

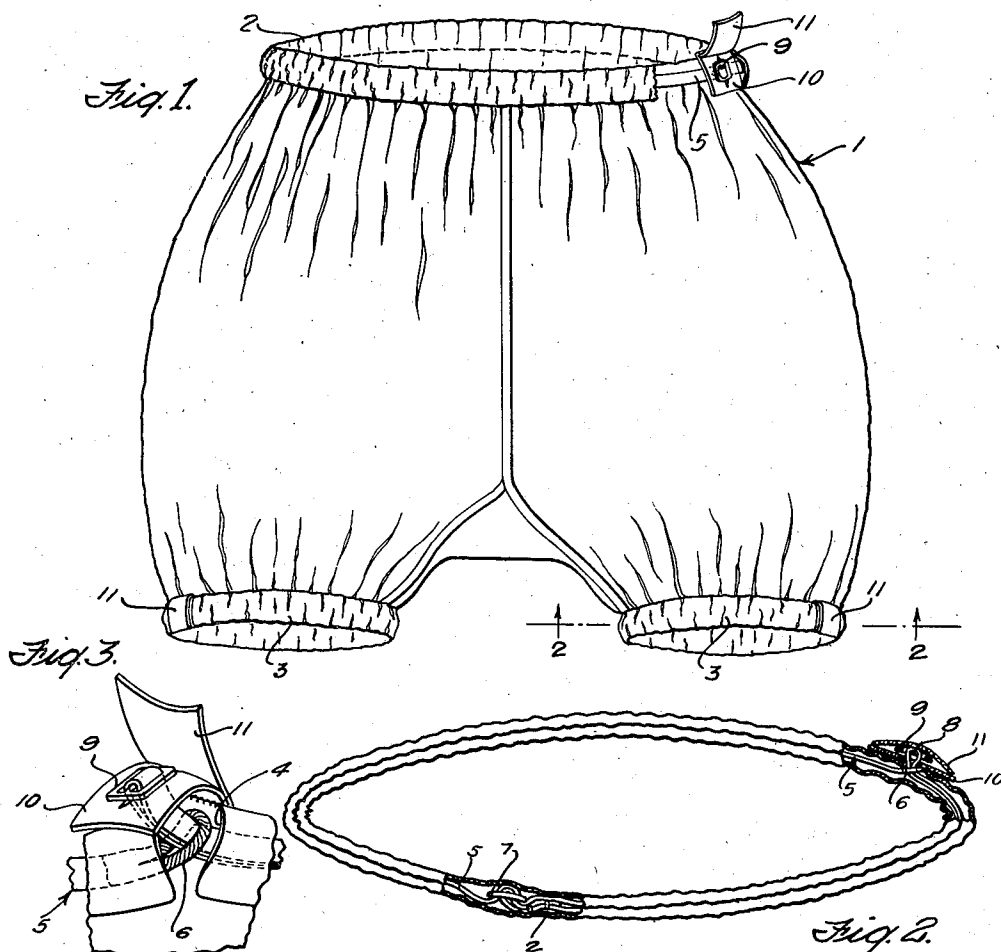
July 6, 1937.

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2,085,913

GARMENT

Filed April 17, 1936



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,085,913

GARMENT

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Application April 17, 1936, Serial No. 74,898

2 Claims. (Cl. 2—237)

This invention relates to garments employing elastic.

In garments of this character a hem is commonly provided in which the elastic is inserted. The ends of the elastic are then stitched together and the hem is closed so that the elastic forms an irremovable and non-adjustable part of the garment. The elastic deteriorates in use and is particularly likely to be damaged when the garment is laundered. As a consequence, the elastic soon wears out or loses its effect and has to be renewed. This procedure is both wasteful of material and laborious.

It is an object of the present invention to provide an elastic having its ends detachably connected so that the elastic can be readily removed and reinserted in the seam. It is a further object of the invention to provide means for retaining the ends of the elastic in an accessible position at the insertion opening so that they will be readily available when it is desired to remove the elastic.

