Feb. 16, 1954 E. H. TOFANELLI 2,668,953

FOUNDATION GARMENT

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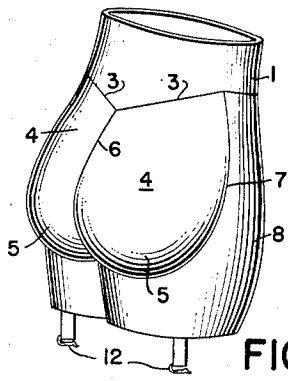



FIG. 1.

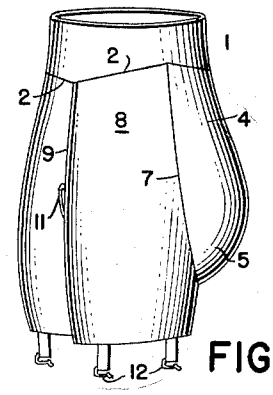



FIG. 2.

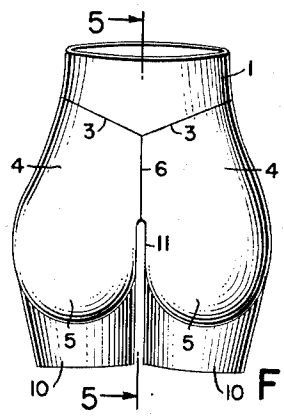



FIG. 3.

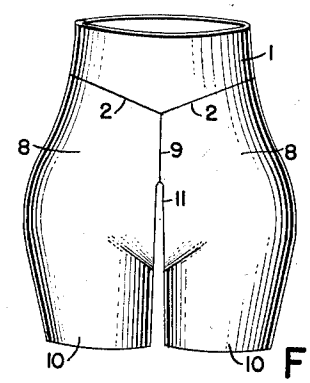



FIG. 4.

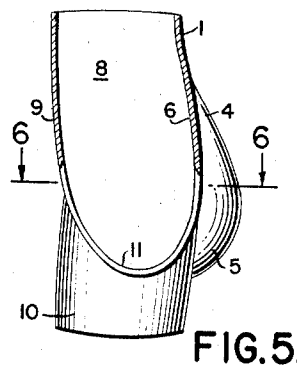



FIG. 5.

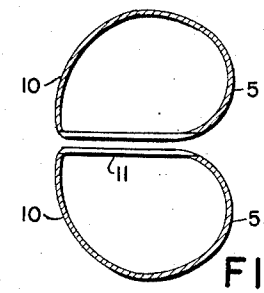



FIG. 6.

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## FOUNDATION GARMENT

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Application June 7, 1951, Serial No. 230,353

2 Claims. (Cl. 2—28)

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This invention relates to an improved foundation garment or girdle of the type adapted to be worn on the posterior portion of the human body.

The foundation garment or girdle embodying the principles of the present invention is preferably made from resilient fabric, moulded rubber, or other suitable material capable of permitting the normal movement of the body on which the garment is worn, while at the same time confining the fleshy portions of the wearer's posterior so the natural shape thereof is maintained. Most girdles of the kind now commonly used merely envelope the posterior portion of a wearer's body and compress the buttocks together in a manner whereby the natural contour of such posterior body portion is distorted from its normal shape. Unlike the conventional girdles now in use the foundation garment comprising the present invention is so constructed and designed that it confines the fleshy portions of each half of the wearer's body posterior independently of the other in a manner which preserves its natural contour and at the same time permits normal body movements without restraint. My foundation garment embodies a construction which is adapted to envelope each half portion of the wearer's body posterior so that the natural rounded duplex appearance of such posterior is preserved in the manner in which the bust is divided, separately embraced and supported by the modern brassière. The resilient independent support of each half of the body's posterior avoids the usual compressing action imparted to the buttocks and hips during the wearing of girdles of the kind now in common use, and because of the separation and the unconnected independent support of each half of the body's posterior, there is permitted a free movement of one buttock with respect to the other.

The primary object of the present invention is to provide a novel foundation garment or girdle of the kind characterized which envelopes each half portion of the wearer's body posterior and confines and supports the independent fleshy portions thereof while at the same time preserving the natural contour and shape of such posterior without acting to restrict the normal body movement.

Other and further objects of my invention will be pointed out hereinafter, or will be indicated in the appended claims, or will be obvious to one skilled in the art upon an understanding of the present disclosure. For the purpose of this application I have elected to show certain forms and details of a foundation garment, girdle,

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swim suit, tights, or other article of wearing apparel representative of my invention; it is to be understood, however, that the embodiment of my invention herein shown and described is for purposes of illustration only, and that therefore it is not to be regarded as exhaustive of the variations of the invention.

