

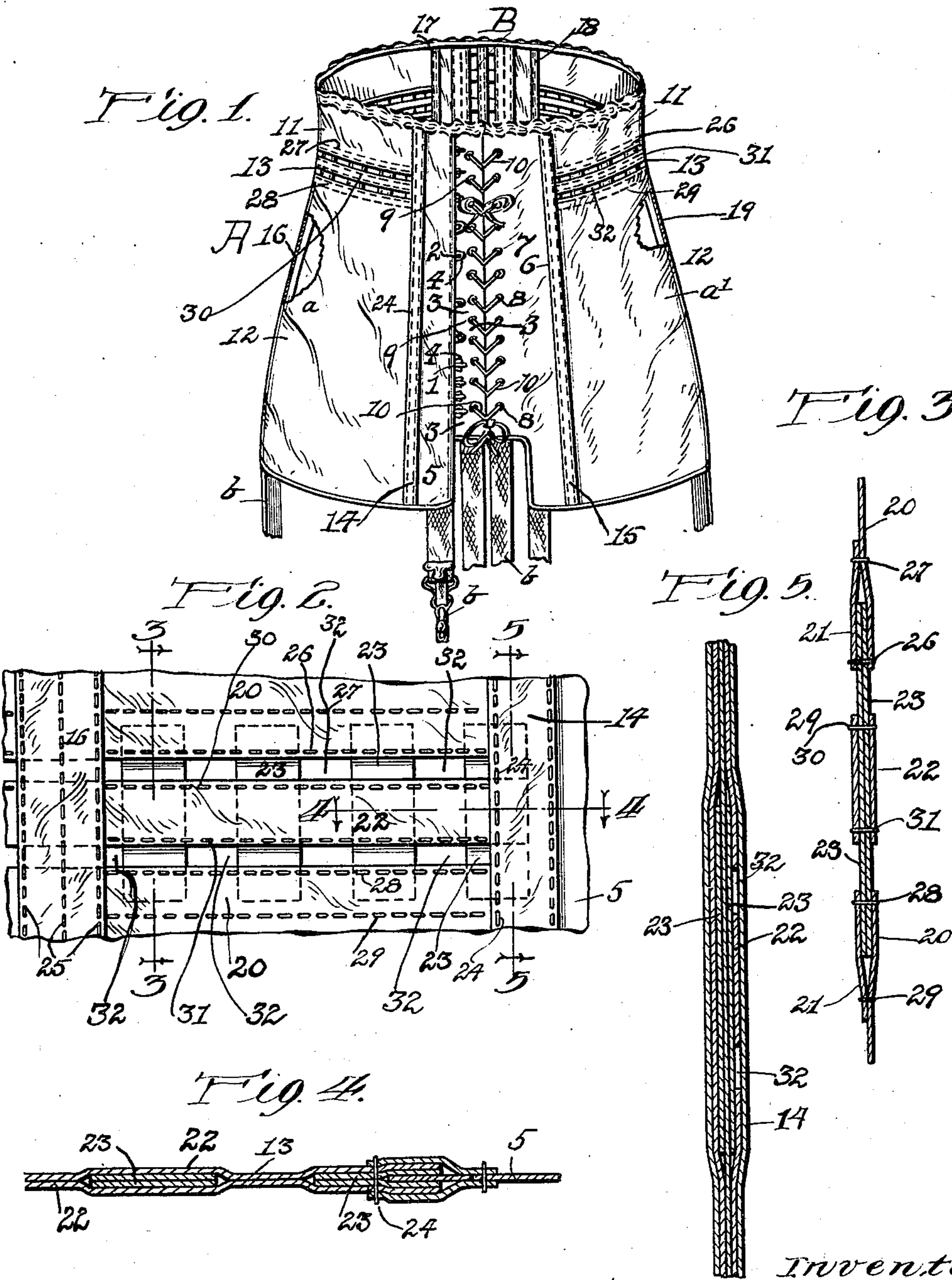
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C. H. SCHOPBACH

CORSET

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## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## CORSET.

