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(12) **United States Design Patent**  
**Dimitrijevs et al.**

(10) **Patent No.:** **US D438,615 S**

(45) **Date of Patent:** **\*\* Mar. 6, 2001**

(54) **DISPOSABLE ABSORBENT ARTICLE**

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(\*\*) Term: **14 Years**

(21) Appl. No.: **29/116,185**

(22) Filed: **Dec. 28, 1999**

**Related U.S. Application Data**

(63) Continuation-in-part of application No. 09/444,080, filed on  
Nov. 22, 1999.

(51) **LOC (7) Cl.** ..... **24-04**

(52) **U.S. Cl.** ..... **D24/126**

(58) **Field of Search** ..... D24/124, 126;  
604/358, 359, 360, 361, 378, 384, 385.1,  
385.2; 2/400, 401, 402, 406, 407

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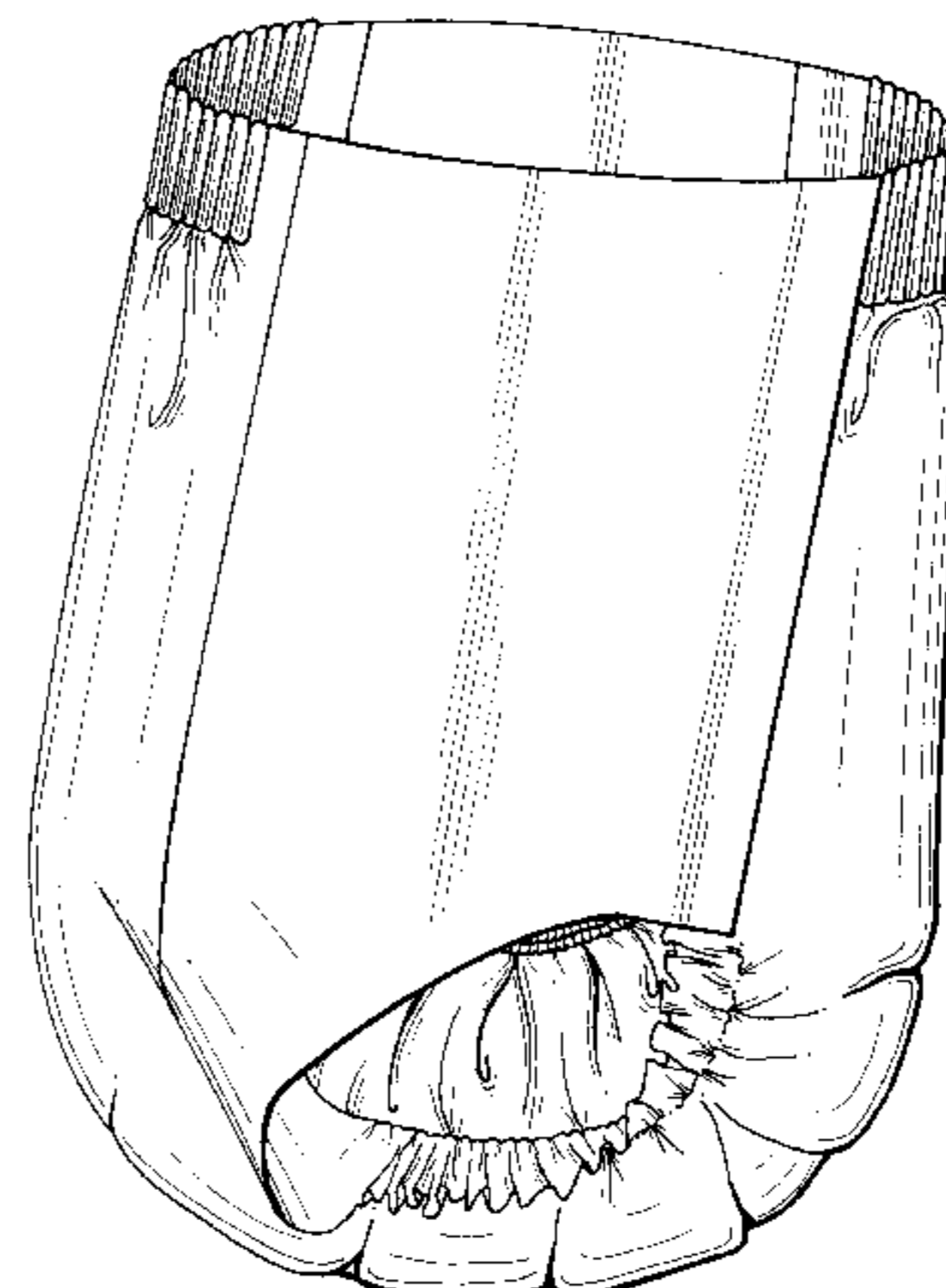
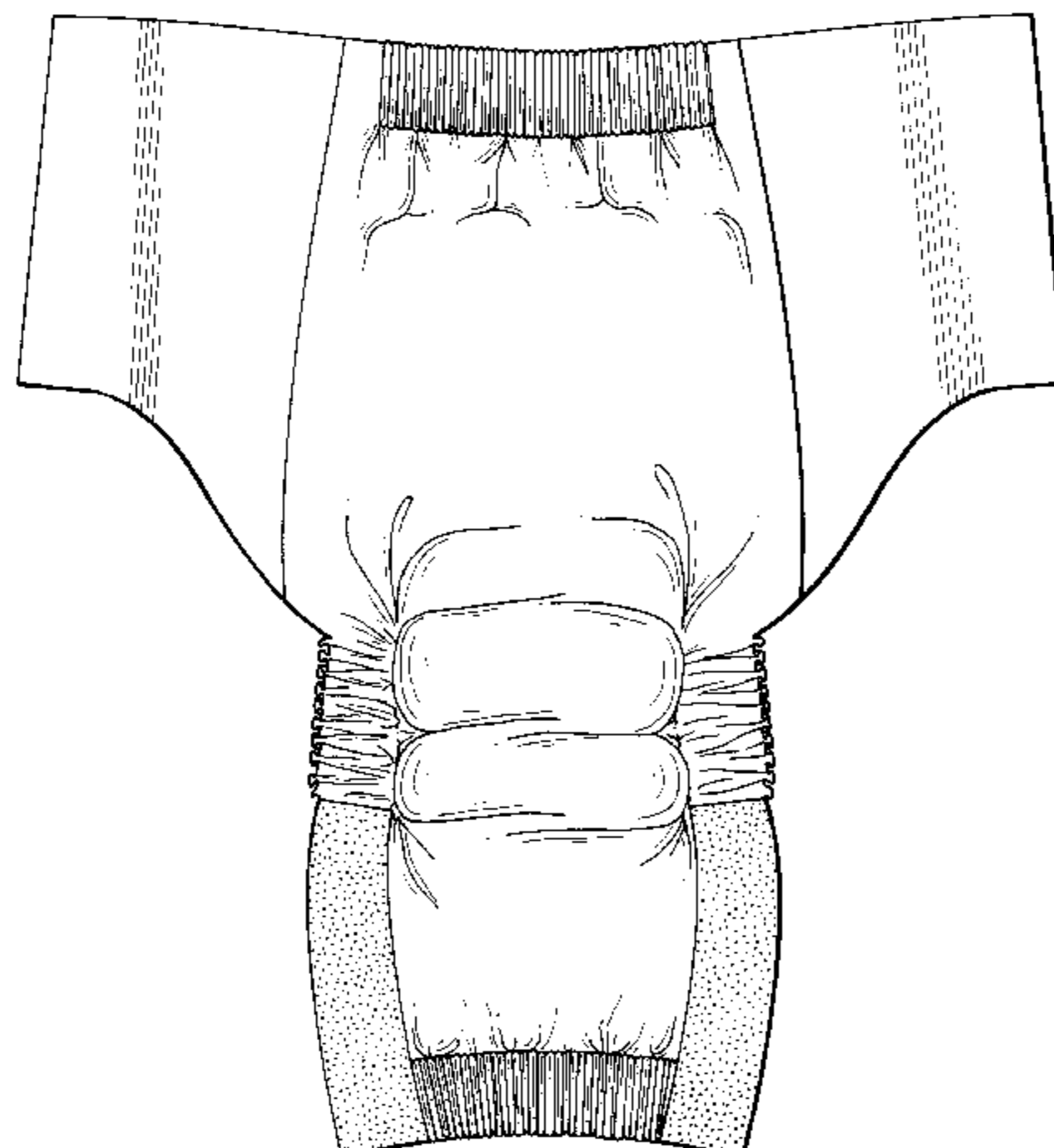
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OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Exhibit A —Photographs of training pant sold by Kimberly-Clark Corporation under the tradename Huggies® Pull-Ups® Training Pants.

