Sept. 16, 1952 B. J. DOWD 2,610,324

CONTROL PANEL FOR FOUNDATION GARMENTS

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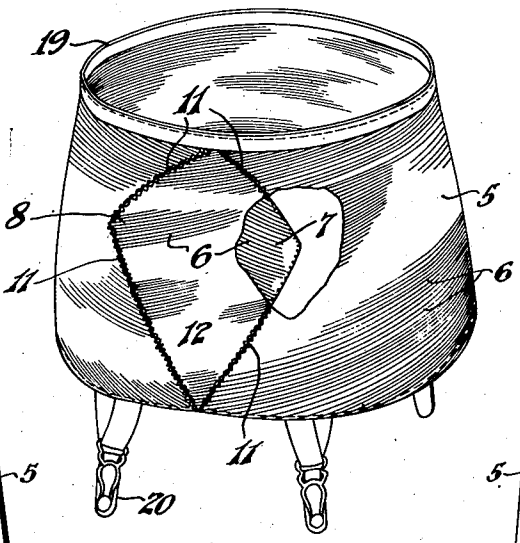

FIG. 1.

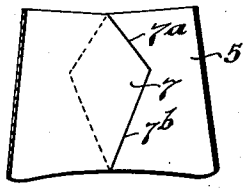

FIG. 6.

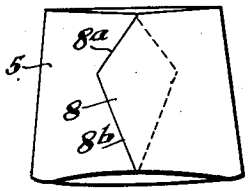

FIG. 5.

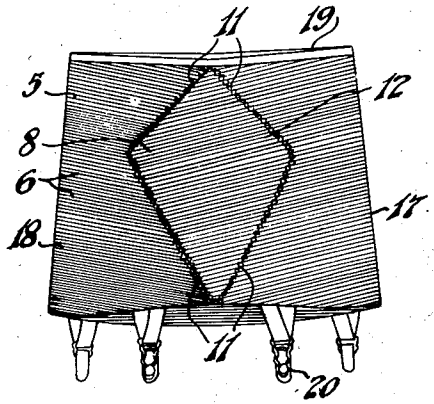

FIG. 2.

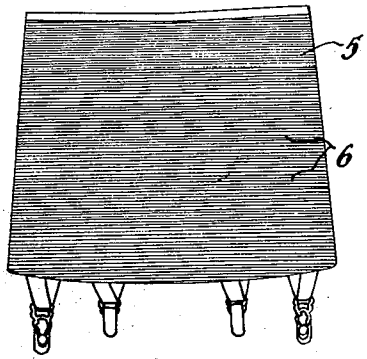

FIG. 3.

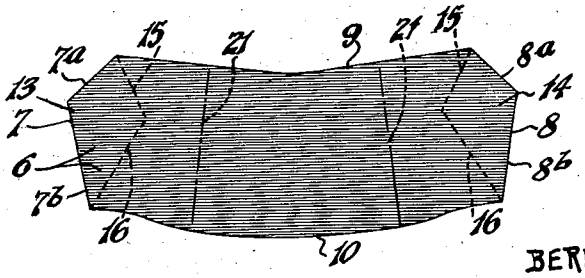

FIG. 4.

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CONTROL PANEL FOR FOUNDATION GARMENTS

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In Australia October 16, 1950

5 Claims. (Cl. 2—27)

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This invention relates to foundation garments such as panties, corselettes, girdles and the like and of the type having a tubular trunk engaging body composed of elastic fabric stretchable when worn to conform to and yieldably support the trunk or body of the wearer.

It is customary to manufacture permanently tubular garments of the above character from conventional two way stretch fabric, i. e. fabric providing a principal stretch in width and a substantially reduced or limited stretch in depth, of the garment, and the invention is particularly related to garments of the type specified and fabricated of such material.

Hitherto in the manufacture of such foundation garments a considerable number of methods of construction have been proposed and employed to provide abdominal control and figure correction by the use of reinforcing panels in the body of the garment.

These panels have in certain known constructions of the garments, been reinforced with bones, tapes or other members which contributed very materially to the cost of production of the garments due to the unavoidable machining operations and the general complex construction of the complete garment consequent upon the inclusion of said panels.

Now the principal objective of the instant invention is to provide, in a foundation garment, a figure or abdominal control panel in the tubular trunk engaging body thereof, having the characteristics of simplicity in construction with attendant economy in production whilst effecting when worn by the wearer an efficient yieldable support for the abdominal region and particularly the lower abdomen so as to impart the appearance of figure normality to the wearer.

This principal objective is achieved according to this invention in a foundation garment of the type specified by a body constructed of elastic fabric and having a front panel of double thickness comprised of two sections of the fabric so disposed that the courses of the elastic yarn of the respective sections are oppositely inclined whereby an inward pressure and upwardly directed pull are exerted upon a wearer's abdominal region for figure correction.

The accompanying drawings depict a practical arrangement of the figure control panel in a girdle, constructed in accordance with the invention.

