

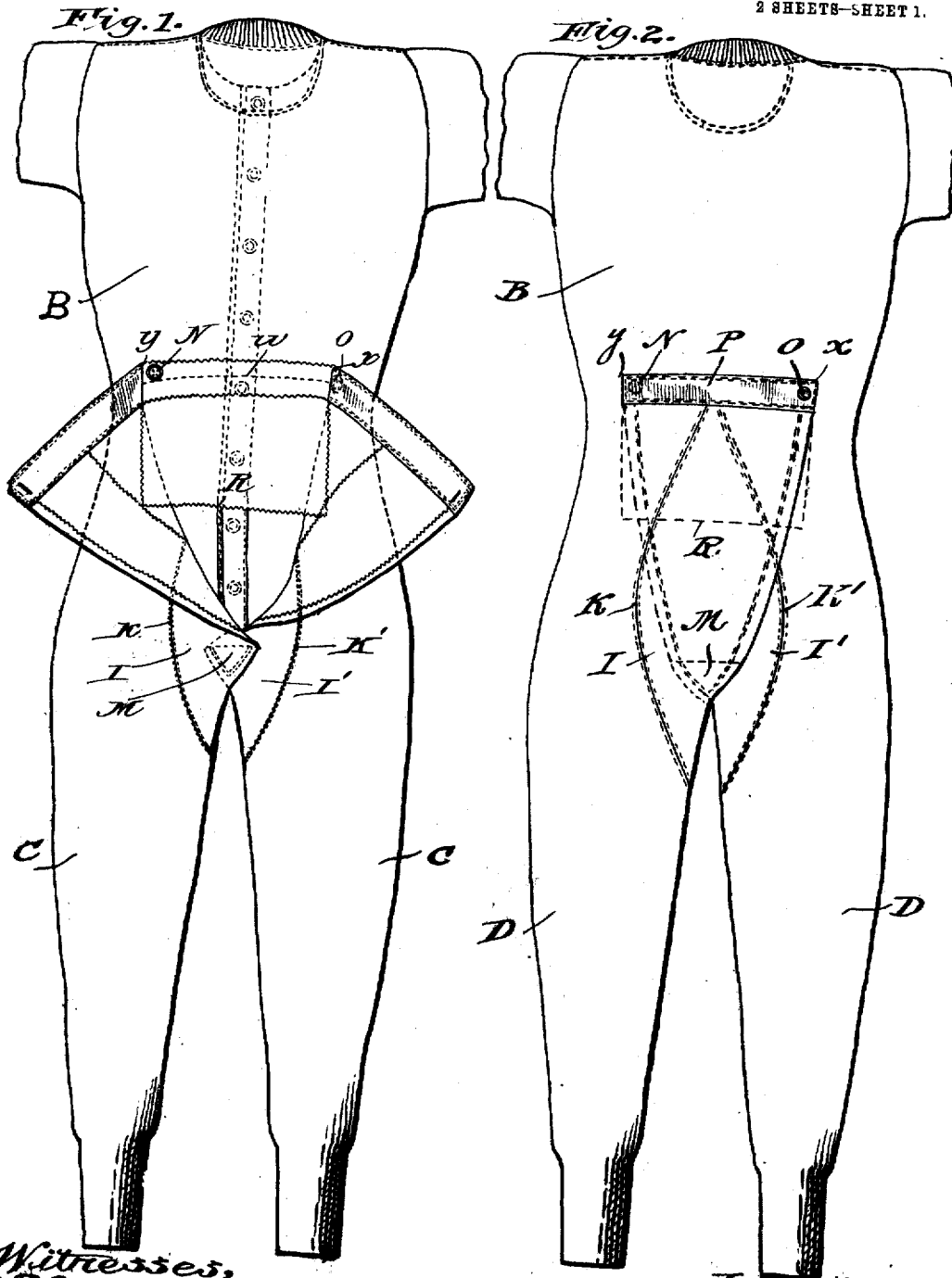
H. S. COOPER.
UNION GARMENT.

APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 13, 1909.

Patented Oct. 10, 1911.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

1,005,164.



