July 14, 1936. H. SCHNAITTACHER 2,047,522

BRASSIÈRE

Filed April 18, 1935

Fig. 1.

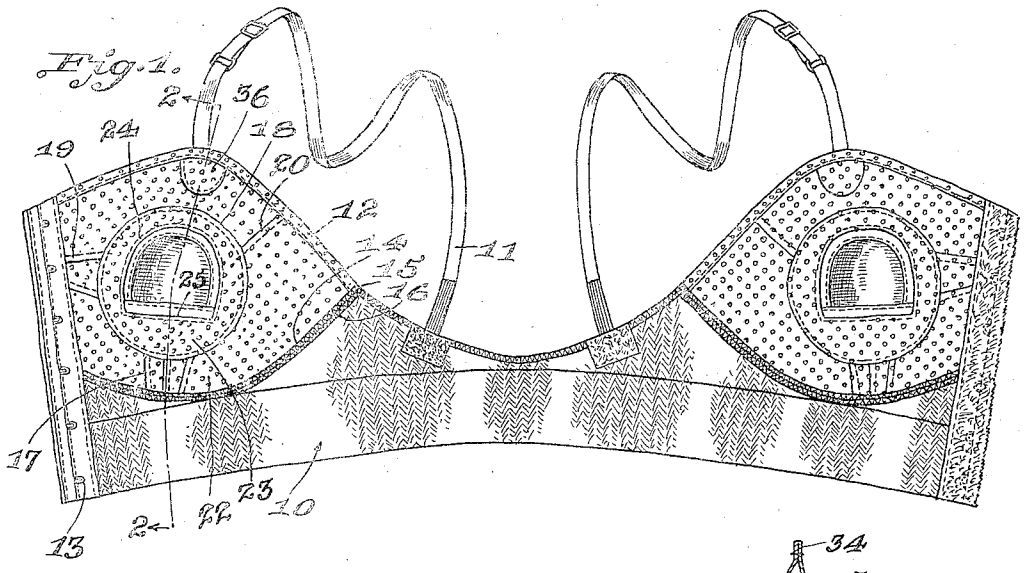

Fig. 2.

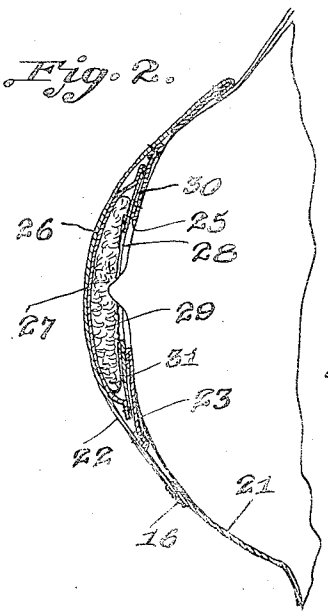

Fig. 3.

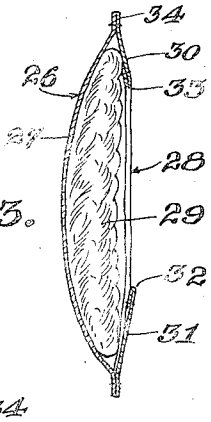

Fig. 4.

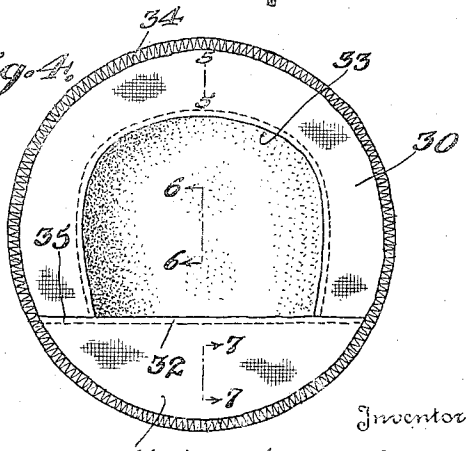

Fig. 5. Fig. 6. Fig. 7.

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Patented July 14, 1936 2,047,522

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,047,522

BRASSIÈRE

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Application April 18, 1935, Serial No. 16,942

1 Claim. (Cl. 128—280)

This invention relates to brassières, and more particularly to an improved type of brassière for nursing mothers.

An object of this invention is to provide a brassière which is constructed in a manner to hold the breasts of nursing mothers against sagging and against undue pressure so as to prevent leakage.

Another object of this invention is to provide a brassière which will entirely cover the breasts, but which is so constructed that no pressure is applied directly to the nipple, the breast being upheld from the lower portion thereof and the remainder of the breast being enclosed so as to prevent lateral or vertical movement thereof.

A further object of this invention is to provide a device of this character which is constructed to prevent soaking of the garments by any leakage, the device including a removable absorbent pad which is removably held in a detachable pocket, and the pocket embodying waterproof material to prevent contact of the garments with the absorbent pad.

With the foregoing and other objects in view, the invention will be more fully described hereinafter, and will be more particularly pointed out in the claims appended hereto.

In the drawing, wherein like symbols refer to like or corresponding parts throughout the several views,

Figure 1 is a detail rear elevation of a brassière constructed according to an embodiment of this invention.

