Aug. 9, 1938. H. WIPPERMAN 2,125,974

FOUNDATION GARMENT

Filed April 26, 1938

Fig. 1.

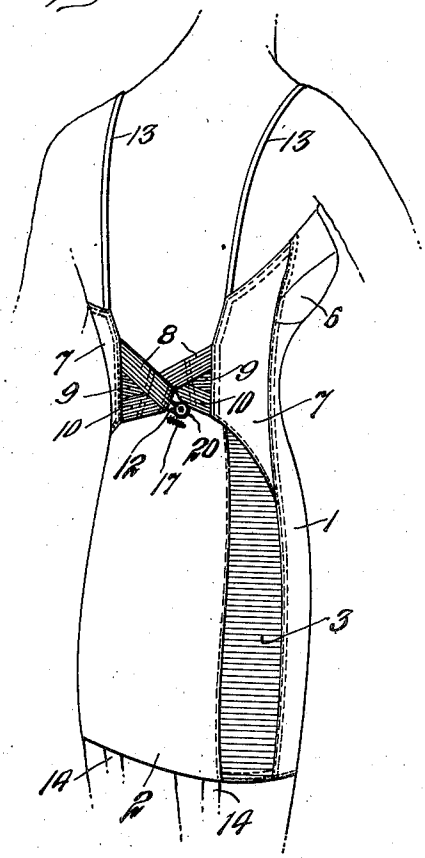


Fig. 2.

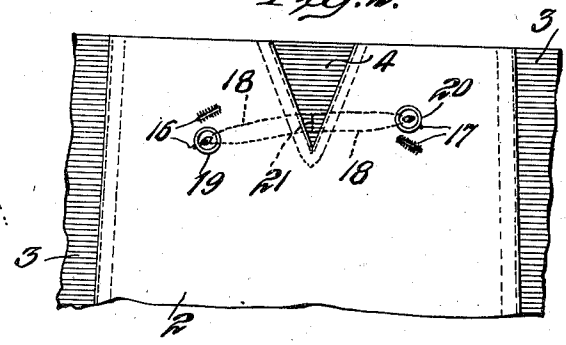


Fig. 3.

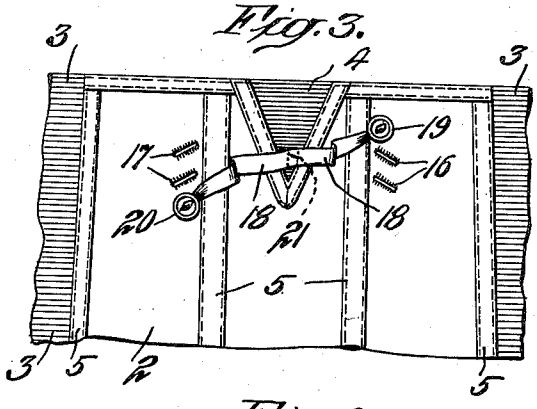
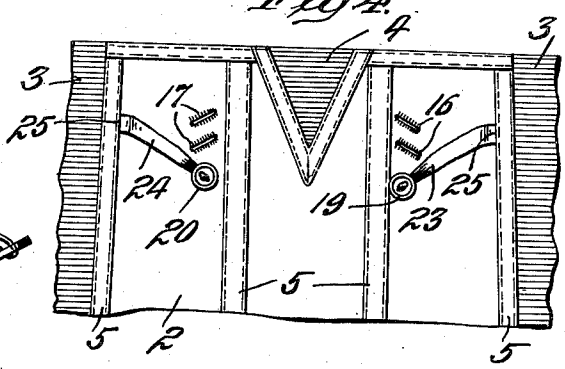


Fig. 4.



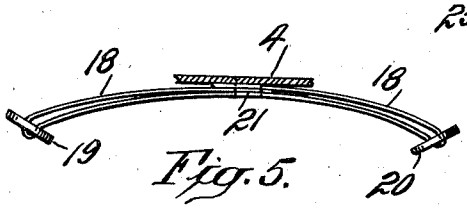


Fig. 5.

