

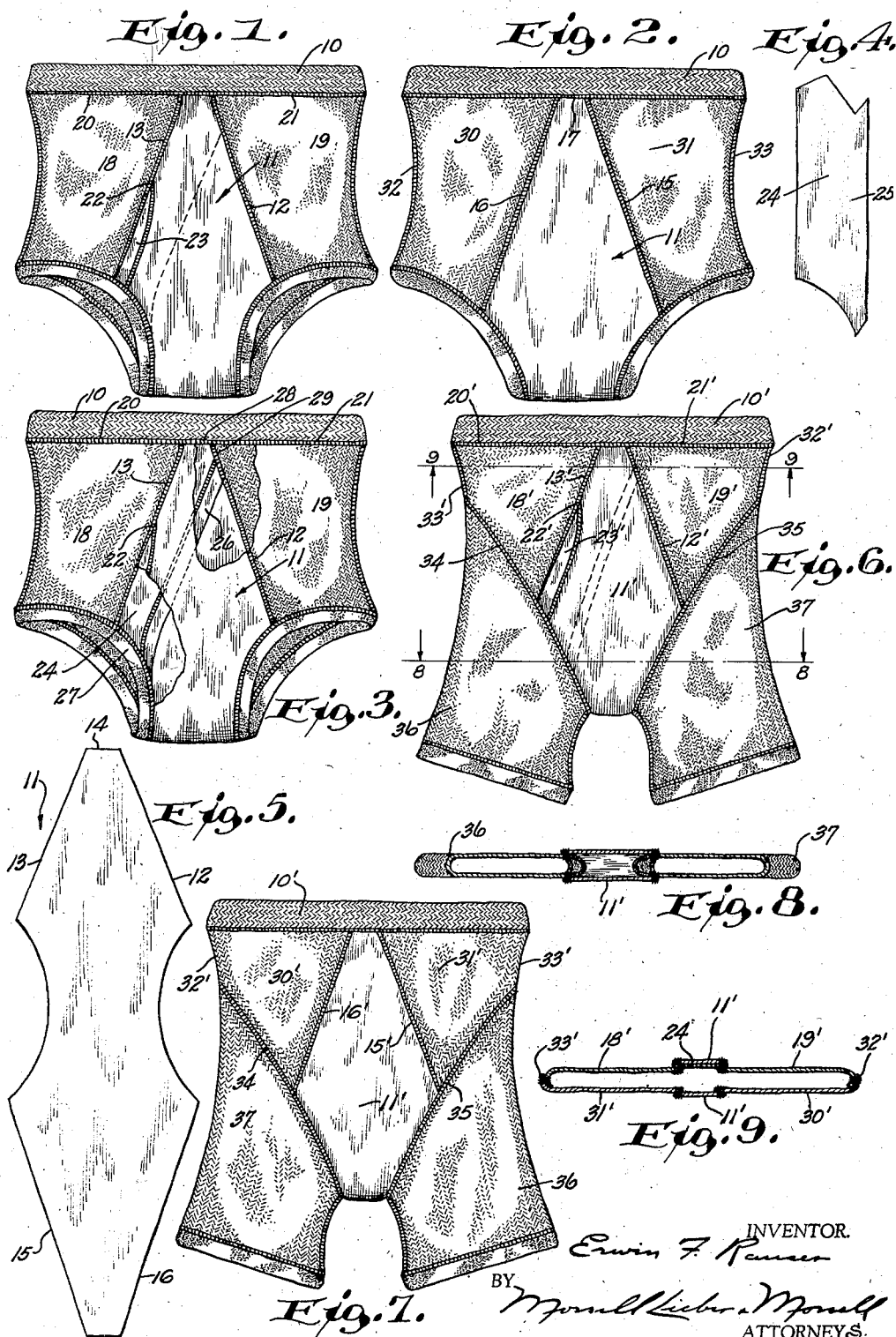
April 29, 1941.

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2,239,972

UNDERGARMENT

Filed July 18, 1938



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,239,972

UNDERGARMENT

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Application July 18, 1938, Serial No. 219,725

2 Claims. (Cl. 2—224)

This invention relates to improvements in undergarments.

It is a principal object of the present invention to provide an undergarment of the trunk type for men which will fit snugly around the waist and hips of the wearer and which will furnish desirable support at the crotch portion without sacrificing comfort.