Figure 2 is a sectional view taken along the line 2—2 of Fig. 1, but showing the device in applied position.

Figure 3 is a vertical section taken substantially through the center of the removable pad holding pocket.

Figure 4 is a detail rear elevation of the pad holding pocket.

Figure 5 is a fragmentary sectional view taken on the line 5—5 of Fig. 4.

Figure 6 is a fragmentary sectional view taken on the line 6—6 of Fig. 4.

Figure 7 is a fragmentary sectional view taken on the line 7—7 of Fig. 4.

Referring now to the drawing, the numeral 10 designates generally an elastic body having an end of a pair of shoulder straps 11 secured thereto, the free ends of the body 10 are provided with releasable fastening members 13 of conventional construction. Preferably the body 10 is fastened together at the front thereof, and each end of the body 10 has a porous piece of material 12 secured thereto.

Each porous piece of material 12 is adapted to be disposed in confronting position to a breast, and it will be accordingly understood that the description of one of these members 12 with its associated members will apply equally as well to the other member 12.

The breast engaging member 12 has a convex lower edge portion 14 which is secured as by stitching 15 to the concave upper edge portion of the body 10, as at 16. This member 12 is provided with tucks or gathers 17 extending downwardly from an annular opening 18 and also with side tucks or gathers 19 in substantially the horizontal center of the member 12 extending from the opening 18 forwardly, as shown in Fig. 1. Rearwardly extending tucks or gathers 20 are also provided, and by means of these tucks 17, 19 and 20 the member 12 is shaped in a manner to snugly receive a breast.

Preferably the tucks 17 are greater in number than the tucks 19 and 20 so as to form a breast holding pocket as shown at 21 in Fig. 2. This pocket 21 is adapted to engage the breast at a point adjacent the body and at the lower side thereof so as to prevent sagging of the breast and to hold the member in its natural position.

A pocket member including an outer wall 22 and an inner wall 23 is secured to the member 12 in the annular opening 18 thereof, and preferably the pocket member has an opening 24 in the inner wall thereof, which as shown in Fig. 1 is of substantially horseshoe shape or inverted U-shape, with a straight lower portion 25.

Removably disposed in the pocket formed by the walls 22 and 23 is a removable pad holding pocket generally designated as 26. This pocket 26 is formed with an outer wall 27 and an inner wall 28. The outer wall 27 is preferably formed of substantially moisture proof material so that when an absorbent pad 29 is placed within the pocket 26 the moisture will not engage a garment contacting with the front of the brassière.

The inner wall 28 of the pocket member 26 is formed of two parts 30 and 31, the part 30 being substantially U-shape and the part 31 being the lower portion of the wall 28 and provided with a straight upper edge 32. The opening 33 in the pocket 28 is substantially larger than the central portion of the breast so that the nipple will project entirely through the opening 33 and will be embedded in the padding 29 which may be constructed of any suitable absorbent material capable of being readily inserted and removed

from the pocket **26** in either a dry or moistened state. The lower portion **31** is also constructed of moisture proof material, whereas the upper U-shaped member **30** may be constructed of any suitable type of soft cloth. It will be understood that when in applied position the pocket member **26** will not contact with the breast, as will be noted from Fig. 2. The two walls **27** and **28** are secured together at their marginal edges by stitching **34**, and the lower edges of the wall member **30** are secured as by stitching **35** to the upper edge of the lower wall member **31** as shown in Fig. 4.

The shoulder straps **11** have their rear ends secured to the yieldable body **10**, and the other or front ends of the straps **11** are secured as at **36** to the upper or peak portion of the member **12**.

In the use of this brassière it will be understood that if desired the device may be used without the pocket member **26** being in applied position, and in this case the lower portion **17** of the breast engaging portion **12** will uplift and hold the breast in its natural position with the central portion of the breast projecting into the opening **24**. It will therefore be seen that this brassière may be used both before and after the nursing period as well as during the nursing period. During the nursing period the pocket member **26** may be inserted in the pocket formed by the walls **22** and **23** and the absorbent pad **29** placed in this pocket **26** so that any leakage will be quickly absorbed, and if there is an unusual amount of leakage the well formed between the lower wall **31** and the lower portion of the outer wall **27** will retain the liquid.

It will be apparent from the foregoing that an exceedingly practical brassière has been provided which will uplift the breasts without causing undue pressure thereupon, and more particularly without causing direct pressure upon the nipples.

What is claimed is:

In a brassière comprising an elastic body member and a pair of substantially inelastic pocket members, each having a central opening on the rear side thereof and an outward bulge in the center thereof, and an absorbent pad placed between said outward bulge and opening, and having a surrounding breast-engaging member with a convex lower edge portion secured to the body member and extending below said pocket members, tucks disposed on said breast-engaging member immediately below the pocket members for strengthening that portion of the breast-engaging members, said tucks being disposed below said bulge of the pocket members to form a breast-uplifting support adapted to engage the breast substantially adjacent the body to hold it in natural position and to prevent sagging of the same.

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