Jan. 6, 1970 K. E. SENSER 3,487,833

BRIEF FOR MEN AND BOYS

Filed July 3, 1967 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1

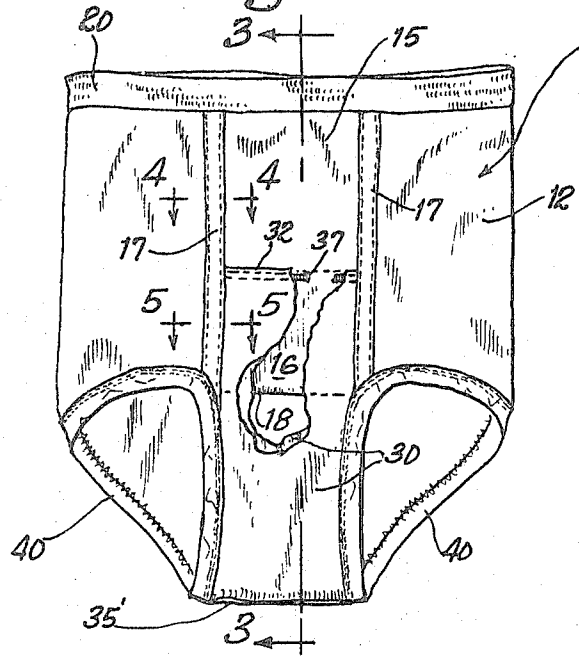


Fig. 3

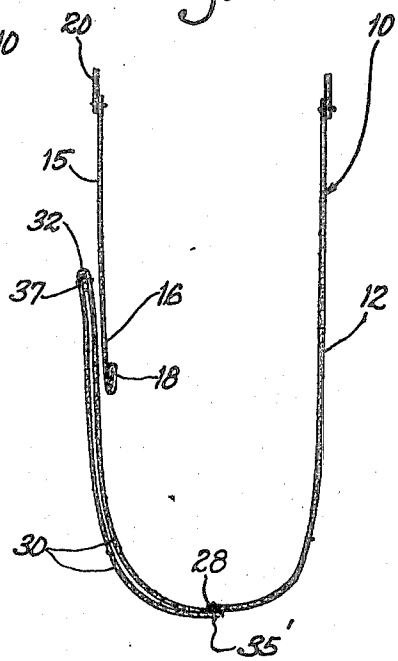


Fig. 2

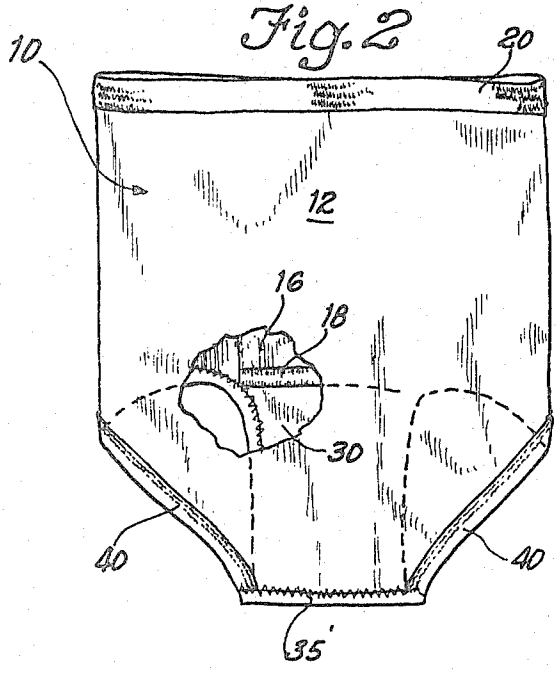


Fig. 4

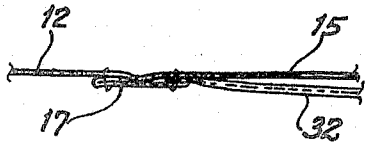
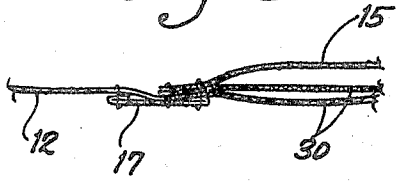


