

Aug. 2, 1938.

M. R. BARNES

2,125,482

BODY GARMENT

Filed July 20, 1937

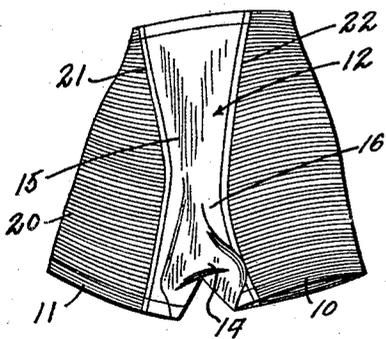


Fig. 1.

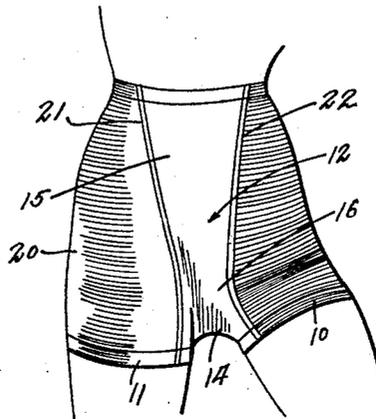


Fig. 2.

Fig. 4.

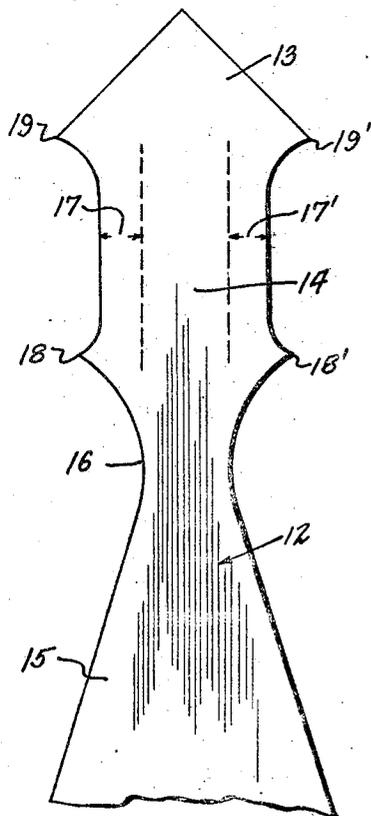


Fig. 3.

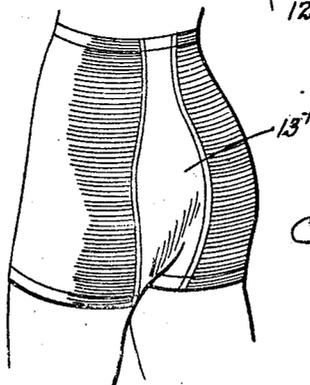
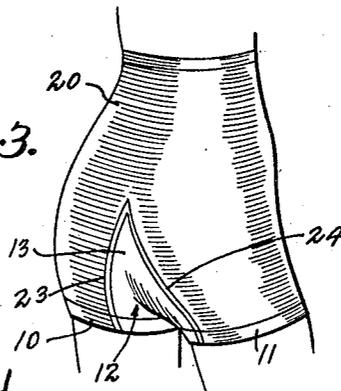


Fig. 5.

Inventor

Mals Ryden Barnes

By

Lyon Lyon

Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,125,482

BODY GARMENT

Mabs Ryden Barnes, Los Angeles, Calif.

Application July 20, 1937, Serial No. 154,625

3 Claims. (Cl. 2-224)

This invention relates to a body garment particularly adapted to cover the body from the region of the waist downwardly over the hips and buttocks and is specifically directed toward a type of garment known in the feminine undergarment trade as a panty. Garments of this type may or may not be provided with hose supporters and may or may not be attached to or integral with upper portions adapted to cover the diaphragm and bust.

Garments of this general type can be made of woven, knitted, relatively non-stretchable or resiliently stretchable material. When resiliently stretchable materials such as elastic fabrics are employed, the garment has a tendency to impart an undesirable bulbosity or roundness to the abdomen and buttocks. The structure of the present invention is adapted to impart a highly desired flatness to the abdomen and/or buttocks.

In panties of previously accepted type the garment terminated at the side of the wearer in a plane which was coincidental with or above a horizontal plane passing through the crotch. In the event a garment covering the sides of the upper leg was desired, the wearer had to resort to a corset or girdle, these latter garments extending below the level of the crotch. Garments such as corsets and the like are open at the bottom and do not encircle each leg nor are they provided with a crotch portion. Corsets, however, are usually made of resilient or yieldably stretchable materials which tend to mold the body within the limits described hereinabove.

The present invention is directed to a structure which includes a crotch portion and leg sections and thereby distinguishes from a corset but which present structure is capable of molding the body in a desired manner without imparting an undesirable bulbosity. Furthermore, the garment of this invention is relatively free from seams and although close-fitting, is at the same time comfortable, yielding, resilient and conformable to a variety of bodily contours.

