Jan. 26, 1937. W. M. A. MOLYNEUX-SEEL 2,069,014

LADY'S CORSELET AND LIKE UNDERWEAR

Filed July 25, 1935

Fig. 2.

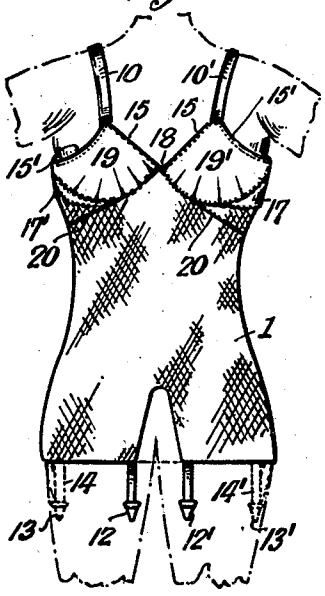


Fig. 3.

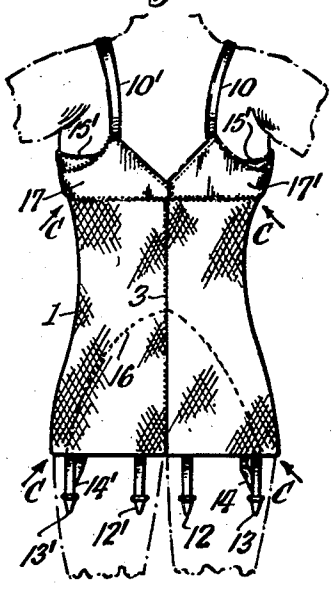


Fig. 4.

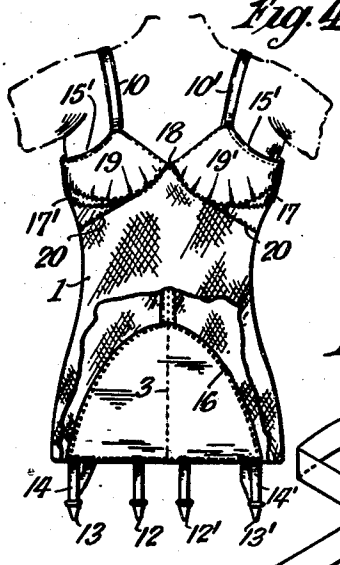


Fig. 1.

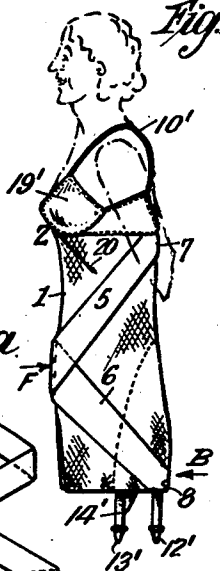
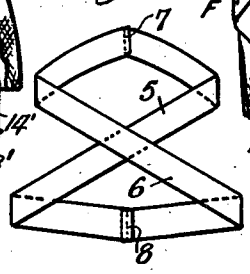


Fig. 1a.



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LADY'S CORSELET AND LIKE UNDERWEAR

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In Great Britain July 26, 1934

5 Claims. (Cl. 2—30)

This invention relates to improvements in garments for use as corsets and the like.

According to the invention a garment suitable for use as a corset has the material cut and/or arranged on the cross or bias and is provided with suspenders and shoulder straps which are positioned in such a manner that a pull is obtained from the point of attachment of the suspenders passing across the front of the body to the shoulder straps and which exerts a staying effect on the body.

The trunk portion of the garment which may be combined with a brassière portion, and if desired also with a knicker forming a leg extension is preferably made from a single piece of material cut on the cross, i. e. with the warp and weft threads running diagonally and joined with a seam at the back.

It is preferable to provide a reinforcement at the back or seat for the attachment of the suspenders, and if desired the garment may be reinforced by bands along the lines of greatest strain i. e. passing from the sides at the lower back edge to the front, where they cross and then to the sides at the upper back edge.

The invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 being a view showing a corset in accordance with the invention with a brassière piece attached thereto so as to form a corselet. Figure 1*a* is a detail view showing a reinforcement piece.

Figures 2 and 3 are respectively a front and back view of the corset in position as shown in Figure 1, while Figure 4 is a front view cut away to show the reinforcement at the back.

Referring to the drawing, the garment in the embodiment illustrated comprises a corset or trunk portion 1 attached to which is an upper portion 2 forming a brassière although it is to be understood that the latter is not an essential to the invention and that the garment may if desired be used without it.

In practice the corset is cut from a single piece of material which is joined to form a seam 3 at the back. The essential feature of the invention consists in so arranging or cutting the material that the strain to which it is subjected in supporting the seat or back portion indicated by the arrow B in Figure 1 and the front or stomach portion indicated by the arrow F in Figure 1, is transferred along certain (warp and weft) threads running in straight lines between the parts of the body to be supported so that the garment will function as a corset by reason of the fact that the material being so cut or arranged in this way will not give or stretch to the body as would be the case if the material were strained in a direction not parallel with but at an angle to the warp and weft threads which in the drawing are indicated diagrammatically by the shading lines.

