

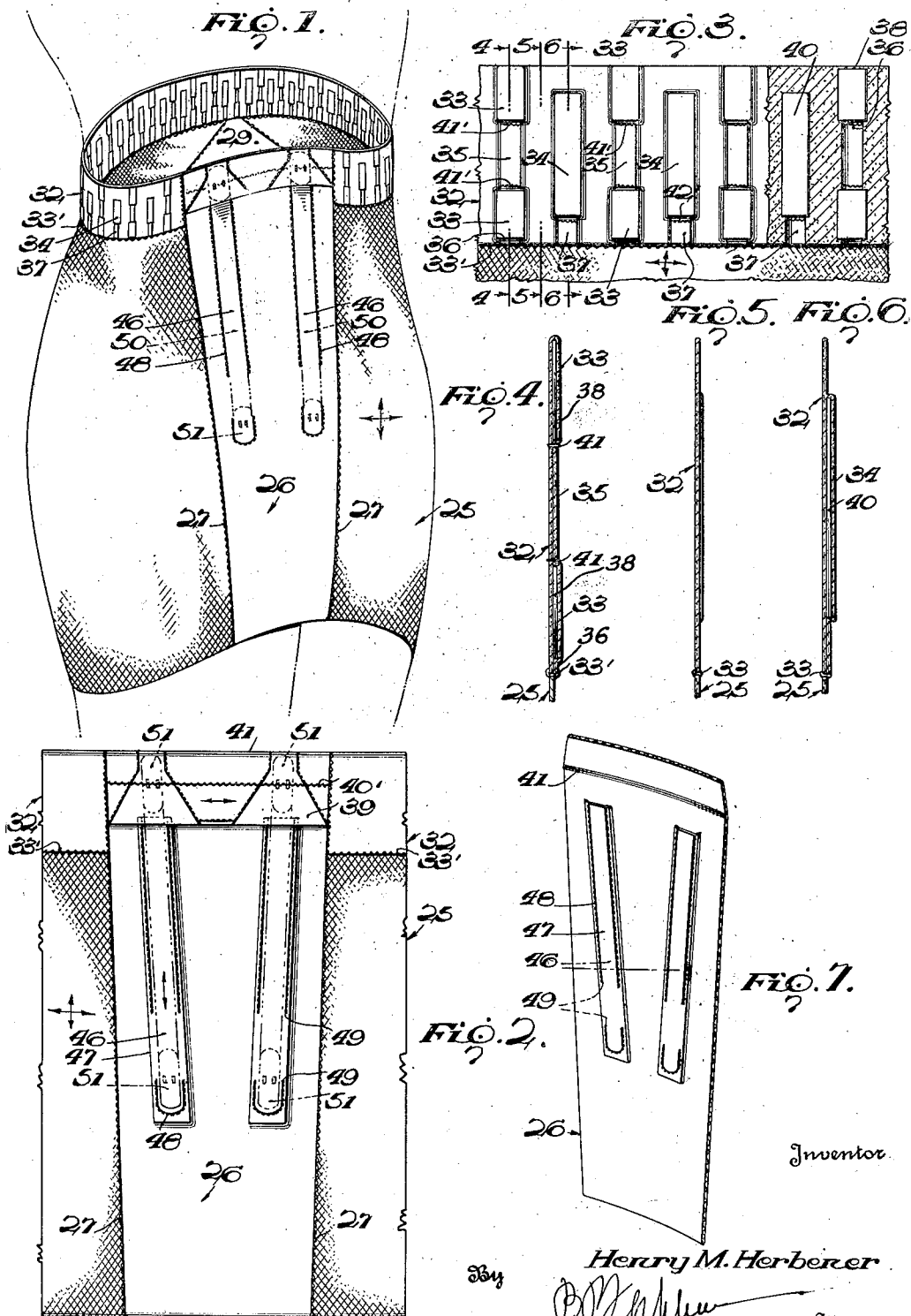
March 28, 1950

H. M. HERBENER
GIRDLE OR LIKE GARMENT

2,501,899

Filed Nov. 10, 1945

3 Sheets-Sheet 1



Inventor

Henry M. Herberner

Attorney

March 28, 1950

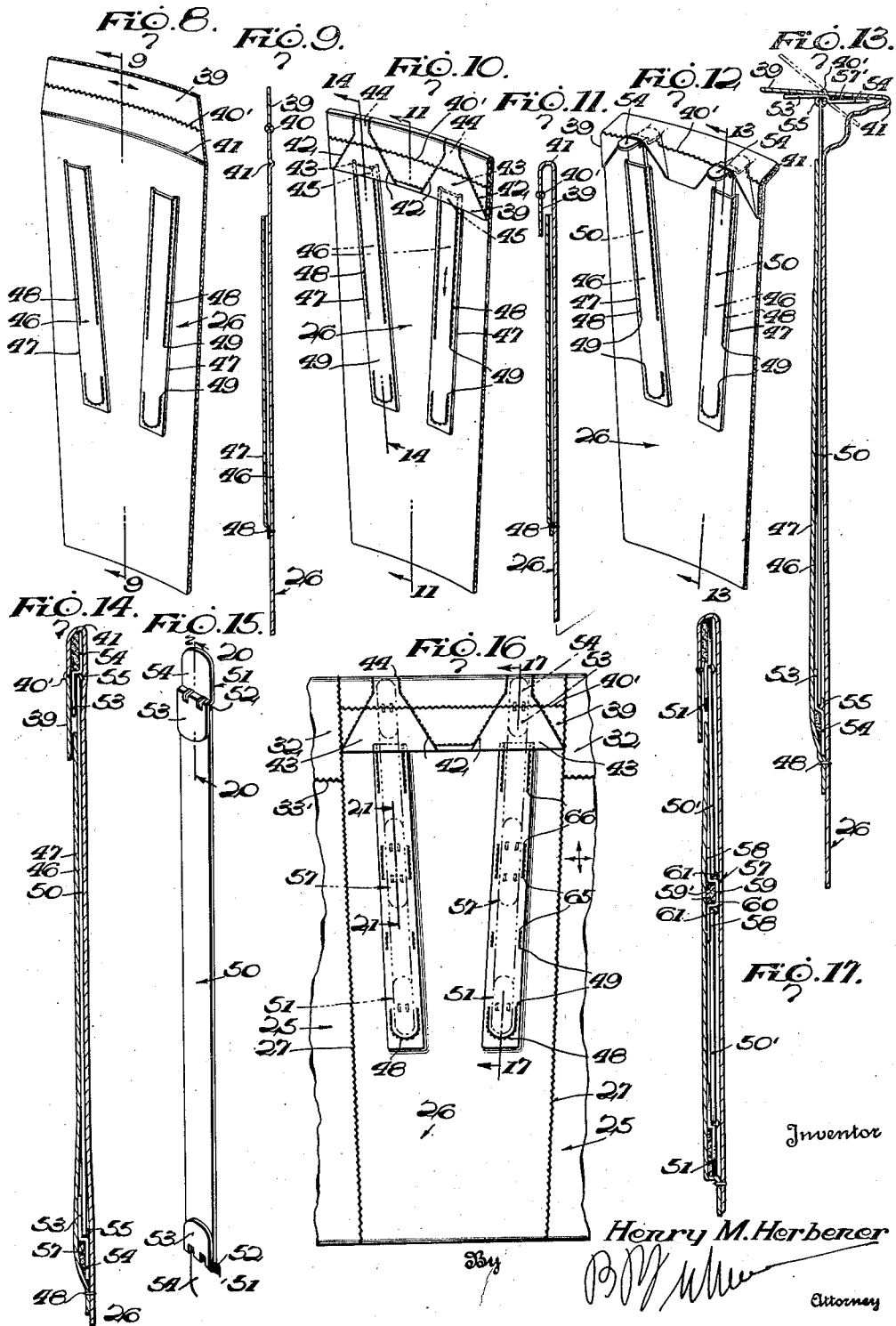
