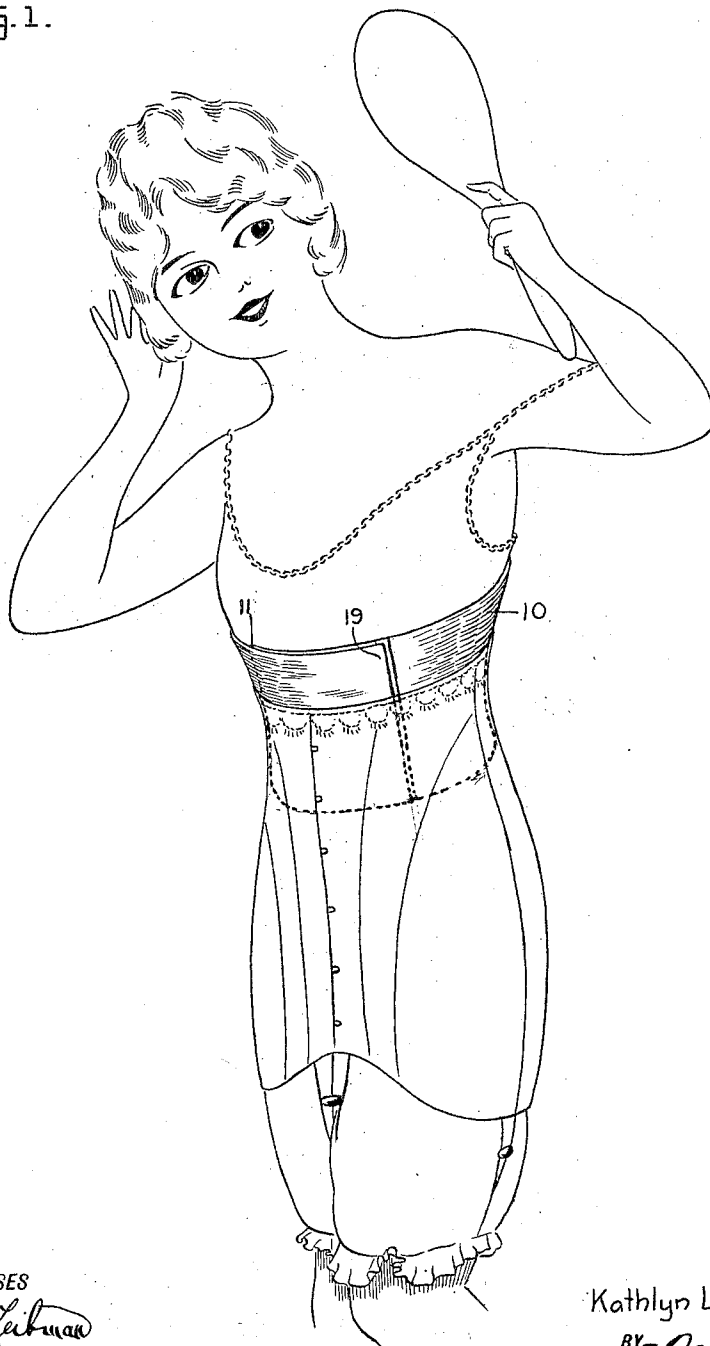


K. L. BURNS.
DIAPHRAGM CONFINER.
APPLICATION FILED AUG. 19, 1919.

1,393,609.

Patented Oct. 11, 1921.
2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.



WITNESSES

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 2.

