Jan. 4, 1938. C. H. SCHOPBACH ET AL 2,104,277

CORSET

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Fig. 1.

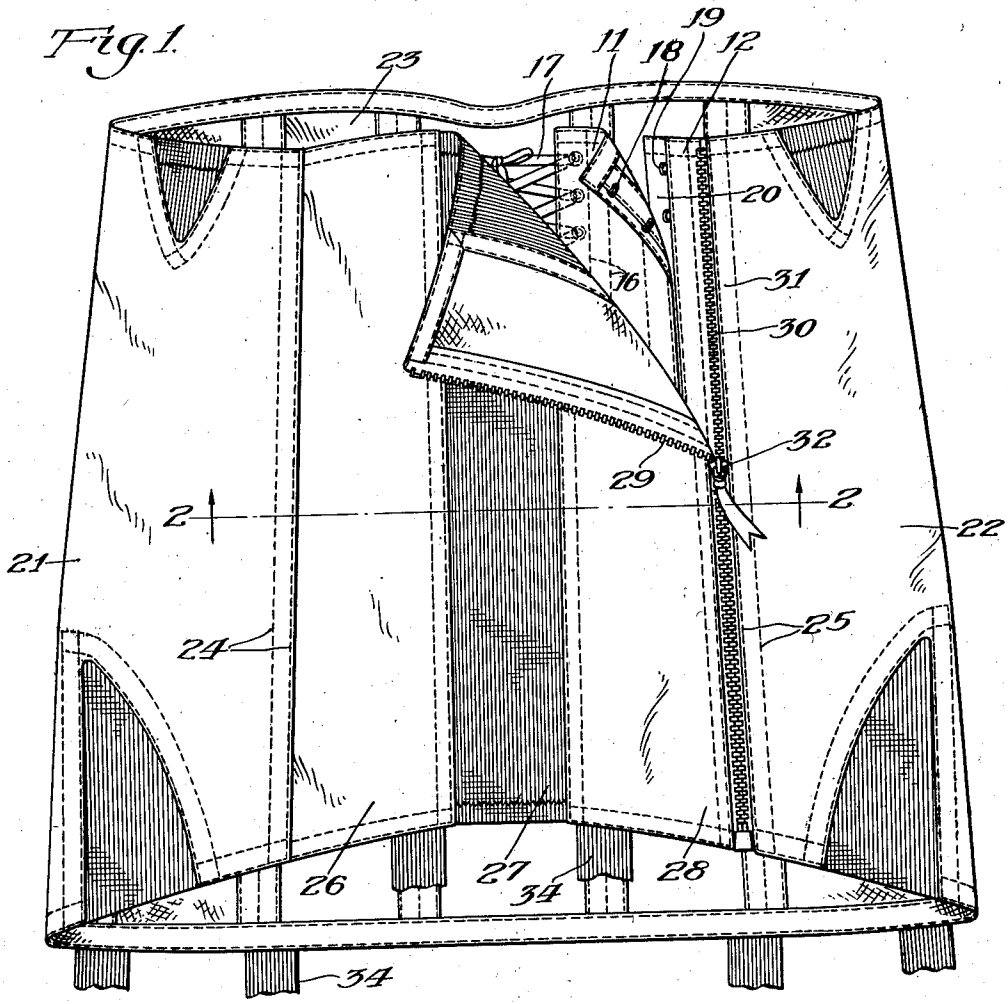
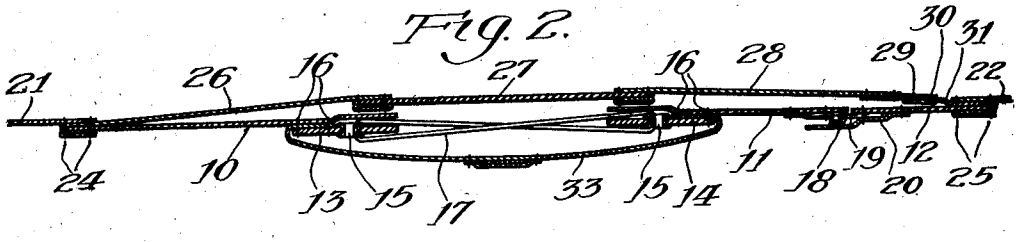


Fig. 2.



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CORSET

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2 Claims. (Cl. 2—37)

This invention relates to corsets and foundation garments, and particularly to improvements in garments such as shown and described in United States Letters Patent No. 2,013,190 of September 3, 1935.

Lacings are the preferred means for adjusting corsets to fit the bodies of their wearers but laced corsets have been subject to the objection that the smoothness of the garments was impaired. Elastic panels have been substituted for lacings but they lack the positive adjustability required for perfect fitting, and usually undesirable looseness develops after the garment has been worn for a while, due to stretching of the elastic panels.

The main object of this invention is to provide means, such as lacings, for positively adjusting the width of the corset to fit the figure of the wearer; to provide means for opening and closing the garment adjacent said adjusting means; and to provide means for concealing the adjusting means and the adjacent closure, while retaining the full advantages of the adjustment afforded by positive adjusting means, whereby the garments are rendered exteriorly smooth and laterally taut.

As shown in the drawing, our invention preferably is embodied in a front lace, side-front opening corset. Any desired form of back construction may be used.

In the drawing:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a corset embodying our invention, as viewed from the front when the garment is partially closed.

Fig. 2 is an enlarged sectional view taken in the plane of the line 2—2 of Fig. 1.