H. M. HERBENER

2,501,899

GIRDLE OR LIKE GARMENT

Filed Nov. 10, 1945

3 Sheets-Sheet 2



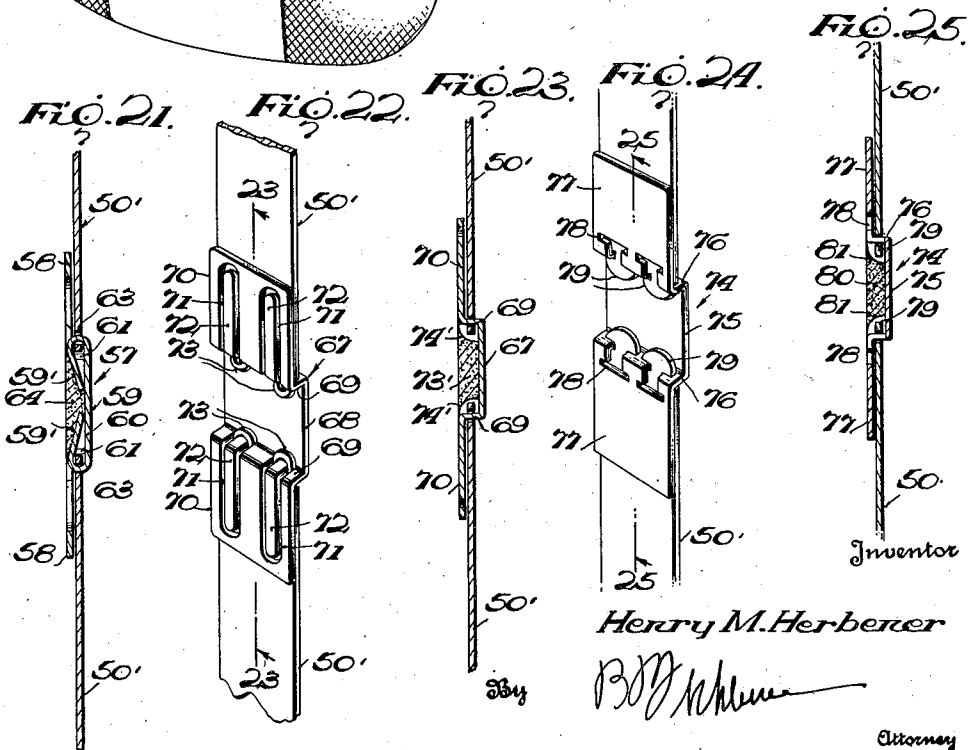
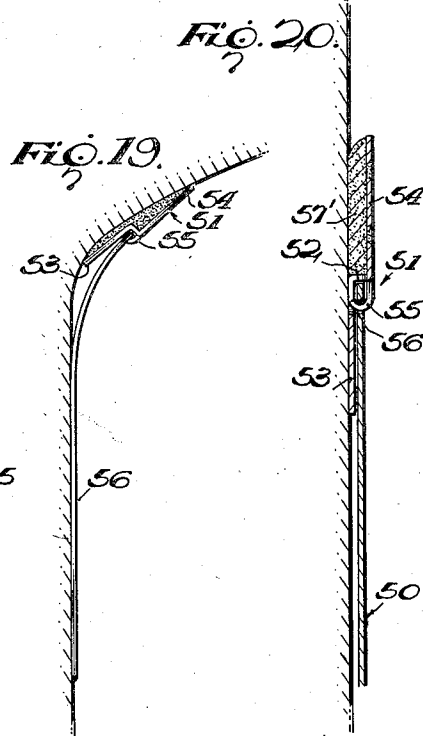
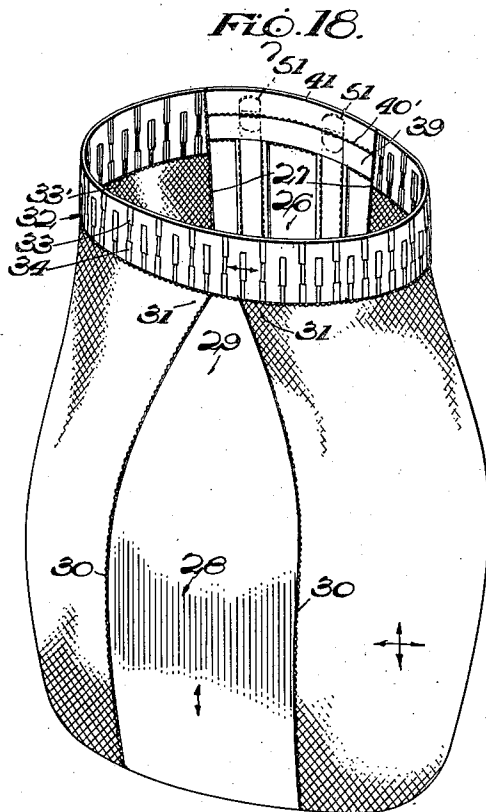
March 28, 1950

