Jan. 7, 1936. M. C. FRIDOLPH 2,026,524

GARMENT

Filed Sept. 18, 1933

Fig. 1.

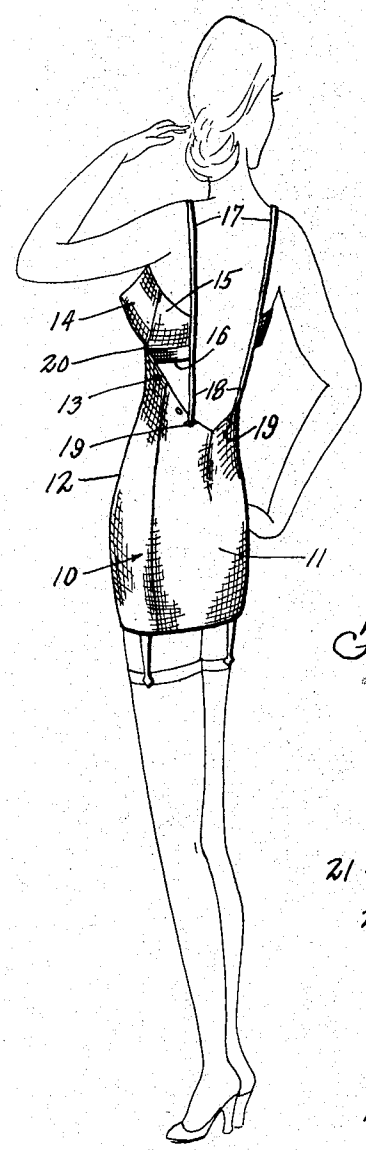


Fig. 2.

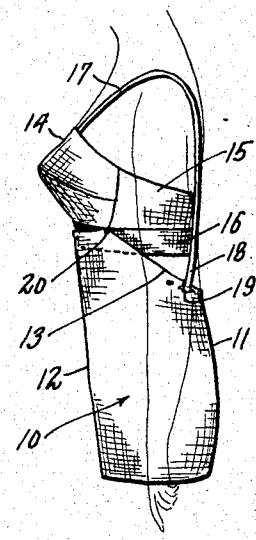


Fig. 3.

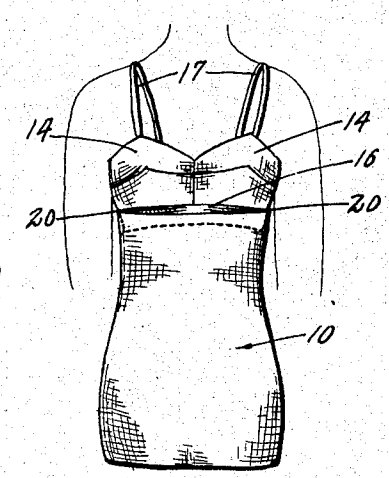


Fig. 4.

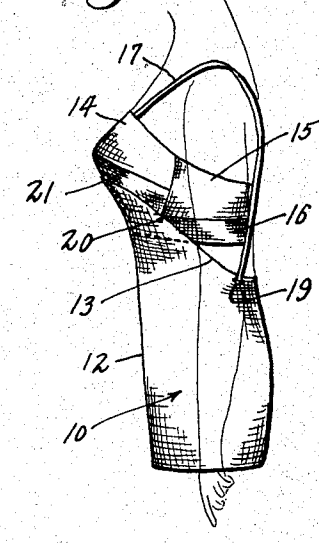
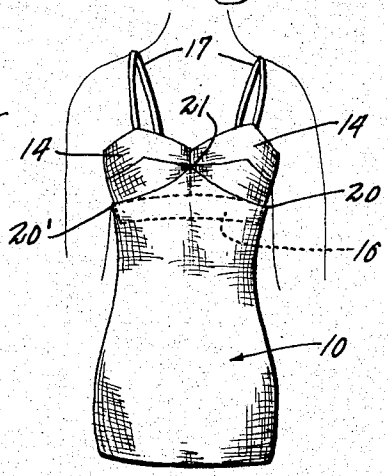


Fig. 5.



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GARMENT

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Application September 18, 1933, Serial No. 689,930

2 Claims. (Cl. 2—30)

This invention relates to a garment capable of molding the figure without heavy corsetry or so-called "medical garments" and at the same time provide a firm support for the bust. In general, the invention contemplates a body garment capable of closely encircling the waist and/or torso and a brassière portion attached to the sides or front of the body garment, the rear portions of the brassière being unrestricted by the body portion of the garment. Furthermore, the garment of this invention contemplates the body garment in overlapping relation to the brassière, or at least a portion thereof, particularly in front, such overlap allowing the brassière to move relatively to the body portion of the garment and thereby permit freedom of bodily movement not obtainable heretofore.