Application filed October 15, 1921. Serial No. 507,850.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, CHARLES H. SCHOPBACH, a citizen of the United States, residing at Aurora, in the county of Kane and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Corsets, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the reference characters marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to improvements in corsets.

Corsets made of fabric and stays are laced closely to the body of the wearer, which tends to heat the person and are, therefore, more or less uncomfortable. Various means have heretofore been devised to ventilate these articles by introducing holes or apertures to permit more or less air to reach the body of the wearer, but nothing has heretofore been devised to relieve the wearer at the waist line where a plurality of thickness of wearing apparel including closely woven waist bands are usually superposed over the corset.

One of the objects of the present invention, therefore, is the devising of a corset having ventilating means at the waist line.

Another object is to produce a corset wherein the two main body portions are each provided with the usual wide hip section, a narrow, horizontally disposed upper section and a narrow, intermediate waist section, dividing and yet joining the hip and the top sections, said intermediate section being a ventilated section so constructed as to properly resist longitudinal stress when the body sections are drawn together laterally by the lacings.

These objects and the various advantages of my new garment will be manifest as I proceed with my specification.

My invention, therefore, consists in the devices and combinations of devices herein illustrated and described, and pointed out in the appended claims.

In that form in which I have illustrated my invention, in the accompanying drawings,—

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a front

laced corset embodying my invention, distended as in use, with the front closed by the usual hooks and eyes, and some of the garter straps broken away.

Fig. 2 is a front elevation, enlarged, of a part of one of the body portions showing more clearly the arrangement of a portion of the intermediate ventilating section.

Fig. 3 is a vertical sectional view, still further enlarged, through the parts shown in Fig. 2, the section being taken in the plane indicated by the dotted line 3—3 of Fig. 2.

Fig. 4 is a horizontal sectional view, on the same scale as that of Fig. 3, through a part of the intermediate, ventilating section, the view being taken in the plane indicated by the dotted line 4—4 of Fig. 2.

Fig. 5 is a vertical sectional view through the parts shown in Fig. 2, the section being taken in the plane indicated by the dotted line 5—5 of Fig. 2, and being on the same scale as that of Figs. 3 and 4.

Referring now to the drawings, the letter A indicates, as a whole, a front-laced, low corset, i. e., one in which the upper portion is designed to approach but not to cover the bust of the wearer. It is composed of two main body portions, indicated as a whole by the letters *a*, *a'*, securely joined together at the back by a vertically disposed portion, indicated, as a whole, by the letter B. The main body portions *a*, *a'*, are joined together at their proximate front margins by the usual arrangement of hooks 1 and studs 2 placed upon the vertically disposed fabric covered stiffening strips 3, which coact with suitable eyes 4 upon a vertically disposed stiffening strip 5 on the front margin of the body member *a*. Intermediate the strip 3 and the front margin proper 6 of the body portion *a'* is a vertically disposed lacing portion 7, provided with a plurality of vertically arranged eyelets 8. The adjacent part of the strip 3 is also provided with a plurality of eyelets 9, and the strip 3 and portion 7 are adjustably joined together by lacings 10 which pass through the eyelets. The garter straps *b*, *b*, are shown attached to and depending from the lower margin of the body portions *a*, *a'*.



Each body portion *a*, *a'*, comprises an upper section 11, a lower section 12, and an intermediate section 13. The lower section 12 is wide and extends substantially from the waste line down over the hips, as low as may be desired in the particular type of corset being manufactured. The upper section 11 extends from the waist line upwardly as far as desired. In the present instance, the upper section 11 is relatively narrow to form what is called a low bust corset.

