July 31, 1928. 1,679,206

J. H. CROSSINGHAM

UNDERGARMENT

Filed Jan. 19, 1925

Fig. 1.

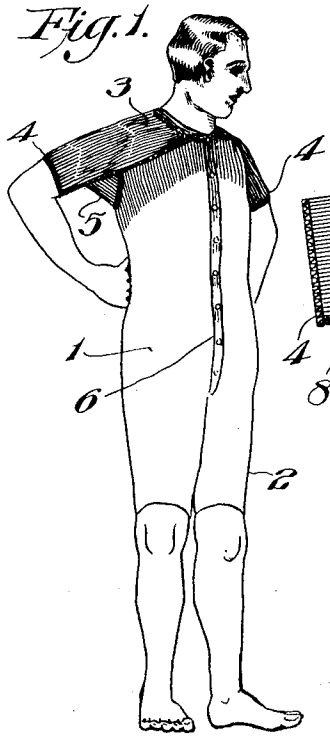


Fig. 2.

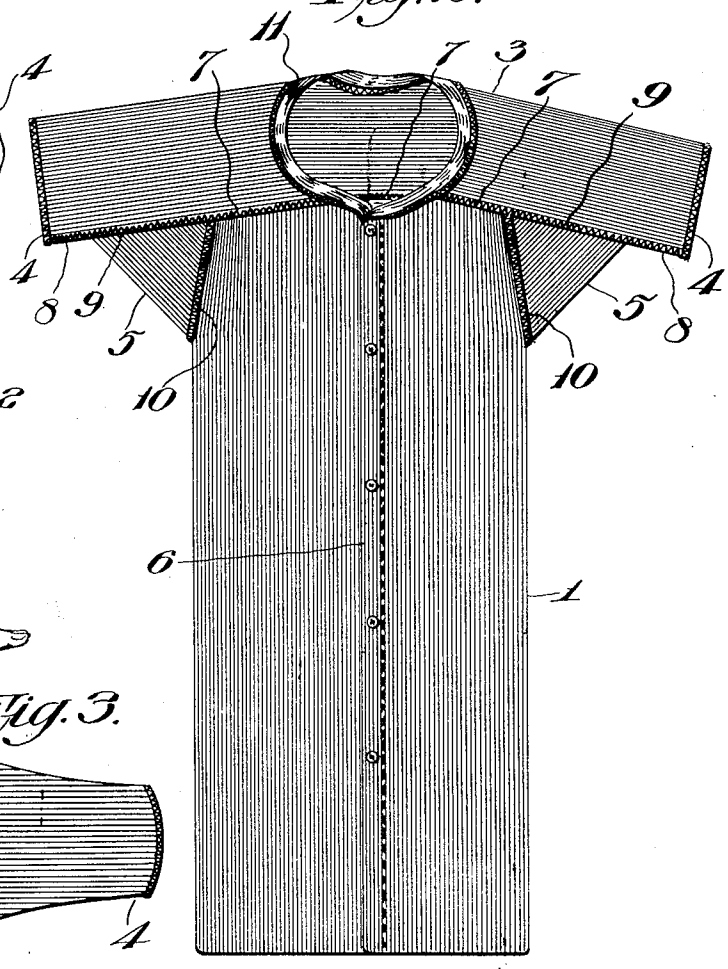


Fig. 3.

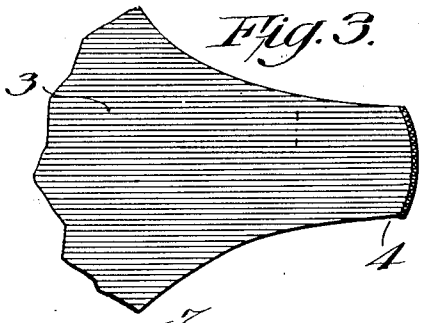


Fig. 4.

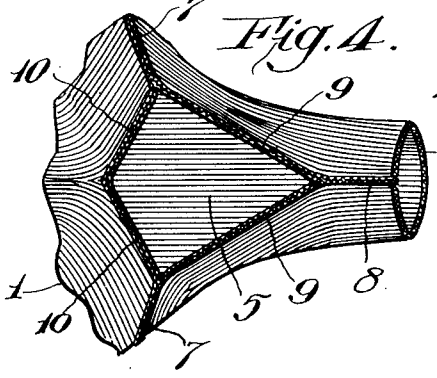
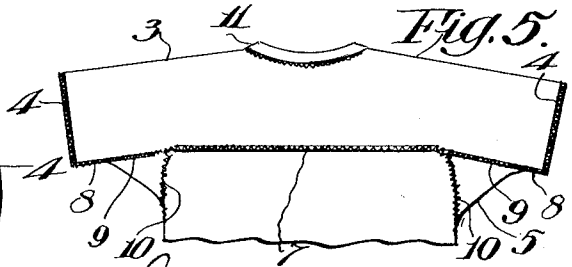


Fig. 5.



INVENTOR:
James H. Crossingham
BY
Niedersheim & Hornbeck
ATTORNEYS.