It is a further object of the invention to make provision for adjusting the effective length of the elastic in a convenient and expeditious manner.

To these ends it is a feature of the invention that the elastic is provided with a looped end which carries a slide. The slide is not intended to serve any usual purpose of adjustment, however, but is designed to be used like a button. The opposite end of the elastic is provided with a loop or buttonhole through which the slide can be inserted, and the garment itself is provided with a tab at the insertion opening having a buttonhole worked in it, into which the slide can be buttoned. The looped portion of the elastic is secured at one end to an adjusting slide, while the opposite length of the looped portion is passed through the slide, the arrangement being such that the effective length of the elastic can be adjusted when desired in the manner commonly followed in adjusting garters.

Other objects and advantages will hereinafter appear.

In the drawing forming part of this specification and illustrating certain preferred embodiments of the invention,

Fig. 1 is a view in front elevation of a pair of bloomers embodying features of the invention;

Fig. 2 is a view partly in section of a lower leg portion of the garment of Fig. 1, the section being taken on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1 looking in the direction of the arrows; and

Fig. 3 is a fragmentary detail view showing the

ends of the elastic and associated garment parts at the waist portion of the garment.

The bloomers 1 of Figs. 1 to 3 include an upper elastic receiving hem 2 at the waist portion and lower elastic receiving hems 3 at the bottoms of the leg portions. The hems and the elastics housed in them may be substantially alike. The hem 2 has an insertion opening 4 through which an elastic band 5 is inserted. One end of the band 5 is provided with a loop or eye 6 as in Fig. 3, or it may have a buttonhole worked in it, if preferred. The elastic is passed through an adjusting slide 7 and is then looped around the central cross bar 8 of a similar slide 9. The end of the elastic is then brought back, passed around the central cross bar of the slide 7, and stitched to secure it permanently to the slide 7. The slide 9 stands out at both sides of the elastic which is looped around the cross bar 8, and may be used as the equivalent of a button. The slide is buttoned through the eye or loop 6 at the opposite end of the elastic and is then buttoned through a tab 10 which forms a part of the garment. A cover tab 11 may also be secured to the garment so that it will normally overlie and conceal the slide 9.

When it is desired to remove the elastic so that the garment may be laundered without damaging the elastic, the slide 9 is unbuttoned from the tab 10 and from the loop 6. The elastic is then withdrawn from the garment hem. The elastic may at the same time be adjusted as to length if, in the judgment of the wearer, such adjustment is desirable. When the garment has been cleaned the elastic is reinserted in the usual way, and the slide 9 is again buttoned to the loop 6 and to the tab 10.

The above description may be taken as applying equally to the hem 2 with its contained elastic and to the hems 3 with their contained elastics. The term "hem" is to be understood as referring to any means by which the garment is provided with a tubular pocket for the reception of an elastic.

While I have illustrated and described in detail certain preferred forms of my invention, it is to be understood that changes may be made therein and the invention embodied in other structures. I do not, therefore, desire to limit myself to the specific constructions illustrated, but intend to cover my invention broadly in whatever form its principle may be utilized.

I claim:

1. In a garment, the combination with a hem having an insertion opening of an elastic band

inserted in the hem, said elastic band having an eye at one end and means at the opposite end adapted to be buttoned through the eye, and a tab secured to the garment at the insertion opening, said tab having a buttonhole to which the elastic band may be buttoned.

2. In a garment, the combination with a hem having an insertion opening of a removable elastic band inserted in the hem and adapted to be placed under tension when the garment is in use, said band having an adjustable loop at one end thereof, an enlarged slidable fastening member carried by said loop and normally lying out-

side of and adjacent to said insertion opening, and a tab secured to the garment adjacent to and outside of said insertion opening, said tab having cooperating fastening means adapted to engage said fastening member, and thereby prevent said fastening member from being accidentally drawn into said insertion opening during normal use of said garment, said fastening member being of such dimension that it may be drawn through said insertion opening and said hem to remove said elastic when said garment is to be laundered.

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