H. M. HERBENER
GIRDLE OR LIKE GARMENT

2,501,899

Filed Nov. 10, 1945

3 Sheets-Sheet 3



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,501,899

GIRDLE OR LIKE GARMENT

Henry M. Herbener, Thomasville, Ga.

Application November 10, 1945, Serial No. 627,857

18 Claims. (Cl. 2—36)

1

My invention relates to girdles or like garments.

An important object of the invention is to provide means for eliminating the jabbing effect of ribs and increasing the comfort of the garment.

A further object of the invention is to provide means whereby short ribs protect the body from the end thrust of the long ribs.

A further object of the invention is to provide means to prevent the girdle from rolling at its top and also eliminating the jabbing effect of the ribs.

A further object of the invention is to provide rib receiving pockets which are non-elastic on one side and elastic on the other side.

A further object of the invention is to provide a garment of the above mentioned character, having portions sufficiently elastic to permit of the relative turning movement of the short ribs about the long ribs.

A further object of the invention is to provide a garment of the above mentioned character having increased flexibility for promoting the comfort of the wearer without decreasing the control of the figure.

A further object of the invention is to provide a garment having a pocket construction which will enable the user to quickly and conveniently insert and remove the ribs.

A further object of the invention is to provide a long rib having a short rib hinged to its end, the short rib moving with the body and covering the end of the long rib, when the long rib is flexed, eliminating the jabbing effect of the long rib.

A further object of the invention is to provide a long rib having a knee joint connection with a short rib, for producing an inner pressure against the body throughout the combined length of the long and short ribs, and permitting the short rib turning about the long rib and remaining in substantially flat contact with the body, when the body moves outwardly to flex the long rib.

A further object of the invention is to provide a hinged connection between the long and short ribs and a shoulder to take the end thrust of the long rib.

A further object of the invention is to provide an elastic band to be secured to the top of the girdle and having transverse ribs arranged in staggered relation so that the outer ribs turn with relation to the inner ribs, avoiding the jabbing effect of the inner ribs, the combined sets of ribs preventing the rolling of the garment.

A further object of the invention is to provide a girdle having maximum elasticity at the waist and the maximum control at the buttocks, with means for preventing rolling at the top.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will be apparent during the course of the following description.

In the accompanying drawings forming a part

2

of this application, and in which like numerals are employed to designate like parts throughout the same,

Figure 1 is a perspective view of an elastic girdle employing my invention,

Figure 2 is an inner side elevation of the front panel, parts of the girdle being broken away,

Figure 3 is an enlarged side elevation of the elastic band secured to the top of the body portion of the girdle, parts in section,

Figure 4 is a vertical section taken on line 4—4 of Figure 3,

Figure 5 is a similar view taken on line 5—5 of Figure 3,

Figure 6 is a similar view taken on line 6—6 of Figure 3,

Figure 7 is a perspective view of the front panel, viewed from the inner side, the top of the panel being raised and the elastic strip not as yet being attached thereto,

Figure 8 is a similar view of the front panel with the elastic strip attached to the top of the front panel,

Figure 9 is a longitudinal section taken on line 9—9 of Figure 8,

Figure 10 is a perspective view of the front panel, the top of the panel and the elastic strip being folded over and parts stitched to produce the upper short rib holding pockets,