A further object of the invention is to provide a garment of the class described having a crotch section extending from the waistband at the front of the garment to the waistband at the rear, wherein a fly opening is formed adjacent a side edge of said crotch section and wherein there is an inner flap associated with said fly opening which extends from the leg portion of the garment to the waistband to furnish, in conjunction with the crotch section, supporting strength beneath that portion of the garment which is normally weakened by the fly opening, the major strains being borne by said waistband.

A further object of the invention is to provide a garment as above described wherein said structure tends to normally maintain the fly opening in a neat closed condition.

A further object of the invention is to provide an undergarment of the type above described wherein the crotch section is of one-piece construction from the waistband at the front to the waistband at the rear, to thereby eliminate seams and provide increased comfort for the wearer.

A further object of the invention is to provide a structure as above described wherein said one-piece crotch section has approximately the same size and shape at the front and rear of the garment.

A further object of the invention is to provide a garment as above described wherein the sides or body sections are formed of relatively stretchable body conforming fabric, particularly in a lateral direction, and wherein the crotch section is formed of stronger less stretchable material which is relatively inextensible in the vertical direction of the garment to furnish desired support.

A further object of the invention is to provide an undergarment which is relatively inexpensive to manufacture, which is strong and durable, and well adapted for the purpose described.

With the above and other objects in view, the invention consists of the improved undergarment and all its parts and combinations as set forth in the claims and all equivalents thereof.

In the accompanying drawing in which the same reference numerals designate the same parts in all of the views:

Fig. 1 is a front view of the garment;

Fig. 2 is a rear view thereof;

Fig. 3 is a front view with parts of the crotch section broken away;

Fig. 4 is a plan view of the cut blank of material for forming the fly opening flap;

Fig. 5 is a plan view of the material for forming the crotch section;

Fig. 6 is a front view of a slightly different type of garment;

Fig. 7 is a rear view thereof;

Fig. 8 is a sectional view taken on line 8—8 of Fig. 6; and

Fig. 9 is a sectional view taken on line 9—9 of Fig. 6.

Referring first to the form of the invention shown in Figs. 1 to 5 inclusive, the numeral 10 designates a waistband which is preferably formed of elastic material or elastic fabric. The crotch section designated generally by the numeral 11 and shown alone in Fig. 5 is preferably formed of 1 x 1 ribbed material with the ribs extending longitudinally so that the section is relatively inextensible in the vertical direction of the garment. The crotch section has side edges 12 and 13 at the front of the garment which taper upwardly to a point short of meeting at the waistband, the end 14 of said crotch section being joined to the waistband. The crotch section is of substantially similar shape and width at the rear of the garment as shown in Fig. 2 and has side edges 15 and 16 which taper upwardly to the waistband, the end 17 being connected to said waistband at the rear of the garment.

Body side sections 18 and 19 at the front of the garment have their upper edges secured to the waistband as at 20 and 21, and the section 19 has a side edge secured to the edge 12 of the crotch section throughout the length of said edge. The section 18 is unsecured to the edge 13 of the crotch section for a limited distance upwardly to the point 22, and from said point 22 to the waistband, the section 18 is secured to the upper portion of the side 13 of the crotch section. This provides a fly opening from the point 22 downwardly to the leg, and the free edge of the crotch section adjacent said opening may be suitably hemmed as at 23. Beneath the fly opening and secured to the edge of the body section 18 throughout its length is a flap 24 (see Fig. 3) which is formed from a section of material having the shape shown in Fig. 4, the edge portion 25 being doubled over to form the hem 26. The lower end of the flap 24 is secured within the hem 27 of the leg portion to a part of the material forming the crotch section 11. The upper end of the flap 24 is secured to the waistband as at 28 and to the opposite side of the crotch section where the latter is joined to the opposite body portion as at 29. Thus this flap provides a reinforcement extending from the

waistband to the leg opening beneath the normally weakened fly opening part of the garment, and the structure is further such that the hemmed flap 23 is normally maintained in a neat closed condition as shown in Fig. 1.

The sections 18 and 19 are preferably formed of Swiss rib knitted material with the ribs extending vertically of the garment so that sections are relatively elastic in a transverse direction to provide a snug fit around the hips of the wearer.

At the rear of the garment sections 30 and 31 of very similar shape to the sections 18 and 19 in front, and preferably formed of the same material, are secured at one side edge to the edges 15 and 16 of the rear of the crotch section, and at opposite side edges to the adjacent edges of the front sections 18 and 19 as at 32 and 33. The lower portions of the sections 18, 19, 30 and 31 and portions of the crotch section cooperate to provide snug fitting leg openings.

