April 14, 1953 R. PIOLI 2,634,419

BRASSIERE

Filed June 8, 1951 2 SHEETS—SHEET 1

Fig. 1

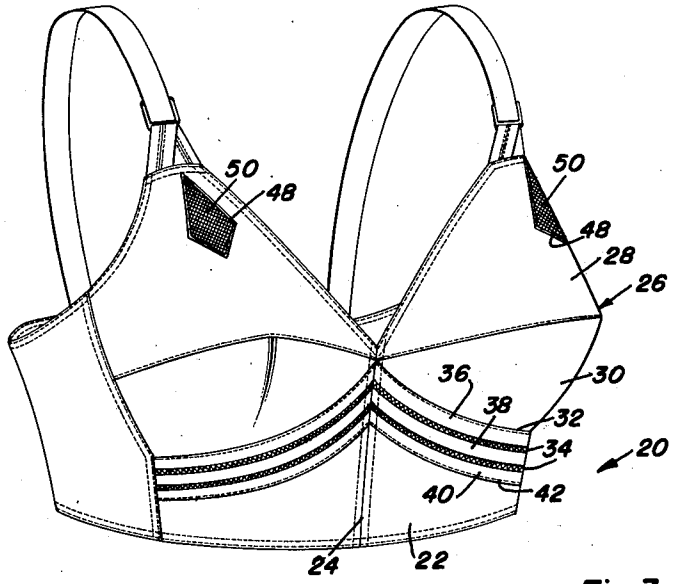


Fig. 2

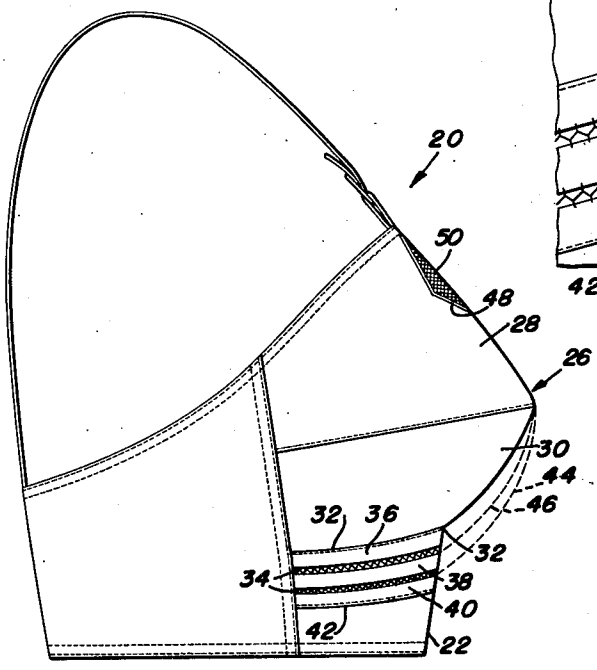


Fig. 3

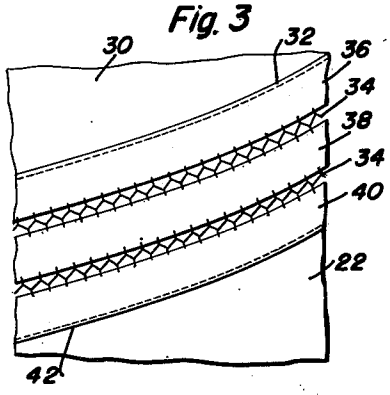
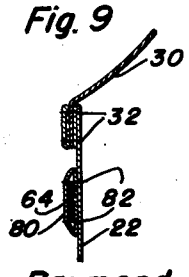


Fig. 9



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April 14, 1953 R. PIOLI 2,634,419

