Nov. 4, 1958 L. H. LOEFFEL ET AL 2,858,832

CONTROLLING AND MEASURING GARMENT

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Fig. 1.

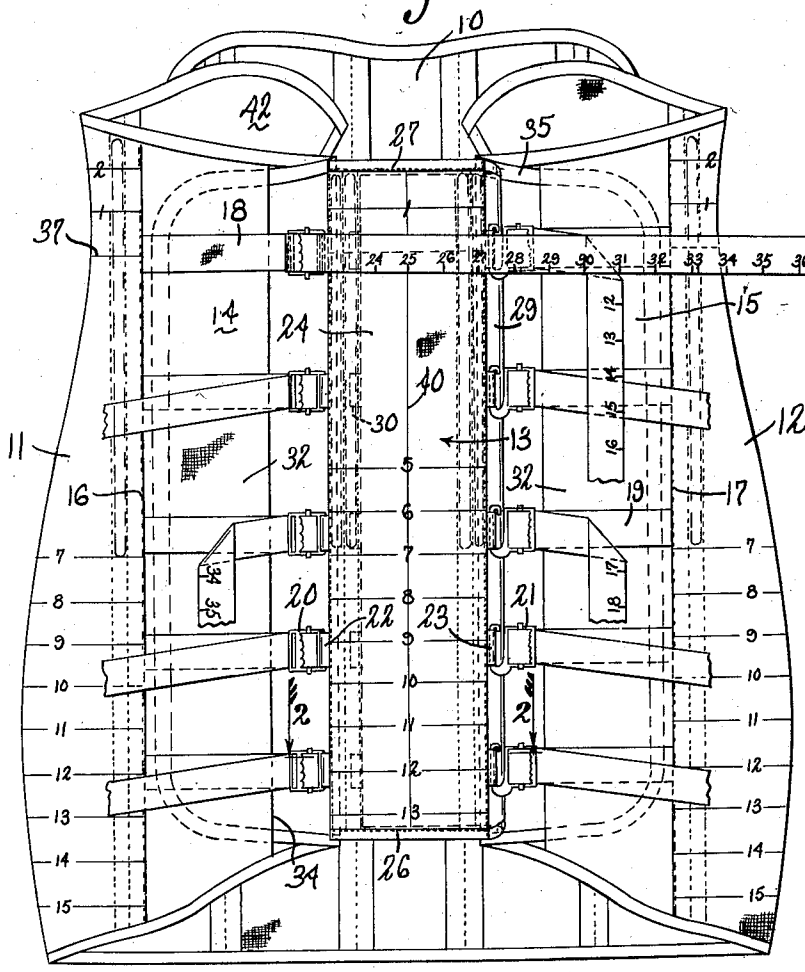
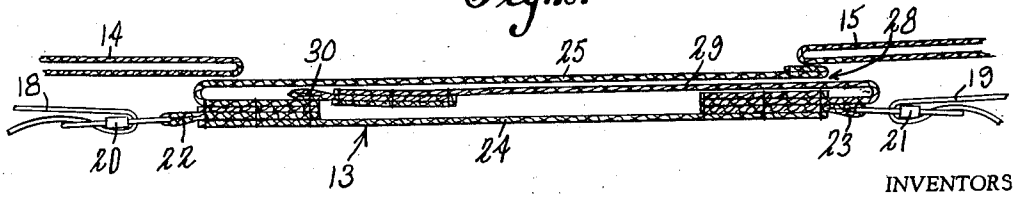



Fig. 2.




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Fig. 3.

