

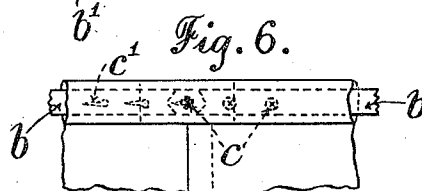
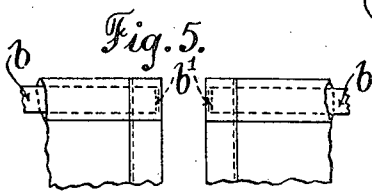
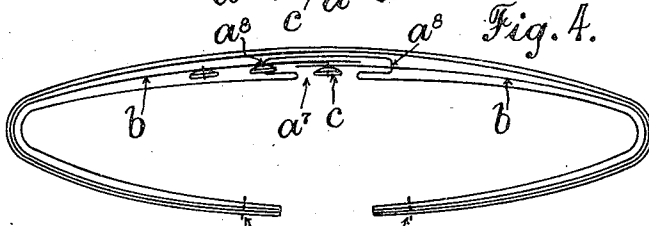
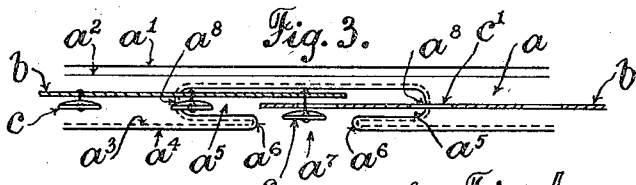
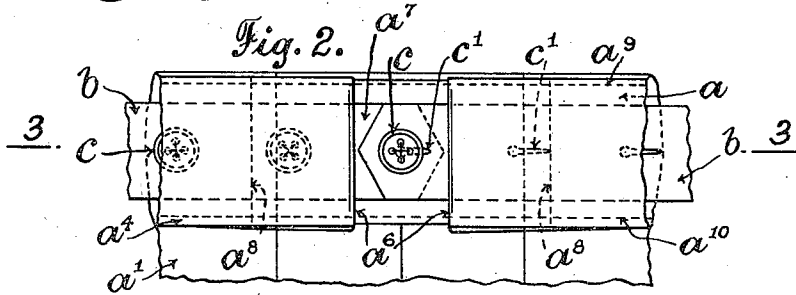
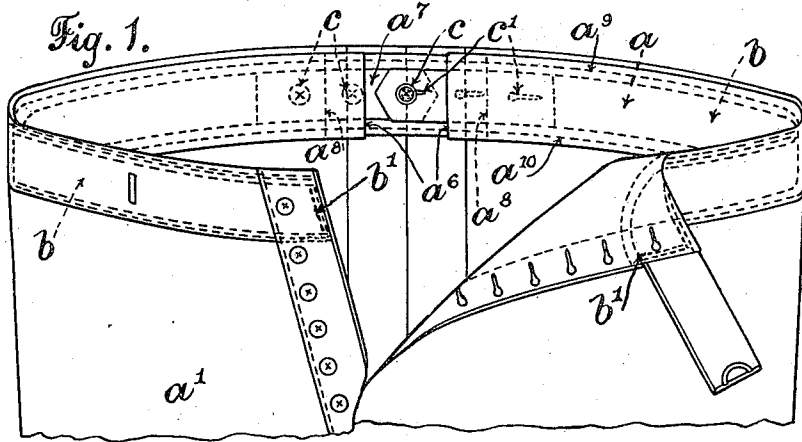
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MEANS FOR SUPPORTING TROUSERS AND SUCH LIKE

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2,418,772

MEANS FOR SUPPORTING TROUSERS AND SUCH LIKE

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This invention relates to improvements in means for supporting trousers, knickerbockers, and like garments, about the waist of a wearer, such supporting means being of the kind which are embodied in the garments themselves.

The object of the present invention is to provide improved means of the kind referred to which are of a simple nature.

