June 9, 1925.

1,541,703

F. W. GERLACH

ADJUSTABLE WAISTED AND ABDOMEN SUPPORTING GARMENT

Filed April 7, 1924

FIG. 1.

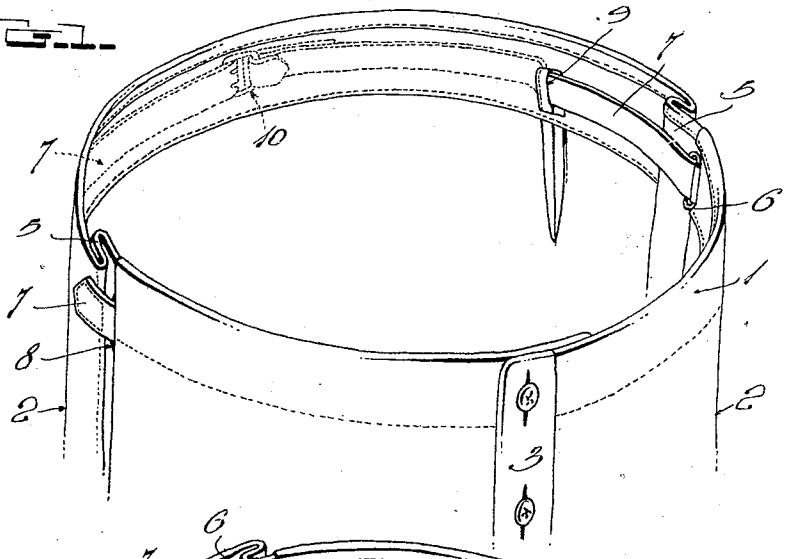


FIG. 2.

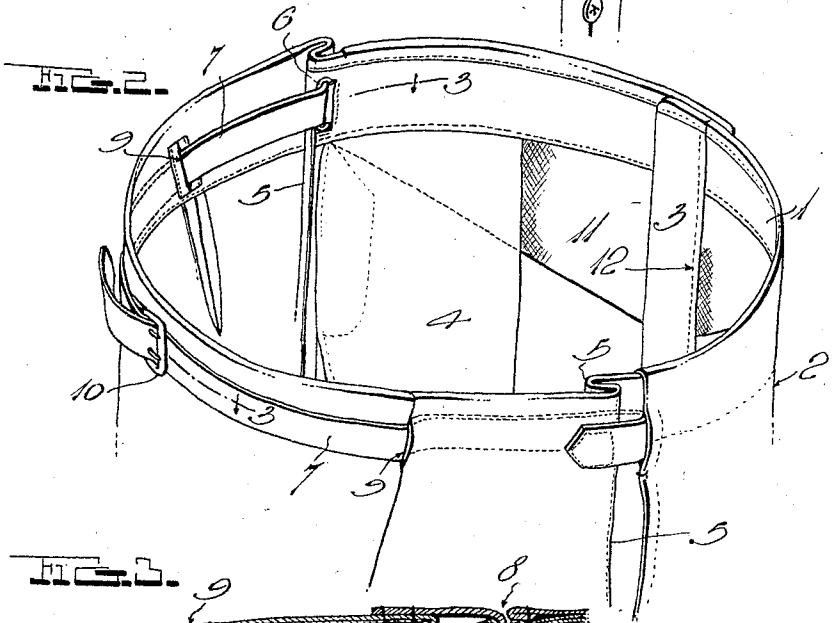
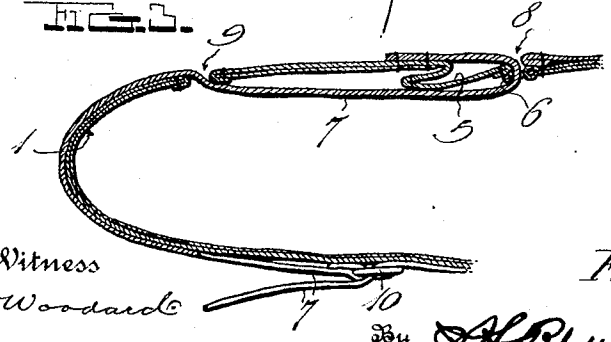


FIG. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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ADJUSTABLE WAISTED AND ABDOMEN-SUPPORTING GARMENT.

Application filed April 7, 1924. Serial No. 704,832.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANK W. GERLACH, a citizen of the United States, residing at Kenton, in the county of Hardin and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Adjustable Waisted and Abdomen-Supporting Garments; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates generally to outer garments and particularly to trousers, it having been designed in order to provide a pair of trousers or the like with an adjustable waist and abdomen supporting means.

According to the invention, the waist of a pair of trousers may be made adjustable for as much as four inches. The advantage for this, is that a person may obtain a pair of trousers or the like to fit him without requiring alterations to be made to obtain the proper size of waist-band.