Exhibit B—Photographs of training pant sold by Kao Corporation in Japan under the tradename Merries Kids Torepants.

Exhibit C —Photographs of training pant sold by Paragon under the tradename Wal-Mart Dri-Bottoms Training Pants.

Exhibit D —Photographs of training pant sold by The Procter & Gamble Company under the tradename Luvs® Training Pants (unisex).

Exhibit E —Photographs of training pant sold by The Procter & Gamble Company in Japan under the tradename Pampers Sukusuku.

Exhibit F —Photographs of training pant sold by Uni-Charm Corporation in Japan under the tradename Torepan Man (Boys).

Exhibit G —Photographs of training pant sold by Uni-Charm Corporation in Japan under the tradename Torepan Man Step 2.

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*Primary Examiner*—Stella Reid

(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm*—Thomas M. Gage

(57) **CLAIM**

We claim the ornamental design for a disposable absorbent article, as shown and described.

**DESCRIPTION**

FIG. 1 is a plan view of one embodiment of a disposable absorbent article according to our new design, in a laid flat condition and showing the surface of the article that faces away from the wearer.

FIG. 2 is a plan view of another embodiment of the disposable absorbent article according to our new design, in a laid flat condition and showing the surface of the article that faces away from the wearer, wherein the phantom lines indicate an area which includes a pattern;

FIG. 3 is a plan view of the disposable absorbent article of FIG. 1, showing the surface of the article that faces the wearer when the absorbent article is worn.

FIG. 4 is a front elevation of the disposable absorbent article of FIG. 1, with the refastenable fastening system shown engaged on the right side of the absorbent article and disengaged on the left side of the absorbent article.

FIG. 5 is a left side perspective view of the disposable absorbent article of FIG. 1.

FIG. 6 is a front elevation of the disposable absorbent article of FIG. 1.

FIG. 7 is a rear elevation of the disposable absorbent article of FIG. 1.

FIG. 8 is a left side elevation of the disposable absorbent article of FIG. 1.

FIG. 9 is a right side elevation of the disposable absorbent article of FIG. 1.

FIG. 10 is a top plan view of the disposable absorbent article of FIG. 1.

FIG. 11 is a bottom plan view of the disposable absorbent article of FIG. 1.

FIG. 12 is a left side elevation of another embodiment of the disposable absorbent article according to our new design, with the fastening system shown engaged on both sides of the absorbent article.

FIG. 13 is a front elevation of the disposable absorbent article of FIG. 11.

FIG. 14 is a rear elevation of the disposable absorbent article of FIG. 11.

FIG. 15 is a right side elevation of the disposable absorbent article of FIG. 11.

FIG. 16 is a left side elevation of the disposable absorbent article of FIG. 11.

FIG. 17 is a top plan view of the disposable absorbent article of FIG. 11; and,

FIG. 18 is a bottom plan view of the disposable absorbent article of FIG. 11.

The broken line showing is for illustrative purposes only and forms no part of the claimed design.