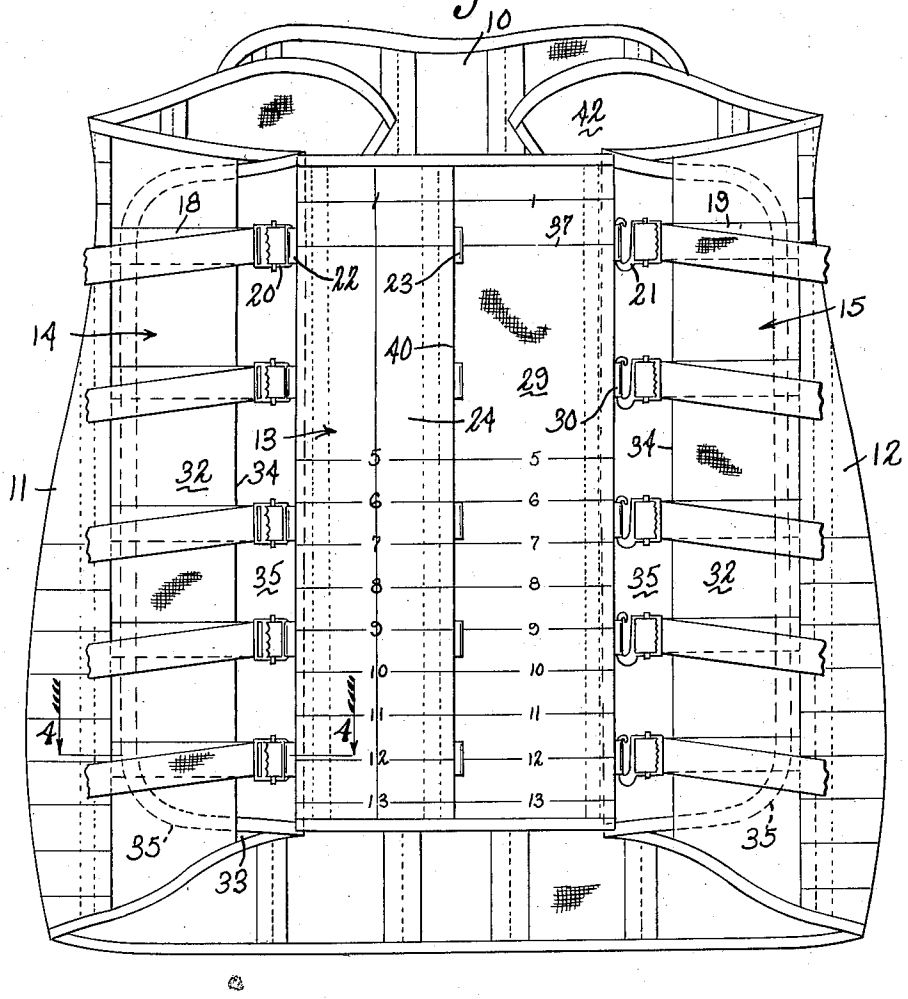
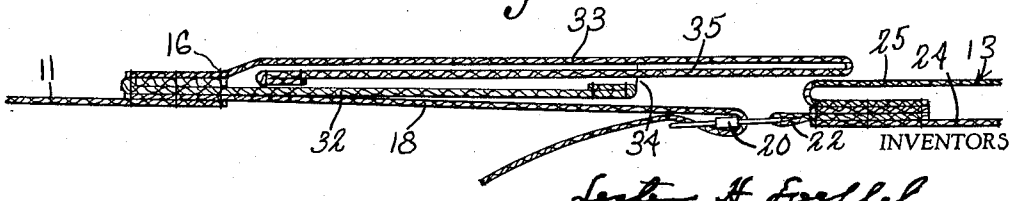



Fig. 4.




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Fig. 5.

