

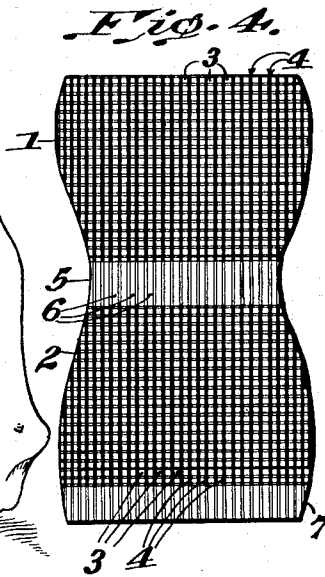
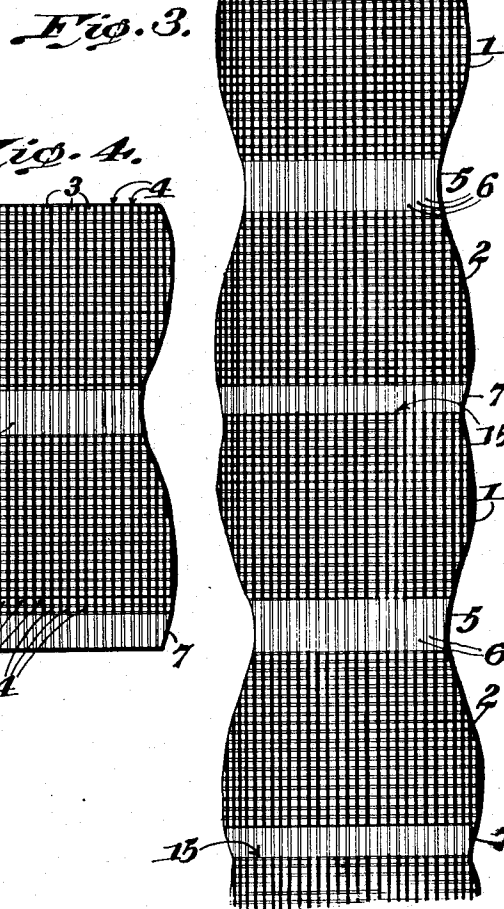
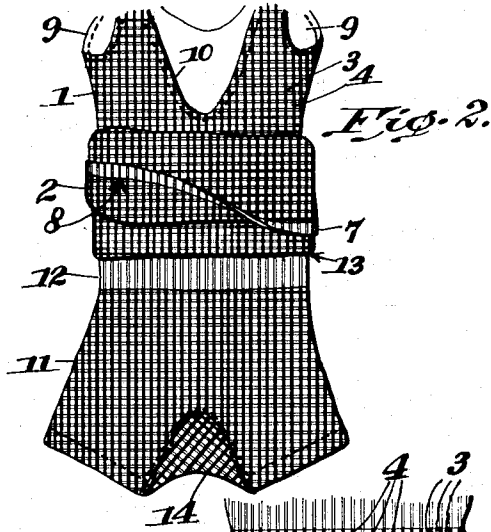
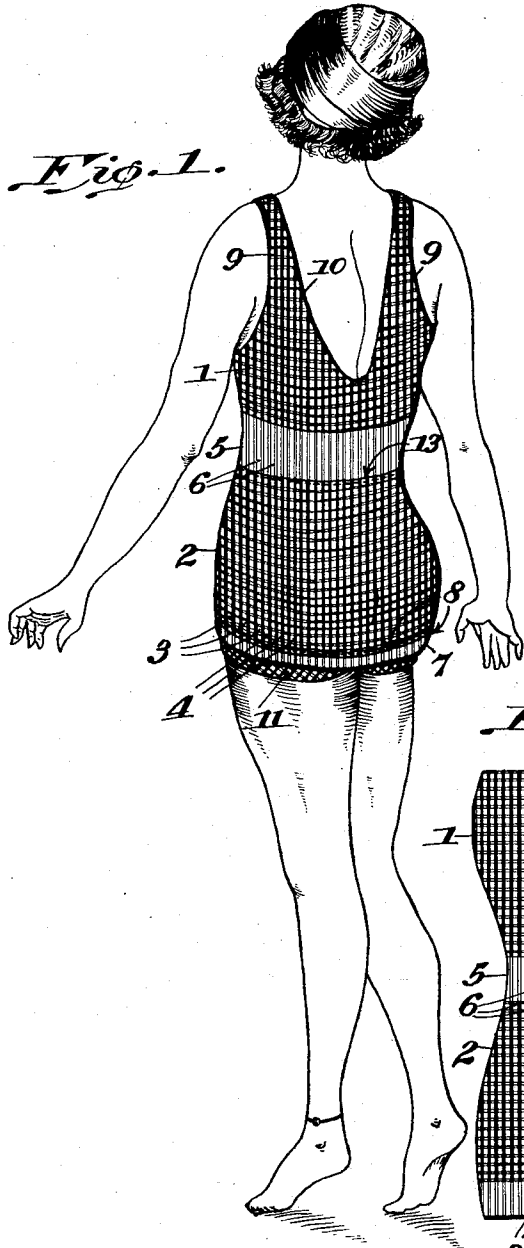
July 26, 1932.

