March 27, 1956 G. C. HUGGINS 2,739,595

LOIN CLOTH

Filed April 2, 1951

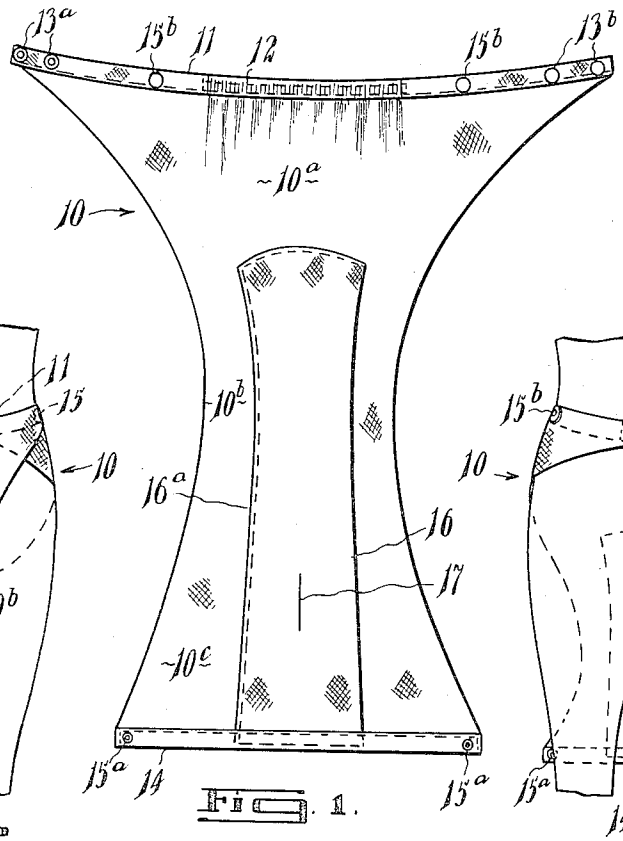

Fig. 1.

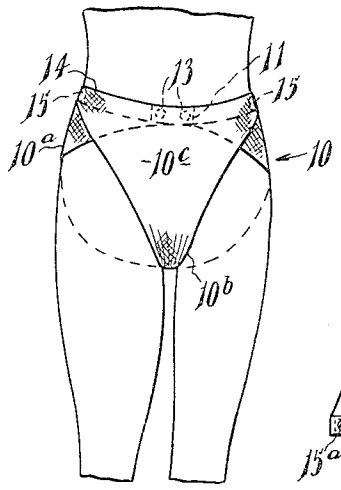

Fig. 2.

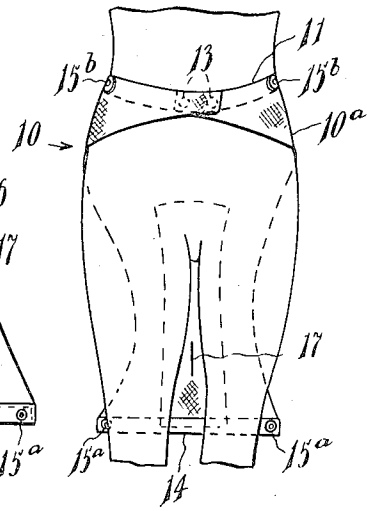

Fig. 3.

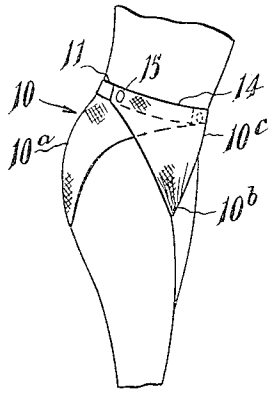

Fig. 4.

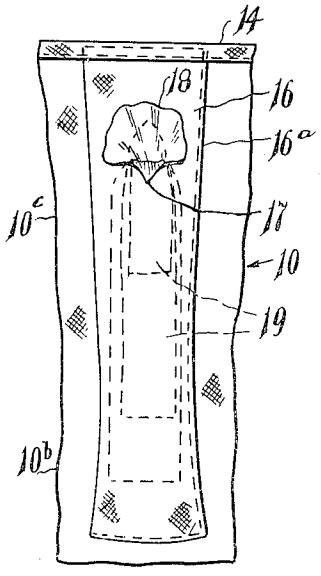

Fig. 6.