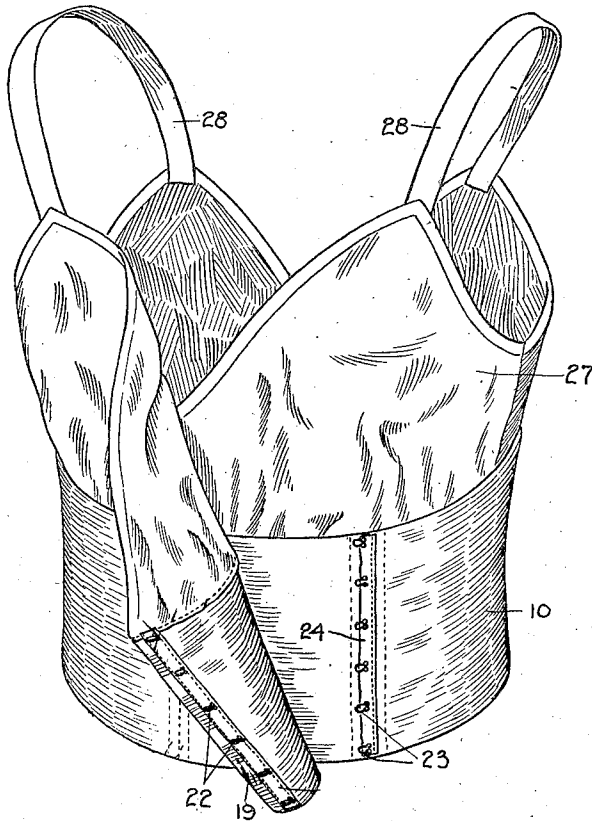
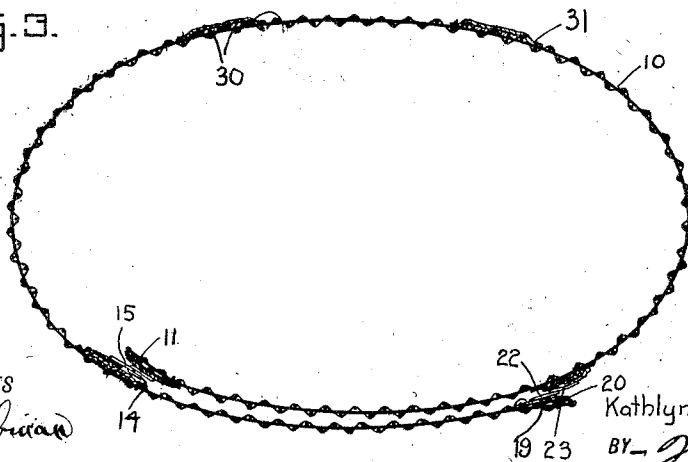


Fig. 3.



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DIAPHRAGM-CONFINER.

1,393,609.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Oct. 11, 1921.

Application filed August 19, 1919. Serial No. 318,500.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, KATHLYN LOGAN BURNS, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the city of New York, Kew Gardens, borough of Queens, in the county of Queens and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Diaphragm-Confiner, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

10 This invention relates to ladies' wearing apparel and has particular reference to diaphragm confiners or devices for use especially by corpulent women to confine their busts and so maintain a neat appearance as well as insuring the utmost comfort.

Among the objects of the invention is to meet the condition incident to the prevailing fashionable low cut corsets which are a bane to fleshy women in the use of which without my improvement the least amount of lacing causes the flesh to bulge over the top of the corset, displacing the organs, disfiguring the outline, and rendering it difficult to bend forward without the corset steels sticking into the bulging flesh.

Another object of the invention is to establish the most comfortable condition of dress for fleshy women with respect to their breathing facilities, in view of the fact that the use of a rigid tight fitting corset cover or the like that is being used over the corset to ameliorate the bulging tendency above mentioned and to protect the flesh from the corset steels serves seriously to restrict the breathing.

Another object of the invention is to provide a diaphragm confiner calculated to overcome the aforesaid difficulties, for by being adjusted beneath the corset it not only acts as a shield against the corset steels, but confines the flesh in much smoother outline than is possible with a garment worn outside of the corset and moreover being flexible no serious restriction to breathing is offered.

Another object of the invention is to improve the appearance of the front in the provision of a double ply fastening means which not only obviates the buckling of the center-fastening diaphragm confiners now in use, but eliminates the wear and tear or interference incident to the rubbing of the two center fastenings. This double breasted arrangement furthermore provides for the distribution of the strain on the confiner between two rows of hooks, or their equivalent,

instead of only one row, and furthermore the panel effect serves in a superior degree to prevent the folding and wrinkling of the confiner at the front.

With the foregoing and other objects in view the invention consists in the arrangement and combination of parts hereinafter described and claimed, and while the invention is not restricted to the exact details of construction disclosed or suggested herein, still for the purpose of illustrating a practical embodiment thereof reference is had to the accompanying drawings, in which like reference characters designate the same parts in the several views, and in which—

Figure 1 is a front perspective view indicating the manner of use of one form of my improvement.

