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NURSING BRASSIERE

2,386,530

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Fig. 1

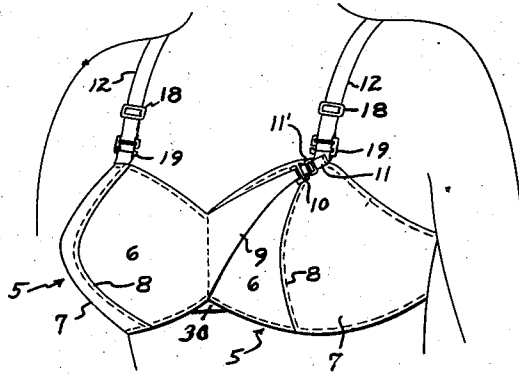


Fig. 2

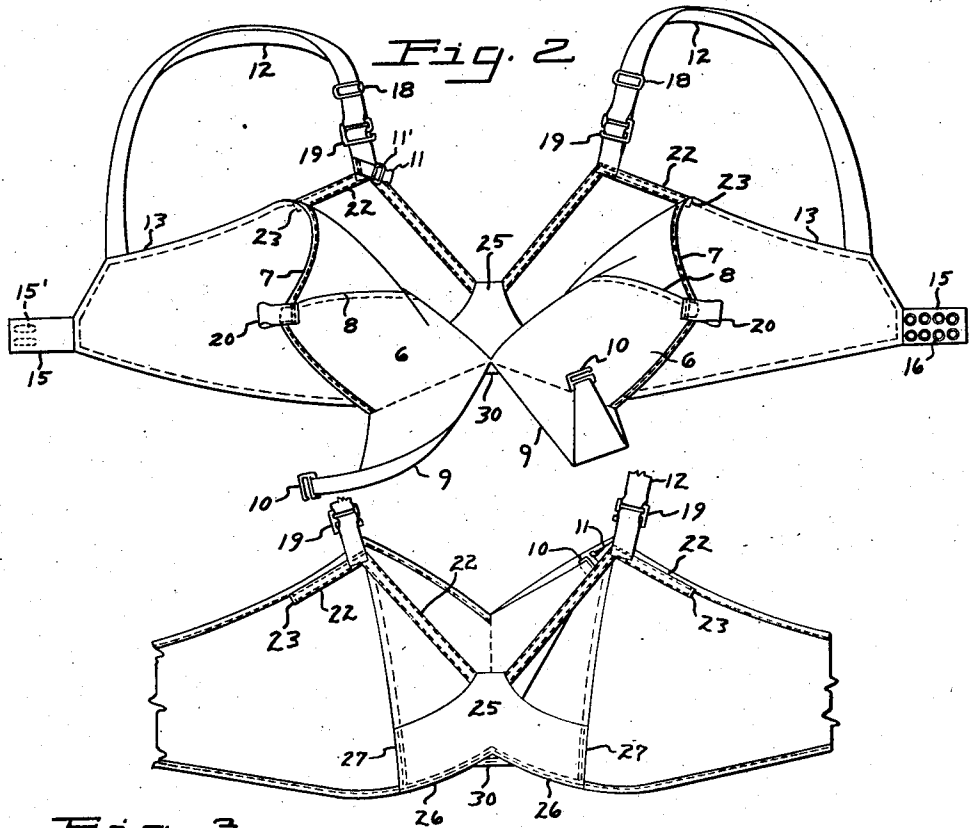


Fig. 3

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NURSING BRASSIÈRE

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2 Claims. (Cl. 2-42)

This invention relates to an article of women's wearing apparel commonly known as a brassière and more particularly to that class of brassières which are designed to be adaptable for permitting the wearer to arrange the brassière without removal so that the nursing operation can be readily performed.

It is one of the objects of the present invention to provide a nursing brassière of simple form and construction in which the brassière is retained in place during the nursing operation by an extremely simple structure which gives an ample amount of exposure of the breasts.

Other objects and advantages will appear hereinafter from the following specification and drawing. Referring to the drawing, which is for illustrative purposes only:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of the front of the brassière embodying a form of my invention as the same appears on the person of the wearer during normal use;

Fig. 2 is an enlarged view of the brassière shown in Fig. 1 laid out flat, showing the appearance of the brassière when the brassière is opened for the purpose of nursing; and

Fig. 3 is an inside view of the front of the brassière shown in the preceding figures.

Referring more particularly to the drawing, the brassière comprises two breast pockets generally indicated at 5. These breast pockets are made of two pieces or panels indicated at 6 and 7 joined together by a seam 8, extending vertically on the medial line of the breast pocket. The panel marked 6 continues past the central line of the breast to the opposite side and tapers upwardly forming a flap 9 provided at the upper end with a hook 10 which engages an adjustable loop indicated at 11 on one side secured to the lower end of one of the shoulder straps 12 and on the other side to a similar loop 11 secured to the upper medial portion of the breast pocket.

