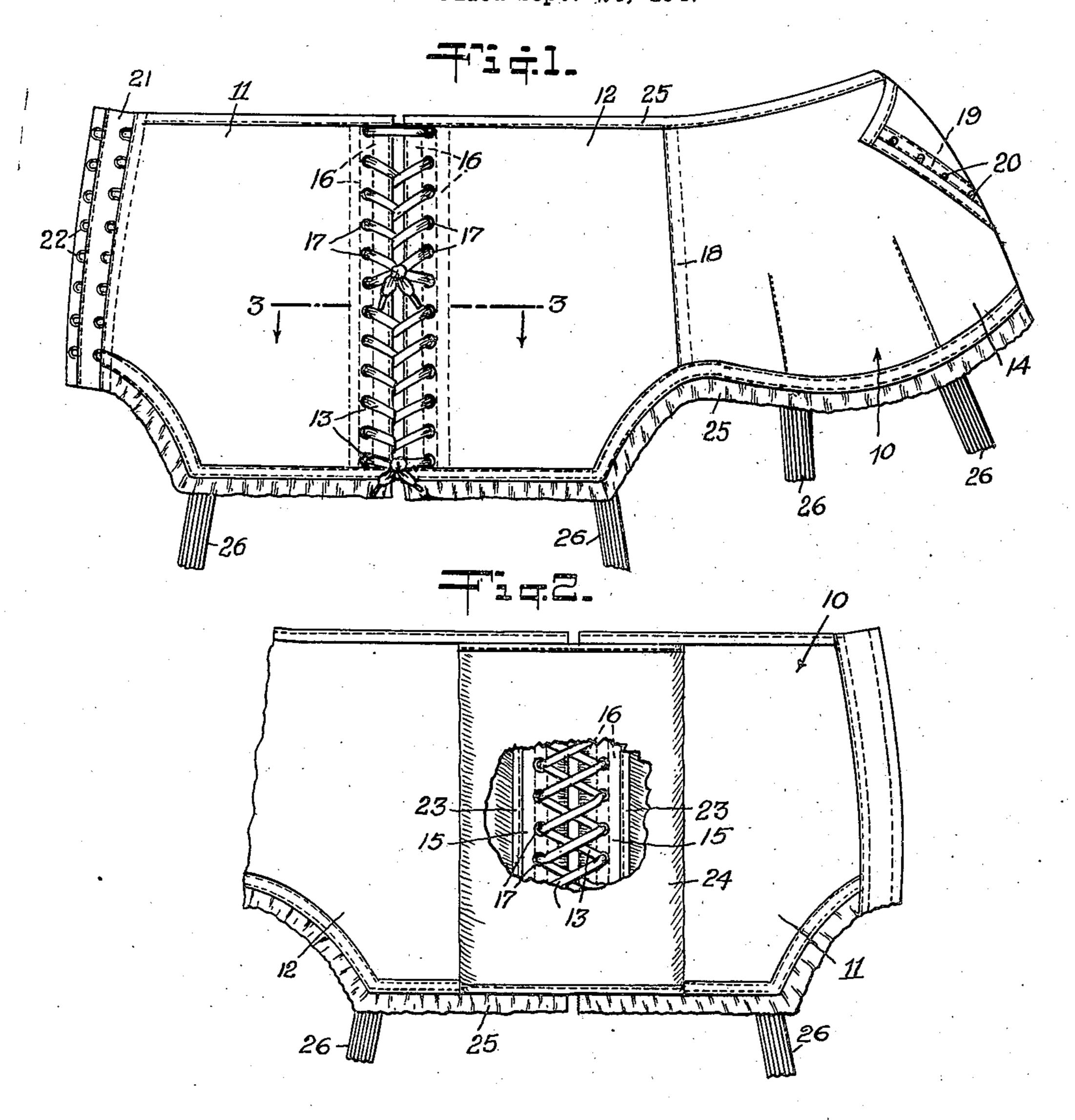
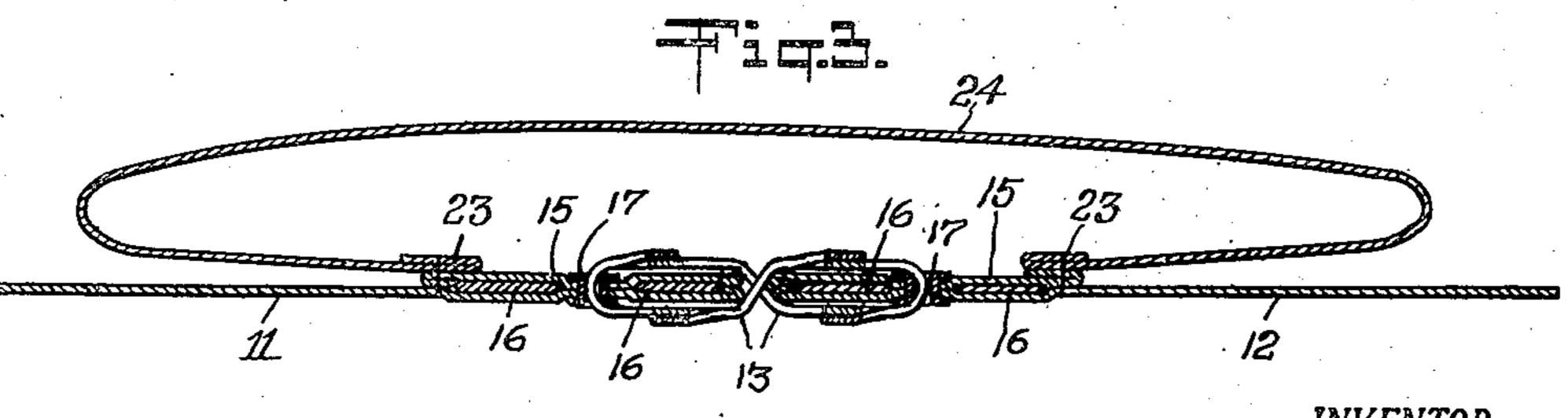
MATERNITY BELT

