

May 3, 1949.

B. CHALK
TRUSS

2,469,260

Filed Jan. 3, 1947

2 Sheets-Sheet 1

FIG. 1.

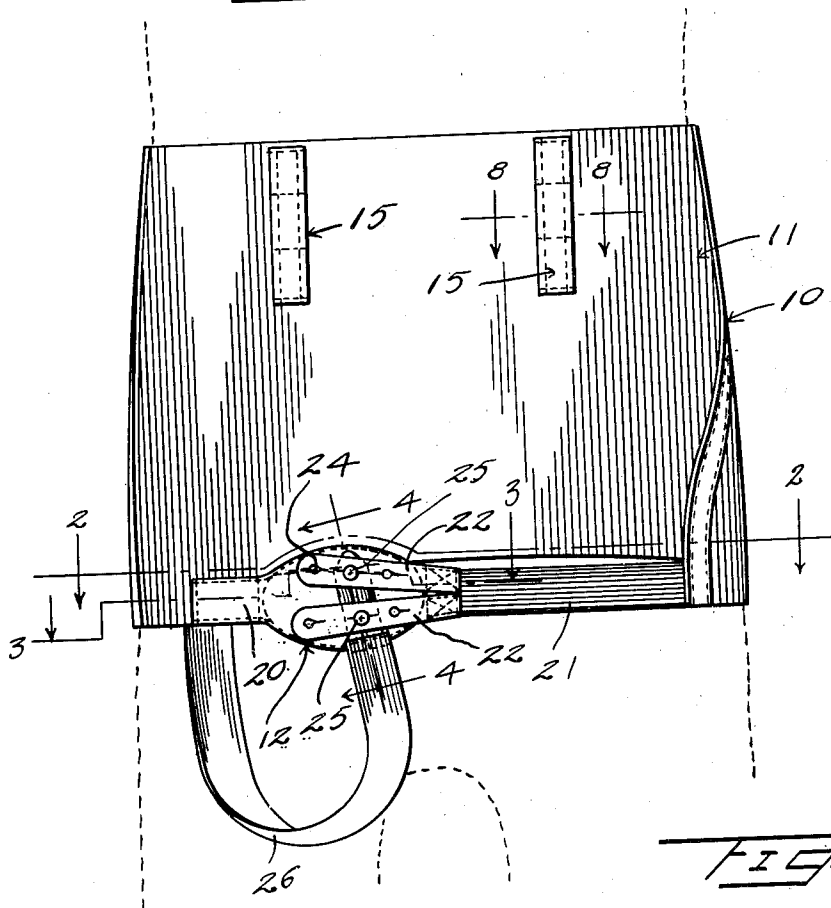


FIG. 6.

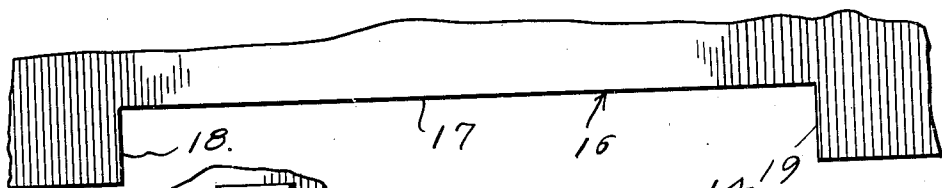
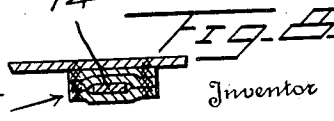
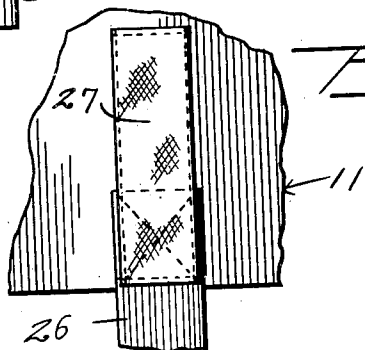


FIG. 7.



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FIG. 2.

