Jan. 1, 1935. B. LASKIN 1,985,933

UNDERGARMENT

Filed April 18, 1932

Fig. 1.

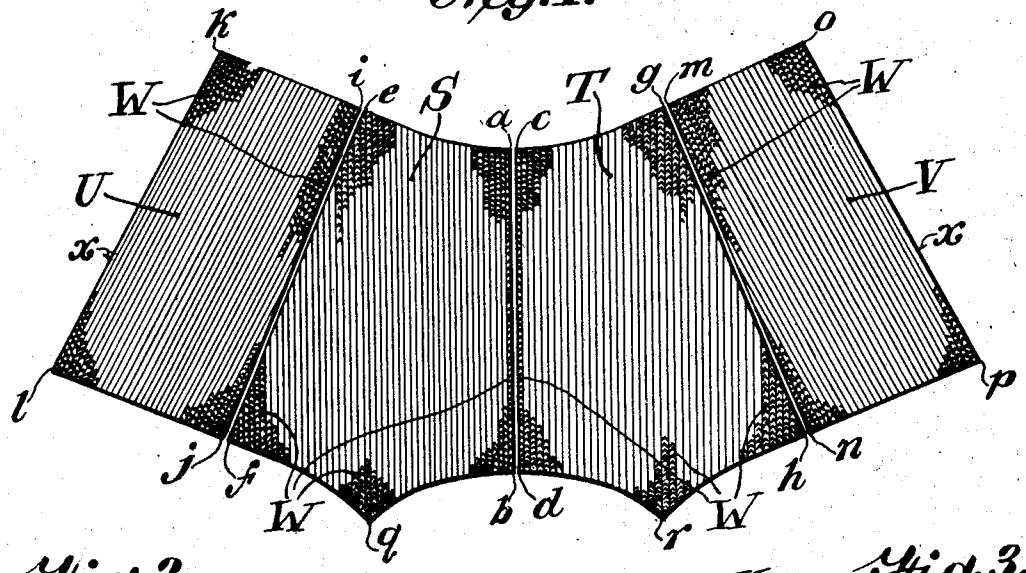


Fig. 2.

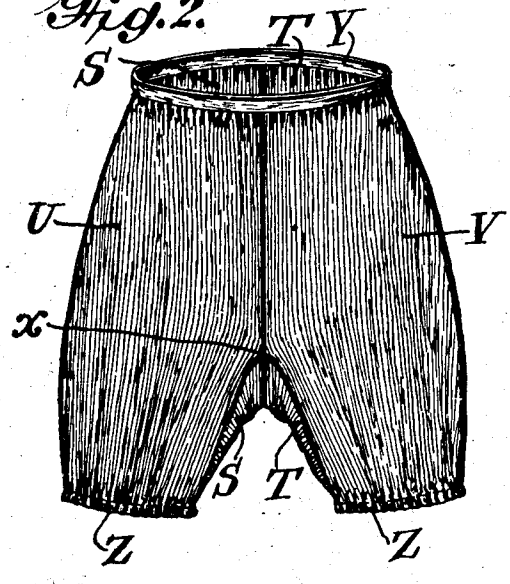


Fig. 3.

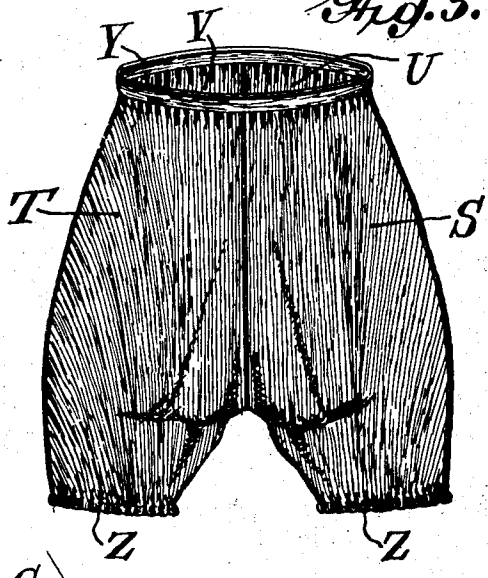


Fig. 4.

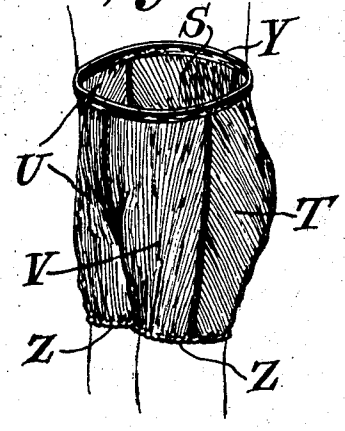
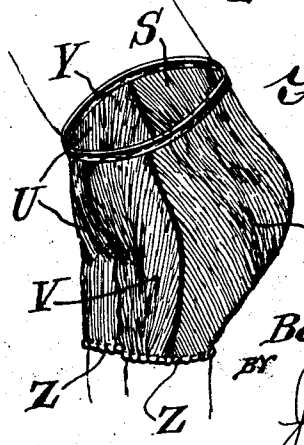


Fig. 5.



