May 7, 1935. M. REICH 2,000,149

GARMENT

Filed Aug. 9, 1934 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

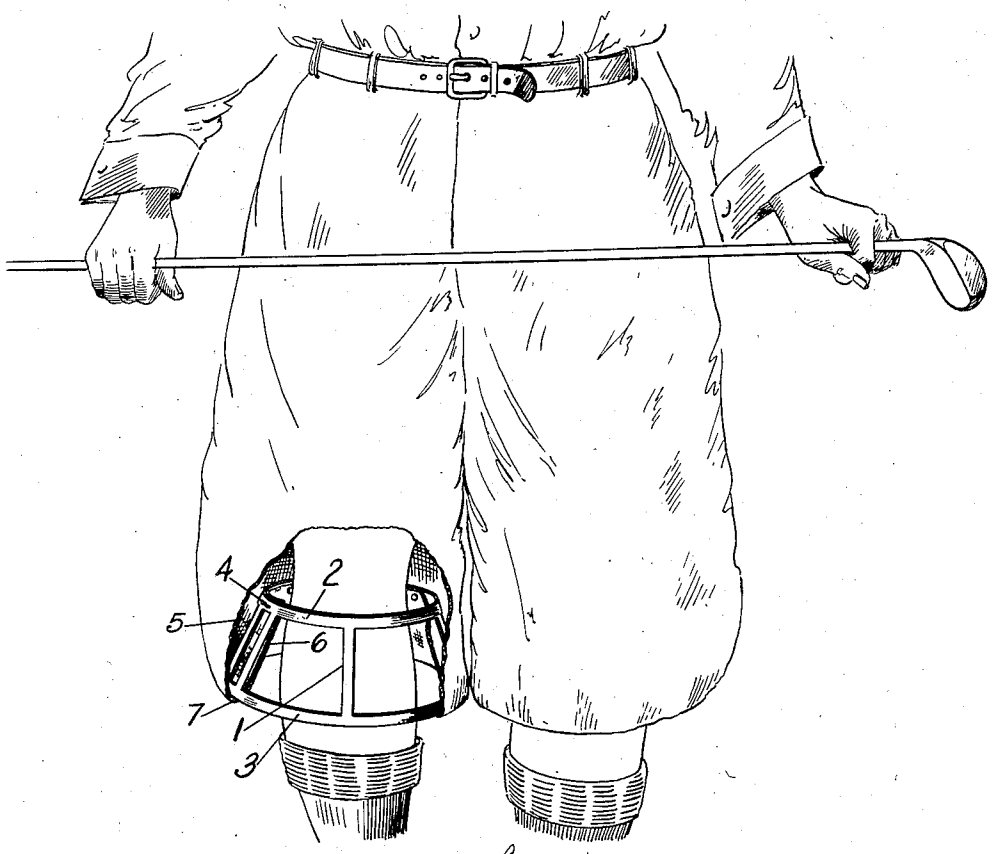


Fig. 1

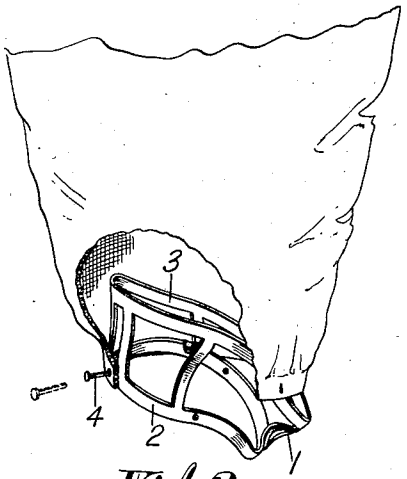


Fig. 2

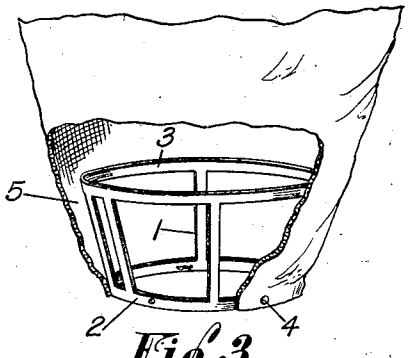


Fig. 3

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Filed Aug. 9, 1934 2 Sheets-Sheet 2