Fig. 5



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FIG. 6

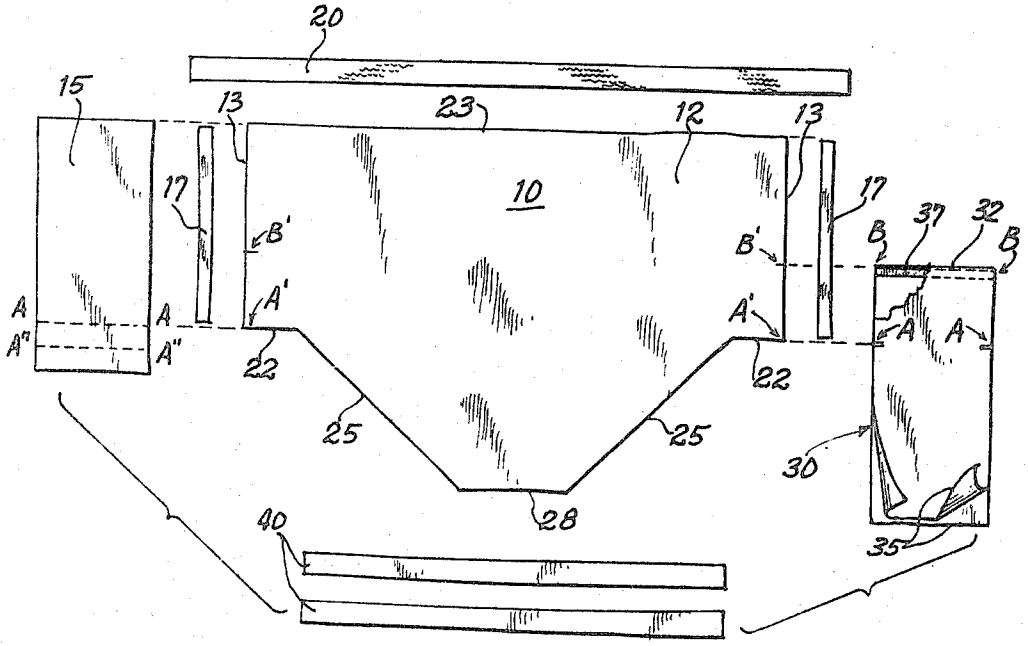
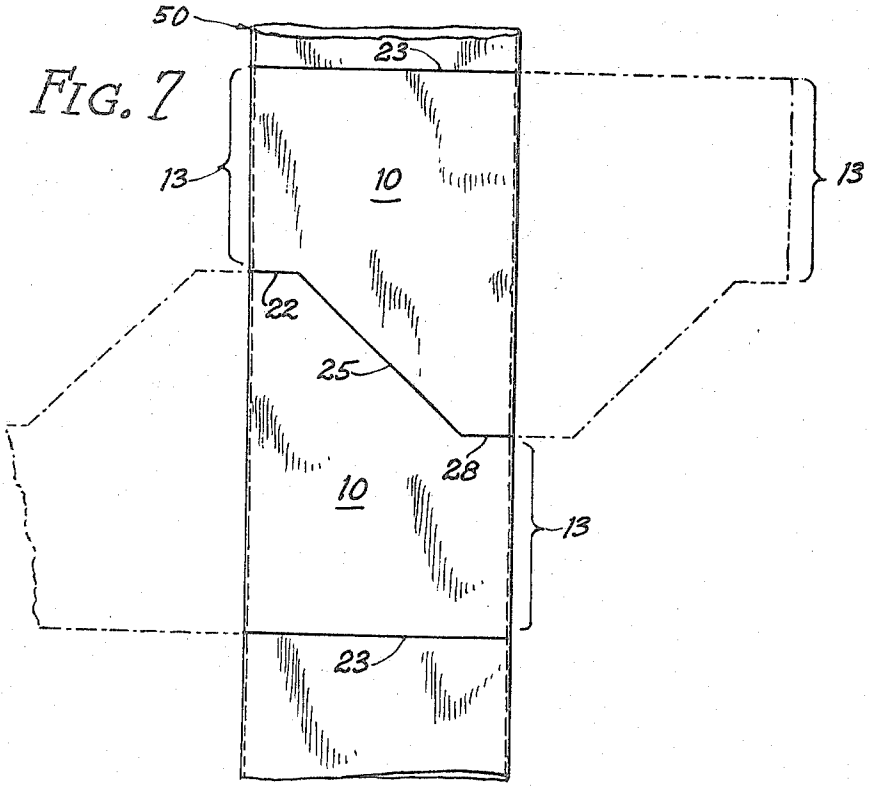


