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G. E. RUTLEDGE

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COMBINATION FOUNDATION GARMENT

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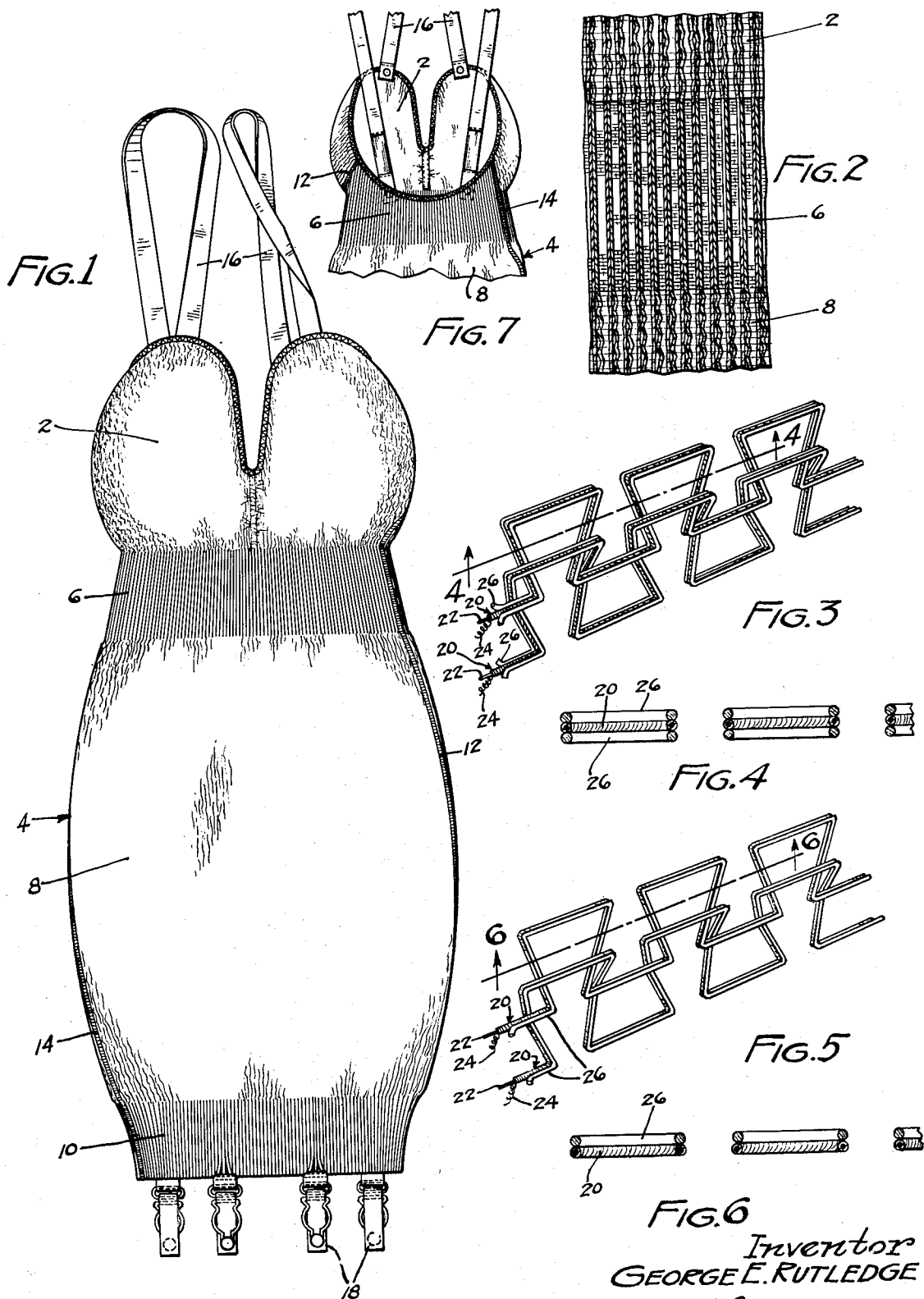


FIG. 6
Inventor
GEORGE E. RUTLEDGE
By Paul, Paul & Moore
ATTORNEYS

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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COMBINATION FOUNDATION GARMENT

George E. Rutledge, Chicago, Ill., assignor to
Vassar Swiss Underwear Company, Chicago,
Ill., a corporation of Illinois

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This invention relates to combination foundation garments and more particularly to garments of this type which combine the features of a corset and brassière. The figure molding portion of a garment of this character fits the hips and body of the wearer tightly under tension due either to the inherent elasticity of the material from which it is made, or due to some tensioning means associated with the garment. The principal function of this portion is to mold and shape the hips and abdomen. The brassière portion of a combination garment of this character includes a bust supporting band tensioned across the bottom of the busts, and a bust covering portion of soft material which ordinarily is formed with pockets for the busts and aids in their support without constricting them. Suitable shoulder straps are provided.

