Jan. 27, 1925. 1,524,475

M. P. CASE

BRASSIÈRE

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Fig. 1.

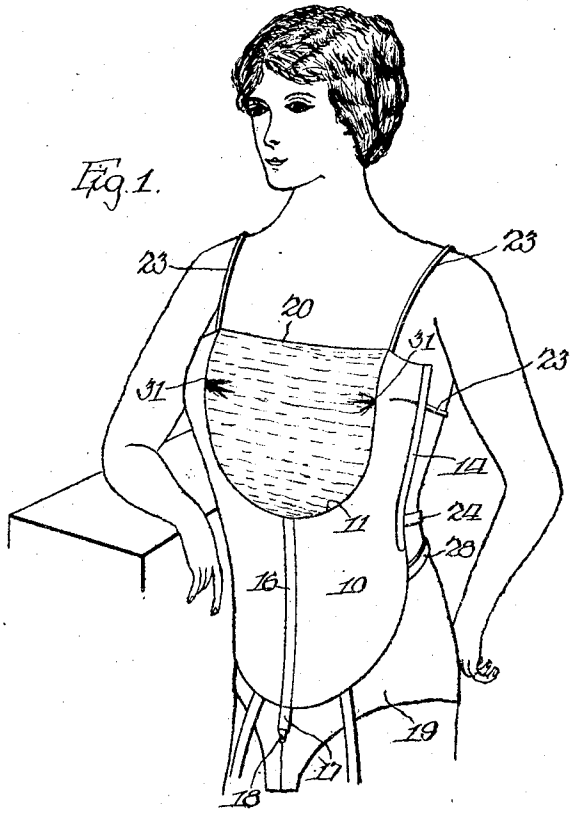


Fig. 2.

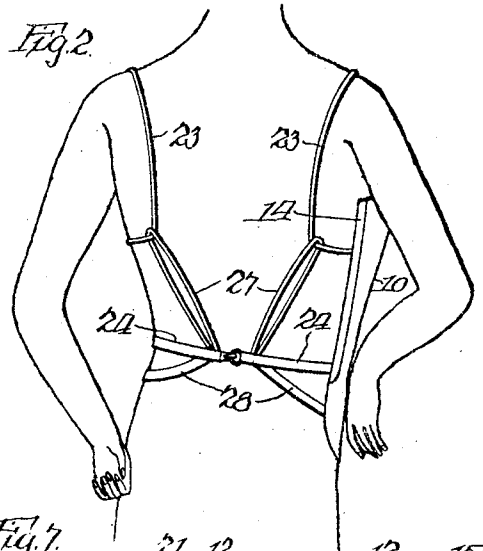
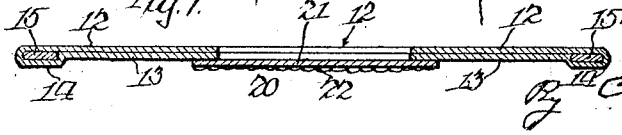


Fig. 7.



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Fig. 3.

