

Feb. 17, 1953

M. LAGUZZI

2,628,354

FOUNDATION GARMENT

Filed June 29, 1951

3 Sheets-Sheet 1

FIG. 1.

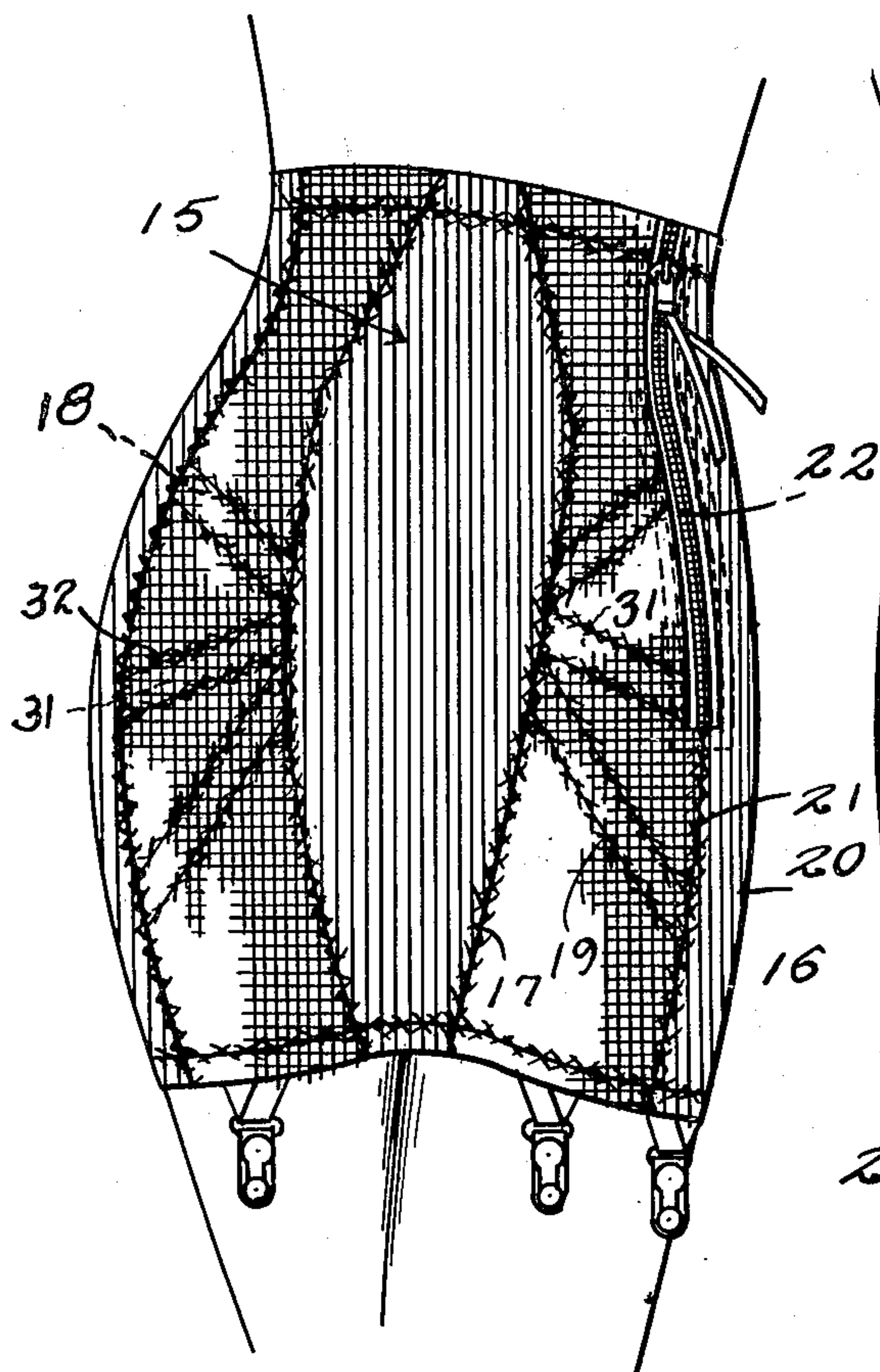


FIG. 2.

