March 18, 1941. W. HILLER 2,235,499

UNDERGARMENT

Filed Sept. 27, 1939 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.

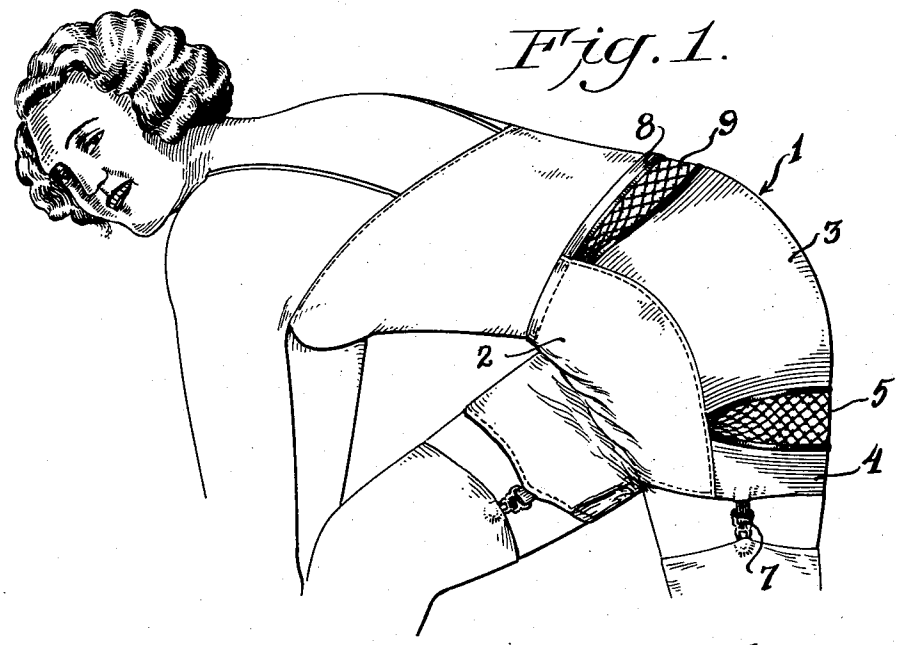


Fig. 2.

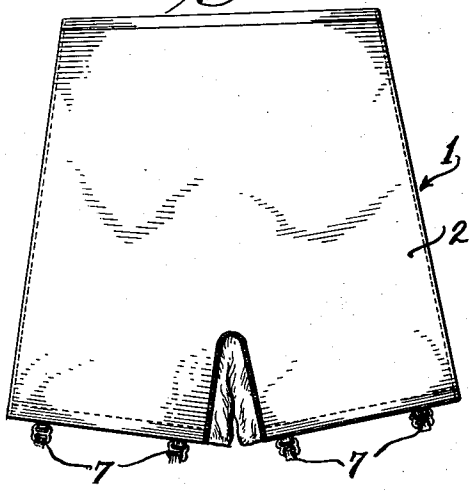


Fig. 3.

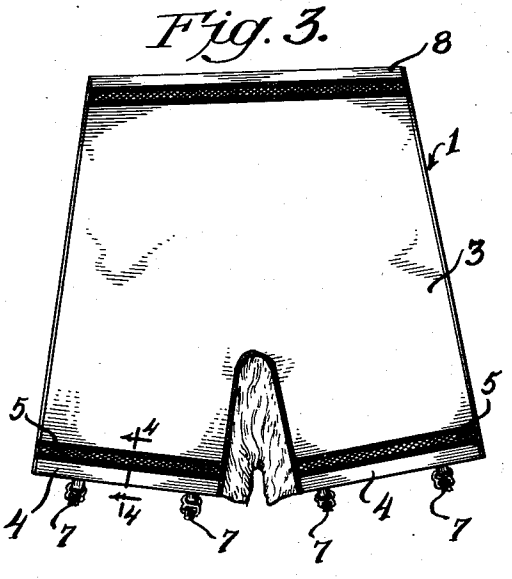
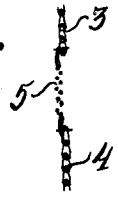


Fig. 4.



