

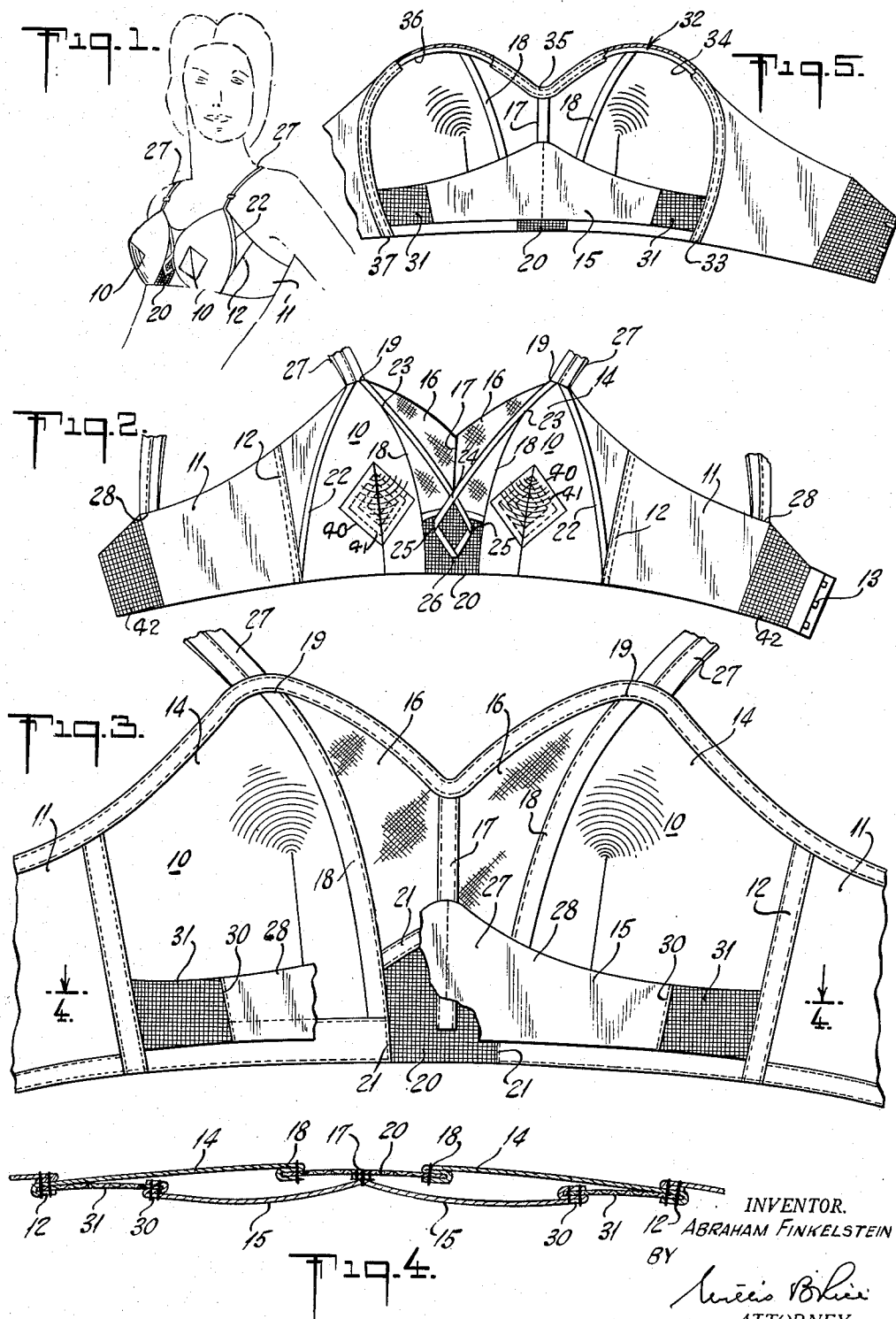
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BRASSIERE

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BRASSIÈRE

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3 Claims. (Cl. 2-42)

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This invention relates to a brassière.

It is an object of this invention to provide a brassière in which the breast pockets may be held in proper position over the breasts notwithstanding all normal movement of the body.

It is a further object to provide a brassière in which the bottom of the breast pockets may be held firmly in place upon the body in a manner to yield to bodily movements, and without undue pressure on the body.

It is a further object to provide an elastic body encircling support at the bottom of the breast pockets in a manner which, nevertheless will hold the pockets in proper position on the body.

It is a further object to provide a brassière which may be made either strapless or with straps, but which in any case will cling to the body throughout the periphery of the breast pockets.

The invention accordingly comprises an article of manufacture possessing the features, properties and the relation of elements which will be exemplified in the article herein described and the scope of the application of which will be indicated in the claims.

For a fuller understanding of the nature and objects of the invention, reference should be had to the following detailed description taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, in which:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a shoulder strap brassière of this invention upon a person;

Fig. 2 is a front elevation of the brassière in extended position;

Fig. 3 is a rear elevation of the central portion of the brassière of Fig. 2;

Fig. 4 is a section on the line 4-4 of Fig. 3; and

Fig. 5 is a modification in which no shoulder straps are used.