It has heretofore been the practice in the manufacture of such combination garments to form the various parts separately and joint them together by suitable lines of stitching forming one or more transversely or circumferentially extending seams. Such seams are extremely uncomfortable and irritate the wearer greatly as a result of their frictional contact under the tension set up in the garment when worn. Accordingly, it is a general purpose of the present invention to provide a combination garment embodying the features of a corset and brassière wherein horizontal or circumferential seams are dispensed with, and which fits the wearer smoothly and comfortably without irritation during normal body movements.

More particularly, the invention contemplates a garment having these desirable features, wherein the bust covering portion is formed of elastic knitted textile fiber yarn and wherein the figure molding portion is formed of knitted, fiber covered rubber yarn.

In accordance with this invention, the figure molding portion is preferably formed of a knitted composite yarn comprising a rubber core and a helical cotton wrapping. A suitable plating yarn of smooth, relatively frictionless material such as rayon preferably covers the composite yarn at the outside of the garment but on the inside, the relatively rough cotton wrapped composite yarn is exposed and actually contacts the wearer's skin. Thus the garment will be anchored to the body but its outside surface will be smooth and relatively slippery so that delicate outer or underthings cannot cling or stick thereto.

An additional more specific object of the invention lies in the provision of a garment of this

general character wherein a circumferential bust supporting band portion of knitted material having a composite rubber body yarn, is formed integrally with the figure molding portion but is relatively more elastic than such portion.

A further specific object of the invention is the provision of a combination foundation garment having an integrally formed tail portion of greater elasticity than the figure molding portion.

The various objects of the invention will be more readily apparent upon a detailed study of the accompanying specification and drawing together with the appended claims.

In the drawing, which is merely illustrative of the invention, Figure 1 is a front plan view of a combination foundation garment;

Figure 2 is a fragmentary enlargement showing part of the bust supporting band portion and adjacent portions of the garment;

Figure 3 is a view diagrammatically illustrating the knit fabric with a plating yarn on both sides of the composite rubber yarn;

Figure 4 is a cross-section along line 4—4 of Figure 3;

Figure 5 is a view similar to Figure 3 and showing a plating yarn covering one side only of the composite rubber yarn;

Figure 6 is a cross-section along line 6—6 of Figure 5; and

Figure 7 is a fragmentary view of the rear of the garment at the top thereof.

Referring to the drawing, there is shown a combination foundation garment having a bust covering portion 2, and a body portion generally designated at 4 which in this case includes a bust supporting band portion 6, a figure molding portion 8 and a tail portion 10. In the finished garment the portions 6, 8 and 10 are all circumferential. The bust covering portion 2 may also extend circumferentially about the wearer but is here shown as extending only across the front to each side as will be apparent from Figure 7. The ends of this bust covering portion are secured by suitable lines of stitching to raised side portions at the rear of the bust supporting band 6. Thus the rear of the bust supporting band portion joins the ends of the bust covering portion and serves to hold the same under the desired circumferential tension.

Bust covering portion 2 is formed of knitted, racked stitched textile fiber yarn of any desired type such as silk, cotton, rayon or the like. The body portion 4 of the garment is formed of a knitted fabric including a composite rubber body yarn 20, comprising a rubber core 22 with a cover-

ing of helically wound cotton yarn 24, and a suitable plating yarn or yarns incorporated therewith. A fabric made up of this composite yarn presents relatively rough surfaces where the composite yarn is not covered by some plating yarn.

The bust supporting band portion 6 and the tail portion 10 are plated on both sides by rayon yarn 26 or the like as indicated in Figures 3 and 4. Consequently the composite yarn will be completely concealed and covered on both sides in the case of each of these portions. The rayon yarn presents a smooth, relatively frictionless surface so that these portions are readily capable of movement with respect to the body and outer garments will not cling to them. Portions 6 and 10 are Swiss ribbed and thus relatively more elastic than portion 8 which is racked stitched.

In the figure molding portion 8 the composite rubber body yarn 20 is covered by the rayon plating yarn 26 on one side only as shown in Figures 5 and 6. The arrangement is such that the cotton wrapped body yarn 20 is exposed on the inside of the garment while only the rayon plating yarn 26 is exposed on the outside thereof. Thus, the outside of portion 8 is relatively smooth and frictionless so that clothes will not cling thereto whereas the inside thereof is adapted to anchor the garment to the body of the wearer.

The garment proper is formed of only two pieces, a front piece and a rear piece which are joined together by means of a pair of longitudinal or vertical seams 12 and 14 running down the sides. Each of these pieces is formed separately in a continuous knitting operation. The various band portions in each piece are integral and there are no seams of any kind joining them.