Moreover, undergarments of the panty type have often been baggy, loose and unadapted for use beneath closely-fitting gowns whereas the present invention is directed toward a panty which although it is provided with leg sections, is adapted to closely adhere to the body.

An object of this invention, therefore, is to provide a garment construction whereby a closely-fitting panty may be made from a minimum number of pieces and properly cover and mold the torso.

Another object of the invention is to disclose

and provide a body garment embodying a crotch member which extends upwardly toward the waist and functions as a member for restraining the abdomen.

Another object of the invention is to disclose a body garment construction in which materials capable of stretching in two directions are combined with materials capable of stretching in one direction only so as to form a panty free from puckers, folds, wrinkles, etc., and encircling the legs of the wearer.

Another object is to disclose a body garment constructed essentially of material yieldably stretchable in more than one direction, said garment including a crotch member consisting of material stretchable in one direction only, said crotch member being provided with an extension which forms a part of the front of the garment and functions to control the abdomen of the wearer.

These and other objects, uses and advantages of the invention will become apparent to those skilled in the art from the following detailed description of a preferred construction, reference being made to the appended drawing showing an illustrative form of the invention.

In such drawing:

Fig. 1 is a front view in plan of one form of garment in a position assumed when the garment is laid flat.

Fig. 2 is a perspective front view of the garment on the body.

Fig. 3 is a three-quarter rear view of the garment shown in Fig. 2.

Fig. 4 is a plan view of a crotch member in extended form.

Fig. 5 is a three-quarter rear view of a modified form of garment coming within the scope of this invention.

In the form of garment shown in the drawing the panty illustrated is one which terminates in the region of the waist but extends downwardly to a plane somewhat below the level of the crotch. As shown in Figs. 2 and 3, the garment is provided with legs, generally indicated at 10 and 11, the garment embodying a crotch member, generally indicated by the numeral 12, which traverses the front of the wearer and extends through the crotch to the back and then upwardly in the back of the garment, the rear portion of the crotch member 12 being indicated at 13. This crotch member 12 is shown in extended plan view in Fig. 4 and it is to be noted that the crotch member may be divided into three portions, namely, a crotch portion indicated at 14, the rear

portion indicated at 13, and the front portion indicated at 15. The crotch portion 14 of the member 12 is relatively wide. The front portion 15 at a point close to the crotch portion 14 is provided with a constriction or narrow zone, indicated at 16, such narrow zone being also indicated by 16 in Fig. 2.

The crotch portion 14 is preferably wider than the narrow zone 16, the extra width 17 and 17' of the crotch portion 14 being adapted to form leg sections 17 and 17' on the opposing inner sides of the legs of the wearer, as shown in Fig. 2. The member 12 at a point between the narrow portion 16 and the crotch portion 14 is preferably provided with outwardly turned points or enlargements, indicated at 18 and 18' so as to create a greater width at that transverse section than even at the crotch portion 14.

The front portion 15 of the member 12 preferably extends to the waist of the garment and in the region of said waist is appreciably wider than the narrow section 16 which, when the garment is on the body, is located in the lower front portion of the garment.

The rear portion 13 may be pointed as shown in Figs. 3 and 4. The length of the rear portion 13 may vary but preferably said rear portion at its juncture with the crotch portion 14 is wider than said crotch portion so as to form the points 19 and 19'.

The crotch member 12 is preferably made of material which is resiliently stretchable longitudinally of said member but which is not yieldingly stretchable transversely. As a result, when the member 12 is applied to the body the front portion or extension 15 is yieldably stretchable vertically but not horizontally. The sides of the crotch portion 14, said sides being indicated at 17 and 17', are adapted to cover the opposing inner sides of the legs of the wearer and are stretchable peripherally of the legs. The rear portion or extension 13 is upwardly directed, as shown in Fig. 3, and is stretchable vertically, thereby facilitating bending movements of the body of the wearer, but such rear portion 13 is not stretchable horizontally and thereby suitably flattens the middle portion of the buttocks.

The garment also comprises a body member, indicated at 20, which is attached to the longitudinal edges of the forward extension 15 of the member 12, as indicated at 21 and 22. The body member 20 is adapted to cover the sides or hips of the wearer and may extend completely across the back, as illustrated in Fig. 3. The edges of the rear portion 13 may fit into a suitable cut-out portion in the lower back of the body member 20 (as shown in Fig. 3) and be connected as along the edges 23 and 24 with said body member 20. The body member 20 may be of any desired height so as to place the lower edges 10 and 11 of the body garment in a suitable position on the legs of the wearer. These lower edges 10 and 11 extend to below the crotch of the wearer, at least near the center front of the garment, since the body member 20 is attached to the edges of the member 12 down to the points 18 and 18' and forms actual leg coverings.

