

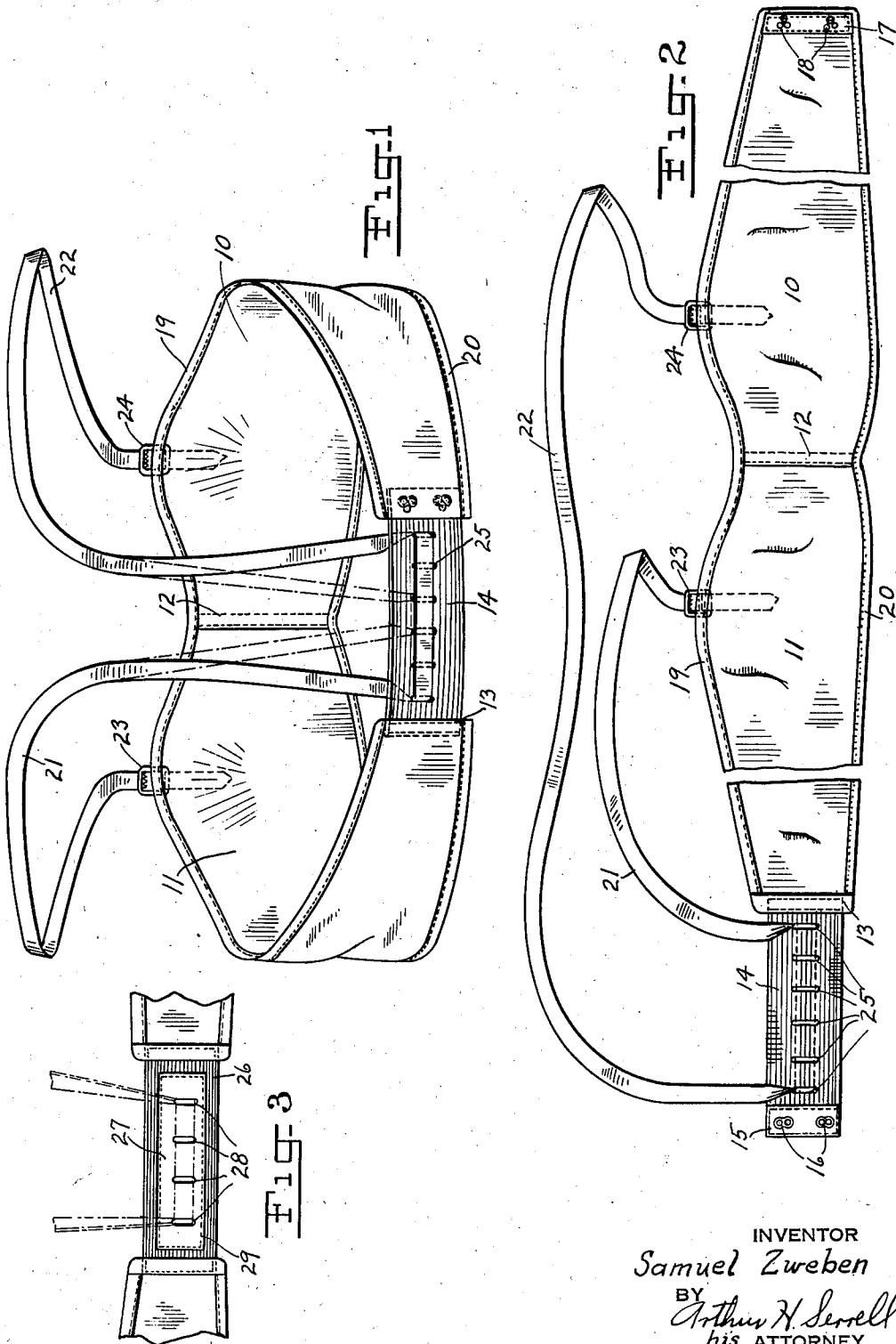
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APPAREL GARMENT

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APPAREL GARMENT

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3 Claims. (Cl. 2-42)

My invention relates to apparel garments and more particularly to undergarments, such as brassières, vests and similar garments in which it is customary to employ shoulder straps for maintaining or assisting to maintain the garment in position on the body of the wearer. I have illustrated the invention as applicable to a brassière or bust supporter, but from the foregoing, it will be understood that the disclosure is not to be limited to garments of this particular type. The present invention, furthermore, constitutes an improvement over the form of garment shown in Letters Patent #1,708,713, of April 9, 1929, of which I am the inventor. In practically all types of garments in which shoulder straps are employed, considerable difficulty is experienced in maintaining the straps in position as they normally have a tendency to slip down over the arms of the wearer. This is caused by reason of the unflexibility of the garment and strap arrangement in the usual form of article to which this invention pertains.

The primary object of this invention is to overcome the difficulty thus experienced and to also obtain an arrangement of garment and shoulder strap in which the position of the strap along the back of the wearer may be adjusted to meet individual requirements.

