Aug. 30, 1932. E. BISSETT 1,874,868

BRASSIÈRE

Filed Dec. 5, 1930 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

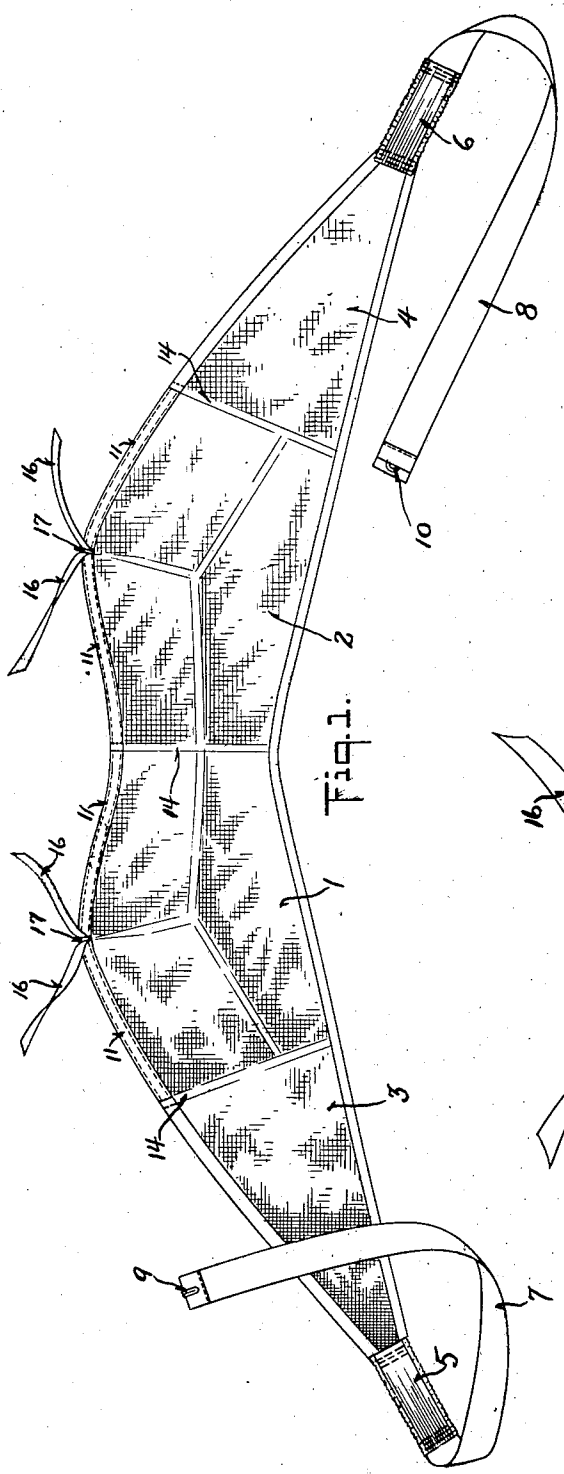


Fig. 1.

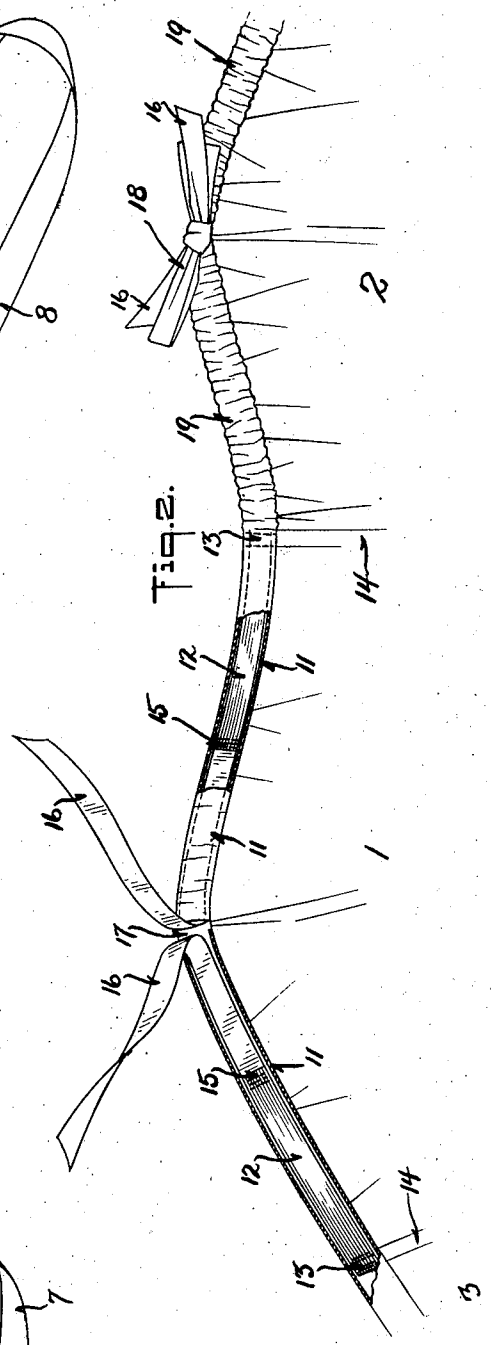


Fig. 2.