In the form of the invention shown in Figs. 6 to 9 inclusive, the main portion of the garment is formed in an identical manner to the form of the invention heretofore described, except that the sections of material are varied slightly in shape to provide leg openings 34 and 35 which are cut upwardly more sharply than the leg openings of the form shown in Fig. 1; and to the material adjacent said leg openings, tubular leg members 36 and 37 are secured, said leg members being preferably formed of Swiss rib knitted material.

Inasmuch as the main portion of this garment is constructed in the same manner as the garment of Fig. 1, it will not be again described, and corresponding parts of the invention of Figs. 6 to 9 inclusive are designated by primed numerals corresponding to the numerals used for corresponding parts in the principal form of the invention.

From the above it is apparent that a garment has been provided which can be very economically manufactured and which will be snug fitting and comfortable. It is further apparent that by using the one-piece crotch section extending from the waistband at the front of the garment to the waistband at the rear of the garment, that a very efficient supporter structure is furnished. While the one-piece crotch structure is an important feature of the present invention and is comprehended in certain of the claims, it is obvious, however, that this crotch piece may be formed of more than one piece, and as far as certain features of the novelty of the garment are concerned, it is contemplated that the invention cover the use of a crotch section formed of either one or more pieces.

It is also apparent that a novel method of forming a fly opening has been provided without sacrificing strength, because of the fact that the inner flap 24 extends from the leg opening entirely up to the waistband so that all strains at this part of the garment and beneath the normally weakened fly opening portion can be carried by said flap 24 which is strongly supported by the waistband, and this same feature is present in both forms of the invention.

It is preferred that the angle of the fly opening be approximately 30 degrees or less for most efficient cooperation with this type of structure.

The crotch portion, as well as the flap 24, are preferably formed of 1 x 1 rib material in double weight, or in lieu of the double weight, a double thickness may be employed.

In the claims, the term "leg openings" con-

templates either the openings of Fig. 3 bounded by the hems 27, or the openings of Fig. 6 bounded by the seams 34 and 35.

Although only two forms of the invention have been shown and described, it is obvious that various changes and modifications may be made without departing from the spirit of the invention, and all of such changes are contemplated as may come within the scope of the claims.

What I claim is:

1. In a trunk type of undergarment having leg openings and having a waistband, a crotch section having a narrow upper end secured to the front central portion of the waistband and extending downwardly at the front of the garment, the side edges of said crotch section in the front of the garment diverging downwardly to points intermediate the front of the leg openings, body portions having side edges connected to said diverging side edges of said crotch section and having upper edges connected to the waistband and having lower edges terminating at the leg openings, the side edge of one of said body sections being unconnected to the adjacent diverging side edge of the crotch section from an intermediate point down to a point intermediate the front of the leg opening to provide a fly opening, and said side of the body having its upper part above the fly opening connected to said diverging edge of the crotch section, and a flap extending from said side edge of the body section throughout the length of said section and having its lower end secured to the garment at the leg opening and having its upper end secured to the waistband, said flap being overlapped by the adjacent edge of the crotch section and by the free unconnected part thereof whereby said flap forms a reinforcement beneath the weakened fly opening part of the garment and a connection between the waist band and the leg opening.

2. In a trunk type of undergarment having leg openings and having a waistband, a crotch section having a narrow upper end secured to the front central portion of the waistband and extending downwardly at the front of the garment, the side edges of said crotch section in the front of the garment diverging downwardly to points intermediate the front of the leg openings, body portions having side edges connected to said diverging side edges of said crotch section and having upper edges connected to the waistband and having lower edges terminating at the leg openings, the side edge of one of said body sections being unconnected to the adjacent diverging side edge of the crotch section from an intermediate point down to a point intermediate the front of the leg opening to provide a fly opening, and said side of the body having its upper part above the fly opening connected to said diverging edge of the crotch section, said body portion being formed of material which is loosely knit and relatively stretchable, and a flap formed of closely knit stronger material connected to said side edge of said body section throughout its length and having its lower end secured to the garment at the leg opening and its upper end secured to the waistband, said flap being overlapped by the adjacent edge of the crotch section and by the free unconnected part thereof whereby said flap forms a reinforcement beneath the weakened fly opening part of the garment and a relatively strong connection between the waistband and the leg opening.

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