BRASSIERE

Filed June 8, 1951 2 SHEETS—SHEET 2

Fig. 4

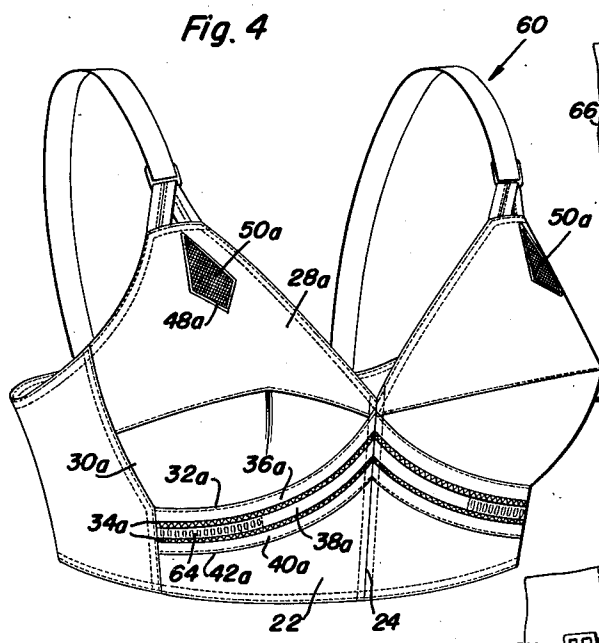


Fig. 5

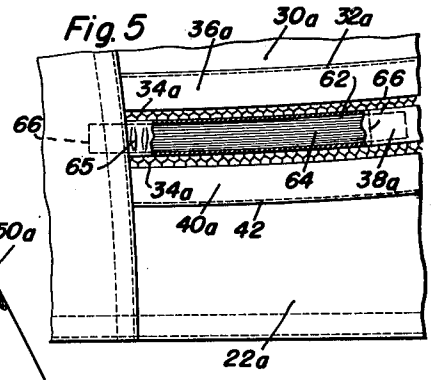


Fig. 7

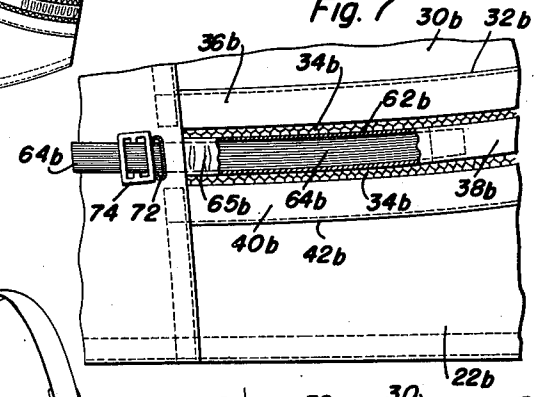
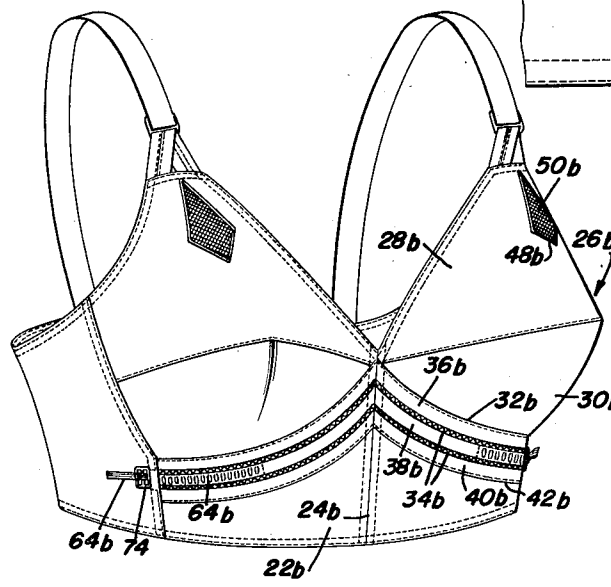


Fig. 6



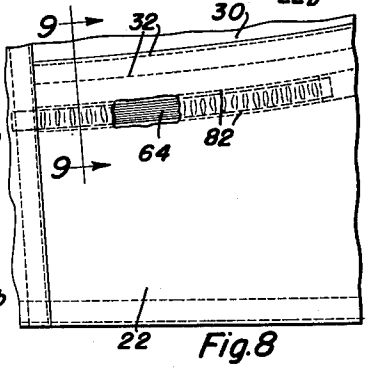


Fig. 8

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,634,419

BRASSIÈRE

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Application June 8, 1951, Serial No. 230,452

4 Claims. (Cl. 2—42)

1

This invention relates to new and useful improvements and structural refinements in brassières, and the principal object of the invention is to provide highly versatile, adjustable features of construction in the brassière, whereby a brassière of a given size can properly and effectively accommodate different sizes and contours of breasts.

In particular, the invention contemplates the provision of a brassière having a front portion equipped with series of spaced, parallel lines of stitching which are located at unequal distances from the lower edges of the breast cups and which afford a series of fold lines whereby portions of the material between the lines of stitching may be utilized to progressively enlarge the size of the breast cups in accordance with the size and contour of the breasts.

In addition, the invention contemplates the provision of resilient means under the breast cups to afford the required uplift and forward projection, while another feature of the invention lies in the provision of means in the upper portion of the breast cups to facilitate more or less automatic adjustment thereof in accordance with aforementioned adjusting means which are located below the cups.

Some of the advantages of the invention reside in its simplicity of construction, in its convenient and expeditious adjustability, in its pleasing appearance and in its adaptability to economical manufacture.

With the above more important objects and features in view, and such other objects as may become apparent as this specification proceeds, the invention consists essentially in the arrangement and construction of parts as illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a front perspective view of a brassière constructed in accordance with the present invention;

Figure 2 is a side elevational view thereof;

Figure 3 is a fragmentary elevational view of the stitched adjusting means;

Figure 4 is a front perspective view of a modified brassière;

Figure 5 is a fragmentary elevational view, partially broken away, of the elastic adjusting means used in the embodiment of Figure 4;

Figure 6 is a front perspective view of a further modified brassière;

Figure 7 is a fragmentary elevational view of the resilient adjusting means used in the embodiment of Figure 6;

2

Figure 8 is a fragmentary elevational view of a modified form of the adjusting means such as may be used in the embodiment of Figures 1, 4 and 6; and

Figure 9 is a fragmentary sectional detail, taken substantially in the plane of the line 9—9 in Figure 8.

