May 29, 1956 W. A. BURKEY 2,747,391

GARMENT

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FIG. 12.

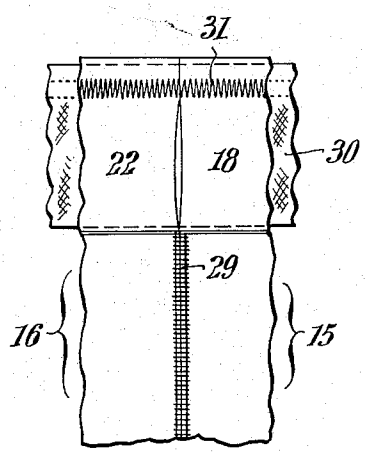


FIG. 1.

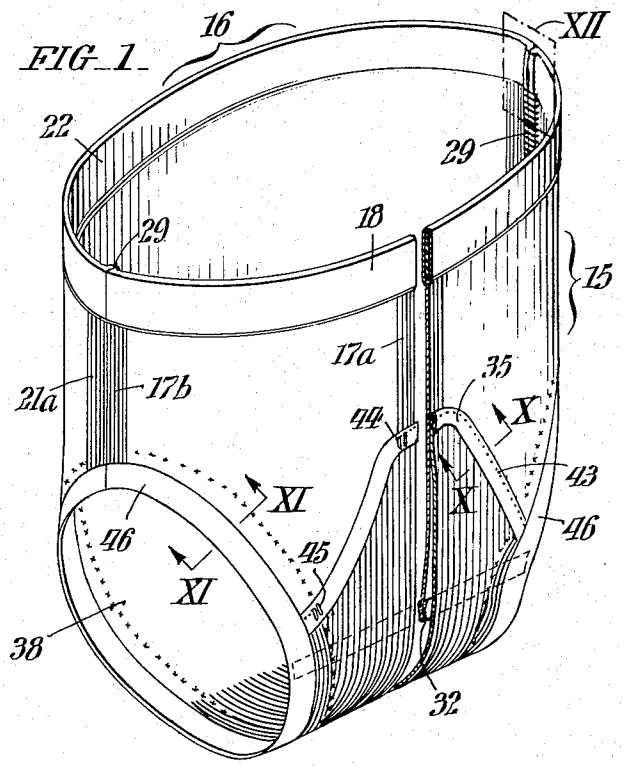
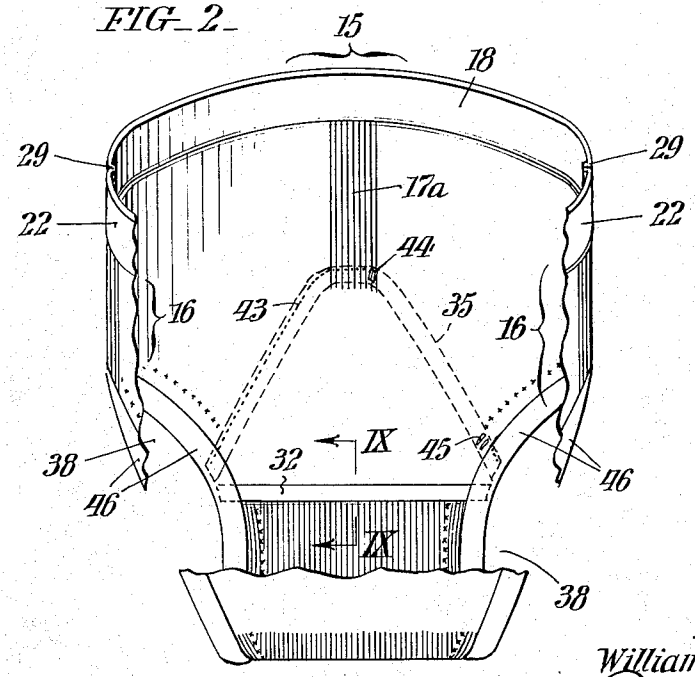


FIG. 2.