Figure 11 is a longitudinal section taken on line 11—11 of Figure 10,

Figure 12 is a perspective view of the front panel, showing the short rib holding pockets bent back for either the removal or insertion of the short ribs into or from place,

Figure 13 is a longitudinal section taken on line 13—13 of Figure 12, upon an enlarged scale,

Figure 14 is a longitudinal section taken on line 14—14 of Figure 10, upon an enlarged scale,

Figure 15 is a perspective view of the long and short ribs at both ends thereof,

Figure 16 is an inner side elevation of the front panel of the girdle, the girdle broken away, showing a modified form of stiffening ribs,

Figure 17 is a longitudinal section taken on line 17—17 of Figure 16, upon an enlarged scale,

Figure 18 is a perspective view of the rear of the girdle,

Figure 19 is a diagrammatic view illustrating the action of the short and long ribs,

Figure 20 is a longitudinal section taken on line 20—20 of Figure 15, upon an enlarged scale,

Figure 21 is a similar view taken on line 21—21 of Figure 16,

Figure 22 is a perspective view of a modified form of intermediate short rib and associated long ribs,

Figure 23 is a longitudinal section taken on line 23—23 of Figure 22, showing the assembled short and long ribs,

3

Figure 24 is a perspective view of a further modified form of intermediate short rib and associated long ribs, and,

Figure 25 is a longitudinal section through the assembled short and long ribs, taken on line 25—25 of Figure 24.

In the drawings, wherein for the purpose of illustration are shown preferred embodiments of my invention, attention is being called first to Figures 1 to 15 inclusive, and 18 to 20 inclusive, the numeral 25 designates the body portion of an elastic girdle, which body portion is preferably two-way stretch and is made of woven or knitted elastic fabric, preferably containing rubber threads. Arranged at the front of the body portion is a front panel 26, formed of a flexible fabric and preferably non-elastic. The panel 26 is secured to the longitudinal edges of the body portion 25, preferably by zig-zag lines of stitching 27. The numeral 28 designates a rear panel, preferably formed of a one-way vertical stretch elastic fabric, preferably containing rubber threads. The upper end of the rear panel 28 is tapered upwardly to provide a reduced portion 29. The marginal edges of the back panel 28 are secured to the elastic body portion 25 by zig-zag stitching 30. The tapered portion 29 enables the body portion to be cut for providing upper portions 31 at the back of the garment, which increase in width upwardly, so that the elastic body portion 25 is substantially continuous at or near its top at the back of the garment for a reason to be more fully explained.

The numeral 32 designates a one-way horizontal stretch elastic fabric band, which is attached to the top of the body portion 25 and extends from one edge of the front panel 26 preferably entirely around the garment to the opposite edge of the front panel. This elastic band is secured to the top of the body portion 25 by a zig-zag line of stitching 33'. The elastic band 32 is also stitched to the upper enlarged portions 31 and the reduced end of the rear panel 28. The opposite ends of the band 32 are stitched to the edges of the front panel 26 by means of the lines of stitching 27.

In the former method of construction, the non-elastic front panel and the one-way vertical stretch rear panel were continued to the top of the girdle and their wide upper ends materially reduced the total elasticity of the upper band at the waistline. This rendered it difficult to apply the garment to the user and pass the reduced waistline over the hips. To overcome this disadvantage, I have formed the panel 28 tapered at its top so that the two-way elastic body portion 25 and the one-way horizontal stretch elastic band 32 are substantially continuous at the back of the garment at the waistline, and the stretch at the waistline will occur substantially continuously around the waistline from the opposite edges of the front panel.

The elastic band 32 has alternate transverse pairs of short pockets 33 and long pockets 34, which may be woven therein. The outer ends of the short pockets 33 extend adjacent to the edges of the band 32. The top ends of the upper short pockets 33 are formed closed. The inner ends of the short pockets 33 in each pair are connected by a bottleneck 35, and the lower end of each lower short pocket has a bottleneck 36. The upper end of each long pocket 34 is formed closed while its lower end has a bottleneck 37. The ends of the long pockets 34 terminate at substantially the longitudinal centers of the short

4

pockets 33. The short pockets 33 receive short stiffening ribs 38, extending throughout substantially the entire length of these pockets. These short ribs are preferably flexible and may be formed of spring steel covered with Celluloid. The long pockets 34 receive stiffening ribs 40 extending throughout their entire length, and these long ribs are preferably formed of spring steel and may be coated with Celluloid. The inner ends of the short pockets 33 are closed by lines of stitching 41' and the inner end of the long pockets 34 are closed by lines of stitching 42'. The bottlenecks 36 are closed by the line of stitching 33'. By virtue of the arrangement of the short and long ribs, the short ribs 38 turn upon transverse axes in alignment with the ends of the long ribs 40, thereby eliminating the jabbing action of the long ribs, the short ribs remaining substantially flat and parallel with the body. The combined action of the short and long ribs prevents the rolling action of the girdle at the top.

