

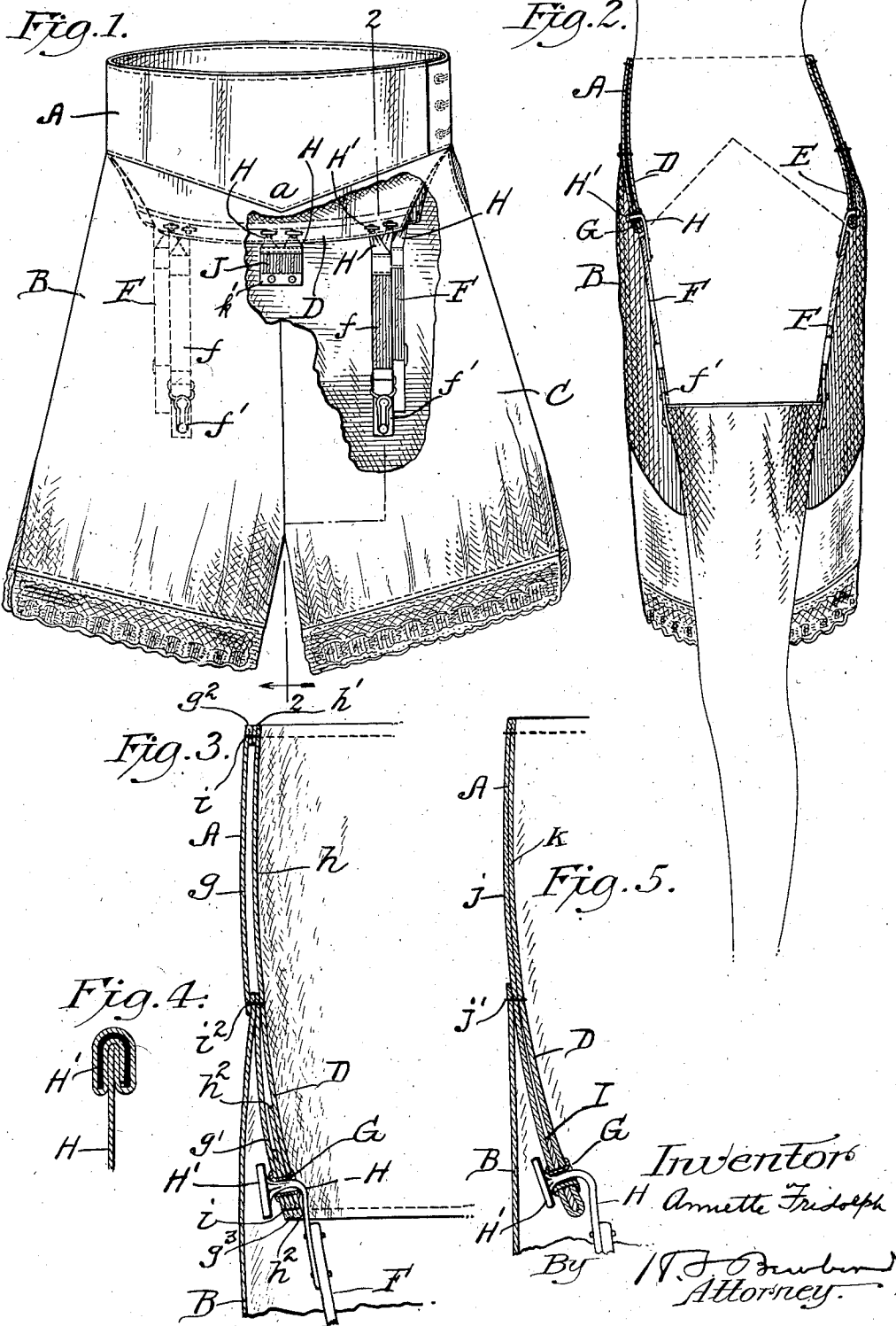
Aug. 4, 1931.

A. FRIDOLPH

1,817,360

NETHER GARMENT

Filed Aug. 6, 1928



Inventor
H. Arnette Fridolph
By N. J. Overland
Attorney.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

ANNETTE FRIDLPH, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., ASSIGNOR TO A. B. A. SPECIALTIES COMPANY, INC., OF NEW YORK, N. Y., A CORPORATION, OF NEW YORK

NETHER GARMENT

Application filed August 6, 1928. Serial No. 297,714.

