Dec. 28, 1926. 1,612,067

S. E. B. SHEPARD

BAND GIRDLE

Filed Feb. 3, 1926 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

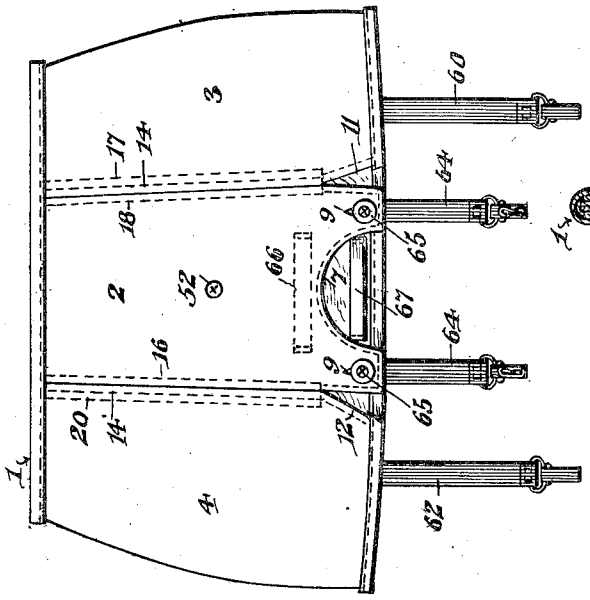


Fig. 2.

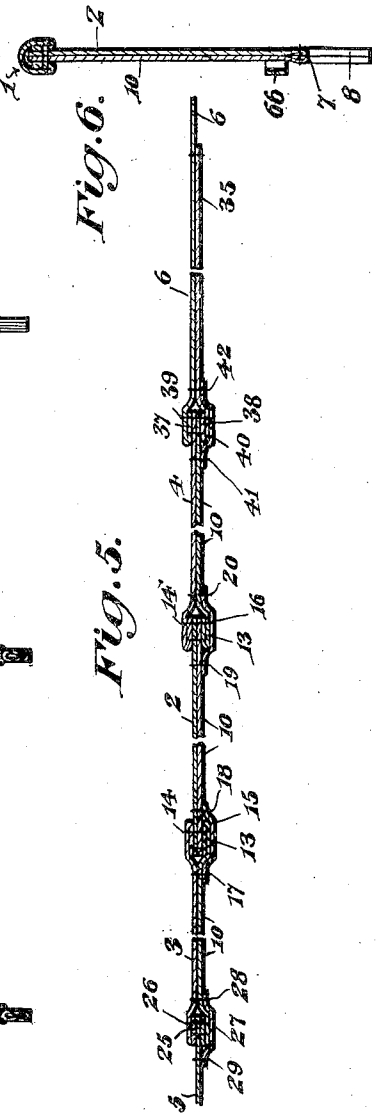


Fig. 6.

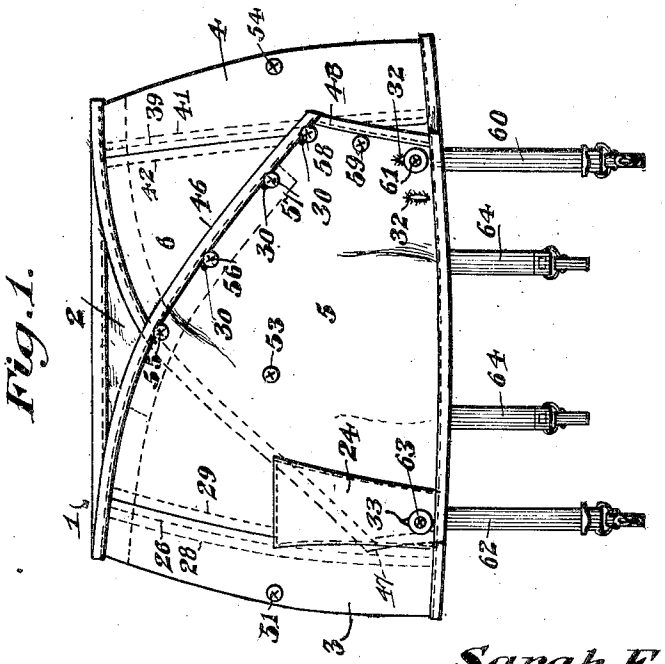


Fig. 1.

