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G. RAYNER

2,120,508

CORSET

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Fig. 1

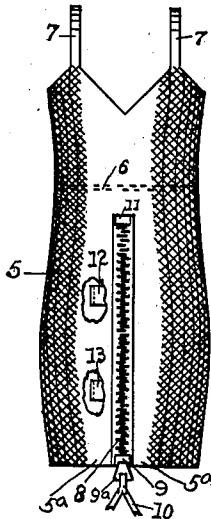


Fig. 2

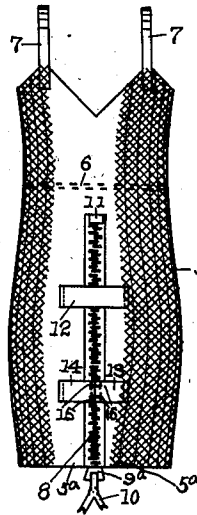


Fig. 3

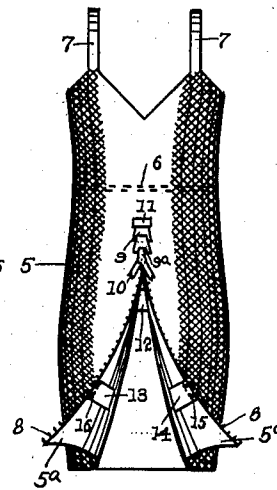
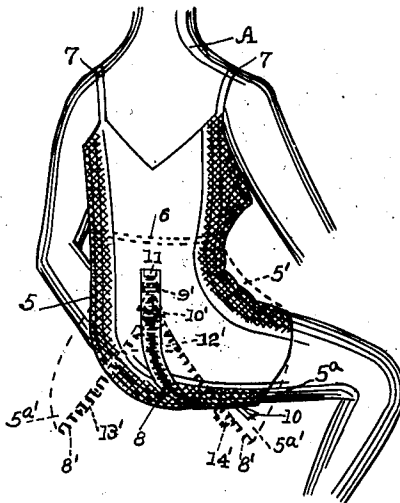


Fig. 4



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My invention relates to improvements in corsets.

The present-day, fashionable corset has in view the elimination of the hips as a prominent feature of the woman's figure, and endeavors to reduce the shape of the body from beneath the breasts to the lower parts of the thighs to as nearly a cylindrical form as possible. To attain this end a sleeve-shape garment of non-elastic cloth is provided and stiffened with flexible ribs but having no openings in its walls. When donning this corset, the wearer steps into the same and pulls it up to the desired location. For a woman of medium stoutness of figure, the proper size of corset for fashionable wear is so small, relatively, that extreme force is required to draw it up to the proper location. When in place, it holds the abdomen and hips in a vice-like grip which makes bending of the body at the hips difficult and attended by added discomfort. No provision is made in the corset construction for opening or adjusting the same when it becomes desirable for the wearer thereof to attend to the natural eliminative functions of her body, which are thus made impossible both by the extreme pressure to which the eliminative organs are subjected and their being covered by the bottom end of the corset.

The inconvenience of disrobing and removing the corset often induces its wearer to inhibit the eliminative urges, possibly, to her injury; and, in extreme instances, to forcibly roll up the lower end of the garment to the injury of its stiffening ribs.

The object of my invention is to provide an opening in the lower end of the back of the corset for use when donning the garment, when requiring relief from its pressure and to expose parts of the body covered thereby.

Another object of my invention is to provide closing means for an opening in a tight-fitting corset which are convenient to operate and effective to retain the said opening closed when desired.

I attain these and other objects of my invention with the mechanism illustrated in the accompanying sheet of drawing, which forms a part of this specification, in which Figure 1 is a rear elevation of a corset having my improvements in operative place thereon, Fig. 2 is a rear view of Fig. 1 in which the corset has been turned inside out, Fig. 3 is the same view as Fig. 1 with the lower part of the rear of the corset open and the edges of the opening therein rolled outward, and Fig. 4 is a rear perspective view of

one of my corsets in place, showing a fragmentary view of the wearer in a sitting posture and also, the positions of the lower parts of the rear of the corset in dotted lines when the same is open.