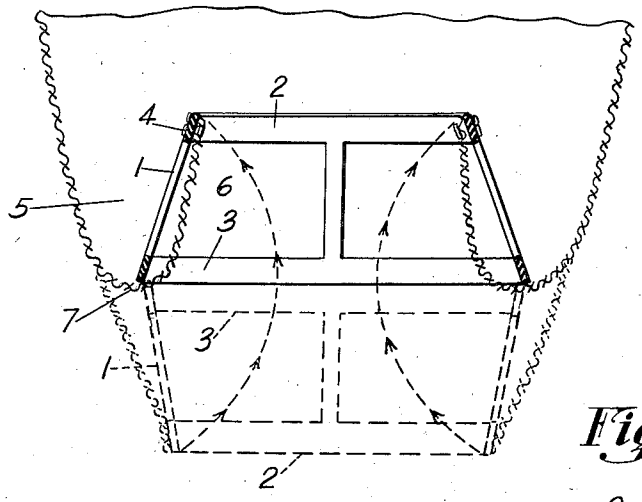


Fig. 4

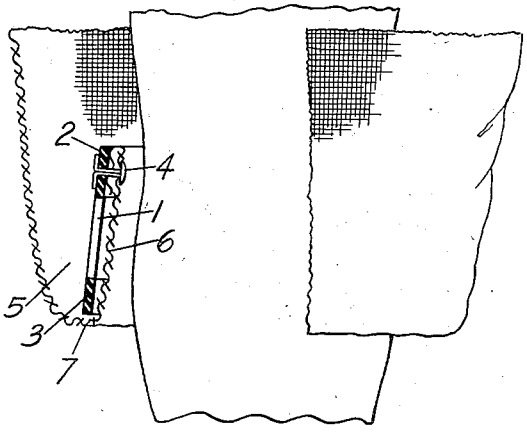


Fig. 5

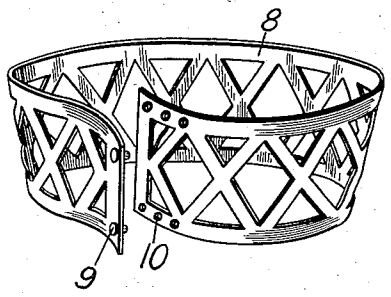


Fig. 6

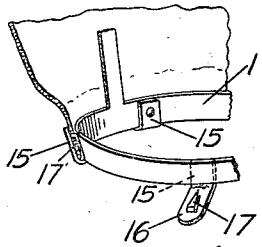


Fig. 8

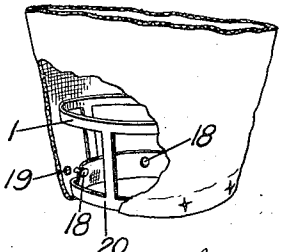


Fig. 9

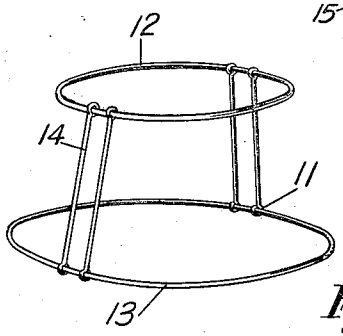


Fig. 7

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,000,149

GARMENT

Morris Reich, Columbus, Ohio

Application August 9, 1934, Serial No. 739,172

4 Claims. (Cl. 2—228)

My invention relates to a garment. It has to do, more particularly, with that type of garment commonly known as knickers. More specifically, it relates to means for producing a baggy or blouse effect on the lower ends of the legs of a garment of the type indicated.

One of the objects of my invention is to provide means for producing a natural blouse or baggy effect at the lower ends of the legs of knickers without the use of buckles or other fasteners which operate on the principle of gripping the legs of a person wearing the garment in order to produce the blouse effect and which restrict circulation and are uncomfortable in many ways.