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FIG. 6.

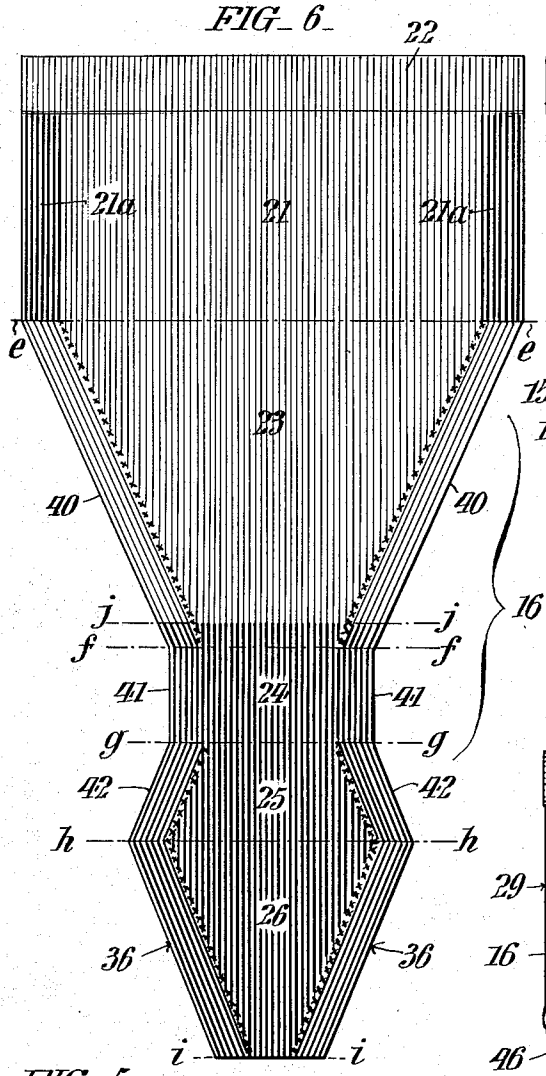


FIG. 3.

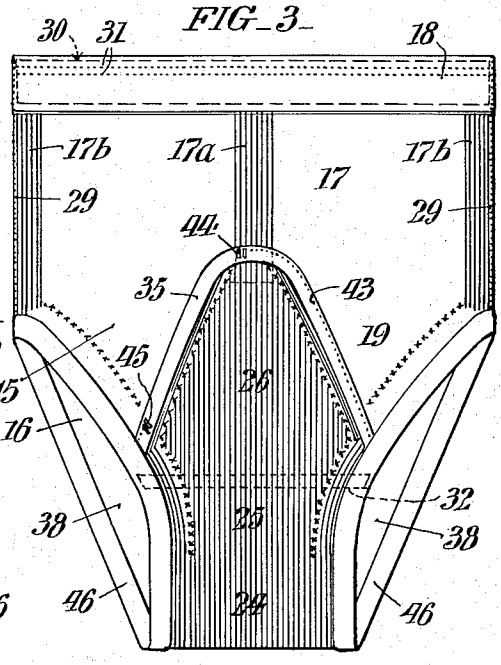


FIG. 4.