According to one aspect of the invention means for supporting a pair of trousers, knickerbockers or other like garment about the waist of a wearer is embodied in the garment itself and comprises a tunnel or tube-like passageway formed about, coinciding or in connection with the waistband for the purpose of enclosing a belt or band, adjustable in length, made wholly or in part of elastic material and adapted to be secured by its ends to the front or divided portion of the waist-fitting part of the garment, the said tunnel or tube-like passageway being formed with a gap or aperture opening to the inside or outside of the garment for the purpose of providing access to the means for adjusting the length of the belt when the same is in position.

According to another aspect of the invention, the improved means for supporting garments of the kind referred to comprises a band or belt, adjustable in length, made wholly or in part of elastic material and secured or adapted to be secured at its ends to the front or to each side of the divided portion of the waist fitting part of the garment.

Preferably the gap or aperture referred to in the first-mentioned aspect of the invention opens to the inside of the garment and is formed by spaced vertical pleats in the material constituting the tunnel or tube-like passageway the underlying folds of which are slit for the passage of the belt or band which, when in position, is thus exposed between the pleats and is so arranged in relation to the garment that its means of adjustment lies accessibly between the said pleats in the gap or aperture thereby formed.

One example of the application of the present invention to garments of the above kind is hereinafter described with reference to the accompanying drawings, wherein:

Fig. 1 shows in diagrammatic fashion the opened out top of a pair of trousers with the hereinafter described means for supporting same.

Fig. 2 is an enlarged view of the central back part of the tunnel, etc., as viewed from the inside of the waistband and shows the ends of the adjustable elastic belt or band which is located in said tunnel.

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Fig. 3 is a diagrammatic sectional view taken on the line 3—3 in Fig. 2.

Fig. 4 is a sectional plan of the tunnelled waistband, the adjustable belt or band.

5 Fig. 5 is a broken view of the front or fly part of the trousers showing where the forward ends of the aforesaid adjustable belt or band is stitched or fixed.

10 Fig. 6 is a diagrammatic rear view of the tunnelled waistband and shows the means for adjusting the belt or band.

Referring to the drawings, a fabric tunnel or tube-like passageway a is formed about or coinciding with or constituting the waistband of the trousers. This tunnel a is closed at the front at each end by lines of stitching a' which pass through the upper parts of the halves of the known button secured fly as is shown by Fig. 1, Fig. 4 and Fig. 5. As shown in the drawing, the material of the trousers a^1 and an inner length of lining material a^2 constitute what may be termed one wall of the tunnel or passageway a , the opposite wall of said passageway being formed by another length of lining material a^3 and a length of material a^4 separately stitched to a^3 near its lower edge, the said material a^4 being preferably of such kind as to present a finished or matching appearance at the waistband of the garment. The three pieces of material a^2 , a^3 and a^4 are sewn together and to the material a^1 of the trousers at suitable distances from their edges top and bottom to constitute the passageway as indicated at a^9 and a^{10} , Fig. 1. The said passageway has a gap or aperture, providing means for access to the belt adjustment hereinafter described, on the inside midway or about the centre of the back which advantageously remains as an opening or gap over a small area; or a movable covering or closable flap may be provided capable of being opened and closed, but the small opening or gap described is the preferred arrangement and this is illustrated by Figs. 1, 2 and 3.

As very clearly shown by Figs. 2 and 3 the material a^4 and its lining strip a^3 are so folded as to produce pockets a^5 with the rear wall having front pleats a^6 which are the vertical boundaries of the access aperture a^7 . Thus, the aperture a^7 may be regarded as being produced by "box" pleating the front wall of the tunnel or tube-like passageway.

The pleats a^6 can open out to give a little more room for access to the adjusting means by omitting stitching at the bottom of each "pleat" fold as is suggested at Fig. 2.

55 The underlying folds of the pleats a^6 forming

the pockets a^5 in the rear of the pleats (that is the material a^4 and its lining a^3) are slit or cut vertically to a sufficient extent at two points a^8 .