Another object of my invention is to provide means for producing the blouse effect in the legs of knickers which is of such a nature that it may be easily applied to the knickers and can be easily removed therefrom when they are washed or cleaned.

Another object of my invention is to provide a device of the type indicated which is of such a nature that after it has been applied to the legs of the knickers a natural blouse effect will be produced like that produced by the fasteners which grip the leg and are in common use and which is of such a nature that there will be no danger of the legs of the knickers slipping down on the legs of a person wearing them, thereby accidentally losing the blousing effect.

Another object of my invention is to provide means for producing a blouse effect in the legs of knickers which is of such a nature that it will not interfere with the knees of a person wearing the knickers and will not interfere with any movements which the person makes.

Another object of this invention is to provide means of the type indicated which is of such a nature that there will be no danger of injury to the legs of a person wearing knickers having such means incorporated therein.

In its preferred form, my invention contemplates the provision of an annular stiffening structure which is fastened in the lower ends of the legs of the knickers. This annular stiffening structure is preferably of frusto-conical form and is removably fastened in the leg of the knicker in a suitable manner. It is first fastened within the leg with its small end down and then the leg of the knickers is turned upwardly within itself, producing a blouse effect and the stiffening structure will prevent the upturned portion of the leg from falling down. Thus, a blouse or baggy effect will be produced in the lower ends of the knickers and will be maintained therein.

The preferred embodiment of my invention is shown in the accompanying drawings wherein similar characters of reference designate corresponding parts and wherein:

Figure 1 is a view showing a pair of knickers with the lower portion of one of the legs broken away to show the means which I provide for producing the blouse or baggy effect which is fastened therein.

Figure 2 is a perspective view, partly broken away, showing the lower end of a leg of a pair of knickers and illustrating how the stiffening unit is inserted in the leg.

Figure 3 is a perspective view, partly broken away, and showing the frame unit after it has been positioned within the leg and is fastened therein.

Figure 4 is a vertical section taken through a leg of the knickers having the frame unit therein and illustrating diagrammatically how the leg is swung upwardly within itself to produce the blousing effect.

Figure 5 is a view, partly in section and partly in side elevation, showing the position of the frame unit after the leg is turned upwardly and illustrating how the blousing effect is produced.

Figure 6 is a perspective view of a modified form of frame unit which I may use, this frame unit being adjustable to various sizes.

Figure 7 illustrates a frame unit which is made of suitable metal.

Figure 8 is a perspective view illustrating a type of fastener which may be used in fastening the frame unit within the leg of the knickers.

Figure 9 is a perspective view, partly broken away, illustrating another form of fastening device which may be used for fastening the frame unit to the knickers.

With reference to the drawings, and particularly to Figures 1 to 5, inclusive, I have illustrated how I preferably produce the blousing effect at the lower ends of the legs of the knickers.

From these figures, it will be apparent that I have provided an annular stiffening frame structure 1 which is adapted to fit within the lower end of the leg of the knickers and which is fastened therein in a suitable manner. This frame structure or stiffening unit 1 is preferably formed from flexible rubber of a suitable type. However, the rubber is preferably of sufficient rigidity that the frame unit will remain upstanding and will not fall down in contact with the leg when it is disposed as illustrated in Figure 1.

It will be apparent that this frame unit is made of frusto-conical form, as clearly illustrated in Figure 1. The smaller end 2 will be referred to as the upper end and the larger end 3 will be referred to as the lower end, since these are the relative positions they will occupy when the leg of the knickers is turned inwardly to produce the blouse or baggy effect, as illustrated in Figure 1.

Although this unit 1 could be made of a solid band of material, shaped into a frusto-conical form, it is preferably made of a frame-like structure in order to reduce the weight thereof and to permit free circulation.

