Sept. 18, 1951 S. M. ULLRICH 2,568,175

BRASSIERE

Filed July 1, 1948

Fig. 1.

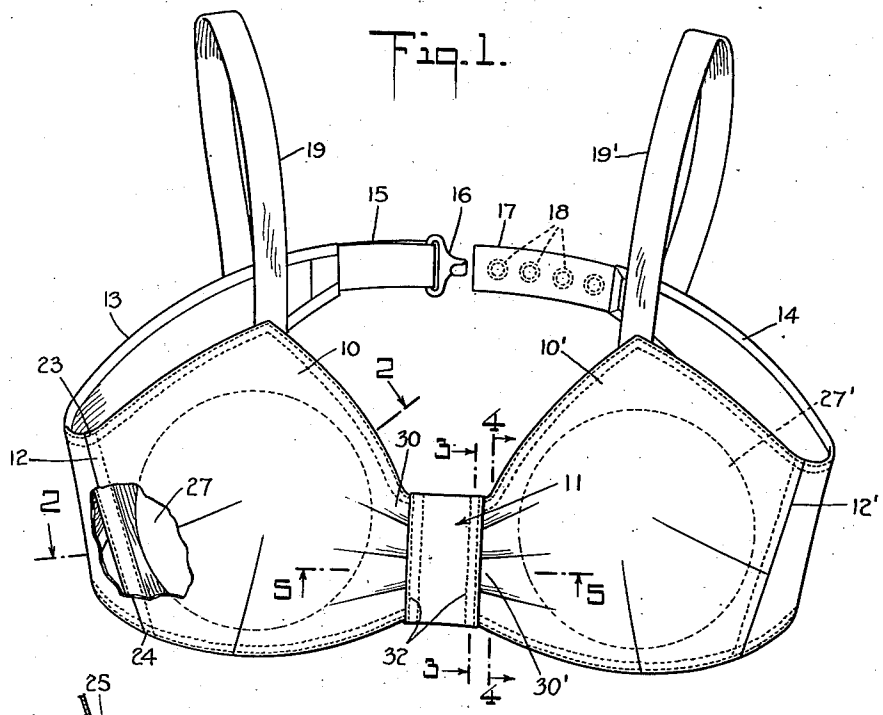


Fig. 2.

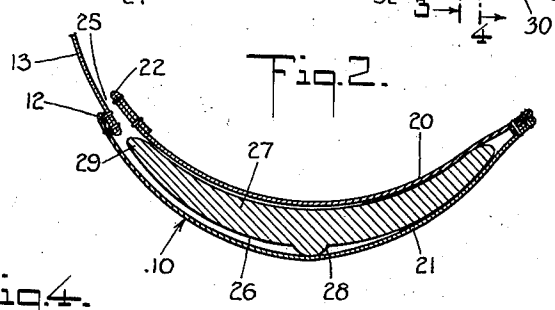


Fig. 3.

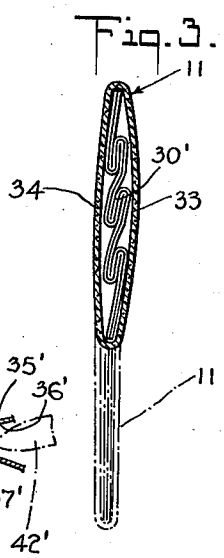


Fig. 4.

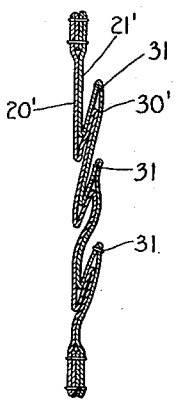
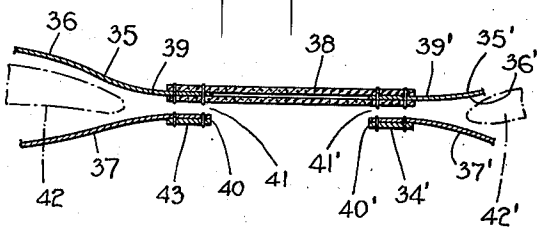


Fig. 5.