The primary purpose of the abdomen supporting means with which the improved garment is provided, is of course to support the abdomen, but if the invention is embodied in a pair of trousers provided with side pockets which extend forwardly toward the front of the garment, the abdomen supporting means will also serve to a certain extent to support the contents of the pockets.

The result of the whole combination and arrangement of parts is that a very perfectly fitting and neat garment is provided.

While the invention may be embodied in garments other than trousers, yet it is probably better suited for use in connection with trousers than any other garment, so that in further describing the invention, reference will be had to the accompanying drawing which illustrates the invention embodied in a pair of trousers. In this drawing:—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the upper portion of a pair of trousers constructed in accordance with the principles of the present invention, said view illustrating the trousers as they would appear when viewed from substantially the front;

Figure 2 is a perspective view of the trousers when viewed from one side and a portion of the rear part; and

Figure 3 is a horizontal sectional view of a portion of the waist-band, said view being taken substantially on the plane indicated by the line 3—3 of Fig. 2.

In the pair of trousers which are partly illustrated in the drawing, the numeral 1 is used to designate the waist-band or waist-encircling portion thereof, and the numeral 2 the hip-encircling portion. The trousers are provided at the front with the usual fly 3, and at the sides with side pockets 4 which open substantially over the hips and extend forwardly within the front part of the hip-encircling portion 2.

The waist-encircling and hip-encircling portions of the garment are provided at the sides with strips 5 which unite the front and rear parts. These strips 5 which may be folded so as to adjust the size of the waist of the garment, may be properly termed "take-up" strips and are preferably gradually widened from bottom to top.

Secured to the inner side of the waist-band or waist-encircling portion 1 of the garment at points adjacent the front edges of the strips 5, are eyes or loops 6, and secured to the side portions of the garment adjacent the rear edges of the strips 5 are straps 7. These straps 7 are secured at these points at one of their ends and are carried forwardly across the strips 5, through openings 8 in the waist portion 1 and also through the loops 6, and are then carried rearwardly around the rear part of the waist band 1. By preference, the straps 7 pass through additional openings 9 in the waist band 1, so that their ends pass around the the outer surface of the waist-band.

It is the intention for the rear ends of the straps 7 to be adjustably coupled together, so that one of these straps is preferably provided with an ordinary belt buckle 10 adapted to detachably and adjustably receive the rear end of the other strap.

By the construction so far described, it will be seen that the tightening of the straps 7 around the rear part of the waist, will cause the strips 5 to be folded inwardly and thereby make the entire waist-band neatly fit the wearer. In other words, the folding of the strips 5 by the tightening of the straps 7 takes up the waist-band and makes it fit the wearer.

As hereinbefore mentioned, the trousers are also provided with abdomen-supporting means. This means comprises a pair of substantially triangular-shaped strips 11 which are disposed on the inside of the

waist and hip-encircling portions 1 and 2 of the garment. The strips 11 are sewed or otherwise secured along one of their edges to the fly seams 12 of the garment, and if desired, along another of their edges to the to the waist-band 1. Their rear corners are secured to the waist-band 1 at points substantially opposite the points where the loops or eyes 6 are secured. By this means, whenever the straps 7 are coupled together by means of the buckles 10 and tightened, the pull will be exerted upon the strips 11, and inasmuch as these strips extend downwardly around the abdomen, they will serve to effectively support the abdomen. The hip-encircling portion 2 of the trousers is of course made so that it of itself forms no support for the abdomen.

By preference, the abdomen-supporting strips 11 are disposed between the side pockets 4 and the outer material of the garment, so that in addition to supporting the abdomen, they will to a certain extent support the contents of the pockets.

From the foregoing description, taken in connection with the accompanying drawing, the construction, use and advantages of the invention will be readily understood. It will be obvious that numerous changes may be made without departing from the spirit and principle of the invention or sacrificing any of the advantages thereof, so it is to be understood that many changes may be made within the meaning and scope of the appended claim.

I claim:

A garment having a waist-encircling portion and a hip-encircling portion, loops secured to the sides of the waist-encircling portion of the garment to lie substantially over the hips, straps secured at one of their ends to said waist-encircling portion in rear of said loops, said straps being carried forwardly to and through said loops and then rearwardly around the rear part of said waist-encircling portion, means for adjustably coupling the other ends of said straps together, and abdomen-supporting strips disposed inside of the front part of said waist and hip-encircling portions, said strips being secured at their rear ends to the sides of said waist-encircling portion at substantially the points where said straps are secured to the same, and at their front ends to the front of said waist and hip-encircling portion, whereby tightening of said straps will draw said waist-encircling portion tight around the waist and also draw upon said abdomen-supporting strips.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto affixed my signature.

FRANK W. GERLACH.