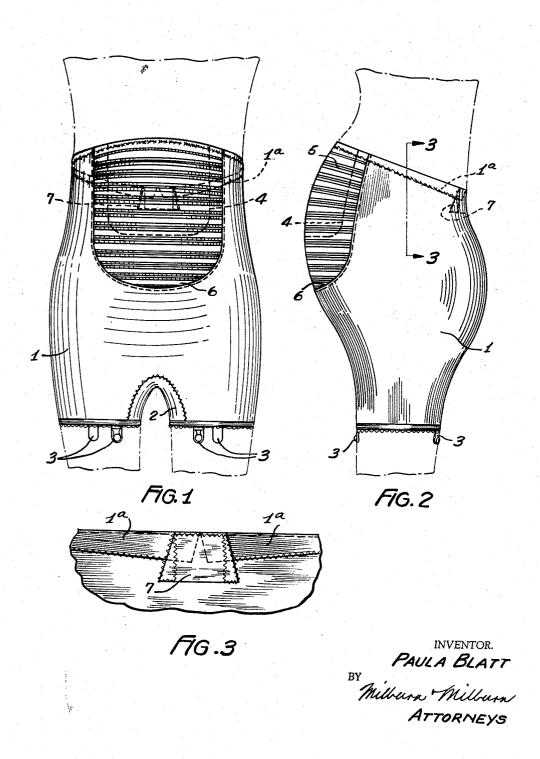
PANTY GIRDLE

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PANTY GIRDLE

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This invention relates to the general art of women's wearing apparel and, more specifically, is for an improved form of panty girdle.

One object of my present invention is to devise an effective, dependable and comfortable form of girdle that is especially adapted for use during the period of pregnancy.

Another object is to devise such a girdle with particularly efficient and comfortable abdomen-supporting means.

A further object is to devise a comparatively simple and efficient manner of producing such a girdle.

Other objects will appear from the following description and claims when considered together with the accompanying drawing.

Fig. 1 is a front view of this garment upon the body of the wearer;

Fig. 2 is a side elevation thereof; and

Fig. 3 is a view taken on line 3-3 of Fig. 2.

It is to be understood that there might be modifications of my present invention varying from this form of disclosure.

The main body 1 of my present form of girdle is made of a seamless mesh material or knit tubing with stretch both longitudinally and transversely thereof, as for instance helanca or similar material. The upper edge of this girdle is adapted to engage about the waist of the wearer's body and at the bottom thereof there are provided a crotch portion 2 and the usual garter means, indicated by reference numeral 3.

The front part of the tubular body of material 1 is 40 cut out downwardly from the top edge thereof so as to provide a substantially rectangular opening 4; and this opening is filled with the insert 5 of comparatively lightweight porous ribbed or mesh material that has stretch only in the direction transversely of the girdle and that extends downwardly so as to overlap that portion of the tubular body 1 that is adjacent to the bottom edge of the cut-out opening 4. As a result, there is provided a laminated portion 6 that is adapted to have upwardly supporting engagement beneath the abdomen of the wearer's body and that is free of stretch in the direction up-and-down or longitudinally of the girdle. thus provided a most effective abdomen-supporting The side edges of the insert 5 overlap the side marginal portions adjacent the opening 4 and are provided with hidden fullness where they are sewed along the marginal edge portions of the opening 4 in the body 1, thereby permitting up-and-down enlargement of the garment in the abdominal region during the period of pregnancy but without up-and-down stretch in the insert 5 itself.

The top rear edge of the tubular body 1 is slit at the middle thereof and the portions 1a at the two sides of this slit are folded downwardly and inwardly to an extent increasing in a gradual manner from the sides of the cut-out opening at the front towards the rear of the garment so as to overlap the adjoining portions of the tubular body 1 and these overlapping portions are sewed together. As a result, the front of the garment will be higher than the rear thereof and also there will be provided reinforcement in the rear and side portions of the garment about the top thereof for most effective and

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dependable supporting engagement with suitable elasticity about the waist region. Across the adjacent ends of the inwardly and downwardly turned portions at the two sides of the slit at the rear, there is attached by sewing a further reinforcing member 7 of plush elastic helanca or the like, of substantially trapezoidal shape which will serve also to maintain the slit end portions in place. This member 7 may have stretch transversely of the body of the girdle so as to permit suitable stretch and snug engagement about the body of the wearer, with still further supporting engagement in the region of the sacroiliac joint.

Thus I have devised a girdle in which the front part is adapted to extend well up over the abdomen of the 15 body of the wearer in a most comfortable manner while the lowered rear upper edge will facilitate stepping into the garment when donning the same. Also, there is provided an effective abdomen-supporting means and there is permitted suitable stretch to accommodate enlargement of the abdominal region as well as the hip region of the wearer's body during the period of pergnancy. The reinforced region at the rear of the garment will contribute also to effective and comfortable engagement with a feeling of security in the region of the sacroiliac The open, light-weight material at the front of the garment will afford marked comfort in the abdominal region and the lateral stretch of this insert will facilitate donning of the garment by the wearer. combination of the seamless tubing with its universal stretch and the overlapping bottom part of the front insert, so as to provide an efficient form of abdomen-supporting means, constitutes a particular improvement together with the very practical manner of producing the same, as herein set forth.

What I claim is:

1. A girdle comprising a tubular body of material with stretch both lengthwise and transversely thereof and with its top edge adapted for engagement above the wearer's abdomen and about her waist, said tubular body having a substantially rectangular opening cut out in the abdominal region thereof and extending to the top thereof, a substantially U-shaped abdomen-enclosing insert with stretch only transversely of the girdle attached at its side and bottom edges to said tubular body so as to fill said opening and overlapping said body of material adjacent the bottom of said opening to a substantial extent so as to constitute said overlapping portions as a substantially transversely extending abdomensupporting means that is free of stretch longitudinally of the girdle and that has stretch only transversely thereof in the region corresponding to that below the wearer's

2. The same structure as recited in claim 1 hereof and in which the rear upper edge portion of said tubular body is folded downwardly upon itself to an extent gradually increasing from the edges of said front opening towards the rear of said tubular body so as to provide greater height at the front of the girdle than at the rear thereof and to have the top edge of the girdle extend downwardly from a point above the wearer's abdomen to a point substantially lower at the rear thereof when in position of use upon her body.

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