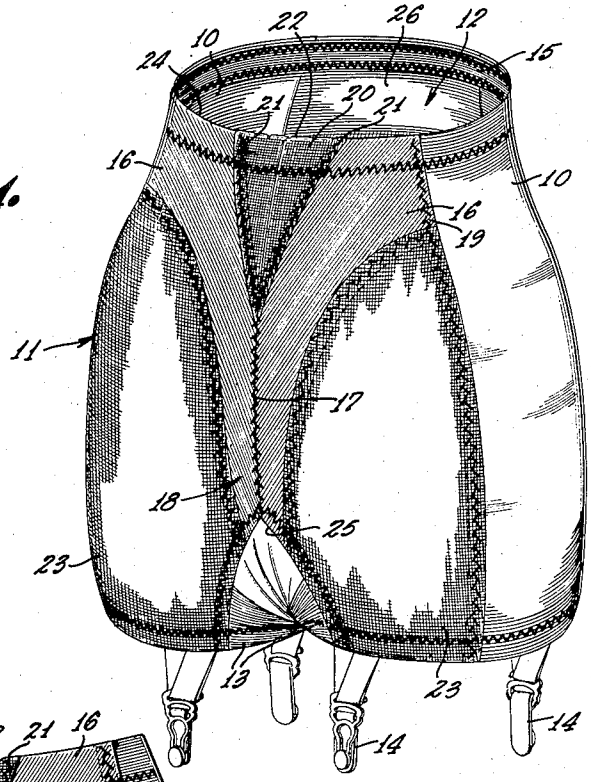
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GIRDLE OR PANTIE GIRDLE

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Fig. 1.



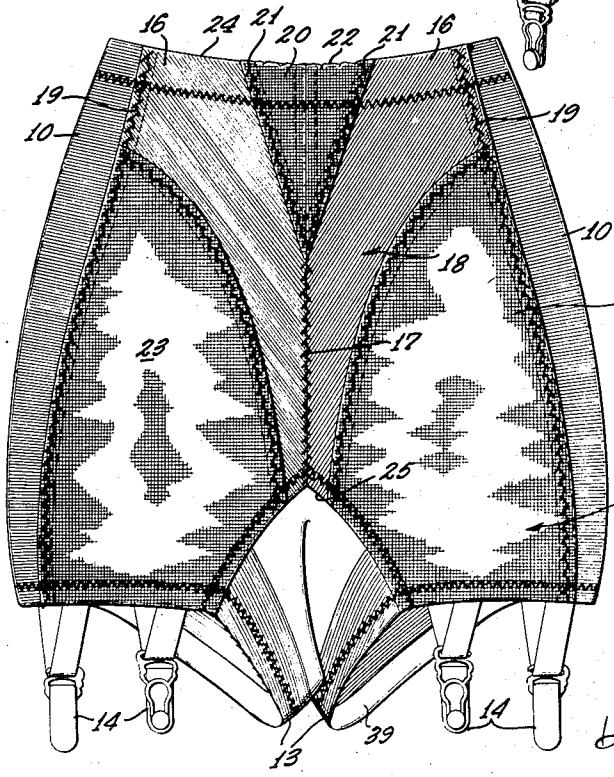


Fig. 2.

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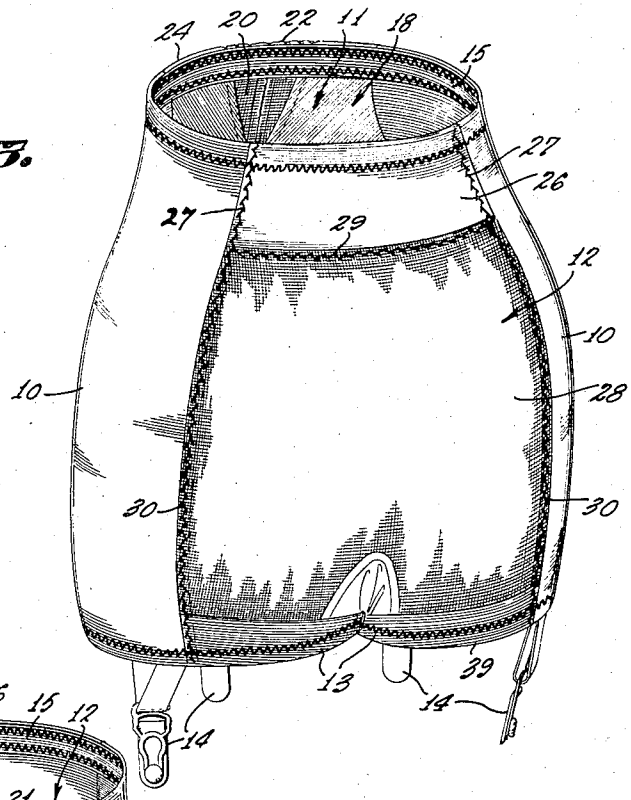
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GIRDLE OR PANTIE GIRDLE

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Fig. 3.