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1,868,854

BATHING SUIT

Filed Feb. 5, 1932



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BATHING SUIT

Application filed February 5, 1932. Serial No. 591,150.

This invention relates to improvements in bathing suits, and its objects are as follows:—

First, to provide a bathing suit which is originally knitted in form-fitting shape, that is to say, knitted with the bust and hip portions wider than the waist and hem portions, said bust and hip portions being made with identical stitch formations but different from the identical stitch formations of the waist and hem portions for the purpose of enabling different degrees of stretching as later brought out.

Second, to provide a bathing suit of a seamless form-fitting type wherein the bust, waist, hip and hem portions are made with such types of stitches as will enable on easy expansion of the suit to fit a number of figure sizes, for example, a suit originally designed to fit a #38 figure has those qualities of elasticity which enable it to readily adapt itself to sizes 36 or 40.

Third, to knit the bathing suit according to a method whereby a large number of suits are knitted in one continuous, seamless tubular piece but having the successive bust, waist, hip and hem portions clearly defined therein as to form, said hem portions providing markers to indicate where the tubular piece is to be cut in order to separate the successive garments.

Fourth, to provide a circumferentially continuous tubular bathing suit fabric which comprises a plurality of sections originally knitted on double ogee curves to originally form the bust, waist and hip portions, said sections being divided by substantially cylindrical hem portions which connect adjacent bust and hip portions and provide cut-indicating places.

Fifth, to provide a bathing suit in which the trunk portion is knitted on the same principle as the remainder of the body of the suit.

Other objects and advantages will appear in the following specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawing in which

Figure 1 is a perspective view illustrating the improved bathing suit.

Figure 2 is a detail view showing the hip

portion turned back in order to illustrate the trunk formation.

Figure 3 is a diagram illustrating a continuous, seamless piece of tubular fabric showing how successive sections are knitted to originally form the bust, waist, hip and hem portions.

Figure 4 is a detail view showing one of the bathing suit sections cut from the foregoing continuous piece of tubular fabric.

Attention is directed to the drawing. Figure 1 is a perspective view of a suit made in accordance with the invention. The bust 1 and hip portion 2 are coarsely knitted, for example, with a type of stitch which produces heavy outstanding wales 3 with rather deeply depressed lines 4 therebetween, enabling a great amount of lateral expansion and a sufficient amount of longitudinal expansion to enable the adaptation of a given suit to a number of different figure sizes.

This feature is important from a manufacturing standpoint. The present practice is to make suits for every known figure size, which sizes, for instance for adult figures, may run 34, 36, 38 etc. all the way to 54, thus necessitating the making of eleven different sizes of suits. According to that quality of the instant suit which enables not only its stretching to an oversize but also its conformity to a figure which may be of a size smaller than indicated by the suit size it becomes possible to make a given suit cover a number of figure sizes so that instead of distributing eleven different sizes to the trade it is possible to distribute only five or six to cover all of the figure sizes enumerated above.