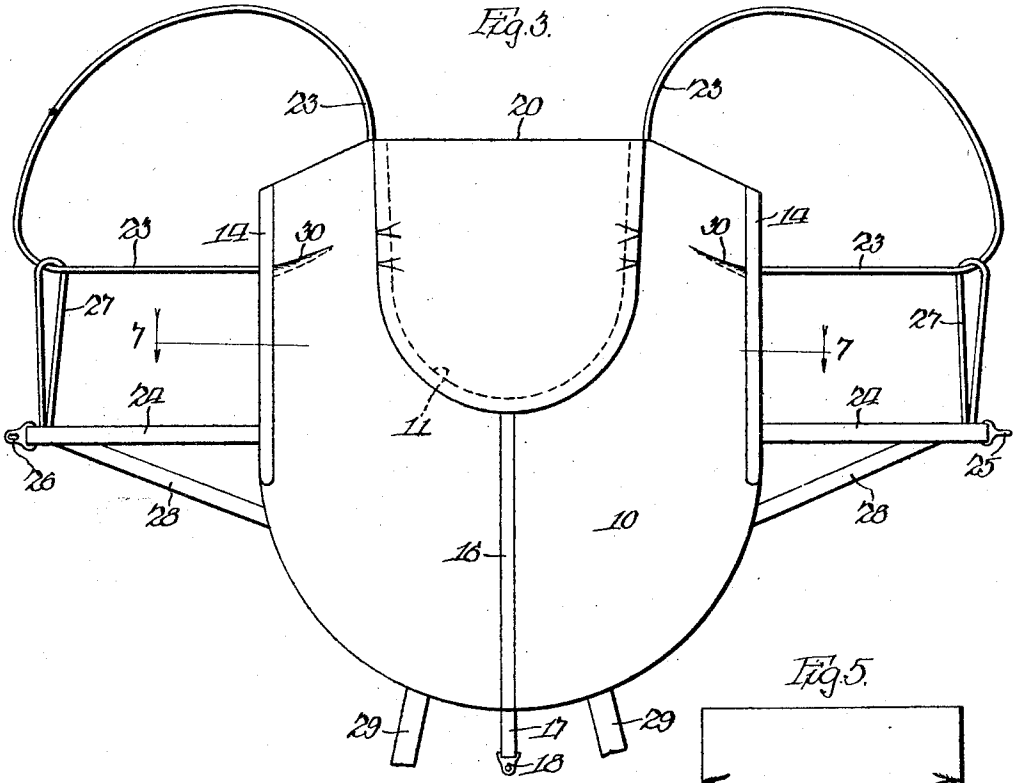


Fig. 4.

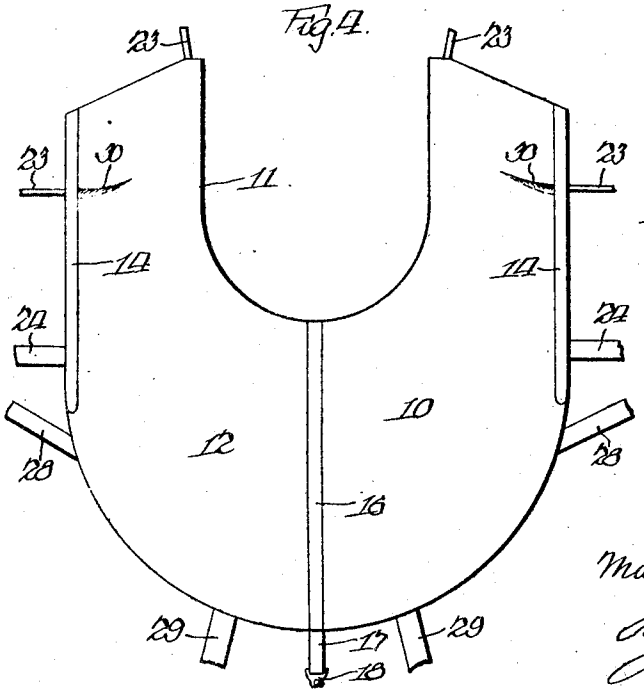


Fig. 5.

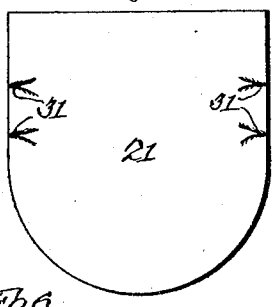
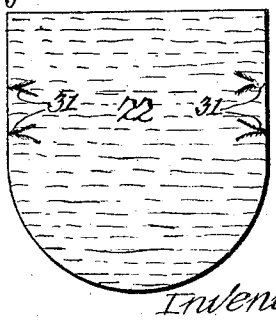


Fig. 6.



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Patented Jan. 27, 1925. 1,524,475

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MARIE PATRICIA CASE, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

BRASSIÈRE.

Application filed April 5, 1924. Serial No. 704,367.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MARIE PATRICIA CASE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in a Brassière, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates, generally, to ladies' wearing apparel, but has particular relation to brassières of a type more especially designed to be worn with or without corsets and under evening costumes or dresses of very low cut in the backs, and it consists in certain peculiarities of the construction, novel design, combination, arrangement, and co-operation of the various parts thereof as will be hereinafter more fully set forth and specifically claimed.