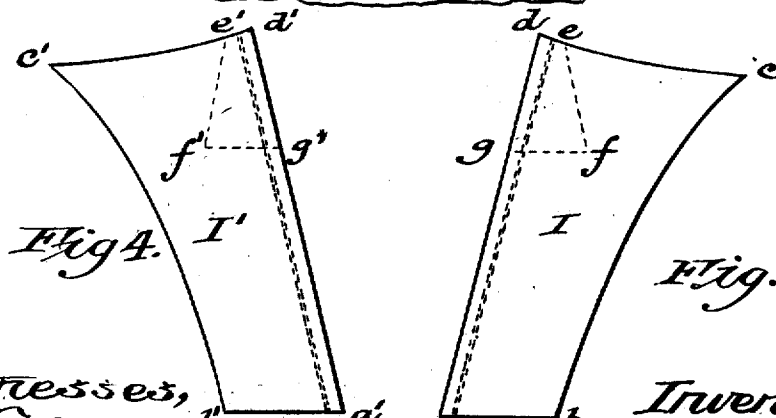
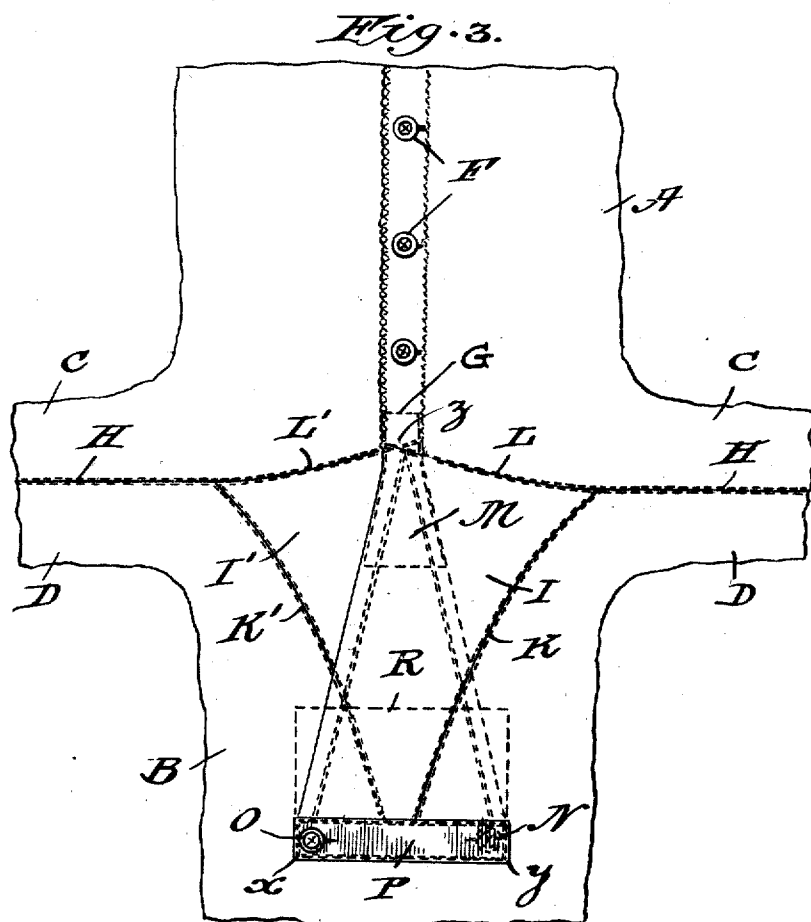
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY S. COOPER, OF KENOSHA, WISCONSIN, ASSIGNOR TO COOPER UNDERWEAR CO., OF KENOSHA, WISCONSIN, A CORPORATION OF WISCONSIN.

UNION GARMENT.

1,005,164.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Oct. 10, 1911.

Application filed September 13, 1909. Serial No. 517,417.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY S. COOPER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Kenosha, in the county of Kenosha and State of Wisconsin, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Union Garments, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to that class of wearing apparel known as union garments, and has reference more particularly to improvements in combination suits of underwear of that character.

Union suits have heretofore been produced in a considerable variety of styles, and having the openings therein necessary for application and use of the garment variously formed and located, such openings in some cases being provided with flaps of different sorts to prevent chafing and gaping and increase the comfort of the wearer.

My present invention belongs to that class of such garments which are closed at the crotch, but have an opening in the back between the crotch and approximately the region of the waist line adapted to be closed by a pair of overlapping flaps.

The general object of the invention is to provide an improved garment of the character referred to that shall combine comfort and convenience in a superior degree.

More specific objects are to provide a construction wherein the garment shall be less liable to gap at the opening in the back when subjected to transverse strains, and shall be stronger, more durable, and more comfortable in the closed crotch portion.

To these and other minor ends, the invention consists in the matters hereinafter described and more particularly pointed out and defined in the appended claims.

My invention, its manner of use, and its several advantages, will be readily understood from the following detail description, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification, and which show a union undergarment embodying the features of the invention.

In the said drawings Figure 1 is a back view of the complete garment showing the flaps opened. Fig. 2 is a similar view showing the flaps closed. Fig. 3 is an enlarged outer plan view in detail of the crotch and adjacent portions of the garment, as the same would appear were the garment split longitudinally on each side and the front

and rear halves of the upper or body-portion spread out in a common plane. Figs. 4 and 5 are detail plan views of a pair of mating gore-strips that are inserted in the back of the garment to form the reinforced crotch and in part the overlapping flaps that close the back opening.