The shoulder straps extend over the shoulder and are secured at the back of the brassière to a band indicated at 13 which forms an extension of the panel 7. The band 13 extends around the side of the wearer to the back of the wearer and terminates in a tab 15 which may be made of webbing or elastic material, the tab on one side being provided with hooks indicated at 15', engageable with eyes, indicated at 16, on a similar tab on the other side of the brassière. A plurality of eyes 16 are provided so that an adjustment of the brassière to the body of the wearer may be made by inserting the hooks 15' in the proper eyes 16.

The front end of the shoulder strap 12 is provided with an adjustment indicated at 18 and a hook indicated at 19, which hook is adapted to be engaged by loop 20 secured to the upper medial portion of the breast pocket whereby the shoulder strap directly supports the breast pocket. The front end of each shoulder strap 12 is secured by sewing or in any other suitable manner to a ribbon or strip of fabric indicated at 22, one end of which is secured as indicated at 23 in Fig. 3 to the upper portion of the breast pocket beyond the medial line of the breast pocket and the other end of which extends downward and centrally of the brassière to an inverted V-shaped breast supporting member indicated at 25 on the inside of the breast pockets to which the respective breast pockets are sewed along the lower edge of the member 25 and at its sides along the medial line of the breast pocket as indicated at 26 and 27 respectively.

Preferably I insert a small elastic strip 30 in the under side of the V-shaped member 25 by sewing the same to the member 25. This permits the lower portion of the brassière to accommodate itself to the body of the wearer and prevents binding.

The brassière, when in normal use as a supporting member for the breast, appears as shown in Fig. 1 in which it will be noted that the flap 9 on one of the breast pockets extends over the opposite breast pocket and upward on the opposite breast pocket, while the flap 9 on the other breast pocket extends likewise under the opposite breast pocket. This structure insures that the breasts are lifted and at the same time drawn inwardly toward the medial line of the wearer between the breasts. The effect of this lifting action is to lift the breasts upwardly and away from the under arm portion of the brassière taking the weight away from the bottom part of the breasts and causing the breasts to fill out the breast pockets so that there is no sagging of the breasts. This action may be controlled by adjusting the size of the loop 11 by means of a slip eye 11' to which the upper ends of the flaps 9 are attached.

As shown in Fig. 2 the breast pockets are open, that is, loops 20 have been disengaged from the hooks 19 and hooks 10 have been disengaged from loops 11. This opening of the breast pockets, it will be understood, does not interfere with the position of the brassière on the body of the wearer as the shoulder straps, ribbons 22 and central supporting member 25 remain in place.

It is to be understood that while it is desirable to unfasten each of the hooks 10 from their as-

sociated loops 11 on the opposite sides of the brassière, that access may be had to one of the breasts merely by disengaging the hook 10 from the loop 11 and one of the loops 20 on the breast pocket from the hook 19.

Whether both breast pockets are opened as above described or simply one of the breast pockets, the shoulder straps and ribbons 22 and the breast supporting member 25 insures that the breasts are properly supported during the nursing operation.

By reason of the flaps 9 extending from one breast pocket to the opposite shoulder strap, the left breast for instance is drawn upwardly and toward the right shoulder and the right breast likewise drawn or lifted upwardly toward the left shoulder.

I claim as my invention:

1. In a brassière: a pair of breast pockets terminating at their sides in bands adapted to extend around the body of the wearer; detachable securing means at the ends of the bands; a pair of shoulder straps each secured at one end to one of the said bands, said breast pockets each having a flap extending upwardly over the opposite breast pocket; a centrally disposed inverted V-shaped breast supporting member on the inside of the brassière having its lower edge secured to the lower edge of the breast pockets; a pair of ribbons each having their lower end attached to the upper portion of said supporting member and each having its upper end attached to the upper portion of a breast pocket, the front ends of each shoulder strap being attached to its associated

ribbon intermediate the ends of the ribbon; means for detachably securing the upper portion of each breast pocket to its associated shoulder strap; means for detachably securing the end of one flap to the opposite shoulder strap and means for detachably securing the end of the other flap to the upper portion of the opposite breast pocket.

2. In a brassière: a pair of breast pockets terminating at their sides in bands adapted to extend around the body of the wearer; detachable securing means at the ends of the bands; a pair of shoulder straps each secured at one end to one of the said bands, said breast pocket each having a flap extending upwardly over the opposite breast pocket; a centrally disposed inverted V-shaped breast supporting member on the inside of the brassière having its lower edge secured to the lower edge of the breast pockets; and its sides attached to the breast pockets at the medial line thereof; a pair of ribbons each having their lower end attached to the upper portion of said supporting member and each having its upper end attached to the upper portion of a breast pocket, the front ends of each shoulder strap being attached to its associated ribbon intermediate the ends of the ribbon; means for detachably securing the upper portion of each breast pocket to its associated shoulder strap; means for detachably securing the end of one flap to the opposite shoulder strap and means for detachably securing the end of the other flap to the upper portion of the opposite breast pocket.

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