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FOUNDATION GARMENT

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Application April 26, 1938, Serial No. 204,263

5 Claims. (Cl. 2—30)

This invention relates to foundation garments for women and has for its object to provide a garment of this type having an improved fastening means which provides greater ease and flexibility of adjustment than heretofore.

The invention is particularly applicable to foundation garments of the type comprising a corset and a brassière, having end sections or flaps secured to the sides of the brassière or to the sides of the corset and brassière, and means for holding said flaps under tension at the back of the garment. The tension is usually provided by terminating the flaps in elastic straps which are fastened to the back of the garment. These straps exert a downward and transverse pull on their respective flaps, thereby molding the body, flattening the diaphragm and confining and uplifting the abdomen, according to the manner in which the flaps are secured to the garment.

Garments of the above type come in standard stock sizes but different individuals taking the same size garment frequently differ in bust, diaphragm or abdomen measurements, and it may be necessary for different individuals to fasten the flaps to the back of the garment in different positions for the comfort of the wearer and also to insure proper tensioning of the parts. The present invention provides an improved fastening means for garments of this type which facilitates opening and closing, insures a perfectly flat fastening, and makes it possible to adapt a garment of given size to different individuals who differ slightly in their measurements.

In carrying out my invention the flaps, which are secured to the brassière or to the sides of the corset and brassière, terminate in elastic straps which are provided with suitable fastening means such as buttonhole tabs, which are adapted to be secured to suitable cooperating fastening elements at the back of the garment. Although it is possible to provide various fastening means, such as hooks and eyes, etc. for this purpose, the invention will be described in connection with a particular embodiment employing cooperating buttons and buttonhole tabs which have special advantages in garments of this type.

When the flaps of the garment are provided with buttonhole tabs as in the garment which is hereinafter described for purposes of illustration, I provide a plurality of buttonholes which penetrate the garment adjacent the back waistline, and two buttons are secured to a tape or tapes at the inside of the garment, these tapes being long enough to conveniently pass through any of the buttonholes in the back of the garment. The buttons project outwardly at the back of the garment and cooperate with the tabs on the flaps to hold same under the desired tension. This construction provides a number of possible positions for fastening the flaps to the back of the garment and thereby enables the tension to be adjusted in any desired manner. Another important advantage of this construction is that it enables the flaps of the garment to lie smoothly at the back of the garment since the wearer may fasten the first flap to a button in high position, and the second flap to a button in a lower position, with the result that the flaps will lie much more smoothly than if the buttons were both arranged on the same plane.

These and other features and advantages of the invention will be apparent from the following description taken in connection with the accompanying drawing, in which:

Fig. 1 is a rear view of a model wearing a combination garment and adjustable fastening means embodying the invention.

Fig. 2 is a fragmentary view of the upper rear portion of the garment showing the adjustable fastening means;

Fig. 3 is a similar view of the interior of the garment;

Fig. 4 is a view similar to Fig. 3, showing a modification of the invention; and

Fig. 5 is a detail view showing the tape carrying the buttons in the embodiment of Figs. 1 to 3.

The garment shown in Fig. 1 comprises a corset having front and back sections 1 and 2 connected by longitudinal side elastic sections 3 of suitable construction as shown, for example, in Cunningham Patent #1,859,198 of May 17, 1932. A gusset 4 is inserted at the upper back of the corset, and the interior lining of back portion 2 is provided with vertical stiffening bones 5 as shown in Figs. 3 and 4.

The brassière comprises a front portion 6 of soft inelastic material adapted to cover the body across the busts and is secured to the upper front edge of the corset. End sections or flaps 7 are secured to the sides of the brassière and down the sides of the corset to a point adapted to lie below the diaphragm and at about the waistline of the wearer. These flaps extend rearwardly to overlap the sides and back of the garment. Each flap terminates in a set of elastic straps 8, 9 and 10 which are preferably stitched to the outer ends of the flaps. The upper and lower diagonal elastic straps 8 and 10 of each set converge from their points of attachment to

the flaps 7, while the horizontal elastic straps 9 of each set are shorter than the diagonal straps 8 and 10 and have their outer ends secured to an intermediate portion of straps 8 and 10 as in Cunningham Patent #1,899,890 of February 28, 1933. Each set of straps terminates in a fastening device such as a buttonhole tab 12 which is adapted to be fastened to the back of the garment. The garment is also provided with the usual shoulder straps 13 and garters 14 as illustrated in Fig. 1.

