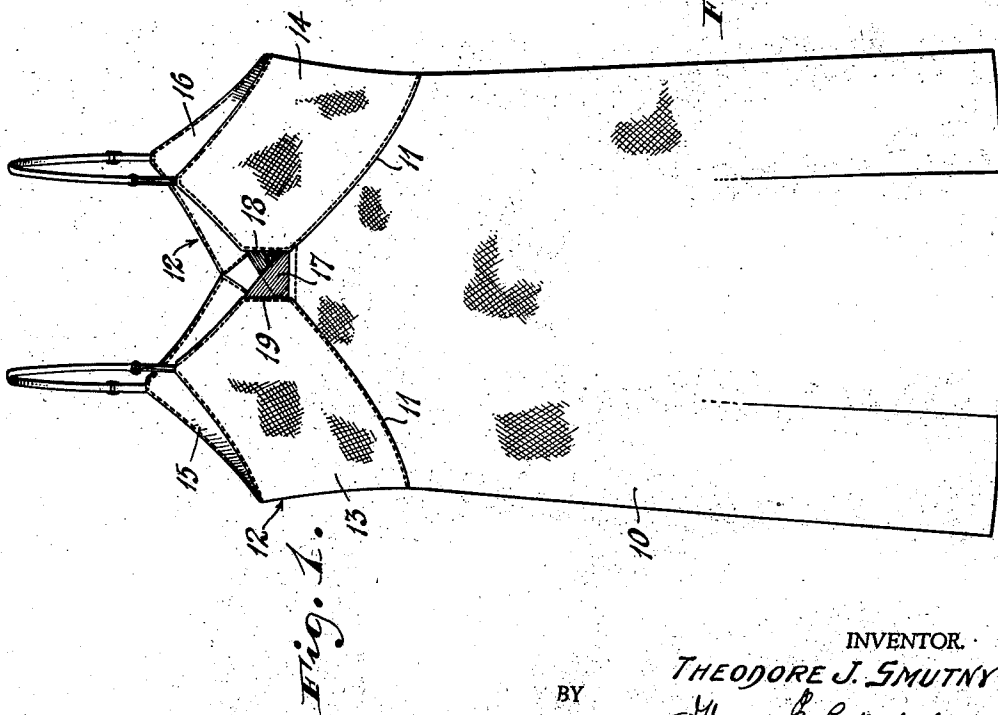
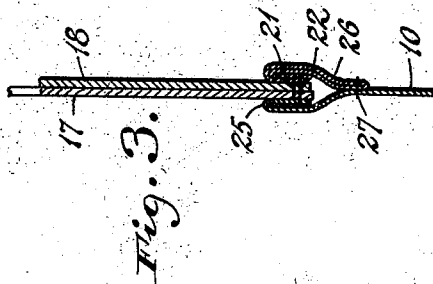
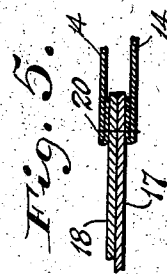
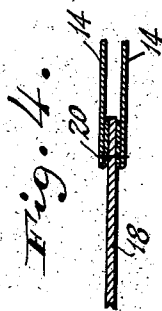
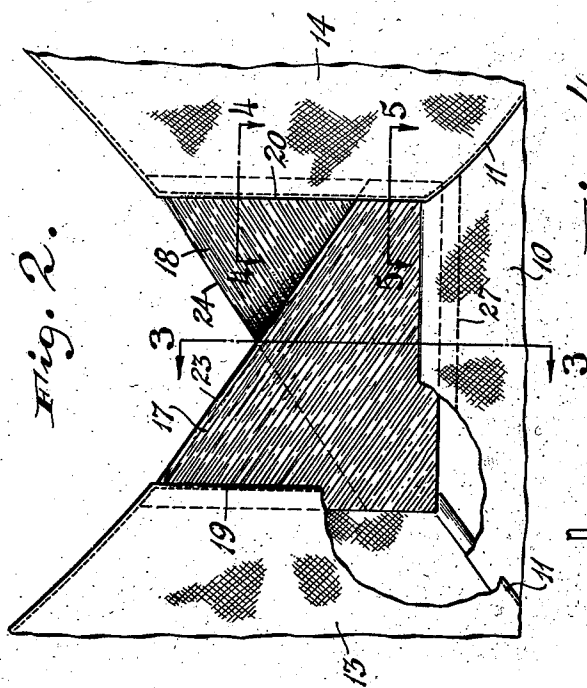


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T. J. SMUTNY
LADY'S UNDERGARMENT

2,101,604

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BY

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LADY'S UNDERGARMENT

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3 Claims. (Cl. 2-73)

The invention relates to wearing apparel, especially to undergarments such as ladies' slips. Its advantages, however, are also apparent when embodied in the fabrication of any intimate garment of this type, for instance, a chemise.