The numeral 39 designates a one-way horizontal stretch elastic fabric strip, which is secured to the upper free end of the panel 26 by a line of preferably zig-zag stitching 40'. After the elastic strip 39 is secured to the free end of the panel 26, this panel is folded inwardly and downwardly upon a horizontal line 41, providing a two-layer band or zone. These two layers are now stitched together by lines of stitching 42, forming pockets 43, closed at their upper ends and open at their lower ends. These pockets have upper vertical narrow pocket portions 44 and lower wide pocket portions 45, which diverge or flare downwardly. The elastic strip 39 forms a portion of the inner side of the wide pocket portion 45, for a purpose to be described. Long pockets 46 are formed upon the inner face of the panel 26 and are produced by one-way longitudinal or vertical elastic fabric strips 47, secured to the panel by lines of stitching 48. The line of stitching for each strip 47 is continuous at the bottom of the pocket, to close the same, but is discontinued between the points 49, so that the one-way stretch elastic strip 47 is free at its edges between the points 49 to increase the elastic action. The line of stitching 48 continues from the upper points 49 to the top of the pocket. The upper ends of the pockets 46 are open and these upper ends project for a short distance beneath the elastic strip 39.

The various elements of the front and rear panel are assembled before these panels are secured to the body portion 25.

The numeral 50 designates the long ribs which are suitably stiff and flexible and are preferably formed of spring steel covered with Celluloid. Arranged at the opposite ends of each long rib 50 are short hinged ribs 51 which are preferably rigid and may be formed of brass covered with Celluloid.

Each rib 51 has a horizontal shoulder 52, providing end portions 53 and 54, which are laterally offset. The short rib was formed from a flat strip and before the strip was formed to produce the shoulder 52, tongues 55 were stamped from the flat strip and these tongues remain straight when the shoulder is formed. The rib 50 is provided at its ends with openings 56, and the tongues 55 are passed through these openings and bent into loops or knuckles. Each short rib is therefore permanently hinged to the end of the long rib, and the end thrust between these parts is taken up by the end of the rib engaging

5

the shoulder 52. It is preferred to apply a layer of plastic material 57' to the face of the end portion 54 next to the body, whereby a smooth continuous surface throughout the entire length of the short rib is presented next to the body.

When inserting each long rib 50 and its short ribs 51 into the pocket, the top portion of the front panel 26 is bent outwardly on about the line of stitching 40', Figures 12 and 13, whereby the lower wide pocket portion 45 of the pocket 43 extends upwardly in somewhat an inclined position, while the upper narrow pocket portion 44 extends downwardly. The lower short rib 51 and the long rib 50 are now passed downwardly through the upper end of the pocket 46 and when the lower short rib 51 approaches the lower end of the pocket 46, the upper short rib 51, which is now swung outwardly, enters the wide pocket portion 45, the inner side of which is elastic and may readily yield. The top portion of the panel 26 is now folded upwardly and inwardly, and the flaring wide pocket portion 45 will guide the outer end 54 of the upper short rib 51 into the vertical narrow pocket portion 44, and this action will also complete the downward movement of the long rib so that the lower short rib will engage the lower closed end of the pocket 46. By the reverse of this operation, each long rib and its associated short ribs may be removed, for washing the garment or for other purposes. The pockets 43 may be bent back further, as indicated by the arrow in Figure 13. Further, since these ribs are removable, ribs of different lengths may be used, the length of the pockets 46 being adjusted by stitching transversely across the lower portions of the pockets at any desired elevation. It is therefore possible to employ long ribs or combine long and short ribs of the proper length to suit the particular wearer.

When the girdle is applied to the wearer, the flat faces of the short ribs 51 are next to the body and the inner end portions 53 overlap the inner ends of the long ribs 50. This provides a knee-joint hinge which will permit the short rib to swing with respect to the long rib. The short rib remains in flat contact with the body and covers the end of the long rib, thereby taking the thrust and preventing the jabbing action which will be caused by the uncovered end of the long rib. The same action occurs with the upper and lower short ribs. This action is illustrated diagrammatically in Figure 19, wherein the short rib 51 is tilted and remains parallel with and in contact with the body, while the upper end of the long rib 50 is flexed outwardly, the body contacting with the long rib beneath the short rib. Since a knee-joint hinge is affected between the long and short ribs, the combined long and short ribs produce an elongated rib which transmits the inward pull, due to the elastic action of the body portion 25, which will produce the same body control as a continuous long rib.

The elastic strip 39 permits the lower end portion 53 of the short rib to freely swing or tilt, while the flexibility of the top of the panel permits the upper end portion 54 to swing or tilt. The lower short rib 51 is positioned in the lower portion of the pocket 46 so that its hinge is in substantial alignment with the lower point 49, Figure 2. The unsewed portion of the strip 47 between the points 49 increases the elastic action of the strip 47, allowing the inner end portion 53 of the short rib to swing inwardly freely, the

6

flexibility of the panel permitting the outer end portion 54 to swing outwardly, when the wearer bends forwardly.

I also contemplate dispensing with the means for forming the pockets 43 and continue the pockets 46 to the top of the panel and form these pockets closed at the top and leaving their lower ends open for inserting the ribs. The ribs are then inserted through the lower ends of the pockets, and these lower ends are subsequently closed by stitching. When this is done, the side stitching is omitted adjacent to the upper short rib, as indicated between the points 49 in connection with the lower short rib.