The lower ends of the legs of the knickers are reduced, as indicated in the drawings, and which is well known. In applying this frame unit 1 to the leg of the knickers it is slipped upwardly within the leg, as indicated in Figure 2. Because it is flexible, it may be slipped therein easily. In doing this, the smaller end 2 will be lowermost and the larger end 3 will be uppermost. This unit 1 is fastened in the leg of the knickers in such a manner that it may be readily removed therefrom. Thus, when it is positioned as indicated in Figure 3, a plurality of removable fasteners 4 of the type indicated are passed through corresponding circumferentially spaced openings formed in the extreme lower end of the leg of the knickers and the smaller end 2 of the frusto-conical frame unit, as illustrated in Figures 3 and 5.

As shown in Figure 3, the end 2 of the frusto-conical frame unit will be just slightly less in diameter than the extreme lower end of the leg of the knickers to which it is attached. The other end 3 is larger than the end 2, but, as illustrated, this end 3 is of considerably less diameter than the corresponding portion of the leg of the knickers in which it fits. In other words, there will be a substantial annular space 5 between the end 3 of the frame unit 1 and the inner surface of the leg of the knickers, as shown in this figure. This is important in producing the blouse or baggy effect which looks natural and which is like that produced in the conventional knickers by fastening means which grip the legs.

With the unit 1 placed in the leg of the knickers, as indicated in Figure 3, the blouse or baggy effect may then be produced merely by turning the leg inwardly within itself, with the frame unit carried thereby. The manner in which this is done is illustrated diagrammatically in Figure 4. Since the unit 1 is of flexible rubber, this may be done after the knickers are on the person, although it is preferably done before the person puts them on.

The unit 1 will occupy the position indicated in Figure 5. The upper end 2 of the unit will be spaced a considerable distance from the inner surface of the leg of the knickers. Also, as previously stated, the end 3 will be smaller than the corresponding portion of the leg of the knickers and this will aid in producing the blousing effect, as will be apparent in Figure 5. The upturned portion 6 of the leg of the knickers will lie within the unit 1 and will completely cover such unit so that the leg will never contact therewith but will always contact with the upturned portion 6 of the leg. The free end of the upturned portion is the only part fastened to the unit 1. Consequently, the lower end 3 of the unit will merely rest in the loop 7 produced when the portion 6 is turned upwardly within the leg. The portion 6 will be under slight tension produced by the weight of unit 1 and will therefore lie flat against the inner surface of this unit. However, the outer portion of the leg will be spaced from the unit 1 as indicated in Figure 5 and will be loose, producing a natural blouse or baggy effect. The material of the unit 1 is preferably sufficiently rigid to support its own weight and that of the upturned portion 6 so that it will not bend over and contact with the legs of the person wearing the knickers.

It will be apparent that the unit 1 need not contact with the leg at all, in order to produce the blouse effect. The leg will be entirely free, although once in a while the upturned portion 6 of the leg of the knickers may contact with the leg of the person wearing them. Since contact of the upper end of the unit 1 with the leg of the person is not relied upon for holding the upturned portion 6 in position, the unit 1 need not be of very great height. Consequently, it will not interfere with the knee of the person, since it will be located below the knee. The frame unit 1 should always be of a substantially greater diameter than that portion of the leg of the person which it surrounds.

If it is desired to remove the unit 1 from the leg of the knickers, for the purpose of washing or cleaning the knickers, it is merely necessary to turn the upturned portion 6 downwardly and then remove the removable fasteners 5. The unit 1 may be easily applied to or removed from the leg of the knickers.

In Figure 6, I have shown a modified form of frame unit which I may use. This unit 8 may be made of flexible rubber or other material, as before. It will be in frusto-conical form, as before. However, in this instance, it is provided with means for adjusting the size thereof. Thus, in this instance, the unit 8 is split and one of the free ends is provided with a set of buttons 9 and the other end is provided with a plurality of sets of sockets 10 which cooperate to produce snap fasteners. It will be apparent that the diameter of the frame unit 8 may be adjusted as desired. This unit 8 may be removably fastened in the knickers, as before, or it may be fastened therein in any other suitable manner.

