Claims:

{Claim 1}

A disposable pull-on diaper having a longitudinal direction, a transverse direction and a front-back direction wherein side edge portions opposed to each other in the transverse direction of a front panel defining a front waist region are joined to side edge portions opposed to each other in the transverse direction of a rear panel defining a rear waist region to form an annular waist region and wherein front and rear end portions of a crotch panel extending in the front-back direction to define a crotch region are joined to the front waist region and the rear waist region, respectively, wherein:

the crotch panel includes an absorbent structure located in a central portion in the transverse direction thereof and a pair of leg side flaps extending along the absorbent structure on both sides in the transverse direction thereof; and

the leg side flaps are formed of nonwoven fabric sheets extending in the transverse direction ~~from~~ which is integrated with the absorbent structure and a plurality of elastic members secured under tension to the respective nonwoven fabric sheets so as to extend parallel in the front-back direction, each of the leg side flaps has ~~a proximal edge integrated with the absorbent structure and~~ a distal edge defining each of side edges of the crotch panel

and a proximal edge integrated with the absorbent structure, an area extending in the transverse direction between ~~the proximal edge and~~ the distal edge and the proximal edge is divided into an outer side region including the distal edge and the leg elastic members and an inner side region including the proximal edge, the outer side region includes a first elastic member integrated with the distal edge and at least one of a second elastic member and a third elastic member wherein the second elastic member has a same stretch ratio as that of the first elastic member and the third elastic member has a higher stretch ration than that of the first elastic member, the inner side region includes no elastic member or an elastic member which has a lower stretch ration than that of the first elastic member, ~~one of the leg elastic members is secured to the distal edge,~~ a dimension in the transverse direction between the outer side region and the inner side region is at least 10 mm in an area extending in the transverse direction across a lowest region in the longitudinal direction, in the area extending in the transverse direction across a lowest region of the crotch panel extended in the transverse direction and set down so that the front panel may face upward, the inner side region extends upward in the longitudinal direction from the proximal edge and the outer side region extends outward in the transverse direction from the proximal edge.

{Claim 2}

The diaper according to claim 1 wherein, in the crotch panel of the diaper extended in the transverse direction and set down so that the front panel may face upward, a first straight line connecting the leg elastic member lying on an innermost side of the outer side region to the proximal edge intersects with a vertical line orthogonal to a straight line extending along an upper end edge of the front panel at an angle α and a second straight line connecting the distal edge to the leg elastic member lying on the innermost side intersect with the vertical line at an angle β, and wherein the angle α is in a

range of 15 to 40° and the angle β is in a range of 50 to 90°.

{Claim 3}

The diaper according to claim 1 or 2 wherein the outer side region is provided with at least one second elastic member having a same stretch ratio as that of the first elastic member.

{Claim 4}

The diaper according to any one of claims 1 through 3 wherein the outer side region is provided with at least one third elastic member having a stretch ratio larger than that of the first elastic member secured thereto on the inner side of the first elastic member.

{Claim 5}

The diaper according to claims 3 ~~or~~ and 4 wherein the outer side region is provided with at least one third elastic member having a stretch ratio larger than that of the first elastic member secured thereto on the inner side of the second elastic member.

{Claim 6}

The diaper according to any one of claims 1 through 5 wherein the interior surface of the crotch panel is formed with leakage barrier cuffs adapted to rise toward a wearer's skin and each of the leakage barrier cuffs has a base end portion extending along the proximal edge and joined to at least one

of the leg side flap and the absorbent structure and a free edge portion being elastically contractible in parallel to the base end portion.

{Claim 7}

The diaper according to claim ~~5~~ 6 wherein, in an area extending in the transverse direction across the lowest region of the crotch panel, a distance between the base end portion of the leakage barrier cuff and the free edge portion is not larger than a distance between the proximal edge and the outer side region in the leg side flap.

{Claim 8}

The diaper according to claim 6 or 7 wherein the front panel, the rear panel and the crotch panel cooperate together to define leg openings and when the leg openings are observed from the outside at a horizontal viewing angle, the free edge portions of the respective leakage barrier cuffs are not visible inside the leg openings.

{Claim 9}

The diaper according to any one of claims 1 through ~~7~~ 8 wherein the absorbent structure and the leg side flaps in the crotch region are separately prepared and may be joined to each other along the proximal edges of the leg side flaps to be integrated with each other and wherein the proximal edges are