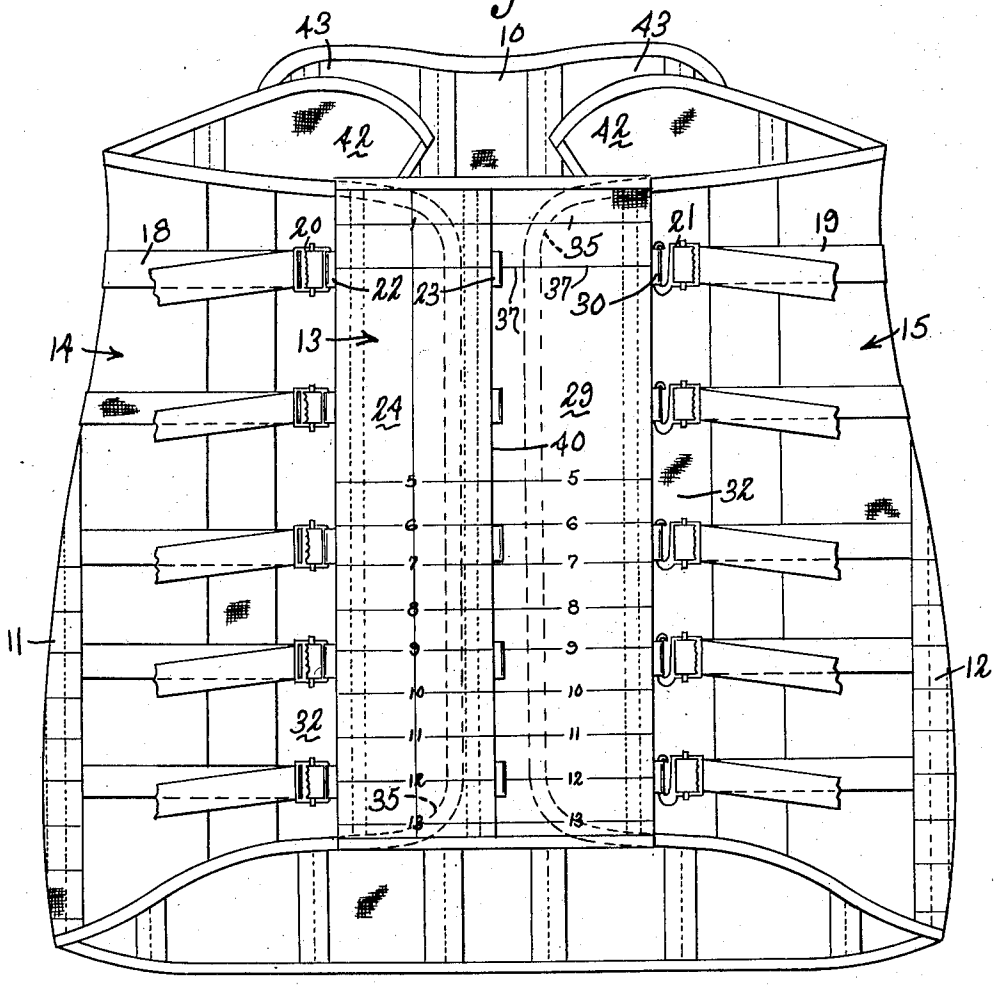
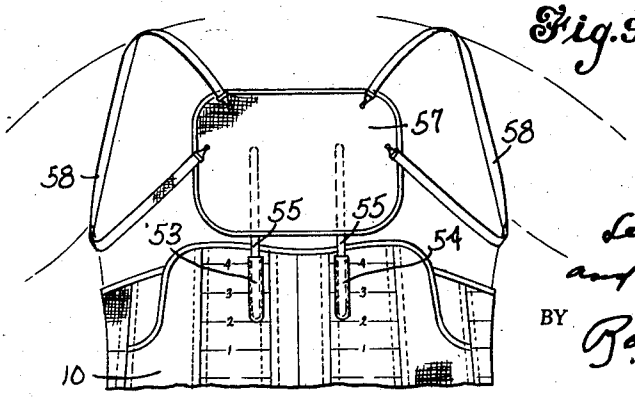



Fig. 9.




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Fig. 6.

