Sept. 21, 1965 B. McMURTRIE 3,207,162

PANTY GIRDLE

Filed Jan. 17, 1962

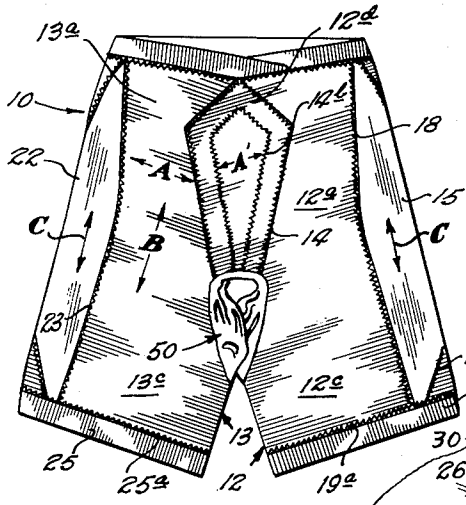


Fig. 1

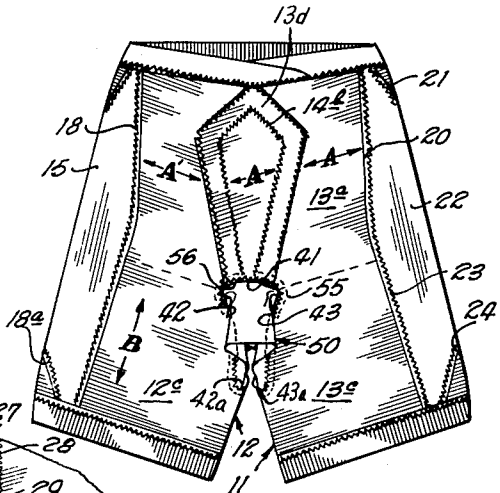


Fig. 2

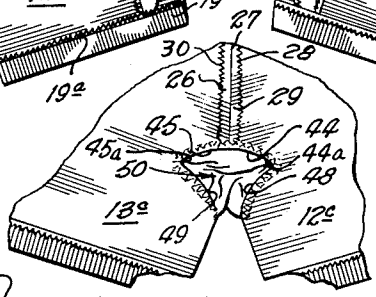


Fig. 7

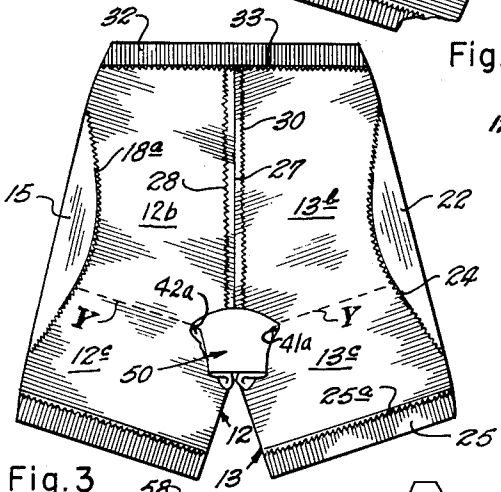


Fig. 3

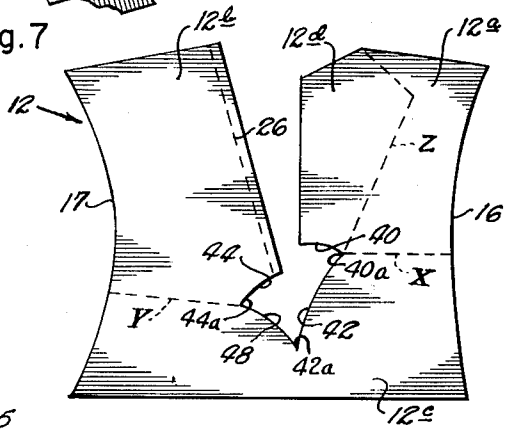


Fig. 4

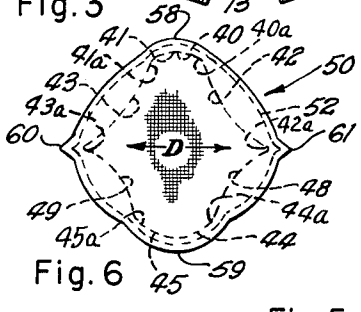


Fig. 6

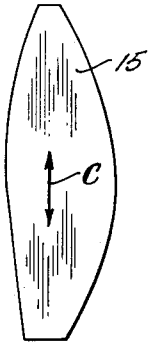


Fig. 5

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PANTY GIRDLE

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1 Claim. (Cl. 128—528)

This invention relates to articles of apparel, and more particularly to a girdle.

