central portion of the bottom edge of the back of the lower section. If no crotch insert is employed, it is preferable to increase the resilience and yielding qualities of that portion of the garment which extends through the crotch and this may be accomplished by employing a resilient yarn, such as that known commercially as "Lastex", for making the connection between the lower end of the insert 22 and the bottom edge of the back 26, as by providing resilient hems on the insert 22 and the bottom edge referred to and connecting the hems together.

The back member 26 of the lower section is connected along the sides of the garment by rows of stitching 27 to the front member 21 and also to the overlapped portion at the lower end of the back 19 of the top of the garment. At its upper end, the member 26 has a free edge 28, which is provided with an elastic member which may be a strip of elastic fabric secured along the edge. The construction described provides a drop seat and the free edge lies just below the waistline of the garment so that it is concealed by the trousers when the garment is worn. The provision of a drop seat as described in a garment of this type is important since the length of the garment is such that it would be impossible to provide the vertical seat opening commonly provided in underwear without having the upper end of the seat opening exposed above the waistline. Since the use of the drop seat imposes considerable strain on the garment at either end of the connection of the member 26 to the remainder of the garment, a reinforcing strip 29 is provided, this strip extending across the front of the garment just below the waistline, and being secured in place by upper and lower rows of stitching 30. The stitching 27 securing the member 26 in position passes through the ends of the reinforcement 29, so that the stitching 27 goes through several thicknesses of cloth at the upper end of the member 26, and a strong construction is to be provided.

At the lower end of the bottom or supported section of the garment, leg openings are provided, and these openings are made in part by appropriately cutting the lower edge of the rear section 26 along the curved lines indicated at 31.

The leg openings are also in part defined by the lateral edges of the crotch insert 25, by portions of the side edges of the members 22a and 22b, and by portions of the lower edges of the front member 21. The openings are finished in any desired manner as by hems, and preferably elastic cords 32 or like resilient means are incorporated in the hems so that the leg openings fit snugly without gaping.

The new garment may be made of various types of fabrics and a knitted fabric is ordinarily preferred, since the garment is intended primarily for athletic use and the yielding qualities of knitted material make it especially suitable for that purpose. An open mesh knit is perhaps most desirable for the construction of the garment, since it affords ventilation and is therefore more comfortable, but other types of knitted material or woven fabrics may also be used.

The new garment offers numerous advantages for sport wear, since it serves the purpose of an outer shirt and an athletic supporter and trunks, and thus reduces the amount of clothing worn. The supporter section, while attached to the

outer shirt, cannot bind and interfere with the movements of the wearer, since the crotch insert is resilient, and if extraordinary strains are placed upon the insert, the rear member 26 of the supporter section will yield because of the provision of the free top edge thereof with the elastic insert. The new garment is therefore more comfortable to wear than the usual combination of an outer shirt, trunks, and a supporter, and it gives the wearer a more attractive appearance since the outer shirt is held down and cannot be drawn out of the trousers by body movements.

While I have described and illustrated the garment as including a lower section or bottom constituting a supporter which may be cut to form trunks, it is to be understood that this bottom section may be formed with leg sections so that the bottom section has the form of shorts or ordinary underdrawers. Accordingly in the appended claims, the description of the bottom of the garment is intended to refer to constructions both with and without such leg sections.

I claim:

1. A garment which comprises a top having the form of an outer shirt and a bottom in the form of trunks connected to the top, said bottom including a front member, a rear member overlying the lower end of the back of the shirt portion and having a free upper edge extending across the garment below the waistline, said edge having elastic means running lengthwise thereof and providing a drop seat, the central portions of the lower edges of said front and rear members being connected by means elastic in a direction through the crotch when the garment is worn, and said bottom having leg openings on either side of the crotch.

2. A garment which comprises a top having the form of an outer shirt and a bottom in the form of trunks connected to the top, said bottom including a front member, a rear member overlying the lower end of the back of the shirt portion and having a free upper edge extending across the garment below the waistline, said edge having elastic means running lengthwise thereof and providing a drop seat, and a crotch insert connecting the front and rear members of said bottom, said insert being elastic in a direction through the crotch when the garment is worn, said bottom having leg openings on either side of said crotch insert.

3. A garment which comprises a top having the form of an outer shirt and a bottom in the form of trunks connected to the top, said bottom including a front member, a rear member overlying the lower end of the back of the shirt portion and having a free upper edge extending across the garment below the waistline, said edge having elastic means running lengthwise thereof and providing a drop seat, and a crotch insert connecting the front and rear members of said bottom, said insert being elastic in a direction through the crotch when the garment is worn and said bottom having leg openings on either side of said crotch insert, and a fly section in the front member, said fly section comprising two pieces of fabric having their adjacent edges overlapping and free, the free edge of the outer piece extending generally diagonally from a point at the top of the fly section downwardly to the upper front horizontal end of the crotch insert adjacent one of the leg openings.

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