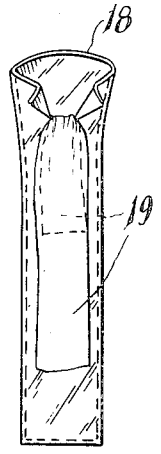

Fig. 5.

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ATTY.

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LOIN CLOTH

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12 Claims. (Cl. 128—295)

This invention relates to a loin cloth, and more particularly to a loin cloth for people having physical ailments.

It is an object of this invention to provide a loin cloth which will adequately cover both male and female wearers and yet readily allow physical examination of the wearer's body.

It is another object of this invention to provide a loin cloth which may be used to carry a disposable urinal.

A loin cloth constructed in accordance with this invention comprises a back portion having a waistband, said waistband being provided with detachable securing means for securing the band around the waist of the wearer, and said back portion converging from the ends of the waistband to form a narrow crotch portion, said crotch portion diverging to form a comparatively wide front portion having a transverse band extending from side to side at the outer end thereof, said transverse band and waistband being provided with detachable securing means for securing the front portion to the waistband, the edges of the said back, crotch and front portions when extended forming two generally concave lines from the said waistband to the said transverse band. Because of the generally concave shape of the edges of the loin cloth, the back and the front portions both converging to form the crotch portion, the upper leg of the wearer is almost completely exposed. This is of particular advantage in examining and treating paraplegics, amputees, and sufferers from poliomyelitis and other leg ailments and injuries. The loin cloth provides a good support and yet allows complete freedom of movement for mat exercises and ambulation. In the preferred construction, the transverse band is of substantially half the length of the waistband, and its detachable securing means are located adjacent its ends so that the transverse band is secured to the waistband at each side of the wearer.

Since the front portion is detachably secured to the waistband, it may easily be dropped down, without removing the loin cloth from the wearer, in order to expose the normally covered parts of the body. Thus, gynecological, obstetrical and surgical examinations and operations are made possible with the least amount of manipulation. Because of the comparatively rapid convergence of the edges of the back portion from the ends of the waistband, loin cloths constructed in accordance with this invention expose considerably more of the body when the front portion is dropped down than do other garments of this type.

A semiattached lining or pouch is provided inside the loin cloth. The lining or pouch helps to retain catheters in place, and is fabricated from absorbent material to serve as a blotter for excreta. Its primary function, however, is to serve as a support for a portable and disposable urinal which may be used by persons who lack control over their bodily functions.

In addition to the above advantages, loin cloths constructed according to this invention are of simple and inexpensive construction, fit snugly and comfortably, and,

while having no seams which might rub against the body, are both strong and neat. They may easily be adapted for beach and sports wear, providing excellent freedom of movement and exposing much of the body to the sun.

In drawings which illustrate one embodiment of this invention, and in which like reference numerals indicate corresponding parts in the several views:

Fig. 1 is an elevation of the inside of a loin cloth constructed in accordance with this invention and shown in a flat or extended position;

Fig. 2 is a front elevation of the loin cloth on a wearer as it appears in its normal position;

Fig. 3 is a front elevation of the loin cloth on a wearer with the front and crotch portions dropped down;

Fig. 4 is a side elevation of the loin cloth on a wearer as it appears in its normal position;

Fig. 5 is an elevation of a disposal urinal for use with the loin cloth; and

Fig. 6 is an elevation, with parts of the loin cloth broken away, showing the lining of a loin cloth supporting a disposable urinal.

In the drawings, a loin cloth constructed in accordance with this invention is generally indicated by reference numeral **10**. The cloth has two substantially parallel ends, one being substantially twice the length of the other and defining the maximum width of the loin cloth. Along this longer end a waistband **11** is provided. In the embodiment shown, this band is comprised of a comparatively wide hem along the end of the cloth. The hem is shirred or gathered midway between its ends and an elastic strap **12** is sewn to this shirred portion to make the waistband adjustable. The band has detachable securing means **13** adjacent its ends for securing the band around the waist of the wearer, the said securing means suitably comprising stud and socket fasteners 13^a and 13^b respectively.