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Filed Sept. 27, 1939 2 Sheets-Sheet 2

Fig. 5.

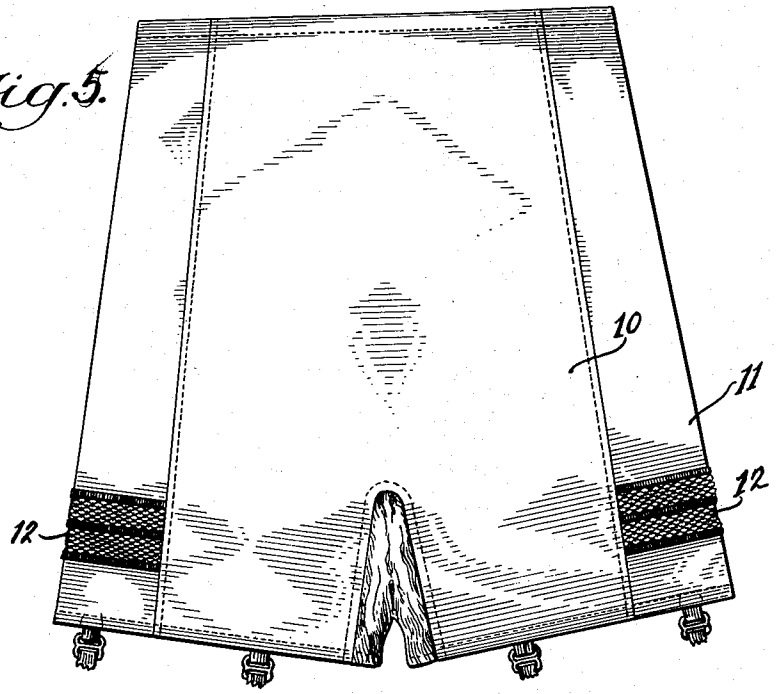


Fig. 6

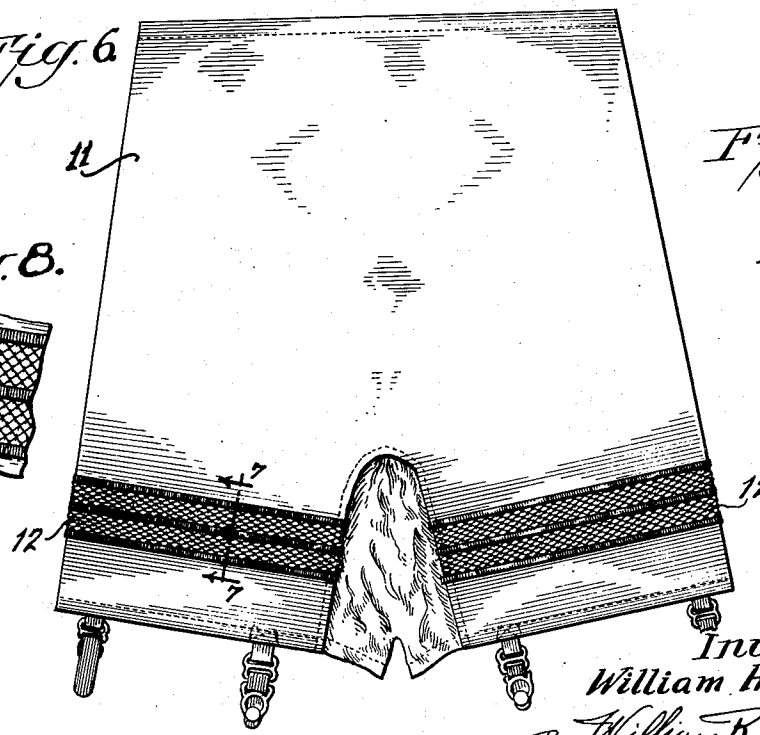
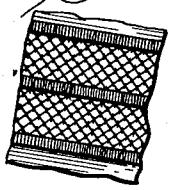


Fig. 7.



Fig. 8.