Fig. 5.

INVENTOR.

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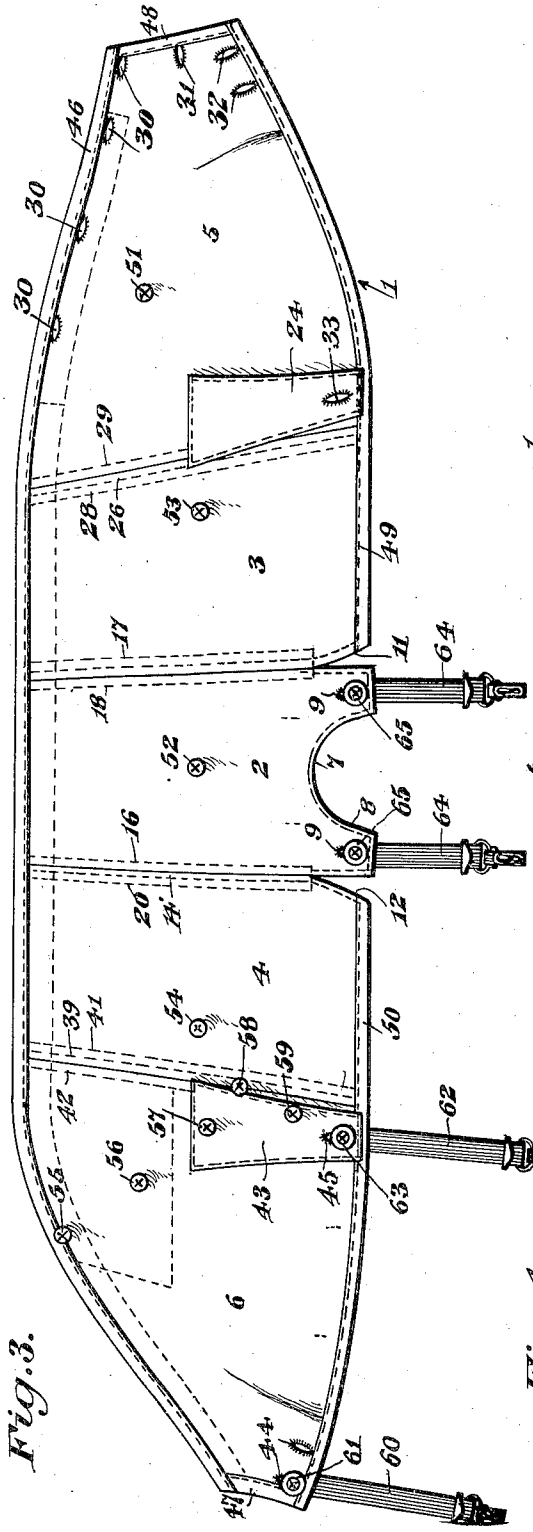


Fig. 3.