One object of this invention is to provide a new and improved girdle.

Another object is to provide a new and improved girdle with leg sections which are seamless at the inner leg to avoid pressure on the legs and eliminate the rubbing of seams together during walking.

Another object is to provide a girdle formed of two panel members, each providing front and rear panels, and leg sections, side panels connecting the panels of each panel member and a crotch section connected to the two panel members.

Still another object is to provide a new and improved girdle comprising front and rear panels of two-way stretch material and side panels of one-way stretch material which are stretchable in the vertical direction only so as to provide a garment which will slim the contour of the wearer and effectively prevent any lateral bulges about the hips.

A further object is to provide a new and improved girdle having front panels of vertically and horizontally stretchable material which has overlapping portions in the front of the garment and over the abdomen of the wearer with the weave of one overlapping panel portion disposed at an angle to the weave of the other overlapping panel portions so that the overlapped panel portions restrain the abdomen and maintains it in flattened position.

A still further object is to provide a new and improved girdle having a crotch section of one-way stretch material which is stretchable in lateral directions only and which is secured to the panel members of the girdle.

A still further object is to provide a girdle wherein the crotch section comprises sufficient material to permit movement of the leg portions of the girdle, relative to one another, as during walking by the wearer, without imposing any upward stress or pull on the leg portions which would tend to cause the leg portions to ride up on the legs of the wearer.

A still further object is to provide a girdle wherein the crotch section is secured to the panel members while the latter are in normal non-stretched positions whereby the girdle is more easily and economically manufactured.

Additional objects and advantages of the invention will be readily apparent from the reading of the following description of a device constructed in accordance with the invention, and reference to the accompanying drawings thereof, wherein:

FIGURE 1 is a front plan view of the girdle of the invention;

FIGURE 2 is a plan view showing the front of the girdle when turned inside out;

FIGURE 3 is a rear view of the girdle;

FIGURE 4 is a plan view of one of the panel members;

FIGURE 5 is a plan view of the left side panel of the girdle;

FIGURE 6 is a plan view of the crotch section of the girdle; and

FIGURE 7 is a fragmentary plan view showing rear portions of the girdle when turned inside out.

Referring now particularly to the drawing, the girdle **10** includes a pair of left and right leg panel members **12** and **13**. The right leg panel member includes a front panel **12***a*, disposed above the line X and a rear panel

12*b*, disposed above the line Y, which are connected by a lower leg section **12***c* disposed below the lines X and Y. The left panel member similarly has a front panel section **13***a*, a rear panel **13***b* and a leg section **13***c* which connects the rear and front of the panels. The front panels of the left and right leg panel members have overlapping sections **13***d* and **12***d*, indicated by the line Z which are connected together by the seam or stitching **14**. The panel members are formed of a two-way stretch material, such as is now commercially available under the name of "Power-Net" or "Lenow-Elastic." Such fabric is elastic in two mutually perpendicular directions as is indicated by the arrows A and B. It will be noted that the overlapping panel sections **12***d* and **13***d* are elastic and stretchable in the lateral directions A and A' which are at an angle to one another and are longitudinally stretchable in directions B and B' which also extend at an angle to one another, whereby the two over-lapping panel sections **12***d* and **13***d* together form a front abdominal portion of the girdle which resists stretching or deformation in all directions and thus provides for a greater support for the abdomen and tends to hold the abdomen in and in a flattened condition. The two overlapping front panel sections **13***d* and **12***d* may be further secured to one another by the seam or stitching **14***b* disposed inwardly of the seam **14**. The inner seam **14***b* further secures the two overlapping front panel sections to one another and prevents any wrinkling or buckling of one section relative to another and further reinforces the front abdomen portion of the girdle.