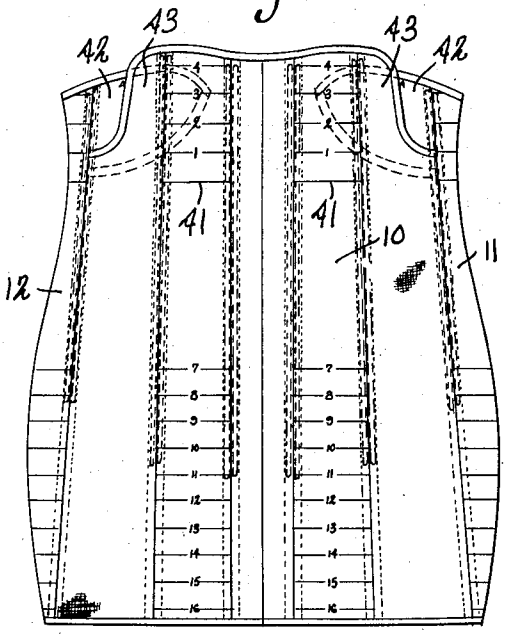



Fig. 7.

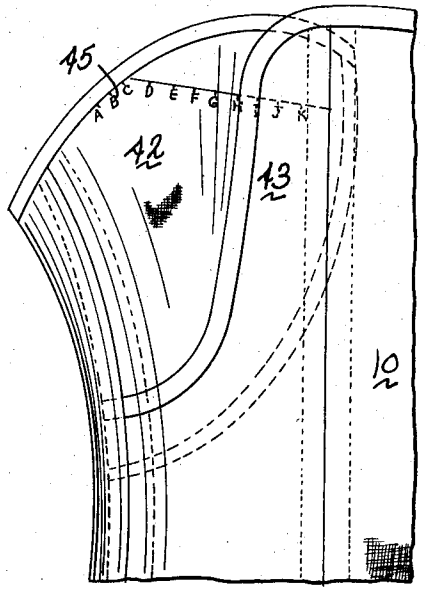
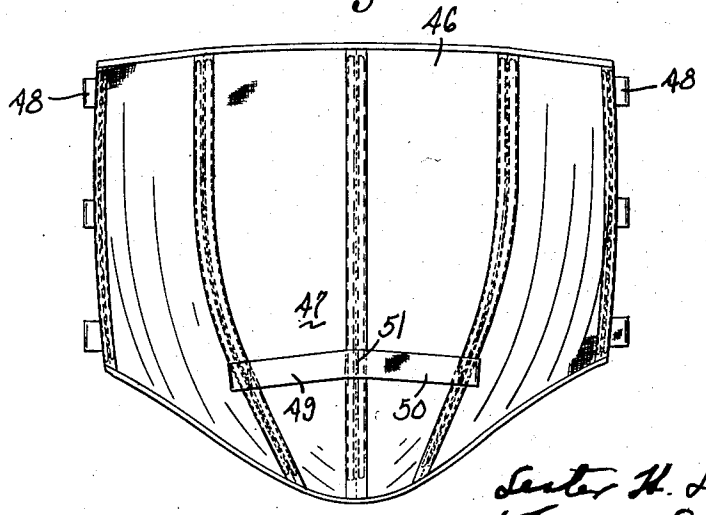



Fig. 8.




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2,858,832

# CONTROLLING AND MEASURING GARMENT

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Application September 2, 1955, Serial No. 532,203

10 Claims. (Cl. 128—550)

This invention relates to a controlling and measuring garment, and more particularly to a garment designed to be fitted to a figure for which a corset is to be made so that the figure will be controlled or molded to the desired form, and which garment will also facilitate the taking of measurements after the form or figure has been properly molded and controlled.

After measurements have been taken over the controlling garment, the corset is made to the measurements secured, and the figure of the wearer resulting from the corset will be accurately predetermined by measurements taken over the controlling garment.

The garment is used particularly by corsetieres and fitters, and serves not only to mold and control the figure but also is provided with measuring devices which will greatly facilitate the taking of measurements by the corsetiere. Particular provision is made for a subject which requires that one side or one portion of a garment be made larger or smaller than the corresponding portion at the other side so that the two sides of the resulting garment are not of identical shape or size. In other words, it is desirable to bring the center line of the front and back of the garment correctly to the center line of the figure at the front and back while at the same time providing for a difference in measurement between the center back and center front on one side and that on the other side.