**1 Claim, 18 Drawing Sheets**

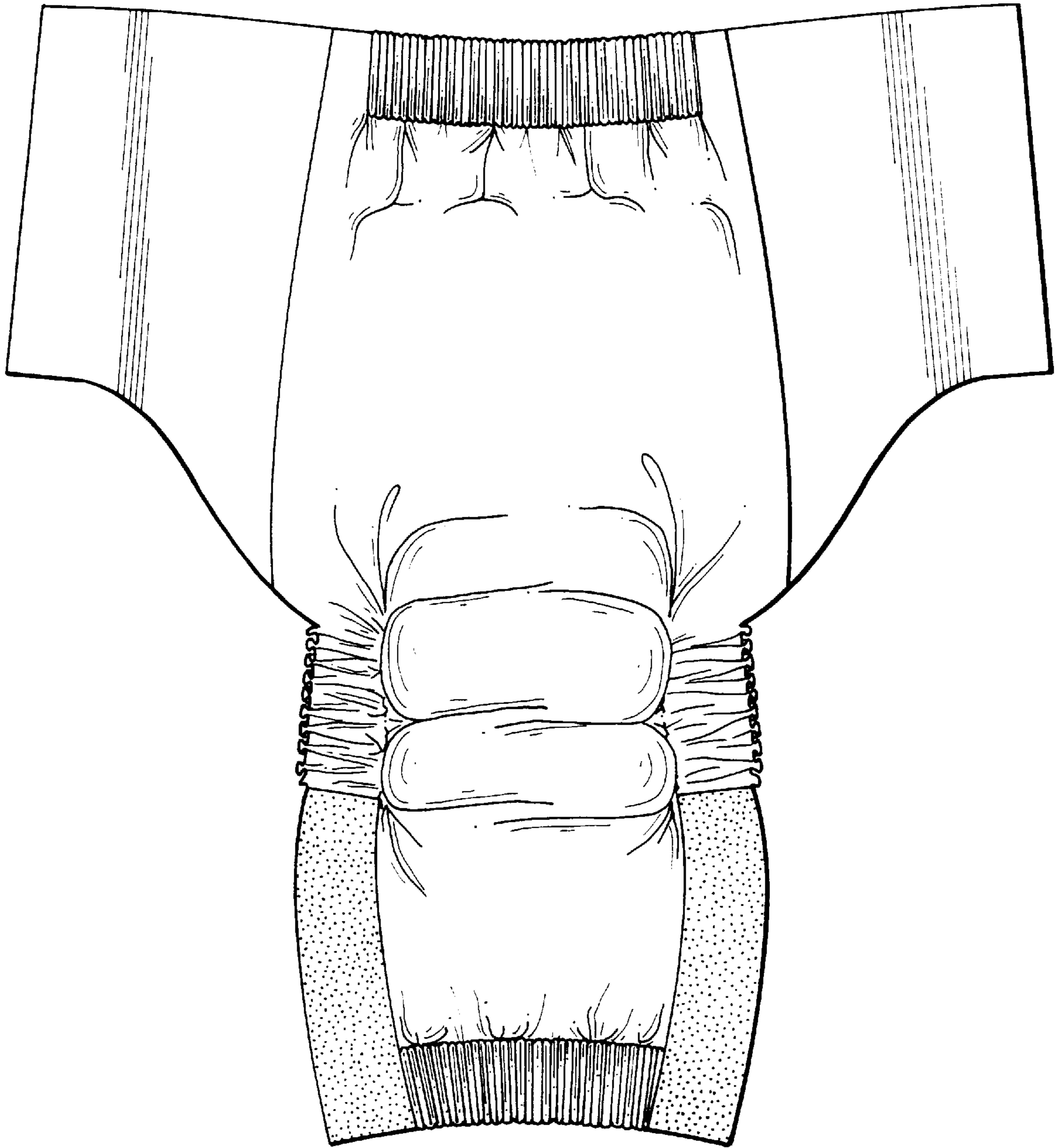


FIG. 1

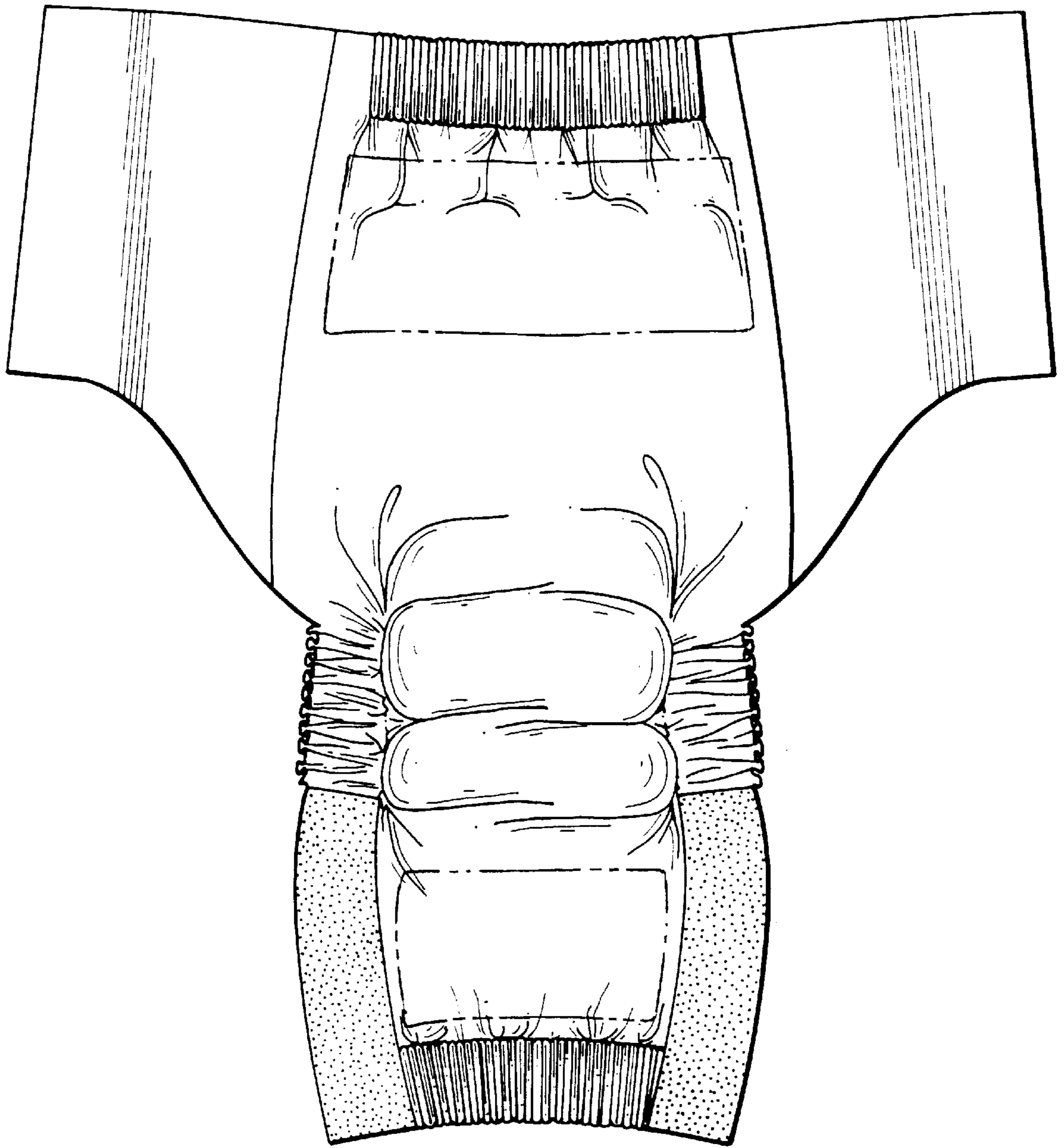


FIG. 2

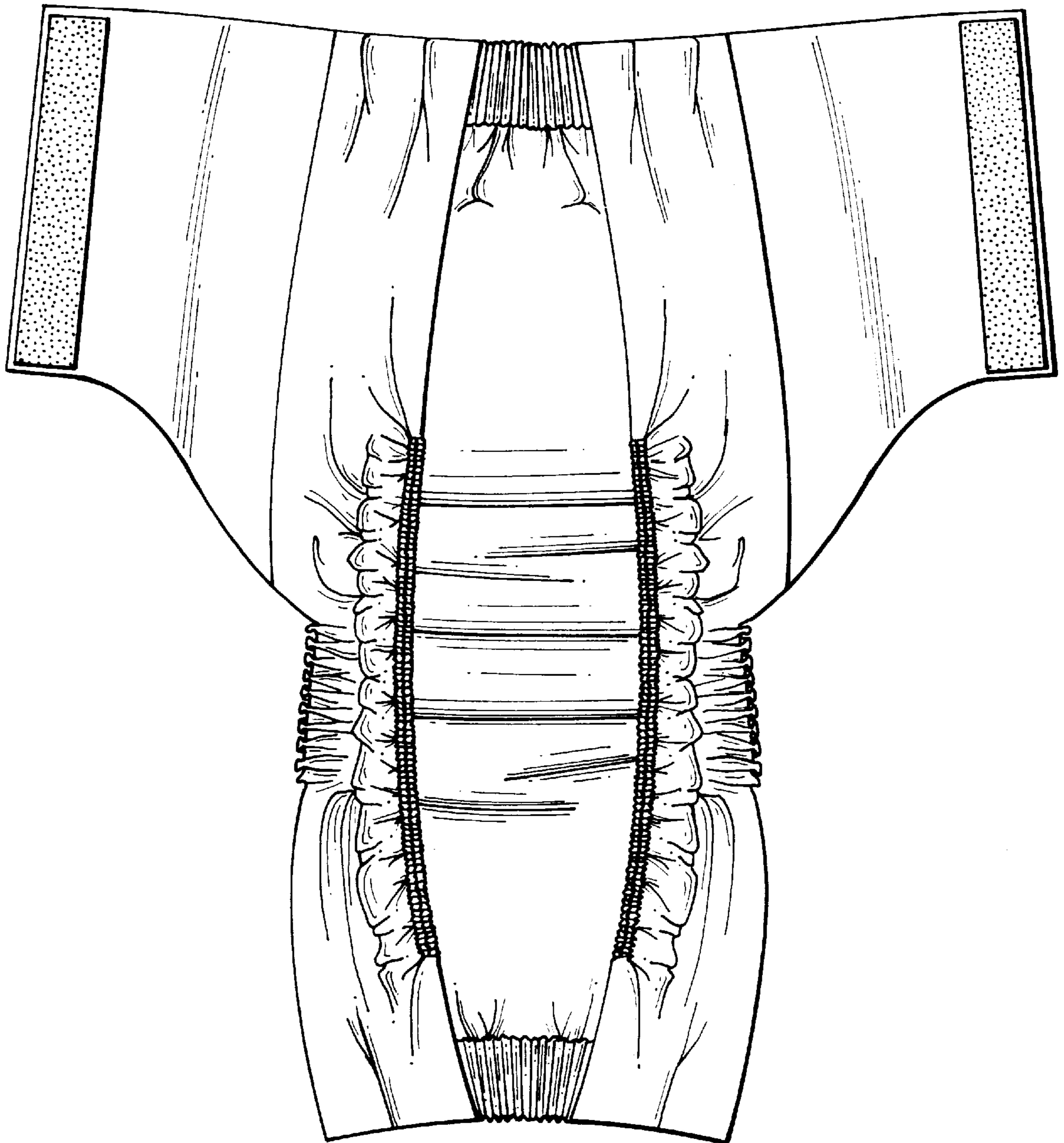


FIG. 3

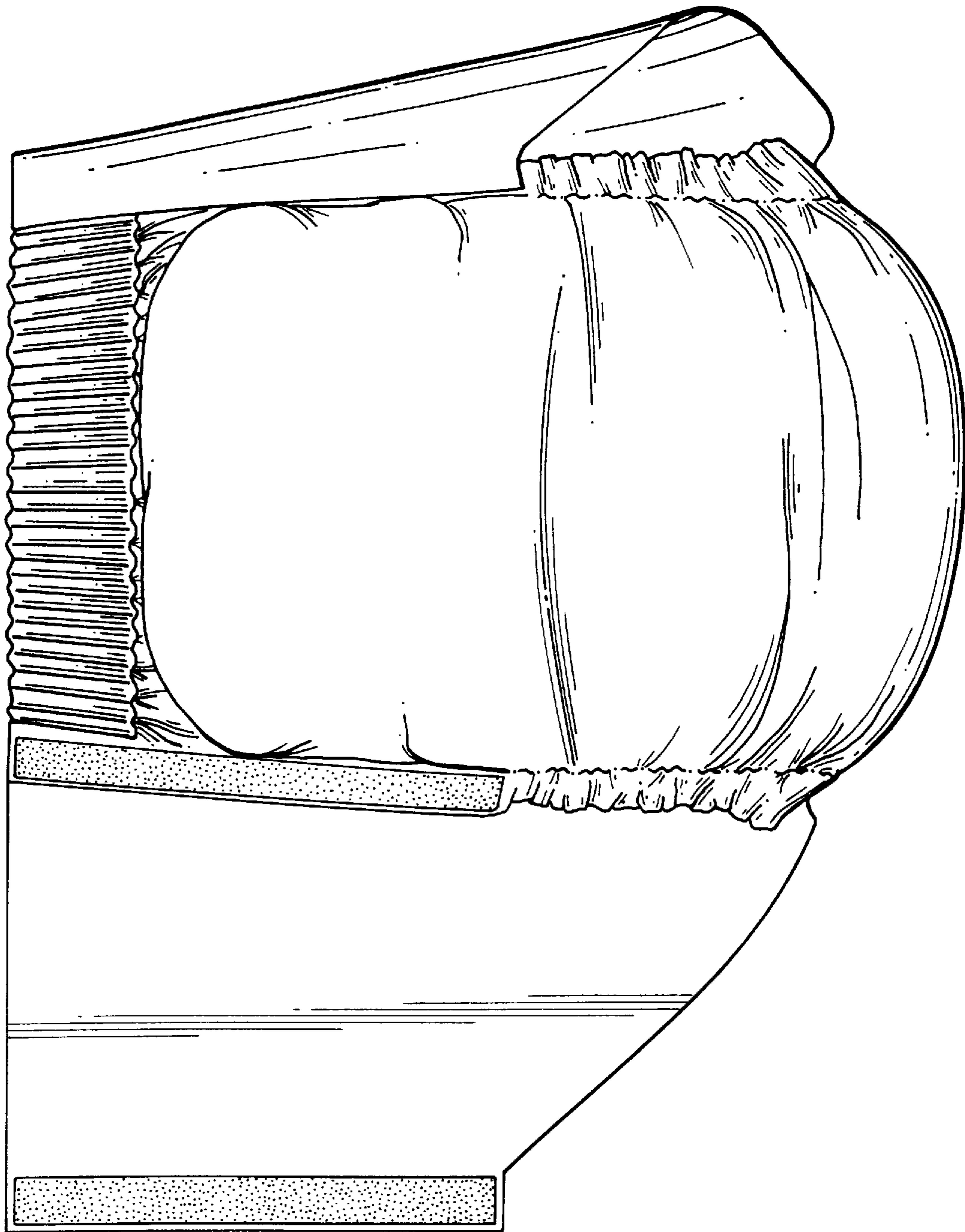


FIG. 4