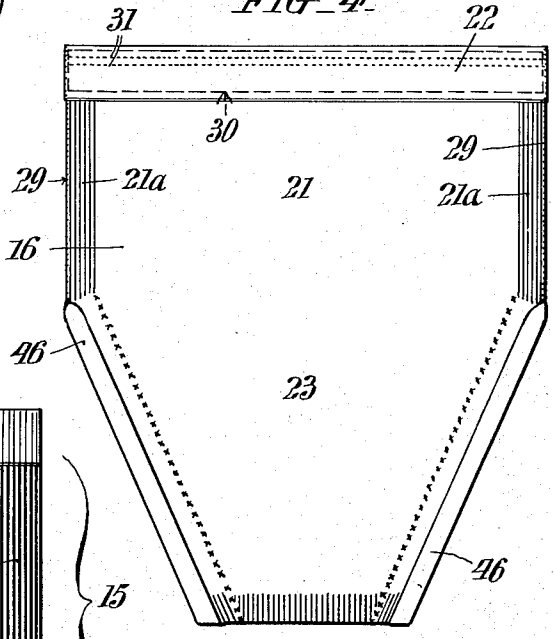
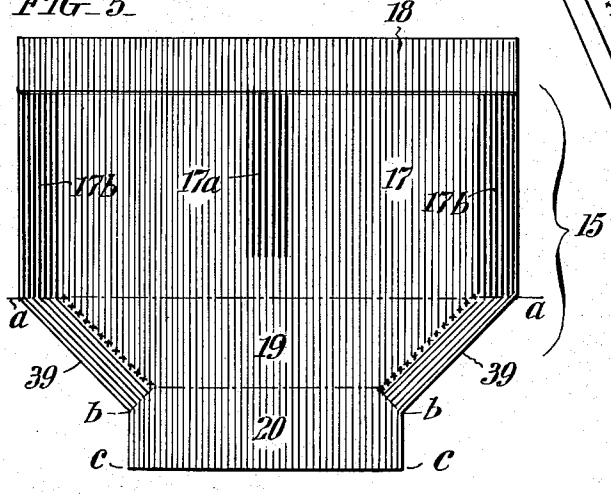


FIG. 5.



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FIG. 7.

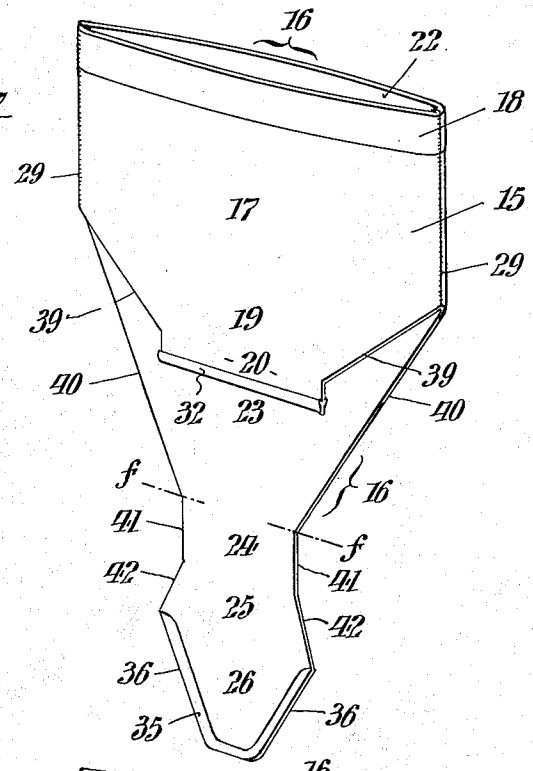


FIG. 9.

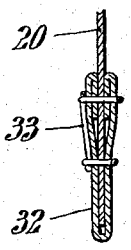


FIG. 8.

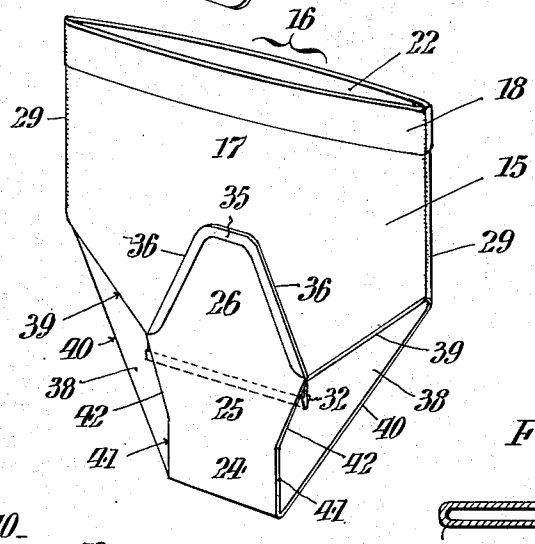


FIG. 10.

