

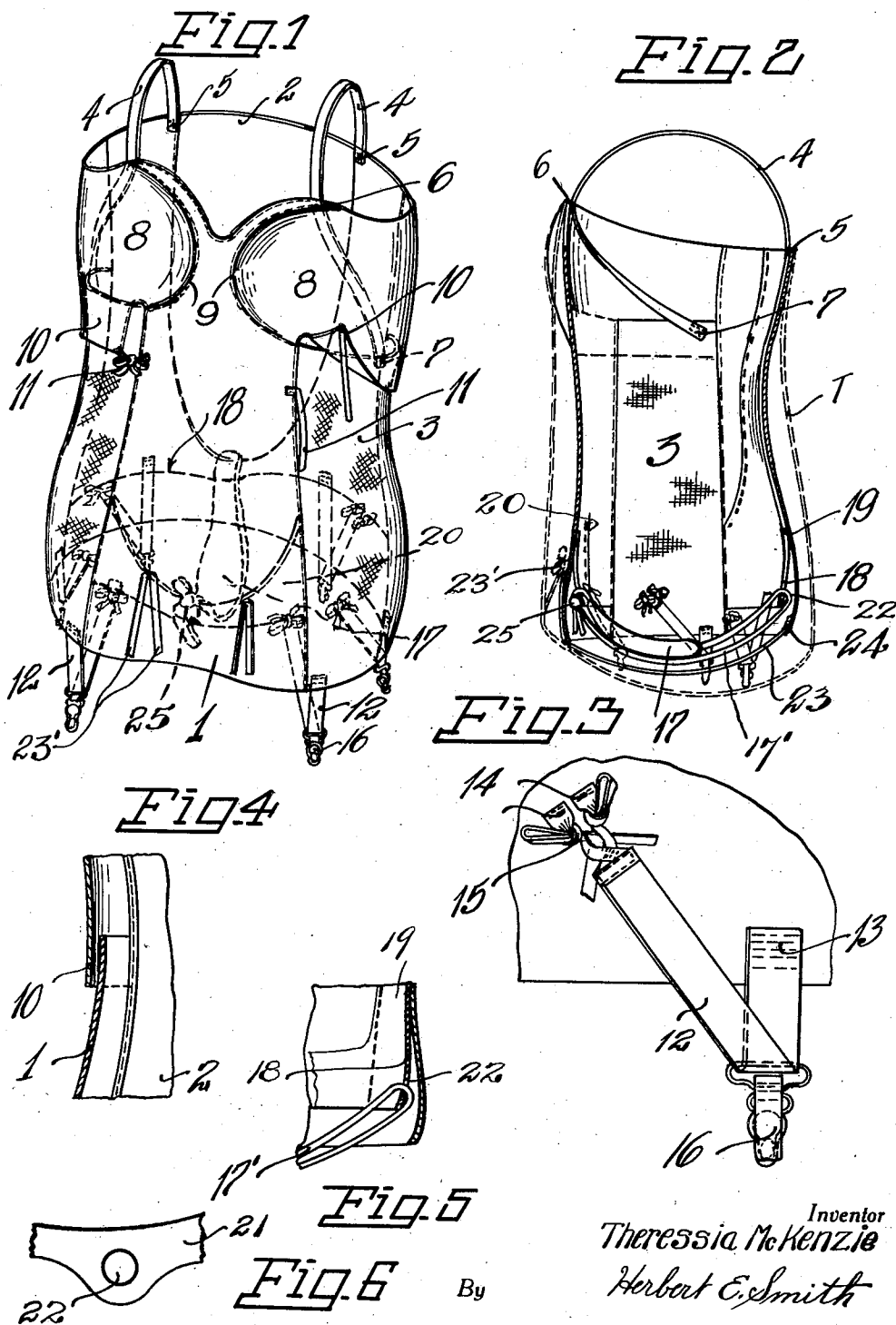
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## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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The invention is a combination form-fitting garment having front and rear panels with elastic side panels in which U shaped yokes are provided in the front and rear panels for distributing the stresses and the upper part of the front panel is cut away to clear the breasts and arranged so that the stress will be carried directly up the center of the panel to the shoulder straps.

