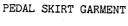
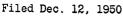
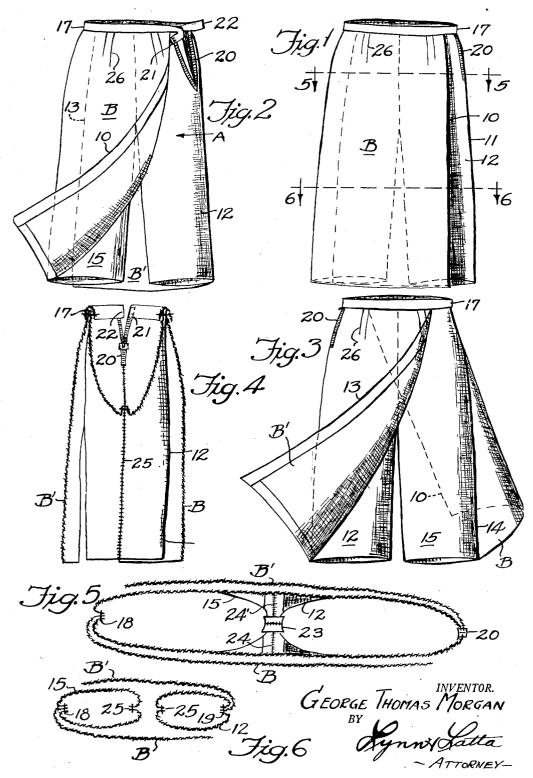
### Oct. 14, 1952

#### G. T. MORGAN PEDAL SKIRT GARMENT

2,613,363







## 2,613,363

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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#### PEDAL SKIRT GARMENT

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This invention relates to ladies' garments and has as its general object to provide a combination pantaloon and skirt garment having the external appearance of a pleated skirt and having the characteristics of the garment commonly known 5 as "pedal pushers."

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A particular object of the invention is to provide a garment which affords all of the freedom of movement characteristic of a pantaloon garment and yet at the same time has all of 10 throughout its length, is attached to the right the advantages of a skirt-appearance-concealment of form. etc.

Another object is to provide such a garment which may be donned and taken off with the same simplicity that characterizes the handling 15 of present day skirts. In this respect, the invention contemplates a combination garment of the type indicated, so constructed as to utilize a fastening arrangement of maximum simplicity, i. e., a closable opening in the form of a slit extending from the belt downwardly along one side of the garment, closed by a slide fastener.

A futher object of the invention is to provide a garment of the type indicated, which may be easily constructed.

Other objects will become apparent in the ensuing specifications and appended drawings in which:

Fig. 1 is a front view of a garment embodying the invention:

Fig. 2 is a front view of the same showing the front panel partially lifted and the slide fastener opened;

Fig. 3 is a rear view of the garment showing the front and rear panels partially lifted; 35

Fig. 4 is a vertical sectional view through the garment taken in a plane extending from front to rear:

Fig. 5 is a transverse sectional view of the garment taken on the line 5-5 of Fig. 1; and

Fig. 6 is a transverse sectional view of the garment taken on the line 6-6 of Fig. 1.

Referring now to the drawing in detail, the illustrated embodiment of my invention includes an inner pantaloon garment, designated general-  $_{45}$  margins of the rear walls of pant legs 12, 15 are ly by the reference letter A and a pair of outer panels B and B', normally covering a majority of the area of the pantaloons A so as to completely conceal the nature thereof and give to the garment, as shown in Fig. 1, the appearance 50 of a paneled skirt. The paneled effect is produced by the spacing of the left edge io of the front panel B from the left side margin 11 of the left leg 12 of the pantaloons A, and the corresponding spacing of the right edge 13 of the 55 in accordance with conventional practice. rear panel B' from the right side margin 14 of the right leg 15 of the pantaloon A.

The front panel B has its left edge 10 completely free of the left side of the pantaloon garment A, except at the waist line, where the 60 upper extremity of panel B is secured, together

with the upper extremities of the forward walls of pant legs 12, 15, beneath a belt band 17 which encircles the waist of the garment to form the belt of the garment. Similarly, the rear panel B' has its right edge 13 completely free from the right side of the pantaloon garment A except at the upper extremity of panel B' which is secured beneath belt 17.

The right side extremity of front panel B, side margin of right pantaloon leg 15 in any suitable manner, as by means of a line of stitching 18 (Figs. 5 and 6). Similarly, the left side extremity of rear panel B' is attached to the left side margin 11 of left pantaloon leg 12 by a suitable means such as the line of stitching 19, which extends from the lower extremity of pant leg 12 up to a point within from one fourth to one fifth of the height of the pant leg below the belt 17, where a slide fastener 20 commences. From this point up to belt 17, the left side edge of the forward wall of pant leg 12 is secured to one side portion of slide fastener 29 and the left side margin of the rear wall of  $_{25}$  pant leg 12 and of rear panel B' are both secured to the other side portion of slide fastener 20, as indicated in Fig. 5.

Belt 17 has two end portions 21 and 22 which are provided with suitable means, such as hook and eye fasteners, for connecting them together so as to close the belt and secure the upper extremity of the slide fastener against being forced open. End portion 22 of the belt projects sufficiently to allow a normal overlap of the free ends of the belt.

