Nov. 30, 1937. L. J. A. AMYOT 2,100,932

BRASSIÈRE AND FOUNDATION GARMENT

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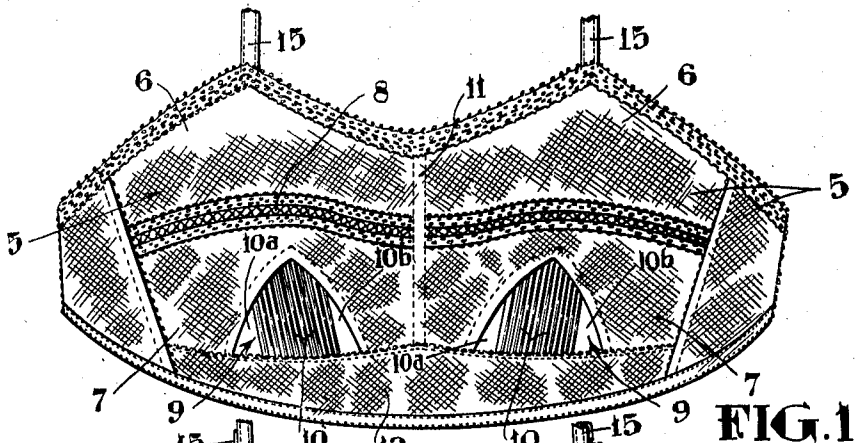


FIG.1

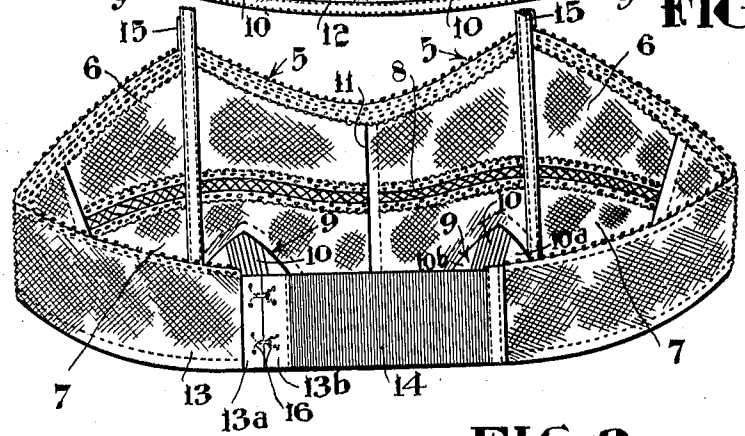


FIG.2

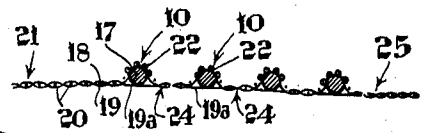


FIG.4

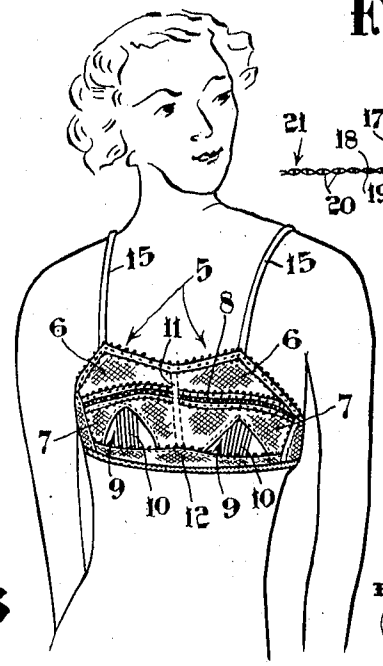


FIG.3

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BRASSIÈRE AND FOUNDATION GARMENT

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3 Claims. (Cl. 2—42)

This invention relates to improvements in brassières. More particularly, the invention consists in the provision of a perfectly fitting brassière which will hold the breasts up without the use of uncomfortably tight shoulder straps.

A feature of the invention consists in the provision of a brassière having a pair of relatively stiff breast supporting panels of a contour corresponding to that of a Gothic arch, each panel being incorporated in the lower half of one of the breast pockets, so that it supports the breast from below in a manner which eliminates the necessity of providing the brassière with tight fitting shoulder straps.

Another feature of the invention consists in arranging the breast supporting panels so that the Gothic contour thereof gives a pointed effect to the contour of the breast pockets as a whole which contributes to perfect fitting of the garment.

A still further feature consists in dividing the breast pocket into upper and lower sections joined together by a line of "faggoting" which extends across the center of the breasts, the upper section of each pocket being cut on a bias to give a smooth rounded figure effect without undue pressure from above.

A further feature consists in making the breast supporting panels of woven fabric in which heavy textile cords are incorporated to form stiffening ribs on the face of the panels, while leaving the back of the panels substantially smooth and flat, the panels being incorporated in the garment so that the stiffening ribs extend more or less vertically and serve to hold up and support the breasts in a more comfortable and desirable manner than the stiffening bones and starched materials heretofore used for this purpose.

Proceeding now to a more detailed description reference will be had to the accompanying drawing in which

Figure 1 is a view in front elevation of my improved garment.