A side panel **15** extends between and is secured to the side edge portions **16** and **17** of the left leg panel member **12** by suitable seams or stitching **18** and **18***a*. It will be apparent that the left side panel **15** and the leg section **12***c* of the panel member or leg portion **12** form a tubular member when secured together as shown in the drawing for the reception of the left leg. A longitudinally elastic band **19** is secured to the lower edges of the leg section **12***c* and to the lower edge of the side panel **15** by a seam or stitching **19***a*.

The side edge portions **20** and **21** of the right leg panel member **13** are similarly secured to opposite side edges of a side panel **22**, which is identical in configuration to the side panel **15**, by the seams or stitching **23** and **24**. A longitudinally elastic band **25** is secured to the lower edge portion of the leg section **13***c* of the right leg panel member and to the lower edge of the right side panel **22** by a seam or stitching **25***a*. It will be apparent that the right side panel **22**, the leg section **13***c* and the right leg panel member **13** also form a tubular member or leg portion for the reception of the right leg. The elastic bands **19** and **25** are decorative and also help retain the leg sections of the panel members in proper position on the legs of the wearer.

The rear panel **12***b* has an edge portion **26** remote from the side edge **17** which is sewed by means of the seam or stitching **27** to the similar edge portion **29** of the rear panel **13***b*. The edge portions **26** and **29** are folded inwardly on the rear panels **12***b* and **13***b*, respectively, and secured thereto by the seams or stitching **28** and **30**. An upper longitudinally elastic band **32** is sewed to the upper edges of the panel members and the side panels by a seam or stitching **33**.

The side panels **15** and **22** are formed of a one-way stretch or elastic material, such as is commercially available under the name "Satin-Elastic," which are stretchable longitudinally in the direction indicated by the arrows C and are non-elastic laterally so that they tend to slim the hip and leg contour of the wearer by tending to prevent any lateral outward bulging of the girdle on the outer areas of the hips and legs.

The garment formed when the two panel members

and side panels are secured together, as described above, has a substantially diamond-shaped crotch opening, whose front upper arcuate side is defined by the downwardly facing arcuate edges **40** and **41** of the overlapping sections **12***d* and **13***d* of the front panels **12***a* and **13***a* and whose front side edges, which curve arcuately downwardly and inwardly to the lower corners **42***a* and **43***a* of the opening from the opposite ends of the downwardly facing edges of the overlapped front panel sections defining the intermediate laterally spaced corners **40***a* and **41***a* of the opening, are defined by the front side edges **42** and **43** of the leg sections **12***c* and **13***c*, respectively, of the left and right leg panel members. The rear upper arcuate side of the crotch opening is defined by the arcuate downwardly facing edges **44** and **45** of the rear panels **12***b* and **13***b*, respectively. The rear sides of the crotch opening are defined by the arcuate edges **48** and **49** of the leg sections **12***c* and **13***c*, respectively, which extend from the lower opposite ends of the arcuate edges **44** and **45** defining the intermediate rear laterally spaced corners **44***a* and **45***a* of the opening to the lower corners **42***a* and **43***a*, respectively.

The crotch opening when the legs are extended has the somewhat diamond-shaped configuration illustrated in FIGURE 6 by the innermost broken lines on the crotch section **50** which indicate the various edges of the panel members which define the opening.