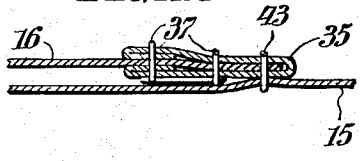
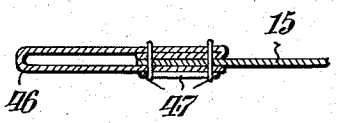


FIG. 11.



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2,747,391

GARMENT

William A. Burkey, Hamburg, Pa., assignor to Burkey Underwear Company, Hamburg, Pa., a corporation of Pennsylvania

Application March 18, 1954, Serial No. 417,026

16 Claims. (Cl. 66—177)

This invention relates to garments. More specifically, it is concerned with garments of the trunk variety, particularly garments ordinarily known as "shorts" or "briefs."

My invention is directed toward the provision of a garment of the kind referred to which is light in weight; which is easily and quickly donned or removed; which is snug fitting and yet comfortable; which yields readily to allow easy breathing and free leg movement with avoidance of any binding likely to cause chafing; and which, withal, can be produced in quantity at relatively small cost.

Other objects and attendant advantages will appear from the following detailed description of the attached drawings, wherein:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of an undergarment conveniently embodying my invention and showing it as it would appear when on the body of the wearer.

Fig. 2 is a similar view with a portion of the garment broken out at the rear.

Fig. 3 shows the garment flattened out and as seen from the front.

Fig. 4 shows the garment flattened out and as seen from the rear.

Figs. 5 and 6 respectively show front and rear fabric panels which, as hereinafter more fully disclosed, are seamed together to form the garment.

Figs. 7 and 8 are perspective views illustrating successive steps in the formation of the garment.

Fig. 9 is a fragmentary diagrammatic detail view in section taken as indicated by the angled arrows IX—IX in Fig. 2.

Figs. 10 and 11 are fragmentary diagrammatic detail sectional views drawn to a larger scale and taken as indicated respectively by the angled arrows X—X and XI—XI in Fig. 1; and

Fig. 12 is an enlarged fragmentary detail view showing the construction within the confines of the broken line rectangle XII in Fig. 1.

As exemplified in these drawings, my improved garment comprises front and rear panels **15** and **16** which are separately illustrated in Figs. 5 and 6 respectively, both being plain knitted in practice as flat-knitted fashioned selvage edged webs on a straight knitting machine of the "Cotton" type from resilient spun reverse twist yarns commonly known as "Helanca" yarns of which the staple may be of nylon, Orlon, Dacron or other synthetic fibers.

As shown in Fig. 5, the upper portion **17** of the front panel **15** is rectangular and parallel side-edged down to the course *a—a* and is formed with a tubular welt **18** at the top, a shorter abruptly tapered medial portion **19** down to a course *b—b*, and a short parallel edged bottom extension **20** terminating in course *c—c*. The portion **19** is shaped by progressive transfer of marginal loops inwardly from opposite side edges. During the knitting of the upper portion of the front panel **15**, a reinforced wale-wise stripe area **17***a* is formed centrally thereof by

use of a splicing or plating yarn in addition to a main or body yarn. The upper portion **17** of panel **15** is also marginally reinforced along opposite side edges as at **17***b*.