FIG. 7



United States Patent Office 3,487,833 Patented Jan. 6, 1970

3,487,833

BRIEF FOR MEN AND BOYS

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Filed July 3, 1967, Ser. No. 650,833
Int. Cl. A61f 5/40; A41b 9/02
U.S. Cl. 128—159 5 Claims

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Underwear brief for a male person having an integral pouch portion. While the entire garment is formed of horizontally elastic fabric, the pouch portion is more resistant to stretch than the other parts, to provide adequate support to adjacent parts of the body. The pouch, extending up from the crotch, overlaps a panel extending down from the waist over the abdomen, providing a passage with a horizontal opening, the upper edge of the pouch having resilient means for automatically closing the passage.

My invention relates to men's and boys' underwear, and has to do more particularly with an item worn below the waist and known as a *brief*, comprising snugly fitting abbreviated drawers.

Background of invention

Articles of this general character are well known and have been produced and worn for many years. They are usually worn by younger men who desire in an article of this type not only the function of protecting the outer clothing, as in any article of underwear, but, additionally, some degree of support for the genitalia.

In articles of this character as previously known, the latter function has been accomplished, if at all, to only a minor extent, primarily because of improper design.

A necessary structural feature of any article in the nature of drawers for men and boys is that access must be provided to permit urination without the necessity of taking down the garment from the waist. Hence, an opening in the front of the garment is required.

In the past it has been customary to provide overlapping flaps with a vertical or diagonal slit therebetween.

Summary of the invention

A prime object of the present invention is to provide a brief so constructed that it will provide improved support for the male genitalia as well as adequate protection for the outer clothing.

This objective is accomplished by what is believed to be a novel design or construction providing overlapping flaps in the lower front portion of the garment, said flaps providing a horizontal slit for access and including a reinforced yieldable panel which gives materially increased support as compared to prior art constructions.

Another important object of the invention is to provide a brief construction of the type referred to which is designed to be cut in such manner as substantially to avoid waste material, and which may be fabricated by relatively unskilled help quickly and expeditiously, thus making for maximum efficiency of production and substantially reduced cost.

Various other objects and advantages will doubtless suggest themselves to those skilled in the art as the description proceeds.

Brief description of drawings

Referring now to the drawings forming a part of this specification and illustrating a preferred embodiment of my invention,

FIG. 1 is a front elevational view of a brief constituting

one embodiment of my invention, with parts cut away for added clearness;

FIG. 2 is a rear elevational view;

FIG. 3 is a sectional view taken substantially along the line 3—3 of FIG. 1;

FIG. 4 is a fragmentary sectional view taken substantially along the line 4—4 of FIG. 1;

FIG. 5 is a fragmentary sectional view taken substantially along the line 5—5 of FIG. 1;

FIG. 6 is a plan view of the pattern elements for the garment shown in FIGS. 1–5, inclusive, and

FIG. 7 is a schematic fragmentary plan showing the economy of production permitted by my improved design.