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INVENTOR.

Morris M. Scheinberg

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Musses, Tiddy & Colaccuss.

Attornevs

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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MATERNITY RELT

Morris M. Scheinberg, Brooklyn, N. Y., assignor to Deluxe Girdlecraft Co., New York County, N. Y.

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My invention relates to undergarments and more specifically to a maternity belt that incorporates many new and novel structural features.

My principal objective was to design a maternity belt that would provide improved abdominal support means and which at the same time would assure the wearer absolute comfort.

A further objective was to provide a garment of this type that would be suitable for the younger woman with a slim figure who does not require the conventional bulky and cumbersome maternity undergarment.

Another advantage of my invention is to incorporate novel adjusting and expansion features that enable the wearer to quickly adjust the belt to assure an accurate fitting.

Further advantages and unique features of my device will be apparent as I proceed with the description.

With reference to the drawings.

Figure 1 shows a face view of my maternity belt,

Figure 2 shows a fragmental view of the lacing, and

Figure 3 shows a sectional view on line 3-3 of Figure 1.

Shown in Fig. 1 is my improved type of maternity belt 10, whose principal component parts consist of two rear panels or sections 11 and 12, which are joined by lacing 13, and a front panel 14. The adjacent edges of the rear panels !! and !? are each equipped with reinforcing strips or tabs 15, in which are mounted a pair of vertical stiffening inserts or bones 16. Positioned between each pair of inserts 16 are a plurality of eyelets 17 for the lacing 13. The front panel 14 has one edge connected to the adjacent edge of the rear panel 12 by a suitable reinforcing tape and stitches as indicated at 18. The other edge of the front panel 14 is likewise equipped with a reinforcing strip 19 to which are secured a plurality of spaced hooks 20. Similarly one edge of the rear panel I is provided with a reinforcing strip 21 in which, in positions corresponding to the space positions of the hooks 20, there is secured a double row of spaced eyelets 22, each of which is adapted to be engaged by one of the hooks 20 for the purpose of providing greater flexibility of adjustment in the garment 10. The panels or sections 11, 12 and 14 in their preferred form will be made from an elastic material, such as, satin elastic or a 50 similar type of product.