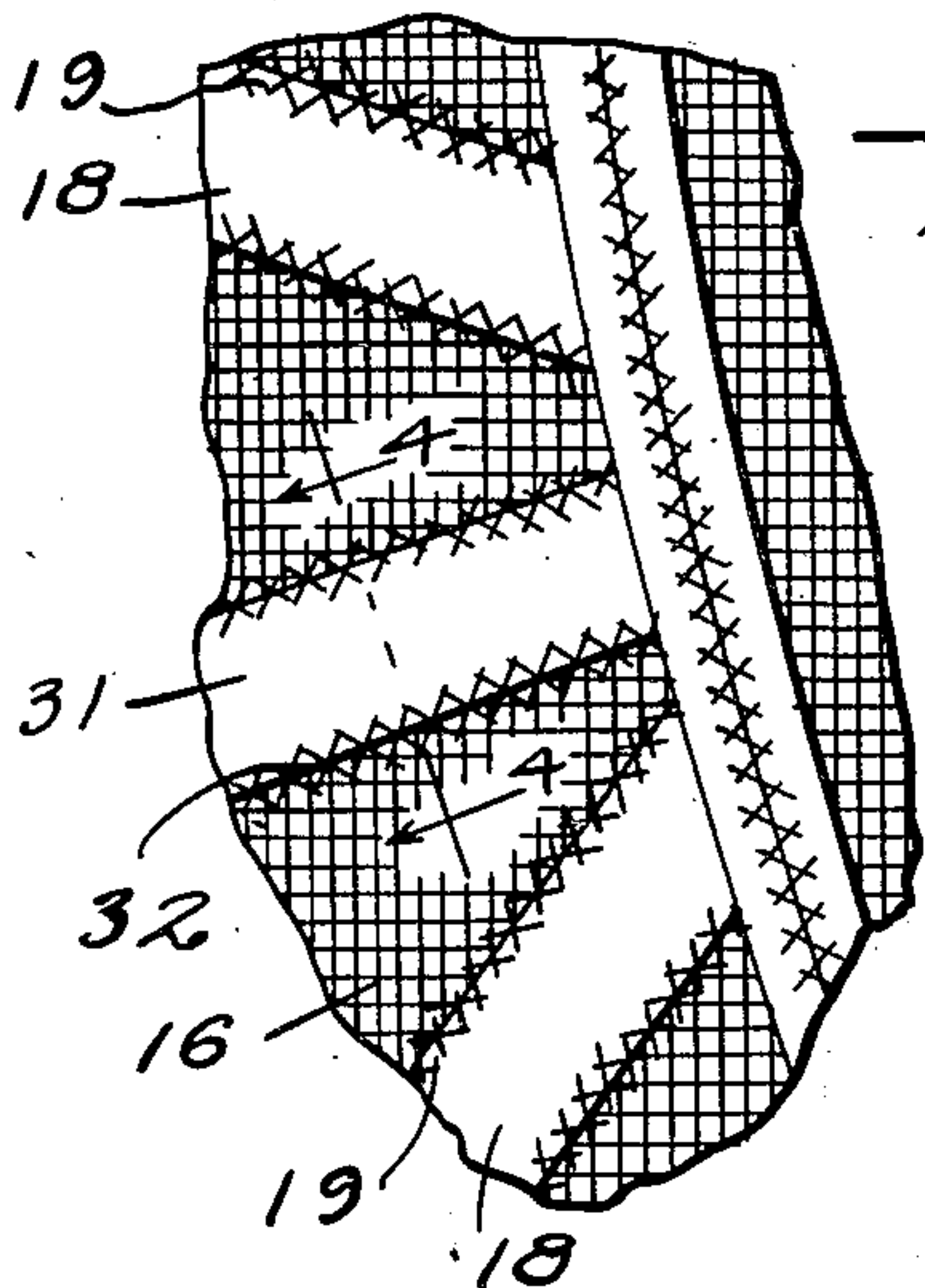