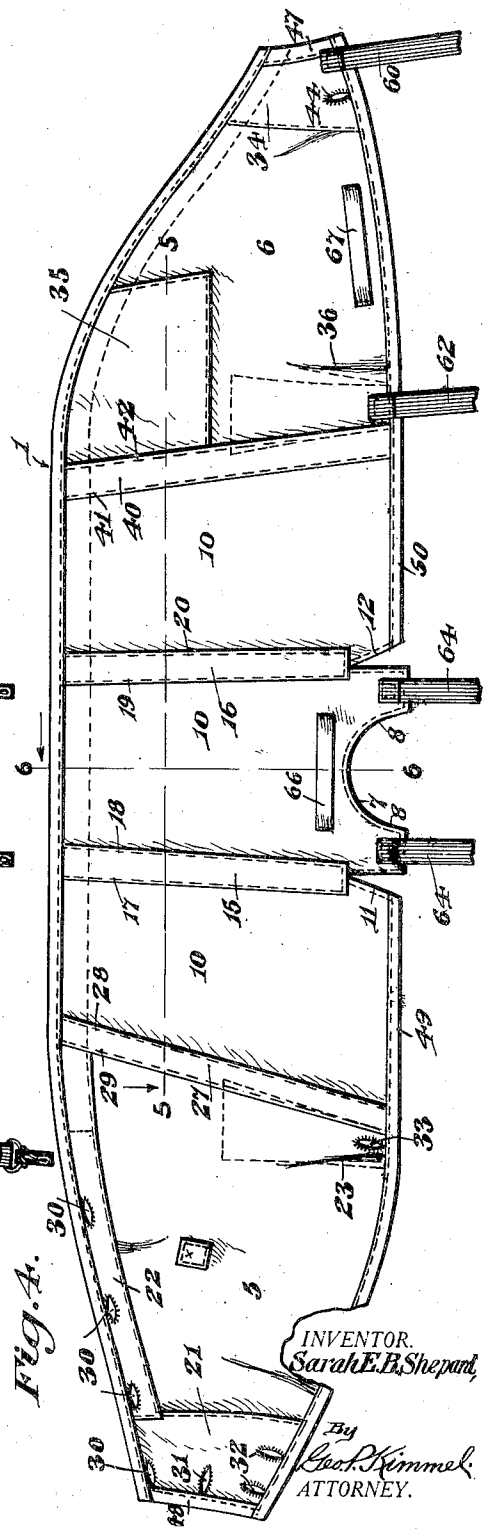


Fig. 4.

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Patented Dec. 28, 1926. 1,612,067

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SARAH E. B. SHEPARD, OF LOWELL, MASSACHUSETTS.

BAND GIRDLE.

Application filed February 3, 1926. Serial No. 85,736.

This invention relates to women's apparel, more particularly to an undergarment of the overlapping band girdle type, and has for its object to provide in a manner as hereinafter set forth, a flexible band girdle, which when worn will permit freedom of movement without any discomfort, as well as imparting to the body of the wearer an erect, graceful carriage and shapely appearance.

A further object of the invention is to provide, in a manner as hereinafter set forth, a flexible band girdle capable of being worn as a corset, at the same time preventing the discomfort or possible internal harm resulting when stiff corsets are worn, as well as overcoming the uncomfortable feeling of being laced in.

A further object of the invention is to provide, in a manner as hereinafter set forth, a flexible band girdle having means for anchoring an undergarment, such as a combination, therewith to prevent the latter bodily shifting throughout relative to the girdle thereby overcoming any binding or cramping action upon the wearer by the combination when the latter is worn.

A further object of the invention is to provide, in a manner as hereinafter set forth, a flexible band girdle of a length to have the end terminal portions thereof to overlap when the garment is worn and with the body of the latter and one end terminal portion thereof provided with co-acting means, other than a lacing or hooks and eyes, for detachably securing the girdle in encircling position with respect to the body of the wearer when worn.

Further objects of the invention are to provide, in a manner as hereinafter set forth, a flexible undergarment of the overlapping band girdle type, which is simple in its construction and arrangement, strong, durable, compact, thoroughly efficient in its use, conveniently positioned on the wearer, and comparatively inexpensive to manufacture.

With the foregoing and other objects in view, the invention consists of the novel construction, combination and arrangement of parts as hereinafter more specifically described, and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, wherein is shown an embodiment of the invention, but it is to be understood that changes, variations and modifications can be resorted to which come within the scope of the claims hereunto appended.

In the drawings wherein like reference characters denote corresponding parts throughout the several views:—

Figure 1 is a rear elevation of a band girdle, in accordance with this invention in position to be worn.