Along the shorter end of the loin cloth a transverse band **14** is formed by a second comparatively wide hem. The transverse band and waistband are provided with detachable securing means **15**, suitably comprising stud fasteners 15^a adjacent the ends of the transverse band and socket fasteners 15^b located between each end of the waistband and the shirred portion of the waistband.

The edges of the loin cloth between the waist and transverse bands are symmetrical and are generally concave throughout their length, forming a narrowest portion or crotch portion 10^b intermediate the ends. The portion of the cloth adjacent the waistband will hereinafter be called the back portion 10^a, and the portion adjacent the transverse band will be hereinafter called the front portion 10^c. The back, crotch and front portions are defined by the positions they assume adjacent the back, crotch region and front hypogastric region of the wearer when the loin cloth is in position as shown in Figs. 2 and 4.

Figs. 2, 3 and 4 show how the loin cloth is put on. With the back portion against the wearer's back, waistband **11** is passed around the waist and secured by fasteners **13**. The crotch and front portions hang behind the wearer, as shown in Fig. 3, forming a flap or apron. The flap is passed under the crotch and up the front of the wearer, and fasteners 15^a and 15^b are secured together at each side of the wearer. It will be noted from Figs. 2 and 3 that the crotch portion 10^b is of sufficient width that it must be gathered together transversely when passed below the crotch of the wearer; thus, adequate material is provided to conceal completely the private parts of both male and female wearers, so that patients can be exercised publicly without embarrassment.

It is clear from the figures that a loin cloth constructed according to this invention exposes substantially all of the wearer's leg, and the flap can easily be let down to expose most of the wearer's body.

A semi attached lining 16 for the front and crotch portions is provided on the inside of the loin cloth. The lining consists of a sheet of absorbent material, folded lengthwise down its middle and having its long edges 16a sewn together, one of its ends being stitched to the hem or transverse band on the front portion of the loin cloth and its other end being stitched adjacent the back portion of the loin cloth. Since the lining is attached only at its ends to the loin cloth, stitching in the cloth is minimized and the appearance of the garment is improved. Furthermore the gathered material at the crotch plus the lining disguises the contour of the body organs at the crotch and eliminates shadowy appearances in that region.

The lining thus forms a pouch, and in the part of the pouch which may become soiled by urine, a short longitudinal slit or opening 17 is made. A disposable urinal may be inserted in the pouch through this slit.

A suitable disposable urinal 18 is shown in Fig. 5. It consists of a waterproof bag made of polyethylene or the like. The top of the urinal is cut for a short distance down one side and in this cut is hung a strip 19 of absorbent paper or the like, most of the strip hanging outside the urinal. The urinal is placed in the lining or pouch with its top protruding from the opening 17, and the short cut down the side of the urinal permits the top to be spread out over the opening as shown in Fig. 6. The urinal is adjusted so that strip 19 lies at the bottom of the opening 17 when the loin cloth is being worn, most of strip 19 lying under the lining.

The portion of strip 19 which hangs out of the urinal is long enough to pass beneath the rectum, and the disposable urinal also extends below the rectum to prevent rectal excreta from soiling the outside of the loin cloth. As stated before, the lining itself is of absorbent material. Since the lining is only semiattached, soiled or wet spots on it can readily be cleaned off without soaking the whole garment. The portable and disposable urinal is of great help to patients who lack control in their bodily functions, and the urinal may be disposed of and replaced by the patient without embarrassment. The loin cloth is easily undone, and the arrangement of all the parts is such that even badly handicapped patients are able to look after themselves.

It is thought that the construction and use of the invention will be apparent from the above description of the various parts and their purpose. It is to be understood that the form of the invention herewith shown and described is to be taken as a preferred example 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 the invention as defined in the subjoined claims.