It is also desirable in a garment of this kind to provide for the fitting and measuring of as great a range of figures as possible. In other words, it is desirable that the corsetiere be able to employ one controlling garment for figures of a great range of sizes. The present garment has been particularly designed with this in mind as well as the proper control of the figure and the ease of taking measurements after the garment has been fitted to the figure.

One object of the present invention is to provide a controlling garment which may be employed to confine and shape the figure of the subject in order that the correct measurements may be taken, the garment being so designed that it may be employed in connection with figures of a wide range of sizes.

A further object of the invention is to provide a controlling and measuring garment of the character described which may not only be used to mold and control the figures of subjects of a wide range of sizes, but will facilitate the taking of measurements after the garment has been fitted upon the subject.

Still another object of the invention is to provide a fitting and controlling garment which may be capable of adjustment over a wide range of sizes and also be capable of being correctly fitted to figures which may not have the same measurements on one side of the body that obtain upon the other.

To these and other ends the invention consists in the novel features and combinations of parts to be hereinafter described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings:

Fig. 1 is a front elevational view of a controlling and measuring garment embodying our invention;



Fig. 2 is a sectional view on line 2—2 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a view similar to Fig. 1 but showing the garment in a different adjusted position;

Fig. 4 is a sectional view on line 4—4 of Fig. 3;

Fig. 5 is a view similar to Fig. 1 showing a further adjustment of the garment;

Fig. 6 is a back view of the garment;

Fig. 7 is a detailed view of a portion of the back of the garment;

Fig. 8 is a view of a front panel of modified form suitable for use in connection with figures of certain types; and

Fig. 9 is a rear elevational view of the upper portion of the back of the garment showing provision for an extension of the back of the garment.

To illustrate a preferred embodiment of the invention there is shown in the drawings a garment having a back section designated particularly by the numeral **10**, side sections **11** and **12**, and a front panel **13**. Between the front panel **13**, which is of special construction, and the side sections **11** and **12** are front sections **14** and **15** which are of a special construction to be described hereinafter.

These front sections are secured to the side sections by lines of stitching as shown at **16** and **17** and secured to the garment at these lines of stitching are adjustment straps **18** upon one side and corresponding straps **19** upon the other side, these straps extending forwardly and being provided at their inner or forward ends with fastening means of some type such as the hooks or buckles **20** and **21**.

The front panel shown more especially in Figs. 1, 2 and 3 is provided at each side edge thereof with fabric loops **22** and **23** to receive the buckles **20** and **21**, and it is understood these buckles are adjustable on the straps **18** and **19** respectively so as to "take in" or "let out" the garment with respect to its girth. This panel is also constructed as shown in Fig. 2 in the form of a pocket comprising front and back members **24** and **25**. These members are stitched together at their upper and lower edges as shown at **26** and **27** but leaving one front edge open as shown at **28** to provide for the insertion therein of a flap or extension **29** which is sewed to the front member **24** to form a continuation thereof. The loops **22** and **23** are provided at each side edge of the member **24**.

As shown in Fig. 1, the panel **13** is used in its smallest size or width, that is, with the member **29** folded into the pocket formed by the front and back members **24** and **25**, as shown in Fig. 2, and it will be seen that the edges of this front panel overlie the edges of the front sections **14** and **15**. The straps **18** and **19** will be, of course, taken up to a greater extent for a smaller size figure and the buckles **20** and **21** adjusted thereon so as to effect a greater overlap of the adjacent adges of the front sections **14** and **15** by the center panel if necessary to fit the figure.

If the size of the figure is such that the panel **13**, as shown in Fig. 2, would not cover the space between the edges of the front sections **14** and **15**, the flap or extension **29** may be drawn out of the pocket and extended outwardly to the right, as shown in Figs. 2 and 3. For this purpose loops **30** are provided upon the ede of the member **29** so that when this member is extended, as shown in Fig. 3, the buckles **21** on the right-hand side of the garment, as shown in the drawings, will be engaged with these loops. As shown in Fig. 3 of the drawings, the front panel has been extended to its greatest size or width.

