

March 25, 1941.

A. M. REIS

2,235,848

MAN'S UNDERGARMENT

Filed May 22, 1939

2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 3.

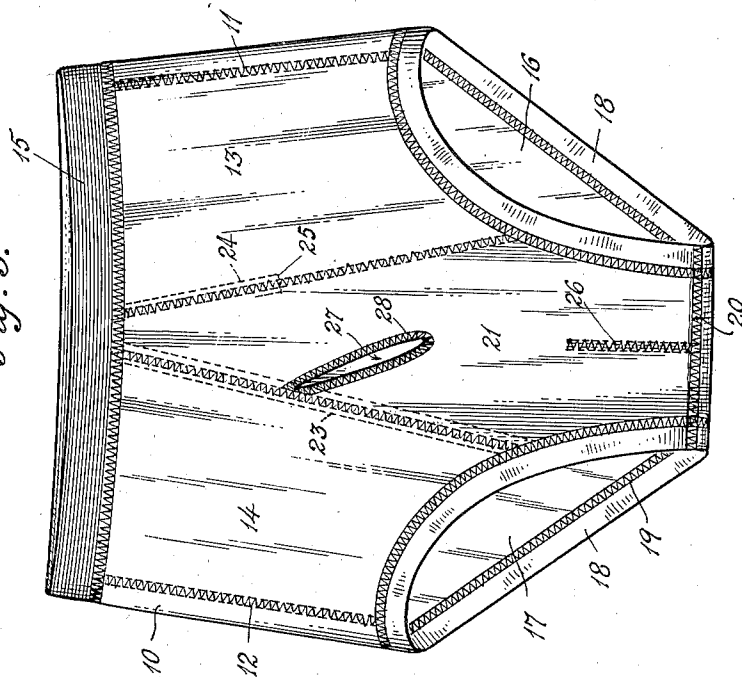


Fig. 1.

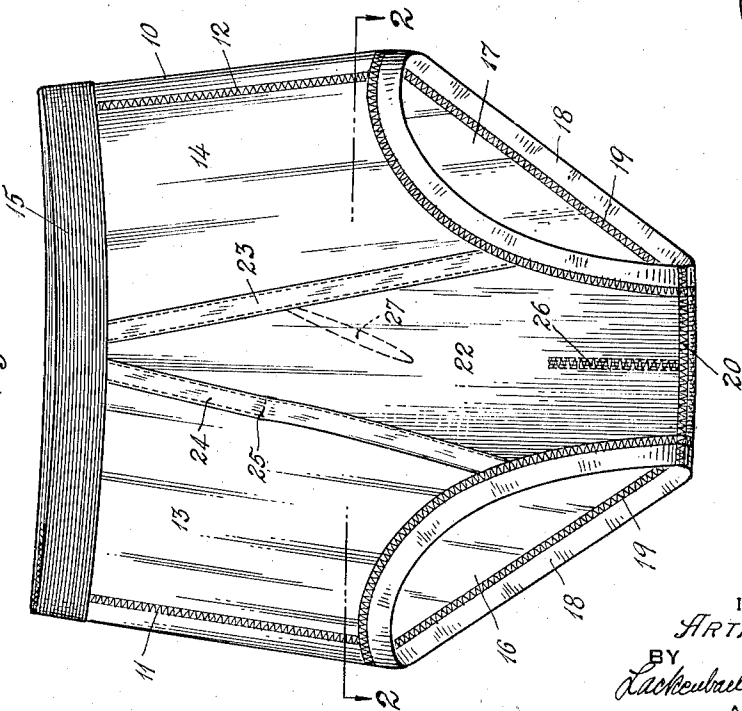
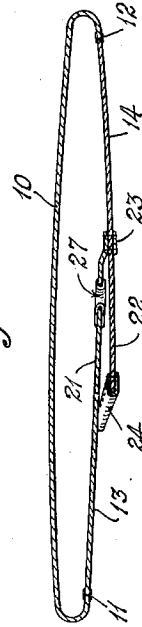


Fig. 2.



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Fig. 4.