The outer peripheral portions of the crotch section **50** are inturned or folded back along the line **52** and the crotch section is secured to the panel members by a seam or stitching **55** along the fold line **52** and also at the edges of the crotch section and the panel members by a seam or stitching **56**. It will be noted that the fold line **52** is almost exactly between the outer edges of the crotch section at the front and rear peripheral edges **58** and **59** of the crotch section and the upper front and rear edges of the panel members defining the crotch opening so that there is no excess material in the crotch section between the front and rear upper edges of the crotch opening when the crotch section is secured to the panel members. Similarly, the fold line **52** at the lower side ends **60** and **61** is approximately half way between the outer edges of the crotch section at these points and the edges of the panels defining the crotch opening so that when the crotch section is sewed to the panel members, the crotch section has no excess material between these lower side ends or corners of the crotch opening. It will be apparent however that an excess of material in the crotch section is provided between the opposite sides of the crotch opening defined by the edge **48** of the left panel member **13** and the edge **43** of the leg panel member **13**. Similarly, the crotch section has an excess of material between the opposite sides of the crotch opening defined by the edge **42** of the left leg panel member and the edge **49** of the right leg panel member. By excess of material is meant that the crotch section has a greater length between these diagonally opposite edges than the distance between these diagonally opposite edges of the crotch opening. Due to this excess of material, and the lateral one-way stretch of the material, as indicated by the letter D in FIGURE 6, the crotch section will not exert any stress or upward pull on the leg sections **12***c* and **13***c* during movements of the legs of the wearer, as in walking, since the excess material and the elasticity thereof accommodates the resultant movement of the panel members and thus the crotch section does not cause the leg sections **12***c* and **13***c* of the panel members to ride up on the legs of the wearer. The illustrated shape of the crotch section permits sewing of the crotch section to the panel members while the panel members are in normal nonstretched condition while providing the excess material necessary to accommodate such movement of the panel members. The particular configuration of the crotch opening and of the crotch section by precluding the upward pull or stress on the leg sections prevents riding up of the leg sections on the wearer and the resultant discomfort even if no means, such as hose, are connected to the leg sections which would tend to hold the leg sections in the lower positions. In addition, since no upward stresses or pulls are exerted on the leg sections during walking, the leg sections may be of shorter length thus leading to economies in manufacture since a large area of the material of the leg sections need not be in contact with the legs of the wearer to resist such upward stresses or pulls.

It will now be seen that a new and improved girdle has been illustrated and described having right and left leg panel members **12** and **13**, respectively, formed of flat single pieces of two-way elastic material whose lateral edges are connected by outer side panels **15** and **22** so that no seams are present at the inner sides of the leg portions of the girdle.

It will also be now seen that the girdle has a substantially diamond-shaped crotch opening closed by a crotch section of one-way elastic material, the opposite ends or corners of the crotch opening being located at upper front and rear portions of the girdle and the other two opposite end corners of the crotch opening being located on lower opposite inner leg portions of the girdle.

It will further be seen that the crotch section has excess material between diagonally opposite edges of the crotch opening to accommodate movements of the leg portions of the girdle.

It wil also be seen that the girdle has two panel members which when secured together provide a crotch opening which is closed by a crotch section which is sewed to the elastic panel members while the latter are in normal non-stretched condition.

The foregoing description of the invention is explanatory only, and changes in the details of the construction illustrated may be made by those skilled in the art, within the scope of the appended claim, without departing from the spirit of the invention.

What is claimed and desired to be secured by Letters Patent is:

A girdle including: a pair of panel members formed of two-way stretch material, said material being elastic in two mutually perpendicular directions, each of said panel members including a rear panel, a front panel and a leg section, said panels extending upwardly from said leg section, each panel member having inner adjacent edges extending upwardly from said panel section, said panels and said leg sections having opposed lateral outward edges; elongate side panels of one-way stretch material secured to said outer edges of said panel members whereby said side panels and said leg sections form a pair of tubular portions having no longitudinal seams at the inner adjacent portions thereof, said inner edges of said front and rear panels of said panel members being connected together above said leg sections, said side panels being elastic longitudinally, said front panels of said panel members having overlapping sections secured to one another, the material of one of said overlapping sections being stretchable in directions angularly disposed to the directions to which the material of the other of said overlapping sections is stretchable, said overlapping sections being disposed to be located at the abdomen of the wearer to hold in the abdomen, said panel members providing a substantially diamond shaped crotch opening, an upper pair of opposed corners of said opening being disposed at upper rear and forward positions on the girdle and a lower pair of whose opposed corners being disposed at inner positions on the leg sections of the girdle; and a crotch section of one-way stretch material secured to said panel members and closing said crotch opening, said crotch section being stretchable between said lower pair of corners of said crotch opening, said crotch section being of greater length between each pair of opposite sides of said crotch opening than the distance between such opposing sides.

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