10 The object of the invention is to provide a combination foundation garment which will efficiently support the abdomen.

Another object of the invention is to provide a combination foundation garment for 15 supporting the abdomen which is so constructed that the stress from the lower portion will be carried around the breasts to shoulder straps.

Another object of the invention is to provide a combination foundation garment which is so constructed that it will hold the abdomen up and in and is arranged to carry the stress around the breasts to shoulder straps and also 25 sides of the breasts to the sides of the garment.

A further object of the invention is to provide a combination garment having a simple efficient and readily adjustable means for supporting a sanitary napkin.

30 And a still further object of the invention is to provide a combination form-fitting foundation garment for supporting the abdomen and back which may readily be slipped over the head and which is of a comparatively simple and economical construction.

With these ends in view the invention embodies a combination foundation garment somewhat similar to a corset without boning or stiffeners having a front panel extending 40 from the lower extremities upward to points under the breasts, around the inner sides of the breasts to points above the centers thereof, shoulder straps connected to the upper ends of the front panel at the said points above the breasts, an additional U shaped section on the inside and adjacent the lower end of the front panel, a rear panel reenforced in the shape of a U with the rear ends of the shoulder straps attached to the upper ends thereof, 50 elastic side panels, brassiere portions in the

said breast openings extending across the upper ends of the said side panels to the sides of the rear panel, hose supports attached to the lower ends of the said U shaped panel at the front and rear and also to the lower ends 55 of the said front panel, suitable loops at the lower end of the said front and rear panels and a suitable sanitary napkin having ends extending therefrom adaptable to be placed through the said loops and tied at the front. 60

Other features and advantages of the invention will appear from the following description taken in connection with the drawings, wherein:—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a garment 65 embodying the features of the invention.

Figure 2 is a vertical sectional view of the garment.

Figure 3 is a detail showing one of the hose 70 supports.

Figure 4 is a detail sectional view showing overlapping portions at the sides of the upper edges of the garment.

Figure 5 is a view showing a slight modification in the support for the sanitary napkin. 75

Figure 6 is a front view of the modified form shown in Figure 5 also showing a section of a belt which may be used independently.

In the drawings the device is shown as it 80 would be made wherein numeral 1 indicates the front panel, numeral 2 the rear panel and numeral 3 the side panels.

The panels may be made of any suitable material, however the side panels are preferably made of elastic webbing. The garment 85 may be made in one piece or may be open at one side and provided with suitable means for holding the edges together. The front and rear panels 1 and 2 extend from the top 90 to the bottom of the garment and the side panels 3 to points slightly above the waist line. The garment is designed so that it will fit snugly around the body and may be termed a form-fitting garment. The upper end of 95 the front panel is provided with bust openings with the edges stopping approximately below the centers of the breasts and extending around the inner sides to points directly above the centers where they are attached to 100

shoulder straps 4. The center of the top of the front panel may be V shaped as shown. The shoulder straps 4 are attached to the upper edges of the rear panel 2 at the points 5 and at the upper ends of the front panel at the points 6 directly above the centers of the breasts. The straps also extend from the points 6 slightly outward and downward around the outer side of the breasts to points 7 at the upper edges of the elastic panels 3 at the sides. It will be noted that the straps 4 support the front panel from the points 6 and the extensions from the straps between the points 6 and 7 tend to hold the straps in a somewhat vertical position and provide a lateral stress across the upper edge of the front panel and as the upper edge of the front panel is cut in the shape of a V this stress will be directed diagonally downward so that it actually pulls upward from the center of the panel and at the same time the extensions of the straps take up any slack or sag in the upper edges of the elastic panels.

The upper portion of the front panel is made as shown in Figure 1 with semi-circular sections removed, as indicated by the numeral 8, to provide clearance for the breasts and these portions are covered with any suitable material and cut circular with a slight fullness forming brassière portions which extend around and across the upper edges of the side panels to the edges of the rear panel. This material is stitched to the circular edges 9 of the breast openings of the front panel, and to the edges of the rear panel and it will be observed that as it is provided with a slight fullness it will hold the breasts in the natural position without flattening them. The stress is not taken directly across the breasts but is distributed around the central part of the front panel as hereinbefore described. The lower edges of the brassière portions overlap the upper edges of the side panels and these portions which are indicated by the numeral 10 may be tied at the front by ribbons 11 if desired. It is understood, however, that these ribbons may be omitted as it is not necessary to tie the brassière portions at these points. In the design shown, however, the ribbons may be untied when putting the garment on or taking it off and tied when it is in place.