The knitting of each of the two main garment pieces may be begun at either end, but assuming that the front piece is being manufactured and that the knitting operation is begun at the lower end, sufficient courses will be run with the composite yarn 20 and a pair of plating yarns 26 as shown in Figures 3 and 4 to form the front of the Swiss ribbed tail portion 10 in which the composite yarn 20 is concealed on both sides of the finished fabric. When the front tail portion 10 has been formed, the plating yarn 26 which conceals the body yarn on the inside of the finished fabric is thrown out but the plating yarn which conceals the composite yarn on the outside of the finished fabric is retained. The Swiss ribbing is changed to a racked stitch and sufficient courses are run to form the front of figure molding portion 8, whereupon the plating yarn which was removed upon completion of the front of portion 10 is again thrown in and the racked stitch is changed back to Swiss ribbing. Sufficient courses are then run to form the front of portion 6 which is identical in structure with portion 10. After the front of portion 6 is completed both plating yarns and the composite rubber body yarn 26 are thrown out, and the textile fiber yarn from which bust covering portion 2 is made is then thrown in. When sufficient courses have been run to complete portion 2, the front piece is completed.

In the formation of the rear piece, the rear part of the tail portion is first formed whereupon the plating yarn covering the inside of the finished fabric is thrown out, the Swiss ribbing is changed to a racked stitch, and the rear of figure molding portion 8 is formed. After this the rear of bust supporting band portion 6 is formed and it will be noted that the rear of this portion takes the shape illustrated in Figure 7. Inasmuch as

the bust covering portion 2 does not extend around the rear of the garment, the rear piece is completed upon completion of the rear part of the portion 6. When the front and rear pieces are completed they are joined together by the lines of stitching 12 and 14. Suitable shoulder straps 16 are provided and suitable garters 18 may further be provided.

When the garment is worn, the tail portion 10 extends below the wearer's hips so that the skirt line will not be broken there. Due to the relative elasticity of tail portion 10 as compared to figure molding portion 8, and due also to the absence of any transverse seam connecting these portions, the wearer will experience no discomfort during ordinary body movements as, for instance, upon sitting down. There is no binding or cramping of the flesh for the Swiss ribbed portion 10 expands readily. As previously explained, the cotton wrapped body yarn 20 is exposed at the inner surface of figure molding portion 8 and this portion therefore becomes securely anchored and will not slip or slide out of position. The bust supporting band portion 6 is similar to the tail portion 10 and lies immediately below the busts. It is sufficiently elastic to prevent undue constriction of the diaphragm but fits sufficiently tightly to provide the necessary support for the busts in co-operation with the bust covering portion 2 which contains no rubber yarn and is of the usual knitted textile fiber fabric used for this purpose. As will be apparent from the fragmentary enlargement shown in Figure 2, the surfaces of the fabric constituting the garment are perfectly smooth even at the line of juncture between adjoining band portions. There are no transverse seams connecting the various body portions. Consequently the garment provides a delightfully smooth fit without any irritation or rubbing of the wearer's skin.

I claim as my invention:

1. A combination foundation garment comprising a bust covering portion formed of knitted textile fiber yarn, a knitted bust supporting band portion formed of fabric comprising a cotton wrapped rubber body yarn and a pair of relatively frictionless textile fiber plating yarns concealing the body yarn on both sides of the finished fabric, and a knitted figure molding portion formed of fabric consisting of a cotton wrapped rubber body yarn having a relatively frictionless plating yarn incorporated therewith to conceal the body yarn on the outside of the finished fabric only and leave the body yarn exposed on the inside thereof, the inside of said figure molding portion thus being rougher than the outside thereof and also more rough than either side of the bust supporting band portion, said bust supporting band portion being formed integrally with the figure molding portion whereby there are no transversely extending seams between these garment portions.

2. A combination foundation garment comprising a bust covering portion formed of knitted textile fiber yarn and adapted to extend across the front of the wearer to the sides, a circumferential bust supporting band portion formed of Swiss ribbed knitted fabric having a composite rubber body yarn concealed on each side by means of a plating yarn, said bust supporting band portion being raised at the rear and secured to the ends of the bust covering portion, a circumferential figure molding portion formed of racked stitched knitted fabric having a composite rubber body yarn and a relatively

frictionless plating yarn concealing the body yarn only on the outside of the finished fabric and leaving the body yarn exposed on the inside thereof, and a circumferential tail portion thereof, and a circumferential tail portion thereof, said plating yarn being relatively more smooth and frictionless than said composite pair of plating yarns concealing the finished fabric on both sides, said tail portion and bust supporting band portion being relatively more elastic than said figure molding portion, and said bust covering portion, bust supporting band portion, figure molding portion, and tail portion being formed integrally whereby there are no transversely extending seams between these portions.

3. A foundation garment including a body molding portion formed of fabric composed of a composite rubber body yarn having a plating yarn associated therewith in such manner as to cover the body yarn at the outside of the finished fabric and leave it exposed at the inside thereof, said plating yarn being relatively more smooth and frictionless than said composite yarn, whereby the outer surface of the said foundation garment body portion is relatively smooth and frictionless as compared to its inner surface and the garment will remain securely anchored upon the wearer but will not tend to catch and hold the wearer's outer clothes.

GEORGE E. RUTLEDGE.