The foregoing feature also has a notable advantage from the wearer's standpoint. It may be that a person has a longer trunk measurement than normal. A suit of conventional size, bought to fit the bust and hip measurement would be too short for the trunk measurement. The improved suit, however, if purchased for the bust and hip measurements will have sufficient longitudinal elasticity to fit all variations in trunk measurement so that the suit will fit a person who is shorter and also a person who is longer

within the range of the given bust and hip size now under contemplation.

The waist portion 5 has its wales 6 continuous with wales 3 in the bust and hip portions, but inasmuch as the wales 6 are not so pronounced they provide in the portion 5 a finely knitted waist band, this joining the bust and hip portions. The hem 7 is also finely knitted. It is doubled under and secured approximately along the line 8. The hem hugs the body of the wearer and tends to prevent flaring of the hip portion 2.

The edges of the arm and neck openings 9 and 10 are turned under and stitched to prevent unraveling. In Figure 2 the trunks 11 are knitted with a stitch like that in the bust and hip portions. The upper terminal 12 of the trunks is finely knitted along the waist portion 5. The upper edge of this terminal is secured approximately along the line 13 (Figs. 1 and 2) at the place where the waist 5 and hip 2 merge. A gusset 14 is connected between the legs of the trunks. In performing the method of making the bathing suit fabric, the hems 7 provide markers, so to speak, to indicate to the operator where to cut the continuous tubular piece into bathing suit sections.

The result of this cutting is a circumferential continuous tubular fabric piece or section. The sections are originally knitted in double ogee curve formations to provide the bust, waist and hip portions. Considering Figure 3, the foregoing sections are produced by cutting along successive lines 15, the section in Figure 4 being the result.

I claim:—

1. In a bathing suit, bust and hip portions composed of a coarsely knitted fabric having a large factor of longitudinal expansion, trunks inside of the hip portion being partially composed of a similar coarsely knitted fabric also having a large factor of longitudinal expansion, waist and hem portions respectively connecting the bust and hip portions and bounding the free end of the hip portion, being composed of a finely knitted fabric having a small factor of longitudinal expansion, an upper waist terminal on the trunks composed of finely knitted fabric similar to said waist and hem portions, and means attaching said terminal to the place of connection of the waist and hip portions in substantial continuity with said waist portion, said attaching means occurring on a circumferential line substantially medially of the combined finely knitted waist fabrics.

2. A bathing suit comprising a finely knitted waist portion and coarsely knitted bust and hip portions having inherent double ogee curves and being continuously knitted in the circumferential direction to compose a tubular fabric, and trunks attached inside of the hip portion, having the main

body portion thereof of continuously knitted tubular form.

3. The herein described method consisting of knitting a continuous tubular fabric knitted to form a succession of double ogee curves to provide a plurality of bathing suit sections, having bust, waist and hip portions, and knitting substantially cylindrical hem portions in the tubular fabric between adjacent waist and hip portions.

4. A bathing suit comprising a finely knit waist portion and coarsely knitted bust and hip portions having inherent double ogee curves and being continuously knitted in the circumferential direction to compose a tubular fabric, trunks attached inside of the hip portion, having the main body portion thereof of continuously knitted tubular form, and a hem on said hip portion, said hem providing a cutting line between adjacent bathing suit sections, at which line the sections are separable while in an original continuous tubular form.

5. A bathing suit comprising bust and hip portions composed of a coarse knitting expansible both laterally and longitudinally, a waist portion connecting the bust and hip portions comprising a belt of fine knitting having its principal expansion laterally, a doubled hem on the hip portion comprising a doubled fabric of fine knitting also having its principal expansion laterally, trunks mainly composed of a coarse knitting occupying a position inside of the hip portion and being contacted against by the said doubled hem, and an upper terminal on the trunks comprising a band of fine knitting, the edge of said terminal being attached at the lower line of demarcation between the waist and hip portions thereby providing a relatively broad body engaging band of fine knitting.

6. A bathing suit comprising a body-contacting structure including bust and trunk portions of coarsely knitted fabric, a waist portion connecting the bust and trunk portions comprising a relatively broad band of finely knitted fabric, and a hip portion providing a skirt comprising a coarsely knitted fabric having its upper edge joining the body structure at a circumferential line substantially medially of said waist portion.

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