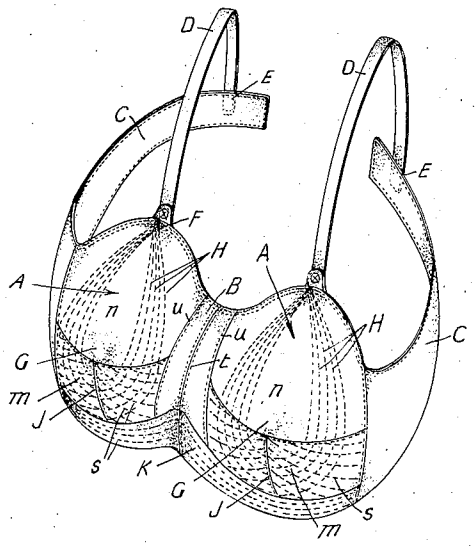
May 10, 1949. G. KRIZ 2,469,654

BRASSIERE

Filed June 11, 1946



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Patented May 10, 1949 2,469,654

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,469,654

BRASSIÈRE

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Application June 11, 1946, Serial No. 675,997
In Australia June 27, 1945

2 Claims. (Cl. 2—42)

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This invention relates to brassières. It is its object to provide a design of such a garment which will improve its wearing qualities and, in particular, will prevent distortion of its cup-shaped portions both in use and during laundering.

Like known brassières, the improved brassière also incorporates breast cups, back straps and shoulder straps.

In accordance with this invention each breast cup is provided with several rows of substantially pear- or petal-shaped stitching which surround the centre or peak of the cup and all converge towards the point of tension where the cup is attached to one of the shoulder straps either permanently or during use of the brassière.

In order to more particularly describe this invention, reference is made to the accompanying drawing which, by way of example, illustrates in perspective view, one specific form of a brassière embodying the features of the invention.

Like certain other brassières of known type that depicted on the drawing also comprises breast cups A joined by a dividing piece B and provided each with a back strap C. In use the two back straps may be connected either directly, say by hook and eye, buttons or the like, or with a piece of elastic connected between them (not shown on the drawing).

Two shoulder straps D connect a point E of each back strap C with a point F at the upper edge of each cup, above the centre or peak C of the cup. The shoulder straps D may be made for attachment by means of buttons as shown. Alternatively they may be permanently secured to the bodice at the points F also.

According to the invention each breast cup A is provided with several rows H of substantially pear- or petal-shaped stitching which all surround the peak G of the cup and are spaced below and laterally thereof, but converge towards the point F where the cup is attached to one of the shoulder straps D.

In the form shown the cups are made, as in other known types of brassières, with their lower halves *m* consisting of separate pieces of material which are attached to the upper halves *n* by seaming, and are each formed with an approximately central reinforcing or shaping dart J extending across the lower half *m* of each cup along a substantially meridional line. The lower halves *m* are supported by a transverse bandeau K and are provided with rows of stitching *s* which extend in a direction approximately parallel to that of the bandeau K and provide an additional

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shaping and strengthening effect in the lower cup portions *m*.

The pear- or petal-shaped rows of stitching constituting a skeleton serve the double purpose of giving a more permanent shape and contour to the upper cup portions, and to distribute the tensioning strain of the shoulder straps D evenly over the surface of the breast cups around the peak region, thereby not only preventing the strain from affecting the material of the cups and distorting them in wear, but also relieving the central region of each breast of the supporting pressure.

In accordance with the invention, the dividing piece B for the cups A comprises two sections joined to one another and to the cups, respectively, along lines *t* and *u* so curved as to give the dividing piece a rigidity of shape that tends to keep the breasts apart when the garment is used. If desired, the dividing piece B may be reinforced by tape or other binding fabric (not shown) secured to it in any appropriate manner.

I desire it to be understood that I do not wish protection by Letters Patent to be limited to the form of brassière as hereinbefore described in detail, since modifications thereof are feasible within the scope and ambit of the present invention.

Thus the garment may be lined where required, in which case the stitching may also serve the purpose of securing the lining to the material of the brassière.

It can thus be seen that there has been provided in accordance with this invention a brassière having breast cups A each including a peak G, and a shoulder strap D attached to and extending from the upper edge of each cup, each cup A being provided with a plurality of rows of substantially pear-shaped endless stitchings H, said rows of stitchings surrounding the peak of each cup and providing equal spaces between each other at the lower portion *m* of each cup and remote from the respective points of attachment of said shoulder straps at said upper edges F of said cups but extending from said lower portions *m* toward said points of attachment with said spaces between said stitchings H gradually reduced toward said upper edges F and with respect to each other, said rows of stitchings meeting at the respective points of attachment and constituting a skeleton which prevents distortion of the cup and transfers the strain of wear evenly to said points of attachment from all sections of the cup area except the close vicinity of said peaks G where the cup material is devoid of stitchings and retains its pliability.

The brassière according to this invention may further be distinguished by having said lower portions *m* of each cup A provided with further rows of transverse stitching S which intersect the lower portions of said pear-shaped rows of stitching H.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new and desired to be secured by Letters Patent is:

1. A brassière having breast cups each including a peak, and a shoulder strap attached to and extending from the upper edge of each cup, each cup being provided with a plurality of rows of substantially pear-shaped endless stitchings, said rows of stitchings surrounding the peak of each cup and providing equal spaces between each other at the lower portion of each cup and remote from the respective points of attachment of said shoulder straps at said upper edges of said cups but extending from said lower portions toward said points of attachment with said spaces between said stitchings gradually reduced toward said upper edges and with respect to each other, said rows of stitchings meeting at the respective points of attachment and constituting a skeleton

which prevents distortion of the cup and transfers the strain of wear evenly to said points of attachment from all sections of the cup area except the close vicinity of said peaks where the cup material is devoid of stitchings and retains its pliability.

2. A brassière according to claim 1, wherein said lower portions of each cup are provided with further rows of transverse stitching which intersect the lower portions of said pear-shaped rows of stitching.

GERDA KRIZ.

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