It may sometimes occur that the figure is of such a size that the extension of the flap or member **29** of the front panel is insufficient. It is noted that it is desirable

to have no gaps between the various sections of the garment in order that the flesh of the subject be properly controlled and confined. In case the front panel when extended will not span the space between the edges of the front sections 14 and 15, these sections also have provision for being extended, as is shown more especially in Fig. 4, in connection with the sections 14. As the section 15 is similarly constructed, a separate description will not be necessary.

As shown in Fig. 4, the section 14 consists of a front element 32 and a rear element 33, the two forming between them a pocket having an open front edge 34 into which may normally be folded a flap 35 which is a continuation of the member 33. On figures of ordinary size, these front sections 14 and 15 are employed, as shown in Fig. 4, with the section 35 folded into the pocket 34, and this is illustrated in both Figures 1 and 3. However, upon an exceptionally large figure, as shown in Fig. 5, the flaps or extensions 35 may be pulled out of the pockets and extended over the front of the subject below the front panel 13. When the members 35 are extended in this manner, it will usually be in connection with the extension of the front panel 13 so that this panel will consist, as shown in Fig. 5, of the two sections 24 and 29.

With this construction, it will be seen that a garment will fit a large range of sizes as to girth and at the same time will completely enclose the figure so as to properly control it.

In order to facilitate the taking of measurements, both front and back of the garment are provided with indicia to indicate the length of the garment from the waistline and also the girth. For example, as shown in Fig. 1, the waistline is indicated at 37 and numerals 1 and 2 are placed above the waistline to show measurements 1 and 2 inches thereabove. The corsetiere or fitter can then ascertain the desired height of the garment above the waistline for this particular figure without the use of a tape measure. Likewise numerals 5, 6, 7 and so forth are provided on the front panel 13 as well as on the side sections 11 and 12 so that the length of the garment below the waistline at the front and hips may be readily ascertained.

Likewise measurement of the girth of the garment is facilitated by the employment of the straps 18 and 19 for this purpose. For example, one side of the strap 18 is provided with the indicia 24, 25, 26 and so forth, which indicia measure the entire girth of the garment from the center line 40 of the front panel. In other words, if the free end of one of the straps 18 is brought over the front line 40 of the garment, as shown at the upper portion of Fig. 1, and the numeral 25 appears over the line 40, this will mean that the figure measures 25 inches at the waist. Therefore, it is seen that the measurement is automatically made by the adjustment of the strap 18 to fit the subject. The only thing necessary to do is to bring the strap back over the front of the garment to the line 40 as the figures are so provided on the strap that they are measured from the line 40 as a zero point around the garment.

Likewise provision is made for measuring one side of the garment, that is from the center line of the back to the center line of the front. As shown in Fig. 1, the backs of the straps 19 are provided with indicia 12, 13, 14, 15, and so forth, which indicia measure from the center of the back so that when this strap is brought over the front panel 13 and the figures lined up with the center line 40, the measurement upon one side of the corset can be taken. When this is subtracted from the full measurement, that of the other side will be known. In this way the center line 40 can be lined up at the center of the front of the figure and likewise the center of the back section can be lined up at the center of the back of the figure and measurements upon each side can be gotten so that the garment made according to these measurements will fit properly and be centered at the front and back notwithstanding the fact that the measurements of one side may not be the same as those of the other side. These measurement indicia may, of course, be placed upon as many of the straps 18 and 19 as are desired.