Positioned on the inside of the belt 10 to the rear of the lacing 13 and having its opposite ends 23 secured to the rear panels 11 and 12 is an intermediate section 24 made of non-elastic ma- 55

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terial. The section 24 has its edges secured to the reinforcing sections or tapes 15, and is adapted to close the gap between the ends of the rear panels 11 and 12. The section 24 is of sufficient length to close the gap between the rear panels 11 and 12 when the lacing 13 has been fully extended and, furthermore, it is adapted to overlap the edges of the panels 11 and 12 as illustrated in Figs. 2 and 3, when the adjacent edges of the panels are together or in close proximity to each other. Additional features of my belt show the upper and lower edges equipped with an elastic binding 25. The belt is also provided with a plurality of conventional hose supporting means 26.

It will be seen, therefore, that the garment according to the invention provides a maternity belt of little bulk that is specially adapted for the junior figure. Also, that perfect alignment and a good fit are assured due to the lacing which may be adjusted to increase or decrease the circumferential size of the belt. Furthermore, additional adjustment is provided through the double rows of eyelets which provide for minor adjustment and to open and close the belt for donning and removing purposes. In view of the fact, that, the panels are made of an elastic material, the garment also possesses form fitting qualities. It is a garment that will provide sufficient abdominal support to the wearer and at the same time will not present a bulky or cumbersome appearance.

I claim:

1. A maternity belt which comprises two rear sections and a front section, said sections being horizontally elastic and vertically relatively inelastic, adjacent edges of the rear sections being boned, and adjustable connections between said adjacent edges, and a vertically and horizontally non-elastic intermediate section disposed on the inside of the rear sections with opposite edges of said intermediate section secured to the adjacent edges of the respective rear sections in overlapping relation to cover the gap between the edges of the rear sections as they may be separated as the garment is allowed to expand.

2. A maternity belt which comprises two rear sections and a front section, said sections being horizontally elastic and vertically relatively inelastic, adjacent edges of the rear sections being boned, and adjustable connections between said adjacent edges, said connections comprising laces and eyelets, said front section having one edge secured to an adjacent edge of a rear section, and adjustable means connecting the other edge of the front section and the adjacent edge of the

other rear section, and a vertically and horizontally non-elastic intermediate section disposed on the inside of the rear sections with opposite edges of said intermediate section secured to the adjacent edges of the respective rear sections in overlapping relation to cover the gap between said edges as they may be separated as the garment is allowed to expand.

3. A maternity belt which comprises two rear sections and a front section, said sections being 10 horizontally elastic and vertically relatively inelastic, adjacent edges of the rear sections being boned, and adjustable connections between said adjacent edges, said connections comprising laces and eyelets, said front section having one edge 15 secured to an adjacent edge of a rear section, adjustable hook-and-eye means connecting the other edge of the front section and the adjacent edge of the other rear section, and a vertically and horizontally non-elastic intermediate section 20 disposed on the inside of the rear sections with opposite edges of said intermediate section secured to the adjacent edges of the respective rear sections in overlapping relation to cover the gap between said edges as they may be separated as 25 the garment is allowed to expand.

4. A maternity belt which comprises two rear sections and a front section, said sections being horizontally elastic and vertically relatively in-

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elastic, adjacent edges of the rear sections being boned, and adjustable lace and eyelet connections between said adjacent edges, said front section having one edge secured to an adjacent edge of a rear section, a row of hooks along the other edge of the front section, and a plurality of rows of eyes along the adjacent edge of the other rear section, a vertically and horizontally non-elastic intermediate section disposed on the inside of the rear sections with opposite edges of said intermediate section secured to the adjacent edges of the respective rear sections in overlapping relation to cover the gap between said edges as they may be separated as the garment is allowed to expand.

MORRIS M. SCHEINBERG.

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