In the embodiment of the invention illustrated in Figs. 1 to 3, two vertical series of buttonholes 16 and 17 are arranged in the back section 2 of the garment on opposite sides of the vertical centerline, two such buttonholes being provided in each series in the embodiment illustrated although a greater number of buttonholes may be employed if desired. A tape 18 is looped through two buttons 19 and 20, as shown in Fig. 5, and this tape is fastened in the middle to a central point 21 on the rear section of the garment as best shown in Fig. 3.

This construction enables the tape 18 to swing free on the axis 21 so that the buttons 19 and 20 may be inserted in either the upper or lower buttonholes 16 and 17 which penetrate the back of the garment. This permits the flaps 7 and their associated elastic straps to lie smoothly at the back of the garment since the wearer may fasten the first flap to a button in a high position, and the second flap to a button in a low position, and the flaps will lie much more smoothly than if the buttons were of necessity on the same plane. Of course, a similar result could be accomplished with a plurality of buttons sewed in various positions to the back of the garment, but in such case if the wearer should fasten the lower side first, she would have a very bad bulky closing, and when a large number of buttons were employed there would be a very annoying and unsightly bulging at the back of the garment. By means of my invention the wearer may make either side the high side and such high side would be the one to be buttoned first, and it will be evident that any number of buttonholes may be provided in any desired positions without increasing the bulk or otherwise inconveniencing the wearer.

Fig. 4 shows a modification of the invention in which the buttons 19 and 20 are strung on individual tapes 23 and 24 which are secured at points 25—25 in the seams between the back section 2 and the side elastic sections 3 of the garment. This construction functions in the same way as that previously described, it being understood that the tape or tapes are of the proper length to pass through the buttonholes in position to be engaged by the buttonhole tabs 12 on the back flaps of the garment.

It will be evident that various changes may be made in the details of construction herein shown and described without departing from the scope and spirit of the invention as defined by the appended claims.

The invention claimed is:

1. A foundation garment for women having connected front, back and side sections, and including flaps extending rearwardly and having means for fastening same to the back of the garment, the back of said garment containing a plurality of holes and fastening means secured to the inside of said garment and adapted to be projected out through any one of a number of said holes for engagement with the fastening means on said flaps.

2. A foundation garment for women having connected front, back and side sections, and including flaps extending rearwardly and having means for fastening same to the back of the garment, the back of said garment containing a plurality of holes in different vertical planes on both sides of the centerline, and fastening means secured to the inside of said garment and adapted to be projected out through any one of a number of said holes for engagement with the fastening means on said flaps.

3. A foundation garment for women having connected front, back and side sections, and including flaps extending rearwardly and having buttonhole tabs for fastening same to the back of the garment, the back of said garment containing a plurality of buttonholes in different vertical planes on both sides of the centerline, and buttons secured to the inside of said garment and adapted to be projected out through any one of a number of said buttonholes for engagement with the buttonhole tabs on said flaps.

4. A foundation garment for women having connected front, back and side sections, and including flaps extending rearwardly and having buttonhole tabs for fastening same to the back of the garment, the back of said garment containing a series of buttonholes in different vertical planes on both sides of the centerline, a tape secured to the inside of said garment intermediate said vertical series of buttonholes, and buttons secured to the ends of said tape on opposite sides of its point of attachment to the garment in position to be passed outwardly through any one of a plurality of said buttonholes for engagement with the buttonhole tabs on said flaps.

5. A foundation garment for women having connected front, back and side sections, and including flaps extending rearwardly and having buttonhole tabs for fastening same to the back of the garment, the back of said garment containing a series of buttonholes arranged in different vertical planes on both sides of the centerline, a pair of tapes secured to the inside of said garment adjacent the sides thereof, and a button secured to the end of each of said tapes in position to be passed outwardly through any one of the series of adjacent buttonholes for engagement with the buttonhole tabs on said flaps.

HILDEGARD WIPPERMAN.