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TRAINING PANTIES

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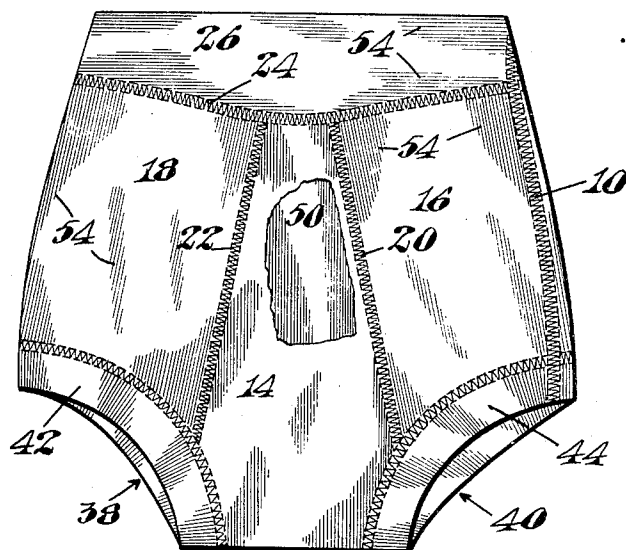


Fig.1.

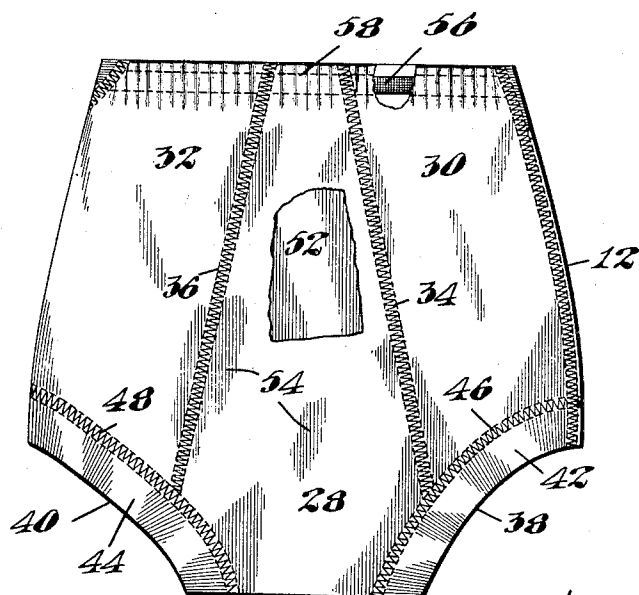


Fig. 2.

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TRAINING PANTIES

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2 Claims. (Cl. 2—224)

This invention relates to garments for infants and children and more particularly to what are known as training panties for use by infants and children emerging from the diaper stage of dressing.

It is generally customary when an infant attains the age of one year or thereabouts to change the mode of dressing it by discarding diapers. It is preferable that this transition should be gradual so as to train and to accustom the infant to the responsibilities of the new mode of dressing. This may be accomplished by the use of a trunk-like garment put on for a while over the diapers which later are discarded.

The main object of the invention is the provision of a garment adapted for use on infants and children when they attain the age at which the use of diapers is normally discontinued in order to train them in self control.

Another object is the provision of a garment of the character described which is of simple construction and easily put on and manipulated.

A further object is the provision of a garment having characteristics especially adapting it for use during the transitional period before referred to.

Various other objects will be more specifically described and set forth hereinafter.

In the accompanying drawing illustrating one embodiment of the invention, Figure 1 is a front view of a garment constructed in accordance therewith, a portion being broken away to show the inner layer of fabric and Figure 2 is a similar rear view of the garment.

The preferred form of the invention disclosed in the drawings comprises a legless trunk structure having a forepart and a back part connected together at the sides by stitching 10 and 12, preferably of elastic form. The forepart is made in four pieces, a center piece 14 and two side pieces 16 and 18 connected to opposite sides of the center piece by elastic stitching 20 and 22 respectively. At their upper edges the three pieces are attached by elastic stitching 24 to a front waistband 26.

