April 15, 1947. R. M. REID 2,418,987

GARMENT

Filed Sept. 4, 1944 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

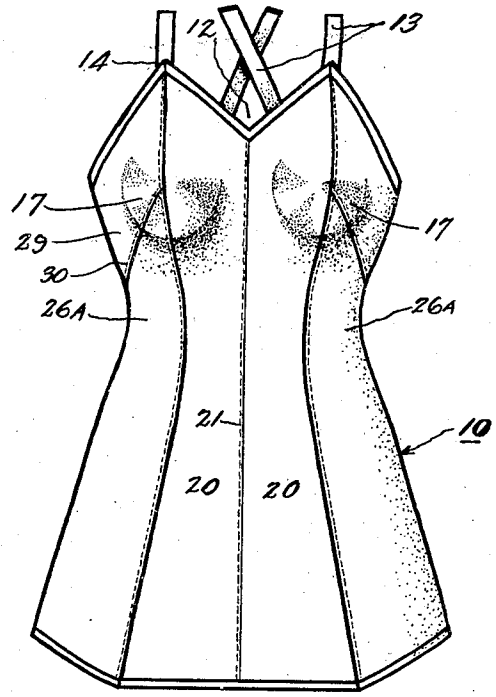


Fig. 1

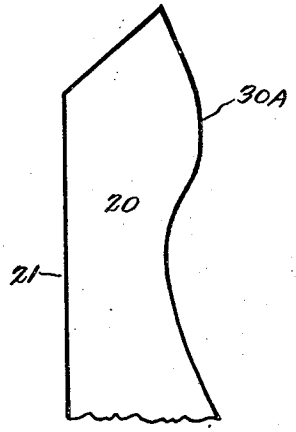


Fig. 4

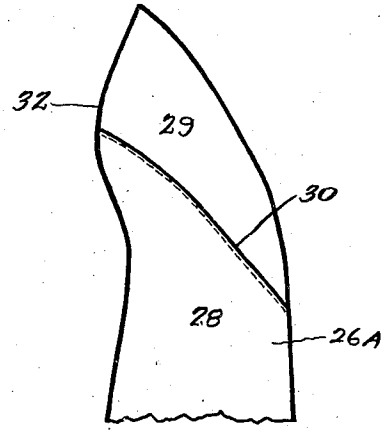


Fig. 3

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April 15, 1947. R. M. REID 2,418,987

GARMENT

Filed Sept. 4, 1944 2 Sheets-Sheet 2

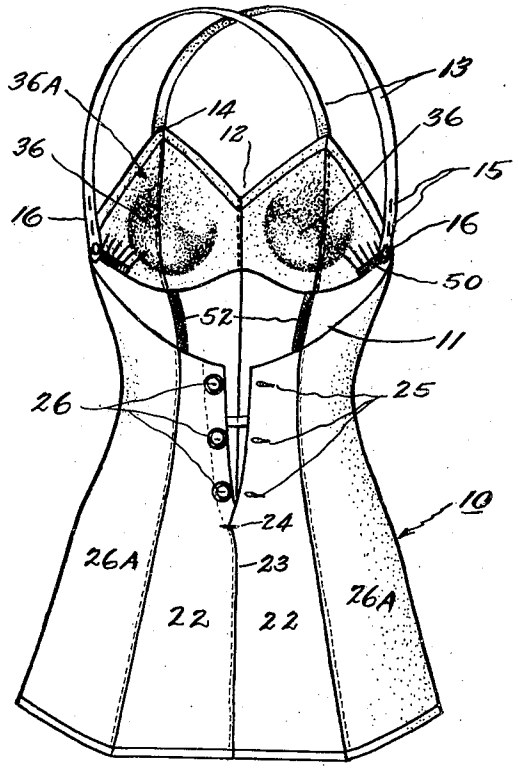


Fig. 2

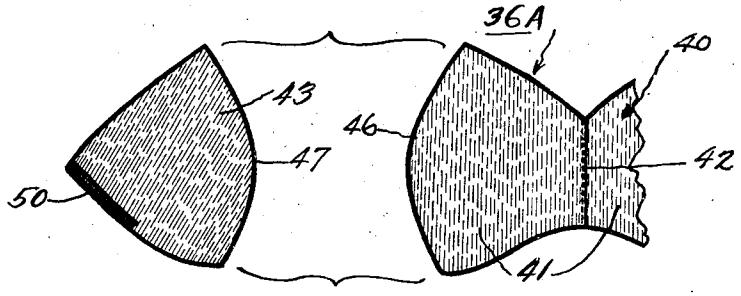


Fig. 5

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GARMENT

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4 Claims. (Cl. 2—67)

1

My invention relates to a garment.