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Patented Sept. 18, 1951

2,568,175

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,568,175

BRASSIÈRE

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Application July 1, 1948, Serial No. 36,307

3 Claims. (Cl. 2—42)

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This invention relates to brassières. More particularly, the invention deals with garments of this type and kind wherein the breast pocket portions of the garment have at side edges thereof, openings for insertion of breast pads between inner and outer surfaces or facings of the pocket portions of the garment. Still more particularly, the invention deals with garments of the kind under consideration having means coupling adjacent portions of the pockets whereby said coupling portion is extensible in adjustment of the size of the pocket portions to more accurately fit the breasts of a wearer.

The novel features of the invention will be best understood from the following descriptions when taken together with the accompanying drawing, in which certain embodiments of the invention are disclosed, and in which the separate parts are designated by suitable reference characters in each of the views; and in which:

Fig. 1 is a front perspective view of a garment made according to my invention, with part of the construction broken away.

Fig. 2 is a section substantially on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is an enlarged section on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1, and indicating in dot and dash lines, the extension of the parts shown.

Fig. 4 is a section on the line 4—4 of Fig. 1, on an enlarged scale; and

Fig. 5 is a sectional view taken, for example, on the line 5—5 of Fig. 1, and showing a modified form of construction.

In Fig. 1 of the drawing, I have shown a brassière comprising two similar breast pocket portions 10 and 10', joined centrally at the front of the garment in a coupling section 11. Attached to side edge portions 12 and 12' of the pockets 10 and 10' are side and back bands 13 and 14, the band 13 terminating at its end in an elastic strap 15 supporting a coupling hook 16. The band 14 terminates at its rear end in a strap 17 having a series of eyelet or other openings 18 for adjustable engagement by the hook 16.

Shoulder straps 19 and 19' extend from the upper contracted edges of the pockets 10—10' to the rear portions of the bands 13 and 14, as clearly shown. The shoulder straps may be of any desired construction, as commonly known in garments of this kind. As each pocket 10—10' is of the same construction, one pocket only will be specifically described.

In Fig. 2 of the drawing, a section through the pocket 10 is shown. The pocket is formed from inner and outer facings 20 and 21 which may be of similar or contrasting materials or fabrics. These facings are joined at all of the border edges, except at the seams 12, where the front facing 21 only is attached to the strap 13 throughout the full width of the strap. Whereas,

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the inner facing 20 is free and unattached, as indicated at 22, between the upper and lower edges 23 and 24, thus forming an opening 25 for admission to the chamber or compartment 26 between the facings 20 and 21. The opening 25 facilitates insertion and removal of a preformed breast pad 27 which may be formed of any suitable soft flexible material generally characterizing the surface of the breast and having a central nipple portion 28 and tapered or contracted peripheral edges 29.

In Fig. 1 of the drawing, the companion pad for the pocket 10' is indicated by the reference character 27' and it will be understood that the structure of the pocket 10' is in all respects similar to the pocket 10. By the structure described, it will be apparent that the pads 27 and 27' can be inserted and removed whenever desired, and particularly in laundering the garment.

The coupling section 11 joins inner adjacent edge portions 30 and 30' of the pockets 10 and 10' and these edge portions are gathered or pleated in the manner clearly illustrated in Fig. 4 of the drawing, and it is preferred that the folds in one of the facings, for example, the folds of the facing 21' are stitched, as indicated at 31, in said figure to positively position the folds. Whereas the inner facing 20' will fold within the folds of the facing 21 in forming the gathered or pleated structure at the edges 30 and 30'. The purpose of this gathering is to compensate for expansion of the section 11 in adapting the pockets 10 and 10' to a more perfect fit upon the breasts of a wearer.

In the sale of garments of the kind under consideration, which are pre-made in definite cup and body sizes, accurate fitting is often times impossible, in that the differential between one cup size and the next nearest cup size is not sufficient to provide proper fit of the pockets upon the breasts of the wearer. For example, a 34–B may be too small, whereas a 34–C may be too large. If, for example, the garment in question were made and characterized as a 34–B, the extensibility referred to would automatically compensate for proper fitting of any size between 34–B and 34–C. The degree of extensibility can be controlled by the shaping of the cup parts and the pleats provided therein. In the accompanying drawing, the structure has been exaggerated simply from a standpoint of clarity in the showing.

