Aug. 13, 1957 C. BROWN 2,802,465

SUPPORTING UNDERGARMENT

Filed May 23, 1955

FIG. 1

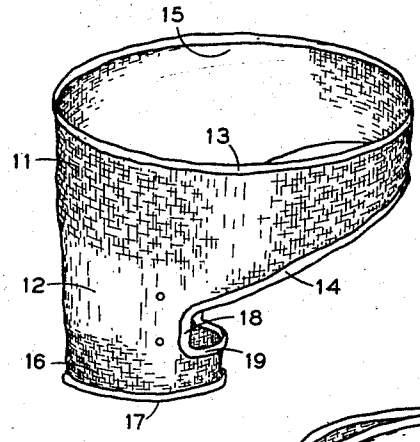


FIG. 2

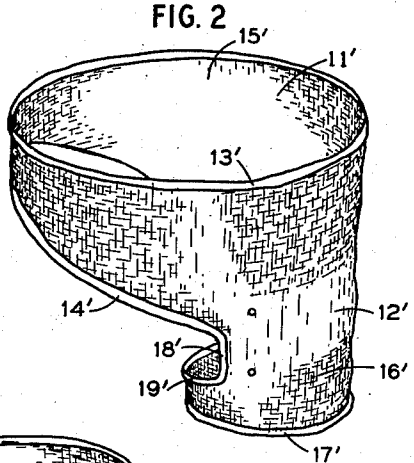


FIG. 3

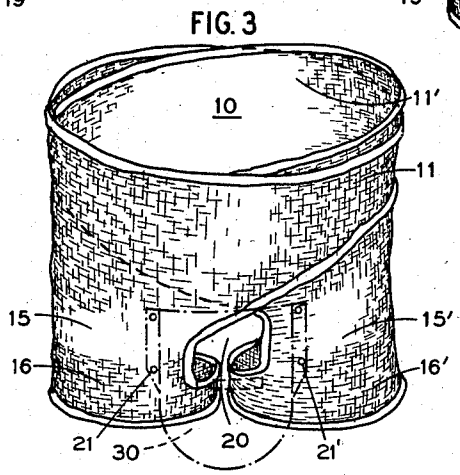


FIG. 4

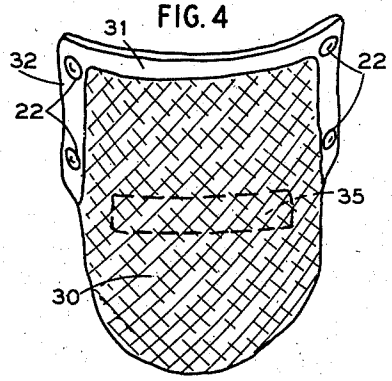
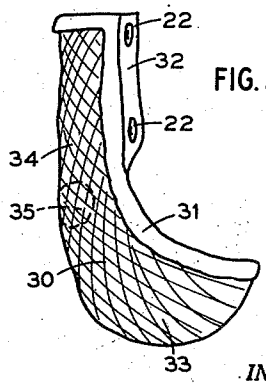


FIG. 5



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SUPPORTING UNDERGARMENT

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5 Claims. (Cl. 128—159)

This invention relates to an abdominal supporting undergarment for men and women including a detachable suspensory, of novel construction, for the male genitals.

Abdominal supporting garments, such as girdles, etc. must be designed to exert a proper persuasive pressure on the pelvic structure to maintain it in proper orientation relative to the spinal structure. When designed for use by men, they should include proper supporting means for the dependent genital organs.

Such garments, as hitherto provided, have been lacking in some of the desirable features or else have been characterized by discomfort in warm weather, insufficient launderability without deterioration, and difficulty in donning or removing. Furthermore, their construction has been such as to present considerable inconvenience in attending to bodily elimination functions.

In accordance with the present invention, a supporting undergarment is provided which acts on the cantilever or arch principle in providing abdominal and pelvic support and which comprises two complementary sections each comprising a waist or abdominal band, of flexible material, and an attached thigh band, likewise of flexible material. The waist bands of the two sections overlap and complement each other, and may be suitably seamed together at one or more zones.

Each thigh band encircles a different thigh, so that the composite garment exerts opposed cross pulls persuasively reminding the wearer to hold his or her person erect with the pelvis properly oriented relative to the spine. The construction preferably is such that each thigh band is joined to its waist band only by a piece on the outer side of the thigh, thus leaving the inner side open to provide an open crotch. This is of great convenience when using the toilet.

