

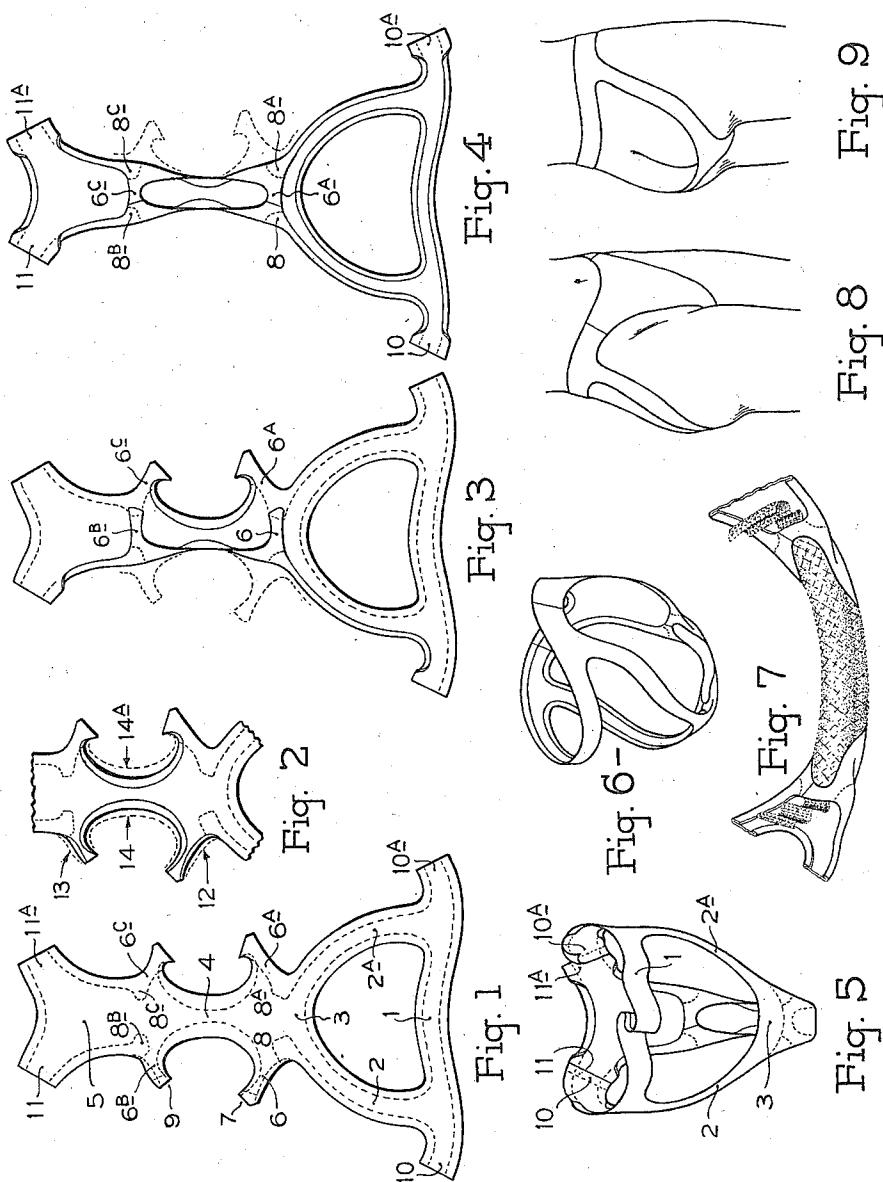
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SANITARY GIRDLE

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SANITARY GIRDLE

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3 Claims. (Cl. 128—289)

My invention relates to improvements in sanitary and hygienic girdles or belts for women used to accommodate and support so-called sanitary napkins or pads and other fibrous materials commonly used during the menstrual flow and hemorrhages of the reproductive organs, and the objects of the present invention are:—

First.—To improve on my previous application filed on the 1st of November 1932 under Serial No. 640,713.