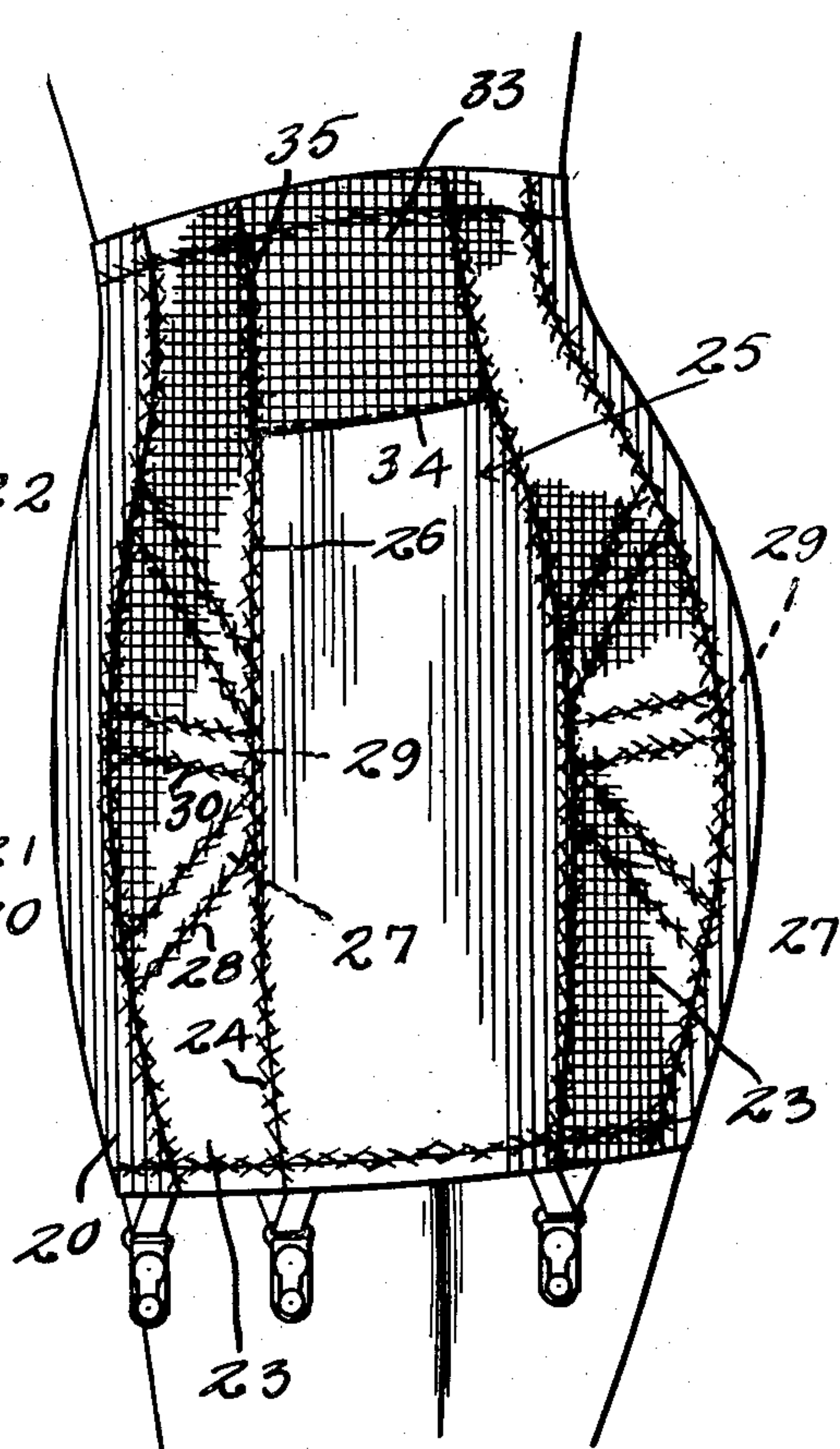