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1,985,933

UNDERGARMENT

Benjamin Laskin, Philadelphia, Pa.

Application April 18, 1932, Serial No. 605,882

2 Claims. (Cl. 2—224)

This invention relates to an undergarment of the bloomer type, and it has for its object the provision of a garment of this character which may be easily, simply and economically made from a minimum number of pieces and consequently with a minimum amount of stitching or seams. A further object is the provision in a garment of this character of a construction having a minimum number of pieces and at the same time one which is unusually comfortable to the wearer. A still further object is the provision in such a garment of a construction having a straight flat front without an excessive amount of material. Another object of the invention is the provision of a garment of this character which, although made of a minimum number of pieces affords sufficient fullness to enable the wearer to assume various bending, stooping and sitting postures without the discomfort inherent in many types heretofore known. A still further object is a garment providing an unusual degree of comfort at all times without the excessive fullness which is characteristic of many garments of this general type heretofore known. Another object of the invention is the provision in such a garment of a construction which possesses the requisite strength without undue danger of rupture of the material from which it is made or the seams thereof. A still further object of the invention is the provision of an undergarment which is so made that the waist band remains in its proper position on the wearer during the ordinary bending and stooping movements of the wearer.

The invention is particularly adapted to undergarments made from knitted material and involves the utilization of the knitted fabric in the garment in such a manner that the wales and courses of the fabric are so arranged with respect to the various parts of the garment as to obtain the advantages of bias stretch in the directions and in those parts of the garment in which stretch is required when the garment is being worn.

In order that the invention may be understood reference may be made to the drawing wherein:

Fig. 1 is a pattern view of my improved garment showing the four pieces which I prefer to use, two for the front section and two for the back section;

Fig. 2 is a front elevational view of the completed garment;

Fig. 3 is a rear elevational view of the completed garment;

Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the garment upon a wearer in upright posture, and

Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the garment upon a wearer in bending posture.

In making the garment to which my invention relates I prefer to utilize for the back section thereof two symmetrical pieces designated as S and T, and for the front section I prefer to utilize two symmetrical pieces designated as U and V. It will be understood however that the back section may, if desired, be made from a single piece of material, and that the front section may likewise be in a single piece. I find it preferable however to make both sections from two pieces of material inasmuch as this method offers certain advantages from the standpoint of cutting the material from the goods which I utilize.

In accordance with the preferred method of practicing my invention, the portion S of the back section is so arranged with respect to the knitted fabric that the inner edge *a—b* of this piece is straight and is parallel to the wales W of the fabric. The upper edge *a—e* of this piece is curved inwardly to a slight extent to form the waist portion of the garment, and the outer edge *e—f* is straight and substantially perpendicular to the upper edge *a—e*, and intersects the wales W at an angle of substantially 30 degrees. The outer part *f—q* of the lower edge of the piece S forms the leg portion of the back section of the garment and is substantially perpendicular to the outer edge *e—f*, and the inner part *q—b* of the lower edge of this piece curves inwardly to a slight extent to provide a crotch portion as hereinafter referred to.

The portion T of the back section is similar in all respects to the portion S and is cut with the straight inner edge *c—d*, the inwardly curved upper edge *c—g*, the straight outer edge *g—h* substantially perpendicular to the upper edge *c—g*, the outer part *r—h* of the lower edge substantially perpendicular to the outer edge *g—h*, and the upwardly curved inner part *d—r* of the lower edge. As in the case of the back portion S, the back portion T is likewise so constructed that the wales W of the fabric are parallel to the inner straight edge *c—d*, while the outer edge *g—h* intersects the wales at an angle of approximately 30 degrees.

The front pieces U and V are symmetrical and are substantially rectangular in shape, although it is preferable that they be so cut that the lower edge of each is slightly longer than the upper edge. The portion U is provided with a straight edge *k—l* constituting the inner edge when assembled in the garment, an upper edge *k—i* substantially perpendicular thereto, an outer edge

i—j equal in length to the outer edge *e—f* of the back portion S, and a straight lower edge *l—j* substantially perpendicular to the inner edge *k—l*. In cutting the portion U, I arrange the material in such a manner that the wales W of the fabric extend in a direction parallel to the inner edge *k—l*. Inasmuch as the lower edge *l—j* is slightly longer than the upper edge *k—i*, the wales will intersect the edge *i—j* at a slight angle as shown in Fig. 1.

The front portion V is similar in every respect to the front portion U and is provided with a straight outer edge *m—n* equal in length to the outer edge *g—h* of the back portion T. The upper edge *m—o* of the portion V is substantially perpendicular to the outer edge *m—n* and is likewise substantially perpendicular to the inner edge *o—p* which, in turn, is substantially perpendicular to the lower edge *n—p*. As in the case of the front portion U, I arrange the material in the front portion V so that the wales W of the fabric are parallel to the inner edge *o—p*. The front portion V is approximately rectangular in shape, although the lower edge *n—p* is slightly longer than the upper edge *m—o*. With this arrangement of the material the outer edge *m—n* of the front portion V intersects the wales W of the fabric at a small angle as shown in Fig. 1 of the drawing.