In Figures 16, 17 and 21, I have shown a modification of the invention. In this modification, each long rib is formed in sections 50', carrying the short ribs 51 at their outer ends. The inner ends of the long rib sections 50' are arranged adjacent to an intermediate short rib 57, which is preferably rigid and formed of brass coated with Celluloid. This short rib has flat end portions 58 and is formed at its center to provide a U-shaped portion 59, including a side 60 and horizontal shoulders 61. The intermediate rib is formed from a flat strip and before the flat strip is bent or formed, straight tongues 59' are stamped from the same, and these tongues are subsequently bent into loops and passed through openings 63 formed in the inner ends of the rib sections 50'. The U-shaped portion 59 is preferably filled with plastic material 64, providing a continuous straight face upon the inner side of the short rib 57, next to the body. The end portions 58 overlap the inner face of the rib sections 50', providing a double knee-joint hinge, permitting the rib sections 50' to swing outwardly or forwardly with respect to the short rib 57, but preventing the rib sections 50' from swinging inwardly toward the body with respect to the ends 58. This permits the wearer to bend forwardly and permits the girdle to maintain the same control as if a continuous rib were used. The short rib 57 remains parallel with and in contact with the body and the inner ends of the rib sections 50' are covered so that they cannot jab into the wearer. As shown in Figure 16, the line of stitching 48 is discontinued between the points 49, as described in connection with the first form of the invention. It is also discontinued between the points 65 and is discontinued between points 66, and is continued between points 49 and 65, points 65 and 66, between the upper points 66 and the top of the pocket and about the lower end of the pocket. This permits of the proper swinging movement of the lower short rib 51 with respect to the lower rib section 50' and the swinging movement of the intermediate short rib 57 with respect to the upper and lower rib sections 50'.

In Figures 22 and 23, I have shown a modified form of intermediate short rib 67, to be substituted for the intermediate short rib 57. This intermediate rib 67 has a U-shaped portion 68, forming shoulders 69 and end portions 70. The intermediate rib 67 is stamped for providing wide slots 71, and narrow tongues 72 within these slots. The tongues 72 remain permanently within the planes of the parts 69 and 70. The rib sections 50' are provided with outwardly projecting apertured knuckles 73. Each rib section 50' may be arranged at approximately a right angle to the end portion 70, and the apertured knuckles 73 inserted into the wide slots 70, and the tongues 72 threaded into the apertures of the

knuckles 73. These knuckles are then slid inwardly upon the tongues 72, while the rib section 50' is swung toward the end portion 70, to become parallel therewith. The knuckles 73 are then arranged adjacent to the sides or shoulders 69 and receive the horizontal portions of the tongues 72. The sides or shoulders 69 take the end thrust from the rib sections 50' and the knuckles 73 take the strain off of the tongues 72, since they are arranged to engage the side 68. A filler block 73', formed of plastics or the like, is inserted into the U-shaped portion 68 and is held therein by cement or the like, this filler block has recesses 74' to receive the knuckles 73 so that the filler block does not interfere with the relative swinging movement between the rib sections 50' and intermediate rib 67. This provides a flat continuous face for the intermediate rib 67 next to the wearer.

All other parts of the garment remain identical with those shown and described in connection with Figure 16.

In Figures 24 and 25 I have shown a further modified form of short intermediate rib. This rib is designated by the numeral 74 and is stiff and may be formed of brass coated with Celluloid. The short rib is formed to provide a U-shaped portion 75, having horizontal ends or shoulders 76, carrying end portions 77. T-shaped slots 78 are provided, the horizontal portions of these slots being formed in the vertical end portions 77, while the longitudinal portions of the slots are also formed in the end portions 77 and in the shoulders 76 and extend to the side of the U-shaped portion 75. The rib sections 50' have T-shaped extensions 79 at their inner ends. In assembling, the rib section 50' is disposed upon the outer side of the intermediate rib 74, and arranged at a right angle with relation thereto, and the T-shaped extensions 79 are passed through the horizontal portions of the slots 78, after which the rib section 50' is swung vertically to become parallel with the end portion 77, the T-shaped extension then engaging above or inwardly of the shoulder 76. The rib section 50' is thus hinged to the intermediate rib 74. A filler block 80 formed of plastic or the like, is preformed and introduced into the U-shaped portion 75, and held therein by cement or the like. This filler block has recesses 81 for accommodating the ends of the extensions 79, so that the hinged action between the rib sections 50' and intermediate rib 74 is not disturbed. The filler block 80 provides intermediate rib 74 with a continuous flat face next to the body.

All other parts of the garment remain identical with those shown and described in connection with the form of the invention shown in Figure 16.

While I have shown the invention as embodied in a girdle, it may also be used in a corselette or like garment. I also contemplate covering the outer or front face of the panel 26 with decorative fabric, so as to conceal the stitching.

It is to be understood that the forms of my invention herewith shown and described are to be taken as preferred examples of the same, and that various changes in the shape, size and arrangement of parts may be resorted to without departing from the spirit of my invention or the scope of the subjoined claims.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is:

1. A girdle or like garment, comprising a body portion, upstanding long rib sections, means

forming a knee joint hinge between the inner ends of the long rib sections so that the long rib sections may swing outwardly individually and function as a continuous rib for body control, a short rib hinged between its ends to one long rib section adjacent to the end of such long rib section, and means to secure the long rib sections to the body portion.

2. A girdle or like garment, comprising a body portion, upstanding long rib sections, means forming a knee joint hinge between the inner ends of the long rib sections so that the long rib sections may swing outwardly individually and function as a continuous rib for body control, short ribs hinged between their ends to the long rib sections adjacent to the outer ends of such long rib sections, and means to secure the long rib sections to the body portion.