More particularly, the invention relates to an undergarment or slip of the general type illustrated in my Patent No. 2,053,227, dated September 1, 1936, which garment embodies certain improvements in the fabrication thereof, including the assembly of certain of the component portions thereof in which the material is assembled with the duplex panels constituted of bias cut material.

An object of the invention is to provide a garment of this general class which will overcome certain difficulties and disadvantages characterizing an undergarment in which separate panels or pieces of material are joined, for instance, by stitching, so as to constitute a weak point of juncture where the material has a tendency to give and to tear by reason of the absence of elasticity in the material at the point of such juncture.

It is well recognized by those skilled in the art of fabricating slips, chemises or the like, that the weakest point of the garment is at the portion thereof constituting a V-type juncture of the two yokes of material in both the front and the back sections of the garment. When the wearer of such a garment indulges in any activity, bringing into play a movement of the shoulders, the strains and stresses produced by such movement and transmitted to the rather closely fitting garment, the tendency of the material of the garment is to give at the point of such juncture of the two yokes. As the point of juncture is very firm and therefore is characterized by very little, if any, elasticity, the material immediately adjacent the point of juncture is placed under an undue strain and eventually tears or otherwise disintegrates so that any advantages gained through the cutting of the material, constituting the component parts of the garment, on the bias, is nullified.

The primary object of fabricating a slip or similar garment and assembling panels of material cut on the bias is to give elasticity and a degree of resiliency to the undergarment, so that ordinary movements of the wearer can be taken up and compensated for by the bias. Such elasticity and resiliency, however, are lateral or side-wise elasticity and resiliency, and movements of the wearer of the garment involving other than the ordinary muscular action as in walking or in assuming a sitting position, are not compensated by the bias cutting of the material of the garment.

In accordance with the present invention, I provide an undergarment of this general class, including a slip and a chemise, so as to impart to such garments a freedom from strains and stresses that might otherwise be imparted by a free swinging motion, both sidewise and longitudinally. I accomplish this object by providing, in the back of the garment, two adjoining and partially superposed, but separate, pieces of strips of elastic positioned at a bias at the point of the garment where in the usual construction of such slip the two solid yoke pieces are joined. By the provision of these two bias disposed elastic inserts, placed in position so as to overlap partially, a free movement of the wearer is permitted without binding and providing the utmost comfort during periods of activity of the wearer not only during indulgence in active working or recreational movements, but in the course of any movement in which a strain or stress would otherwise be imparted to the point of juncture of the two solid yoke pieces. Thus, for example, if a wearer in moving about raises one shoulder, the strain is absorbed by the elastic stretching a small degree longitudinally or in the direction of its free edge. No discomfort will thus be experienced by the wearer because of any binding action of the slip. If the wearer has to stoop over, the slip will expand with the expansion of the various parts of the body, permitted by the slight stretching of the elastic strips, so that the slip will stay in perfect position on the body without undue strain placed thereon.

I am aware that with certain types of undergarments, for instance, that embodying a brassiere with a body encircling portion so that the whole constitutes a slip, a strip of elastic is inserted laterally across the back, and in such garment, however, the elastic strip has only a sidewise or lateral parallel expansion. With the angular movement possible with my novel slip in which the elastic is capable of stretching along a line at an angle to the horizontal, a greater freedom of movement, without binding and with no discomfort, is possible. Furthermore, with such brassiere type of slip the elastic strip is necessarily of some length and can therefore be only applied to a "low-cut" (i. e. low back) slip.

The elastic strips characterizing my novel slip may be inserted into a garment of the type disclosed in my Patent No. 2,053,227 hereinabove referred to, without distorting or nullifying the feature of such slip, i. e., its reversibility, but it is to be understood that my novel construction, as hereinafter more particularly described, is equally

applicable to any other type of slip, chemise, or intimate garment of the same general character.

In the drawing, in which I have illustrated my invention as embodied in a slip, Fig. 1 is a view in rear perspective of the garment; Fig. 2 is an enlarged detail view of the upper central portion of the rear section of the slip, showing the elastic inserts; Fig. 3 is a section on the line 3-3 of Fig. 2; and Figs. 4 and 5 are sections on the lines 4-4 and 5-5, respectively, of Fig. 2.

Referring more particularly to the drawing, the slip comprises a body-encircling tubular portion 10, to the upper edges of which is secured by lines of stitching 11, the bust-encircling portion 12, constituted of a plurality of duplex panels 13, 14, 15, and 16, of which the first two are the rear panels and the latter two the front panels.