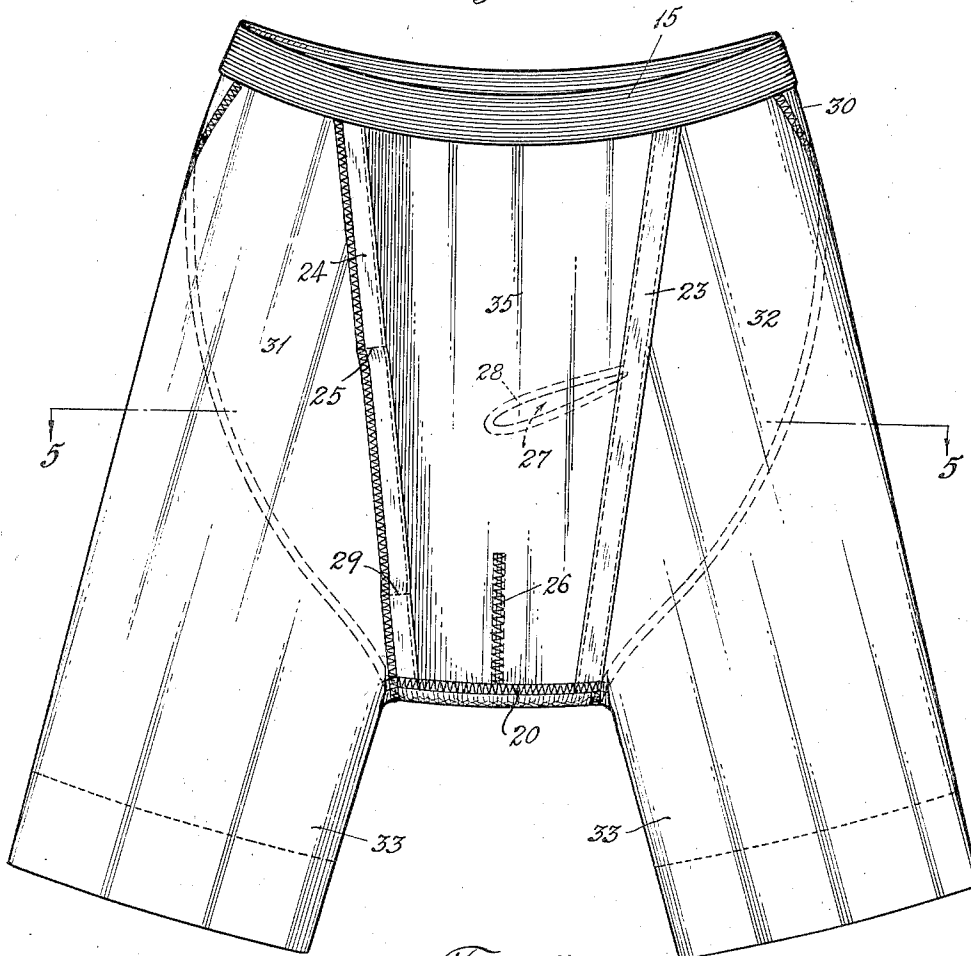
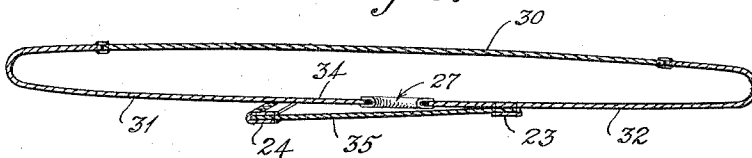


Fig. 5.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,235,848

MAN'S UNDERGARMENT

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Application May 22, 1939, Serial No. 274,999

3 Claims. (Cl. 2—234)

The invention relates to men's undergarments and particularly to that type of such undergarment as is known as "shorts." The invention, however, is equally applicable to garments of this general type which embody leg structures of comparatively short length, overlying only a portion of the thighs of the wearer, or leg structures which extend the full length of the body to the ankles.

More particularly, the invention relates to a construction of an undergarment in which a front section, usually constituting a gore, is made of two overlying plies of material, which front section, when the garment is worn, overlies the private parts of the body and usually extends to substantially the elastic waistband of the garment.

In structures of this type of undergarment, no conventional form of fly opening is provided, it being necessary to insert the hand at the elongated opening at one side of the gore, so that the hand is disposed between the plies of material, and then to pull aside the back ply to substantially the position of the opening in the side of the gore and thus provide a means of egress for the private part of the body from the garment.

The object of the present invention is to provide a construction of undergarment of this general type, in which an easy means of egress is provided through the material of the garment, eliminating this objectionable feature of the prior structures. In its broadest aspects, the invention consists in providing an elongated aperture in the underlying ply of the duplex gore, the aperture being so placed that it runs at an angle to, or across, the wales of the material constituting the double ply gore, so as to have imparted to the aperture the maximum amount of stretch. In accordance with the invention, the elongated aperture is circumscribed by elastic stitching, or stitching and enclosed elastic cord, which will impart to the aperture sufficient resiliency, as distinguished from the comparatively small degree of elasticity of the fabric itself, to bring the aperture back to its normal, substantially closed, condition after it has been stretched. In accordance with the invention also, the elastic elongated aperture thus provided is anchored to some firm edge, for instance, one of the substantially inelastic tapes constituting the sides of the duplex gore, to one of the leg opening trimming tapes, or to the waistband. This anchoring of the elongated aperture serves to insure the return thereof, after it has been stretched in its function of providing a means of egress from the garment,

to its original position in which it is substantially closed.

