

April 18, 1967

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3,314,432

WOMEN'S COMBINATION GARMENT

Filed Jan. 5, 1965

2 Sheets-Sheet 1

FIG. 1.

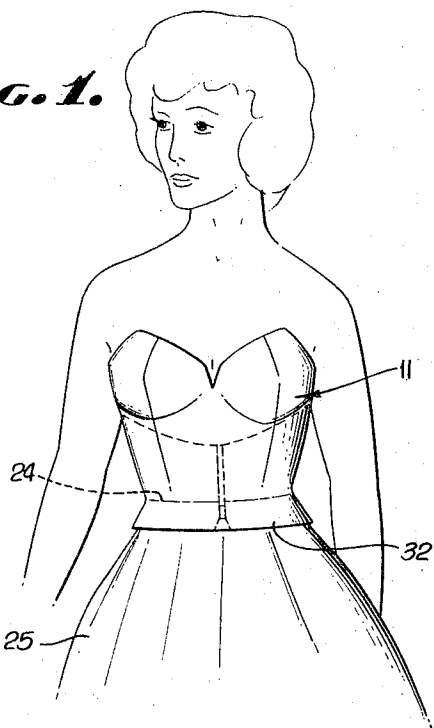


FIG. 3.

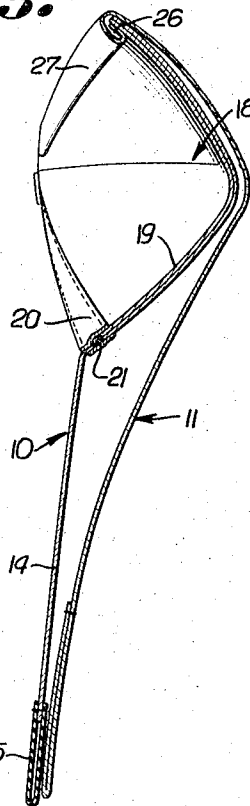
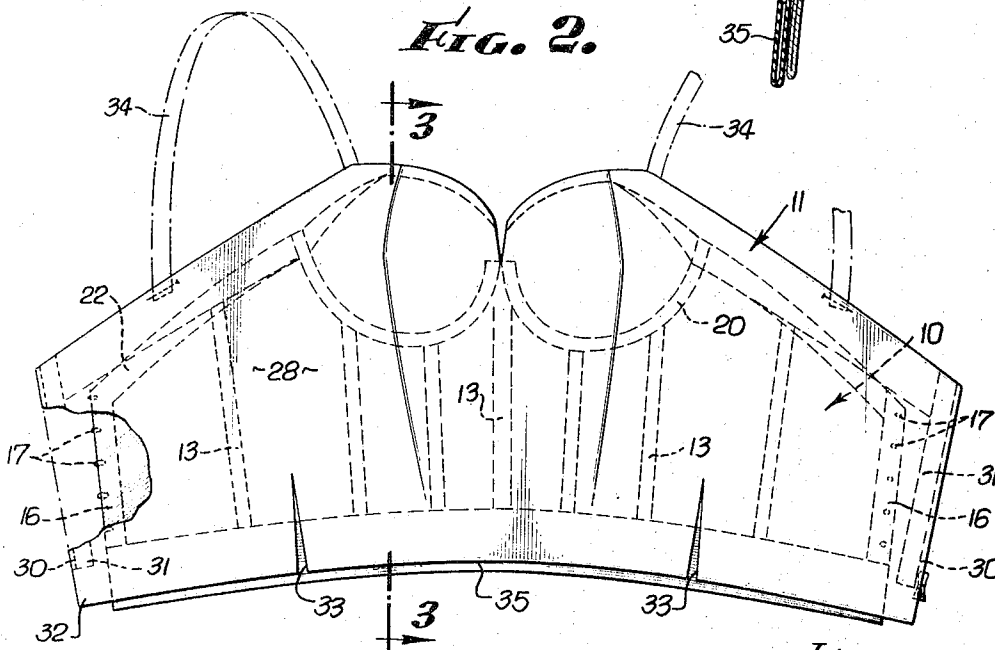


FIG. 2.