In the accompanying drawings:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a garment embodying my invention, as viewed from the side and rear;

Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the garment as viewed from the front and side;

Fig. 3 is a rear view of the garment;

Fig. 4 is a front view of the garment;

Fig. 5 is a sectional view taken on the line 5—5 of Fig. 3; and

Fig. 6 is a sectional view taken on the line 6—6 of Fig. 5, the said section being taken along a horizontal plane extending slightly above the points where the maximum width of the garment occurs, which is slightly above the normal position of the wearer's hip joints.

The principles of my invention are shown for purposes of illustration on the accompanying drawings, wherein a foundation garment, girdle, or the like, made from resilient fabric, rubber, or a combination of such materials, is shown as having a construction adapted to closely fit over and around the posterior of the wearer's body. The garment comprises a wide body fitting waist band preferably having its lower front edges slanted downwardly in opposite directions as at 2, 2 and its lower rear edges also sloping downwardly as at 3, 3 in opposite directions. Secured to the lower edges of the waist band is a closely fitting buttocks enclosing member which is adapted to extend around the buttocks and upper thighs of the wearer. Comprising the buttocks enclosing member are two similarly shaped buttock enveloping members 4, 4, which are shaped with concave lower portions 5, 5, within which the fleshy convex portions of the buttocks are confined. The buttocks enveloping members 4, 4, are connected together at the rear along a vertical seam or reenforcing line 6, such seam or reenforcing line being entirely above a horizontal plane extending through points where the maximum width of the garment occurs, which points are in approximately horizontal alignment with the wearer's hip joints. The members 4, 4, are joined as at 7 to front panel members 8, 8, which extend forwardly around the wearer's body, the said panel members being joined along a front vertical seam or reenforcing line 9, such seam or reenforcing line being entirely above the hori-

zontal plane extending through points where the maximum width of the garment occurs, which points are in approximately horizontal alignment with the wearer's hip joints. The concave lower portions **5, 5**, of the buttock enveloping members and the front panel members are connected to two snugly fitting thigh enclosing members **10, 10**, which extend around the upper portions of the thighs. A crotch opening **11** is located between the lower ends of the seams **6** and **9**, such crotch opening being positioned to separate the lower concave portions **5, 5** of the buttocks-enveloping members **4, 4**. The lines **2, 2, 3, 3, 6, 7, 7,** and **9** along which the various portions of the garment are joined together, as well as the edges of the crotch opening **11**, may be reenforced by seams or additional thicknesses of material, thereby giving the garment a definite form fitting shape, whereby the body contours are definitely maintained. The crotch opening **11** being arranged in the manner shown with the buttocks enveloping members being separated thereby, prevents the elastic material of the garment from compressing together the buttocks and upper thighs of the wearer. The concave lower portions **5, 5** firmly encase the fleshy convex portions of the buttock and at the same time maintain their natural shapes. The wide waist band **1** fits firmly around the wearer's abdomen, thereby providing a restricting influence for the abdominal tissues in the manner of a girdle or corset.

Garters **12** may be suspended from the thigh enclosing members in the manner shown in Figs. 1 and 2.

What I claim is:

1. A close fitting body-encircling garment having connected resilient front and rear sides and a resilient waist band, the said garment having its maximum width where it extends around the hip joints of the wearer, the rear side comprising a buttocks-enclosing member secured to and depending from the waist band, such buttocks-enclosing member having similarly shaped concave portions adapted to firmly encase the fleshy convex portions of the wearer's buttocks, the said buttocks-enclosing member being joined at its sides to the front side of the garment, and a resilient pair of upper thigh-encircling members secured to and depending from the buttocks enclosing member and the front side of the garment, the said upper thigh encircling members and the concave portions of the buttocks-enclosing member being separated at the crotch portion of the garment by an opening extending to a point above the horizontal plane passing through the widest part of the garment.

2. A close fitting body-encircling garment having connected resilient front and rear sides, the said garment having its maximum width where it extends around the hip joints of the wearer, the rear side comprising a buttocks-enclosing member having similarly shaped concave portions adapted to firmly encase the fleshy convex portions of the wearer's buttocks, the said buttocks-enclosing member being joined at its sides to the front side of the garment, and a resilient pair of upper thigh-encircling members secured to and depending from the buttocks-enclosing member and the front side of the garment, the said upper thigh encircling members and the concave portions of the buttocks-enclosing member being separated at the crotch portion of the garment by an opening extending to a point above the horizontal plane passing through the widest part of the garment.

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