Although garments capable of covering the body from above the bust to the thigh have been constructed, these garments do not include a brassière actually capable of supporting the bust. In the prior garments, the so-called garter pull compressed the bust instead of lifting and holding the bust. The present garment distinguishes from the prior art in that the single garment of this invention is not only capable of covering the torso but in addition is capable of uplifting or correcting the bust without restricting the movement of the body. The brassière portion of the garment of this invention is not subject to the garter pull, and as a result, the bust is capable of some independent movement (as when the arms are moved through a wide arc) without accompanying compression due to restraining influence of the lower body portion of the garment.

An object of this invention, therefore, is to disclose and provide a single garment capable of covering the waist and/or torso and simultaneously providing a suitable bust covering and controlling member.

Another object is to disclose and provide a single garment capable of covering the body and including a brassière capable of uplifting and correcting sagging busts, the brassière portion cooperating with the body garment so as to prevent downward restrain on the bust.

A still further object is to disclose and provide a single garment including a body portion and bust-receiving members, said bust-receiving members being adapted to uplift and correct the bust, the garment simultaneously preventing the formation of bulges and the like at the region of the waist. A still further and very important object of the invention is to provide a garment composed of a lower portion encircling the body of the wearer and an upper brassière section or bust-receiving members, so constructed that complete freedom and control is given to the bust of the wearer without any constricting influence of lower body portion, when the body of the wearer is in motion, such as when raising the arms over the head, or bending forward, or backward. Also, so constructed that the busts will not slip down when the arms are raised, but rather will move upwardly when the strain of the shoulder straps pulls the bust-receiving members up with movement of the arms, thus allowing the busts to be held, in all body movements, in an independent uplifted position.

Under one embodiment of the invention, the brassière has a pivotal point of attachment to the body garment at the sides only, and above the lower edge of the bust-receiving members, so that an overlapping relationship of the lower body portion, and the brassière portion may be obtained, allowing no resisting influence whatsoever in the line of strain through the bust section when the body of the wearer is in action, the bust section clinging to the body as an integral part of the garment but functioning as a separate uplift brassière. The lower portion of the brassière is in slidable relation to the body section and therefore has a freedom of movement and will in no way, either from garter strain or abdominal expansion, interfere with the proper position of the bust which should at all times be held in an uplifted position by proper shoulder strap adjustment, and should never be subjected to the downward strain of the lower portion of the garment.

In describing the invention, reference will be had to the appended drawing, in which

Fig. 1 is a three-quarter rear view of the garment as worn.

Fig. 2 is a side elevation of one form of the garment.

Fig. 3 is a front view of the garment shown in Fig. 2.

Fig. 4 is a side elevation of another form that the garment may assume.

Fig. 5 is a front view of a portion of the garment shown in Fig. 4.

As shown in Figs. 1, 2 and 4, the garment of this invention includes a body portion or body garment 10 which preferably includes a rear portion 11 and a front portion or panel 12. The body garment 10 may be made of any suitable material or combination of materials. When it is desired that a foundation garment be made, the body garment

10 is preferably made of elastic material or of a suitable material such as batiste, with vertical elastic panels therein. The body garment preferably extends over the hips and is provided with garters, but if desired may be only sufficient to cover the waist.

When a foundation garment of the type shown in Fig. 1 is desired, the materials are selected with the thought of producing a body garment capable of closely fitting and encircling the torso of the wearer. The rear panel 11 is preferably shorter than the front panel 12. The front panel extends upwardly above the waist up to the bust whereas the rear panel 11 preferably terminates at about the waist. The upper side edges or margins 13 of the body garment 10 preferably extend downwardly at an angle as shown.

The brassière portion of the garment includes bust-receiving members 14, underarm portions 15, and a lower band 16 appended to the lower edges of the bust-receiving members and the underarm portions 15. The band positively insures complete coverage of the lower portion of the bust and prevents the bust from slipping downwardly from beneath the bust-receiving members 14. The underarm portions 15, as well as the band 16, preferably terminate at the side of the back, as indicated in Fig. 1, and do not extend across the back so as to completely encircle the body of the wearer. The shoulder straps indicated at 17 are connected to the bust-receiving members and to the rear portions of the underarm strips 15. These shoulder straps may be made of either elastic or non-elastic material, or a combination of both. A portion of these shoulder straps 17 may depend below the band 16, as indicated at 18. These lower portions 18 are preferably made of elastic material and are provided at their lower ends with means whereby they may be connected to the upper edge of the rear panel 11 of the body garment 10. As shown in Fig. 1, the upper edge of the body garment 10 may be provided with a plurality of connecting means 19 and 20 so that the end of the strap 18 may be selectively connected to the body garment and in this manner the tension and uplift on the brassière portion may be controlled.