In these drawings:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the girdle partly in section to illustrate the two overlapped sections forming the figure control panel.

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Figure 2 is a front elevation of the girdle;

Figure 3 is a rear elevation of the girdle;

Figure 4 is a plan of the single blank or "pattern" from which the girdle illustrated in Figs. 1 to 3 is completed.

Figs. 5 and 6 are diagrammatical views illustrating the overlapping of the ends of the blank in the completion of the girdle as viewed from the exterior and interior respectively.

Referring now to the accompanying drawings, the girdle illustrated consists of a permanently tubular body 5 shaped to encircle and engage with the trunk of the wearer, particularly the abdominal region.

The elastic yarn in the fabric is shown diagrammatically by the parallel lines 6 extending around the girdle illustrated in Figs. 1 to 3 and longitudinally in the blank or pattern illustrated in Fig. 4.

Referring to Fig. 4 the blank or pattern for the body 5 is cut or shaped in a substantially conventional manner with the exception that the ends 7—8 are formed by two angularly related terminal portions 7a—7b and 8a—8b, the portions 7a and 8a being extended from the upper side 9 and the portions 7b and 8b from the lower side 10 of the blank or pattern.

In completing the tubular body 5 from the shaped blank, the angular ends 7—8 are drawn together and assembled in overlapped relation with the end 8 overlying the end 7 and the latter end underlying the former end as shown by Figs. 5 and 6 respectively.

The angular ends 7 and 8 are then each stitched as at 11 to the main length or body of the girdle by a lap seaming operation to form and present the quadrilateral reinforcing panel indicated generally at 12 and centrally located at the front of the girdle to overlie the abdominal region.

The panel 12 is defined by the lines of stitching 11 in the completed girdle, and it will be apparent that the panel is of double thickness and consists of two quadrilateral areas, or sections 13 and 14 at opposite ends of the blank bounded by the angular ends 7 and 8 and broken lines indicated by 15 and 16.

It is of importance that in the formation of the panel 12 in the above manner, the body 5 takes a substantially frusto conical shape whereby the courses of elastic yarn at the back of the garment as illustrated in Fig. 3 are substantially horizontal or concentric with the axis of the body, but at the front of the latter resultant upon or responsive to the form of the body, the courses of elastic fabric at the front of the girdle

assume a downward sloping position and extend to and through the panel 12 in downwardly disposed and opposite inclinations, see Figs. 1 and 2.

Thus the courses of the elastic yarn 8 in each section of the control panel 12 are coextensive with the courses and the yarn in each portion of the front of the body 5 extending from the panel, whereby inclination of the courses of elastic yarn in one position of the panels is disposed at an opposite inclination relatively to the courses of yarn in the other panel as viewed in Figs. 1 and 2.

Accordingly, the principal direction of stretch of the elastic yarn in each section of the control panel and the sections as whole, is at substantially equal and opposite inclinations.

As viewed in Fig. 2 the direction of stretch of the panel sections is upwardly inclined towards the sides 17—18 of the girdle which has the desirable object of imparting an upwardly and inwardly directed pull and pressure upon the underlying front of a wearer's body for figure correction purposes.

The top of the body 5 of the girdle has a seamed peripheral band 19 of the same material and conventional suspender bands 20 are attached to the lower end of the body.

Lines 21 define the limits of the back or rear of the girdle.

The opposite ends of the blank or pattern for the body of the girdle above described are of angular shape or outline, but it will be readily understood that the ends of the blank may be of curved formation or comprise curved angularly related parts to provide a required or predetermined shape for the panel.

I claim:

1. A foundation garment of the type herein specified comprising a body composed of and formed by a single blank or length of two way stretch fabric including courses of elastic yarn and having an integral front panel of double thickness comprised of two end sections of the blank so disposed that the courses of the elastic yarn of the respective end sections are oppositely inclined whereby an inward pressure and upward directed pull are exerted upon a wearer's abdominal region for figure correction.

2. A foundation garment as claimed in claim 1 and wherein the opposite ends of the body or blank are overlapped to form the panel of double thickness and the courses of elastic yarn are circumferentially disposed about the back of the body and oppositely inclined towards and across the panel at the front of the body.

3. A foundation garment as claimed in claim 2 and wherein the ends of the blank or length are shaped to comprise angularly related terminal portions, whereby the ends when overlapped comprise a substantially quadrilateral panel.

4. A foundation garment according to claim 3 and wherein the angularly related terminal portions of the overlapped sections of the panel are secured to the body of fabric by lap seaming.

5. A foundation garment as claimed in claim 1 and wherein the ends of the blank or length are shaped to comprise angularly related terminal portions, whereby each end when overlapped defines two sides of a substantially quadrilateral panel, the sides of said quadrilateral being stitched to the immediately adjacent body along only two stitching lines each extending from top to bottom of the garment and securing an end of the blank to an intermediate portion thereof.

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