In that embodiment of the invention which we have chosen to illustrate in the drawing, the front of the garment comprises a central section consisting of fabric panels 10, 11, and 12, the panels 10 and 11 having their proximate longitudinal edges inturned. Strips 13 and 14, provided with eyelets 15, are stitched by rows of stitches 16 to the edge portions of the respective panels 10 and 11 to underlie said panels. Lacings 17 extend through the eyelets 15 of the strips 13 and 14 and adjustably connect the panels 10 and 11 together. The proximate longitudinal edges of the panels 11 and 12 are provided with hooks 18 and eyes 19, respectively, and when said hooks and eyes are engaged with each other, the combined width of the panels 11 and 12 is equal to that of the panel 10. Preferably a flap 20 is stitched to the panel 12 to underlie the eyes 19.

The side panels 21 and 22 of the corset are stitched to or integral with the back 23 which may be of any desired construction. The body is preferably made of non-elastic material. Elastic inserts may be provided if desired. The panel 10 of the center section is stitched at 24 to the side panel 21 and the panel 12 is stitched at 25 to the side panel 22.

Overlying the face of the center front section is an apron which is laterally elastic. Preferably it consists of two non-elastic panels 26 and 28 and an intermediate elastic panel 27, sewed together in a suitable manner. The side edge of the panel 26 which is removed from the panel 27 is sewed to the side panel 21 of the corset body by the stitches 24 which also connect the center front section to the side 21 of the corset. The side edge of the panel 28 which is removed from the panel 27 is provided with fasteners 29 of the slide fastener type, adapted to engage similar fasteners 30 on a narrow strip 31 stitched to the side 22 of the corset body by the same stitches 25 which also connect the center front section to the side 22. When the fasteners 29 and 30 are engaged by means of the slide member 32, the apron (panels 26, 27, 28, and 31) overlies and conceals the center front section of the corset body in which are located the adjusting laces 17 and closure means 18, 19. The said fastener means 29 and 30 are engageable and disengageable throughout their length, so that the apron may be folded aside to make the lacings entirely accessible.

Preferably a shield 33 is secured to the inner surface of the center front section to underlie the lacings 17 and eyelet strips 13 and 14. Hose supporters, broken away, are indicated at 34.

The provision of non-elastic and elastic panels 26, 27 and 28 in the apron is preferable to an all elastic apron of the substantial width shown, because the latter would be likely to stretch to an undesirable degree. The minimum width of the apron, when unstretched, does not exceed the width of the underlying panels 10, 11 and 12, when the lacing-connected panel 10, 11 has been adjusted to its intended minimum width. The apron is capable of stretching to the degree required for covering said panels 10, 11 and 12 and intermediate lacings and fastener devices, when the lacings are adjusted to the intended maximum width.

Before donning the garment, the slide fastener devices 29 and 30 and the hooks and eyes 18 and 19 are disengaged. After the garment has been placed into proper position about the body of the wearer, the hooks and eyes are engaged, the lac-

ings 17 are adjusted and then the apron is drawn taut by causing the slide fastener devices 29 and 30 to be engaged by actuation of the slide member 32. It will thus be seen that by locating the fastening means 18—19 between the lacings 17 and the slide fastener 29 the first mentioned fastenings must be first closed to thereby relieve tension on said slide fastener during the operation thereof.

The word "corset" as used in the appended claims is intended to include corsets and combination corsets and brassières, also referred to as foundation garments.

Changes may be made in details of construction without departing from the scope of our invention and we do not intend to be limited to the exact form shown and described, except as set forth in the appended claims.

We claim:—

1. A corset having a body of substantially non-stretchable material including a center front section comprising two panels provided with eyeletted strips at their proximate edges, lacings for adjustably connecting said panels together, a third panel, fastening means on one of the first mentioned panels and on said third panel for detachably connecting the proximate edges of said panels together, an apron comprising two non-elastic and an intermediate transversely elastic panel stitched together at their longitudinal edges, the free longitudinal edge of one of said non-elastic panels of the apron being permanently secured to the outer surface of the corset body near one side of said center front section, and the free longitudinal edge of the other non-elastic panel of the apron being provided with fasteners of the slide fastener type, a narrow strip having slide fasteners stitched to the corset body near the other side of said center front section, said first mentioned fastening means being located between said lacings and said slide fastener, whereby said first mentioned fastening means must be first closed to thereby relieve tension on said slide fastener during operation thereof, and said fastener devices on the apron and on the narrow strip being adapted for engagement with each other for drawing the apron taut in a position overlying the center front section of the corset body and concealing said lacing and the fastening means connecting the panels which constitute said center front.

2. A corset having a body of substantially non-stretchable material including a center front section comprising two panels provided with eyeletted strips at their proximate edges, lacings for adjustably connecting said panels together, a third panel, fastening means on one of the first mentioned panels and on said third panel for detachably connecting the proximate edges of said panels together, an apron transversely elastic having one longitudinal edge permanently secured to the outer surface of the corset body near one side of said center front section, slide fasteners on the opposite longitudinal edge of the apron, and slide fasteners on the corset body near the opposite side of the front section, said first mentioned fastening means being located between said lacings and said slide fasteners, whereby said first mentioned fastening means must be first closed to thereby relieve tension on said slide fasteners during operation thereof, and said slide fasteners being adapted for engagement with each other for drawing the apron taut in a position overlying the center front section of the corset body and concealing said lacing and the fastening means connecting the panels which constitute said center front.

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