

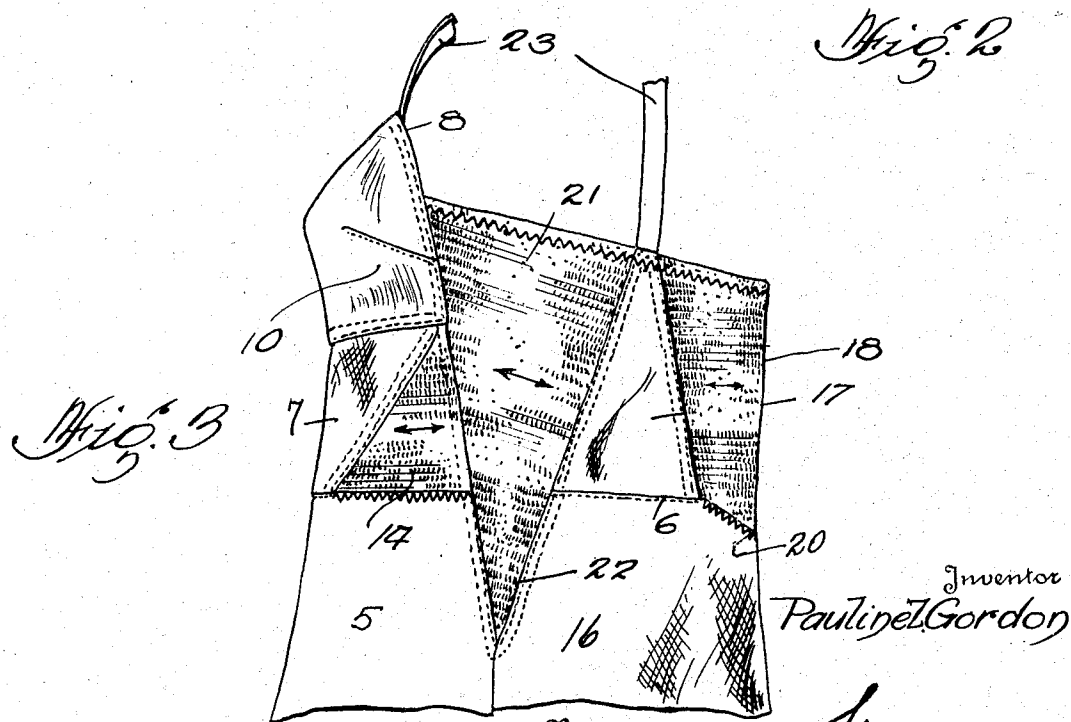
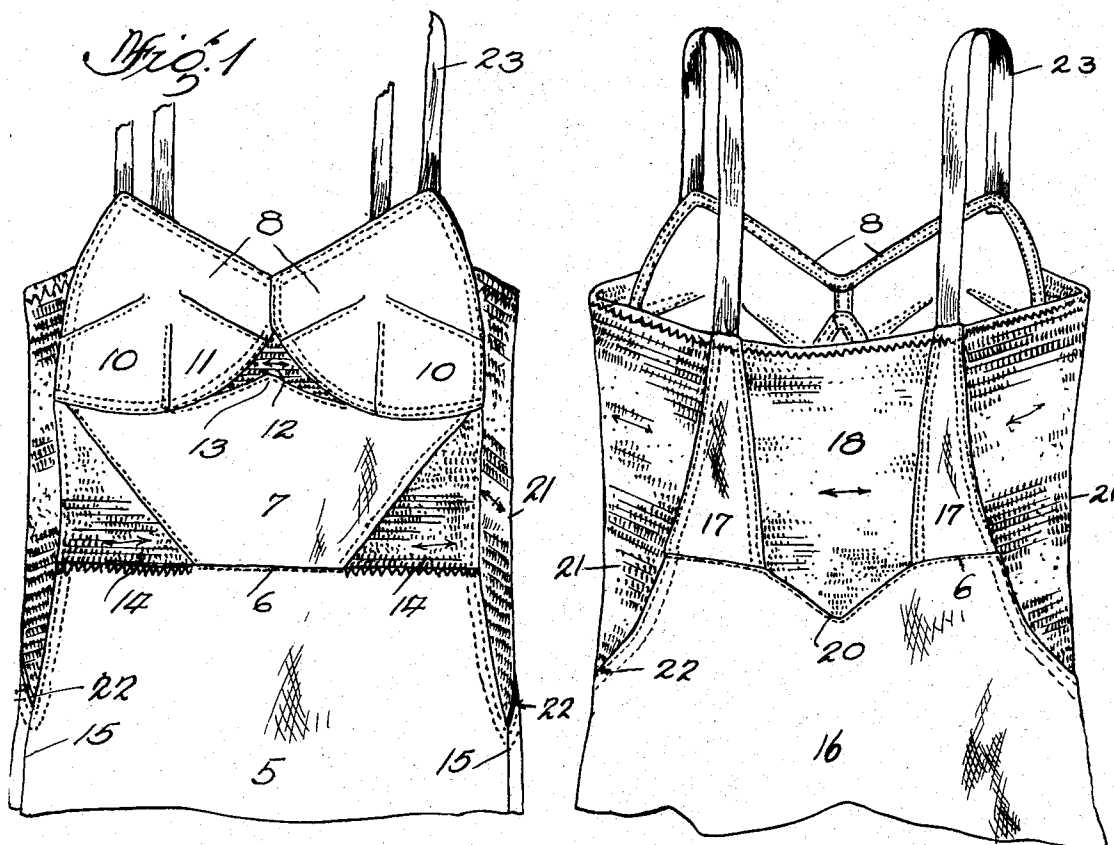
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LADY'S UNDERGARMENT