Second.—To relieve or allay the irritation during such periods caused primarily by the trussing and fastening of so-called sanitary napkins for protection with mediums or articles of an unsatisfactory nature.

Third.—To give sanitary protection in a satisfactory and secure manner without trussing or irritation.

Fourth.—To give comfort and ease to the patient or wearer.

Fifth.—To render the girdle or belt simple in construction and light in weight.

Sixth.—To render the girdle or belt imperceptible or unnoticeable in bulkiness and to relieve the self-consciousness of the patient or wearer caused by such bulkiness.

Seventh.—To allow the patient or wearer freedom of movement without strain or discomfort and generally to adapt the article to give the necessary protection, security and comfort required in a sanitary girdle or belt.

My invention comprises members or parts which are classifiable under the following heads:—

First—a waist-band

Second—a pair of buttock straps

Third—a buttock shield

Fourth—a retaining member or pouch

Fifth—a pelvis shield.

All of the above major parts are integral and cut or stamped by die or hand to a certain pattern or design preferably out of a single piece of flat sheet rubber.

In my previous invention the pouch portion was cast to fit the crotch and curve of the base of the trunk or torso; whereas in the present invention I create the retaining member or sanitary pad holder by drawing up and back and folding over of extensions and protrusions of the design or pattern in a certain fashion and secured by various means to a pair of shoulders and in turn overlapping opposite extensions and

protrusions formed upon the opposite side of the pattern and folded upon each other.

The particular advantage of creating the present invention out of a single flat sheet of rubber is to better comply with present facilities and methods of manufacture and to hold the so-called sanitary pads in position without creeping forward or backward and slipping from side to side.

The pads are prevented from creeping forward or backward by two pairs of shoulders formed upon the underside of loops provided at each end of the pad retaining member and are further prevented from slipping from side to side by the buttock shield in conjunction with the buttock straps.

The pad is prevented from coming out of the retaining member or pouch by the folded over extensions which form the loops connecting the pair of shoulders.

My invention will be more readily understood by reference to the specification and drawing accompanying and forming part of this application, and in which:

Figure 1 is a plan view of the improved girdle or belt, showing the pattern with the portions to be hemmed and lapped over to points indicated by dotted lines.

Figure 2 is a fragmentary plan view of the portion comprising the retaining member or pouch showing the first steps of reinforcing by hemming and in which the waist-band, buttock straps and pelvis shield are omitted.

Figure 3 is a plan view showing the first folding over of the extensions or protrusions of the retaining member or pouch and part of the hemming.

Figure 4 is a plan view showing the second step in which the opposite extensions or protrusions are overlapped and secured upon the already folded over extensions or protrusions.

Figure 5 is a diagrammatic view showing the method of securing the waist-band to the pelvis shield.

Figure 6 is an isometric view of the finished girdle or belt.

Figure 7 is an enlarged fragmentary oblique view of the finished retaining member or pouch shown with any common sanitary pad in position and particularly illustrating the ends or tabs of said sanitary pads passed under the retaining member, shoulder straps or pad retaining loop. Note: The sanitary pad in this illustration is unconventionally shaded for the purpose of clarity.

Figure 8 is a three-quarter front view of the girdle or belt upon a patient or wearer.

Figure 9 is a three-quarter back view of the girdle or belt upon a patient or wearer and particularly illustrates the buttock shield.

In the drawing like numerals indicate like parts and the numeral 1 represents the waist-band, 2 and 2² represent the buttock straps, 3 represents the buttock shield, 4 represents the retaining member or pouch, the retaining member or pouch being a continuation of the buttock shield. The retaining member or pouch has extensions or protrusions 6 and 6^a adjacent to the buttock shield which comprises one pair of extensions.

The retaining member or pouch 4 has also another pair of extensions 6^b and 6^c. The retaining member or pouch 4 continues into and is integral with a pelvis shield 5.

The retaining member or pouch 4 has shoulders 8, 8^a, 8^b and 8^c, the shoulders being created or fashioned when the hems and extensions or protrusions are turned over and secured on the dotted or broken lines.

