CUP SUPPORTING FRAMES FOR BRASIERES

Fig. 1

Fig. 2

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This invention relates to brassieres employing substantially U-shaped frames encircling lower side portions of the cups of the brassiere for supporting the cups upon the garment and without pressure of the frames upon the body of the wearer.

More particularly, the invention deals with brassieres of the character described which have duel uses, namely as a strapless brassiere or brassiere in conjunction with which halters or shoulder straps can be coupled in other uses thereof.

The novel features of the invention will be best understood from the following description, when taken together with the accompanying drawings, in which certain embodiments of the invention are disclosed and, in which, the separate parts are designated by suitable reference characters in each of the views and, in which:

Fig. 1 is a diagrammatic perspective view of a brassiere made according to my invention, substantially illustrating the position of the garment upon the body of the wearer; and

Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view through the central portion of one of the cups or pockets of the brassiere, as shown in Fig. 1, on an enlarged scale, with parts of the construction broken away.

In order to simplify the illustration of Fig. 1, all, or substantially all, showing of stitchings are eliminated, whereas, in Fig. 2, part of the stitchings are shown and, in the latter figure, thicknesses of the several materials are exaggerated for sake of clarity in the illustration.

Considering Fig. 1 of the drawing, my improved brassiere comprises a central front body portion 10 formed of non-extendable material and including portions 11 extending beneath and partially to the side of the cups or pockets 12. Attached to the side portions of the central body 10 and to the sides of the cups or pockets 12 are side and back band members 13, preferably made of suitable extendable material, so as to firmly support the garment upon the body of the wearer and, particularly, in support of the portions 10 and 11 snugly upon the front of the body between, beneath and at the side of the cups or pockets.

The band members 13 are adjustably coupled by suitable straps 14, as with other devices of this type and kind. No detailed showing of the coupling is deemed to be necessary, as this is well known in the art.

Each of the cups and pockets, in the construction shown, have central shield-like decorative panels 15 formed of upper and lower portions 16 and 17 stitched together with a zigzag stitching 18 to maintain a substantially flat contour at adjacent edges of the shields 15. Noting Fig. 2 of the drawing, it will appear that the shields include an inner edge also formed of separate parts 19 and 20.

At the sides of the shields 15, the cups include two thickness side panels 21 and these panels, including lower portions of the shields, join the parts 10—11 in pad portions 22 held in place by a suitable binding tape 23, the parts being stitched together, as indicated at 24 and 25 in Fig. 2 of the drawing. It will also be noted that a frame supporting tape 26 is also secured by the stitching 25, the tape forming an enclosure for a U-shaped wire frame 27 which, in the use of the garment, extends outwardly with respect to the body of the wearer, as clearly noted by the space 28 in Fig. 2 of the drawing. Each of the frames 27 of the cups or pockets 12 support the cups or pockets in form position upon the body of the wearer with the portions 19 and 11, as well as the pad 22 bearing snugly upon the body of the wearer. This construction avoids the objectionable features of pressure of metal, rings or loops upon the body of the wearer in the use of the garment and, at the same time, the cups or pockets are, at all times, supported in the desired upright position upon the breasts of the wearer.

It will also appear, from a consideration of Fig. 2 of the drawing, that the upper edge of the shields 15, as well as the panels 21, include a pad 29, similar to the pad 22, held in place by a binding tape 30, similar to the tape 23, thus around each of the cups or pockets 12 will prevail a soft padded boundary for pressure engagement with the body of the wearer.

The rear portions of the side band members 13 include short loop straps 31 and upper side edge portions of each of the cups or pockets have pairs of loop straps 32. The straps 31 and 32 provide means for coupling halters, shoulder straps or other garment supporting means in other uses of the garment beyond the strapless use, which latter use is indicated in Fig. 1 of the drawing.

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

1. A brassiere comprising a pair of cups joined by a front body portion, including lower and side extensions arranged below the cups, side and back bands having means for detachably coupling the same at the back of the garment, the cups having pad portions encircling peripheral edges of the cups, and U-shaped cup-supporting frames secured to lower and side edge portions of the cups and spaced outwardly with respect to the pads, said body portion, extensions, band members and the body of the wearer.

2. The combination with a brassiere having a front body portion, in which a pair of cups are mounted, means including side and back bands for mounting the brassiere upon the body of a wearer, the lower and side portions of the cups being arranged within said front body portion and said bands, means comprising U-shaped frames attached to and spaced outwardly with respect to the peripheral lower and side edges of the cups, said front body portion and side bands for support of the cups upon the body of the wearer, and said frames being in spaced relation to the body of the wearer in the use of the brassiere.

3. The combination with a brassiere having a front body portion, in which a pair of cups are mounted, means including side and back bands for mounting the brassiere upon the body of a wearer, the lower and side portions of the cups being arranged within said front body portion and side bands, means comprising U-shaped frames attached to and spaced outwardly with respect to the peripheral lower and side edges of the cups, said front body portion and side bands for support of the cups upon the body of the wearer, frames being in spaced relation to the body of the wearer in the use of the brassiere, and said cups and side and back bands having other means adapting the brassiere for shoulder mounting.

4. The combination with a brassiere having a front body portion, in which a pair of cups are mounted, means including side and back bands for mounting the brassiere upon the body of a wearer, the lower and side portions of the cups being arranged within said front body portion and side bands, means comprising U-shaped frames attached to and spaced outwardly with respect to the peripheral lower and side edges of the cups, said front cup por-
tion and side bands for support of the cups upon the body of the wearer, said frames being in spaced relation to the body of the wearer in the use of the brassiere, and each cup having, inwardly of and adjacent the U-shaped frames, pad portions.

5. The combination with a brassiere having a front body portion, in which a pair of cups are mounted, means including side and back bands for mounting the brassiere upon the body of a wearer, the lower and side portions of the cups being arranged within said front body portion and side bands, means comprising U-shaped frames attached to and spaced outwardly with respect to the peripheral lower and side edges of the cups, said front cup portion and side bands for support of the cups upon the body of the wearer, said frames being in spaced relation to the body of the wearer in the use of the brassiere, each cup having, inwardly of and adjacent the U-shaped frames, pad portions, and upper edges of the cups having pad portions.

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