The inner lateral margins of pant legs 12 and 15 merge at a normal distance below the waist line to form a crotch. The crotch is reinforced by a band 23 (Fig. 5) which bridges between the two pant legs and is sewed to the inner margins. From the crotch upwardly to the belt 17, the inner margins of the forward walls of pant legs 12 and 15 are sewed together by a line of stitching indicated at 24, and similarly, the inner sewed together from the crotch to the waist line by a line of stitching 24'.

The preferable construction of the garment is from six separate pieces of material, including two pieces for each pant leg and one piece for each of the panels B, B'. When thus constructed, the inner margins of pant legs 12, 15 are joined by lines of stitching 25. The seams 18, 19 and 25 are turned inwardly as indicated in Fig. 6,

The upper portion of the garment is shaped inwardly to fit the double curvature of the hip regions of a body, by conventional means such as darts which are indicated at 26 in Figs. 1 and 2.

Complete freedom of movement of the legs of a

wearer is provided for by the complete separation between the respective halves of the garment. Thus, right pant leg 15 and front panel B constitute one half of the garment, while left pant leg 12 and rear panel B' constitute the other half of the garment. The only connection between these two halves of the garment is the connection between pant legs 12 and 15 through lines of stitching 24, 24' from the crotch to the waist line, and the connection of the front panel to 10 the front wall of the pantaloon garment A and the rear panel B' to the rear wall of the pantaloon garment A, at the belt 17. Thus it is possible for the legs of the wearer to be spread as desired, the two halves of the garment simply 15 spreading apart to whatever extent is required by the spreading movement of the legs. In such spreading movement, the right pant leg 15 will move laterally away from rear panel B' and correspondingly the left pant leg 12 will move later- 20 ally from behind the front panel B, more of the pant legs becoming exposed. Considerable spreading movement is permitted, however, before the inner margins of the pant legs becomes visible and thus the garment retains its skirt ap- 25 pearance through a considerable range of spreading movement. Since the free edges of panels B, B' are normally spaced from the corresponding side edges of the pant legs, there is merely a change in the degree of spacing between the side 30 margins, rather than a change in the character of appearance.

Others have previously proposed the utilization of front and back panels to cover the crotch of a pantaloon garment, or a semi-pantaloon garment 35 both front and rear. However, such prior garments have not been fully satisfactory, and do not embody the improved construction of my improved garment. In some cases, the prior proposals suggest a pair of covering panels, free at 40 their upper edges, adapted to wrap around the legs and to be secured at the sides but not at the upper edges. One objection to such an arrangement is that it requires the use of separable fastener means at both sides of the garment. An- 45 other objection is that it does not provide a satisfactory waist structure. Other proposals embody the proposed use of wraparound front and rear panels with a crotch connecting their inner sides but without the use of full pant legs. The 50 same objections apply to such arrangements. Other proposals embody the use of pant legs covered by front and rear panels which are connected by accordion pleating to the pant legs at both side margins of each panel, so that there 55 is no complete separation between two halves of the garment. Such garments do not afford the complete freedom of movement which is a primary characteristic of my invention.

My improved garment embodies the novel and 60 improved combination of full pant legs with front and rear panels each of which is secured to a respective pant leg along its side margin and is also secured to the front wall of the pantaloon garment along the waist line, with its other side 65 edge completely free. It also embodies, in such novel combination, the simple expedient of utilizing a slit in the outer side of one pant leg, closed by suitable separable fastener means such as a slide fastener, for opening up the garment when 70 it is to be donned or taken off, and for securing the garment upon the body of the wearer. The

result is an exceedingly simple garment having the combined advantages of "pedal pushers" and skirt, having double protection for warmth, having extreme freedom of movement, having all of the advantages, from an appearance standpoint, of a loose, pleated skirt, and capable of being donned and taken off with maximum rapidity and ease.

The garment is useful for all types of recreation, such as bicycle riding, tennis playing, golfing, skiing, hiking, and housework. The garment may also be used in bowling, boating, marching, campus wear, and for military and civilian uniforms.

It will be understood that the slide fastener need not be located exactly at a side extremity of the garment. It could be located in either pant leg along the free edge of the skirt panel overlapping the same, or beneath a panel near the free edge thereof.

I claim:

In a combination garment having a belt defining the waist extremity thereof: an inner garment comprising front and rear sections, side seams joining said front and rear sections to define respective side margins of the garment, at least one of said seams terminating at a point below said belt to define a slit in the corresponding side margin, for opening said inner garment at said waist extremity, and separable fastener means for closing said slit, said inner garment comprising a complete, independent bifurcated garment the lower portion of which comprises a pair of laterally separated pantaloon leg members; and in combination therewith, a pair of front and rear panel members, each secured throughout its width at its upper extremity to said belt along the upper extremity of a respective one of said inner garment sections and extending downwardly from said belt to the lower extremities of said leg members throughout the full length of said bifurcated inner garment, said panels corresponding substantially in shape and area to the front and rear areas of the bifurcated garment, respectively, and, in their normal, freely pendant positions, substantially covering said front and rear areas so as to completely conceal the separation of said leg members, said panels being said front and rear panels having lateral margins attached to the inner garment at the opposite side seams thereof, each panel being thus attached to a respective side seam at one of its lateral margins, extending substantially the width of the inner garment, and having its opposite lateral margin free and slightly spaced from the other side seam to provide a pleated effect adjacent said other side seam.

GEORGE THOMAS MORGAN.

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