3. A girdle or like garment, comprising a body portion having pocket means, a long rib, a short rib, said short rib having a transverse shoulder and laterally offset end portions, the inner end portion overlapping the long rib and arranged next to the body, a filler carried by the outer end portion for forming a substantially continuous inner face next to the body, and means to hinge the short rib to the adjacent end of the long rib, the end of the long rib being arranged to contact with the transverse shoulder, the long and the short ribs being held within the pocket means.

4. A rib device for a girdle or the like, comprising a rib, a second rib provided between its ends with a transverse shoulder to engage the end of the first rib, and means for forming a hinged connection between the second and first ribs.

5. A rib device for a girdle or the like, comprising a rib, a second rib having a transverse shoulder to engage the end of the first rib to take the end thrust, the first rib having an opening near its end, and a tongue carried by the second rib and passed through the opening for forming a knuckle.

6. A rib device for a girdle or the like, comprising rib sections, an intermediate rib arrangement near the inner ends of the rib sections, the intermediate rib having lateral shoulders to engage with the inner ends of the rib sections to take the end thrust, and means forming hinged connections between the intermediate rib and the inner ends of the rib sections.

7. A rib device for a girdle or the like, comprising rib sections, an intermediate rib arrangement adjacent to the inner ends of the rib section, said intermediate rib including a U-shaped portion and oppositely extending end portions, the U-shaped portion forming transverse shoulders for engagement with the inner ends of the rib sections to take the end thrust, and means for forming hinged connections between the intermediate rib and the inner ends of the rib sections.

8. A rib device for a girdle or the like, comprising a rib provided at its end with an outwardly projecting apertured knuckle, a second rib having a lateral shoulder and provided with a wide slot and a narrow tongue within the wide slot, the wide slot extending through the second rib and its shoulder and the narrow tongue being arranged in substantially the planes of the second rib and shoulder, the apertured knuckle being inserted into the wide slot and threaded upon the narrow tongue.

9. A rib device for a girdle or the like, com-

9

prising a rib provided at its end with a headed extension, a second rib having a lateral shoulder, the second rib having a slot extending through the shoulder and provided at its end remote from the shoulder with a laterally enlarged portion to receive the head of the extension.

10. A girdle comprising a body portion, a long pocket formed upon the body portion, a short pocket formed upon the body portion near one end of the long pocket and extending longitudinally of the long pocket, said short pocket having a wide pocket portion next to the end of the long pocket and extending laterally beyond the long pocket and a narrow pocket portion remote from the end of the long pocket, a long rib held within the long pocket and having its end projecting into the short pocket, and a short rib hinged between its ends to the end of the long rib to swing in a plane at substantially a right angle to the face of the long rib, the short rib having an outer end portion projecting beyond the end of the long rib and an inner end portion overlapping the end portion of the long rib to engage therewith, the outer end of the short rib entering the narrow pocket portion and the inner end portion of the short rib extending into the wide pocket portion, the wide pocket portion extending laterally beyond the inner end portion of the short rib and thereby permitting of freedom of movement of the inner end portion of the short rib from the long rib.

11. A girdle comprising a body portion, an upstanding long pocket formed upon the body portion, an upstanding short pocket formed upon the body portion near the top of the body portion, said short pocket having a lower wide pocket portion next to the end of the long pocket and a narrow pocket portion remote from the end of the long pocket, a long rib held within the long pocket and having its upper end projecting into the short pocket, and a short rib hinged between its ends to the upper end of the long rib to swing in a plane at substantially a right angle to the face of the long rib, the short rib having an outer end portion projecting beyond the end of the long rib and an inner end portion overlapping the end portion of the long rib, the outer end portion of the short rib entering the narrow pocket portion and the inner end portion of the short rib entering the wide pocket portion, the wide pocket portion extending laterally beyond the inner end portion of the short rib and thereby permitting of freedom of movement of the inner end portion of the short rib from the long rib.

12. A girdle comprising a body portion which is foldable at its top, an upstanding short pocket formed upon the body portion adjacent to its top, said short pocket having an upper narrow pocket portion closed at its top and a wide lower pocket portion open at its bottom, an upstanding long pocket formed upon the body portion and having its upper end open and disposed adjacent to the lower wide pocket portion which extends laterally beyond the long pocket, a long rib held within the long pocket and having its upper end projecting into the short pocket, and a short rib hinged between its ends to the upper end of the long rib to swing in a plane at substantially a right angle to the face of the long rib, the short rib having an outer end portion projecting beyond the upper end of the long rib and an inner end portion overlapping the end portion of the long rib, the outer end portion

10

of the short rib entering the narrow pocket portion and the inner end portion of the short rib entering the wide pocket portion, the wide pocket portion extending laterally beyond the inner end portion of the short rib and thereby permitting of freedom of movement of the inner end portion of the short rib from the long rib.

13. A girdle or like garment which is at least in part circumferentially elastic in use, a panel secured to the body portion and which is vertically non-elastic, the top portion of the panel including two layers, stitching securing the layers together and forming an upstanding short pocket, the short pocket including an upper narrow pocket portion closed at its top and a lower wide pocket portion open at its bottom, an upstanding long pocket formed upon the panel and having its upper end open and arranged adjacent to the wide pocket portion which projects laterally beyond the long pocket, a long rib held within the long pocket and having its upper end projecting into the short pocket, and a short rib hinged between its ends to the upper end of the long rib to swing in a plane at substantially a right angle to the face of the long rib, the short rib having an outer end portion projecting beyond the upper end of the long rib and an inner end portion overlapping the end portion of the long rib, the outer end portion of the short rib entering the narrow pocket portion and the inner end portion of the short rib entering the wide pocket portion, the wide pocket portion extending laterally beyond the inner end portion of the short rib and thereby permitting of freedom of movement of the inner end portion of the short rib from the long rib, the short pocket being foldable transversely upon a generally horizontal line substantially at the hinged connection between the short rib and long rib.

