April 12, 1927. G. L. NICKERSON 1,624,558

COMBINATION UNDERGARMENT

Filed Aug. 28, 1926 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

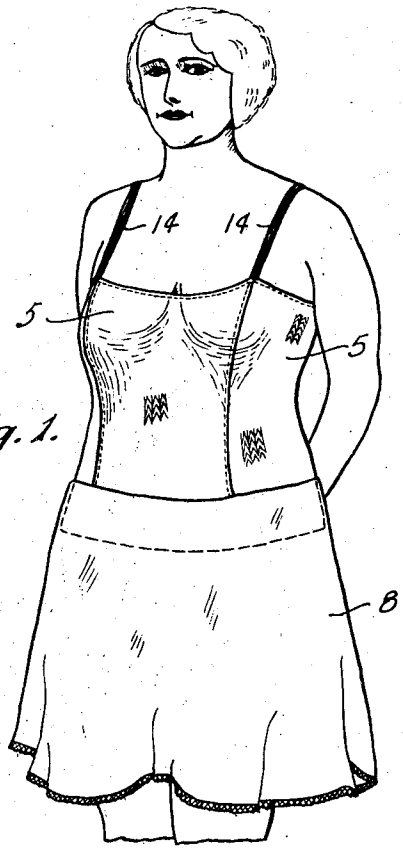


Fig. 1.

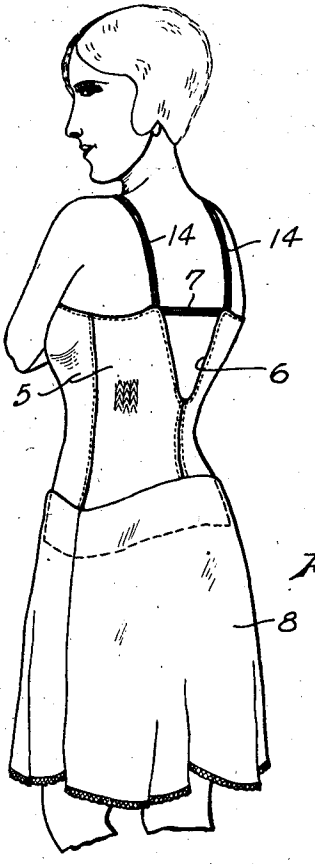


Fig. 2.

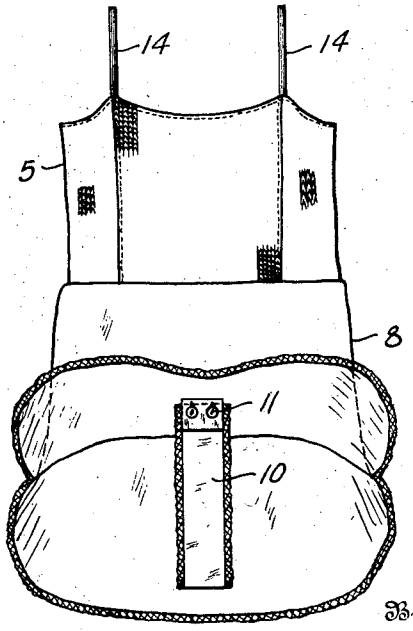


Fig. 3.