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2,235,499

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,235,499

UNDERGARMENT

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Application September 27, 1939, Serial No. 296,751

4 Claims. (Cl. 2—224)

The present invention relates to an undergarment, and has for its primary object a construction of garment that will not "ride up," or flex out of its proper position, on the body of the wearer.

An object of the invention resides in the insertion, in an undergarment having only one-way stretch, of one or more elastic strips having two-way elastic stretch, both longitudinally and circumferentially of the garment, so as to prevent the tendency of the garment to flex or move out of place on the body of the wearer.

A feature of the invention resides in locating a two-way elastic strip in the rear portion of the garment, contiguous to the hosiery fasteners, so as to provide a resilient connection between the hosiery fasteners and the seat panel of the garment, to eliminate the tendency of the hosiery fasteners to pull the garment down and, further, to relieve the stockings attached to the hosiery fasteners of excessive strains.

Another feature of the invention resides in the novel manner of interconnecting the seat panel with the waist band and the hosiery fasteners, whereby the seat panel may be flexed, without the tendency thereof to move out of its proper position.

Besides the above, the invention is distinguished in the arrangement of a two-way stretch strip in the garment at a point between the top edge of the garment and the point of attachment of the rear hosiery fasteners, so as to absorb the strains created by the pull of the hosiery fasteners in the flexing of the garment by the wearer.

Other important objects and advantages of the invention will be in part obvious and in part pointed out hereinafter. The invention will be better understood from the following detailed description, taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, wherein:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the garment in use.

Figure 2 is a front elevation of the garment.

Figure 3 is a rear elevation of the garment.

Figure 4 is a section taken on line 4—4 of Figure 3.

Figure 5 is a front elevation of another form of the invention.

Figure 6 is a rear elevation of that form of the invention shown in Figure 5.

Figure 7 is a sectional view taken on line 7—7 of Figure 6.

Figure 8 is a detailed enlarged fragmentary view of the elastic strip.

Again referring to the drawings illustrating two of the many forms of my invention, and referring more particularly to Figures 1 to 4 inclusive, the undergarment 1 consists of a front panel 2, an upper section or seat panel 3, and a lower section leg panel or band 4. The panels 3 and 4 have their edges secured to the front panel 2 by stitching, or any other form of connection well known in the trade. These panels are fabricated so as to have only one-way stretch circumferentially of the garment and, to accomplish this, the panels may be fabricated of elastic and inelastic yarns, so interconnected that the elastic yarns will stretch only in one direction.

The panels 2, 3, and 4 may be knitted with elastic yarns laid therein, or they may be woven, in which case the weft yarns are inelastic and the warp yarns are elastic, or the weft yarns are elastic and the warp yarns are inelastic.

Due to the fact that the panels have elastic stretch in a circumferential direction only (which is required in the type of garment under consideration), the garment ordinarily has a tendency to "ride," or flex out of position, on the body of the wearer, and this tendency is increased by the pull of the hosiery fasteners, in a manner to be hereinafter set forth.

For the purpose of relieving the garment of its inherent tendency to become displaced on the body of the wearer, there is inserted between the seat panel 3 and the leg panel 4 a strip 5 having two-way elastic stretch, that is to say, elastic stretch longitudinally and circumferentially of the garment. Thus the strip will not interfere with the normal elastic action of the garment in a circumferential direction and, further, will provide an elastic stretching action longitudinally of the garment to absorb the strains created by the hosiery fasteners and to allow flexing of the seat panel 3 without displacement thereof.

This elastic strip 5 may be fabricated in many ways well known in the trade, but it is preferably fabricated of a plurality of lengths of elastic yarns interconnected together at spaced points so that said elastic yarns may be stretched both longitudinally and laterally, to provide the strip with two-way elastic stretch. This strip has its longitudinal edge portion sewed to the opposing edge portions of the seat panel and leg panel, and has its end portions attached to the front panel.

The rear set of hosiery fasteners 7 are directly attached to the leg panel 4 so that the elastic strip 5 will absorb the strains created by the pull of the stockings upon the hosiery fasteners. This arrangement of the elastic strip 5 also yieldably absorbs the strains to which the stockings are

subjected by the pull of the hosiery fasteners 7, thereby relieving the upper portion of the stockings of excessive strains.