In accordance with my invention, therefore, I provide in an undergarment having a duplex or double ply front section, a hidden opening contributing in great measure to the comfort of the wearer of the garment, without evidencing any external indication of the presence of such opening when the garment is on the body.

In the accompanying drawings, I have illustrated two specific embodiments of my invention, one in which an elastic opening is applied to the double ply front section of the garment, in a position in which it is at a substantial angle to the wales of the fabric constituting such double ply gore, with the means of egress thus provided being anchored to one of the elastic tapes at the sides of the gore; and a second embodiment, in which the means of egress is provided upon an undergarment having a leg structure, and in which garment the double ply front section or gore tapers from the waistband towards the crotch.

In the drawings, Fig. 1 is a front view of a garment in the construction of which my invention has been embodied; Fig. 2 is a section on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1; Fig. 3 is a view of the garment turned inside out to illustrate the disposition and anchoring of the elongated aperture in the double ply front section or gore; Fig. 4 is a front view of my invention as embodied in the construction of a man's undergarment having integral legs; and Fig. 5 is a section on the line 5—5 of Fig. 4.

Referring more particularly to the drawings, in which similar reference characters identify similar parts in the several views, the garment illustrated in Figs. 1 to 3, comprises a rear section 10 to which at each side are joined, by stitching 11 and 12, front portions 13 and 14, respectively. An elastic waistband 15 extends throughout the upper periphery of the garment. The sections 13, 13 and 14 are constituted preferably of knitted material in which the wales extend substantially longitudinally of the garment, thereby imparting to the garment body substantially no vertical resiliency but a transverse resiliency of considerable degree.

The garment is provided with the usual leg openings 16 and 17 which are provided with trimmings 18 in the nature of tapes running throughout the leg openings. Such tapes are secured to the edges of the leg openings by lines of stitching 19 which may, or may not, include between them an elastic cord.

The central portion or gore section of the garment

ment extending from the horizontal line of stitching 20 in the crotch portion, to the elastic waistband 15, is constituted of two plies of material 21 and 22, the latter overlying the former, the entire gore being secured on one side by a substantially inelastic tape 23 to the front section 14 and on the other side by means of the substantially inelastic tape 24 stitched to the front section 13 through part of its length and forming throughout the remainder of its length, with the underlying portion of the section 13, an opening extending from the point 25 of securement of the tape 24, to the opposite end of such tape at which it is secured to the leg opening binding.

Extending upwardly from the line of stitching 20 in the crotch portion of the garment, is a "dart" structure generally designated at 26, the function and construction of which is set forth in my Patent No. 2,140,459, December 13, 1938.

The means of egress, constituting the subject matter of the present invention, comprises an elongated slot or aperture 27 formed in the underlying ply 21 of the gore section, such elongated aperture being formed by stitching 28 enclosing an elastic cord. The stitching and enclosed elastic cord are anchored at the upper extremity of the elongated aperture to the substantially inelastic side of the gore formed by the tape 23. As shown clearly in Fig. 3, the elongated aperture extends at an angle to the wales of the fabric constituting the gore ply, so that in addition to the inherent resiliency of the boundaries of the aperture, an additional degree of resiliency is imparted to the means of egress by its disposition across the wales.

The positioning of the elongated aperture and its anchoring to one side of the gore section imparts to the aperture the property or characteristic of ready stretchability and that degree of resiliency which will cause it to resume its original position and condition of being substantially closed when the force stretching it has been relieved. By anchoring the elongated aperture, or rather the material forming the same, to a firm edge, it will always return to its original position by reason of its own elasticity as well as the inherent resiliency of the knitted fabric in which it has been produced. Obviously the anchoring of the means of egress, as constituted by the elongated opening, may be effected at either of the two longitudinal edges of the double ply gore section and, as a matter of fact, at even the lower edge of the elastic waistband or either of the leg opening tapes, with nearly the same advantages secured, although not the complete effect which is produced by the construction illustrated.