In assembling the parts of the garment, it will be understood that the various portions thereof are stitched or seamed together in the usual manner. I find it advantageous however to first secure the front portions U and V together for a part of their length, that is, downwardly from the top along the edges *k—l* and *o—p* to a point which I have indicated as *x*, this point representing the front portion of the crotch. I next secure the outer edges of the front portions U and V to the outer edges of the back portions S and T respectively, that is, I secure the edge *i—j* to the edge *e—f*, and the edge *m—n* to the edge *g—h*, thus forming the side seams of the garment. The elastic waist band Y is then attached to the upper edge of the garment as thus far assembled, whereupon I secure together the inner edges *a—b* and *c—d* of the back portions S and T respectively. A hem Z may be then provided for the leg openings and elastic assembled therein, whereupon the crotch portions *q—b* and *d—r* are secured to the edge portions *l—x* and *p—x* respectively.

In making a garment in this manner, it will be noted that the wales of the knitted fabric are arranged in a direction parallel to the vertical median line of the back section and the courses of the fabric are perpendicular to this median line. This is true whether the back section of the garment is made from a single piece of material or from two symmetrical pieces secured together along the median line. It will also be noted that the wales of the fabric are arranged at substantially right angles to the upper edge of the back section thus providing maximum strength in the seam between the back section and the waist band. In the front section of the garment as thus constructed the wales of the fabric extend in a direction parallel to a median vertical line whether the front section is formed from a single piece of material or from two symmetrical pieces secured together along this median line.

This arrangement of the material, and the patterns which I utilize, result in a garment having sufficient stretch in all directions transverse thereto to permit of various bodily movements of the wearer, such as bending, stooping and sitting, without any noticeable discomfort, and without having an excessive amount of material to thereby produce what is ordinarily characterized as a baggy garment. By providing front and back sections of the character herein described, and by arranging the wales of the material in the manner contemplated by my improvement, it will be apparent that I have provided a novel type of undergarment which is easily made and which utilizes a minimum number of parts and consequently requires a minimum of stitching in its assembly. It will also be apparent that I have provided a novel garment constructed of a minimum number of parts and at the same time one which affords sufficient fullness, where fullness is required, without any superfluous material. It will be apparent furthermore that my improved garment is so constructed as to possess the requisite strength in those portions that are likely to rupture when the garment is in use. This is particularly true along the waist band where the wales of the material are joined thereto.

While many garments of this general type as heretofore made have been extremely objectionable for the reason that the unequal shrinkage of the material in different directions when the garment is washed leaves the garment deformed and uncomfortable, my improved garment is so constructed that it is not deformed by shrinkage when it is washed and it may be worn without discomfort after repeated washing. As is well understood, the shrinkage of knitted fabrics is more prevalent in the direction of the wales than in the direction of the courses.

My improved garment is particularly comfortable to the wearer due to the fact that the pattern which I utilize, taken with my novel arrangement of the goods, results in a construction in which the maximum stretch required for bending, stooping and sitting postures is in the direction of the bias of the material, and, as is well known, the maximum stretch is obtained in the direction of the bias.

Although I have disclosed my improvement as applied particularly to a bloomer type of garment, it will be understood that it is equally applicable to other types, and such variations of the invention may be made as fall within the scope of the claims annexed to this specification.

Having thus described my invention, what I desire to secure by United States Letters Patent is:

1. An undergarment made from knitted fabric, comprising a back section in which the wales of the material extend in a vertical direction and having an inwardly curved upper edge, straight lateral edges flaring outwardly from top to bottom and each substantially perpendicular to said upper edge and forming an angle of substantially 30 degrees with the wales, and lower edges substantially perpendicular to the lateral edges, the central portion of the lower part of the back section being inwardly curved, and two elongated substantially rectangular frontal sections with straight lateral edges and having the wales of the material extending lengthwise thereof and one edge of each of substantially the same length as and secured to a lateral edge of the back section and the opposite edges secured together for a portion of their length from the waist downwardly, the remaining portion of the opposite edges being secured to the inwardly curved lower edge of the back section.

2. An undergarment made from knitted fabric, comprising two symmetrical back sections with straight inner edges cut parallel to the wales of the material and secured together to form a seam extending from the waist to the front of the crotch, each of said back sections having an inwardly curved upper edge, a straight outer edge substantially perpendicular thereto and flaring outwardly from top to bottom at approximately 30 degrees with respect to the inner edge of said section, and a lower edge the outer portion of which is substantially perpendicular to the outer edge to form a leg portion and the inner portion of which is upwardly curved to form a crotch portion, in combination with a substantially rectangular front section having straight lateral edges and the wales of the material extending in a direction parallel to the vertical median line, said front section being bifurcated on said median line to form leg portions the inner edges of which are secured to the upwardly curved inner portions of the lower edges of the back section, the outer edges of the front section being of the same length as and secured to the outer edges of the back sections.

BENJAMIN LASKIN.