Figure 2 is a front elevation thereof in like position.

Figure 3 is a front elevation of the garment when extended.

Figure 4 is a rear elevation of the garment when extended.

Figure 5 is a section on line 5—5, Figure 4, looking in the direction of the arrows.

Figure 6 is a section on line 6—6, Figure 4, looking in the direction of the arrows.

Referring to the drawings in detail the undergarment comprises a flexible body portion referred to generally by the reference character 1 and formed of a central section 2, a pair of intermediate sections 3, 4 and a pair of end sections 5, 6. The sections 2, 3 and 4 gradually increase in width from their top to their bottom edges and are flush at their top edges. The width of the sections 3 and 4 are substantially the same and are of greater width than the section 2. The outer side edge of the section 3 as well as the section 4, inclines inwardly from the bottom to the top thereof whereby each intermediate section will gradually increase in width from its top to its bottom so that when the end sections of the body portion 1 are secured together, in overlapping position, as shown in Figure 1, the top of the girdle will be of smaller diameter than its bottom as shown in Figure 2. The bottom of the section 2 is incut as at 7 to provide a pair of flexible, depending tabs 8 and each of these latter are formed with a button hole 9.

Each of the sections 2, 3 and 4 includes a flexible lining 10. The inner side edges of the sections 3, 4 at the lower portion thereof is formed at outward inclination from a point aligning with the top of a tab 9, as at 11, 12 respectively and such inclined portions project away from and are disconnected from the lower portions of the side edges of the section 2 whereby the bottom or the tabs forming part of said section 2 will be free to swing independent of the sections 3, 4. The inner side marginal portion of the fabric and lining of each of the sections 3, 4, is inturned, as indicated at 13, see Figure 5, and the said inturned portions from the upper termini of the lower inclined parts of the inner side edges of said sections 3, 4 over-

lap the side marginal portions of the section 2. The sections 3, 4 are secured to the sides of the section 2 by rows of stitching 14, 14'.

Arranged against the inner face of the body portion 1, at the points of connection of the section 2, with the sections 3, 4, are a pair of transversely extending stay members 15, 16 which extend upon the linings 10. The stay member 15 is secured in position by the rows of stitching 17, 18 and the stay member 16 by the rows of stitching 19, 20. The fabric and lining of the section 2 are connected together by a row of stitching 21 which extends throughout the section 2 in proximity to its edges, and not only connects section 4 to section 2, but also connects the fabric and lining of section 4 together.

The section 5, as well as the section 6, tapers lengthwise in a direction towards the free end thereof. The sections 5 and 6 are not lined throughout in the manner as referred to in connection with sections 2, 3 and 4. The length of either of the sections 5, 6 is materially greater than the width of either of the sections 2, 3 and 4. The inner ends of the sections 5, 6 are of a width equal to the length of the outer sides of the sections 3, 4 respectively.

Secured against the inner face of the section 5, at the outer end of the latter is a reinforcing piece 21. Secured to the inner face of the section 5, at the top thereof is a narrow lengthwise extending reinforcing strip 22. The section 5 is gathered and secured together as at 23 to provide a dart. Secured to the lower portion of the outer face of the section 5 is a reinforcing strip 24.

The outer side marginal portions of the fabric lining of the section 3 are inturned as at 25, and extending between said inturned portions is the inner end of the section 5. The section 5 is secured to the section 3 by a row of stitching 26 and positioned against the inner face, at the point of joinder between the section 3 and 5, and extending from the top to the bottom edges of said sections and secured therewith by the rows of stitching 28 and 29 is a stay member 27 formed from a length of flexible tape. The opposed edges of the section 3 and 5 are disposed at an inclination and the stay member 27 is disposed likewise.

The section 5 is formed in proximity to its top with a series of spaced button-holes 30, in proximity to its free end with a button-hole 31, in proximity to its bottom edge with a pair of button-holes 32, and near its bottom edge in proximity to its inner end with a button-hole 33 which is arranged adjacent to the dart formed in such section.

