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D. PORRECA

1,924,512

TROUSERS PROTECTOR

Filed Oct. 31, 1931

Fig. 1

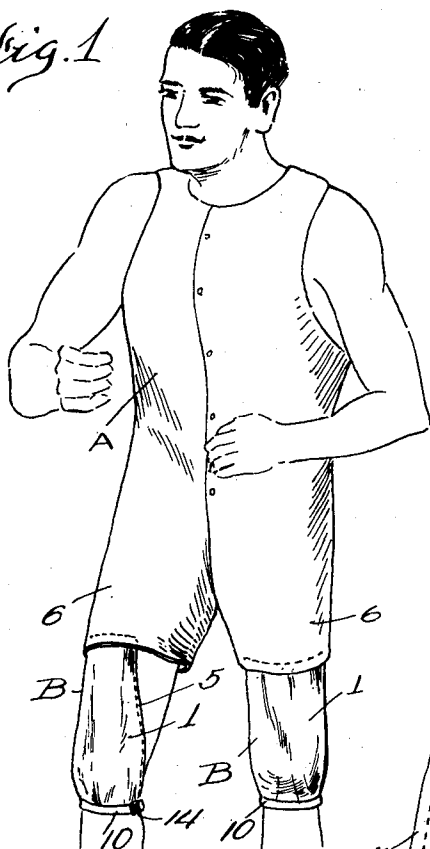


Fig. 3

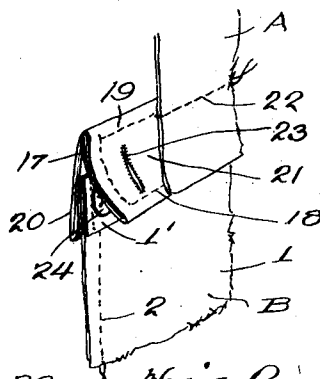


Fig. 2

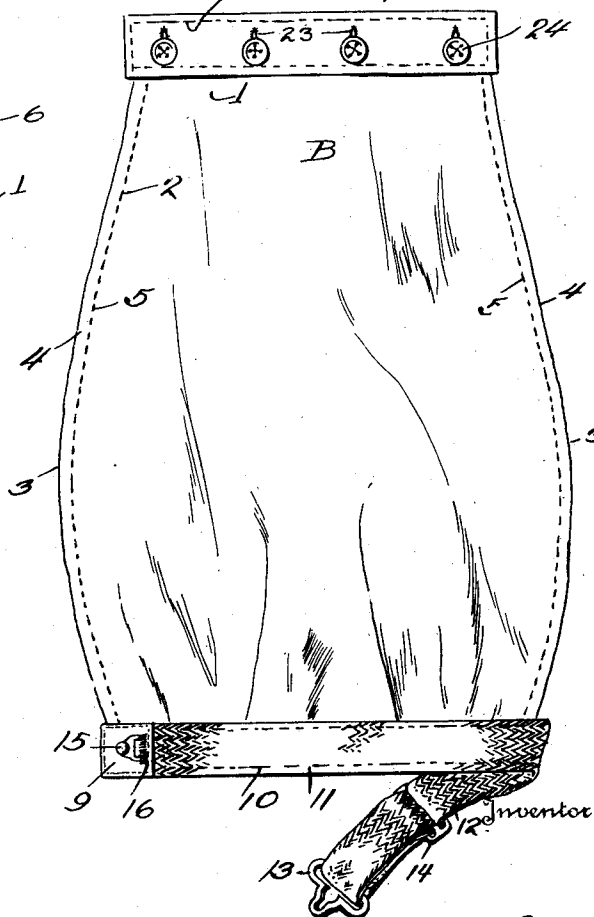
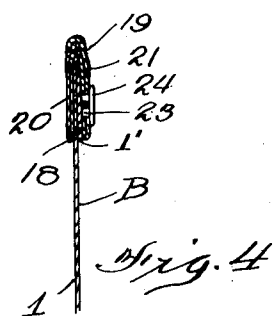


Fig. 4

334

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TROUSERS PROTECTOR

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2 Claims. (Cl. 2—46)

Generically this invention relates to protectors or shields, but it more especially comprehends the type applicable to the knees of the wearer for the protection of the knee portions of trousers.

One of the principal objects of this invention is the provision of a knee shield attachable to the undergarments and to the leg of a person to prevent direct contact of the knee and trousers and consequent damage thereto by perspiration.

Another important object of this invention is the provision of a padlike covering for the knees as a protection to the trousers by preventing absorption of perspiration thereby and adapted to materially decrease baginess thereof caused by the knee action of the wearer.

A further object of this invention is the provision of a covering for the knee detachably connected to the undergarment above the knee and about the leg below the knee for the protection of the trousers during wearing thereof and adapted to be transferred from one undergarment to another as desired.

With these and other objects in view, which will become apparent as the description proceeds, the invention resides in the construction, combination and arrangement of parts, hereinafter more fully described and claimed, and illustrated in the accompanying drawing, in which like characters of reference indicate like parts throughout the several figures, of which:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of one of the pads or shields as applied to the knee;

Fig. 2 is a plan view of one of the pads and a portion of the undergarment; and

Fig. 3 is a detailed view of the anchoring strip and portion of the protector shield in disassembled relation.

Figure 4 is a longitudinal sectional view of the shield illustrated in Figure 2.