FIG. 3.

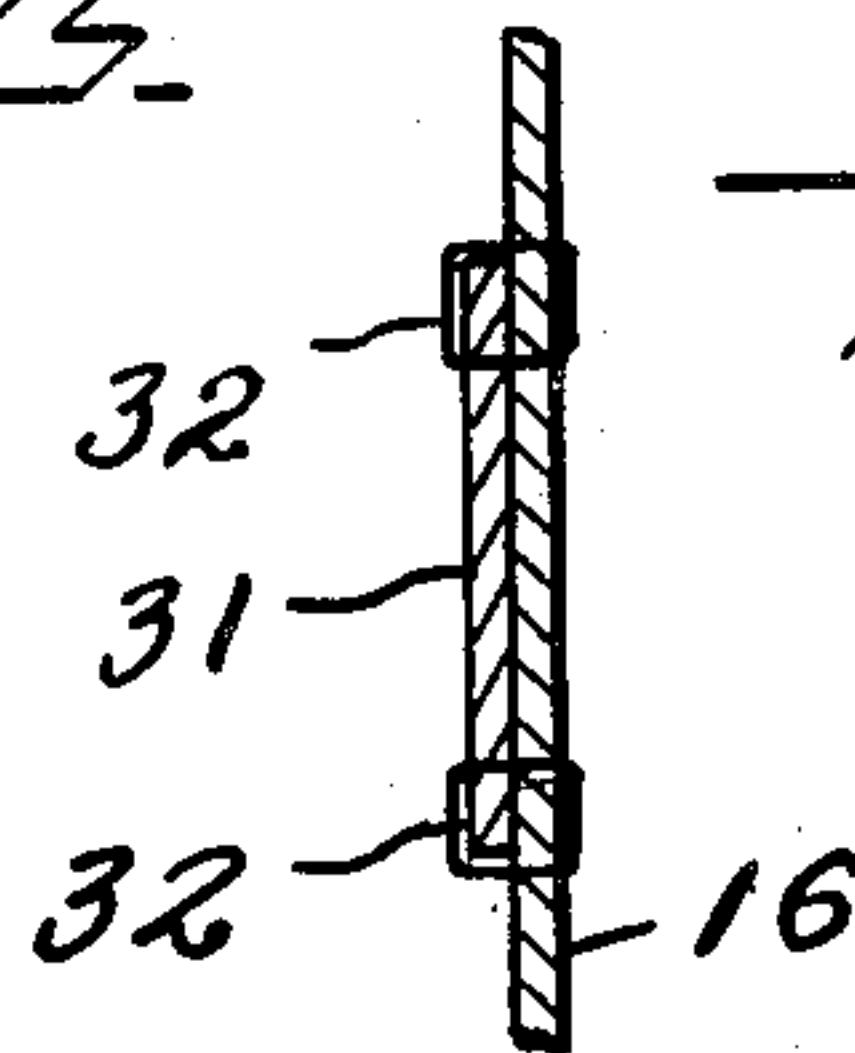


FIG. 4.

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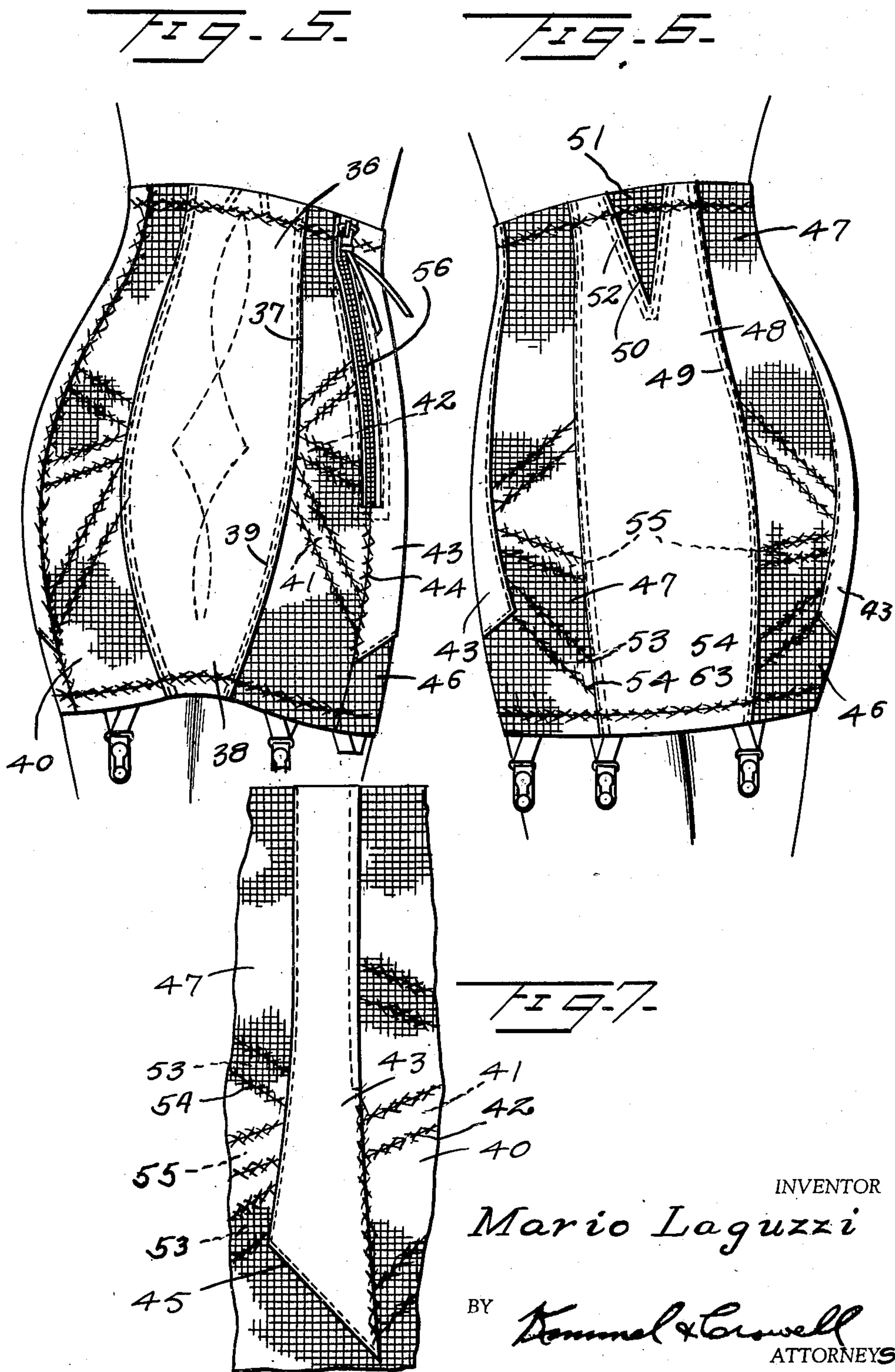
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3 Sheets-Sheet 2