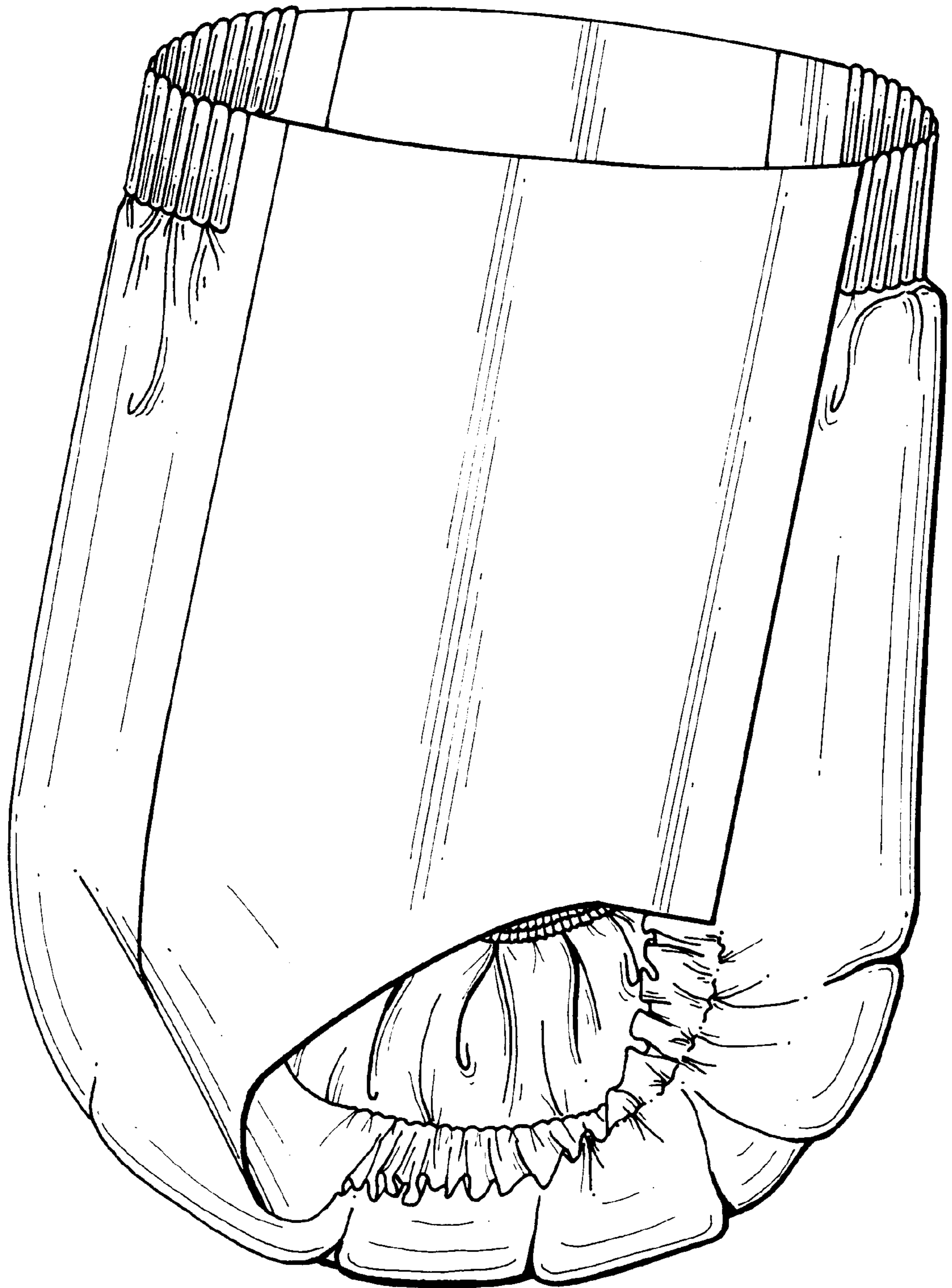


FIG. 5

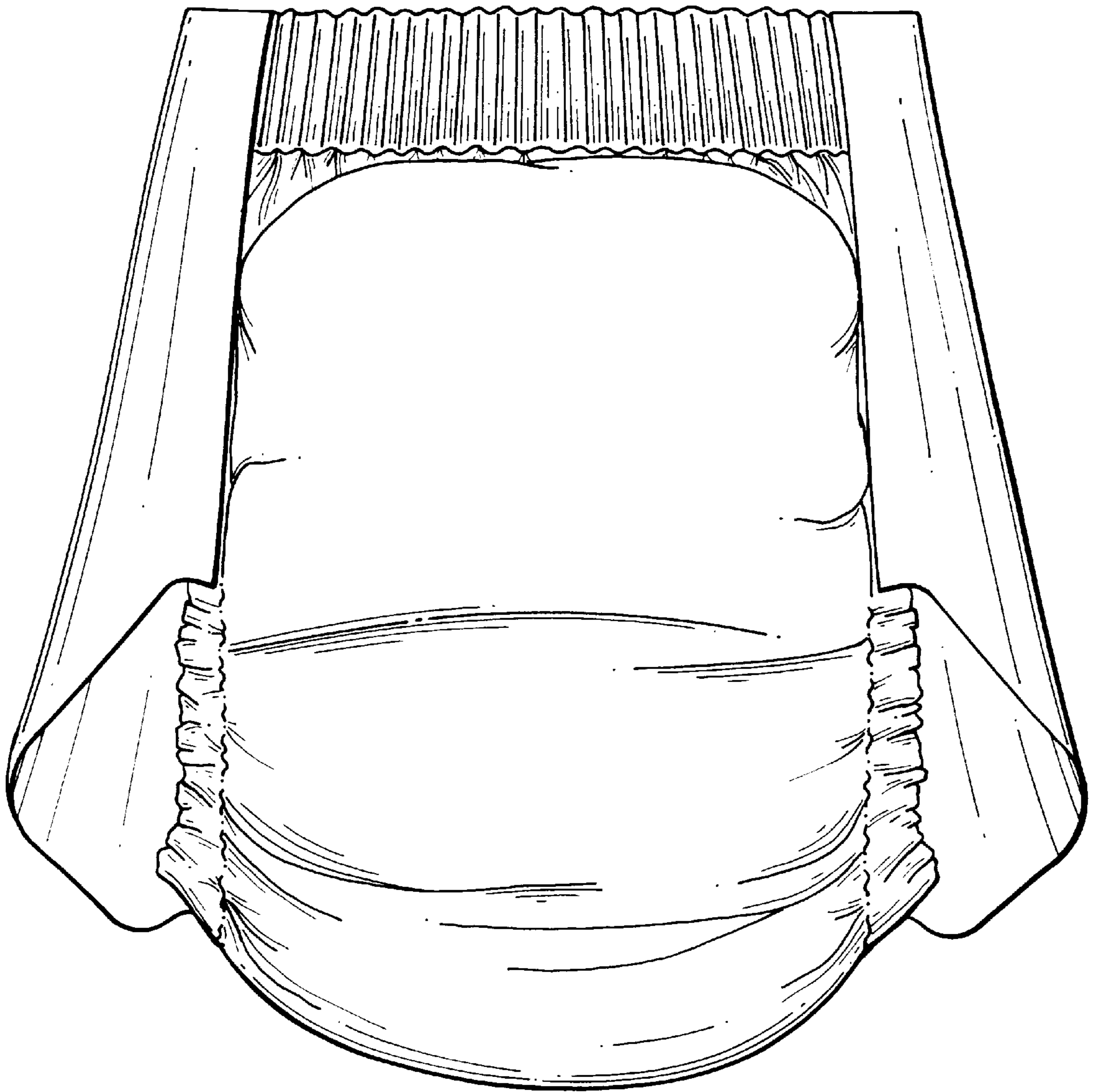


FIG. 6



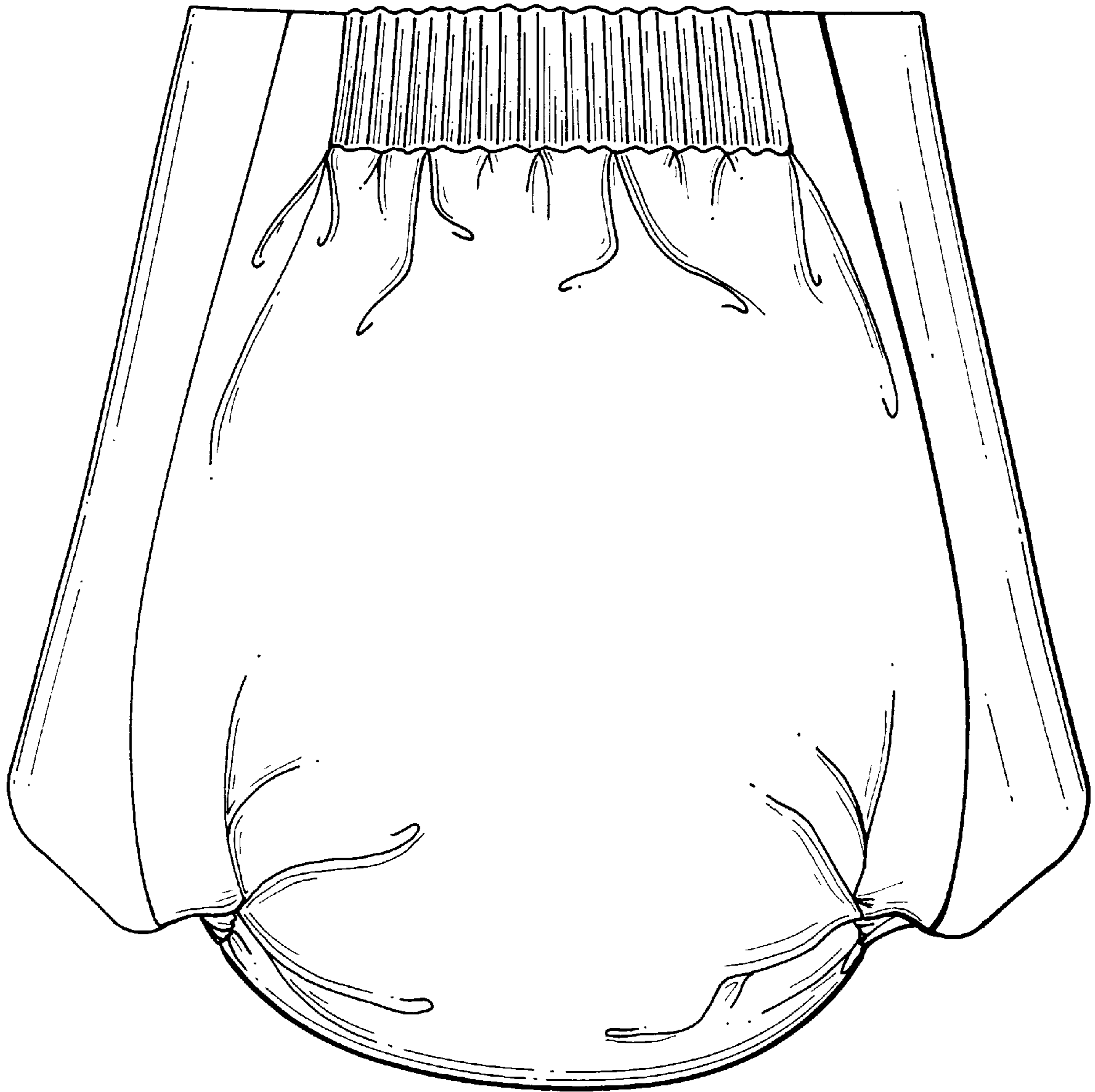


FIG. 7



**FIG. 8**



**FIG. 9**

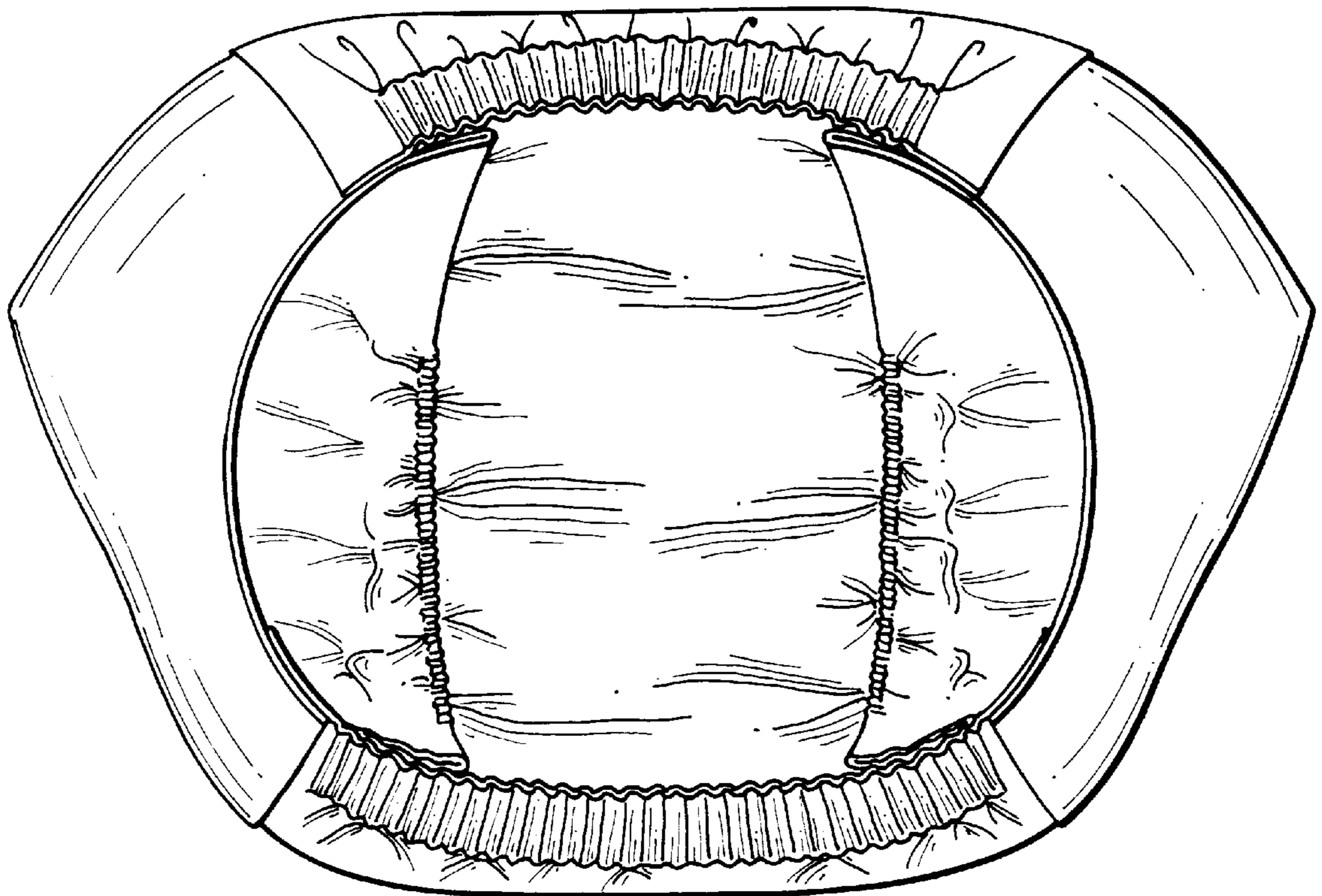


FIG. 10