Generally speaking, the object of the invention is, the provision of a garment of the above mentioned general character, which shall be of such construction and arrangement of its parts as to fit the bust, as well as the abdomen of the wearer, in such a manner as to reduce and maintain in reduced form and proper position the bust, and so as to compress and hold the abdomen in position to afford what is termed "straight line" effects of the present modes of dress, besides, furnishing a backless brassière or garment more especially intended and adapted to be worn with evening gowns of extremely low cut in the backs, which will not, by reason of its backless character or construction, impair or detract from its efficiency in the means for supporting the garment so as to add comfort and graceful appearance to the busts and for attaining the attractive line effects above mentioned.

Another object is the provision of a brassière which shall be simple in construction, attractive in appearance and highly efficient in use, which can be readily positioned on the body for giving the desired form or lines thereto, by the wearer, without assistance, and can be quickly secured in place by the simple act of uniting the ends of a belt or waist-band.

Still another object is to so construct and unite the parts of the device, as to afford a unitary article having its elements arranged in such a way as to render it ready for instant use, and so that when applied to the body, or "put on," the support, position, and form given thereby to the busts and abdomen, will be automatically accomplished and comfortably maintained as long as the garment is worn.

A further object is to so construct the brassière that it may be made in but few sizes, to the end that the size and shape of a single garment will be suitable for a considerable number of persons of different sizes of developments.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will be disclosed in the following description and explanation, which will be more readily understood when read in connection with the accompanying drawings, in which an embodiment of which the invention is susceptible as illustrated, it being understood that modifications and changes may be resorted to without a departure from the spirit of the invention so long as they fall within the scope of the appended claims forming a part hereof.

In the drawings,—

Figure 1 is a front perspective view of the body of a woman showing a brassière embodying my improvements in operative position thereon.

Fig. 2 is a back view.

Fig. 3 is a detached front or face view of the garment.

Fig. 4 is a detail face view of a portion thereof,

Figs. 5 and 6 are detached face views of other parts of the garment, and

Fig. 7 is a sectional view taken on line 7—7 of Fig. 3 looking in the direction indicated by the arrows.

Corresponding numerals of reference refer to like parts throughout the different views of the drawings.

Referring now more particularly to Figs. 1 to 4 inclusive of the drawings, it will be seen and understood that the brassière comprises a front which is designated as a whole by the numeral 10, which is of a vertically elongated piece of a width to embrace the front of the body so that its side edges will be disposed substantially in vertical lines extending downwardly from suitable points below the arm pits of the wearer to a slight distance below the waist line, from which latter points the side edges of the front 10 are downwardly converged in curved lines which meet each other at the vertical middle of the front. This front is provided in its upper portion with a depending cut-away portion 11 substantially of horse-shoe shape for the reception of an

inset or ornamental material, the construction of which will be presently explained.

The front 10 is by preference made of a single piece 12, see Fig. 7, of material, but if desired, it can be made of two pieces which may be secured together at their straight meeting edges midway between the side edges of the front. In the present instance I have shown the front 10 as being made of a single piece 12 of any suitable material such as batiste, to the front or face surface of which is secured lining 13 of satin or the like. The patterns or shape of the pieces 12 and 13 are of the same shape and substantially of the same size and secured together at their edges by means of stitches, and said edges may be trimmed with ornamental edging, not shown, of any suitable kind.

By reference to Figs. 1 and 3 of the drawings it will be seen that the upper ends on each side of the cut-away part 11 are slightly downwardly deflected from their inner edges and that each of the side edges of the front 10 is provided with a vertically disposed pocket 14 in each of which is located a feather-bone or the like for providing upright flexible, yet somewhat rigid supports for said portions of the front. At its middle portion, the front 10 is provided with a vertically disposed pocket 16 in which is located a stiffening element such as feather-bone, which pocket and bone extends from the middle portion of the cut-away part 11 to the lower extremity of the front, from which latter point a tab 17 provided with an apertured fastener 18 for the purpose of engaging a suitable projection on the front of the corset 19 at a suitable point below the front 10 when a corset is worn, as shown in Fig. 1 of the drawings, said tab and fastener being employed to assist in holding the front 10 in proper position.