Detailed description

The numeral **10** designates a main panel comprising a horizontal section **12** which extends across the entire back and sides of the wearer, terminating in the side edges **13, 13** which extend vertically on opposite sides of the abdomen. This panel, as well as the other major elements, is formed preferably of a horizontally stretchable fabric, preferably a Spandex or Lycra.

An abdominal panel **15** is secured to edges **13, 13** by means of relatively narrow, substantially inelastic bands **17, 17.**

Secured to the top marginal edges of panels **12** and **15** is the usual longitudinally elastic waistband **20.**

Referring to the pattern shown in FIG. 6, it will be noted that main panel **12** is cut to provide relatively short edges **22, 22** substantially parallel to the top edge **23** and waistband **20,** adjoining diagonal edges **25, 25** which extend downwardly at an angle of approximately 45° to the vertical, said edges **25, 25** being connected at their lower extremities by a horizontal edge **28** of a width approximating the width of the crotch and being disposed approximately at the crotch of the wearer and below the genitalia.

Thus, the generally triangular panel bounded by the edges **25, 28** and **25** may be said to constitute a buttocks-covering section, being so disposed as to overlie the lower portion of the buttocks of the wearer while the generally horizontal panel **12** thereabove overlies the back of the wearer between the waist and the buttocks.

An important feature of my invention consists in the pouch portion **30** of the garment now to be described. This pouch **30,** seen on the right-hand side of the pattern assembly shown in FIG. 6, constitutes a double thickness of horizontally elastic fabric similar to that used for panels **12** and **15,** and is cut as an elongated strip of material and folded over on itself along the line **32.** Thus, it constitutes a double thickness of horizontally elastic fabric, offering increased resistance to stretching. The free horizontal edges **35** of strip **30** are attached as by stitching to edge **28** of panel **10,** forming seam **35',** the upper portion of doubled strip **30** overlapping a lower portion **16** of abdominal strip **15** (FIGS. 1 and 3), the side edges of this area of strip **30** being secured to bands **17.**

Disposed within the fold at the upper extremity of pouch **30** in the folded edge **32** thereof, is a longitudinally elastic strip or band **37,** which may be a standard elastic strip of approximately one-quarter inch width, the ends of which are attached as by stitching to bands **17, 17.**

The lower extremity **18** of abdominal panel **15** is folded over on itself several times, forming three layers of fabric in this instance, without stitching same at the ends, thus making for added comfort.

It will be understood that leg openings are defined by the edges **22** and **25** of the main panel **12** as well as the side edges of the pouch **30,** to which edges are attached as by stitching finishing strips or tapes **40, 40.**

It also will be understood that, inasmuch as substantially the entire garment is formed of horizontally stretch-

able fabric, it will snugly adapt itself to the figure and fit comfortably without folds, creases or wrinkles.

The pouch portion of the garment will function effectively to provide the desired support for the genitalia in a much more effective manner than garments of previously known design. As a major feature, the overlapping portions, as seen in section in FIG. 3, will effectively remain closed under all ordinary conditions of body activity, despite violent muscular movement. Furthermore, the slit provided between the overlapping elements between pouch **30** and abdominal panel **15** may readily be opened digitally to provide convenient and comfortable access and egress. Furthermore, when the elements of the slit are released, the parts will quickly and automatically resume their normal position and relationship as seen in FIGS. 1 and 3 because of the elasticity of the fabric and action of elastic band **37**.

Other expedients may be used to insure that pouch **30** will provide adequate support. Thus, it might be formed of heavier stretchable or resilient fabric than the fabric used for panels **12** and **15**, such as Helanca, as used in women's undergarments, instead of using a double thickness of the same fabric as the rest of the garment.

FIG. 6 indicates how the various sections are assembled. Thus, pouch **30** is attached to panel **10** so that edges AB, AB of the pouch will be stitched to edges A'B', A'B' of the panel, while section **15** will be secured to said panel with fold lines A—A and A''—A'' forming fold **18** adjacent the corners A', A' of the panel.