A further object is to provide a garment of this nature from which the shoulder straps may be removed for cleaning when desired.

Other objects and advantages of the invention, which is shown in its preferred forms in the accompanying drawing, will become apparent as the description thereof proceeds.

Referring to the drawing:

Fig. 1 shows a rear perspective view of a garment constructed in accordance with the present invention.

Fig. 2 is a plan view of the garment when open and in a flat position, and

Fig. 3 is a detail plan view showing a modification of the strap connecting attachment arranged at the back of the garment.

This garment, utilized solely for the purposes of illustration as heretofore pointed out is of the customary form of brassière or bust supporter. With reference particularly to Figs. 1 and 2, the garment is constructed to include a right-hand body portion or member 10 and a left-hand body portion or member 11. These members are preferably connected at the front of the garment by a line of stitching as shown at 12. The garment is adapted to extend around the body of the wearer and at the extremity of the left-hand mem-

ber there is a reinforcement strip 13 to which is connected an elastic strap 14 having a further reinforcing strip at its extremity as indicated at 15. The reinforcing strip 15 is provided with suitable connecting means, which are, in the present case, shown as eyelets 16. At the extremity of the right-hand member 10 there is a reinforcing strip 17, fitted with a corresponding means for connection to that employed on the strip 15, in this instance taking the form of hooks as indicated at 18. The connecting means, hooks 18 and eyelets 16, are adapted to close the garment in a position around the body of the wearer, and as would be understood by the use of the elastic strap 14, the garment is yieldingly maintained in place. The edges of the garment may also be suitably reinforced as, for example, the upper edge may be provided with a binding 19 and the lower edge with a binding 20. These parts of the garment, however, as shown and described, are merely illustrative of a garment in which the invention may be employed.

The present inventive conception relates more particularly to the shoulder straps and the manner in which the same is arranged in the garment. As shown, the shoulder straps are indicated at 21 and 22, being a single tape of suitable material. The ends of the unitary tape extend to a position of support for the front right and left-hand portions of the garment and are connectible thereto through means of the buckles 23 and 24 respectively, or in some other suitable manner. The elastic strap member 14 or other member employed at the back of the garment is constructed to include a plurality of openings or slots spaced circumferentially in the body of the same through which the tape freely passes. The tape will, consequently, move to adjust itself to correspond to the movement of the shoulders of the wearer. It will be appreciated from the foregoing description that the danger of the straps tearing from the garment because of a sudden upward thrust of the arms of the wearer is eliminated. The tape, furthermore, may be passed through any pair or set of the openings in the central back portion of the garment, so that the distance that the same extends circumferentially may be altered to meet individual requirements to facilitate the positioning of the tape, which extends along the back of the wearer in the desired position. The circumferentially spaced openings in the member 14 are designated in the drawing at 25. It will be obvious that the shoulder straps formed by the single tape in this construction may be read-

ily removed from the garment for purposes of washing.

Referring particularly to Fig. 3 of the drawing, a modification of the invention is illustrated in reference to the construction of the elastic portion arranged at the back of the garment. This portion, corresponding in function to part 14 in Figs. 1 and 2, is indicated at 26. The strap connecting attachment is shown in the form of a ribbon 27 having a number of circumferentially spaced openings therein designated at 28. The ribbon is secured by stitching or otherwise to the back portion of the garment as indicated at 29. The tape forming the shoulder straps functions in a similar manner to that described in connection with the form of the invention illustrated in Figs. 1 and 2.

While I have shown and described the preferred embodiments of my invention, I do not desire to limit myself to the specific forms illustrated, but may alter the construction and arrangement of parts as occasion requires without enlarging the scope of my invention or departing from the spirit thereof as contained in the appended claims.

I claim as my invention:

1. In an apparel garment adapted to extend around the wearer, a unitary tape forming shoulder straps the ends of which are respectively connectible to the front right and left-hand portions

of the same, the back of the garment being constructed to include therein a plurality of circumferentially spaced openings, through any pair of which the tape freely passes, to afford the wearer adjustment for the amount of circumferential extension of the tape at the back of the garment.

2. In an apparel garment adapted to extend around the wearer, a unitary tape forming shoulder straps the ends of which are respectively connectible to the front right and left-hand portions of the same, the back of the garment being constructed to include thereon a strap connecting attachment having a plurality of circumferentially spaced openings therein, through any pair of which the tape freely passes, to afford the wearer adjustment for the amount of circumferential extension of the tape at the back of the garment.

3. In an apparel garment adapted to extend around the wearer, a unitary tape forming shoulder straps for the same, the back of the garment being constructed to include therein a plurality of circumferentially spaced openings in alignment, through any pair of which the tape freely passes, to afford the wearer adjustment of the distance of circumferential extension of the tape at the back of the garment.

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