This invention is a nether garment wherein provision is made by a part or portion unitary with the garment for the attachment of accessories adapted for personal wear, which accessories may be, and usually are, in the nature of a hose supporter, or a bandage supporter, or a sanitary apron.

One object of the invention is to provide for the attachment to a nether garment, interiorly of the latter, of one or a number of accessories such as a sanitary and shadow-proof apron, a bandage supporter, and/or hose supporters, whereby the specified accessories as and when used singly or conjunctively, are housed or contained within the nether garment or parts thereof, to the end that such accessories are concealed by the garment and afford the requisite utility to the wearer and are adapted to be used or worn with convenience and comfort.

A further object is to corelate the nether garment and the hose supporters so that the pull and strain of the latter is transmitted to an element or part, such as a flap, unitary with said nether garment, and thus the garment part or element has a tendency due to the supporter pull to apply pressure over and against the abdomen of the wearer, resulting in abdominal reduction insofar as such effect is attainable by pressure occasioned by the pull of the hose supporters.

A further object is to reinforce the nether garment by so manipulating and disposing the constituent fabrics thereof as to overcome tearing and injury to the fabric material composing said garment which may be occasioned by the pull of the accessories when attached to and used conjunctively with said nether garment.

A further object is to utilize a separable connection of a particular character in conjunction with the nether garment, whereby the specified accessories or either of the same may be attached and detached with facility and metal is not exposed for contact with the skin or flesh of the wearer.

Other functions and advantages of the invention will appear from the following description taken in connection with the drawings, wherein—

Figure 1 is a front view of the garment, partly broken away, and illustrating in full lines and in dotted lines a plurality of hose supporters and a bandage supporter.

Figure 2 is a sectional elevation of the garment as it appears on the person of a wearer, the plane of the section being indicated by the irregular line 2—2 of Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a vertical sectional view, on an enlarged scale of the waist portion of the garment, illustrating the abdominal flap and a separable fastening for the attachment to said flap of a hose supporter or other accessory.

Figure 4 is an enlarged sectional view of one part of a separable fastener.

Figure 5 is a view similar to Figure 3 of another construction of the waist portion of the garment.

The garment shown in Figures 1, 2 and 3, embodies in its construction a waist band A, leg portions B, C, and flaps D, E, at the front and at the rear, said flaps D, E, being unitary with the waist band A and affording a substantial reinforcement for said waist band at or about the places where accessories are attachable in a manner to house or position such accessories (one or more) interiorly of the nether garment, whereby the accessories are hidden from view.

The waist band and the leg portions are attached, and the waist band is fabricated, in a manner to produce the flaps D, E, which depend from the waist band and from the lines at which said waist band and the leg portions are united or joined, as shown in Figures 2, 3 and 5 of the drawings, the effect being to position the flaps D, E, within the nether garment and to so relate said flaps that they depend from the waist band and are positioned in spaced relation to the leg portions B, C, and, in a way, are independent thereof, whereby said flaps are free and unattached at the lower margins thereof to the end that the flaps may be handled and manipulated without hindrance from the leg portions in the operations of attaching and detaching the accessories.

The waist band and the leg portions are composed of material suitable for the purpose, but the prevailing mode in lingerie

and undergarments for female wear favors fabric of one kind or another, but usually composed of relatively thin light weight material. Such material is not designed or calculated to resist pulls and strains without tearing or injury, and it may be said that ordinarily nether garments for female wear are not of that sturdy character which will withstand successfully the pull and strain of stocking supporters. With a full knowledge of the tendency of thin fabrics, now commonly used in the production of undergarments, to give way under strains and pulls, I have constructed my nether garment to overcome such defects, and to this end I have embodied my invention in a garment the girdle or waist band of which is substantial in construction, and provides internal flaps at the front and at the rear, said waist band being reinforced by material composed of a stable fabric.

Generally, the waist band is comparatively broad, as shown in the drawings, with a widened middle portion *a* at the front and the rear, said waist band being, in effect, a girdle to have contact over a relatively wide area at the abdomen and below the hip portions of the wearer, and such area of contact between the wearer's body and the girdle member of the garment is augmented by the provision of the abdominal flap D at the front and by the sternum flap, E, at the rear, whereby the pull of the hose supporters, indicated at F, on the flaps D, E, has a tendency to apply pressure through the agency of said flaps D, E, against the abdominal and sternum portions of the body to effect a drawing in or so-called reduction of the muscular protrusion.