At the upper portion of the garment is arranged a waist band 8 which is spaced from the upper edge of the seat panel 3, but connected to the seat panel by a second elastic strip 9. This elastic strip 9 is identical in construction to the elastic strip 5, and has elastic stretch both longitudinally and circumferentially of the garment.

It will be understood that this arrangement of the upper strip and the lower strip provides free action of the seat panel 3, thereby preventing the tendency of the garment to "ride" or become displaced.

In Figures 5 to 8 inclusive, I have illustrated a type of garment in which the upper strip 9 and the waist band 8 have been eliminated. The front panel 10 extends all the way to the upper edge of the garment, and the seat panel 11 also extends all the way to the upper edge of the garment. The elastic strip 12 is of a slightly different design than the strips 5 and 9, illustrated in the preferred form of my invention but, basically, this strip 12 is identical to the strips 5 and 9 in that it is fabricated of a plurality of lengths of elastic yarns interconnected together at spaced points so that the yarns may be stretched longitudinaly and laterally, to provide the strip with two-way elastic stretch.

Of course, it is to be understood that the invention herein described is capable of several modifications and, therefore, any modifications coming within the scope of the sub-joined claims are to be considered within the spirit of the invention.

What I claim is:

1. An undergarment comprising a front panel fabricated of elastic and inelastic yarns to have elastic stretch in a direction circumferentially of the garment; a seat panel fabricated of elastic and inelastic yarns to have elastic stretch in a direction circumferentially of the garment; a leg panel fabricated of elastic and inelastic yarns to have elastic stretch in a direction circumferentially of the garment, said seat panel and said leg panel being interconnected with said front panel; and a strip forming the connection between the seat panel and the leg panel and fabricated of elastic yarns interconnected together at spaced points whereby the elastic yarns may be stretched longitudinally and laterally to provide the strip with two-way elastic stretch in directions both circumferentialy and longitudinally of the garment.

2. An undergarment comprising a front panel fabricated of elastic yarns to have elastic stretch only circumferentially of the garment; a seat panel fabricated of elastic yarns to have elastic stretch only circumferentially of the garment; a leg panel fabricated of elastic yarns to have elastic stretch only circumferentially of the garment; and a strip connecting the seat panel to the leg panel and fabricated of elastic yarns to have two-way elastic stretch in directions longitudinally and circumferentially of the garment.

3. An undergarment comprising a front panel having one-way elastic stretch in a direction circumferentially of the garment; a seat panel connected to the front panel and having one-way elastic stretch in a direction circumferentially of the garment; a leg panel connected to the front panel and having one-way elastic stretch in a direction circumferentially of the garment; a waist band connected to the front panel and having one-way elastic stretch circumferentially of the garment; a strip having its ends connected to the front panel and its longitudinal edges connected to the waist band and to the seat panel, said strip consisting of a plurality of lengths of elastic yarns interconnected together whereby the elastic yarns may be stretched longitudinally and laterally to provide the strip with two-way elastic stretch circumferentially and longitudinally of the garment; a second strip connecting the leg panel to the seat panel and consisting of a plurality of lengths of elastic yarns interconnected together, whereby the elastic yarns may be stretched longitudinally and laterally to provide the strip with two-way elastic stretch circumferentially and longitudinally of the garment; hosiery fasteners attached to the front panel; and hosiery fasteners attached to the leg panel.

4. In combination, an undergarment consisting of a front panel having only one-way elastic stretch circumferentially of the garment; a seat panel attached thereto and having elastic stretch in a direction only circumferentially of the garment; a strip having two-way elastic stretch throughout its length and having one edge secured to the upper edge of the seat panel; a waist band secured to the other edge of the strip and having one-way elastic stretch circumferentially of the garment; a second strip having two-way elastic stretch throughout its length and having one edge secured to the lower portion of said garment; a one-way elastic stretch leg band secured to the other edge of said second strip; and a garter fastener secured to said leg band.

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