The ornamental inset for the cut-away portion 11 of the front 10 is designated as a whole by the numeral 20, see Fig. 3, and may be made of a piece of batiste 21 of a shape to correspond with the cut-away portion 11 and a piece of lace 22 or other ornamental material, which is of substantially the same size and shape as the foundation piece 21 and secured thereto by stitches or in any other well known way, it being understood that the thus prepared ornamental inset my be secured to the edges of the cut-away portion 11 by stitches or otherwise. At the juncture of the upper ends of the parts of the front 10 on each side of the cut-away portion 11 with the upper portion of the sides of the inset 20, one end of a cross-sectional circular elastic suspender or member 23 is secured, the other end of each of which suspenders or members is secured to the side edge or the pocket 14 of the front 10 adjacent thereto at a point on a horizontal line drawn through the bases of the breasts at about their horizontal middle, as will be readily understood by reference to Figs. 1, 2 and 3 of the drawings. The suspenders or members 23 are by preference round in cross-section for the purpose of preventing them becoming twisted and causing discomfort to the wearer, which might occur if they were made of flat or tape-like webbing or elastic, and said suspenders may be covered loosely with an ornamental covering of any suitable design and material.

Connected to each side of the front 10 or to the lower portion of each of the pockets 14 so as to be located at the waist line of the wearer when the front is in position on the body, is one end of a strap 24, of flat or tape-like elastic material, one of which straps has at its outer end a hook 25 and the other of which straps has at its outer end an eyelet 26 for detachable engagement with said hook.

Connected at its lowed portion or one of its ends to each of the straps 24 near its free end, is a loop member or connection 27 which is by preference made of cross-sectionally circular elastic material, and as is clearly shown in Figs. 2 and 3 of the drawings, each of these connections is looped over one of the suspenders or members 23 which extend from the upper portion of the front 10 over the shoulders of the wearer thence downwardly along the back and connected at their rear ends to the sides or pockets 14 of the front at about the positions above described.

By forming the suspenders 23 and loop connections 27 of cross-sectionally round or circular elastic material, it is manifest that such formation of said members will more readily permit of relative movements thereof with respect to one another, which movement becomes necessary in the movement of the body and arms of the wearer. As before stated, the straps 24 are connected to the sides of the front 10 at such points thereof as to conform with the waist line of the wearer when the garment is in position thereon, and said straps constitute the waist-band or belt which is fastened together at the middle of the waist line on the back of the wearer.

Secured to each of the straps 24 near its free end and extended laterally and downwardly is an elastic strap or piece 28, the other end of each of which is secured to the adjacent side edge of the front at a point below the lower end of the pocket or feather-bone on said side of the front. By the arrangement of the members or suspenders 23, straps 24, loop connections 27, and straps 28, as is clearly shown in Fig. 2 of the drawings, and by reason of their co-operation with each other, it is apparent

that the front 10 will be securely, constantly, and comfortably held in proper position to give the desired line effects and form to the woman's figure and so as to compress and maintain in compressed condition the busts and abdomen as the suspenders or members 23 will prevent any downward movement of the garment, any material upward movement being prevented by the tab 17 and its connection with the corset when the latter is worn, and when not worn, by means of straps of tape or webbing 29 secured at their upper ends to the lower portion of the front 10 one on each side of the central pocket 16, and connected at their lower ends to the tops of the stockings of the wearer. The members 29 may be of elastic material and as shown in Figs. 1, 3 and 4 of the drawings, are slightly downwardly diverged from each other so that their connections with the stockings at their lower portions may be located outwardly of the legs.

The front 10 may be provided in each of its sides at points adjacent the lower connecting points of the suspenders 3 with darts 30 and the ornamental piece, with one or more darts 31 on each side thereof, which formations will secure a good fit of the garment on the user.