The girdle or waist band A is composed of multiple layers or plies of fabric, two plies being shown at *g*, *h*, in Figure 3. The layer or ply *h* is a continuous piece, with the top and bottom edges *h'*, *h²*, folded or turned inwardly, whereas the other layer or ply is composed of a plurality of pieces indicated at *g*, *g'*, the top edge of layer *g* having an in-turned hem *g²*, and the bottom edge of layer *g'* having an in-turned hem *g³*. The top hemmed edges *h'*, *g²*, of the inner and outer layers *h*, *g*, respectively, are united by a seam *i*, whereas the lower hemmed edges *g³*, *h²*, of said outer and inner layers *g'*, *h*, are united by a seam *i'*, see Figure 3. The parts *g*, *g'*, constituting the outer layer are positioned in lapping order, and the fabric of the leg portion B or C is positioned between the lapping edges of said plies *g*, *g'*, whereby the leg fabric and the girdle are united by a seam *i²*.

The lower portion of the flap D or E is reinforced to withstand the pull or strain of the hose supporters or other accessory. The girdle being composed of multiple ply fabric presents a substantial and durable member, but to resist the tendency of the pull or strain

against tearing the fabric composing the girdle it is desirable to use a heavier and stronger fabric as a means for staying the girdle at the points where the accessory is connected thereto, and to encase the reinforcement within the flap of the girdle. To these ends I interpose a stiffening element I between the layers of the multi-ply fabric as shown in Figure 5.

By reference to Figures 2 and 3, it will be seen that the flap D or E extends below the seam *i²* acting to join the leg portions to the girdle or band A, and that said flaps are disconnected at their lower ends from the legs B, C, thus leaving the flaps free and unattached at the lower edges thereof, whereby the flaps may be handled and manipulated in the operations of attaching and detaching the accessory.

In Figure 3, the flap D or E is not formed with a separate reinforcing member or webbing shown at I in Figure 5, for the reason that the hemmed margins *h²*, *g³*, of the inner and outer layers *h*, *g'*, are wider than the hems *h'*, *g²*; in fact, the hem *h²* of the inner layer *h* is shown in Figure 3 as extending upwardly for a considerable distance between the layers *h*, *g'*, and the hem *g³* is extended upwardly for a lesser distance than hem *h²*, said infolded hems *h²*, *g³*, lying in contact with each other and between the layers *h*, *g'*, in a way to substantially increase the thickness of the flap B or E at the lower margin thereof and by such increase to so strengthen and stiffen the flap as to avoid the use of a separate stiffening member of relatively heavy webbing or fabric indicated at I in Figure 5. Briefly, we may reinforce the flap either by doubling the thickness of the material, as in Figure 3, or by interposing a webbing reinforce at I, as shown in Figure 5.

The embodiment of girdle shown in Figure 5 comprises multiple plies *j*, *k*, in one piece folded upon itself, with the stiffener I within the folded margin and with the leg portions B or C stitched to the girdle at *j'* for the flap D or E to extend downwardly from the seam *j'* to have a depending position within the leg portion.

The hose fastener F is of any approved construction, but as shown, I may, and preferably do, use a supporter specially formed with a separable fastener, one part of which is an aperture formed in the flap D or E, and another part of which is a flexible member unitary with the supporter. As shown in the drawings, the aperture comprising one part of the separable fastener is a buttonhole or eyelet G provided in the flap D or E at or near the lower reinforced marginal portion of the said flap. The other part of said separable fastener comprises a tape, ribbon, or other fibrous member H with a stiffener H', see Figure 4, at one end of the flexible tape H, and unitary therewith to constitute a tab

the function of which is to facilitate the introduction and withdrawal by threading the tape through the aperture, and after such introduction into the aperture, to lock and retain the tape relatively to the aperture G by said tab extending crosswise of the aperture, shown more particularly in Figure 1 and as indicated also in Figures 2, 3 and 5 of the drawings. The stiffening part H' of the lock is composed of metal, channeled in cross section, see Figure 4, and in the production of the fastener member H, H', the tape or fibrous material is wrapped around the metal and a portion of said tape is doubled upon itself and infolded within the channel, after which the metal part is compacted by pressure upon the infolded material, with the result that the metal and fibrous parts are inseparably joined, with the metal part crosswise of the fibrous part, and said metal part is encased within the fibrous part, whereby no metal can come into contact with the flesh or skin of the wearer, a most desirable consideration in the art pertaining to articles of personal wear.