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Filed Dec. 5, 1930 2 Sheets-Sheet 2

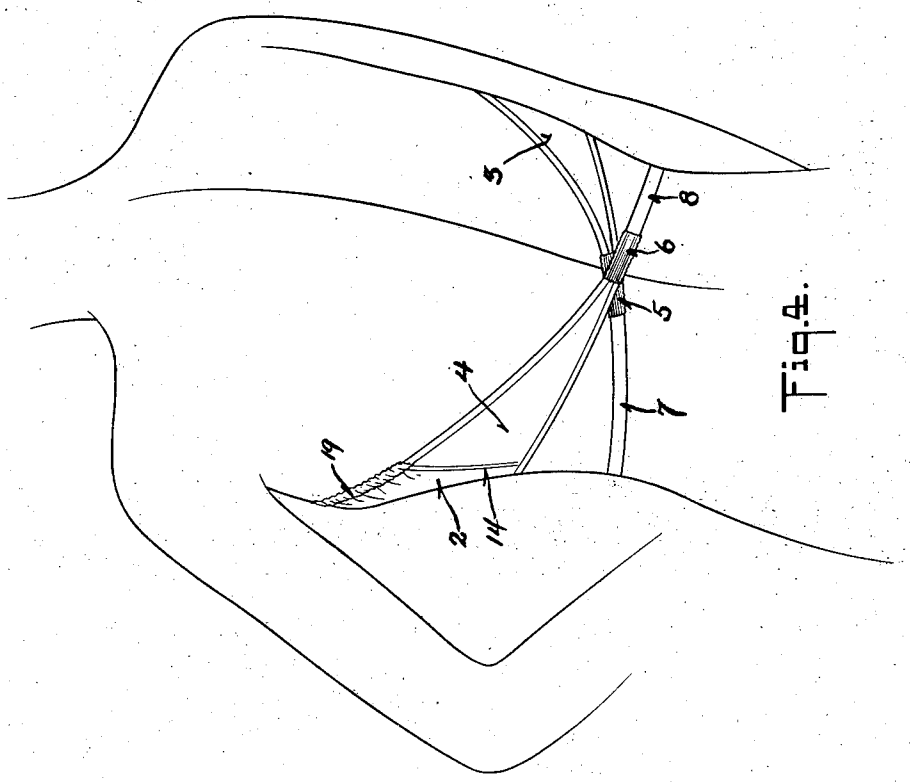


Fig. 4.

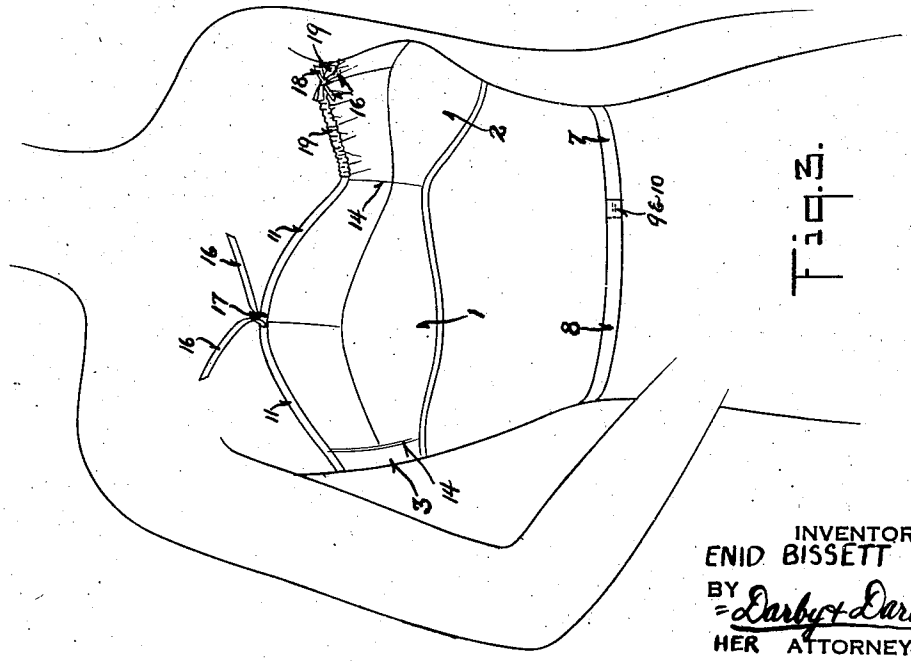


Fig. 3.