The back of the garment is shown particularly in Figs. 6 and 7 from which it will be noted that the waistline is shown at 41 and indicia above and below this line are provided for ascertainment of the length of the back of the garment. Moreover, in order that there be adjustment of the upper edge of the garment particularly at the region of the lower portion of the shoulder blades or just below the shoulder blades, the edges of the back section are not stitched to the side sections 11 and 12 adjacent the top edges of the garment but are left disconnected at this point. The side sections are provided with flaps or flies 42 which are overlapped by the upper portions 43 of the back section so that, while there will be no opening in the garment at this point—that is the flesh will be covered and controlled at all points—nevertheless this will allow expansion of the upper edge of the garment as is necessary to accommodate the figure of the subject. This necessary expansion permitted by the sliding of these flaps 42 within the upper portions 43 of the back sections may, of course, be different on one side than on the other, and the position of the flaps may be indicated by the indicia consisting of the letters A, B, C, D and so forth, shown at 45 on Fig. 7.

In Fig. 8 of the drawings we have shown a front panel which may be employed in place of the panel 13, shown in Figs. 1, 3 and 5. In this instance the panel 46 is shaped, as shown at 47, particularly adjacent its lower portion so that it will bulge outwardly or forwardly in convex shape to a certain extent in order to accommodate figures having large abdomens. It may be noted that this panel is provided at its side edges with loops 48 designed to receive the buckles 20 and 21 upon the straps 18 and 19, these loops 48 serving the same function as the loops 22 and 23 previously described in connection with that form of our invention shown in Figs. 1 to 7. The three loops 48 on each side of the panel 46 will be connected to the upper three of the straps 18 and 19 of the garment. In order that the lower portion of the panel 46 may be tightened across the abdomen, either of the lower straps 18 or 19 of Fig. 1 may be connected to loops at the ends of the straps 49 and 50 provided upon the lower front portion of the panel 46 and secured thereto at 51. The ends of the straps 49 and 50 are loose so that they may assume an inclined position necessary to accommodate the lower straps 18 and 19.

It is sometimes found desirable to provide for an extension at the back of the garment in the event that a corset or girdle with a longer or higher back is desired. Such an arrangement is shown in Fig. 9 wherein the back section of the garment is provided with bone pockets 53 and 54 open at their upper ends. Bones or stays 55 may be inserted in these pockets and received in similar pockets on the inner face of an extension panel 57 which extends upwardly above the edge of the back section. Straps 58 may be secured at their ends to this section and pass around the front of the body and under the arms in order to hold the section in its proper position. The section 57 is adjustable to some extent by means of the sliding fit of the stays in the pockets 53 and 54 and provides a surface upon which measurements may be taken from the waistline 37 when the proper height of the back section has been determined by the fitter. The section 57 also provides a support to which a brassiere may be secured if desired, the straps from the brassiere passing around under the arms to be secured to the extension section in place of the straps 58.

It will be apparent from the above that there has been provided a combination of a control garment and a measuring garment in that while the garment is pro-

vided with its own measuring means, at the same time it is a controlling garment in that it is not of skeleton form but will enclose and confine the figure of the subject at all locations. It is also contemplated that the garment will be useful not only in connection with the fitting of corsets, but also in dress shops in connection with the fitting of dresses as it may be employed as a controlling and measuring garment that may be employed by a fitter in a dress shop in fitting and altering a dress.

While we have shown and described some preferred embodiments of our invention, it will be understood that it is not to be limited to all of the details shown, but is capable of modification and variation within the spirit of the invention and within the scope of the claims.

What we claim is:

1. A body-encircling controlling garment comprising back, side, and front portions, the latter portions having free edges disposed in spaced relation and a front panel spanning the space between, and adapted to overlie, said edges, said panel consisting of two plies of material to provide a vertically extending pocket open at one side edge thereof, an extension member connected at one of its side edges to the side edge of one of said plies to form a continuation thereof and adapted to be folded over said ply and inserted into said pocket, and means attached to the side edges of the panel and to the garment by which it is adjustably secured to the garment.

2. A body-encircling controlling garment comprising back, side, and front portions, the latter portions having free edges disposed in spaced relation and a front panel spanning the space between, and adapted to overlie, said edges, said panel consisting of two plies of material to provide a vertically extending pocket open at one side edge thereof, an extension member connected at one of its side edges to the side edge of one of said plies to form a continuation thereof and adapted to be folded over said ply and inserted into said pocket, and means attached to one side edge of the panel and to the free edge of the extension member to adjustably secure the panel to the garment.