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2 Sheets-Sheet 2

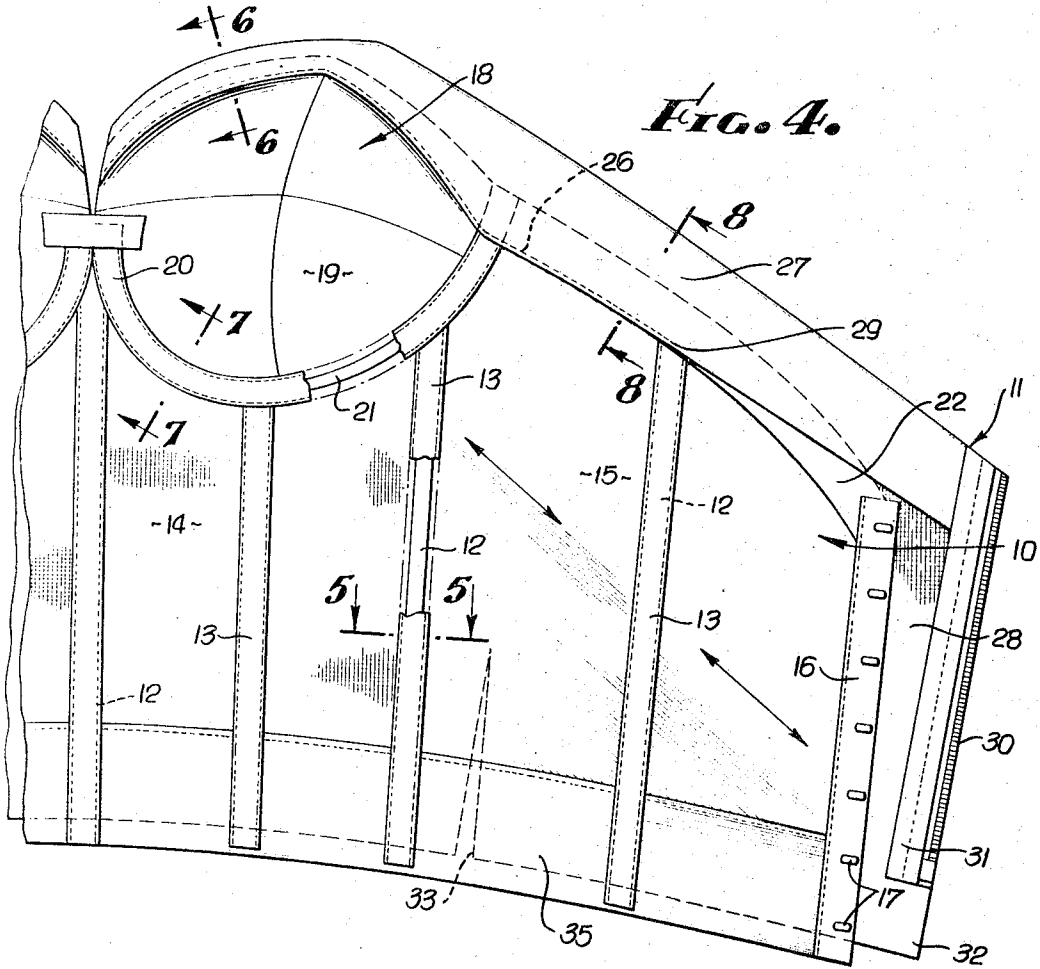


FIG. 5.

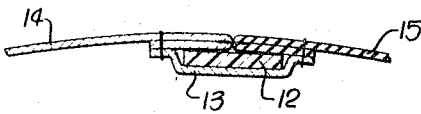


FIG. 6.

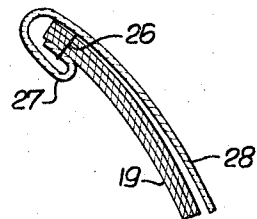


FIG. 7.

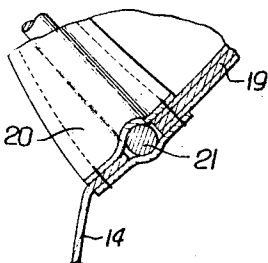
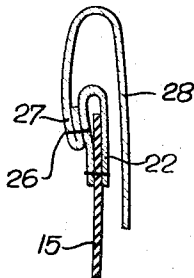


FIG. 8.



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WOMEN'S COMBINATION GARMENT

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 Filed Jan. 5, 1965, Ser. No. 423,550
 5 Claims. (Cl. 128—455)

This invention has to do generally with improvements in women's garments, and is directed particularly to a novel combination garment incorporating both a blouse and foundation structure in the form of a brassiere (which may be strapless or have conventional shoulder straps) of the so-called "long" form, both having the hereinafter described novel relation in the association of the blouse in freely suspended overlying relation to the brassiere.

The invention has for its general object to provide a combination garment of the nature stated, which affords to the purchaser a foundation to which a variously usable blouse is so applied as to have predeterminable fit in relation to both the wearer and the brassiere, and is so associated with the brassiere as to be wearable in overlying relation with any of various skirts that may be selected for different appearance or style effects in relation to the blouse. Thus a blouse having particularly desirable or distinctive quality, style, color, etc. may be used on the same foundation and with different skirts to produce overall effects of different dresses.

Structurally the invention contemplates providing an undergarment in the form of a so-called "long" brassiere designed to encircle the wearer below the busts and having at the rear, suitable fasteners for tensioning or fitting. The blouse is associated with the undergarment by attachment preferably only along the top edge extents of the brassiere and to locations terminating away from the brassiere fastener means, so that the rear of the blouse may have its separate fasteners for properly fitted conformance to the wearer independently of but overlying the brassiere.