In practice it will be found that the threads will run diagonally of the body, that is the trunk, with the threads starting at the four corners of the back as indicated by the arrows C shown in Figure 3 and intersecting at the front opposite the pit of the stomach as indicated at F in Figure 1, which can best be appreciated by reference to Figures 1 and 1*a* where the corset portion of the garment is shown with a reinforcement consisting of two bands 5, 6. The bands shown separately in Figure 1*a* are joined at their ends 7 and 8 and intersect in front at the point F on the stomach, the lower ends being located at the seat B and the upper ends being located at the back of the body on the bust line. Thus, as can be seen from Figure 1, the staying effect is obtained by positioning the suspenders in such a manner as to obtain a pull from their point of attachment which is transferred through the warp or weft threads as the case may be across the stomach or front of the body to the shoulder straps.

It will be obvious that the amount of material required to construct the garment depends upon the length of the wearer, but satisfactory results can be obtained by taking a length of material and after folding it from corner to corner so that the fold runs diagonally of the warp and weft threads placing it with its fold running vertically down the centre of the trunk. This will ensure that the warp and weft threads cross each other at the front.

The garment is provided with shoulder straps 10 and 10′ in order to retain it in position and to take the pull transmitted from the warp and weft threads to the suspenders of which three or two as the case may be will be found sufficient. In the embodiment illustrated there are only two suspenders 12, 13 to each leg and 12′, 13′, one of each of which is arranged at the back and the other at the side. The side suspenders 13 and 13′ it will be noted are attached to the garment at two points by elastic 14, 14′ so that an effect equivalent to a two point suspension is obtained. Another method of attachment is to provide metal loops on the garment and to thread a length of elastic through the loops of which there may be more than two, and a loop on the suspender piece, joining the ends of the elastic by a button.

Preferably as shown there is provided at the back a reinforcement 16 of inverted V shape and to take the strain imposed by the attachment of the suspenders.

It will be appreciated that the two suspenders 12, 12' at the rear function to keep both the diaphragm and the back of the body flat, since a pull is obtained which passes from their point of attachment across the diaphragm to the front shoulder straps. The suspenders 13, 13' at the side serve to keep the stomach in position, the pull passing from the point of attachment of the side suspenders and after crossing the stomach to the back shoulder straps. If required front suspenders (not shown) may also be fitted.

In the preferred embodiment of the invention as illustrated a corset is combined with a brassière. At the back of the garment horizontal darts may be provided to take up the material over the waist. In practice as shown two separate insets or pieces of material 17, 17' may be attached to the back of the trunk portion having the effect of a dart, and to these insets are attached the shoulder straps. The front edge of the trunk portion is cut with an upwardly extending peak at the centre as indicated at 18 and along this edge there are attached two bust pieces 19 and 19' to which front ends of the shoulder straps are secured.

It will be noted that the edges of the bust pieces 19, 19' are reinforced to take the pull from the shoulder straps. When a brassière portion is not provided the shoulder straps are attached directly to the peak 18, and in addition in order to position the straps and to prevent them showing, side straps (not shown) are attached connecting the shoulder straps to the top of the garment at the sides.

If necessary gussets or darts 20 may be provided at the front. In some cases in order to facilitate getting into and out of the garment, the back seam may be made to open at the top.

If desired a petticoat may be attached to the garment or in some cases it may be provided with a knicker extension in the manner of a cami-knicker garment. In this arrangement there are attached to the lower back edge two separate tapering insets which when jointed together form a leg piece that fastens, as by buttoning to the front of the garment so as to provide two leg openings. To facilitate the fastening the garment may be cut away from the front edge to provide an inverted V opening. The sides of this opening are preferably reinforced and carry the attaching buttons.

What I claim is:—

1. A tight fitting body encircling garment comprising a tubular body portion of woven fabric having the warp and weft threads respectively extending diagonally from the top to the bottom in the same directions throughout the entire body portion, shoulder straps connected to the upper part of said body portion, and suspenders connected to the lower part of said body portion.

2. A tight fitting body encircling garment comprising a tubular body portion formed of a single piece of woven fabric having the warp and weft threads respectively extending diagonally from the top to the bottom in the same directions throughout the entire body portion, shoulder straps connected to the upper part of said body portion, and suspenders connected to the lower part of said body portion.

3. A tight fitting body encircling garment comprising a tubular body portion of woven fabric having the warp and weft threads respectively extending diagonally from the top to the bottom in the same directions throughout the entire body portion, shoulder straps connected to the upper part of said body portion, a reinforcing strip of material connected to the lower rear part of the body portion, and a plurality of suspenders connected to said reinforcing strip.

4. A tight fitting body encircling garment comprising a tubular body portion of woven fabric having the warp and weft threads respectively extending diagonally from the top to the bottom in the same directions throughout the entire body portion, shoulder straps connected to the upper part of said body portion, a reinforcing strip of material connected to the lower rear and side parts of the body portion, and a plurality of suspenders connected to said reinforcing strip at the rear and side parts thereof.

5. A tight fitting body encircling garment comprising a tubular body portion of woven fabric having the warp and weft threads respectively extending diagonally from the top to the bottom in the same directions throughout the entire body portion, shoulder straps connected to the upper part of said body portion, a band of woven fabric secured to the body portion and crossed centrally to form upper and lower loops, the crossed central portion of the band being located at the front central portion of the body portion and the loops being secured to said body portion along the upper and lower rear edges thereof, and suspenders connected to the lower part of said body portion.

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