Referring to FIG. 7, it will be seen that the symmetrical design of the pattern makes possible fabrication of garments embodying my invention on a mass-production scale by unskilled labor with a minimum of waste.

Thus, the fabric is provided in the form of tubing **50** from which main panels **10**, **10** are cut by severing along the edges **13**, **13** and along lines **22**, **25**, **28**, after which the double layer of fabric is opened up as seen dotted, whereby the main panel is ready for further fabrication to complete the garment.

Various changes coming within the spirit of my invention may suggest themselves to those skilled in the art; hence, I do not wish to be limited to the specific embodiments shown and described or uses mentioned, but intend the same to be merely exemplary, the scope of my invention being limited only by the appended claims.

I claim:

1. Underwear brief for a male person, comprising

(a) a main panel normally covering the back and lower portion of the buttocks and hips, having side edges and tapering downwardly therebelow to a crotch portion,

(b) an abdominal panel disposed between and secured to said side edges, and

(c) a pouch portion comprising an elongated strip of fabric attached at one end to said crotch portion, the upper portion thereof overlapping the lower portion of said abdominal panel and forming an open passage extending vertically therebetween,

(d) said parts all being horizontally resilient, the pouch having greater stretch resistance than the other portions, whereby it is enabled to provide firm but yielding support to adjacent body parts.

2. A garment as in claim **1**, wherein

(a) said pouch comprises a double panel of fabric similar to the main abdominal panels, the latter being single ply,

(b) an elastic band being disposed adjacent the upper edge of the pouch for retracting said edge so as to restore the pouch to normal condition after elongation.

3. A garment as in claim **1**, wherein the free lower edge of the abdominal panel and the free upper edge of the pouch are spaced to provide overlapping panels defining a slit, permitting convenient access and egress via a vertical passage therethrough.

4. A garment as in claim **1**, wherein

(a) said main panel is formed of a blank having a horizontal section adapted to cover the lower back, sides of the abdomen and buttocks of the wearer, generally vertical side edges, and diagonal edges extending convergingly downwardly from said side edges at about 45°, the lower ends of said diagonal edges being connected by a short, generally horizontal edge about equal to the width of the crotch,

(b) said pouch portion being secured to said short horizontal edge and comprising a double thickness of stretchable fabric similar in character to the other parts of the garment.

5. An undergarment having a horizontal section adapted to cover the small of the back, sides of the abdomen and buttocks of the wearer, said section having a generally horizontal upper edge, generally vertical side edges, and diagonal edges extending convergingly downwardly from said side edges at about 45°, the lower ends of said diagonal edges being connected by a short generally horizontal edge about equal to the width of the crotch, said section being symmetrical about a line drawn normally between said short horizontal edge and the upper edge of said section, whereby said section may be cut from a tubular fabric and further fabricated into a brief type of garment after slitting said section along its median line to form said vertical side edges.

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ADELE M. EAGER, Primary Examiner

U.S. Cl. X.R.

2—224

(5/69)

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION

Patent No. 3,487,833 Dated January 6, 1970

Inventor(s) KARL E. SENSER

It is certified that error appears in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent are hereby corrected as shown below:

Column 4, line 9, after "main" insert --and--; line 47, insert the following claims:

--6. A garment as in Claim 3, wherein the fabric of said garment is horizontally resilient and wherein means is provided at the upper edge of said pouch for resiliently resisting gaping of said edge relative to said abdominal panel.

7. A garment as in Claim 6, wherein said abdominal panel has a free multifolded lower edge.--

In the heading to the printed specification, line 7, "5 Claims" should read -- 7 Claims --.

SIGNED AND
SEALED
AUG 25 1970

(SEAL)
Attest:

Edward M. Fletcher, Jr.
Attesting Officer

WILLIAM E. SCHUYLER, JR.
Commissioner of Patents