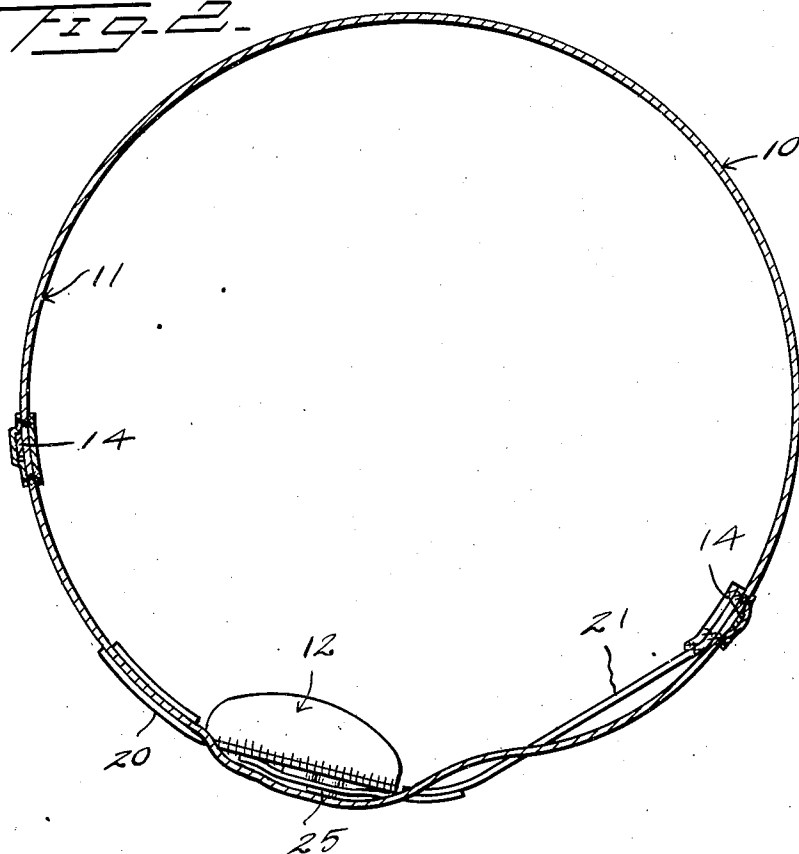


FIG. 3.

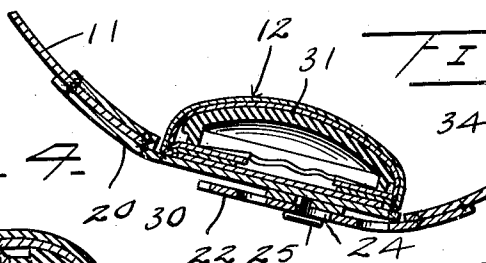


FIG. 4.

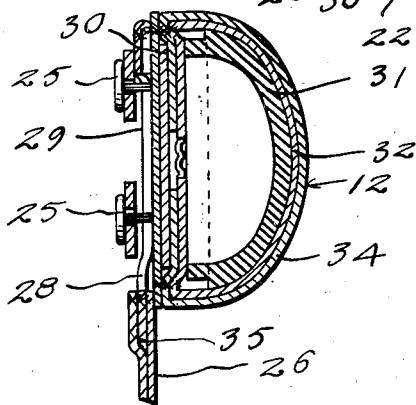
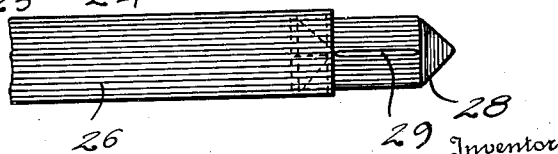


FIG. 5.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,469,260

TRUSS

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1 Claim. (Cl. 128—96)

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This invention relates to a truss and more particularly to an improved truss having an elastic body encircling portion to which the pad and its supporting strips may be attached.

It is an object of this invention to provide an improved truss of the kind to be more specifically described hereinafter, which may be worn over other pieces of underclothing, thereby removing and preventing any irritation due to the contact of the elastic portion with the skin of the wearer.

Another object of this invention is to provide an improved truss of this kind which is so constructed and arranged to provide a truss which will hold the pad secure in the desired location on the wearer's body, while completely avoiding hip and leg strain by increasing the effective area of the support of the pad over the lower part of the wearer's body, thereby providing a comfortable fit.

Still another object of this invention is to provide an improved truss of this kind in which the metal parts are held out of contact with the wearer, thus adding to the comfort of the use of this article and in which the pads or cushions are securely held against inadvertent movement from their desired position.

Yet another object of this invention is to provide an improved girdle of this kind which may be made in several standard sizes and shapes which, by virtue of the elasticity of the upper support or girdle portion, may readily conform itself to the intermediate size and shape of any particular wearer, thereby precluding the necessity and added expense of adjusting and regulating the garment.

A further object of this invention is to provide an improved air cushion or pad in combination with an enlarged supporting member or girdle for securely holding the pad in place.

With the above and other objects in view, my invention consists in the arrangement, combination and details of construction disclosed in the drawings and specification, and then more particularly pointed out in the appended claim.