Referring to the drawings, A designates the front, and B the rear or back of the upper or body portion of the garment; and C and D designate the front and rear, respectively, of the leg portions. The front A has a straight opening extending from the neck E to the crotch, the edges adjacent such opening being suitably finished with edging or binding and adapted to be separably united by buttoning over each other, as shown at F, all as usual; said edges being permanently united just above the front end of the crotch as by transverse stitching indicated at G.

The garment, herein shown is knit or woven in tubular form from top to bottom, the legs being formed by splitting the tube centrally from the lower end to the crotch and then joining the inner edges of the front and rear leg portions by seams H (Fig. 3). On the rear side of the garment the vertical split is continued up to approximately the waist line, at which point it intersects a horizontal cut extending centrally across the major portion of the back B. To provide for widening the garment in the upper leg and seat region, as well as to form a reinforced crotch and a suitable cover or closure for the opening in the back created by the vertical and horizontal cuts referred to, I employ a pair of four-sided gores or gussets I and I', shown in detail in Figs. 4 and 5, respectively. The gore-piece I' is strongly sewed or otherwise joined to the back and seat portion of the garment along its edge b'-c', as indicated by the seam K' (Figs. 2 and 3) and to the upper end of the leg portion in line with the leg seam H along its edge c'-d', as indicated by the seam L' (Figs. 1 and 3). The mating gore-piece I is joined in a similar manner along its edges b-c and c-d to the opposite side of the back, seat and leg portions, as indicated by the seams K and L.

The described construction produces a pair of triangular overlapping flaps in part made up by the gore-pieces I and I' and in part formed by the portions immediately below the horizontal cut and defined by the

points x, y, z (Figs. 1, 2 and 3). The inner overlapping lower corner portions of the gore-pieces I and I', to about the extent indicated by the dotted lines e, f, g and e', f', g' in Figs. 3 and 4, are sewed or otherwise permanently united to each other, thereby forming a crotch portion M of double thickness and insuring the permanent overlapped condition on the person of the wearer of the margins of the garment located in the crotch region, and conducing to both comfort and durability. Buttons N and O are sewed to the back B and to the upper attached corner of the inner flap, respectively, that are engaged by button holes in the free upper corners of the two flaps to secure the latter detachably in overlapped or closed position, the upper edges of the flaps being preferably finished by any suitable binding or edging indicated at P.

From the foregoing it will be seen that the gore-pieces I, I' together constitute a pieced insert in the back of the garment, forming a seat-piece which is permanently closed throughout the crotch from front to rear, a pair of thigh gore extensions represented by the lower portions of the pieces I, I' running down into the legs, and a pair of flaps represented mainly by the upper overlapping portions of the pieces I, I'. The outer and lower edges of the said insert are seamed to the posterior part of the garment from the vicinity of the waist-line downwardly into each leg to points below the crotch, and the upper and inner edges thereof are free from the vicinity of the waist-line downwardly to points above the crotch.

A substantially rectangular depending flap R attached at its upper edge to the upper edge of the back opening and underlying both of the triangular flaps may be employed if desired.

I claim:

1. A union-suit, having a pieced insert in the back thereof, the pieces of which are sewed together so as to form a seat-piece permanently closed throughout the crotch from front to rear, a pair of thigh-gore extensions, and a pair of back flaps, the outer and lower edges of said insert being sewed

to the garment from the vicinity of the waist-line downwardly into each leg to points below the crotch and the inner edges thereof being free from the vicinity of the waist-line downwardly to points above the crotch, and means for detachably holding the flaps at their upper ends in overlapped relation.

2. A union-suit having a pieced insert in the back thereof, the pieces of which are sewed together to form a seat-piece permanently closed throughout the crotch from front to rear and a pair of thigh-gore extensions and a pair of flaps, the outer edges of said insert being seamed to the posterior part of the garment from the vicinity of the waist-line to the points where they merge into the gore extensions, the gore-extensions being seamed into the respective legs and extending to points well below the crotch, and the upper and inner edges of the flap portions being free across the top and from thence downwardly to points above the crotch where they meet the thigh-gore extensions.

3. A union suit open from the neck to the crotch in front and also open in the back, said suit having overlapping flaps closing the back opening and permanently united through the crotch to form a crotch of double thickness, substantially as described.

4. A union suit having inserted in the back and seat region thereof a pair of mating four-sided gore-pieces extending from substantially the waist line to points in the inner sides of the legs below the crotch, said gore-pieces being sewed to the fabric of the garment along two of their respective edges and having the inner lower corner portions thereof overlapped and permanently united to form a crotch of double thickness and the upper portions of said gore-pieces being adapted to overlap and button at the top to the body of the garment to close the back opening in the latter, substantially as described.

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