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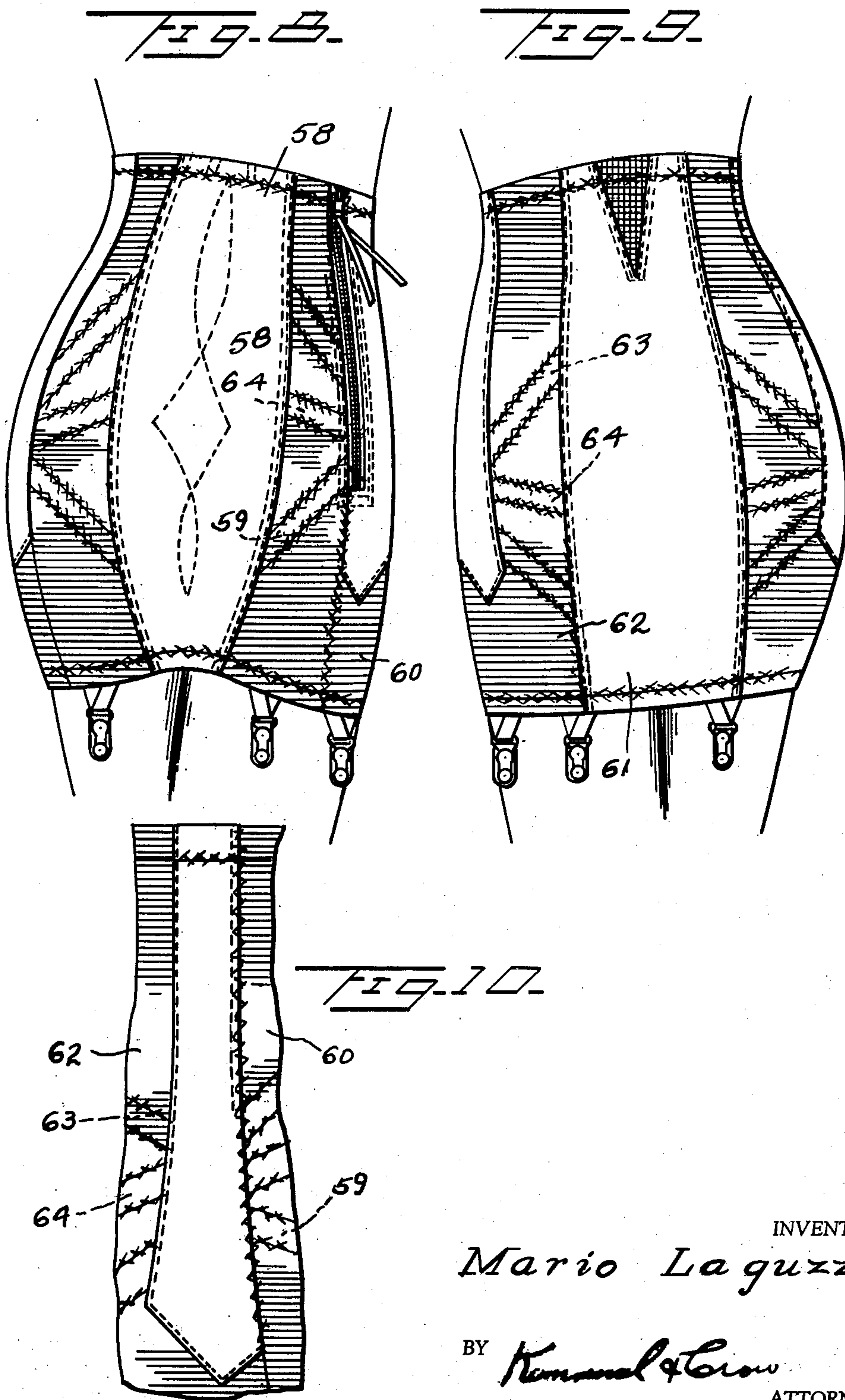
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2,628,354