In the drawings,

Figure 1 is a front elevation of a truss constructed according to an embodiment of this invention,

Figure 2 is a transverse section taken on the line 2—2 of Figure 1,

Figure 3 is a fragmentary section taken on the line 3—3 of Figure 1,

Figure 4 is a fragmentary section taken on the line 4—4 of Figure 1,

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Figure 5, is a fragmentary front elevation of one strap, partly broken away,

Figure 6 is a fragmentary front elevation of the lower portion of the girdle with the straps and pad removed,

Figure 7 is a fragmentary elevation, partly broken away, of the attachment of the crotch strap to the inside of the rear of the girdle,

Figure 8 is a detail section taken on the line 8—8 of Figure 1.

Referring to the drawings, the numeral 10 designates generally a truss which is formed of a resilient upper supporting section or girdle 11, at the lower end of which a pad 12 is fixed. The girdle portion 11 is formed of a resilient material and is adapted to be placed about the hips of the wearer and is provided at its opposite sides with a metal stave as 14 which extends vertically along the outer edge of the girdle for giving the girdle its shape and support.

The staves 14 are of metal, or bone, or other suitable material and are covered with fabric throughout their length. Short sections of staves, as 15, are fixed to the girdle on the front thereof and extend downwardly a short distance from the upper edge. The staves 15 are similar to those described as 14 but of a much shorter length.

The lower front edge of the girdle 11 is formed with a rectangular cutout 16 which extends substantially the length of the entire front edge. The cutout or recess 16 is open at the bottom, having only three sides, an upper edge as 17, and opposite side edges 18 and 19.

The pad 12 is adapted to be fixed to the girdle by a strap 20 fixed to the pad at one end of said strap and fixed to the girdle at the other end of said strap so that the pad 12 is disposed adjacent one end as 18, of the cutout 16, with the pad proper in the corner of the recess. An elastic horizontal strap or pad supporting member 21 is fixed at one end to the other side 19 of the recess 16 and extends along the length of the recess. The other end of the strap 21 is bifurcated, providing a pair of laterally extending arms 22.

Buttonholes as 24 are provided along the length of the arms 22 for engagement with the buttons 25 fixed on the rear side of the pad 12. A plurality of buttonholes 24 are provided along the length of the strap 21 and the tension on the pad 12. The strap 21 secures the pad 12 horizontally in the desired position on the wearer. For adjusting and securing the pad 12 vertically

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relative to the wearer, and to the girdle, a vertical strap 26 is provided. The vertical or crotch strap 26 is formed of resilient material and is fixed at one end to the lower rear edge of the girdle 11 on one side thereof, substantially in back of the pad 12 as the pad 12 is normally disposed on one side of the girdle.

A reinforcing strip of more durable material as 27, is provided as a backing for attaching the strap 26. An arm 28, having an elongated slot 29 therein is fixed to the other end of the strap 26 and is adapted to be secured to the buttons 25 on the pad 12 below the arms 24 of the strap 21 for holding the pad in the desired vertical position on the wearer. The pad 12 of this truss is formed with a metal backing plate 30 upon which a concavo-convex rubber body 31 is supported. A fabric covering 32 is placed loosely about the body 31, the inner edges thereof being placed between the body 31 and the plate 30.

An outer covering 34 is placed about the body 31 over the covering 32 and is attached by sewing or other suitable fastening devices to a similar outer covering 35 on the rear side of the plate 30 for attaching the pad to the plate. The outer covering 34 is made of chamois to provide a soft and smooth contacting surface on the inner side of the pad, as the inner surface of the pad 12 may come in contact with the skin of the user.

A truss formed in the manner described above fixedly supports the pad 12 in any desired position on the body of the person and the girdle portion or upper member of the truss is of such a width that the usual hip and leg strain that accompanies the use of most types of trusses is completely avoided. The upper or girdle portion permits the free movement of the body of the user without interfering in any way, while comfortably supporting the pad against any movement in any direction.

It is not necessary with the use of a truss of

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this kind to require that each individual truss be fitted to the individual user. The elasticity of the girdle portion and the adjustment available by the straps permit the garment to be made in standard sizes and the flexibility of this construction will permit its use on intermediate sizes.

I do not mean to confine myself to the exact details of construction herein disclosed, but claim all variations falling within the purview of the appended claim.

What I claim is:

A truss of the kind described comprising an elastic body encircling girdle, the lower front edge of said girdle being upwardly offset forming a rectangular notch thereacross, a horizontally extending strap secured to said girdle at one end of said notch and extending over the edge of the girdle, a resilient pad fixedly carried by said strap and engaging in said notch, a resilient horizontal strap fixedly secured to the edge of the girdle at the opposite end of said notch, a resilient vertical strap fixedly connected to the lower rear edge of said girdle and depending therefrom, and correlated inter-engaging fastening means carried by said pad and the free ends of said resilient straps for adjusting the pad vertically and horizontally on the wearer.

BENNETT CHALK.

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