The upper portion **21** of the rear panel **16**, see Fig. 6, is rectangular and knitted to the same width and depth down to the course *e—e* as the upper portion of the front panel **15** and is likewise formed with a tubular welt at the top as at **22**. The succeeding portion **23** of the rear panel **16** is considerably longer and tapered downwardly more gradually than the corresponding portion **19** of the front panel, to the course *f—f*, likewise by progressive inward transfer of selvage loops from opposite side edges. Following the area **23** is a short parallel side edged area **24** whereof the width is considerably less than that of the corresponding portion **20** of the front panel **15**, said area terminating at the course *g—g*. Beyond the course *g—g* is a flaring area **25** which is shaped by progressive outward transfer of marginal edge loops at a rate corresponding to the rate at which the portion **23** is narrowed, said area **25** being substantially equal in length to the area **24** and terminating in the course *h—h*. The final or bottom area **26** of the rear panel **16** is tapered by inward transfer of edge margins at the same rate as in the area **23** and terminates in the course *i—i*. Side edge margins **21***a* of the upper area **21** of the rear panel **16** are reinforced and said panel is also reinforced downward from a course *j—j* somewhat above the course *f—f* to the terminal course *i—i* as conventionally indicated by the heavy shading in Fig. 6. The areas **24**, **25** and **26** constitute what will be referred to hereinafter as the tail portion of the rear panel **16**, said tail portion being of a length substantially equal to that of the intermediate portion **23**.

To complete the garment the front panel **15** is superimposed upon the rear panel **16** as shown in Fig. 7 and the upper area **17** of the former brought into coincidence with the upper area **21** of the latter, whereupon the matching parallel side edge segments are seamed together as conventionally indicated at **29** in Figs. 1–4 and 7. Incident to this seaming, an elastic belt strip **30** of Lastex or the like is inserted into the continuous waist channel formed by joinder of the welts **18** and **22** of the two panels as in Fig. 12 and made fast by yielding stitching **31**. Either before or immediately after the operation just described, finishing tape **32** of knitted material like that of the panels is applied about the bottom terminal edge *c—c* of the front panel **15** and made fast by elastic stitching as indicated at **33** in Fig. 9; and a similar strip **35** is continuously applied about the terminal course *i—i* and sloping edge segments **36** of the area **26** of panel **16** and made fast by yielding stitching as indicated at **37** in Fig. 10.

With the foregoing accomplished, the tail portion of the rear panel **16** comprising the areas **24**, **25** and **26**, is turned upward about the course *f—f* and overlaid upon the front panel **15** as shown in Fig. 8 whereby the course *h—h* of panel **16** will fall into coincidence with course *b—b* of panel **15**, with incidental formation of leg holes **38** bounded by the edge segments **39**, **40**, **41** and **42** of the two panels. The taped edge portions of the tail of the rear panel are next sewed fast by stitching, as at **43** in Fig. 10, to the front panel except between the points **44** and **45** in Figs. 1 and 3 to leave an access opening adjacent one of the leg holes **38** at the front of the garment. Finally, tape material **46**, such as already described, is applied about the peripheral edges of the leg holes **38** and made fast by yielding stitching as conventionally indicated at **47** in Fig. 11. From Figs. 1 and 3 it will be noted that the reinforced strip area **17***a* of the front panel **15** meets with the upwardly lapped reinforced extension or tail portion of the rear panel. As a consequence of these reinforcements, the garment is strength-

ened crosswise of the crotch between the leg holes as well as up the front, with capacity for increased moisture absorption throughout the reinforced region.

Due to being knitted from resilient yarn, the garment readily adapts itself to the body of the wearer, its contractive characteristics being light however so that it is worn without attendant discomfort, the elastic waist band **30** at the top thereof assisting to effectively hold it in place.

Having thus described my invention, I claim:

1. As a new article of manufacture, a garment of the trunk variety comprising an integrally-knitted flat fashioned selvage-edged rear fabric panel having a rectangular upper portion, a somewhat longer downwardly tapering intermediate portion and a narrow tail portion of a length equal substantially to that of the intermediate portion; an integrally-knitted flat fashioned selvage-edged front fabric panel having an upper rectangular portion corresponding in shape and size to upper portion of the front panel, and a shorter abruptly tapered portion, said front panel being superimposed upon the rear panel with its rectangular upper portion coinciding with the upper portion of the rear panel, and the tail portion of the rear panel being lapped upwardly over upon the front panel; stitching uniting the matching side edges of the upper portions of the two panels; and stitching connecting the edges of the lapping portion of the rear panel to the front panel, with attendant provision of leg holes at opposite sides of the garment.