Inventor

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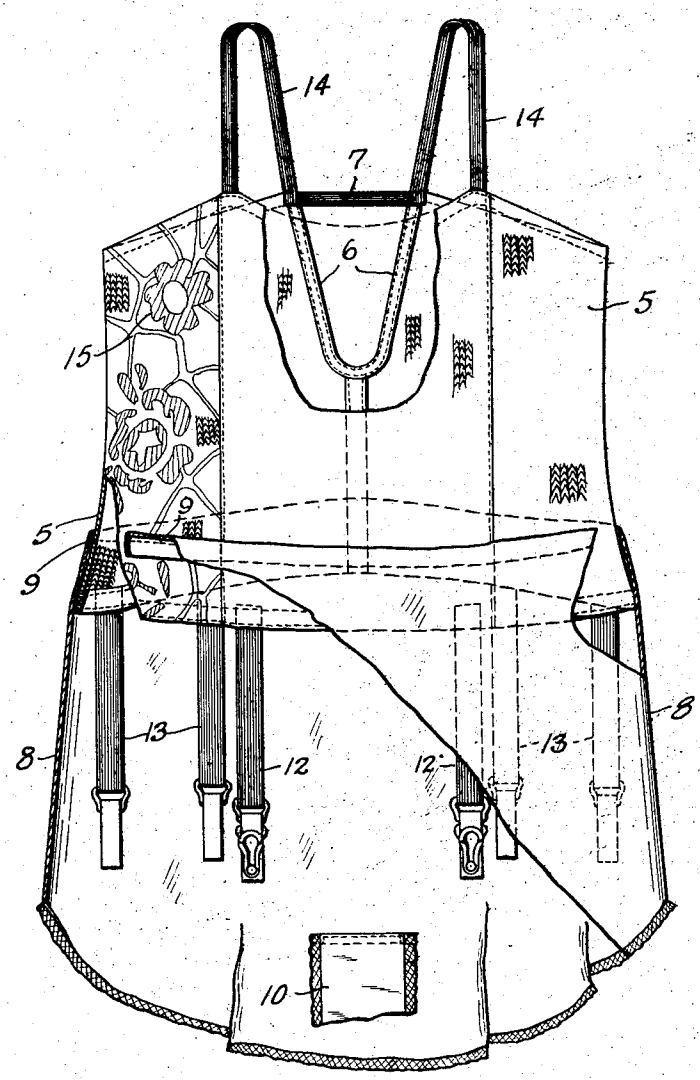


Fig. 4.

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Patented Apr. 12, 1927. 1,624,558

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GERTRUDE L. NICKERSON, OF BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT, ASSIGNOR TO THE WARNER BROTHERS COMPANY, OF BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT, A CORPORATION OF CONNECTICUT.

COMBINATION UNDERGARMENT.

Application filed August 28, 1926. Serial No. 132,091.

This invention relates to a combination undergarment for ladies wear, and has for an object to provide an undergarment comprising a single garment involving the characteristics of all the undergarments needed to be worn.

It is also an object of the invention to provide an undergarment of this character which will have bust and waist confining portions, but it is so constructed that it does not require the use of any buttons or other detachable fastenings which must be manipulated in putting it on or taking it off.

With the foregoing and other objects in view, I have devised a garment the preferred form of which is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which

Fig. 1 is a front and side view showing the garment as worn.

Fig. 2 is a back view thereof but shown on a somewhat slighter figure.

Fig. 3 is a front view of the garment, and

Fig. 4 is a front elevation of the garment on a larger scale and portions thereof broken away to more clearly show the construction.

My improved undergarment comprises an upper section or brassière or basque portion 5, preferably made of a semi-elastic material, such as a fine knitted material, which will conform to the shape of the figure and also will provide sufficient support for the busts. It is preferably cut so that the greater stretch is in the lateral direction or about the figure. Although this portion is preferably of semi-elastic material it may be made of cloth or lace fitted to the figure by means of seams, darts or gores, and with or without the assistance of elastic inserts or gores, but in any case it is a closely fitting portion. This upper section extends from above the busts to below the waist and comes down over the hips and the length or distance it comes down over the hips may be as found desirable. In the back is a notch or opening 6, preferably of substantially V-shape, extending downwardly from the upper edge of the section and preferably to a short distance above the waistline, and there is an elastic band or strap 7 connected to the garment at the opposite sides of this opening adjacent the upper end thereof. This elastic tends to draw these sides together so as to pull this section of the garment about the figure and cause it to conform substantially to the shape thereof. Suitable hose supporters 12 and 13 are preferably secured at or adjacent the lower edge of the upper section 5. In the specific form shown there are three on each side, two in the back and one in the front. These supporters exert a downward pull on this upper or closely fitting portion and being transverse to the pull of the strap 7 help to draw the material closely about the figure giving a smooth fitting and figure controlling effect. The garment may be supported from the shoulders by means of shoulder straps 14 connected to the front of the garment and to the rear at opposite sides of the V-shaped opening 6. These shoulder straps are also preferably of elastic material though not necessarily so.

