Nov. 16, 1943. L. J. A. AMYOT 2,334,529

GIRDLE

Filed Oct. 7, 1941 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

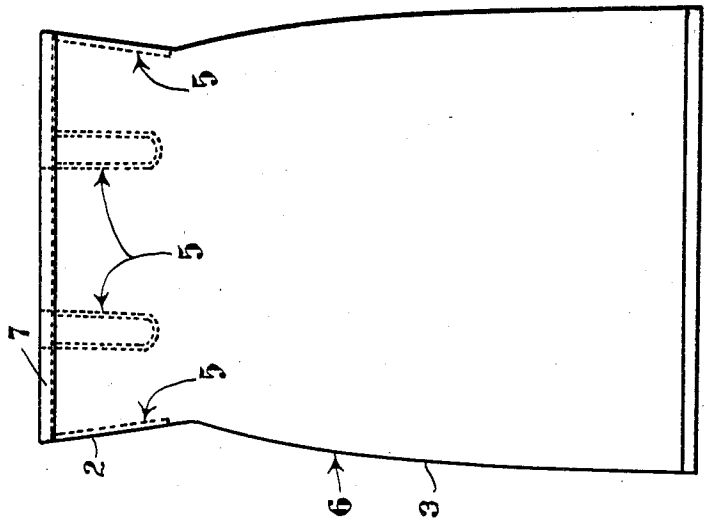


FIG. 2

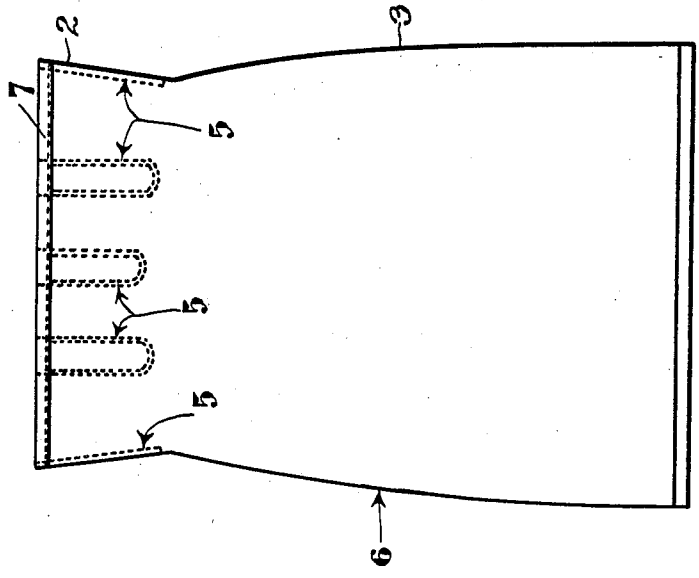


FIG. 1

INVENTOR
L. J. A. AMYOT
BY Fetherstonhaugh & Co.
ATTORNEYS

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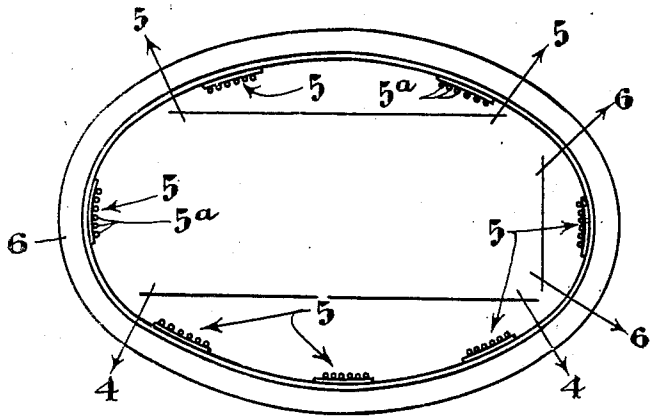


FIG. 3

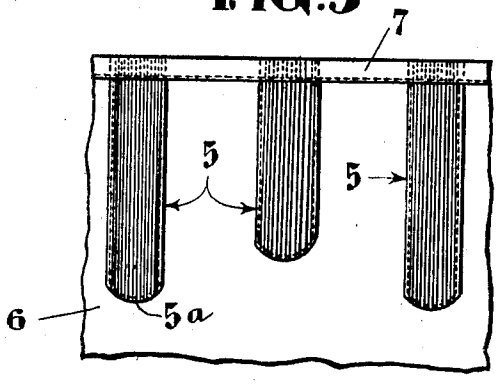


FIG. 4

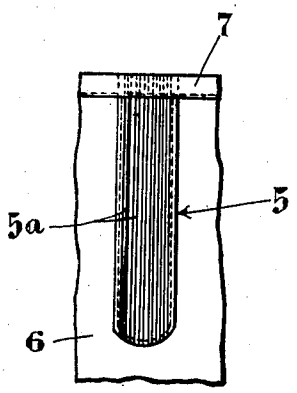


FIG. 6

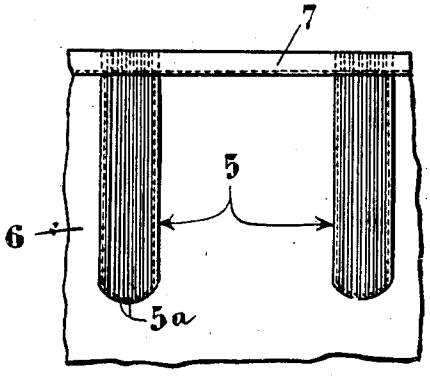


FIG. 5

INVENTOR
L. J. A. AMYOT
BY Fetherstonhaugh & Co.
ATTORNEYS

Patented Nov. 16, 1943 2,334,529

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,334,529

GIRDLE

Louis J. A. Amyot, Quebec, Quebec, Canada

Application October 7, 1941, Serial No. 414,029

2 Claims. (Cl. 2—36)

This invention relates to girdles and has, for its principal object, the provision of improved means for stiffening the upper edge of a girdle against permanent curling or rolling.