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LADY'S UNDERGARMENT

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3 Claims. (Cl. 2—73)

This invention relates to garments and more particularly to what is known in the trade as a "bra-slip," that is, a combination of brassiere and slip as one garment. The garment is particularly suitable to people who prefer to have a form-fitting garment above the waist-line to provide a support for the bust and diaphragm.

The invention will accordingly be described with relation to such a garment although it is to be understood that certain features are applicable to a brassiere alone or a different type of lower garment.

One of the objects of the present invention is to provide a comfortable, upper form-fitting garment of the above character provided with certain elastic features whereby it may be easily put on and taken off without separable fasteners of any sort.

A further object of the invention is to provide a garment of the above character, in which the pull on the elastic portions is placed in proper relation to the portions of the body where the pull is most desired.

A further object is to provide a garment of the above character which will tend to smooth out any bulges or creases in the body by pulling across such portions at the desired angle.

A further object is to provide a garment of the above character having relatively few parts which may be easily assembled and inexpensively manufactured.

Other objects will be in part obvious from the annexed drawing and in part hereinafter indicated in connection therewith by the following analysis of this invention.

This invention accordingly consists in the features of construction, combination of parts, unique relation of members, and the relative proportioning and disposition thereof, all as more completely outlined herein.

To enable others skilled in the art fully to comprehend the underlying features of this invention, that they may embody the same by the numerous modifications in structure and relation contemplated by the invention, drawing depicting one embodiment of the invention form a part of this disclosure, and in such drawing like characters of reference denote corresponding parts throughout the several views, in which—

Fig. 1 is a fragmentary front elevation of such parts of the complete garment as is necessary to understand the invention.

Fig. 2 is a similar view of the rear of the same;

Fig. 3 is a similar view showing one side of the garment.

Referring now to the drawing in detail, it will be seen that the garment comprises an upper body portion and a lower skirt portion. The

lower portion is of conventional skirt or slip formation, while the upper part constitutes the brassiere and body embracing portion. The front of the skirt, indicated at 5, is provided with a waist-line 6 above which, for the most part, are a plurality of substantially triangular gores and segments made of elastic and non-elastic material substantially alternately arranged. For instance, the front is provided with a relatively large, wide, substantially triangular portion 7 extending across or over the diaphragm with one of the sides just below the breasts of the wearer. Above this front panel 7 are provided two breast cups 8 which may be of conventional construction, that is, formed in one part by means of darts whereby the upper part of each is cupped, appears to be formed substantially of quarter-spheres of material, while the lower half of each semi-sphere or cup is made in a similar manner to give the appearance of two substantially triangular portions 10 and 11. These semi-spherical cups are substantially tangentially positioned with respect to each other and the triangular space between and therebeneath, indicated at 12, is preferably of elastic material, of any manufacture provided it has about 100% stretch. The material generally known in the trade as "lastex," stretchable in one direction only, that is, transversely across the body, is found satisfactory. The lower part of this insert 12 may extend slightly downwardly into the triangular panel 7 as indicated at 13. This provides a certain amount of stretch immediately beneath the breasts and at the upper part of the diaphragm, thereby to permit easier breathing without the feeling of restriction.

Immediately below the inwardly and downwardly tapering sides of the panel 7 are two right-triangular portions 14, also made of elastic material, adapted to stretch only in a horizontal direction, as indicated. The vertical sides of these triangular portions form a line continuous with the side seams 15 of the garment and also the sides of the segments 10 of the breast cups or substantially tangential with the outer edges of the two hemispheres assuming them to be circular in outline instead of slightly distorted as shown.

The rear lower part of the garment, as shown in Fig. 2, is formed by the rear skirt panel indicated at 16 extending from the waist-line 6 downwardly to the desired length above which are two separate, substantially triangular portions 17 separated by a relatively wide, substantially triangular or wedge shaped portion 18, the latter being made of the same elastic material as the parts 12 and 14, and stretchable in one direction only, namely, transversely to the body. It will be noted that the lower part of this gore

18 extends slightly below the waist-line as indicated at 20, Fig. 2, thus permitting the desired expansion at the waist-line which is also particularly helpful in putting the garment on or off.