A further and particularly important feature is the extension of the blouse below the brassiere so that the blouse is permitted to hang from its suspension at the top of the brassiere, freely about the skirt below its waistline.

The invention has various additional features and objects, all of which together with the details of an illustrative embodiment of the invention, will be understood from the following description of the accompanying drawing, in which:

FIG. 1 is an elevational view showing the combination garment in worn condition;

FIG. 2 shows the garment in distended front elevation;

FIG. 3 is a fragmentary enlarged section taken on line 3—3 of FIG. 2;

FIG. 4 is a fragmentary enlarged elevation corresponding to FIG. 2, but as viewed toward the inside; and

FIGS. 5, 6, 7 and 8 are enlarged fragmentary sections taken respectively on lines 5—5, 6—6, 7—7 and 8—8.

Referring first to the general showing of FIGS. 1, 2 and 4, the garment comprises a brassiere structure generally indicated at 10, and an overlying blouse 11 associated therewith. As will be understood, the brassiere may be of any specific type, design or construction appropriate for association with the overlying blouse in the relation being contemplated. As illustrative, the brassiere is shown typically as a "long" type, designed for stability in worn condition, with or without shoulder straps.

The brassiere is shown to be made of light weight fabric vertically reinforced by stays 12 extending within tapes 13 from the bottom band 35 to the upper terminals located as illustrated. Centrally the brassiere may be composed of essentially non-stretching fabric 14, outwardly

beyond which the material 15 is elastic fabric having its stretch threads running diagonally in the direction of the arrows. The free ends of the brassiere defined by bindings 16 carry appropriate fasteners 17 interengageable to tension the foundation about the wearer. Characteristically of strapless brassieres, the cups 18 are formed of suitable fabric 19 peripherally terminating at bindings 20 containing suitable U-shaped reinforcements such as wires 21, and terminating above at binding 22 which defines the top edge of the brassiere and continues to the binding 16.

As previously indicated, the blouse 11 may be particularly or distinctively styled as to quality, color, design and so forth, suitable for use with different skirts to produce the over-all effects of different dresses. An effect particularly to be achieved in the association of the blouse with underlying brassiere is free suspension of the blouse from top edge extents of the brassiere so that the blouse is permitted to hang freely below the waistline 24 of the skirt 25. This effect is achieved as by stitching at 26 the inturned edge 27 of the blouse fabric 28, see FIG. 6, to top edge extents of the brassiere which include partial or entire upper edges of the cups 18 and the body of the brassiere outwardly beyond, to locations as at 29 beyond which the extremities of foundation and blouse are free from interconnection to permit rear fitting and conformance to the wearer of each independently of the other.

Accordingly, the brassiere will first be properly positioned and tensioned by interengagement of its fasteners 17, and the blouse extremities then interconnected in independently conformed and overlying relation to the brassiere fasteners, as by use of a slide fastener 30 the sections of which are carried by tapes or bindings 31.

Having only top edge connection with the brassiere in the manner described, the overlying blouse has free suspension, and as shown in FIG. 1, has its bottom extent 32 below the slide fastener 30 as shown by FIG. 4, in free overlying relation to the skirt 25. Desirable looseness and freedom of hand, may be enhanced as by providing the blouse with spaced splits 33.

As will be understood, if used, shoulder straps indicated by the broken lines 34 may be provided singly or in duplicate, attached to either or both the brassiere and blouse.

Should it be desired to have the blouse detachable from the brassiere, as for separate cleaning or substitution of a different blouse, the stitching at 26 may be made removable, or substituted by snap fasteners or the like.

I claim:

1. A combination garment of the character described, comprising an understructure including a brassiere having cups and an integral depending portion adapted to be tensioned about the wearer, fastener means carried by terminals of the brassiere and interengageable at the rear thereof, a blouse overlying the brassiere and attached thereto by the blouse upper edge being inturned over the brassiere upper edge to provide for free suspension of the blouse, and second fastener means carried by the blouse and interengageable at the rear thereof in overlying relation to the brassiere fastener means, the bottom extent of the blouse being free from said brassiere to permit the blouse to freely overlap a skirt worn below the brassiere.

2. The combination of claim 1, in which the blouse is attached to the brassiere only along the top edge portions of the brassiere.

3. The combination of claim 1, in which terminal extents of the blouse and brassiere toward their respective fastener means are free from interconnection so that their rear portions are independently positionable on the wearer in fastened condition.

3

4. The combination of claim 3, in which the blouse is sewn to top edges of the brassiere cups and along top side edge extents of the brassiere beyond the cups to locations terminating substantial distances from both of said fastener means.

5. The combination of claim 4, in which the bottom of the blouse has vertical splits.

4**References Cited by the Examiner****UNITED STATES PATENTS**

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ADELE M. EAGER, *Primary Examiner.*