It is to be noted that the legs of the garment are formed of the body member and of the marginal edges of the crotch portion 14. Preferably, the body member 20 is resiliently stretchable both vertically and horizontally and thereby the finished garment is rendered capable of accommodating a variety of bodily contours and of molding the body to a desired form. Inasmuch as

the forward extension 15 of the member 12 is yieldingly stretchable vertically, such forward portion 15 will stretch vertically simultaneously with the adjoining portions of the body member 20 and no puckers, wrinkles or folds will be visible.

By reason of the width of the member 12 in the region of the crotch as at 14, the garment can not be readily laid flat but instead assumes an appearance such as indicated in Fig. 1, the fullness of the crotch resulting in folds generally indicated at 14 in Fig. 1. The narrow zone or constriction 16 located in the lower front of the garment, overlying the pubic region, increases the yieldability of the garment in the region of the buttocks and prevents undesirable strains when the wearer moves the legs. It is to be noted that the constriction 16 is substantially at a zone where the groin lines of the wearer would intersect, thereby giving greater freedom to the body during running, bending, etc., since a large amount of resiliently stretchable material of the body portion 20 is thereby embodied in the front of the garment in the region of the groins.

In the modified form of garment shown in Fig. 5 the rear extension, indicated at 13', is shown extending to the waist in the back of the wearer; such elongated rear portion 13' may be of any suitable width but is preferably relatively narrow at or in the region of the waist.

It is to be noted that that section of the crotch member 12 between the points 18 and 19 or 18' and 19' is not attached to the body member 20. The points 18 and 18' give rise to an increased width of the crotch member 12 immediately below the narrow constriction 16 so that further freedom is imparted to the leg portions of the garment.

Although in the preferred form of garment the entire crotch member 12 is unitary, it is to be understood that such crotch member 12 may be made from two or more pieces of material. Preferably, however, the member 12 is of one piece and, as stated hereinbefore, such piece is resiliently stretchable longitudinally but not transversely. When the rearward extension 13' is enlarged, as shown in Fig. 5, then the body member 20 may be made of two pieces, each extending from one edge of the front portion 15 to the edge of the rear portion 13'.

I claim:

1. In a body garment of the character described and provided with a waist portion, the combination of: a crotch member which in extended form comprises a rear portion, a front portion and an intermediate crotch portion, said crotch member being resiliently stretchable longitudinally but not transversely, the front portion of said member being adapted to traverse the abdomen to the waist portion, said front portion being relatively wide in the region of the waist and narrow at the lower portion of the front of the garment; the intermediate crotch portion of said member being sufficiently wide to cover the crotch of the wearer and extend downwardly along opposing inner sides of the legs when on the wearer; the narrow constriction being adapted to overlie the pubic region and being materially narrower than the front portion in the region of the abdomen and narrower than said crotch portion; and a body member adapted to resiliently stretch vertically and horizontally, attached to the edges of said front portion of the crotch member, adapted to cover the hips and also attached to the rear portion of the crotch member

at the back; said rear portion of the crotch member extending upwardly toward the waist, the lower edge portions of the body member contacting with the edge areas of the crotch portion to form a pair of separately movable leg-encircling pants.

2. In a body garment of the character described and provided with a waist portion, the combination of a body member adapted to cover the back and sides and adapted to resiliently stretch both vertically and horizontally, and a crotch portion connecting the back of said member and extending upwardly in front to the waist portion and attached to the edges of the side member in front, said crotch portion being elastic and resiliently stretchable vertically and substantially not stretchable horizontally, said crotch portion being provided with a relatively wide section in the region of the waist of the garment and a narrow section at the lower portion of the front of the garment overlying the pubic region, the crotch portion being wider than said narrow section and wider than the crotch of the wearer and adapted to cover the crotch and opposing inner sides of the legs of the wearer, portions of the body member adjacent the lower edges thereof and edge portions of the crotch portion combining to form a pair of separately movable leg-encircling pants.

3. In a garment of the character described, the combination of: side members adapted to cover

the sides of the body from the region of the waist down to below the hips, said side members extending over at least a portion of the front and back of the body; a continuous strip of longitudinally stretchable material differing in width and adapted to extend over the abdomen downwardly, then through the crotch between the legs, said strip comprising a wide portion adapted to cover the abdomen, a wide crotch portion, said crotch portion being adapted to cover the crotch and extend downwardly over opposing inside surfaces of the legs, a rear terminal portion adapted to be attached to the side members at the back of the wearer, and a narrow constriction between said wide abdominal portion and the crotch portion, said narrow constriction being over the pubic region, said side members in the front of the garment being attached to the edges of the abdominal and constricted portions of the strip and to the beginning of the wide crotch portion, said side members being made of horizontally and resiliently stretchable material whereby a relatively large amount of such resilient material is embodied in the front of the garment in the region of the groin and flexibility of the garment is enhanced, the lower edge portions of the side members and the edge sections of the crotch portion of the strip combining to form a pair of separately movable leg-encircling pants.

MABS RYDEN BARNES.