Fig. 2 is a front perspective view of a modified form of the same; and

Fig. 3 is a horizontal section indicating especially the relation of the overlapping ends of the confiner to each other.

Referring now more specifically to the drawings I show my diaphragm confiner as constructed to consist essentially of one or more bands or belts made of any suitable strong, pliable material such as elastic webbing and of any suitable width approximating five or six inches in standard sizes and of a length sufficient to be fastened around a person and overlap a sufficient distance to produce a double breasted effect, the overlap being for example from six to eight inches in length circumferentially, although it is to be distinctly understood that these references to specific sizes or dimensions are to be taken as but illustrations and not as limitations inasmuch as they may be varied from materially in the practice of my invention.

In the simpler form or adaptation of this confiner there is provided only the band of a relatively wide piece of webbing although more than one band of narrower webbings may be used in place of the one band. For the purpose of this description, however, reference will be had specifically to the single band. The inner end 11 is provided with a series of fastening means shown as hooks 14. Coöperating with these hooks are a series of eyes 15 attached to the portion of the webbing adjacent to the end having the hooks.

The opposite end portion 19 of the webbing is made similar to the end 11 being pro-

vided with a series of hooks 22 which co-operate with a series of eyes 23 carried by the portion of the webbing which lies just within the end 19 or between the end 19 and the person.

As indicated the overlapping ends of the band or webbing provide a double ply condition serving among other purposes the following advantages and functions: Since the two end portions are attached to the adjacent portions of the band respectively the strain on the garment is distributed between the two rows of fasteners, but the greatest elasticity is at the single ply portions, namely, at the sides and back. Therefore the breathing is not interfered with materially and yet the front of the garment is maintained in perfectly smooth, comfortable and neat appearing condition by reason of the added stiffness or firmness due to the overlapping plies. Moreover the panel effect due to the double lines of attachment at the sides of the center and on opposite sides of the corset fastener gives a pleasing added feature of appearance as well as comfort. This improved garment or device is worn beneath the upper end of the corset and constitutes thereby immediately a protector for the person against the danger or discomfort incident to the protruding corset steels that are so troublesome in connection with the low bust corsets, and especially when a person stoops forward.

This double ply feature prevents bulging of the flesh, prevents sticking of corset steels, obviates the need of a rigid corset cover and restriction of breathing, prevents folding or wrinkling, and prevents wear and tear that would be incident to rubbing of the two center fastening garments if the confiner, as well as the corset, had a single center fastener.

While one form of the invention that is being made and sold so successfully on the market is in the nature simply of a band, the form in Fig. 2 indicates how the same garment may be combined with an extension in the nature of a brassière indicated at 27 which may have shoulder straps 28 if desired, but in any event will constitute a most satisfactory garment for fleshy women. Furthermore the diaphragm confiner may be attached to other types of garments other than brassières, as for example girdles, corsets, petticoats, skirts, etc. This device is

made obviously in different sizes to conform to various bust measures and when applied to a person as above described will not only be neat and comfortable, but will stay in place perfectly.

I claim:

1. In a device of the character described a garment provided with a band of flexible material of a substantially uniform width and having a length to extend entirely around the person using the device with sufficient material to provide overlapping ends whereby a double ply front is presented, said front being arranged centrally and at the front of the person using the device, said band when in position extending a short distance below the waist line and a short distance above the waist line for presenting a bracing structure to the body at the point where it contacts therewith and fastening means for securing the respective ends to the band adjacent the point where they contact with the band.

2. In a device of the character described, a garment provided with a band of flexible webbing formed of such a length as to extend entirely around a person when in use, said band being of a substantially uniform width and provided with end portions adapted to overlap, said end portions being provided with double rows of laterally spaced attaching members for connecting said end portions in an overlapped position, whereby the garment is fastened around the person with the overlapped portions forming a bracing section of double thickness throughout the entire width of the band, said band being positioned so that the bracing section thus formed is across the front.

3. In a device of the character described, a garment provided with a band of flexible material having a limited elastic characteristic and having a substantially uniform width, said band being provided with overlapping ends having a double ply front, each of the overlapping ends being of the full width of the band, and fastening members to secure each end to the portion of webbing adjacent thereto, said fastening members being arranged in laterally spaced vertical rows and on opposite sides of the center of the front of the device.

MRS. KATHLYN LOGAN BURNS.