In Figure 7, I show another modified form of frame unit. In this instance, the unit 11 is made of steel wire which is of such a nature that if bent it will spring back into its original shape. This unit embodies an upper ring member 12 and a lower ring member 13 of greater diameter which are joined together by a pair of vertical members 14 disposed at diametrically opposed points. This unit may be removably secured in the legs of the knickers in any suitable manner and will function in substantially the same manner as the frame units previously described.

In Figure 8, I show different fastening means for removably fastening the unit 1, indicated in Figures 1 to 5, inclusive, within the leg of the knickers. In this instance, the fastening means embodies flexible strips of metal 15 permanently attached to the unit 1 and having portions 16 which can be bent to overlap the cloth of the leg of the knickers. These portions 16 are provided on their inner surfaces with teeth 17 which extend through the cloth and will hold the unit 1 in position.

In Figure 9, I show a slightly different type of fastening device for fastening the unit 1 in position within the leg of the knickers. In this instance, the extreme lower end of the leg of the knickers is provided with buttons 18 circumferentially spaced therearound, which are

adapted to cooperate with sockets 19 correspondingly spaced and disposed on the inner surface of the legs. The extreme lower end of the leg of the knickers will be turned inwardly over the ring 20 of the unit 1 and then the buttons 18 will be snapped into the sockets 19 to hold the unit 1 in position.

It will be understood from the above description that I have provided very simple means which may be incorporated in the legs of knickers to produce the baggy or blouse effect. This means is of such a nature that the legs of the person wearing the knickers will be left free and, consequently, there will be no discomfort due to retardation of circulation, et cetera, which is caused by buckles, elastics and other means commonly employed for producing the blouse effect and which grip the legs.

Another advantage of my invention resides in the fact that the means for producing the blousing effect can be readily applied to or removed from the knickers. Thus, it may be removed for washing or cleaning of the knickers. Also, since this means may be so easily applied to the knickers, it need not be sewn in position. This eliminates a considerable amount of labor which would be necessary if it were sewn in position.

My device is of such a nature that there will be no danger of injury to the legs of the person wearing the knickers. Furthermore, this device will not interfere with the knees or will not interfere in any way with any movements which the person might make. Also, after the blouse effect is once produced, there is no danger of the upturned portion of the knickers accidentally falling down.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is:

1. In a garment of the type described having a leg portion, a stiffening unit of substantially frusto-conical form disposed within said leg portion with the smaller end disposed substantially at the extreme end of the leg portion and the larger end spaced within the leg portion, means for fastening the smaller end of the unit to said leg portion, the end of said leg being turned inwardly and upwardly upon itself to produce a blouse effect.

2. In a garment of the type described having a leg portion which is reduced at its lower end, a stiffening unit of substantially frusto-conical form disposed within said leg portion with the smaller end disposed substantially at the extreme end of the leg portion and the larger end spaced within the leg portion, the larger end of said unit being of substantially less diameter than the corresponding portion of the leg of the garment, means for removably fastening the smaller end of the unit to said leg portion, the end of said leg being turned inwardly and upwardly upon itself to produce a blouse effect.

3. In a garment of the type described having a leg portion, a stiffening unit disposed within the end of said leg portion, said stiffening unit being of substantially frusto-conical form, said unit being adjustable so that its diameter may be varied, the end of said leg being adapted to be turned inwardly and upwardly upon itself to produce a blouse effect.

4. In a garment of the type described having a leg portion, a stiffening unit of substantially frusto-conical form disposed within said leg portion with the outer or smaller end disposed substantially at the extreme end of the leg portion and the inner or larger end spaced within the leg portion, the outer or smaller end being substantially the same diameter as the extreme end of the leg portion and being secured thereto, and the larger or inner end being less in diameter than the leg portion at the location where it is disposed so that it will be spaced therefrom, the outer or smaller end of said stiffening unit being the only portion thereof which is secured to the leg portion and the inner or larger end of said unit being free from the leg portion, the end of said leg portion being adapted to be turned inwardly and upwardly upon itself, after the frusto-conical unit is secured therein as indicated, to produce a blouse effect.

MORRIS REICH.