The purpose and object of forming the shoulders 8, 8^a, 8^b and 8^c is to prevent the creeping and crawling of the pad forward and backwards when positioned under the loops formed by folding over and joining the ends 6, 6^a, 6^b and 6^c by providing a restriction within and under the loops formed by the folding and securing together of the ends 6, 6^a, 6^b and 6^c, see Figure 4.

In forming the retaining member or pouch the hems as indicated by 12, 13, 14 and 14^a (Figure 2) are first turned and secured, then the terminus 7 of the extension or protrusion 6 is folded and secured to the shoulder as indicated by 8^a. The terminus 9 of the extension or protrusion 6^b is likewise folded over and secured to the shoulder as indicated by 8^c.

The extension or protrusion 6^a is then overlapped and secured upon the already folded over and secured extension or protrusion 6 and in a like manner the extension or protrusion 6^c is overlapped and secured upon the already folded over extension or protrusion 6^b. The extensions or protrusions 6, 6^a, 6^b and 6^c then become as two straps 6^a and 6^c in Figure 4 connecting the two pair of shoulders, 8, 8^a and 8^b, 8^c respectively as shown in Figure 4, after which the hems on the pelvis shield, buttock shield, buttock straps and waist-band (hereinafter referred to) are turned over and secured on the indicated broken or dotted lines.

The waist-band 1 is then brought up and secured to the pelvis shield 5.

The termini 10 and 10^a of the waist-band 1 are secured to the termini 11 and 11^a of the pelvis shield 5 respectively, as shown in Figure 5.

The sanitary girdle or belt as herein described may be made from a neutralized composition sheet rubber of suitable gauge. It may, however, be made with other materials, fabrics or compositions found suitable for the purpose and having the necessary resiliency.

The fabrication of the girdle as here set out deals with a one-piece structure formed from sheet material and does not contemplate the use of cast, moulded or pressed sections or extension pieces to arrive at a near or similar device.

I am well aware that some of the folded over parts of the girdle could be formed and reinforced by vulcanizing separate strips thereon; likewise the shoulders referred to in the loops at the end of the pad retaining member could be formed out of separate pieces and cemented on, but all such artifices and substitutions I consider fall within the scope of the appended claims and would be infringement thereof.

Having now described my invention, what I claim and desire to be protected in by Letters Patent, is:

1. A sanitary and hygienic girdle of the kind described composed of a section of sheet material and comprising a girdle, said girdle having a waist-band, buttock and pelvis shields integral with said waist-band, a pad retaining member intermediate of said shields and integral therewith, said pad retaining member having flared ends and a tapering centre portion, loops located at each end of said pad retaining member, shoulders located under said loops, said shoulders each comprising a restriction within said loops adapted to hold and prevent a pad positioned under said loops from creeping and crawling thereunder.

2. A sanitary and hygienic girdle of the kind described composed of a section of sheet material and comprising a girdle, said girdle having a waist-band, buttock and pelvis shields integral with said waist-band, a pad retaining member intermediate of said shields and integral therewith, said pad retaining member having flared ends and a tapering centre portion, loops located at each end of said pad retaining member, said loops each having a flared width and a contraction located thereunder, said contraction comprising a restricted passage under said loop adapted to prevent a pad positioned thereunder from creeping and crawling movement.

3. A blank from which a sanitary belt may be formed, said blank comprising a section of sheet material cut to form a transverse belt member, buttocks straps converging from the belt member, a buttocks shield extending from the converged ends of the buttocks straps in a direction approximately at right angles to the belt member, a pad-retaining member extending from the buttocks shield as a continuation thereof, a pelvis shield extending from the pad-retaining member as a continuation thereof and terminating in diverging ends adapted respectively to be connected to the respective ends of the belt member to form therewith a closed loop when so connected, said pad-retaining member having lateral extensions adjacent the buttocks and pelvis shields, said lateral extensions adapted to be folded over in pairs and secured together to form pad-retaining loops one at each end of the pad-retaining member.

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