Again referring to the rigging or harness comprising the suspenders or members 23, straps 24, loop connections 27, straps 28, which latter may be of flat elastic material, and the connections at the lower end of the front 10 for holding it down, it is obvious that when said members are placed in their operative positions on the body of the wearer, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2 of the drawings, especially in the latter view, the elastic members will exert inward pressure on the sides of the front 10 and also tension longitudinally with respect to the front 10 as well as the body of the wearer, and that thus the garment will be comfortably held and maintained in proper position and against dislocation by contortions or movements of the body and arms. It is further apparent that by reason of the connection between the suspenders 23 and the waist band provided by the loop connections 27, which are movable with respect to the suspenders, that lateral contraction and expansion of the side edges of the front 10 will be afforded.

Furthermore, as the straps 28 are disposed at their outer ends below the waist band composed of the members 24 and attached at their outer ends to the sides of the front 10, the pull or stress exerted on said sides towards each other will be distributed over a considerable area, thereby preventing concentration of such stress which would cause discomfort to the wearer.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. In a brassière, the combination with a vertically elongated front section overlying the busts and upper portion of the abdomen and extending side-wise to the front of the shoulders and to beneath the arm pits and having means at its lower portion for holding it against upward movement, of a suspender secured at one of its ends to each side of said section near the upper end of said side and at its other end to the upper end of said section near its adjacent side edge providing shoulder straps, a belt comprising a pair of straps each secured at one of its ends to opposite sides of the said section on the waist-line thereof and having means to detachably connect their other ends together, and a member secured to each of the straps of said belt near the free end thereof and each connected to one of said shoulder straps near its point of connection with the adjacent side of said front section.

2. In a brassière, the combination with a vertically elongated front section overlying the busts and upper portion of the abdomen and extending side-wise to the front of the shoulders and to beneath the arm pits and having at each of its sides a vertically disposed stiffening element and provided at its lower portion with means for holding it against upward movement, of a suspender secured at one of its ends to each side of said section near the upper end of one of said stiffening elements and at its other end to the upper end of said section inwardly of the upper end of the adjacent stiffening element providing shoulder straps, a belt comprising a pair of straps each secured at one of its ends to the opposite sides of the said section on the waist-line thereof and having means to detachably connect their other ends together, and a loop member secured to each of the straps of said belt near the free end thereof and each movably connected to one of said shoulder straps near its point of connection with the adjacent side of said section.

3. In a brassière, the combination with a vertically elongated front section overlying the busts and upper portion of the abdomen and extending side-wise to the front of the shoulders and to beneath the arm pits and having at each of its side edges a vertically disposed pocket and midway between said edges a vertically disposed pocket, of a flexible element located in each of said pockets, said section having means at its lower portion for holding it against upward movement and provided in its upper portion with a cut-away portion, an inset attached to the edges of said cut-away portion, a suspender secured at one of its ends to each side of said section near the upper

end of each of said side pockets and at its other end to the upper end of said section inwardly of and near the adjacent side pocket providing shoulder straps, a belt comprising a pair of straps each secured at one of its ends to opposite sides of the said section on the waist-line thereof and having means to detachably connect their other ends together, a loop member secured at one of its ends to each of the straps of said belt near the free end thereof and each movably connected to one of said shoulder straps near its point of connection with the adjacent side of said section, and a strap secured at one of its ends to each of the straps of said belt and extended downwardly and outwardly from said belt strap and attached at its outer end to said section near its side edge.

4. In a brassière, the combination with a vertically elongated cover section overlying the busts and upper portion of the abdomen and extending sidewise to substantially vertical lines slightly in front of the shoulders and terminating at its upper end at points slightly below the arm pits and having means at its lower portion for holding it against upward movement, of a suspender secured at one of its ends to each side of said cover section near the upper end of said side and at its other end to the upper end of said section near its adjacent side edge providing shoulder straps positioned and maintained on the shoulders directly above the arm pits, a belt comprising a pair of straps each secured at one of its ends to opposite sides of the said section on the waist line thereof and having means to detachably connect their other ends together, and a member secured to each of the straps of said belt near the free end thereof and each connected to one of said shoulder straps near its point of connection with the adjacent side of said section.

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