Filed June 29, 1951

3 Sheets-Sheet 3



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,628,354

## FOUNDATION GARMENT

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Application June 29, 1951, Serial No. 234,287

3 Claims. (Cl. 2-37)

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This invention relates to that class of women's garments known as foundation garments.

In the formation of foundation garments elastic fabric is used, and in certain types of these garments the elastic fabric has a two-way stretch. The construction of a foundation garment entirely out of two-way stretch fabric is not entirely satisfactory because of the fact that the confining pressure is evenly distributed, whereas in most instances it is desirable to form the garment from fabric which is partially made from two-way stretch fabric and also partially made from fabric having only a one-way stretch characteristic.

In a modified form of this invention the garment is formed from fabric having a two-way stretch and also fabric which is non-elastic.

The construction of a garment of this kind using a two-way stretch fabric also requires that the two-way stretch fabric be reinforced at predetermined locations by elastic reinforcing strips or bands which will resist the normal stretching of the fabric in such locations. Preferably these strips or bands are arranged on a bias in divergent pairs with an intermediate strip or band secured to the two-way stretch fabric.

A further object of this invention is to provide a foundation garment wherein gussets or inserts are disposed in the side portions of the garment which have a non-elastic characteristic which will have the effect of smoothing out the lines of the wearer.

In several forms of this invention the arrangement of the elastic panels and reinforcing bands is such as to place extra support and pressure on the abdomen so as to thereby flatten the stomach, and also reduce the hips, derriere and buttocks, without producing a bulge line at the top of the garment.

With the above and other objects in view, my invention consists in the arrangement, combination and details of construction disclosed in the drawings and specification, and then more particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a detailed front elevation of a foundation garment constructed according to an embodiment of this invention.

Figure 2 is a rear elevation of the garment.

Figure 3 is a fragmentary inner side elevation of the garment.

Figure 4 is a fragmentary sectional view taken on the line 4-4 of Figure 3.

Referring to the drawings and, first, to Figures 1 to 4, inclusive, the numeral 15 designates gen-

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erally a front panel which is formed of elastic fabric having lengthwise stretchable characteristics, and the fabric forming the panel 15 is non-elastic transversely thereof. The panel 15 has secured to the opposite longitudinal edges thereof front elastic panels 16 which are secured to the panel 15 by means of zigzag stitching 17. The front panels 16 have elastic characteristics longitudinally and transversely thereof, being known as two-way stretch fabric, and each of the panels 16 has secured to the inner side thereof laterally divergent reinforcing elastic bands or tapes 18. The bands or tapes 18 converge toward the central panel 15 and are stitched to the inner side of panel 16 by means of zigzag stitching 19.