Patented July 31, 1928. 1,679,206

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES H. CROSSINGHAM, OF GERMANTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA.

UNDERGARMENT.

Application filed January 19, 1925. Serial No. 3,336.

The present invention relates to knitted undergarments and more especially to so-called union suits, and has for its principal object to provide a new and useful undergarment arranged to provide elasticity laterally of the garment below the neck band; to provide elasticity in an up and down direction at the rear neck portion and upper shoulder portion; and to provide elasticity for the arm pit portions of the garment whereby a very desirable freedom and stretching of the garment adjacent the shoulder portions of the body of the wearer without inconvenience of binding and whereby a perfect fit of the garment upon the body of the wearer is obtained. In order to accomplish the desired result, use is made of a yoke of elastic knit fabric inserted in the body of the garment and having its wales horizontally or at right angles to the wales of the body of the garment and having an arm pit gusset the wales of which are arranged at an inclination to the wales of both yoke and body portion of the garment.

The invention consists of the novel construction hereinafter described and finally claimed.

The nature, characteristic features and scope of the invention will be more fully understood from the following description taken in connection with the accompanying drawings forming part hereof, and in which:

Fig. 1, is a view in perspective representing a human figure clothed with an undergarment embodying features of the invention.

Fig. 2, is a view in front elevation of the garment.

Fig. 3, is a fragmentary view in plan illustrating the directions of the wales of the yoke.

Fig. 4, is a fragmentary view of the underside of an arm pit portion of the garment; and Fig. 5, is a view hereinafter referred to.

For the purpose of illustrating my invention, I have shown in the accompanying drawings one form thereof which is at present preferred by me, since the same has been found in practice to give satisfactory and reliable results, although it is to be understood that the various instrumentalities of which my invention consists can be variously arranged and organized and that my invention is not limited to the precise arrangement and organization of the instrumentalities as herein shown and described.

For illustrative purposes the undergarment has been shown as being of the so-called union suit type although, obviously, the construction about to be described may be adapted to any desired type of undergarment. Referring specifically to the drawing the union suit consists of the body portion 1, leg portions 2, yoke 3, including the arms 4, and gussets 5. The body 1 of the garment is made of an elastic knit fabric having its wales extending in a vertical direction and provided at the front median line with the usual closing flaps 6 having buttons for fastening the flaps together. The body 1 is provided with an inserted yoke 3 also made of an elastic knit fabric the wales of which run in a horizontal direction, that is, approximately at right angles to the wales of the body 1. The yoke has a portion of its lower edges both at the front and garment rear secured to the body 1 by lines of substantially horizontally arranged lines of stitches 7. For a portion of its extent the yoke is secured together along its lower edges by a line of stitches 8 to provide the sleeves 4. The intermediate portion of the yoke has secured thereto by a line of stitches 9 an arm pit gusset 5 which gusset at its opposite edge is secured by a line of stitches 10 to the body of the garment. The gussets are each formed of elastic knit fabric and the wales thereof extend at an inclination to both the wales of the yoke and the wales of the body. The yoke is provided with the usual neck band 11. The stitches 8, 9, 7—7, 9, 8, from arm extremity to arm extremity, as shown at the garment front in Fig. 2 and in the rear as shown in Fig. 5, extend in a horizontal direction upon a substantially straight line.

An undergarment of the character above described thus provides adjacent the upper body, shoulder, neck, and arm portions a maximum amount of elasticity both horizontally and vertically and in an arc of a circle, which is highly desirable especially when used by athletes when freedom of the arms and shoulders of the human bodies are prime factors. By means of an undergarment as above described various shoulder and arm movements of the wearer may be accomplished with perfect freedom and without the inconvenience of binding especially at and adjacent the arm pits of the present wearing garment.

It will now be apparent that I have devised a novel and useful construction which embodies the features of advantage enumerated as desirable in the statement of the invention and the above description and while I have in the present instance shown and described the preferred embodiment thereof which has been found in practice to give satisfactory and reliable results, it is to be understood that the same is susceptible of modification in various particulars without departing from the spirit or scope of the invention or sacrificing any of its advantages.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:

A knitted garment comprising a one piece body provided with vertical wales, which body extends upwardly to the neck-opening at the garment front and nearly to the neck-opening at the garment back, a narrow, transverse seamless yoke the wales of which are horizontally extended, said yoke being shaped to fit the neck-opening and arranged between the upper ends of the body and secured thereto by lines of stitches, said yoke being extended across the garment at the rear of the neck-opening, said yoke being extended to form integral sleeve portions, and seamless arm pit gussets each substantially of the configuration of an isosceles trapezium, the wales of which gussets are arranged at an inclination to both the wales of the body and the wales of the yoke, said yoke being connected to said body and said gussets at the front and rear by lines of stitches, the stitches at the garment front extending from the neck-opening to the sleeve ends, and the stitches at the back extending entirely across the back to the sleeve ends, said gussets being connected by lines of stitches extending vertically from points below the body top to said yoke, and horizontally across the gusset top to said yoke, from points short of the sleeve ends to said vertical lines of stitches.

JAMES H. CROSSINGHAM.