The brassière is connected to the body garment 10 so as to become an integral part thereof. It has been found, however, that proper uplift of the bust is not obtained and the garment does not fulfil the requirements of the wearer unless the brassière portion is movably connected to the front portion of the body garment. Furthermore, the band 16 of the brassière should not be connected to the body garment but instead the band 16 should be left free so as to exert a suitable restraining action, in close contact with the body of the wearer at a point immediately below the bust so as to prevent downward displacement of the bust. The upper front portion of the body garment 10 is thus permitted to slide over the front portions of the band 16.

Preferably, therefore, the front portion of the body garment 10 overlaps the band 16 and the upper edge of the body garment is connected to the upper marginal line of the band 16, or directly to the bust-receiving members 14 at points lying at the sides, such as the points 20 (Fig. 2), which are the points at which the bust-receiving members 14, the underarm portions 15, and the band 16 join together. The points 20 are substantially under the arms of the wearer and to the side of a vertical center line passing through the center of the bust-receiving members. The distance separating the points of attachment 20 is greater than the distance separating the straps 17 (at points where they connect with the brassière). In this manner, the lower band of the brassière is free from the restraining influences from the front panel of the body garment or corselet and the brassière correctly functions to mold and uplight the bust. The body garment does not in this manner exert any compressive effect upon the bust. It is evident that when the wearer moves her arms upwardly above her head, the bust is free to move upwardly together with the brassière, the front portion of the band 16 retaining its position immediately beneath the bust. Such upward motion is not restrained by the body garment 10 except at the side points 20 and at such zones there is very little tendency to move upwardly, the movement being of greatest amplitude at the front. The vertical strain between shoulder straps 17 and body garment 10 does not traverse the bust but is carried diagonally to the side points 20, thereby preventing a compression or flattening of the bust.

In the form of garment illustrated in Figs. 4 and 5, the front portion 12 of the body garment 10 is connected to the brassière along a line indicated at 20, 21 and 20'. The band 16, for its entire length, is unconnected and free from the body garment 10, thus clinging closely to the body of the wearer and effectively functioning to hold the bust up and prevent compression or downward slippage of the bust. If desired, the front panel 12 of the body garment may be connected to the brassière only at the sides (as at the points 20 and 20') and at the front (as at point 21 or some central point at or above the upper margin of belt 16). In such construction, freedom of movement between the bust-receiving members 14 and the front panel 12 of the body garment exists between the points 20 and 20' and the central point 21.

The garment described hereinabove has numerous advantages over the use of a separate girdle and brassière. Whenever a separate girdle and brassière are worn, there is a tendency for the flesh to bulge outwardly around the upper edge of the girdle and between the girdle and the brassière. This bulge is generally referred to as a "tire".

The garment of this invention, however, extends upwardly to the bust and suitably restrains the body so as to prevent the formation of the above described bulges. At the same time, the rear portion of the body garment is suitably low so as to permit it to be worn with a substantially backless evening gown. If a backless garment is not desired, it is only necessary to make the rear panel 11 extend higher. If the brassière extends completely over the back, it is preferably connected to the back portion 11 of the body garment by means of elastic only, and the back portion overlaps the continuation of band 16, but no firm or fixed connection exists between the band 16 and the rear of garment 10.

It is further to be noted that although the body garment 10 may snugly fit the torso of the wearer and the brassière is an integral part thereof, such brassière does not in any way restrict free movement of the shoulders nor does it compress the bust. This greater freedom of shoulder movement, breathing, etc., are results not obtained heretofore in a combination garment.

It is to be understood that any suitable form or type of brassière may be used in a garment of the character described. Preferably, those bras-

sièrs which are designed to mold and actually uplift or correct sagging bust are preferred. Furthermore, although the drawing illustrates a brassière whose underarm portions terminate at the sides of the back, it is understood that these underarm portions may be provided with extensions whereby the brassière may completely encircle the chest of the wearer.

All such changes and modifications as come within the scope of the appended claims are embraced thereby.

I claim:

1. In an undergarment, the combination of: a body garment adapted to encircle the torso of the wearer; and a brassière comprising joined bust-receiving portions and a band at the lower edge of said brassière, said band being adapted to lie in close contact with the body of the wearer immediately beneath the bust; the upper front of the body garment being attached to the brassière above the said band and between the bust-receiving portions, in movably overlapping relation, whereby the band of said brassière may move with the body and relatively to said body garment.

2. In an undergarment, the combination of: a soft and conforming brassière comprising joined bust-receiving portions, a band at the lower edge of said brassière, said band being adapted to lie in close contact with the body and assist in supporting and retaining the bust in said bust-receiving portions; and a body garment adapted to encircle the torso of the wearer, the upper front of said body garment movably overlapping said brassière band, the upper front edge of the body garment being attached to said brassière above the said band at substantially horizontally disposed points to the sides of the bust-receiving portions and at a point between said bust-receiving portions, whereby the band of said brassière may move with the body and relatively to said body garment.

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