The garment also comprises a lower section 8 which may be any kind of a nether garment such as a stepin, drawers, slip, underskirt or the like. It is shown in the drawing as a stepin which is preferred, although it may be any of the other types of garments if desired. This section of the garment should be of soft, loosely fitting material so as to hang loosely about the figure. This lower section is stitched to the upper or brassière section a suitable distance above the lower edge thereof, as shown at 9, and is stitched to the outer side of this section so as to overhang its lower edge as indicated more clearly in Fig. 4. In other words it is a depending loosely fitting nether garment attached to the closely fitting or brassière portion on its outer surface and above the lower edge thereof. This gives a straight line effect and also covers up the hose supporters. A cross strip 10 may be stitched to the rear of this section a suitable distance above the lower edge thereof and extending across to the front between the legs of the wearer as is usual in this type of garment, and it may be detachably secured to the front portion by means of buttons 11 or other suitable attaching means.

This novel combination garment is all that is necessary to be worn beneath the dress. The upper section or brassière portion will conform closely to the shape of the body as it is semi-elastic or is made of cloth

or lace fitted to the figure by means of seams, darts or gores with or without elastic inserts or gores, and is also drawn about the body by the strap 7 secured to the opposite sides of and extending across the upper part of the V-shaped opening 6. The material may be figured if desired, as indicated at 15. The brassière or upper section is the controlling garment and controls whatever part of the figure it covers or engages, the elastic 7 across the top of the opening 6 allows the garment to open sufficiently for the wearer to step in from the top or draw it over the head as preferred so that no buttons, hooks or other detachable fasteners are required to be manipulated in putting on or taking off the garment, and also this elastic draws the garment about the body and assists in causing the garment to conform to the shape thereof.

Having thus set forth the nature of my invention, what I claim is:

1. A combination undergarment comprising an upper section or brassière portion of a semi-elastic material adapted to conform to the shape of the body and having a substantially V-shaped opening in the back extending downwardly from the upper edge of said portion, an elastic strap connecting the opposite sides of said opening adjacent the top thereof, and a depending nether garment of soft loosely fitting material secured adjacent the lower edge of said upper section.

2. In a combination undergarment, an upper section or brassière portion of a semi-elastic material extending from above the busts to below the waist line and having a substantially V-shaped opening in the back thereof extending downwardly from the upper edge, an elastic strap connected to the opposite sides of said opening adjacent the top thereof and normally tending to draw the opposite sides toward each other and about the body, and a depending nether garment secured adjacent the lower edge of said upper section.

3. In a combination undergarment, an upper section or brassière portion of a material adapted to substantially conform to the shape of the body and provided in the back with a notch or opening extending downwardly from the top edge thereof, an elastic strap extending across said opening and connected to the opposite sides thereof adjacent the upper edge of the garment, said strap normally tending to draw the opposite sides toward each other and about the body, and a loosely fitting depending nether garment secured adjacent the lower edge of said brassière portion.

4. In a combination undergarment, an upper section or brassière portion of a semi-elastic material to substantially conform to the shape of the figure and provided in the back with a notch or opening extending downwardly from the upper edge thereof, an elastic strap extending across said opening and connected to the opposite sides of the opening adjacent the top thereof, shoulder straps connected to the front of the garment and to the back on opposite sides of said opening, and a depending loosely fitting nether garment secured adjacent the lower edge of said upper section.

5. A combination undergarment comprising an upper section of semi-elastic material adapted to substantially conform to the lines of the figure and extending from above the busts onto the upper portion of the hips, an elastic strap fixedly connected at spaced points to the back thereof adjacent the upper edge of said section and tending to draw said section about the body, and a depending loosely fitting nether garment secured adjacent the lower edge of said section.

6. A combination undergarment comprising an upper or brassière portion adapted to substantially conform to the figure and having a downwardly extending opening in the back leading from the top thereof, an elastic extending across the upper part of said opening and secured to said portion on opposite sides of the opening, and a depending loosely fitting nether garment secured to the outer surface and above the lower edge of said upper portion.

7. In a combination undergarment, an upper section or brassière portion of a semi-elastic material to substantially conform to the shape of the figure and provided in the back with a notch or opening extending downwardly from the upper edge thereof, an elastic strap extending across said opening and connected to the opposite sides of the opening adjacent the top thereof, hose supporters secured adjacent the lower edge of said upper section, and a depending, loosely fitting nether garment secured to the outer surface of said upper section and above the lower edge thereof.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

GERTRUDE L. NICKERSON.