The section 11 comprises, in the construction shown in Figs. 1 to 4 inclusive, a band of elastic fabric which may have a one-way or two-way stretch. This band is secured together and to the edge portions 30 and 30' by stitchings, as indicated at 32 in Fig. 1 of the drawing when the edge portions 30 and 30' are in fully extended position and the section 11 extended so that when released, the normal elasticity of the section 11,

or the elastic fabric band comprising this section, will draw the parts together substantially in the manner illustrated in Fig. 1, with the edges 30 and 30' pleated or gathered substantially in the manner illustrated in Fig. 4. The section 11 is in the form of a loop comprising a solid front wall panel 33, the ends of the band being abutted at the rear of the garment, as indicated at 34, in Fig. 3 of the drawing. In this figure, the loop is shown open to indicate the folds or pleats in the edge 30'. The entire section has been indicated in dot and dash lines in the extended position, in which position the stitching of the section to the edges 30 and 30' takes place. As stated before, the degree of extensibility has been exaggerated simply for sake of clarity, it being understood that compensating for sizes can be controlled within a limited extension of the section 11.

In Fig. 5 of the drawing, I have shown a slight modification, in which 35 and 35' represent parts of pockets similar to the pockets 10 and 10'. At 36 and 36' is shown the outer facings of the pockets and at 37 and 37' are shown the inner facings thereof. At 38 is shown a coupling section generally similar to the section 11 and attached to edges 39 and 39' which will be similar to the edges 30 and 30'. That is to say, pleated for extensibility of the section 38.

In Figs. 1 to 4, the loops 33 joins both inner and outer facings of the pockets, whereas in Fig. 5, the loop forming the section 38 joins only the outer facings 35 and 35' of the pockets, the inner adjacent edges of the facings 37 and 37' being free, as indicated at 40 and 40' to form openings 41 and 41', similar to the openings 25, for insertion and removal of pads, as indicated in part at 42 and 42' in Fig. 5. In other words, instead of inserting the pads through openings at outer edges of the pockets, the pads may be inserted at the inner edges through the openings 41 and 41', the outer edges of the pockets being closed.

With the structure shown in Fig. 5, I provide along the edges 40 and 40' of the facings 37 and 37', elastic straps 43 and 43' which will compensate for extensibility of the section 38, but will leave the rear portion of the garment open between the edges 40 and 40' to facilitate insertion and removal of the pads, which result is accomplished when the section 38 is extended.

From a standpoint of description, the sections 11 and 38 may be said to comprise compensating sections for increasing the area or capacity of the pockets. This structural feature is applicable to garments of the type and kind under consideration apart from the use of the pad members.

Having fully described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A brassière of the character described, comprising a pair of breast pockets, means secured to and joining and spacing adjacent edge portions of the pockets, means comprising side and back bands extending from outer sides of the pockets for supporting the brassière upon the body of the wearer, each pocket being composed of inner and outer relatively movable facings with a chamber therebetween, each pocket having, on one side edge portion thereof, an opening for admission into said chamber, said opening extending substantially the full height of said side edge portion, said first named means comprising a vertically extensible elastic section providing extension of the pockets adjacent edge portions thereof, and the edges of the pockets joining said elastic section being pleated to facilitate said extension of the pockets.

2. A brassière of the character described, comprising a pair of breast pockets, means secured to and joining and spacing adjacent edge portions of the pockets, means comprising side and back bands extending from outer sides of the pockets for supporting the brassière upon the body of the wearer, each pocket being composed of inner and outer relatively movable facings with a chamber therebetween, each pocket having, one one side edge portion thereof, an opening for admission into said chamber, said opening extending substantially the full height of said side edge portion, said first named means comprising a vertically extensible elastic section providing extension of the pockets adjacent edge portions thereof, the edges of the pockets joining said elastic section being pleated to facilitate said extension of the pockets, and said opening being disposed at the inner side edge portion of each pocket.

3. In brassières of the class described, comprising a pair of breast pockets, means including side and back bands extending from outer sides of said pockets for mounting the brassière upon the body of the wearer, vertically yieldable means secured to and joining and spacing adjacent edge portions of the pockets, said yieldable means normally gathering said adjacent edge portions of the pockets to shorten the vertical dimensions of said edge portions and to minimize the size of the pockets, and said yieldable means being extensible vertically to the end of removing gatherings at, and lengthen said edge portions of the pockets and to materially increase capacity size of the pockets.

SUE M. ULLRICH.

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