March 3, 1959 A. M. BENSON 2,875,764

BRASSIERE

Filed Sept. 30, 1957

FIG. 1

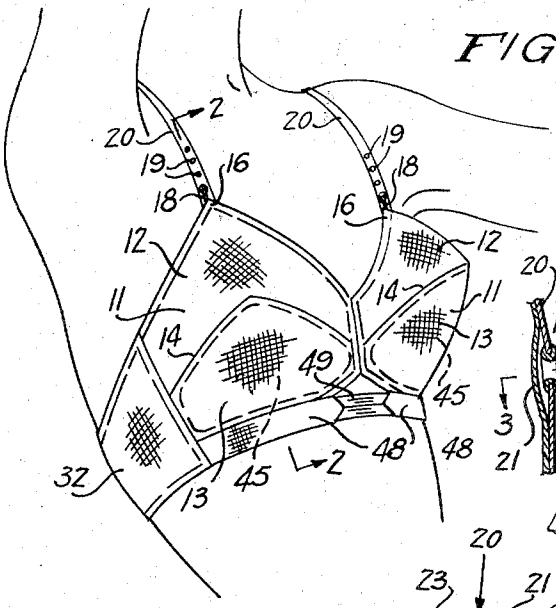


FIG. 8

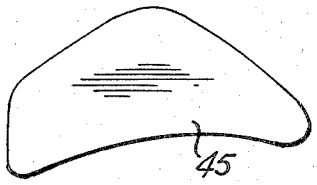


FIG. 3

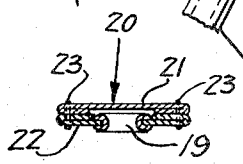


FIG. 4

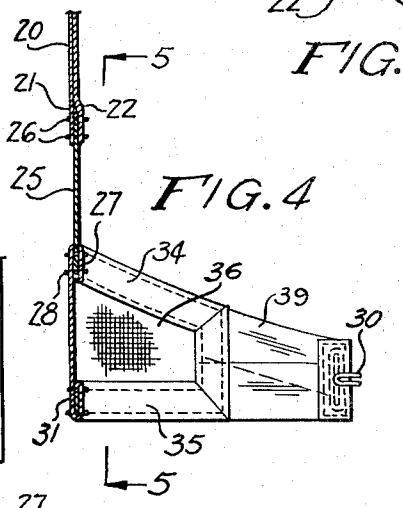


FIG. 2

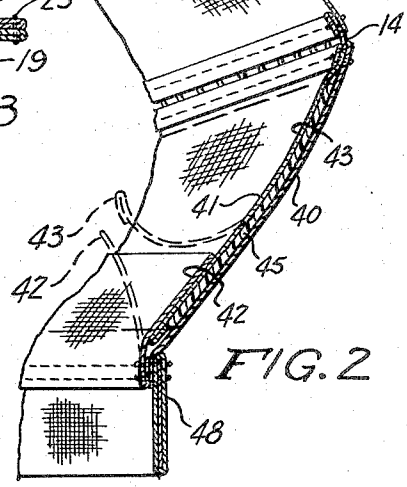


FIG. 5

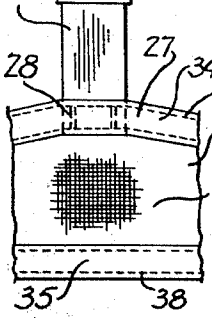


FIG. 7

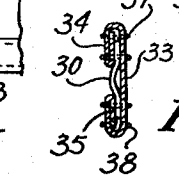
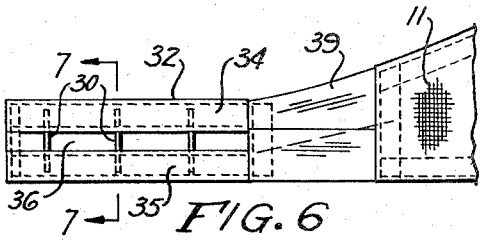


FIG. 6



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BRASSIERE

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Application September 30, 1957, Serial No. 687,194

2 Claims. (Cl. 128—477)

This invention relates to a brassiere, and has as its primary object the provision of an improved brassiere including a removable supporting plate or insert for the underside of flaccid or pendulous breasts.

A further object of the invention is the provision of such a removable insert which will obviate the necessity for the use of permanently sewed in stays or bones, the insert being removable, in order that the article may be laundered, without the distortion or damage to permanently affixed stays or supports of a similar nature.

A further object of the invention is the provision of a brassiere of this character which incorporates a plate extending the full width of each breast, thus rendering a more comfortable article of wearing apparel than those incorporating individual stays, which press against restricted areas.

A still further object of the invention is the provision of such a device incorporating an improved shoulder strap, which may be readily adjustable as desired with a minimum of effort and difficulty.

Still other objects reside in the combinations of elements, arrangements of parts, and features of construction, all as will be more fully pointed out hereinafter, and disclosed in the accompanying drawing.

In the drawing:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the assembled brassiere in normal position.

Figure 2 is an enlarged sectional view taken substantially along the line 2—2 of Figure 1 as viewed in the direction indicated by the arrows.

Figure 3 is a sectional view taken substantially along the line 3—3 of Figure 2.

Figure 4 is a side view partially in section, and partially in elevation, showing certain constructional details.

Figure 5 is a sectional view taken substantially along the line 5—5 of Figure 4 as viewed in the direction indicated by the arrows.