The invention is useful particularly when taking the form of a bathing suit for women.

The feature characterizing the garment is that it includes a brassière so formed, and so operating when the garment is worn on the body, as to raise and provide support for the breasts, thus not only adding comfort to the wearer of the garment but enhancing the wearer's appearance. Irrespective of the wearer's bust development, the garment will enhance or flatter such part of the female form.

In the drawings, which show the preferred form of the invention,

Figure 1 is a front elevation of a bathing suit for women, embodying a brassière, all according to my invention;

Figure 2 is a rear view of Figure 1;

Figure 3 is a plan or flat view of the hip or side member of the garment (there being two such pieces to each garment);

Figure 4 is a flat view of one of the front pieces of the garment, (there being two such pieces to each garment).

Figure 5 is a fragmentary flat and unattached view of the component parts of the brassière, the centre piece being shown fragmentarily only.

Referring now by numerals to the drawings, wherein like numerals of reference indicate corresponding parts in the various figures, the bathing suit preferably is so formed or shaped as to provide a flaring skirt 10 having a relatively short or low back 11 so as to expose the back and shoulders of the wearer, and a V-shaped neck 12 at the front. The garment is held in position at least partly by means of straps 13, each stitched at the front near the neck as at 14, and formed at the other end with button holes 15 to button on a button 16 fastened to an edge of the garment at a point about below the arm. The straps are crossed over the back of the wearer before they are buttoned to opposite edges of the garment.

The garment is so shaped or formed as to provide "cups" or forwardly extending hollow recesses or pockets 17 to receive or accommodate the breasts so that they will be gracefully thrust forwardly when raised or supported by the brassière to be later described.

In practice, the garment is conveniently made of the following parts, cut or shaped as shown. For instance two front, symmetrically formed pieces 20 stitched together along a front vertical seam 21; two rear symmetrically formed pieces 22 stitched together along a rear vertical seam 23 extending partly upwardly from the lower edge

2

of the garment to a point 24, the portion between this point and the upper edge of the garment being provided with button holes 25 on one piece and button 26 on the opposite piece so as to completely close the back of the garment once on the wearer's body; side or hip pieces 26A stitched between and to the adjacent edges of the adjacent front and rear pieces 20—22. As best shown in Figure 3 the hip piece is made of two separate pieces, a lower piece 28 and an upper piece 29 stitched together along a slanting seam 30 lying roughly at forty-five degrees to the lower edge of the garment. In order to form the "cups" or bust receiving pockets 17 aforesaid, the upper portion of the outer edge of each of the front pieces 20 is curved outwardly and inwardly as at 30A and the corresponding hip piece 26A, more particularly the upper piece 29, has its front edge curved as at 32. When these two curved edges are stitched together the garment is formed with the required "cups."

The brassière 36A, as will be obvious, is attached to the front of the garment below the neck opening. The brassière 36A, which extends transversely of the garment, is stitched to the upper edge of the front of the garment which defines the V-shaped neck and to the side edges from the neck down to about below the arms and to a point approximately located at the button 16. The brassière is so formed that it is capable of forming "cups" 36 adapted to receive the breasts, these "cups" in the brassière substantially registering with the "cups" 17 formed as aforesaid in the front of the garment.

