Oct. 7, 1941. J. T. FLAGG 2,258,411

UNDERGARMENT

Filed Sept. 26, 1939

Fig. 1.

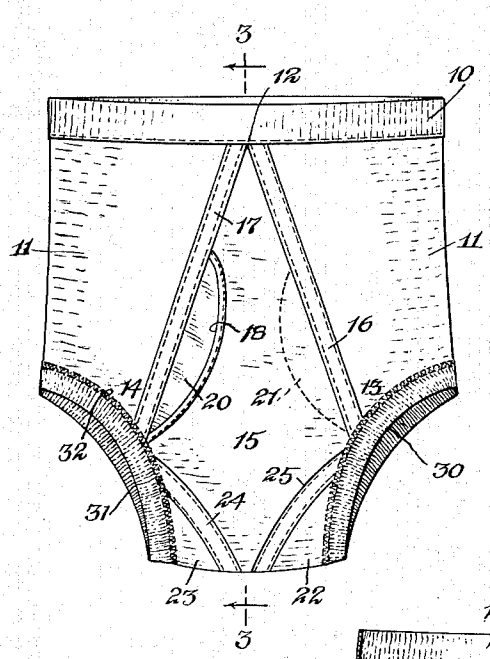


Fig. 2.

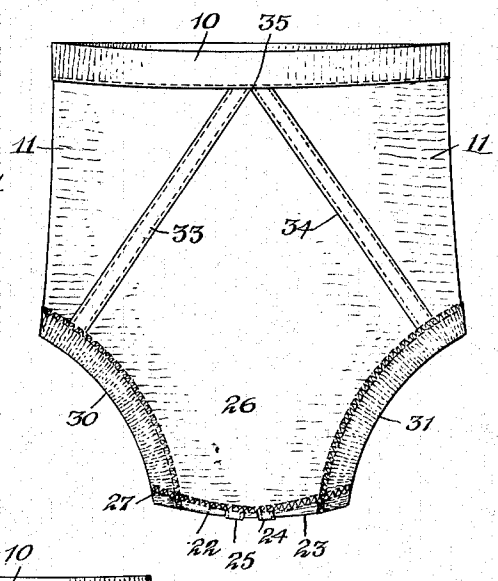
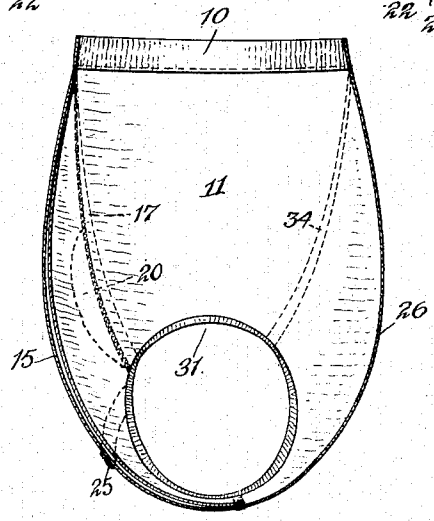


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES

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UNDERGARMENT

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1 Claim. (Cl. 2—234)

This invention relates to undergarments, more particularly the type of undergarment generally known as shorts or drawers, and to the type of garment where it is necessary or desirable to offer some support to the wearer, and where it is desirable that the garment fit the body of the wearer closely but still have elastic sections to compensate for the movement of the legs and joints. It is desirable and necessary therefore that such a garment be constructed with its elastic parts at a point where the action of the limbs requires expansion and contraction, and its supporting parts at points where flexibility is not essential and where a certain amount of rigidity is necessary to offer the desired support and to keep the garment in shape.

Further objects and advantages will be apparent as the description proceeds.

In the accompanying drawing—

Fig. 1 is a front view of a garment embodying my invention;

Fig. 2 is a rear view thereof;

Fig. 3 is a cross-sectional view taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1.

I provide a waistband 10 which is preferably of elastic material in order that it may conform readily to the waist of the wearer. Stitched to the waistband 10 is a continuous panel 11 which extends at its top portion from approximately the center 12 of the waistband 10 in front completely around the garment back to the center of the waistband 10.

The panel 11 is so cut as to be considerably narrower at its bottom portions 13 and 14 in the front to form an inverted V between said bottom portions 13 and 14 and the center of the waistband 10.

Between the edges of the panel 11 at the front is a substantially diamond-shaped center portion 15 which is fastened at one edge to the panel 11 by means of a rigid tape 16 and partially fastened at another edge to the other edge of the panel 11 by the rigid tape 17. An opening 18 is left between the panel 11 and the tape 17 to form a fly. A panel 20 similar to the panel 15 is fastened throughout one edge to the panel 11 by means of the rigid tape 17 and partially fastened to the panel 11 by means of the tape 16, there being an opening 21 afforded to complete the fly.

At the crotch of the garment the panels 15 and 20 are supported by the rigid tapes 24 and 25 crossing from the leg members inwardly to define the sections 22 and 23. Since the panels 15 and 20 fully overlap at this point, the sections 22 and 23 consist of two plies.

In the rear the panel 11 extends downwardly to form a seat 26 which is joined by the seam 27 to the sections 22 and 23 and the tapes 24 and 25 to complete the garment. The panel 11 is cut away to form the leg openings 30 and 31 which may be doubled or otherwise reinforced by stitching as at 32 for strength. Across the panel 11 at the rear are two tapes 33 and 34 which extend from a point 35 at approximately the center of the back to the leg openings 30 and 31 to form an inverted V. These tapes 33 and 34 are of relatively inelastic material and tend to support the garment and the body of the wearer.

While the fabric from which the garment is to be made may be either knitted or woven, a knitted garment offers more elasticity except where reinforced by the tapes 16 and 17 and 33 and 34.

It will be seen that in the construction of my garment the tapes form three V shaped portions, one extending from the center of the front to either leg, another from the center of the back to either leg, and a third from the center of the crotch upwardly to either leg. These tapes tend to support parts of the body while at the same time allowing flexibility in the seat and at the side portions where stretch is needed.

I claim:

A man's undergarment including a body formed of one piece of material elastic and stretchable in one direction and substantially non-elastic and non-stretchable at right angles to the first direction positioned to be elastic and stretchable circumferentially of the garment and extending from the top to the bottom of the garment and also from a line near the front center of the garment around to a second line spaced near but from the center of the garment, a pair of superimposed panels positioned between said lines and extending across the front center of the garment, said panels at the upper part being formed substantially A-shaped with the apex at the top of the body and at the lower end formed substantially rectangular with the free end extending to the crotch of the garment, stitching connecting the side edges of said panels to the end edges of said body, said body and said panels at their lower ends being formed with leg openings, one of said panels in said A-shaped upper part being provided with a fly opening on one side and the other panel being provided with a fly opening on the other side, said fly opening being in the same horizontal plane, a reinforcing tape along the two side edges of the A-shaped upper part, a V-shaped reinforcing tape structure extending from the base of said A-shaped upper part to the crotch of the garment, and a pair of A-shaped reinforcing tapes at the rear of the garment extending from the center of the top edge of said body to the respective leg openings.

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