Similar characters refer to similar parts throughout.

With more particular reference to designated parts: In the corset 5 the transverse dotted lines 6 indicate the upper end of the ribbed, restrictive part of the garment and the bottom end of the looser-fitting waist on the upper end of which are the shoulder straps 7, 7. A vertical, central opening is made in the rear or back part of the corset extending from the bottom thereof to near the top of the corset proper and below the said lines 6. On the edges of this opening are fastened the parts of a "Zipper" 8 having the operating slide 9, the pivoted flap 9^a and the ribbon finger hold 10. At the top end of the "Zipper" is the fastening stop 11.

A short distance below the upper end of the "Zipper" is the elastic band 12 which is disposed across the said corset opening and has its ends fastened to the inside of the corset, as best shown in Fig. 2. A short distance above the bottom end of the said opening is the elastic band 13, 14 which is disposed across the opening with its ends fastened to the inside of the corset as shown in Fig. 2. Preferably, the lower band is divided into the parts 13 and 14 which may be joined with the hooks 15 engaged in the eyes or bars 16 for conveniently opening and closing the said band. In Fig. 1 the two parts of the elastic band 13, 14 and the elastic band 12 are on the interior wall of the back of the corset and their relative locations in Fig. 1 are shown by breaking away portions of the corset wall. Hooks and eyes 15, 16 are fastened on the adjacent ends of the two parts of the band 13, 14 to retain the same together. In Fig. 3 these hooks and eyes are disengaged, which, together with the disengaged "Zipper" 8, entirely unfastens the lower part of the corset back, separating the edges of the parts 5^a, 5^a.

In Fig. 4, a fragmentary portion of a woman's body A is shown in a sitting posture clothed with a corset 5, the bottom end of the corset being beneath the body. By moving the "Zipper" slide from its bottom to its top position at 9' and disengaging the hooks 15 the lower end of the corset is unfastened and the parts 5^a are forced apart by the relieved muscles to their dotted position at 5^a', 5^a', while the stretched band 12 is shown in dotted lines at 12', the "Zipper" hooks

at 8', 8' and the band 13, 14 at 13', 14', thus completely uncovering the bottom of the trunk of the body A. The elastic band 12 will retain the corset in place and, to again fasten the parts 5, 5' together and recompress the muscles referred to, the hooks and eyes on the severed band 13, 14 are engaged and the "Zipper" slide 9 is drawn down to the bottom end of the corset.

The employment of the elastic bands 12 and 13, 14, is necessary to reinforce the holding power of the "Zipper" which, otherwise, would be forced apart and opened after being closed, or prevented from being closed, by the resistance of the muscles within the corset to being compressed within the confines of the corset.

It is evident that the severed parts of the elastic band 13, 14 may be of unequal length; or the band need not be severed but have one end fastened on the corset wall on one side of the opening and the other end hooked to the corset wall on the other side of the opening. Nevertheless, I prefer the construction shown because it provides a good finger hold for each of the flaps 5, 5'.

25 Having thus disclosed my invention, what I claim as new therein and desire to secure by Letters Patent is,—

1. A corset having an opening in the back extended to the bottom thereof, a "Zipper" fastener on the edges of the said opening, and an elastic band having its ends fastened on the inside wall of the corset disposed across the said opening to reinforce the holding power of the said "Zipper" fastener.

2. A corset having an opening in the back extended to the bottom thereof, a "Zipper" fastener on the edges of the said opening to hold the same together, a plurality of elastic bands having their ends fastened to the inner wall of the corset transversely of the said opening to reinforce the holding power of the said "Zipper" fastener, and means to open and close the bottom one of the said bands.

3. A corset having an opening in the back extended to the bottom thereof, a "Zipper" fastener on the edges of the said opening, an elastic band having its ends fastened on the inside wall of the corset disposed across the said opening to reinforce the holding power of the said "Zipper" fastener, and means to separate portions of said elastic band from each other.

GRETA RAYNER.