

E. D. HAIGHT.
UNDERGARMENT.
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1,359,802.

Patented Nov. 23, 1920.

Fig. 1.

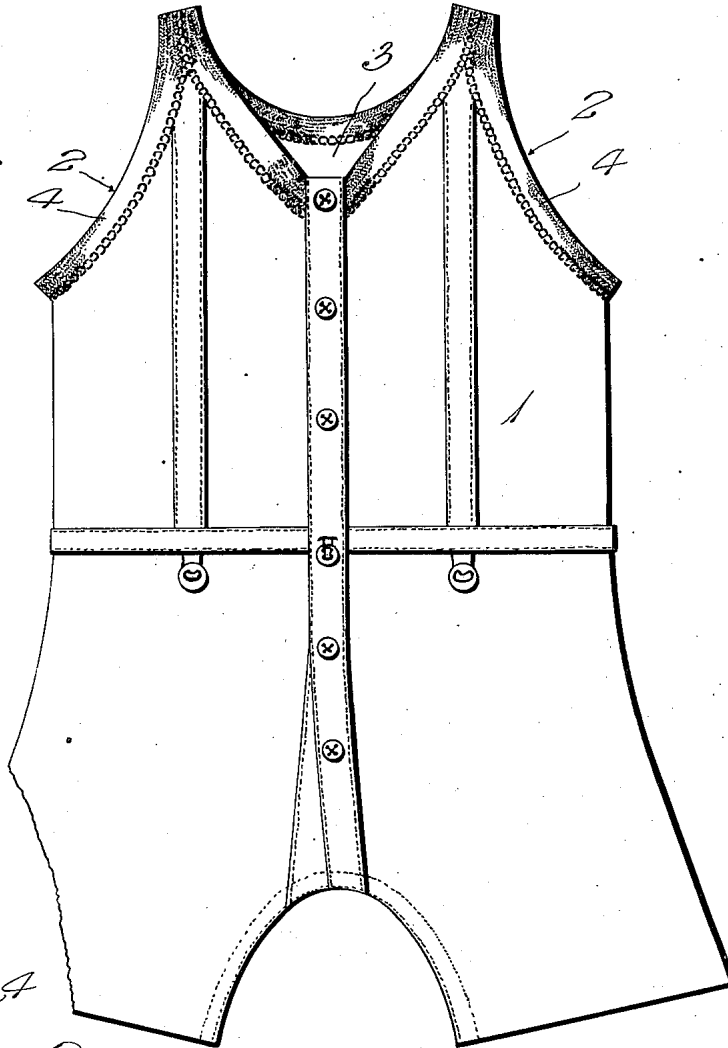
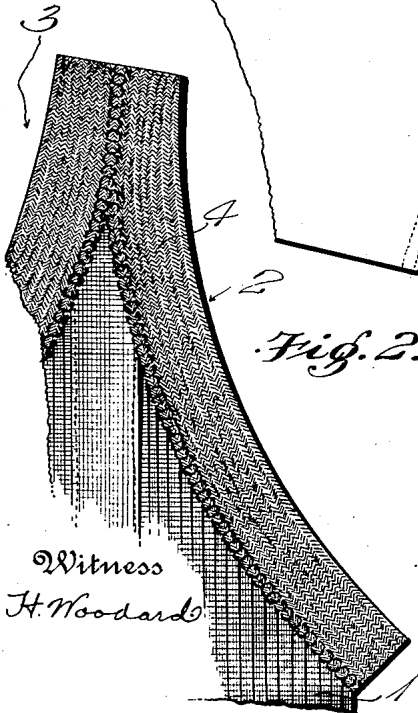
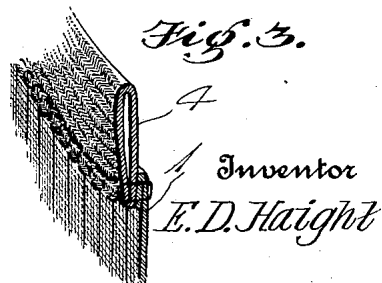


Fig. 2.



Witness
H. Woodard

Fig. 3.



Inventor
E. D. Haight

By *A. B. Wilson & Co.*
Attorneys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EVEREST DENSLOW HAIGHT, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., ASSIGNOR TO E. Z. WAIST CO., OF BENNINGTON, VERMONT.

UNDERGARMENT.

1,359,802.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EVEREST D. HAIGHT, a citizen of the United States, residing at New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Undergarments; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates generally to wearing apparel, and more particularly to undergarments, such as children's waists and athletic union suits.