Figure 6 is a further side elevational view, certain concealed portions being indicated in dotted lines, indicating additional constructional details.

Figure 7 is a sectional view taken substantially along the line 7—7 of Figure 6 as viewed in the direction indicated by the arrows, and

Figeur 8 is a plan view of one of the inserts adapted for use with the brassiere of the instant invention.

Similar reference characters refer to similar parts throughout the several views of the drawing.

Referring now to the drawing in detail, the brassiere of the instant invention, generally indicated at **10** comprises a front portion formed in the conventional manner in two cups **11**, each cup being comprised of an upper portion **12** and a lower portion **13**. The lower portion is defined in conformity to the outline of the female breast, and the upper and lower portions are secured together by lines of stitching **14**. The upper portions **12** may be comprised of any suitable material, and terminate in reverted edges **15** forming peaks **16**, at the

apex of each peak there is secured a loop of material **17**, to which is secured a hook **18**.

The hook **18** is adapted to selectively engage one of a plurality of eyelets **19** and a brassiere strap **20**, adapted to extend over the shoulders of the wearer, each eyelet being of the conventional metal form, and positioned between two layers of material **21** and **22**, having reverted ends, and being secured together as by means of stitching **23**, so that the strap if of double thickness, and the hook per se cannot contact the flesh of the wearer. By means of this hook and eye assembly, ready adjustment of the length of the straps in accordance with the figure of the individual may be attained with a minimum of effort and difficulty.

The straps **20** are adapted to extend over the shoulders, and terminate in a elasticized portion **25**, which is secured as by stitching **26** between the plies **21** and **22**. The lower portion of the elasticized portion **25** is secured to a reverted portion **27**, of the rear of the brassiere, as by means of stitching **28**. There is thus afforded pliability as well as adjustability in the brassiere itself. The rear portion of the brassiere **29** is provided at its opposite ends with suitable hook and eye fasteners **30**, of conventional design, whereby the brassiere may be fastened in the rear in the conventional manner.

It is to be noted that the rear portion of the brassiere is also provided with reverted and bound edges **31** at the rear portion thereof. The side portions of the brassiere **32** as best shown in Figs. 6 and 7 comprise an outer layer **33**, having its upper and lower edges reverted as at **34** and **35**, to encompass an inner semi-elastic layer **36**, the assemblage being bound together by means of stitches **37** and **38** to provide a relative elasticity in the side portions of the device. Elastic inserts **39** as best shown in Figure 6 may be positioned between the side portion and the front portion of the brassiere.

Referring back now to the lower portions **13** of the brassiere, the feature which comprises the essential element of the present invention is the provision of an outer layer of material **40**, which may be of any desired resilient or non-resilient material, an inner layer of material **41**, forming a pocket. The inner layer **41** has an upwardly extending portion **42**, a downwardly extending portion **43**, which are adapted to overlap, preferably with the portion **43** overlying the portion **41** to form a secure pocket.

Within this pocket there is adapted to be positioned a shield **45**, of the configuration shown best in Figure 8, and which is of a desired suitable configuration, which may be particularly adapted to the shape of the breast of the wearer. This shield may be inserted in the pocket formed between the layers **40** and **41**, and will afford complete uplift as may be necessary in the individual. It is here to be pointed out that the line of stitching **14** which separates the upper and lower portions of the brassiere is adapted to conform in general configuration to the shield **45**, in order to afford maximum support with minimum discomfort.

The lower portion of the brassiere below the pockets is adapted to be surrounded by a double band of fabric **48**, for securing the same firmly in position, and the fabric may be provided with a medium elastic insert **49**.

It will readily be seen that by lifting the edges of the members **43** and **42** as best shown in Figure 3, the insert **45** may be readily removed when it is desired to launder the brassiere, and that the same may be readily reinserted when the brassiere is ready for use.

Although the insert **45** has been described as being a plastic, it may be equally well of any other semi-rigid supporting material, such as for example cardboard, in

which case a new insert can be provided for each use, or similar material of sufficient pliability to afford comfort, and of sufficient rigidity to provide adequate support for flaccid or pendulous breasts.

While in the foregoing this has been described particularly in connection with such breasts, it may also be found useful in the support of youthfully formed breasts for particular costumes or purposes.

From the foregoing it will now be seen that there is herein provided a novel brassiere, which accomplishes all of the objects of this invention, and others, including many advantages of great practical utility and commercial importance.

As many embodiments may be made of this inventive concept, and as many modifications may be made in the embodiment herein before shown and described, it is to be understood that all matter herein is to be interpreted merely as illustrative and not in a limiting sense.

What I claim is:

1. In a brassiere, the combination of a pair of frontal cups, side and complementary rear portions, said rear portions having fastening means thereon for connecting

the brassiere about the body of the wearer, shoulder straps extending from the front cups to the rear portions of said brassiere, said cups comprising upper and lower portions, each lower portion being formed of a lower piece and an overlapping upper piece to form an openable pocket, and a panel of relatively rigid material removably positioned in each pocket, said panel being formed of plastic material and conforming in shape and size to the shape and size of said pocket to fit snugly therewithin.

2. The structure of claim 1 wherein each cup is provided with an intermediate peaked portion and a hook at the extremity of each peak, and each shoulder strap is provided at its front extremity with a plurality of eyelets, into one of which an associated hook may be selectively engaged.

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