2. A garment according to claim 1, wherein the edges of the lapping portion of the tail of the rear panel are sewed to the front panel partway only at one side to leave an access opening adjacent one of the leg openings.

3. A garment according to claim 1, wherein the front and rear panels are formed with tubular welts which jointly provide a continuous waist channel at the top of the finished garment; and wherein an elastic belt band is enclosed within said waist channel.

4. A garment according to claim 1, wherein the panels are both knitted from resilient spun yarn.

5. A garment according to claim 1, wherein the panels are of knitted fabric, and wherein the extended tail portion of the rear panel is reinforced throughout by use of an additional yarn in the knitting.

6. A garment according to claim 1, wherein the panels are of plain knitted fabric, and wherein the extended tail portion of the rear panel is reinforced throughout by use of an additional yarn in the knitting; wherein the front panel has a similarly reinforced medial area which extends down from the top of said panel and merges with the lapping reinforced tail portion of the rear panel.

7. A garment according to claim 1, wherein both panels are knitted from resilient reverse twisted spun yarn.

8. A garment according to claim 1, wherein both panels are knitted from resilient reverse twisted yarn, and wherein the leg holes are bound with tape of like material secured by yielding stitching.

9. As a new article of manufacture, a garment of the trunk variety comprising an integrally-knitted flat fashioned selvage-edged rear fabric panel having a rectangular upper portion, a somewhat longer downwardly-tapering

intermediate portion with complementally-sloped side edges, and a tail portion consisting of a relatively short narrow parallel side edged area, a correspondingly short flaring area with side edges sloped complementally to the side edges of the aforesaid intermediate portion, and a tapered bottom area with side edges inclined in correspondence with those of the intermediate portion; an integrally-knitted flat fashioned selvage-edged front fabric panel having an upper rectangular portion corresponding in size and shape to the upper portion of the rear panel, and a following abruptly-tapered shorter portion, the front panel being superimposed upon the rear panel with its rectangular portion coinciding with the upper portion of the rear panel, and the tail portion of the rear panel being lapped upwardly over upon the front panel; stitching uniting the matching side edges of the upper portions of the two panels; and stitching connecting the edges of the lapping portion of the tail of the rear panel to the front panel, with attendant provision of leg holes at opposite sides of the garment.

10. A garment according to claim 9, wherein the edges of the lapping portion of the tail of the rear panel are sewed to the front panel partway only at one side to leave an access opening adjacent one of the leg openings.

11. A garment according to claim 9, wherein the front and rear panels are formed with tubular welts which jointly provide a continuous waist channel at the top of the finished garment; and wherein an elastic belt band is enclosed within said channel.

12. A garment according to claim 9, wherein the panels are both knitted from resilient spun yarn.

13. A garment according to claim 9, wherein the panels are of plain knitted fabric, and wherein the extended tail portion of the rear panel is reinforced throughout by use of an additional yarn in the knitting.

14. A garment according to claim 9, wherein the panels are of plain knitted fabric, and wherein the extended tail portion of the rear panel is reinforced throughout by use of an additional yarn in the knitting; wherein the front panel has a similarly reinforced medial area which extends down from the top of said panel and merges with the reinforced lapping tail portion of the rear panel.

15. A garment according to claim 9, wherein both panels are knitted from resilient reverse twisted yarn.

16. A garment according to claim 9, wherein both panels are knitted from resilient reverse twisted yarn and wherein the leg holes are bound with tape of like material secured by yielding stitching.

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