The rear part comprises three pieces, namely, a center piece 28, which is shown as a continuation of the front center piece 14, and two side pieces 30 and 32 attached to opposite sides of the center piece by elastic stitching 34 and 36 respectively. The two ends of the front waist band are joined to the pieces 30 and 32 by the side seams 12 and 10 respectively. Leg openings 38 and 40 are formed by cutting the various pieces on curved lines and these openings are finished by the use

of bands 42 and 44 respectively made of folded material having its two edges secured to the cut edges of the various pieces at the leg openings by elastic stitching 46 and 48.

Although the front and back center pieces 14 and 28 are shown as being continuous and of one piece of fabric, they may, if desired, be made in two pieces stitched together at the crotch. Each center piece is widest just above the crotch and from that point gradually diminished in width to its upper end.

The side pieces are all of single thickness but the center pieces 14 and 28 are of double thickness of material being reenforced by inner center pieces 50 and 52 respectively which are of the same shape and size as the centerpieces 14 and 28 and which comprise one piece of material. The center portion of the garment, including the crotch portion, is of double thickness.

The garment may be made of any suitable material but preferably knitted material is used with the wales in the various parts running in the directions indicated by the various shaded portions 54 in the drawing. The material is stretchable in directions perpendicular to the directions of the wales and therefore the body of the garment is stretchable in a horizontal direction, the waistband in a vertical direction and the leg openings in a direction longitudinally of the leg opening bands. This insures a close fitting yet elastic and yielding garment which does not restrict the movements of a child nor cause it discomfort.

Since the front waist band is non-elastic transversely of the body, I secure the necessary elasticity in the waist of the garment to permit it to be easily put on or taken off by providing an elastic band 56 mounted in the hemmed upper edge 58 of the back part. The two ends of the elastic 56 may be fastened at the sides of the garment by the side seams 10 and 12 or by additional stitching and the elastic is sufficiently short so that it is under a mild tension when the garment is worn and thereby serves to hold the garment in place at the waist line.

It will be apparent that the reenforced center portion of the garment will if the occasion demands it perform the functions of a diaper and for this purpose, the inner layer may, if desired, be made of heavier or more closely knitted material than the outer layer or of woven material.

The use of panties of this construction serves to train children to the exercise of self control and at the same time saves embarrassment. Furthermore, the garment is very easily manipulated,

having neither buttons nor other fastening means and a child may easily learn to put on or take off or manipulate the garment as the occasion demands.

- 5 It is to be understood that the invention may be embodied in other forms than that herein shown and described and it is not to be limited except as set forth in the following claims.

What I claim is:

- 10 1. In a garment of the character described, a legless trunk portion with wales running longitudinally of the body to permit transverse stretchability, the upper edge of the front part having a waistband stretchable in a vertical direction
15 but non-stretchable in a transverse direction and convexly curved on its lower edge and the center portion of the front, back and crotch parts being of double thickness of material and having upwardly converging edges on the front and back
20 and the top edge of the back part having a hem within which is mounted an elastic band the ends of which are fastened one to each side of said trunk portion to insure a close fit around the waist of the wearer.

- 25 2. A legless trunk garment of the character de-

scribed comprising a fore part and a back part stitched together at the sides to leave leg openings, said fore part comprising a waistband convexly curved on its lower edge and stretchable in a vertical direction but non-stretchable in a transverse direction, a center portion having upwardly converging side edges and a side portion secured to each side edge of said center portion, the upper ends of all said portions being secured to the lower edge of said waistband, and said back part comprising an upwardly converging center portion being an extension through the crotch of the center portion of said fore part and a side portion secured to each side edge of said center portion, the top edge of said back part having a hem within which is mounted an elastic band the ends of which are fastened one to each side of said trunk portion to insure a close fit around the waist of the wearer, and all the portions of said fore part and said back part with the exception of said waistband having wales running longitudinally of the body to permit transverse stretchability.

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