The section 6 has secured to its inner face thereof, a reinforcing piece 34 and a reinforcing piece 35. A part of the section 6 is gathered and secured together to provide a dart 36. The section 6 has its inner end inturned as at 37 and such inturned portion is seated on the outer side marginal portion of the section 4. The reinforcing piece 35 is inturned as at 38 and seated against the lining 10 of the section 4. The outer side marginal portion of the section 4 extends between the inturned portions 37 and 38 and said section 4 is secured to the section 6 by the stitching 39.

Arranged against the inner face of the body portion 1, at the point of connection between the sections 4 and 6, is a stay member 40 which is secured to sections 4 and 6 by rows of stitching 41, 42 respectively. The outer side edge of the section 4 and the inner end edge of the section 6 extend at an inclination and the stay member 40 extends at a like inclination. The outer face of the section 6, at the inner end thereof has secured thereto a reinforcing member 43, of the same material from which said section 6 is formed. The stay member 43 is of a length less than the width of the section 6. The section 6 in proximity to its free end is provided with a pair of spaced button-holes 44 and in proximity to its inner end with a button-hole 45. The button-holes 44 and 45 are positioned in close proximity to the bottom edge of the section 6.

One of the button-holes 30, of the section 5, extends through the reinforcing piece 21 and the other of the button-holes 30 of the section 5 extend through the reinforcing strip 22. The button-hole 31 as well as the button-hole 32 extend through the reinforcing piece 21 and the button-hole 33 extend through the reinforcing member 24. The button-holes 44 of the section 6 extend through the reinforcing piece 34 and the button-hole 45 extends through the reinforcing member 43.

The body portion 1 is provided with edge binders as at 46, 47, 48, 49 and 50. The bottom edge of the section 2 is not provided with a binding means. The button-holes are positioned adjacent the said binders. The button-holes 30 and 31 extend lengthwise and the button-holes 9, 32, 33, 44 and 45 are disposed transversely with respect to the body portion 1.

The outer face of the body portion 1 has secured thereto the buttons 51, 52, 53 and 54 which are employed for connecting the garment, such as a combination, to the girdle, when the latter is worn and said buttons prevent the shifting of the garment to overcome a binding or cramping action on the wearer when the latter is worn.

Secured to the outer face of the section 6 are a series of spaced buttons 55, 56, 57 and 58 which are arranged in an inclined row. Secured to the outer face of the reinforcing member 43 and below and forwardly with respect to the button 58 is a button 59.

When the band is positioned upon the body of the wearer the buttons 55, 56, 57, and 58 extend through the button-holes 30 and the button 59 through the button-hole 31, and by this arrangement the end terminal portions of the girdle are detachably connected together in overlapping position when the garment is secured to the wearer and the free terminus of the end section 5 is prevented from bulging outwardly when the girdle is worn. When the overlapping terminal portions of the body portion are connected together, the button-holes 32 register with the button-holes 45, and each pair of registering button-holes provides means for anchoring a garment supporter 60 therewith. The upper end of the supporter 60 is provided with a button 61 for extension through the pair of registering button-holes. When the end terminal portions of the body portion are in overlapping position the button-hole 33 registers with the button-hole 44 and provides means for connecting a garment supporter 62 to the girdle. The supporter 62 has a button 63 at its outer end for passage through the registering button-hole 33 and 45. The button-holes 9 provide means for connecting garment supporter 64 to the girdle. The supporters 64 have their upper ends provided with buttons 65 for passage through the button-holes 9.

Secured to the inner face of the section 6, in proximity to the cut out portion 7 is a transversely extending loop forming member 66 for suspension purposes and secured to the inner face of the section 6, in proximity to the lower edge thereof is a lengthwise extending loop forming member 67 for suspension purposes.