A feature of the invention is a detachable suspensory of light weight, flexible and porous material which may be easily removed from the girdle for more frequent laundering. This pouch is characterized by front and side walls and a bottom pocket, but is open at the rear and at the top. The top opening facilitates easy access for urinating, and the open back allows the organs to assume a normal position during a stool. A roll of soft, washable material is secured transversely of the inside of the front wall, intermediate its height, forming separate supporting portions for the scrotum and the penis in any relative position.

For an understanding of the invention principles, reference is made to the following description of a typical embodiment thereof as illustrated in the accompanying drawing. In the drawing:

Figs. 1 and 2 are front elevation views of the two complementary sections of the undergarment;

Fig. 3 is a front elevation view of the assembled garment; and

Figs. 4 and 5 are front and side elevations, respectively, of the detachable suspensory.

Referring to Figs. 1, 2 and 3, the undergarment **10** of the invention comprises two complementary sections

15 and **15'** of flexible, resilient, light weight mesh or porous material. Each section **15, 15'** comprises a waist band portion **11, 11'** joined to a thigh band portion **16, 16'** by a vertical outside portion **12, 12'**. A hem or border **13, 13'** extends around the top of each waist band portion **11, 11'**, and a hem or border **17, 17'** extends around the lower edge of each thigh band portion **16, 16'**.

The waist band portions are cut on a bias so as to have outwardly and downwardly sloping partial bottom border edges **14, 14'** joined by vertical borders **18, 18'** to partial upper borders **19, 19'** on thigh bands **16, 16'**. Outside portions **12, 12'** thus extend only part way around the thighs, having open inner sides providing an open crotch **20** when pieces or sections **15, 15'** are joined in overlapping relation as shown in Fig. 3.

This open crotch is a great convenience when using bathroom facilities. Furthermore, it does not detract from the support strength of the garment, due to the cantilever support action of the complementary sections **15, 15'**.

For use of garment **10** by a male, the front wall of each section **15, 15'** carries two or more fastener elements **21, 21'** cooperable with mating fastener elements **22** on a detachable suspensory **30** shown in Figs. 4 and 5. This suspensory is formed of light weight, stretchable mesh or porous fabric, and is of one piece construction. It is bounded by a hem or border **31** having wings or flaps **32**. Suspensory **30** is so shaped as to have a front wall **34**, with adjacent side walls, and a rearwardly extending bottom pocket **33**. It is open at the top and rear.

Intermediate the height of wall **34**, a roll **35** of soft washable material is secured to extend transversely of wall **34**. Roll **35** effectively divides the suspensory into two compartments, the lower of which supports the scrotum and the upper of which supports the penis.

To relieve the kidneys, the upper edge of suspensory **30** is pulled out and down for easy access to the penis. When the wearer is seated on a stool, the pocket **30** may be pulled forwardly to permit the organs to assume their normal position.

While a specific embodiment of the invention has been shown and described in detail to illustrate the application of the invention principles, it will be understood that the invention may be embodied otherwise without departing from such principles.

What is claimed is:

1. An undergarment comprising, in combination, two mating complementary sections of stretchable lightweight material, each section comprising a unitary assembly of a waist band portion adapted to encircle the waist of a wearer, a thigh band portion adapted to encircle a thigh of the wearer, and a portion connecting said two band portions and adapted to engage only the outer side of the thigh, whereby to provide an open crotch at the inner sides of the thigh; means interconnecting the waist band portions of the two sections to form a unitary garment having thigh band portions each encircling a different thigh; a suspensory support for the male genitals; and cooperable disengageable fastening means on said support and the front surfaces of said waist band portions for detachably connecting said support to said sections, said support being formed of easily launderable, absorbent, stretchable, lightweight material.

2. An undergarment as claimed in claim 1 in which said support includes a front wall securable only at its side edges to said waist band portions to provide an open upper end for said support, and a rearwardly open pocket on the lower end of said wall and free from attachment to said waist band portions.

3. An undergarment as claimed in claim 2 including a roll of soft absorbent material extending transversely of the inner surface of said front wall to divide said

support into an upper, penis-supporting compartment and a lower scrotum-supporting compartment.

4. An undergarment as claimed in claim 1 in which said waist bands have an upper endless horizontal edge margin and a lower edge margin sloping downwardly and inwardly.

5. An undergarment as claimed in claim 1 in which said waist bands have an upper endless horizontal edge

margin and a lower edge margin sloping downwardly and inwardly merging with vertical edges of said connecting portions extending to a horizontal upper inner edge margin of each thigh band portion.

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