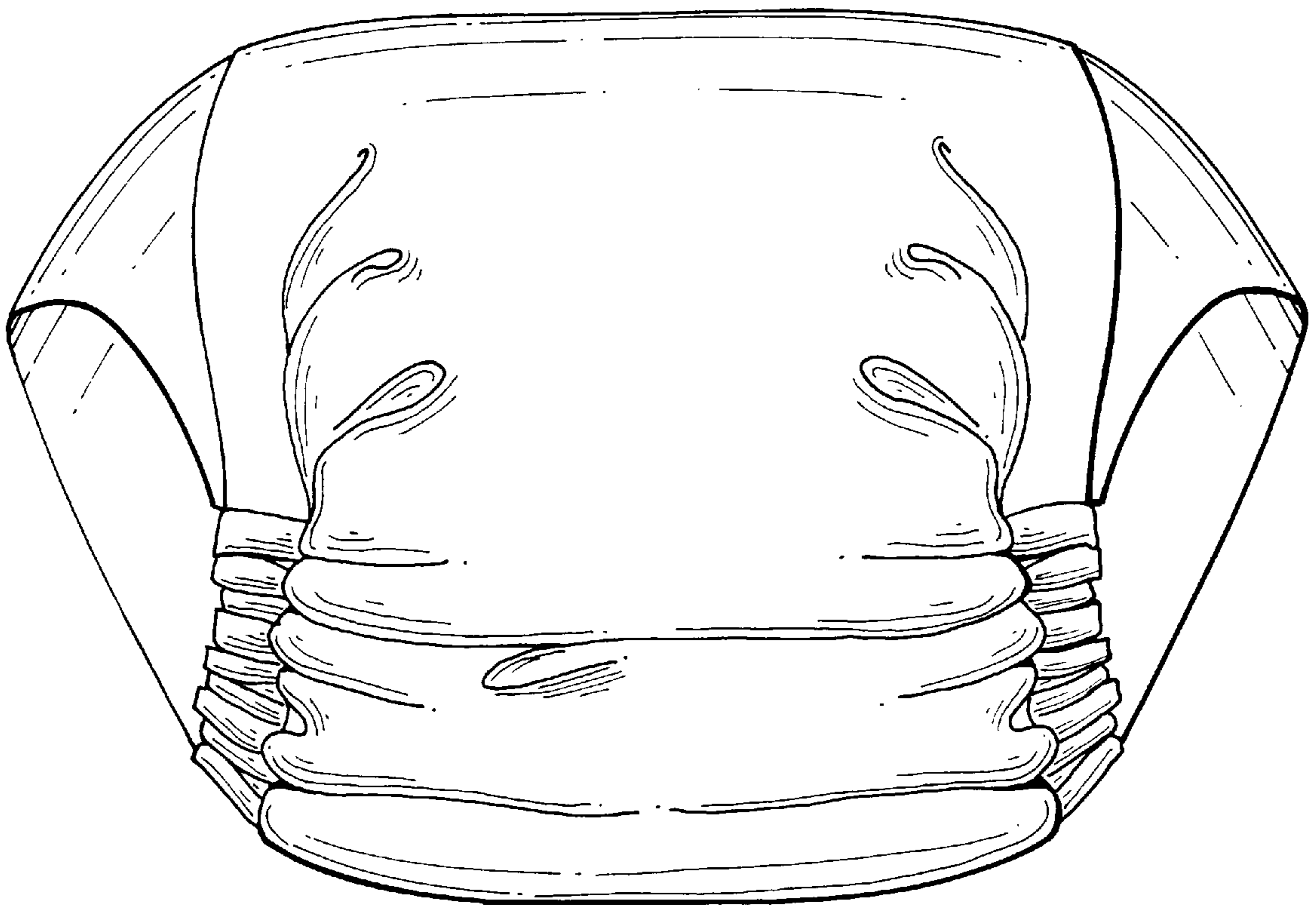


FIG. 11



FIG. 12

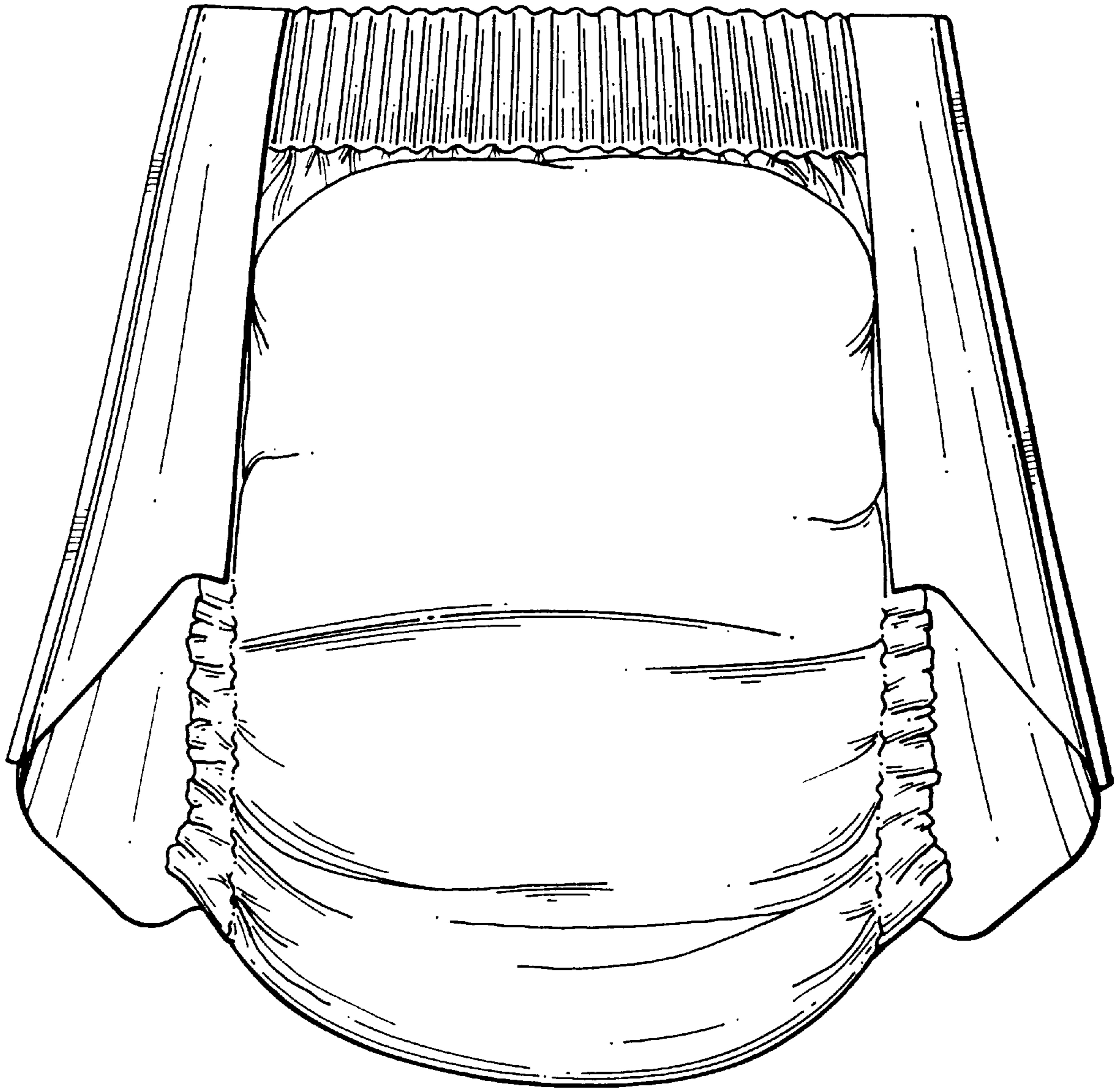


FIG. 13

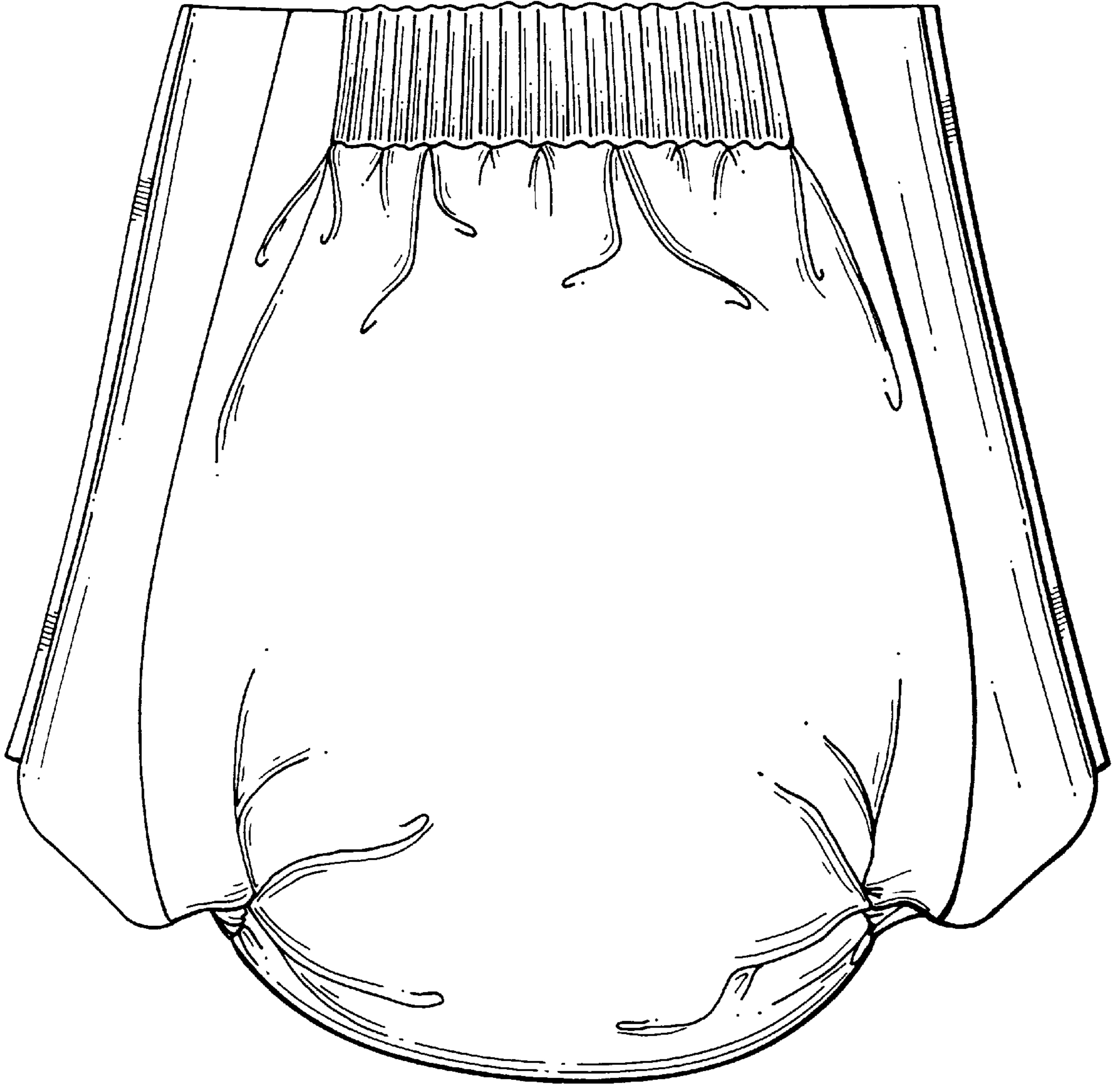


FIG. 14





**FIG. 15**



**FIG. 16**

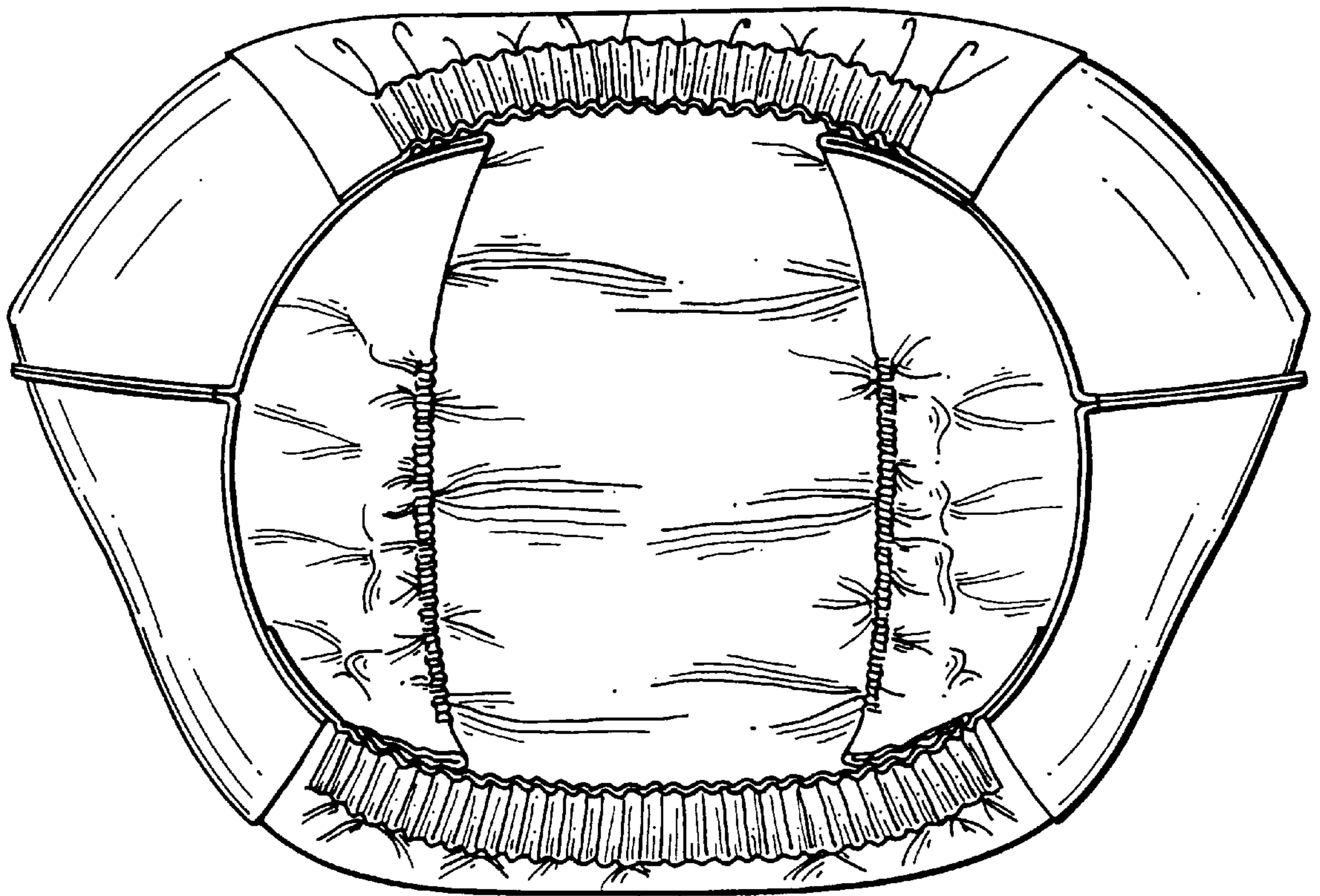