Referring now to the garment illustrated in Figs. 4 and 5, substantially the same structural application of my inventive concept is illustrated therein as in the embodiment of Figs. 1 to 3. In this embodiment of my invention, however, the garment comprises a rear or seat section 30 and front sections 31 and 32, the garment having leg structures 33, 33. The central gore section is, like that of the first embodiment, constituted of two overlying plies of material 34 and 35, but the gore, instead of tapering upwardly, i. e. toward the waistband, tapers, by reason of the provision of the leg structures, downwardly. However, substantially the same construction of inelastic tapes 23 and 24 is used in this garment with the exception that the tape 24 is secured, instead of at the edge of the leg opening, at a point 29 slightly above the horizontal line of

stitching 20 in the crotch section. The elongated aperture 27 is, as in the first embodiment, anchored by its boundary edges, constituted of stitching and enclosed elastic, to one of the inelastic tapes forming the sides of the gore. The elongated aperture constituting the means of egress provided in accordance with my invention is, in this embodiment, at a greater angle to the wales of the gore material so that the aperture is nearly transversely disposed to such wales. The reason for this increased angularity is the additional width of the gore at the point of anchorage of the means of egress. It is to be understood that in this embodiment, also, the means of egress constituted of the elongated aperture may be anchored at either edge of the gore or to the lower edge of the elastic waistband.

While I have described specific embodiments of my invention, it is obvious that various changes therein, particularly in the configuration and disposition of the several parts thereof, may be made without departing from my invention.

I claim:

1. A man's undergarment having a front gore constituted of two plies of knitted material and adapted to have a portion thereof overlie the private parts of the body when the garment is worn, the wales of at least the underlying ply of material extending substantially longitudinally of the gore, said underlying ply having a means of egress therethrough, constituted of a narrow, substantially flat elongated aperture circumscribed by elastic stitching and extending, from a point at one edge of the gore, where such stitching is anchored, across the wales in said underlying ply of material and terminating at a point approximately in the center of the gore.

2. A man's undergarment having a front gore constituted of two plies of knitted material and adapted to have a portion thereof overlie the private parts of the body when the garment is worn, the wales of at least the underlying ply of material extending substantially longitudinally of the gore, said underlying ply having a means of egress therethrough, constituted of an elongated aperture circumscribed by elastic stitching and extending, from a point at one edge of the gore, where such stitching is anchored, at an acute angle to the wales in said underlying ply of material.

3. A man's undergarment having a front gore constituted of two plies of knitted material and adapted to have a portion thereof overlie the private parts of the body when the garment is worn, the wales of at least the underlying ply of material extending substantially longitudinally of the gore, said underlying ply having a means of egress therethrough, constituted of a narrow, substantially flat elongated aperture circumscribed by elastic stitching and extending from a point at one edge of the gore, where such stitching is anchored, transversely of the gore and transversely across the wales in said underlying ply of material and terminating at a point approximately in the center of the gore.

4. An undergarment as claimed in claim 1, including a pair of inelastic tapes running along each side of the gore, the elastic stitching circumscribing the elongated aperture being secured to one of said inelastic tapes.

5. A man's undergarment having a front gore constituted of knitted material and adapted to have a portion thereof overlie the private parts of the body when the garment is worn, the wales of material extending substantially longitudinally

nally of the gore, said gore having a means of egress therethrough, constituted of a narrow, substantially flat elongated aperture circumscribed by elastic stitching and extending, from 5 a point at one edge of the gore, where such stitching is anchored, across the wales in said material and terminating at a point approximately in the center of the gore.

6. A man's undergarment having a front gore 10 constituted of knitted material and adapted to have a portion thereof overlie the private parts of the body when the garment is worn, the wales of the material extending substantially longitudinally of the gore, said gore having a means 15 of egress therethrough, constituted of a narrow, substantially flat elongated aperture circumscribed by elastic stitching and extending from a point at one edge of the gore, where such stitching is anchored, transversely of the gore 20 and transversely across the wales in said material and terminating at a point approximately in the center of the gore.

7. A man's undergarment having a front gore constituted of two plies of knitted material and 25 adapted to have a portion thereof overlie the private parts of the body when the garment is worn, the wales of at least the underlying ply of material extending longitudinally of the gore,

said underlying ply having a means of egress therethrough, constituted of a narrow, elongated aperture circumscribed by elastic stitching and extending from a point of anchorage in a firm edge of the garment material, whereby it 5 will, upon release of tension applied in spreading it, return to its original narrow, elongated, and substantially closed, condition, throughout a portion of the length of said ply in the general direction of the wales thereof. 10

8. A man's undergarment having a front gore constituted of two plies of knitted material and adapted to have a portion thereof overlie the private parts of the body when the garment is worn, the wales of at least the underlying ply of 15 material extending longitudinally of the gore, said underlying ply having a means of egress therethrough, constituted of a narrow, elongated aperture circumscribed by elastic stitching and extending from a point of anchorage 20 in a firm edge of the garment material, whereby it will, upon release of tension applied in spreading it, return to its original narrow, elongated, and substantially closed, condition, throughout a portion of said ply and in a direction more 25 nearly parallel than perpendicular to the wales of said ply.

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