Heretofore it has been the custom to finish the edges of undergarments made of woven fabric, such as nainsook, about the arm holes and neck openings with plain hems or with strips of lace to form the edges. This construction leaves rather sharp edges at the places specified, especially after washing and ironing as the woven fabric is then generally in a rather stiff condition. These sharp edges are particularly undesirable in children's garments which are worn next to the skin, as children's skin is usually tender and subject to many irritations and the sharp edges irritate the flesh. Furthermore, with such an edging for undergarments there is no elasticity at the arm holes and neck opening, and as these parts are subjected at times to considerable strain, the garment is often ripped or ruptured.

It is therefore the purpose of the present invention to overcome the above mentioned objections, and to produce a woven fabric garment having smooth or soft, straight, strain-absorbing bands made of knitted fabric about its openings, especially the arm holes and neck opening. The garment is thus made elastic about the openings where the movement of the parts of the body causes strains, and for this reason the improvement is very desirable particularly in children's waists and athletic union suits.

With the foregoing and other objects in view, the invention consists of the novel features of construction, and the combination and arrangement of parts as will be hereinafter fully described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings in which similar reference characters designate like parts throughout the several views:—

Figure 1 is a front view of an undergarment constructed in accordance with this invention.

Fig. 2 is an enlarged view of the upper portion of the garment adjacent one of the arm holes and the neck opening.

Fig. 3 is a sectional perspective through the edge of one of the arm holes.

Referring more particularly to the drawings, an undergarment is shown consisting of a body portion 1 for disposition around the wearer's body, and provided with arm holes 2 and a neck opening 3. The garment is made of the material usually employed in making summer underwear, such material being a woven fabric such as nainsook. This material is especially adapted for undergarments owing to its coolness and durability, and its inexpensive nature, and also because it is easily susceptible of being cleaned. When laundered, however, this woven fabric which is naturally inelastic, becomes rather stiff and where the edges of the arm holes and neck opening contact with the skin of the wearer a cutting or irritation will result. This uncomfortable-ness is overcome by stitching relatively wide bands or strips 4 of soft elastic knitted fabric along one of their edges to the edges of the openings of the garment, especially the arm holes and neck opening. The major portions of these strips or bands extend beyond the openings for contact with the parts of the body in such openings and they therefore provide soft and elastic bearings for such parts of the body. It will be noted that these bands 4 are not mere bindings and ornamental edgings commonly applied to the openings of underwear, but they form substantial cushioning and strain-absorbing elements at the points where there is the most friction and strain. For the purpose of forming a very thin section where the soft elastic knitted material is connected to the inelastic woven material, the strips 4 are preferably made from seamless knitted tubes flattened out as shown in Fig. 3, and stitched along one of their folds to the edges

of the arm holes and neck opening. The upper portions of the strips 4 merge and have their adjacent edges stitched together to form elastic shoulder straps for the garment.

From the foregoing description, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings it will be seen that the objects of the invention have been effectively attained. The improved garment of woven fabric having strips of soft knitted fabric at the arm holes and neck opening has all of the advantages of an ordinary woven fabric garment, and in addition thereto it has the softness, smoothness and elastic qualities at the arm holes and neck opening of the usual knitted garment. The improved garment combines the coolness of a woven fabric body, with the softness and durability of knitted elastic edges at the arm holes and neck opening, and is especially comfortable during warm weather when irritation is not likely to result from the contact of the soft smooth edges with the tender skin of the wearer. Hence, the garment is especially applicable for use for children whose skin is tender and therefore subject to irritation. Furthermore, with elastic edges about the arm holes and neck opening in place of the usual sharp edges, the garment will not easily be torn or ruptured when in use.

It is to be understood that changes in form, proportion, and in the minor details of construction may be resorted to without

departing from the spirit of the invention as defined in the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

1. In an undergarment, the combination of a body portion made of inelastic woven fabric, and flat strips of soft elastic knitted fabric secured at one of their edges to the edges of the openings of the garment, the major portions of said strips extending beyond the edges of said openings and forming the real openings of the garment, whereby said strips serve as cushions for preventing irritation of the portions of the body which extend through the openings and render the openings elastic.

2. In an undergarment for summer wear, the combination of a body portion made of thin inelastic woven fabric, and strips formed of flattened seamless tubes of soft elastic knitted fabric folded longitudinally at opposite places and having one of their folded edges overlapping the edges of the openings of the garment and stitched thereto, the major portions of said strips extending beyond the edges of said openings and forming the real openings of the garment, whereby the other folded edges and major portions of said strips serve as cushions for preventing irritation of the portions of the body which extend through the openings and render the openings elastic.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand.

EVEREST DENSLOW HAIGHT.