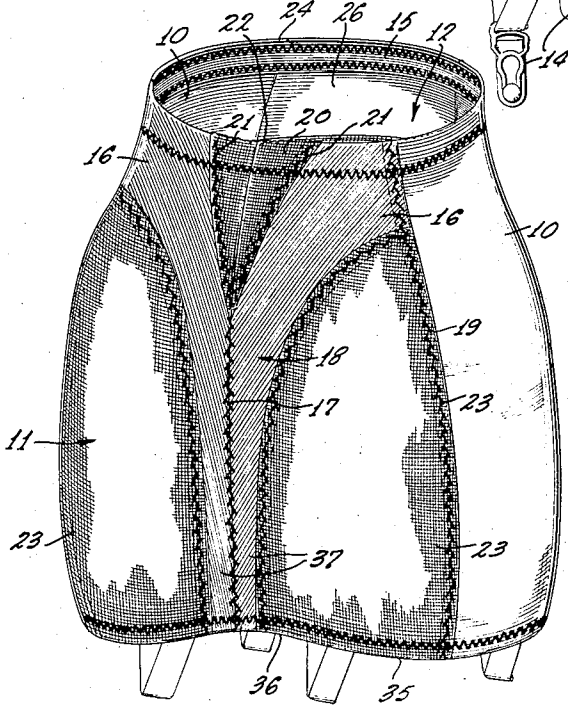


Fig. 4.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,563,308

GIRDLE OR PANTIE GIRDLE

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Application June 16, 1950, Serial No. 168,494

2 Claims. (Cl. 2—37)

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This invention relates to women's foundation garments, and particularly to an improved construction in girdles or pantie girdles, wherein the front panel contains a Y fashioned from two curved strips of elastic fabric cut on the bias and sewn together in the center.

An object of the invention is to provide an improved garment construction of the character described which will lift, support and flatten the abdomen, controlling the thighs and contouring the figure with increased efficiency over prior constructions, with the use of lighter weight elastic fabrics and eliminating the necessity of inner belts or other accessory elements.

A further object of the invention is to provide a garment construction of the character described in which the use of the elastic Y permits the employment of non-elastic fabric panels over the front part of the thighs which imparts a rounding and smoothing effect that is difficult to obtain with other constructions.

A still further object of the invention is to provide in this type of garment elasticity at the waistline enabling a garment of any given size to fit up to a 13 inch development without the necessity of a closure, and to provide elasticity at the bottom skirt, allowing for greater comfort and freedom, eliminating the necessity of a front gore which in other constructions is often used in an endeavour to obtain the same effect. We also achieve a non-roll waist without the use of bones.

These and other objects and advantages of the invention will become further apparent from the consideration of the description which follows taken in conjunction with the drawings.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a perspective front view of a pantie girdle embodying our construction.

Figure 2 is a front elevational view of the same.

Figure 3 is a perspective rear view of the same.

Figure 4 is a perspective front view of a girdle embodying the same construction.

The garment illustrated in Figures 1 to 3 comprises elastic side panels 10, a composite front panel 11 and a combination elastic and non-elastic rear panel 12. Legs 13 depend from the lower portion of the garment and conventional garter attachments 14 will be employed as shown. An elastic binding 15 on the interior of the construction defines the waist.

The side panels 10 each are preferably formed of a single piece of elastic fabric extending from

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waist to skirt and with a one-way stretch in the horizontal direction.

The composite front panel 11 comprises two strips of elastic fabric 16 cut on the bias with the outer edges preferably curved as illustrated and stitched along a vertical line 17 to form a Y shaped supporting element 18. The upper vertical extremities of the strips are stitched at 19 to the forward edges of the side panels 10. The triangular space between the upper portions of the branches of the Y is filled with an insert 20 of non-elastic fabric, as for example nylon marquisette. This fabric is stitched at 21 to the inner edges of the Y branches. It may be slightly gathered along the upper edge 22 to allow a slight give when pulled into place by the wearer.

The space between the outer curved edges of the Y and the forward vertical edges of the side panels 10 are filled with panels 23 stitched to the edge of the Y and the edge of the side panels respectively, these panels 23 preferably having the shape illustrated and being of non-elastic fabric, as for example nylon marquisette.

The purpose of cutting the elastic fabric for the Y member on the bias is to provide for a stretch running diagonally from the center line 17 upwardly to the seam 19 and the waistline of the garment. We prefer to employ one-way stretch elastic fabric and cut it so that the line of stretch lies at an angle acute to the perpendicular seam 17. An angle of 30 degrees is satisfactory, but we do not limit it to this, as considerable variation may be adopted. The Y shaped member extends all the way from the waist 24 down to the crotch 25 at which point the legs 13 are attached.