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1,874,868

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

ENID BISSETT, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., ASSIGNOR TO MAIDEN FORM BRASSIERE CO., INC., OF NEW YORK, N. Y., A CORPORATION OF NEW YORK

BRASSIÈRE

Application filed December 5, 1930. Serial No. 500,210.

This invention relates broadly to a new brassière construction.

One of the objects of this invention is the provision of a brassière which is adapted to adjustment to conform to the contour of the wearer's body.

A further object of this invention is the provision of a brassière adapted to adjustment to conform to the shape of the bust.

A further object of this invention is the provision of a novel brassière construction incorporating means for adjustably shirring the upper edge thereof to cause said brassière to firmly and securely adapt itself to the conformation of the bust without slipping despite the absence of the usual shoulder straps.

A further object of this invention is the provision of a novel brassière construction including means for adjustably fastening the same to the wearer's body without the utilization thereon of shoulder straps.

A still further object of the invention is the provision of a brassière having no shoulder straps and formed with breast receiving pockets disposed between the upper and lower edges thereof and having means disposed along the upper edge thereof to shirr said pockets to conform to the contour of the wearer's bust.

A still further object of this invention is the provision of a brassière having seams so disposed as to eliminate strain and pressure on the breast, and having silk or net covered elastic inserts interposed in the back bands thereof to make the same readily adjustable.

These and many other objects are attained by the brassière construction disclosed herein.

This invention resides substantially in the combination, construction, arrangement and relative location of parts, all as will appear more fully hereinafter.

Referring to the drawings in which the same reference numerals will be used throughout the several views to indicate the same or similar parts,

Figure 1 represents a front elevational view of my novel brassière;

Fig. 2 is a broken front elevational view partly in section of the upper edge of said brassière;

Fig. 3 is a front perspective view showing my novel brassière as worn;

Fig. 4 is a rear perspective view also showing the brassière as worn.

It has been found in actual experience with former constructions of brassières that difficulty generally was encountered in the provision of a suitable well-fitting brassière adapted to wear at evening functions in connection with fashionable low-backed types of evening gowns. It is quite apparent that the types of brassière heretofore worn with low backed evening gowns needs must be without shoulder straps or side and back pieces. Although it might, across the front, be formed with the usual flat strip or pocket type of support for the individual breasts, it could not, in the back, employ the usual shoulder strap and back piece means of support and securement to the wearer's body. In the provision of a brassière for this use difficulty has been encountered in properly and removably securing brassière pockets individually to the dress or gown proper or to the other undergarment worn with the low backed evening gown. Aside from this, securement of what might be termed a "partial brassière" to an undergarment or dress is generally unsatisfactory due to the difficulty of removing the same for washing and cleaning.

Many expedients have been devised to circumvent these difficulties none of which have been wholly or even partially successful. It is the purpose of this invention to create a brassière construction from which there is obviated the aforementioned undesirable effects and into which there is incorporated positive securing means for securing a brassière as a separate and distinct piece of wearing apparel to the body of the wearer independently of and in harmony with the low-backed type of wearing apparel worn by the woman.

It will be noted that the brassière hereinafter disclosed is strapless and stays up without the help of shoulder straps. Further than this it is backless as well as being strapless

and firmly supports the breasts beneath the shoulderless and backless types of evening gowns. It is adaptable to adjustment to fit the wearer's figure perfectly by utilizing slender elastic and ribbon bands hereinafter disclosed which tie in two tiny bows. In the event that it is desired to use the brassière with daytime costumes such use may be had by simply attaching the brassière to the slip or other undergarment worn by the wearer under her frock.

Referring now to the drawings it will be seen that in Fig. 1 there is shown a brassière made up of light lace, net or other suitable soft material which will not cause skin irritation of the wearer's breasts. This material is cut, formed and sewn so as to yield two pocket portions 1 and 2 after the type and along the outline and fashion delineated in United States Letters Patent No. 1,648,464 issued on November 8, 1929 to William Rosenthal. A brassière having such pockets tends to support the breasts in their natural conformation without any pressing or flattening down akin to that caused by the usual single flat front piece type of brassière and I, therefore, show my invention as used in a brassière of such type. Despite this, however, it is obvious that although I show the front portion of the brassière as made up of two pockets that the novel shirring and securing brassière construction which I hereinafter disclose might just as readily be used with a flat front piece type of brassière.