Like characters of reference are employed to designate like parts in the specification and throughout the several views.

Referring now to the accompanying drawings in detail, more particularly to Figures 1, 2 and 3, the invention is embodied in a brassière which is designated generally by the reference character 20 and includes a front portion 22 having a vertical, medial seam 24, the front portion 22 also having a pair of breast cups 26, the upper portions of which are illustrated at 28, while the lower portions thereof are indicated at 30.

The lower edges 32 of the breast cups are stitched to the upper edges of the front portion 22, while a series of mutually spaced parallel lines of stitching 34 are provided in the front portion 22 at varying distances from the lower edges 32 of the breast cups, the lines of stitching 34 preferably being of a zigzag configuration, so that portions 36, 38, 40 of the brassière at the opposite sides of the stitching 34 are, in effect, separate from one another. Needless to say, the entire brassière is formed from suitable flexible material and, if desired, a single line of stitching 42 may be provided under the brassière portion 40, the portions 36, 38 and 40 preferably consisting of a double thickness of material.

The lines of stitching at 32, 34 and 42 afford a series of spaced parallel fold lines which are unequally spaced for the lower edges of the breast cups 26, so that portions of material 36, 38 and 40 between the lines of stitching are adapted to progressively enlarge the size and contour of the lower portion of the breast cups, as is indicated by the dotted lines 44, 46, etc., in Figure 2.

In order to compensate for this variation in size of the lower portion of the breast cups, the upper portions 28 of the breast cups may be provided with substantially diamond-shaped openings 48, covered by suitable netting material 50, whereby a certain amount of flexibility is achieved which prevents the upper portions of the breast cups from creasing or folding when the size of the lower portion of the breast cups is varied.

Referring now to the modified embodiment of

the invention illustrated in the accompanying Figures 4 and 5, this brassière which is designated generally by the reference character **60** is substantially the same as the brassière already described and the same reference characters are employed for designating, respectively, the corresponding parts, with the exception that the suffix "*a*" has been added.

However, in this embodiment, resilient means are provided for furnishing desirable uplift to the breast cups and to assure proper form fit thereof, these resilient means involving the provision of an elongated pocket **62** in the brassière portion **38***a*, to accommodate an elastic band **64** (see Figure 5). The material of the pocket **62** is shirred, as indicated at **65**, so that the elastic band **64** tends to draw the pocket together, longitudinally, as will be clearly apparent. The ends of the elastic band **64** are stitched in the pocket as indicated at **66**.

Referring now to the further modified embodiment of the invention illustrated in the accompanying Figures 6 and 7 and designated by the general reference character **70**, the elements of this brassière corresponding to those already described are identified by the suffix "*b*," but in this embodiment one end of the pocket **62***b* is open as indicated at **72**, while the elastic band **64***b* projects outwardly from the open end of the pocket and carries an adjustable stop member **74**. By simply adjusting the position of the stop member **74** on the projecting portion of the band **64***b*, the elasticity of the band may be varied, as desired.

Finally, with reference to the accompanying Figures 8 and 9, these figures illustrate a modified form of construction of the lines of stitching **34**, such as may be used in any of the embodiments **20**, **60** or **70**.

This modified arrangement involves the provision of a pocket-forming member **80** to accommodate the elastic band **64**, the member **80** being stitched to the brassière portion **22**, as at **82**, and the stitch lines **82**, themselves, affording bend lines whereby the size of the lower portions of the breast cups may be automatically varied, as already explained.

It is believed that the advantages and use of the invention will be clearly understood from the foregoing disclosure and, accordingly, further description thereof at this point is deemed unnecessary.

Having described the invention, what is claimed as new is:

1. In a brassière, a front section having a vertical median line and a pair of side edges, said front section including a pair of panels extending from said median line to the respective side edges and having concave top edges, a pair of breast cups having convex lower edges coextensive with and secured to the top edges of the respective panels, and two sets of spaced arcuate lines of stitching provided on upper portions of the respective panels and extending from said median line to the respective side edges, the lines of stitching in the respective sets being concentric with the convex lower edges of the respective breast cups and separating upper portions of said panels into sets of concentric arcuate strips.

2. The structure as defined in claim 1 wherein at least one of said strips in each set consists of two thicknesses of material defining an elongated pocket therebetween, and a stiffening band positioned in said pocket.

3. The structure as defined in claim 1 wherein at least one of said strips in each set consists of two thicknesses of material defining an elongated pocket therebetween, and a resilient band mounted in said pocket.

4. The structure as defined in claim 1 wherein at least one of said strips in each set consists of two thicknesses of material defining therebetween an elongated pocket which has an open end at the adjacent side edge of said front section, a resilient band secured in said pocket and projecting outwardly through the open end thereof, and means on the projecting portion of said band for adjusting the tension thereof.

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