Interposed between the parts 17 of non-stretch material and the triangular inserts 14 are two relatively large, triangular gores 21, as indicated more clearly in Fig. 3. These gores are also made of elastic material and are adapted to stretch in one direction only. It is to be noted particularly, however, that these gores are cut on the bias and their line of stretch is at an angle to the line of stretch in the adjacent gores 14 as clearly indicated in Figs. 1 and 2. By experience it has been found that an angle of approximately 35° provides the most satisfactory results in that the pull exerted by this elastic material is in the general direction from the upper part of the breast cups to the middle of the back, as well as on lines parallel thereto to a point below the waist-line. By having these gores of triangular shape the greatest stretch is provided at the upper part of the body where the most stretch is desired, while the lower parts of these triangles having a relatively small amount of stretch maintaining the garment in proper form fit over the hips where the lower parts of these gores terminate, as indicated at 22.

The garment is provided with the usual shoulder straps 23, preferably connected between the upper outer portions of the breast cups and the tops of the triangular non-stretch gores 17 at the back. By having them connected with non-stretchable material the garment maintains a smoother and less wrinkled appearance when worn, and the line of pull is diagonally across the side muscles or any creases that may exist.

It will thus be seen that the present invention provides a simple and practical garment which serves the combined purpose of a brassière and slip with the upper part flattening and molding into substantially flat lines the natural rolls of flesh. This advantage is principally by reason of the fact that the small gores 14 are cut triangularly at an angle with respect to the larger gores 21 adjacent thereto. This angle of about 35° as above stated is measured from the horizontal stretch of the piece 14 downwardly to the direction of stretch in piece 21. In other words, the selvage of the part 21 which is at the top should be at about 55° with respect to the side seam 15, Fig. 1. The elastic sections in the back of the garment are of great aid in providing the necessary stretch in putting the garment over one's head, and also contribute materially to the form-fitting effect in helping to prevent the bulging of material and the shifting of its position on the body, irrespective of the activity of the wearer. The gores 21 having a line of stretch on a bias with respect to the adjacent gores is of material importance in actually flattening any flesh bulges or creases at the sides of the body, thereby producing the desirable permanent, flat, smooth side line. The skirt may be form-fitting, or not, as desired.

The construction comprises relatively few parts, each of which coacts with adjacent parts to produce the desired results and effect and accomplish among others all of the objects and advantages above set forth.

Without further analysis the foregoing will so fully reveal the gist of this invention that others

can, by applying current knowledge, readily adapt it for various applications without omitting certain features that, from the standpoint of the prior art, fairly constitute essential characteristics of the generic or specific aspects of the invention, and therefore such adaptations should and are intended to be comprehended within the meaning and range of equivalency of the following claims.

10 I claim:

1. A bra-slip comprising a brassière section and a body covering portion below the waist line, said brassière portion including breast cups and a centrally disposed panel therebeneath including a triangular part at each side of said front panel of elastic material stretchable in a substantially horizontal direction and extending from the bottom of the breast cups to a line substantially at the waist line, a back section and triangular gores of elastic material between said back section and the triangular parts in the front panel and extending from the top to a point near the waist line, the direction of stretch of said side gores being downwardly and rearwardly at an acute angle with respect to the direction of stretch of said triangular front parts.

2. A bra-slip comprising a brassière section above the waist line and a garment portion below the waist line, said brassière portion including breast cups and a panel therebeneath including a gore at each side of elastic material stretchable in a direction substantially parallel to the waist line and extending substantially between the waist line and the bottom of the breast cups, a back section including a center panel of elastic material, a gore of non-elastic material at each side of said back panel terminating near the waist line, and intermediate gores of elastic material between said last-mentioned gores and the gores in the front section extending from the top to below the waist line, the direction of stretch of said intermediate gores being downwardly and rearwardly at an acute angle with respect to the direction of stretch of said front gores, and the tops of said intermediate gores and back section slanting downwardly from the sides of the breast cups to the middle of the back.

3. A bra-slip comprising a brassière section above the waist line and a skirt portion below the waist line, said brassière portion including breast cups and a centrally disposed panel therebeneath tapering towards the waist line, a triangular gore at each side of said front panel adjacent said central panel and of elastic material stretchable in a substantially horizontal direction, the base of said triangular gores being substantially on the waist line, a back section comprising a center panel of elastic material stretchable in substantially a horizontal direction only, a gore of non-elastic material at each side of said back panel terminating substantially at the waist line, and triangular gores of elastic material between said last-mentioned non-elastic gores and the triangular gores in the front section extending from the top with the apex at a point below the waist line and with the direction of stretch of said side gores being downwardly towards the back and at an angle of approximately 35° with respect to the horizontal line of stretch of said triangular front side gores.

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