In the form of hose supporter F shown in Figure 1, the supporter strap *f* is provided with separate clamps *f'* at the lower end for engagement with the stockings; but at the upper end, the supporter strap is provided with two flexible members H, the tabs H' of which are insertible through the apertures G of the flap D or E, thus spreading the attachment of the supporter F on the flap D or E, precluding a tendency of the hose supporter to twist and turn out of position, and thus the hose supporter is retained in a comfortable position flatwise with respect to the wearer's limbs.

As shown in Figure 1, a supporter J for a bandage is provided for attachable and detachable service in conjunction with the flaps D, E. Said bandage supporter is provided at the lower edge with a member *k* and at the top edge with a plurality of the separable fastener members H, H', the tabs H' of which are insertible through a plurality of apertures G in the flaps D, E, so as to lock the supporters in a connected relation to said flaps, the member *k* of said supporters being attachable to the bandage, and said supporters being demountable at will for sanitary and laundry purposes.

The operation and advantages of the article will be apparent from the foregoing description taken in connection with the drawings, but it is desired to add that the supporters (one or more) are detachable with facility so that the neither garment may be laundered to the same advantage as other garments.

Having thus fully described the invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A combination garment adapted to be

supported from and have a confining influence on the hips of the wearer, comprising a waist band, pant leg portions connected with the waist band adjacent the bottom thereof, and a flap connected with the waist band and depending interiorly of the pant leg portions for a substantial distance and extending at the front from side to side and provided adjacent the lower corners with spaced means for the attachment of supporters, said flap being of substantial dimensions so as to subject a substantial area of the body to a flattening or confining influence when in use.

2. A combination nether garment adapted to be supported from and have a confining influence on the hips of the wearer, comprising a waist band, pant leg portions connected with the waist band at the bottom thereof, and a flap unitary with the waist band and depending therefrom within the said pant leg portions free from the same, said flap extending at the rear from side to side and being of substantial dimensions and provided adjacent the lower corners with means for the attachment of hose supporters adapted to subject a substantial area of the body to a flattening influence when in use.

3. A nether garment adapted to be supported from the hips, comprising a waist band, leg portions connected with the waist band at the bottom thereof, and flaps also connected with the waist band and depending within the leg portions free from the same, said flaps extending at the front and back from side to side and provided adjacent the lower corners of the flaps with means for the attachment of hose supporters and adapted to distribute strain throughout the waist band and subject substantial areas of the body to a flattening influence when in use.

4. An under garment adapted to be supported from the hips comprising a waistband, leg portions connected to the bottom portions of the waistband, and a flap connected with the waist band and depending therefrom and extending at the front from side to side and provided near its lower edges with means for attaching a plurality of accessories, said flap being of substantial dimensions so as to subject a substantial area of the body to a flattening influence when in use.

5. An under garment adapted to be supported from the hips comprising a waistband, pant leg portions connected to the bottom portion of the waistband, and a flap integral with the waistband and extending within said leg portions but unattached thereto, said flap extending at the front from side to side and being of substantial dimensions and provided adjacent the bottom portion with spaced means for the attachment of supporters, said flap being adapted to subject a substantial area of the body to a flattening influence when in use.

6. A combined pantie hose and accessory

supporter adapted to be supported from the hips comprising a waist band, leg portions connected with the waistband and flaps depending within the leg portions but unattached thereto, said flaps extending at the front and back from side to side and provided adjacent the lower portions of the flaps with means for the attachment of hose supporters and adapted to distribute the strain throughout the waist band and subject substantial areas of the body to a flattening influence when in use, said flaps being also provided with means for attaching a plurality of accessories near the lower edges of said flaps.

15 In testimony whereof I have hereto signed my name this 25th day of July, 1928.

ANNETTE FRIDOLPH.

20

25

30

35

40

45

50

55

60

65