The rear panel 12 comprises an elastic web 26 having preferably a one-way stretch in a horizontal direction, being stitched to the rear edges of the side panels at seams 27, and a non-elastic seat 28 of any suitable fabric. The seat 28 is stitched at 29 to the lower edge of the elastic web 26 and at 30 to the vertical rear edges of the side panels 10. The elastic binding 15 is stitched to the inside of the garment all the way around at the waist in a manner to permit stretching of the waistband.

The girdle illustrated in Figure 4 has the same essential construction as the pantie girdle illustrated in Figures 1 to 3 and the same reference numerals are employed for corresponding parts. It will be noted, however, that the legs 13 being omitted, the notch at the crotch illustrated in the pantie girdle is omitted, the skirt edge 35 of the girdle being fairly straight with but a slight

curved recess 36. Accordingly the base legs 37 of the Y member extend farther down than in the pantie girdle and the non-elastic panels 23 are filled out accordingly as illustrated.

It is preferable that the arms of the Y supporting member branch off at a point approximately at or slightly above the center of the base just under the abdomen. When regarding the proportions in the pantie girdle they extend upward toward the waistband at approximately a 30 degree angle (from the vertical) on each side of the abdomen, and in use gain an upward pull from the tension created by the extension of the elastic side panels to which they are attached at each side of the waist. In addition to the upward pull from the tension described this same tension spreads and draws the non-elastic fabric insert 20 between the branches of the Y creating a flattening pressure against the front of the abdomen.

The garment is anchored at the waist and at the skirt by tension. Elastic cuffs 39 cooperate in this respect in the pantie girdle, and the form of the girdle fitting smoothly to the thighs and hips provides the lower anchor in that form of garment. This results in a mechanical action consisting of a substantially vertical downward pull on the base of the Y and an opposed diagonally upward pull on the branches of the Y, the obvious result of which is to draw the Y at the center of these forces inwardly. By following the course of the elastic threads down from the waist region to the points where they meet the seam 17, it will be clear that the inward pull starts from a point approximately at the center of the garment or just below the abdomen and that this inward pull is also upward. Consequently the garment will lift, support and flatten the abdomen.

The garment can be constructed from a variety of different fabrics either light or heavy. For example, we may employ nylon, rayon or cotton elastic, or possibly others, having an elasticity range of 50% to 120%. The non-elastic fabrics may be nylon, rayon, silk, cotton, or possibly others, plain, embroidered or otherwise decorated.

While we have herein shown and described our invention in what we have conceived to be the most practical and preferred embodiment, it is recognized that departures may be made therefrom within the scope of our invention, which is not to be limited to the details disclosed herein but is to be accorded the full scope of the claims so as to embrace any and all equivalent garments.

By the term "skirt" in the claims, we refer to the lower extremity of the garment, whether it be the girdle type illustrated in Figure 4 or the pantie girdle of Figures 1 to 3. In either form the lower edge of the garment encompasses the hips and thighs, and the presence of legs and cuffs in the pantie girdle does not alter the application of the principles of our invention.

While we have illustrated the Y-shaped supporting element as made from elastic fabric having a one-way stretch with parallel lines of stretch, it is possible that an elastic fabric with stretch in two directions could be employed, or a fabric which is truly elastic in the direction of the lines illustrated but which has some "give" in the other direction. The important thing is the Y form and a stretch at least in the opposing angular directions from an actual center line if the Y is made in two parts or from an imaginary center line if made in a single piece.

Having described our invention, what we claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A girdle including a substantially Y-shaped front panel, said panel having its vertical leg extending upwardly solely from a crotch area, said Y being formed of two side panels secured together along a vertical center line defining a pair of branches and a vertical leg, elastic fibers of the Y on each side extending in only one direction and diverging on each such side from the crotch area upwardly and outwardly along the vertical leg of the Y, side edges of the Y being curved on each side continuously upwardly and outwardly over the front of the girdle, a vertically extending side panel at each side of the girdle adjacent corresponding upper outer ends of the Y, said upper outer ends of said Y branches terminating at a top edge of the girdle and at said vertically extending side panels respectively, and a panel of inelastic material secured between each said curved outer edge of the Y and a corresponding one of said vertical side panels, said panels of inelastic material extending substantially over corresponding front side portions of the girdle immediately adjacent said Y and downwardly from the respective branches of said Y to the bottom of the girdle, said elastic fibers of said Y extending from said leg of said Y in said upward and outward direction substantially longitudinally of said branches of said Y and generally parallel to the side edges of the branches of the Y.

2. A girdle as defined in claim 1, inner marginal edges of the branches of the Y defining a triangular area therebetween, and a panel of inelastic material secured in said triangular area and extending from the top front portion of the girdle downwardly to approximately midway of the girdle between the top and bottom edges thereof, said vertical side panels having a one-way horizontal stretch.

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