The structures of this nature with which I am familiar have proven unsatisfactory by reason of their complicated construction, the difficulty with which they are applied, uncomfortable to the wearer, and cost of production, and it was to overcome such deficiencies and to provide a neat trousers protector or shield device adapted for either permanent or detachable connection with an undergarment of the B. V. D., Step-in or other type, in such a manner that there are no protruding parts to hinder the expeditious donning or removal of the garment, and means for readily attaching the device about the leg of the wearer to pro-

tect the knee portion of the trousers from perspiration and undue strain incident to the knee action, that I designed the device forming the subject-matter of this invention.

In the illustrated embodiment characterizing this invention there is shown a portion of an undergarment A and covering for the knee or trousers protector B formed from a piece of any desired fabric, initially comprising a blank or body portion 1, and while substantially rectangular, is preferably wider at a point intermediate its length than at its ends, folded at its upper edge to form a hem or reinforcement 1' and secured adjacent its respective edges by a line of stitching 2. The opposite edges of the body portion 1 extend from said hem 1' outwardly to points as at 3 and inwardly to its lower end and are folded over to form narrow hems 4 secured by stitching 5. The lower end of the blank 1 is folded over to form a hem 7 secured by stitching 8, said hem at one end extends beyond the edge of the blank 1 to form an extension 9. An elastic band 10 is superimposed on hem 7, the extensions 9 folded thereover and the elastic, extension and hem portion secured together by stitching 11. The free end of elastic band 10 extends beyond the edge of blank 1, forming an extension 12, and carries a loop or hook member 13, the length of the elastic being governed by the slip adjusting element 14 in a manner well known to the art. A stud or catch 15 is secured to extension 9 adjacent its inner edge by sewing as at 16, or in any suitable manner.

An anchoring strip or element 17 is formed from a substantially rectangular blank piece of material similar to blank 1, folded over so that its edges will meet substantially central thereof, said folded sections being secured by a row of stitching 18, the reinforced piece then being folded centrally along the meeting edges of the first folded sections and is secured in such folded position along its folded or hinged edge by stitching 19 forming the flap sections 20 and 21. The upper or hinged edge of the flaps is secured to the under surface of the undergarment leg portion spaced from its lower edge by stitching 22 so that the lower edge of the flap portions will be flush with the lower edge of the garment. The inner flap 21 is preferably formed with a plurality of spaced buttonholes 23 adapted to receive the corresponding buttons 24 secured to the outer surface of hem 1' and which forms the detachable connection between the shield B and the garment A. Of course, it is to be understood that while for

brevity of description, only one of these shields and anchor elements has been described, a similar pad B is to be applied to each of the respective garment legs. It will likewise be noted that the point of detachable connection at the lower ends of these shields is properly at the outer side of the leg, and, consequently, they may be made right and left hand by having the free end 12 of the elastic band 10 extend in opposite directions from the respective pads or shields.

While I have shown the preferable form of detachable connection at the upper end of the shield and as applied to the leg-encircling elastic, it is to be understood that such fastening means may be varied according to the exigencies of the particular requirements without departing from the spirit or scope of my invention.

Further, though I have referred to my device as attached preferably to a short type of undergarment, it may be applied with equal facility to different and longer types of garments.

From the above it will be noted that the shields B may be easily attached to the leg of an undergarment and expeditiously snapped or secured about the respective legs of the wearer below the knees, and that they may be transferred from one undergarment to another by simply attaching an anchor strip 17 to each of the undergarments so that the shield may be transferable from one garment to another, and they may remain attached to the garments to be laundered therewith or laundered separately, as desired. Further, it will be observed that the connecting flap and buttons 24 are concealed by the overlapping flap 20, which presents a smooth inner surface and prevents catching of the toes when putting on the garment.

From the foregoing it is apparent that I have designed a device attachable to the undergarment and applicable to the knees of the wearer for the protection of the outer garment or trousers, simple in construction, manufacturable at a minimum cost and efficient for the purposes intended.

Although in practice I have found that the form of my invention illustrated in the accompanying drawing and referred to in the above description as the preferred embodiment, is the

most efficient and practical; yet realizing the conditions concurrent with the adoption of my invention will necessarily vary, I desire to emphasize that various minor changes in details of construction, proportion and arrangement of parts, may be resorted to within the scope of the appended claims without departing from or sacrificing any of the principles of this invention.

Having thus described my invention, what I desire protected by Letters Patent is as set forth in the following claims:

1. The combination with an undergarment of a knee shield for the protection of trousers adapted to engage the leg and knee of the wearer comprising a body portion formed wider at a point intermediate its length than at its ends and gathered at its lower edge to form a cap-like formation at said widest point to permit freedom of knee action, an elastic band connected to said body at its lower edge, one end extending beyond said body portion adapted to removably encircle the leg, an anchor strip folded to form overlapping flaps attached at the line of fold to said garment at a point spaced from its lower edge to form a flap adapted to overlie one of said first mentioned flaps, and means for detachably connecting the upper end of said body portion with the intermediate flap, whereby the connecting means is concealed by the remaining flaps and catching of the foot on said shield is prevented.

2. The combination with an undergarment having leg sections, of an anchor member having overlapping flaps attached to the respective leg sections at points spaced from their lower edges, the overlying portions of the leg sections constituting additional flaps, a trouser protecting knee shield detachably connected to the respective intermediate flaps, each of said knee shields comprising a body portion formed wider at a point spaced from its lower edge than its respective ends and formed with tucks at its lower end to form a cap-like formation at said wider point to permit freedom of knee action, and an elastic band superimposed on said body adjacent its lower edge and suitably secured thereon with one end extending beyond said body portion adapted to removably encircle the leg.

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