In order to evenly distribute the stress of the hose supporters, as indicated by the numeral 12, each supporter is attached to the garment at two points, one point being stationary, as indicated by the numeral 13, and the other attached to a loop 14 with strings or ribbons 15, as shown in Figure 3. It will be noted that by attaching one end of the hose supporters in this manner it will be possible to readily adjust the length through the ribbon 15. The hose fasteners 16 are freely mounted upon the supporters 12 so that they will adjust themselves to any suitable position. It will also be noted that the supporters

may be attached to the hose and the tension thereon adjusted by the ribbon 15 so that the lower portion of the garment may be firmly held. The supporters at the rear are positioned directly below the lower corners of a U shaped loop, as indicated by a dotted line, in Figure 1. This loop is formed by an additional piece of material and reenforced so that the strain from the lower end of the shoulder strap passes directly downward; and the supporters at the front are attached adjacent to the lower corners of the front panel so that the front panel will also be held downward. It will be noted that the front panel is also provided with an inner member 20 shown in dotted lines in Figure 1. This conforms to the shape of a U with the said member extending across the inner side of the lower portion of the front panel and the hose and napkin supports are attached to it. A portion of the upper edge of this member is stitched to the front panel at each side. Other supporters may be attached to the side panels as shown. Suitable loops are provided at the lower ends of the U shaped portions for supporting a sanitary napkin, as indicated by the numeral 17, and shown in Figure 2. The loop at the rear, as indicated by the numeral 18, and attached, as shown at the point 19, is provided at the rear with an opening through which an end 17' extending from the rear end of the napkin may pass so that it may be brought back to the front and tied to a similar end at the front of the napkin as shown at the point 25. It will therefore be observed that the napkin may be used without pins or fasteners of any type and its position may be readily adjusted so that it is comfortable for the wearer.

Below the napkin is an apron as indicated by the numeral 23, which is attached to the lower edge of the garment at the point 24 and to the front portion by ties 23' extending downward from the front panel, as shown. The details shown in Figures 5 and 6 illustrate an alternate means for supporting the napkin 17, as it will be understood that a belt 21 may be used which may be attached to the lower edge of the panels of the garment and this belt is provided with openings 22 through which the ends of the napkin may pass.

A teddy, as indicated by the letter T and shown in dotted lines in Figure 2 may be suspended from the shoulder straps so that it may be used with the combination garment if desired.

It will be understood that other changes may be made in the construction without departing from the spirit of the invention. One of which changes may be in the omission of the sanitary napkin, another may be in the use of napkin supports of a different type, another may be in the use of hose supporters of a different type, and still another may be

in the use of rear and side panels and brassiere portions of different types or designs as it is understood that the essential feature of this invention is the design and arrangement of the front panel which holds and supports the abdomen.

The construction of the garment may readily be understood from the foregoing description. In use it may be supplied as shown and described and readily put on by slipping it over the head and when in position it will readily be seen that the front panel will hold the abdomen in a neat and comfortable position. When in use the shoulder straps will hold the upper end of the front panel and as hereinbefore described the short extensions of the shoulder straps will cause a lateral stress across the upper end of the front panel so that the front panel will be held in against the breast and with the cooperation of the shoulder straps the upper end of the front panel will be held upward and outward toward the shoulders, thereby holding in the diaphragm and the abdomen will be firmly held by the lateral stress of the side panels cooperating with the vertical stress from the upper end of the front panel. These short extensions will also support the upper edges of the side panels to eliminate sagging.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is—

In a foundation form-fitting garment of the character described, a front panel, a rear panel, side panels, all the said panels being connected and arranged to conform to the curvature of the trunk of the human body, the said front panel having semi-circular bust sections in the upper portion thereof, and suitable shoulder straps connected to the said front panel at points above the said bust sections, said straps extending downward to the upper end of the said side panels.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

THERESSIA McKENZIE.