It is thought the many advantages of a garment of the overlapping band girdle type, in accordance with this invention, can be readily understood, and although the preferred embodiment of the invention is as illustrated and described, yet it is to be understood that changes of the details of construction can be had which will fall within the scope of the invention as claimed.

What I claim is:

1. A body garment of the overlapping band girdle type comprising a flexible body portion of appropriate length for positioning in band like form when worn, said body portion formed centrally of its lower part with a pair of spaced flexible tabs positioned at the front of the garment when worn and each provided with a button-hole for connecting a garment supporter therewith, and said body portion including a pair of end portions each formed near its bottom edge with a plurality of spaced button-holes, the said button-holes of one terminal portion registering with the button-holes of the other terminal portion and each pair of registering button-holes providing means for connecting a garment supporter to said body portion.

2. A body garment of the overlapping band girdle type comprising a flexible body portion of appropriate length for positioning in band like form when worn, said body portion formed centrally of its lower part with a pair of spaced flexible tabs positioned at the front of the garment when worn and each provided with a button-hole for connecting a garment supporter therewith, and said body portion including a pair of end portions each formed near its bottom edge with a plurality of spaced button-holes, the said button-holes of one terminal portion registering with the button-holes of the other terminal portion and each pair of registering button-holes providing means for connecting a garment supporter to said body portion, and said registering openings positioned at the back of the garment when worn.

3. A body garment of the overlapping band girdle type comprising a flexible body portion of appropriate length including a pair of end sections adapted to overlap when the garment is worn, one of said sections having secured to its outer face an inclined row of spaced buttons extending downwardly and inwardly from a point removed from the outer end of the top of such section and the latter further having secured to its outer face a button arranged below the lower button of said row, and the other of said sections provided with a series of button-holes near its top edge and a button-hole at its outer end, said button-holes coacting with said buttons to secure said body portion in position on the wearer.

4. A body garment of the overlapping band girdle type comprising a flexible body portion of appropriate length including a pair of end sections adapted to overlap when the garment is worn, one of said sections having secured to its outer face an inclined row of spaced buttons extending downwardly and inwardly from a point removed from the outer end of the top of such section and the latter further having secured to its outer face a button arranged below the lower button of said row, and the other of said sections provided with a series of button-holes near its top edge and a button-hole at its outer end, said button-holes coacting with said buttons to secure said body portion in position on the wearer, said body portion centrally of its lower part provided with means for connecting garment supporters thereto, and each of said end sections provided with a plurality of spaced button-holes at the bottom thereof, the spaced button-holes at the bottom of one section adapted to register with the spaced button-holes at the bottom of the other section, each pair of registering button-holes providing

means for connecting a garment supporter to the body portion.

5. A body garment of the overlapping band girdle type comprising a flexible body portion of appropriate length including a pair of end sections adapted to overlap when the garment is worn, one of said sections having secured to its outer face an inclined row of spaced buttons extending downwardly and inwardly from a point removed from the outer end of the top of such section and the latter further having secured to its outer face a button arranged below the lower button of said row, and the other of said sections provided with a series of button-holes near its top edge and a button-hole at its outer end, said button-holes coacting with said buttons to secure said body portion in position on the wearer, and each of said sections in proximity to its inner end at its lower part provided with dart forming means.

6. A body garment of the overlapping band girdle type comprising a flexible body portion of appropriate length including a pair of end sections adapted to overlap when the garment is worn, one of said sections having secured to its outer face an inclined row of spaced buttons extending downwardly and inwardly from a point removed from the outer end of the top of said section and the latter further having secured to its outer face a button positioned below the lower button of said row, the other of said sections provided with a series of spaced button holes near its top edge and a button hole at its outer end, said button hole disposed to coact with said buttons to secure said body portion in position on the wearer when the end sections are in overlapping position, and spaced means disposed throughout the body portion other than that section provided with buttons for detachably connecting a garment therewith in enveloping position with respect thereto.

In testimony whereof, I affix my signature hereto.

SARAH E. B. SHEPARD.