A pair of side panels 20 are secured to the longitudinal edges of the front panels 16 by means of zigzag stitching 21, and the panels 20 have a longitudinally elastic characteristic whereby panels 20 may stretch longitudinally thereof but the panels 20 are non-elastic transversely thereof.

An interengageable fastening means 22 is disposed along the meeting edges of one of the panels 16, and one of the panels 20 so that the garment may be readily mounted on the body. The side panels 20 have secured to the rear longitudinal edges thereof elastic panels 23 which are secured to the panels 20 by means of zigzag stitching 24.

A centrally disposed back panel 25 having a one-way stretchable characteristic is secured between the outer rear panels 23 by means of zigzag stitching 26. The rear outer panels 23 are reinforced by means of inwardly convergent elastic strips or bands 27 secured to the inner sides of the panels 23 by means of zigzag stitching 28.

An intermediate reinforcing band or strip 29 is secured to each panel 23 by means of zigzag stitching 30. An intermediate elastic band or strip 31 is secured between each pair of the inwardly convergent bands or strips 18 by means of zigzag stitching 32. The rear panel 25 terminates at a point below the waistline of the garment, and a two-way stretchable fabric 33 is secured at its lower edge to the upper edge of panel 25 by means of stitching 34 and is secured by means of zigzag stitching 35 to the upper inner edges of the rear side panels 23.

The front center panel 15 as shown in Figure 1 has the side edges thereof converging downwardly from a medial point, and the upper portion of the central panel 15 has the side edges thereof converging upwardly and inwardly to the waistline of the garment. The formation of the central panel 15 as hereinbefore described has



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the characteristic of holding the garment against lateral stretching in the lower front portion thereof so as to thereby bind the lower abdomen of the wearer.

The position of the inwardly convergent reinforcing strips or bands 18 in substantially the central portion of the garment between the upper and lower edges thereof provides a means to resist the stretching of the two-way stretchable panels 16 so as to thereby effect a confining of the stomach or abdomen of the wearer. The rear central panel 25 which has a one-way or vertically stretchable characteristic also provides a means whereby the rear of the wearer will be confined and the rear inwardly convergent strips 27 carried by the two-way stretchable panels 23 effects a resistance means substantially midway between the upper and lower ends of the garment so as to more firmly confine the hips of the wearer.

The position of the upper elastic panel or inset 33 which extends from the upper edge of the rear central panel 25 provides a means whereby the waist portion of the garment at the rear thereof may stretch vertically and horizontally so as to smooth out the waistline of the wearer in the back portion of the garment and eliminate any bulging of the flesh above the waistline of the garment.

The provision of the side longitudinally elastic panels 20 also provides a means whereby the garment will be held against undue horizontal stretching, and the side panels 20 will thereby confine the wearer at the side.

What is claimed is:

1. In a garment for women's wear, front and rear panels having an elastic characteristic longitudinally thereof, front and rear pairs of elastic panels secured to and extending from said first named panels, said pairs of panels having elastic characteristics longitudinally and transversely thereof, side panels, each secured between a front and a rear panel of said pairs of panels, said side panels having an elastic characteristic longitudinally thereof, and obliquely

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disposed elastic reinforcing strips secured at one end to each edge of said front panel, and at their opposite ends to the adjacent edges of the adjacent side panels, and additional reinforcing strips secured at one end to each edge of said rear panel and at their opposite ends to the adjacent edges of the side panels.

2. In a garment for women's wear, front and rear panels having an elastic characteristic longitudinally thereof, front and rear pairs of panels having longitudinal and transverse elastic characteristics secured to and extending from said first-named panels, side panels, each secured between a front and a rear panel of each of said pairs of panels, said side panels having an elastic characteristic longitudinally thereof, and obliquely disposed elastic reinforcing strips secured at one end to each edge of said front panel and at their opposite ends to the adjacent edge of the adjacent side panel.

3. In a garment for women's wear, a front panel, a rear panel having an elastic characteristic longitudinally thereof, side panels each having a horizontally elastic characteristic secured to and extending between said first-mentioned panels, each of said side panels being formed with a central vertical reinforcing strip, and obliquely disposed sets of elastic tensioning strips, each strip of a set secured at one end with said front panel at a side edge of said front panel and extending to and secured at its other end with a said reinforcing strip.

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