In accordance with my invention, the two rear panels 13 and 14, instead of being connected by a V-joint to each other and to the body portion of the slip, have their apices cut off to form a substantially rectangular cut-out and replaced by two separate pieces of elastic material 17 and 18, partially overlapping, and secured along their vertical edges to the panels 13 and 14 by stitching 19 and 20, and to the body of the garment by stitching 21 and 22.

The two elastic inserts are of substantially triangular configuration, but more accurately trapezoidal in area, the two opposite parallel sides thereof being secured to opposite panels of the bust-encircling portion of the garment, with the hypotenuse or longest edges 23 and 24 crossing each other in substantially the upper center of the rear section of the slip.

As shown in Fig. 3, the tubular body portion 10 is turned inwardly at the upper center thereof to constitute the inturned edge 25, and a separate piece of material 26, of double ply is secured thereto by stitching 27, the upper, turned-in portion of the piece 26 constituting the anchor piece for the bottom edges of elastic inserts 17 and 18, the stitching 21 and 22 passing through such inturned portion of the piece 26.

The elastic inserts 17 and 18 are preferably of ribbed construction, with the ribs thereof disposed as shown in Fig. 2. The inserts are thus interposed in the space between the adjacent edges of the panels 13 and 14, on the bias, and when a pull is exerted, during movement of the wearer, as by bending or otherwise moving the shoulders, or either of them, the elastic insert is capable of stretching in the direction of the parallel ribs. As a matter of fact, such pull upon the apex of the substantially triangular insert effects a flexing of the longest edge 23 or 24 whereby such edge assumes a somewhat curved, extended delineation, and thus prevents pull on the opposite panel of the garment section, whereby binding or an otherwise uncomfortable stress would be produced.

While I have described a particular embodiment of my invention, and have illustrated its application to a particular type of intimate garment, it is obvious that it may be applied in the fabrication of any design or type of such garment, and that various changes therein, particularly in the disposition and configuration of the elastic inserts, so long as their advantages and general features hereinabove set forth, are embodied or retained, may be made without departing from my invention.

I claim:

1. An intimate garment of the class described,

comprising a tubular body member of material cut on the bias and adapted to encircle the body of the wearer below the bust line, and an upper member of material cut on the bias and adapted to encircle the body in the bust region, said upper member having panels at the back of the garment, the upper edge of the back having a cut-out substantially at the center, said cut-out having bottom and side edges, the latter being at an angle to the bottom edge, a pair of partially overlapping elastic inserts of substantially triangular configuration secured at their edges to the edges of the cut-out, the inserts also having continuous horizontally disposed bottom edges secured to the lower edge of the cut-out, one side edge of each of the inserts being secured to a side edge of the cut-out, said inserts being positioned so that their principal direction of stretch is at an angle to each of the edges of the cut-out, whereby upon bodily movement of the wearer strain is reduced at the point of juncture of the edges of the cut-out and a freely swinging movement of the body is permitted without binding or other discomfort to the wearer.

2. An intimate garment of the class described, comprising a tubular body member of material cut on the bias and adapted to encircle the body of the wearer below the bust line, and an upper member of material cut on the bias and adapted to encircle the body in the bust region, said upper member having panels at the back of the garment, the upper edge of the back of the garment having a substantially U-shaped cut-out, the lower edge of the cut-out being continuously horizontal, a pair of partially overlapping elastic webbed inserts of substantially triangular configuration, said inserts having continuous horizontally disposed bottom edges secured to the lower edge of the cut-out, the side edge of each of the inserts being secured to a side edge of the cut-out, the webbing in said inserts being positioned with its principal direction of stretch at an angle to the lower and side edges of the cut-out, whereby upon bodily movement of the wearer strain is reduced at the point of juncture of the edges of the cut-out and a freely swinging movement of the body is permitted without binding or other discomfort to the wearer.

3. An intimate garment of the class described comprising a tubular body member of material cut on the bias and adapted to encircle the body of the wearer below the bust line, and an upper member of material cut on the bias and adapted to encircle the body in the bust region, said upper member having two double-ply panels at the back of the garment, said body member and upper member being formed at the back of the garment so as to constitute a V-shaped yoke, the base of the V-shaped yoke having a substantially rectangular cut-out, a pair of partially overlapping elastic inserts of substantially triangular configuration, said inserts having continuous horizontally disposed bottom edges secured to the lower edge of the cut-out, the side edge of each of the inserts being secured to a side edge of the cut-out, the inserts being positioned so that their principal direction of stretch is at an angle to each of the edges of the cut-out, whereby upon bodily movement of the wearer strain is reduced at the corners of the cut-out and a freely swinging movement of the body is permitted without binding or other discomfort to the wearer.

THEODORE J. SMUTNY.