FIG. 17

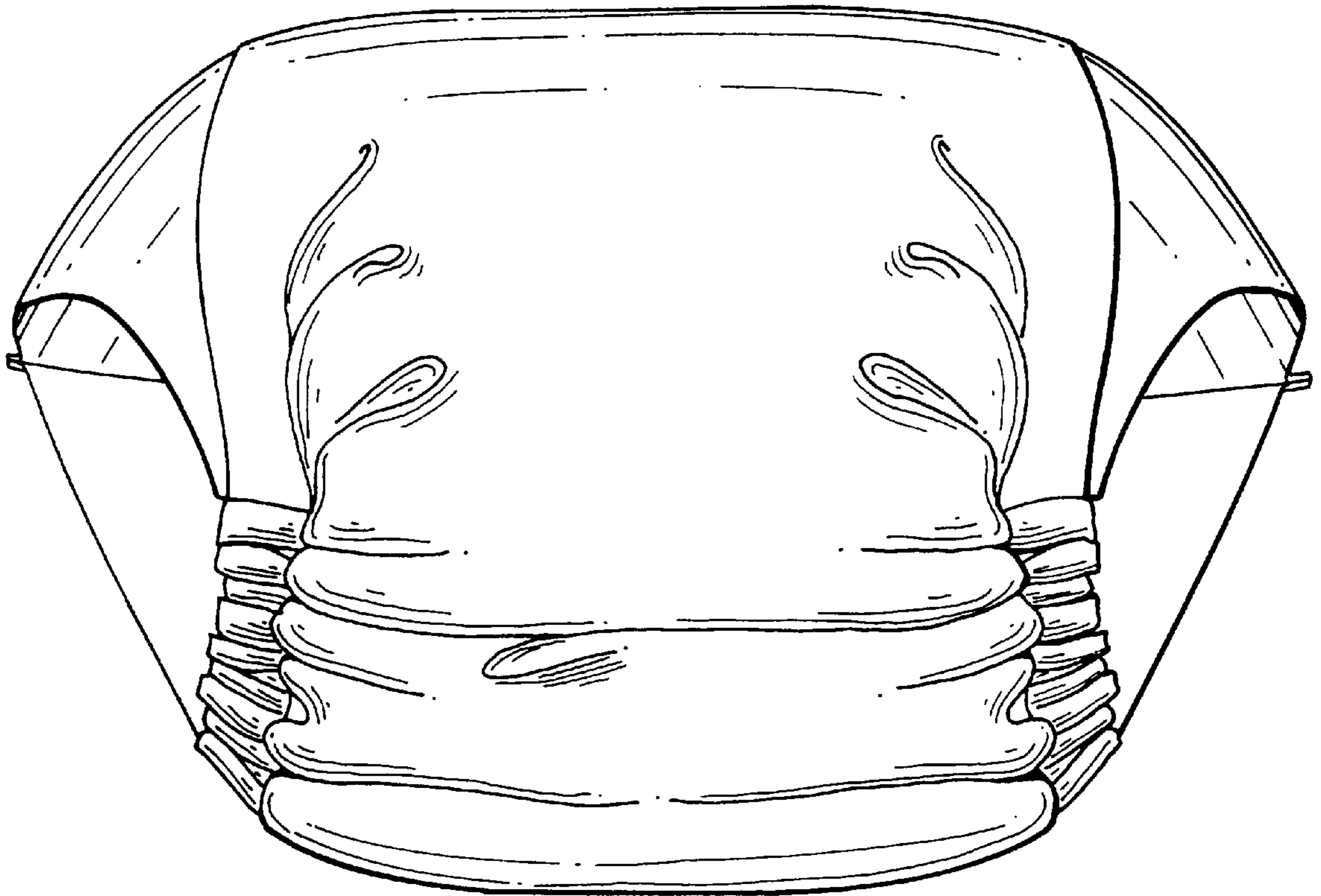


FIG. 18

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
**CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION**

PATENT NO. : Des 438,615 S  
DATED : March 6, 2001  