The brassière is formed with a middle or centre piece 40, which for the sake of economy may comprise two symmetrically formed pieces 41 stitched together along a vertical middle seam 42, and end pieces 43. The brassière is so formed that when stretched or extended laterally, the breasts will be raised and the brassière filled out. In order to enable the brassière to fill out and raise and support the breasts, the brassière is formed substantially as shown in Figure 5, the brassière being shown here as in its flat or developed but unstretched position. As will be noted, the lower edge of the brassière in this position assumes a scallop shape. The centre piece 40 has its outer edge curved outwardly as at 46, while the co-operating inner edge 47 of the outer piece 43 is also curved outwardly. When these two edges are stitched together and the lower edge of the brassière is under tension, the "cups" aforesaid will be formed. It has been found that in order that the brassière may operate as intended, the

lower edge of the brassière should be substantially unstretchable over substantially the entire length thereof, or at least where it engages the bust, whereas the remaining end portions of the edge should be stretchable. For that purpose, a short piece of elastic **50** may be fastened between the adjacent end of the unstretchable portion of the lower edge and the adjacent side of the garment. The buttons **16** are placed exactly on the outer ends of the elastics **50**, so that the pull of the shoulder strap when fastened furnishes the "up-pull" absolutely necessary for a perfect up-lift brassière as well as stretching the elastics to the exact size adjustment necessary for the individual wearer. The material of which the brassière is made preferably a woven fabric and for the best results, the middle piece of the brassière **40** is so disposed that the warp threads will run upwardly or vertically and the end piece **43** is so disposed that its warp threads will lie at an angle of roughly thirty degrees to the vertical and directed towards the neck; thus while the brassière is substantially incapable of stretching vertically it will stretch laterally. This arrangement will tend to cause the breasts to be displaced toward the shoulders rather than toward the neck, which enhances the appearance of the female form.

As the garment thus far described forms in effect a skirt, the garment in the form of a bathing suit must provide the necessary coverage below the waist; accordingly, panties (not shown) are provided. Such panties may be formed to any conventional shape including a member surrounding the body and a crotch piece. The panties may be secured to the back of the garment but are otherwise loose or unattached along practically the entire periphery. The panties are otherwise suspended by means of two straps **52** stitched between the panties and the lower edge of the brassière.

Having regard to the foregoing disclosure, the patent of which this specification forms part, confers, subject to the conditions prescribed in the Patent Act, 1935, the exclusive right, privilege and liberty of making, constructing, using and vending to others to be used, the invention as defined in claims submitted by the patentee as follows:

I claim:

1. In a garment including a bust-covering portion in part defined by a side edge adapted to pass under the arm, an inside brassière fastened at the top to the top edge of said bust-covering portion and fastened at the side to said side edge in its under-arm portion, said brassière being otherwise free of the garment, said brassière having its lower edge scalloped to present a curved edge portion under each breast, a relatively short elastic member forming a portion of said curved edge and being fastened at its outer end to said side edge, fasteners secured to each said side edges

adjacent the outer end of said elastic portions, and shoulder straps from said bust-covering portion adapted to cross one another across the back and co-operating with said fastener to apply tension to said elastic portion.

2. In a garment including a bust-covering portion in part defined by a side edge adapted to pass under the arm, an inside brassière stitched along the top to the top edge of said bust-covering portion and stitched along the side to said side edge in its under-arm portion, said brassière being otherwise free of the garment, said brassière having its lower edge scalloped to present a curved edge portion under each breast, a relatively short elastic member forming a portion of said curved edge and being stitched at its outer end to said side edge, buttons secured to each of said side edges adjacent the outer ends of said elastic portions, and shoulder straps each having one end secured to said bust covering portion adapted to cross one another across the back and formed at their opposite ends with button-holes to fasten onto said button to apply tension to and to adjust the tension of said elastic portions when the garment is worn.

3. In a garment including a bust-covering portion having neck and under-arm defining upper edges, the combination comprising an inside brassière secured at its top and sides to said neck and under-arm edges, said brassière having its lower edge scalloped to present a curved edge under each breast, means providing an elastic portion of said edge, and shoulder straps for supporting the bust-covering portion and applying tension to said brassière adjacent said elastic portion.

4. In a garment including a bust-covering portion having neck and under-arm defining edges, the combination comprising an inside brassière secured at its top and sides to said neck and under-arm edges, said brassière having its lower edge scalloped to present curved edges under the wearer's breasts, elastic members along said curved edges for applying a tension thereto, and shoulder straps for retaining the neck and under-arm edges in proper position.

ROSE MARIE REID.

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