The brassière consists of a front portion and body encircling portions 11 attached to the front portion in the usual manner by side seams 12, the back portions being provided with fasteners 13.

The front portion is composed of an outer layer 14 which comprises the breast pockets 10 and an inner layer 15 lying below the central portion of the breasts and carrying certain elastic supporting elements. These two layers are joined together and joined to the back portions 11 at the seam 12.

In the outer layer 14 it is the breast pocket sections 10 that are sewed into the seams 12, while the pockets themselves are joined at the center

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by two sections 16 of net material, which are joined together by a central seam 17 and are joined to the breast pockets by seams 18, which curve upwardly and outwardly to the center of the top of the breast pockets at 19.

The bottom edge of the net sections 16 is situated below the nipple of the breast pocket where it is sewed to an elastic portion 20, having lateral elasticity by a seam 21, which is joined to the lower portion of the inner edge of the breast pockets in a continuation of the seams 18.

A tape 22 upon the front face of the outer layer extends from the point 19 on each breast pocket to the base of the adjacent seam 12 and other tape sections 23 extend from these same points 19 downwardly and inwardly to meet each other at a point 24 on the center seam 17 and each then curves over to a point 25 on the elastic portion 20, where they turn back down toward the center to meet each other again at a point 26 on the centerline of the elastic portion 20. These two tape sections are preferably united into a single piece at this point 26.

Shoulder straps 27 extend from the point 19 to a suitable point 28 on the back portion 11.

The inner layer 15 comprises an inextensible central section 27, which is higher at the center line where it is sewed to the elastic portion 20 along the central seam 17, and has its upper edge curved downwardly as it comes on to the breast of the wearer as shown at 29. Near each outer edge, this central section 27 is sewed by a seam 30 to a laterally extensible elastic section 31, the other end of which is held within the seam 12.

With this construction, it follows that as the garment is stretched between the seams 12, the outer layer will stretch at the central elastic section 20, while the inner layer is stretched at the elastic portions 31 and there is no point at which one elastic portion overlies the other. It has been found that with this construction the inner layer 15 serves a purpose somewhat resembling an elastic belt, in holding the breast cups down. Should, however, a bodily movement, such for example as reaching, raise one of the breasts above the quiescent position, the breast cup may rise with it due to the elasticity of the elastic 20, without in any way disturbing the inner layer 15. Thus, as soon as the stretching ends, the elastics 31 will pull the outerlayer back to its quiescent position just as though it had never been disturbed. At the same time, the inner section, firmly held around the body and sewed into seam 17 pulls the breast pockets back to central position whenever the strain is released.

Thus, the inner layer serves a purpose analogous to an elastic belt, in holding the brassière in place, and yet because the breast pockets are not attached to the inner layer at the bottom, the breast pockets can yield with the body and yet return to normal position as soon as the strain is released.

In the form of the invention disclosed in Fig. 5, in place of the shoulder straps 27 there is provided a wire form 32 extending from the bottom of one side seam 12 at 33 upwardly, encircling the top of the breast pocket as at 34, then downwardly to meet the middle seam 17 at 35, and then upwardly encircling the top of the other breast pocket as at 36 and down to the bottom of the other side seam 12 at 37. The construction is otherwise identical with that of Fig. 1 to 4.

I prefer to apply a diamond shape reinforcement ornamental piece 40, extending from the apex of the breast pocket substantially to the bottom of the pocket; which may be applied by a series of rows of stitching 41 parallel to the sides of the piece as shown at 41. This piece serves not only to stiffen the lower wall of the pocket and thus maintain the shape, but it also serves to ornament the brassière.

At the rear end of each of the body encircling pieces 11, I prefer to provide an elastic member 43, to provide elasticity at that point.

Since certain changes may be made in the above construction and different embodiments of the invention could be made without departing from the scope thereof, it is intended that all matter contained in the accompanying drawings shall be interpreted as illustrative and not in a limiting sense.

It is also to be understood that the following claims are intended to cover all of the generic and specific features of the invention herein described, and all statements of the scope of the invention which as a matter of language might be said to fall therebetween.

What is claimed is:

1. A brassière comprising a front panel portion having a back body encircling portion secured to the side edges of the front panel portion, said front portion having a pair of breast pockets, each merging at its lower edge into a circumferentially extending portion, each of said pockets and circumferential portion being attached to said back body encircling portions at its side edge, and said circumferential portion being connected at the center by a laterally elastic fabric, said front portion having also an inner layer having a central strain resisting band underlying said first mentioned elastic fabric, and being connected to each back body encircling portion by a laterally elastic fabric of shorter length than the circumferential portion, and of a width to lie wholly below the breast pockets.

2. A device according to claim 1, having a net portion connecting said breast pockets above the first named elastic portion, and being attached to the top of said elastic portion.

3. A device according to claim 1, having a porous portion connecting said breast pockets above said first mentioned elastic portion and means for supporting the top edge of the breast pockets.

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