INVENTOR(S) : Dimitrijevs et al.

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It is certified that error appears in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

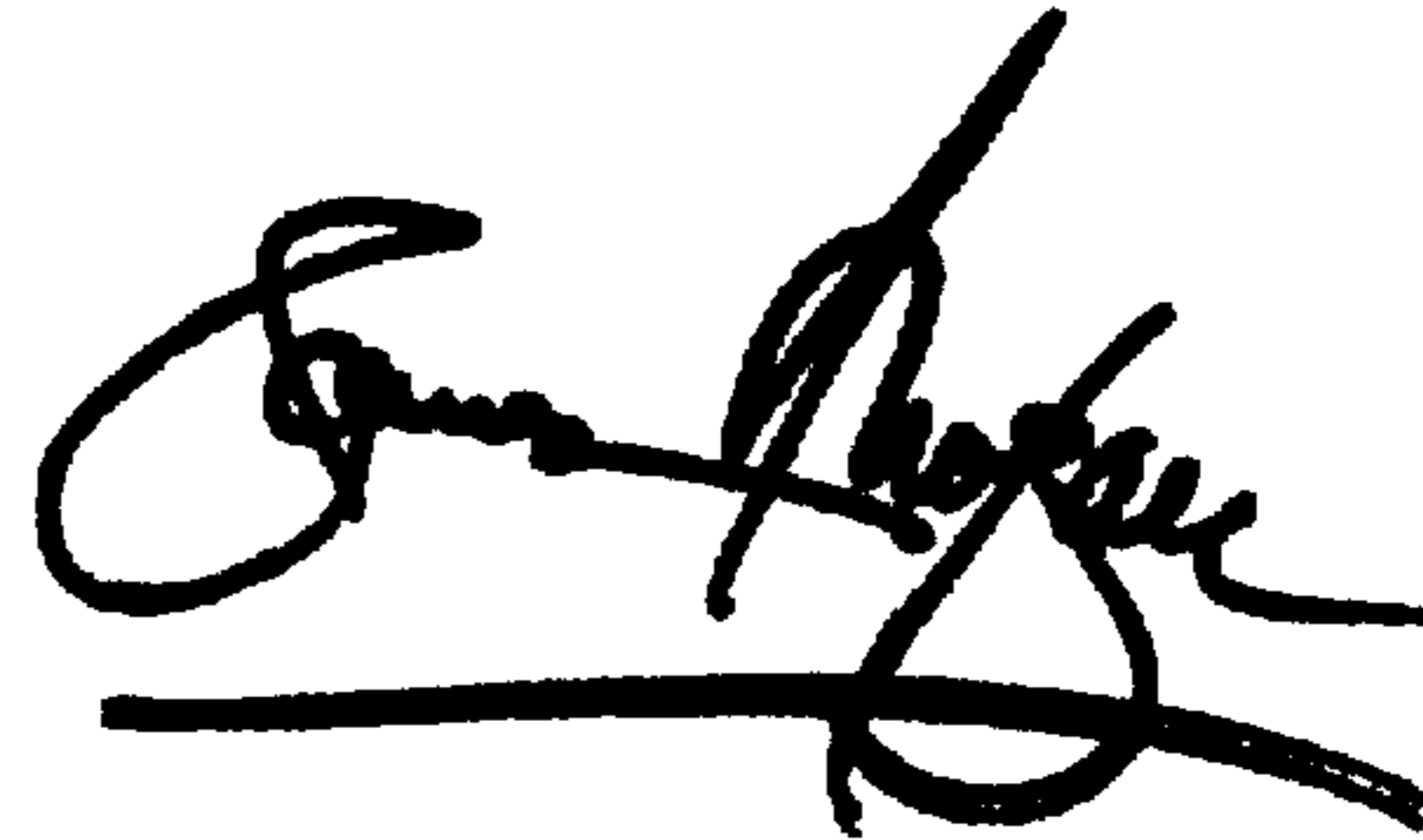
Column 2,

Lines 27, 29, 31, 33, 35, and 37, delete "11" and substitute -- 12--.

Signed and Sealed this

Fifteenth Day of January, 2002

Attest:



Attesting Officer

JAMES E. ROGAN  
Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office