What I claim as my invention is:

1. A loin cloth comprising a back portion having a waistband, said waistband being provided with detachable securing means for securing the band around the waist of the wearer, said back portion converging from the ends of the waistband to form a narrow crotch portion, said crotch portion diverging to form a comparatively wide front portion having a transverse band extending from side to side at the outer end thereof, said transverse band and waistband being provided with detachable securing means for securing the front portion to the waistband, the edges of the said back, crotch and front portions when extended forming two generally concave lines from the said waistband to the said transverse band, whereby the loin cloth when worn exposes much of the thigh of the wearer between the levels of the wearer's crotch and waist, the crotch portion being of sufficient width as to require gathering together transversely when passed below the crotch of the wearer, and said crotch and front portions having a lining attached at one of its ends to the front portion adjacent said transverse band and at its other end adjacent the back portion, the lining being unattached to the crotch portion and the front portion between said ends.

2. A loin cloth comprising a back portion having a waistband, said waistband being provided with detachable securing means for securing the band around the waist of the wearer, and said back portion converging from the ends of the waistband to form a narrow crotch portion, said crotch portion diverging to form a comparatively wide front portion having a transverse band extending from side to side at the outer end thereof, said transverse band and waistband being provided with detachable securing means for securing the front portion to the waistband, the edges of the said back, crotch and front portions when extended forming two generally concave lines from the said waistband to the said transverse band, the said crotch and front portions having a lining comprising a pouch which has an opening and is adapted to receive a disposable urinal.

3. A loin cloth comprising a front portion, a pouch provided at the inside of the front portion and having an opening, and a disposable urinal bag supported in the pouch with its mouth in said opening to receive urine, the bag being waterproof to retain the urine therein.

4. A loin cloth comprising a front portion and a crotch portion, means for supporting said portions to fit against the front hypogastric region and crotch region respectively of the wearer, the front and crotch portions having a lining forming a pouch which lies against said regions of the wearer and has an opening, and a disposable waterproof urinal bag supported in the pouch to receive urine, the bag being removable through said opening.

5. A loin cloth comprising a front portion and a crotch portion, means for supporting said portions to fit against the front hypogastric region and crotch region respectively of the wearer, a pouch secured to the inside of the front and crotch portions and retained by said portions to lie against said regions of the wearer and having an opening, and a disposable waterproof urinal bag supported in the pouch with its mouth protruding out of the opening to receive urine, the urinal bag being removable from the pouch through the opening.

6. A loin cloth comprising a front portion, a crotch portion, a back portion, means for supporting said portions to fit against the front, crotch and rear areas respectively of the wearer, and a bag-like pouch at the inside of the front and crotch portions, the pouch being elongated and having one end at the front portion and the other end adjacent the back portion whereby the pouch lies against the front and crotch areas of the wearer, the sides of the pouch between said ends being closed and said other end being closed and the pouch having an opening adjacent said one end whereby a urinal bag may be placed in the pouch with the mouth of the urinal bag in said opening.

7. A loin cloth as claimed in claim 6, in which the pouch is at least partly of absorbent material and forms a lining for the loin cloth.

8. A loin cloth as claimed in claim 6, in which the pouch forms a lining attached at said one end to the front portion and at said other end adjacent the back portion but unattached to the crotch and front portions between said ends.

9. A loin cloth as claimed in claim 6 and including a disposable waterproof urinal bag supported in the pouch with the mouth of the urinal bag in said opening.

10. A loin cloth comprising a back portion having a waistband, said waistband being provided with detachable securing means for securing the band around the waist of the wearer, and said back portion converging from the ends of the waistband to form a narrow crotch portion, said crotch portion diverging to form a comparatively wide front portion having a transverse band extending from side to side at the outer end thereof, said transverse band and waistband being provided with detachable

securing means for securing the front portion to the waistband, the edges of the said back, crotch and front portions when extended forming two generally concave lines from the said waistband to the said transverse band, and a bag-like pouch provided at the inside of the front portion and having an opening for receiving a disposable urinal bag.

11. A loin cloth as claimed in claim 10, in which the pouch is elongated and forms a lining, the pouch having one end attached to the front portion and its other end attached adjacent the back portion, the pouch being unattached to the crotch and front portions between said ends.

12. A loin cloth as claimed in claim 11 and including a

disposable waterproof urinal bag supported in the pouch with the mouth of the urinal bag in said opening.

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