14. A girdle or like garment, comprising a body portion, a panel secured to the body portion, an elastic strip secured to the top of the panel, the top of the panel being folded upon itself to provide opposed layers, stitching connecting the opposed layers to form an upstanding short pocket, the short pocket having an upper narrow pocket portion closed at its top and a lower wide pocket portion open at its bottom, the elastic strip forming at least a portion of one side of the lower wide pocket portion, an upstanding long pocket formed upon the panel and having its upper end open and arranged adjacent to the lower open end of the wide pocket portion which projects laterally beyond the long pocket, a long rib held within the long pocket and having its upper end extending into the short pocket, and a short rib hinged between its ends to the upper end of the long rib to swing in a plane at substantially a right angle to the face of the long rib, the short rib having an outer end portion projecting beyond the upper end of the long rib and an inner end portion overlapping the end portion of the long rib, the outer end portion of the short rib entering the narrow pocket portion and the inner end portion of the short rib entering the wide pocket portion, the wide pocket portion extending laterally beyond the inner end portion of the short rib, the elastic strip included in the wide pocket portion being arranged next to the inner end portion of the short rib, the size of the wide pocket portion and the elasticity of the side thereof permitting of freedom of movement of the inner end portion of the short rib from the long rib, the short pocket being foldable transversely

11

upon a generally horizontal line substantially at the hinged connection between the short and long rib.

15. A girdle or like garment, comprising a body portion, an upstanding long pocket formed upon the body portion and having its upper end open, an upstanding short pocket formed upon the body portion and arranged adjacent to the upper end of the body portion, the short pocket including opposed sides one of which is horizontally elastic, the short pocket being open at its lower end, the lower open end of the short pocket being disposed adjacent to the upper open end of the long pocket, a long rib held within the long pocket and having its upper end projecting into the short pocket, a short rib hinged between its end to the upper end of the long rib to swing in a plane at substantially a right angle to the face of the long rib, the short rib having an outer end portion projecting beyond the upper end of the long rib and an inner end portion overlapping the end of the long rib, the outer end portion of the short rib entering the upper end of the short pocket and the inner end portion of the short rib being arranged within the lower portion of the short pocket adjacent to the open end thereof and the horizontally elastic side.

16. A girdle, comprising a body portion having upstanding pocket means extending adjacent to the top of the body portion, a long rib held within the pocket means, a short rib arranged within the upper end of the pocket means and provided near its longitudinal center with a generally horizontal shoulder arranged over the upper end of the long rib to contact therewith and take the end thrust from the long rib, means connected with the short rib for hinging the short rib with the upper end of the long rib so that the short rib can be swung in a plane at substantially a right angle to the face of the long rib, the short rib having an outer end portion projecting beyond the upper end of the long rib and an inner end portion overlapping the end of the long rib and arranged upon the inner face of the long rib.

17. A girdle or like garment, comprising a body portion including a part which is vertically non-elastic, a vertically elastic strip sewed to the vertically non-elastic part for forming an upstanding pocket, a portion of the stitching being omitted to increase the elastic action of a portion of the elastic strip, a long rib within the pocket, and a short rib within the pocket and hinged between its ends to the end of the long rib to

12

swing in a plane substantially at a right angle to the face of the long rib, the short rib having an outer portion projecting beyond the outer end of the long rib and an inner portion overlapping the end portion of the long rib, the short rib being arranged adjacent to the omitted portions of the stitching.

18. A girdle, comprising a flexible body portion having upstanding pocket means extending adjacent to the top of the body portion, a resilient long rib held within the pocket means, a short rib within the upper end of the pocket means, and means connected with the short rib near its longitudinal center for hinging the same to the upper end of the long rib so that the short rib can be swung in a plane at substantially a right angle to the face of the long rib, the short rib having an outer end portion projecting beyond the upper end of the long rib and an inner end portion overlapping the end of the long rib and arranged upon the inner face of the long rib next to the wearer and forming with the long rib an outwardly swinging knee-joint, the short rib being adapted to cover the upper end of the long rib when the short rib is swung with relation to the long rib and to be shifted bodily with the long rib by virtue of the hinged connection.

HENRY M. HERBENER.

REFERENCES CITED

The following references are of record in the file of this patent:

UNITED STATES PATENTS

Number	Name	Date
398,569	Bannier	Feb. 26, 1889
588,028	Steward	Aug. 10, 1897
611,163	Young	Sept. 20, 1898
1,246,370	Wright et al.	Nov. 13, 1917
1,523,914	Thorp	Jan. 20, 1925
1,581,962	Kispert	Apr. 20, 1926
2,136,742	Herbener	Nov. 15, 1938
2,145,075	Edelmann	Jan. 24, 1939
2,193,551	Cohen	Mar. 12, 1940
2,274,770	Amyot	Mar. 3, 1942
2,288,703	Herbener	July 7, 1942
2,315,701	Herbener	Apr. 6, 1943
2,401,325	Amyot	June 4, 1946

FOREIGN PATENTS

Number	Country	Date
6,807	Great Britain	June 4, 1885