3. A body-encircling controlling garment comprising back, side, and front portions, the latter portions having free edges disposed in spaced relation and a front panel spanning the space between, and adapted to overlie, said edges, means to adjustably secure said panel to the garment at the sides of the front thereof, and each of said front portions comprising two superposed plies of material having a vertically extending opening therebetween at their front edges to form a vertically extending pocket, one of said plies of each portion having a foldable flap secured thereto at the front edge thereof which may be disposed in said pocket or may be extended about said fold line to increase the width of said portion, and dispose the free edges of said flaps beneath the front panel.

4. A body-encircling garment as in claim 1 wherein each of said front portions comprises two superposed plies of material having a vertically extending opening therebetween at their front edges to provide a vertically extending pocket open at the free edge of said portion, and one of the plies of each portion having an extension flap secured at one edge to said portion and having an opposite free edge foldable into said pocket.

5. A body-encircling controlling garment comprising back, side, and front portions, the latter portions having free edges disposed in spaced relation and a front panel spanning the space between, and adapted to overlie, said edges, said panel consisting of two plies of material to provide a vertically extending pocket open at one side edge thereof, an extension member connected at one of its side edges to the side edge of one of said plies to form a continuation thereof and adapted to be folded over said ply and inserted into said pocket, and vertically-spaced-apart loops secured to the side edges of said panel, and straps secured to the front portions of the garment and adjustably attached to said loops.



6. A body-encircling garment having back, side and front fabric sections secured together, said front sections having free edges lying in spaced relation, and a front panel adapted to span the space between, and overlie, said edges, horizontally disposed, adjustable straps secured to certain of said sections and to the side edges of said panel to secure the sections of the garment together adjustably and to form an uninterrupted body-confining garment, and certain of said straps having measuring indicia thereon from which the measurement of the girth dimension of the garment may be read, said indicia being arranged to indicate the measurement around the garment from the center of said front panel.

7. A body-encircling garment having back, side and front fabric sections secured together, said front sections having free edges lying in spaced relation, and a front panel adapted to span the space between, and overlie, said edges, horizontally disposed, adjustable straps secured to certain of said sections and to the side edges of said panel to form an uninterrupted body-confining garment, and certain of said straps having measuring indicia thereon from which the measurement of the girth dimension of the garment may be read, said indicia being arranged to indicate the measurement around the garment from the center of the back section to the center of the front panel.

8. A body-encircling garment having back, side and front fabric sections secured together, said front sections having free edges lying in spaced relation, and a front panel adapted to span the space between, and overlie, said edges, straps adjustably secured to certain of said sections and to the edges of said panel to form an uninterrupted body-confining garment, said front panel being of outwardly convex form at its lower portion to conform to the abdomen of the wearer and having securing straps thereon at the convex portion thereof, and means adjustably securing said last-named straps to the garment.

9. A body-encircling garment having back, side and front fabric sections secured together, said front sections having free edges lying in spaced relation, and a front panel adapted to span the space between, and overlie, said edges, straps adjustably secured to certain of said sections and to the edges of said panel to form an uninterrupted body-confining garment, the adjacent edges of said back and side sections being unsecured for a short distance adjacent the upper edge of the garment below the shoulder blades, and a fly on one of said sections having a free edge extending under the edge of the other section to permit spreading of said edges while closing the opening therebetween.

10. A body-encircling garment having back, side and front fabric sections secured together, said front sections having free edges lying in spaced relation, and a front panel adapted to span the space between, and overlie, said edges, straps adjustably secured to certain of said sections and to the edges of said panel to form an uninterrupted body-confining garment, the adjacent edges of said back and side sections being unsecured for a short distance adjacent the upper edge of the garment below the shoulder blades, and a fly on one of said sections having a free edge extending under the edge of the other section to permit spreading of said edges while closing the opening therebetween, and indicia on said fly to indicate the adjustment of said edges.

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