It will be noted that secured and attached to these two pockets 1 and 2 are the tapering side and back portions, 3 and 4, made up of similar material. Attached to the free outer ends of these side and back portions 3 and 4 are elastic inserts 5 and 6 which, for the convenience of the wearer, and, to prevent irritation of the skin may be covered with silk or netting. These elastic inserts 5 and 6 have secured thereto at their free outer end the ribbon or silk elongated back straps 7 and 8 which carry at the ends thereof the usual hook and eye fastening 9 and 10. The ribbon strips 7 and 8 are to be made of such length that they or the elastic inserts 5 and 6 may be crossed substantially at the middle of the back of the wearer and then carried around the body of the wearer substantially at the waist line and fastened by the hook and eye in the front. The two side and back pieces 3 and 4 are so designed that they cross substantially low enough down on the wearer's back to avoid observation.

It is obvious that the expedient of winding the side and back pieces and their respective ribbon extensions around the wearer's body and the fastening thereof in the front, in and of itself must fail unless some means such as I hereinafter disclose are incorporated in the breast supporting portion or portions of the brassière proper, for securing the same across or to the wearer's breasts across the upper surfaces thereof in such fashion as to prevent the brassière as a unit from slipping down and losing its efficacy. Referring particularly to Fig. 2 with regard to the expedient which I have devised to accomplish this end, it will be noticed that the upper edge of the brassière may be formed with a sewn-over binding portion of ribbon or the like so as to form a series of passageways 11 along the upper edges of the pockets in which passageways are mounted elastic elements 12 which are each sewn at one end thereof 13 along the line of seam 14 joining the respective pockets 1 and 2 to the side and back portions 3 and 4. At the other ends 15 of the elastic elements 12 there may be sewn short pieces of ribbon 16 which extend through the passageways 11 to the outer side of the brassière at the openings 17 located approximately above the center of the pockets 1 and 2, in the upper edge of the brassière. By thus tacking the elements 12 to the seams 14 leaving the free ends of ribbons 16 extending from the openings 17 a ready means is provided whereby adjustment of the breast-pocket dimension across the top thereof may be effected by pulling the elastic inserts 12 through the passageways 11 to any desired point and tying the ribbons 16 into a bow 18 and allowing the elastic on retraction, to effect a shirring of the upper edge of the brassière pocket to form the shirred edge 19.

By utilizing four elastic elements of the character described; two, fastened along the line of seam where the brassière pockets are joined together; and two, fastened at the ends of the pockets it is possible to create a brassière design which lends itself to ready adjustment to conform to the configuration of the wearer's breasts to the end that in the absence of shoulder straps the brassière is prevented from slipping down.

By utilizing the brassière construction here-is disclosed a brassière is created adaptable to use with evening frocks with a firm form engaging construction.

It is, of course, generally desirable that all portions of the garment intended to contact with the skin of the wearer be provided with or made of a material that in no way can irritate the skin and to this end the bands intended to encircle the body of the wearer preferably should be of silk or like material and the pockets and elastic inserts or like elements formed of netting, silk or like materials.

It is to be understood that while I have described my invention in connection with the pocket type of brassière that the essential features thereof, to wit, the body encircling end pieces and the elasticized method of shirring the top band may be utilized with

brassières of any and all types including those of the flat front-piece portion type.

I am, of course, aware that many changes in the details of construction and relative arrangement of parts will readily suggest themselves to those skilled in the art and I do not, therefore, desire to be limited to the exact details disclosed by way of illustration, but rather to the spirit and scope of my invention as I define it in the appended claims.

What I seek to secure by United States Letters Patent is:

1. In a brassière construction substantially of the type described, two breast receiving pockets joined together, shirring bands along the upper edges of each of said pockets, elastic and non-elastic shirring elements disposed in said bands, and means secured to the free ends of said pockets for adjustably securing the shirred pockets to the wearer's body by encircling the same at or about the wearer's waist line.

2. In a brassière construction substantially of the type described, two breast receiving pockets joined together, shirring bands along each of the upper edges thereof, elastic elements disposed in and secured to each end of said band on each pocket, apertures opening from said bands approximately halfway between the ends thereof and non-elastic elements passing through said apertures and secured to the free ends of said elastic elements.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand on this 1st day of December A. D. 1930.

ENID BISSETT.