Another object is the provision of a girdle in which the stiffening means is arranged so as to prevent the formation of a definite fold line between the stiffened and unstiffened portions of the girdle.

Another object is to provide a girdle in which the stiffening means comprises a plurality of cord reinforced rubber impregnated textile stiffening members of varying length arranged to extend downwardly from the upper edge of the girdle in spaced relation to each other.

Other objects, advantages and characteristic features of the invention will be more readily understood from the following detailed description of the preferred embodiment shown in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Fig. 1 is a front view of my improved girdle.

Fig. 2 is a rear view.

Fig. 3 is a top plan view as it appears with the binding strip removed.

Fig. 4 is a sectional view along the line **4—4** of Fig. 3.

Fig. 5 is a sectional view along the line **5—5** of Fig. 3, and

Fig. 6 is a sectional view on line **6—6** of Fig. 3.

As illustrated in the drawings the invention comprises a plurality of relatively narrow, vertically extending stiffening members **5** which are sewn directly to the inside of a waistband **2** of girdle **6** having a body portion **3** so that each stiffening member extends downwardly a relatively short distance from the extreme upper edge of the waistband **2** of the girdle. Each stiffening member is made of rubber impregnated textile fabric and includes a plurality of vertically extending textile stiffening cords **5***a* which form projecting ribs on the inwardly facing body engaging surfaces of the stiffening members while leaving the outwardly facing or gridle engaging surfaces of the stiffening members substantially smooth and flat. The stiffening members **5** vary in length and preferably include two members of maximum length, each attached to one side portion of the waistband of the girdle; a pair of members of intermediate length attached to each of the front and back portions of the waistband of the girdle, the members of each of said pairs being located at opposite sides of and at some distance from the vertical centre line of the girdle; and a single member of minimum length which is attached to the front portion of the waistband of the girdle and is centered with reference to said vertical centre line. Except as regards the relative spacing of the two stiffening members secured to the back portion of the waistband of the girdle it is desirable that the distance between each two adjacent stiffening members should be substantially greater than the width of the individual widths of said members but substantially less than the combined widths of any two of said members. In the case of stiffening members secured to the back portion of the waistband of the girdle the distance between these two members may be substantially greater than that previously specified. The stiffening members are preferably impregnated and/or coated with rubber in the form of latex. This treatment of the stiffening members has several definite advantages. It prevents ravelling of the stiffening members and gives them a certain amount of stiffness and elasticity or springiness which they would not otherwise possess and without seriously impairing their flexibility. In other words, the rubber incorporated in the stiffening members enhances their capacity or ability to spring back to the straight or normal condition after these members have been subjected to longitudinal curving or bending by bending movements of the wearer of the girdle. While I prefer to use rubber or latex for impregnating the stiffening members to prevent unravelling and to increase the springiness of said members, it will be understood that I also contemplate the impregnation of said members with any other compound capable of giving the same results.

If all of the stiffening members were of the same length there would be a tendency for these members to produce a definite fold line extending entirely around the garment at the lower ends of said members. This is avoided according to the present invention by making the members of varying length and by spacing said members around the garment as hereinbefore described.

The stiffening members provided in accordance with this invention, being made of textile material, do not have the same tendency to tear away from or to tear through the material of the girdle as conventional stiffening members made of metal or whale bone. They are also more flexible and elastic in the transverse direction thereof compared with said conventional stiffening members.

The stiffening members are preferably provided with flat upper ends which lie flush with the upper edge of the waistband of the girdle and which

are preferably covered by a suitable binding strip 7.

Having thus described what I now consider to be the preferred embodiment of this invention it will be understood that various modifications may be resorted to within the scope and spirit of the appended claims.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is:

1. A girdle comprising a body portion for covering the body of the wearer below the waistline and a waistband portion extending upwardly from the upper edge of the body portion, a plurality of spaced stretchable stiffening members of varying length secured to the inner body-contacting surface of the waistband portion, each stiffening member extending downwardly from the upper edge of the waistband, a single stiffening member of maximum length attached to each of the inner side portions of the waistband and extending downwardly adjacent the waistline of the girdle, a pair of stiffening members of intermediate length attached to each of the front and back inner portions of the waistband, and a front stiffening member of minimum length secured to the inner surface of the waistband intermediate the front pair of stiffening members of intermediate length.

2. The structure of claim 1, in which the spacing of the stiffening members, with the exception of the spacing of the pair of stiffening members secured to the back inner portion of the waistband, is such that the distance between adjacent stiffening members is greater than the individual width of a member but less than the combined widths of two of said members, the spacing of the pair of back stiffening members being substantially greater than the spacing of any other two adjacent stiffening members.

LOUIS J. A. AMYOT.