As already explained the tunnel is made good by stitching the pieces of material a^2 , a^3 and a^4 along or near top and bottom, and lines of stitching a^9 and a^{10} are shown, the stitching uniting the several fabric and lining elements and producing the complete passageway a associated with the inside of the waistband of the trousers.

Within the passageway is located a belt or band of broad elastic webbing b , the ends of which are reinforced by or bound with fabric in known manner. The front ends of said webbing or band are stitched or permanently fastened at b^1 to the already mentioned front or closed ends of the tunnel a , that is, adjacent the top of each half of the fly.

The said belt or band is formed by two lengths of elastic webbing secured together so as to be adjustable as regards their combined length, and which pass freely rearwards on either hand inside each part of the passageway a to the central part of the back of the waistband, where there is provided the before-mentioned gap or aperture a^7 .

This gap or aperture gives access to the rear and overlapping, and adjustably connected ends of the elastic webbing, or the reinforcing fabric lengths applied thereto. It is at this opening at the back of the tunnel in the waistband that the adjustment of the combined length of the two parts of the belt or band is made.

The adjustment of the belt or band is provided for by simple adjustable means comprising buttons c and button holes c^1 on and in the overlapping connected ends thereof, as illustrated in the drawings, this being a simple and convenient arrangement for reducing or extending the effective length for the time being of the two lengths of elastic webbing which constitute the belt or band and which have their other ends as already described stitched or permanently secured near the top of each half of the fly or divided portion of the garment. When adjustment or setting of the elastic webbing or resilient bands is made at the opening in the tunnel at the back of the waistband, the same are set to something short of the waist measurement, as for instance 1 inch or more.

When the trousers are put on, and the top button or fastener at the top of the fly is engaged then the waistband clings to the waist due to harnessed elasticity or resilience of said enveloped and adjusted elastic webbing.

The arrangement described is very neat and very simple and does not show or expose any material parts when the garment is worn.

It is preferable to use an elastic webbing or other resilient band contrivance which practically encircles the waist. This allows for the stretch and pressure to be distributed around the waist line and reduces creasing when the garment is in use. As will be readily seen, because the belt or band is secured only at the front, the rear part of a garment fabricated according to the present invention is capable of yielding or giving when the wearer bends forward as in sitting down so that there is no uncomfortable stress in the region of the abdomen.

If desired, a part or section only of the belt or band may be made of elastic material.

In applying the invention to ladies' skirts, which are intended to be included in the expression "or other like garment" herein used and which usually have a divided portion formed at the side thereof, the ends of the elastic belt or band may be secured to the skirt at the front, one end, viz: the end on the divided side of skirt, being detachably so secured as by a button and button-hole.

I declare that what I claim is:

1. Means for supporting a garment about the waist of a wearer, comprising a tunnel-like passageway formed in the waist band of said garment, an elastic belt disposed within said passageway, the said belt being attached by its ends to the front portion of the waist-fitting part of the garment, spaced vertical pleats in the material constituting the said passageway, the underlying folds of said pleats being provided with slits for the passage of the belt, and length adjusting means carried by said belt and disposed within the space formed between the said pleats.

2. Means for supporting a garment about the waist of a wearer comprising a tunnel-like passageway in the garment in the location of a waist band, spaced and oppositely directed transverse pleats in the length of said tunnel-like passageway, a belt in said passageway secured therein at points spaced away from the pleats to provide for relative movement of the belt within the portions of the tunnel between such points of attachment and the adjacent pleats, said pleats having apertures for the passage of the belt out of the tunnel and across the space between said pleats, and length-adjusting means for the belt located between said pleats.

3. Means for supporting a garment about the waist of a wearer comprising a tunnel-like passageway in the garment in the location of a waist band, spaced and oppositely directed transverse pleats in the length of said tunnel-like passageway at the back of the waist, a belt in said passageway secured therein at points spaced away from the pleats to provide for relative movement of the belt within the portions of the tunnel between such points of attachment and the adjacent pleats, said pleats having apertures for the passage of the belt out of the tunnel and across the space between said pleats, and length-adjusting means for the belt located between said pleats.

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