14 is a vertically disposed stiffening strip to which the front marginal ends of the upper and lower sections 11 and 12 of the body portion *a* are secured by vertical rows of stitches in the usual manner, the edge of the vertically disposed stiffening strip 14 being similarly attached to the stiffening strip 14. The end of the ventilating strip 13 is similarly secured to the vertically arranged stiffening strip 14. The forward margins of the upper and lower sections 11 and 12 of the body portion *a'* and the end of the intermediate strip 13, are similarly secured to the vertically arranged stiffening strip 15. Other vertically disposed stiffening strips such as indicated at 16, 17, 18 and 19, will be secured to the body portions *a*, *a'*, in such number and with two or more rows of stitches, as may be desired. The body portion *a* of the corset is composed of two pieces of fabric 20, 21, which form the outer and inner surfaces, respectively, of the garment.

The intermediate section 13 of each body portion *a*, *a'*, is at the waist line and is what I herein call a ventilating section. Each intermediate ventilating section 13 is secured to the lower margin of the top body sections 11 and to the upper margin of the lower body sections 12 by horizontal rows of stitches, as shown. The ventilated section 13 shown in Fig. 1 on the body portion *a* is illustrated in part, but on a larger scale, in Fig. 2. I will now describe the construction of said section 13 more in detail.

The section 13 comprises a main member 22 and a plurality of spaced-apart transversely disposed shorter members 23. One end of the member 22 extends into the stiffening strip 14 and is held securely by the row of vertical stitches 24, its other end being fastened by the vertical row of stitches which secures the stiffening strip 17. The member 22 is also secured intermediate its ends by the rows of stitches 25 in the stiffening strip 16, as more clearly seen in Fig. 2. The ends of the shorter members 23 are laid between the fabric 20, 21, of the top section 11, and of the body section 12. The upper ends of these members 23 extend above the lower margin of the top section 11 into a pocket formed by spacing the fabric 20 and 21 at this point and by parallel rows of horizontally ar-

anged stitching 26 and 27. The row of stitching 26 passes through the members 23. Similarly, the upper margins of the fabric 20 and 21, composing the lower section 12, of the corset, are spaced apart to form a pocket into which the lower ends of the members 23 project, said pocket being formed by parallel rows and horizontally disposed stitches 28 and 29. The rows of stitches 28 pass through the members 21. Parallel rows of stitching 30 and 31 pass through the horizontal member 22 and the transversely arranged members 23 thus secure these parts together. By crossing the member 22 and the members 23, the latter spaced at intervals, there are formed on either side of the member 22, ventilating spaces 32, as shown.

From the foregoing, it will be seen that the corset comprises two main portions *a*, *a'*, and that each portion is composed of three sections: an upper section, a lower section, and an intermediate ventilating section. The intermediate ventilating section is at the waist-line where great comfort is afforded to the wearer of the garment by reason of the ventilating spaces 32.

It will also be noted that the corset is firmly and strongly constructed and the fact that the main member 22 of the ventilating section extends horizontally and is fastened at its ends securely to the vertical stay strips 15 and 17 and secured also by the intermediate vertical stay strip 16, prevents any misshaping or undue strain of the parts by reason of the act of fitting the corset by lacing. The fact that the transverse members 23 of the intermediate section are secured by horizontal rows of stitching to the bottom of the top section and the top of the body section, affords a very firm, strong structure, and prevents the corset from getting out of shape.

I claim as my invention:

1. A corset comprising two main members, each comprising a main body section, a relatively narrow top section and an intermediate ventilating section located at the waistline, a plurality of vertically disposed stiffening strips secured to the top, bottom and intermediate sections, said intermediate section also being secured to the top and bottom sections of the corset.

2. A front laced corset, each half of which comprises a main body or hip section, a relatively narrow top section, and an intermediate ventilating section located at the waistline and vertically disposed stiffening strips extending from the top of the bottom of the corset, each ventilating section having a horizontally extending central member and a plurality of spaced apart vertical members extending transversely of the first mentioned member, the top and bottom



ends of the transverse members being secured to the adjacent margins of the top and bottom sections, the ends of the horizontally extending member being secured to the front and rear stiffening strips.

5 In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my invention I affix my signature, in the

presence of two witnesses, this 13 day of October, 1921.

CHAS. H. SCHOPBACH.

Witnesses:

C. V. FREEDLUND,  
E. K. HUNT.