Figure 2 is a perspective view.

Figure 3 is a view in rear elevation.

Figure 4 is an enlarged fragmentary sectional view showing the construction of the woven fabric from which the stiffening panels are made.

As shown in the drawing the breast pockets 5 of the brassière are divided into upper and lower sections 6 and 7 joined together by a line of faggoting 8 which extends across the center of the breasts. The upper half of each pocket is cut on the bias to give a smooth fitting effect, while the lower half is provided with a relatively stiff supporting panel 9 having the contour of a Gothic arch. Each panel 9 is made of a single thickness of woven fabric which is ribbed or corded as indicated at 10 to impart a substantial amount of stiffness thereto. The panels are thus made stiff enough to hold up and support the breasts without contributing anything material in the way of added bulkiness. These panels are inclined, as shown, so that their apices are directed toward the upper edge of the garment and away from the vertical medial line of the front portion. This particular shape and arrangement of the panels tends to give a pointed effect to the pockets as a whole which, together with the faggoting 8 and the bias cut of the upper sections of the pockets, ensures perfect fitting. The two pockets are joined together at the front of the garment in a vertical seam 11 which extends from the upper edge of the garment to the upper edge of a narrow reinforcing fabric 12 extending across the front of the garment below the panels. The outer vertical edges of the pockets 5 are joined to opposite ends of a band 13 including an elastic insert 14. This band serves to hold the garment in place on the wearer with sufficient give to prevent an uncomfortably tight fit. The garment may also be provided with the usual shoulder straps 15. The band 13 may be in one piece or may be divided to provide separable portions 13*a* and 13*b* adapted to be secured together by suitable fastenings 16 of the hook and eye type.

It has been found advantageous to make the panels 9 of the particular type of stiffened woven fabric shown in Figure 4. As here shown, relatively heavy textile cords 17 are laid in the fabric to form stiffening ribs 10 on the face of the fabric, while leaving the back of the fabric substantially smooth and flat throughout its entire area. In order to accomplish this the fabric is woven on a loom with two warps 18 and 19, hereinafter termed the top and bottom warps. Both warps are initially interwoven with the weft threads 20 to provide a flexible section 21, and the bottom warp 19 is then permitted to lie idle while the top warp 18 is interwoven with the weft threads to provide a covering 22 for the first stiffening cord 17 of the ribbed or stiffened section of the fabric. The first cord 17 is then inserted between said covering 22 and the opposing idle bottom warp portion 19*a*. Both warps are then again interwoven with weft threads to provide two or three picks of plain cloth 24, which serves to bind the first stiffened cord in place between its covering 22 and

the bottom warp portion 18a. After similar incorporation of the remaining cords required to make up the stiffened section of the fabric both of the warps 18 and 19 are again interwoven with the weft threads to provide a second plain or flexible section 25. In weaving the fabric described herein the ribbed coverings 22 are beaten up during the weaving operation so that the stiffening ribs formed by insertion of the cords 17 will stand out on the face of the fabric and leave the back of the fabric substantially smooth and flat throughout its entire area. The panels cut from this fabric are incorporated in the brassière so that the smooth back surface contacts the body of the wearer, the stiffening ribs being disposed more or less vertically so as to support the breast in the same manner as the stiffening bones heretofore employed in this class of garment. As shown in Figure 1 the panels may be cut from the fabric so that each panel includes a corded or stiffened intermediate section 16 and flexible side sections 16a and 16b.

While the various features of the present invention have been described as embodied in a brassière, it will be apparent these features may be used either singly or in various combinations in the bust section of corsets and similar foundation garments.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is:—

1. A brassière presenting breast pockets of soft fabric material divided into upper and lower sections joined together by a line of faggoting which extends across the centre of the breasts, the two sections of each pocket being joined to corresponding sections of the companion pocket in a central vertical seam extending a substantial distance above and below the line of faggoting, the upper section of each pocket being cut on the bias to give a smooth rounded figure effect without undue pressure from above and a relatively stiff breast supporting panel in the lower section of each pocket comprising an insert of woven fabric material stiffened by vertically extending textile stiffening cords laid in the fabric to form closely spaced stiffening ribs on the face of the fabric while leaving the back of the fabric substantially smooth and flat, said garment being further characterized in that each panel has the contour of a Gothic arch and is inclined so that the apex of the arch is directed toward the upper edge of the garment and away from said central vertical seam.

2. A brassière as set forth in claim 1 including a band of reinforcing fabric extending across the front of the garment below the panels and lower sections of the pockets, said panels and pocket sections having their lower edges stitched to the upper edge of said band.

3. A brassière presenting breast pockets of soft material divided into upper and lower sections joined together by a line of faggoting which extends across the centre of the breasts, the two sections of each pocket being joined to corresponding sections of the companion pocket in a vertical seam extending a substantial distance above and below the line of faggoting, the upper section of each pocket being cut on the bias to give a smooth rounded figure effect without undue pressure from above and a relatively stiff breast supporting panel in the lower section of each pocket comprising an insert of woven fabric stiffened by substantially vertical textile stiffening cords forming stiffening ribs on the face of the fabric.

LOUIS J. A. AMYOT.