Dec. 8, 1936. S. KIBBE 2,063,104

BRASSIÈRE

Filed Nov. 25, 1935

FIG. 1

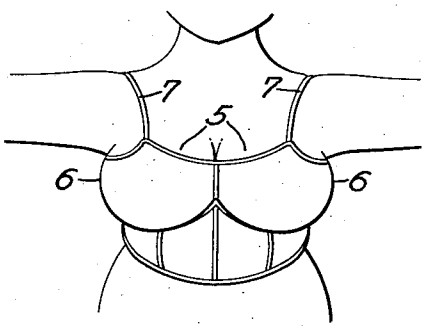


FIG. 2

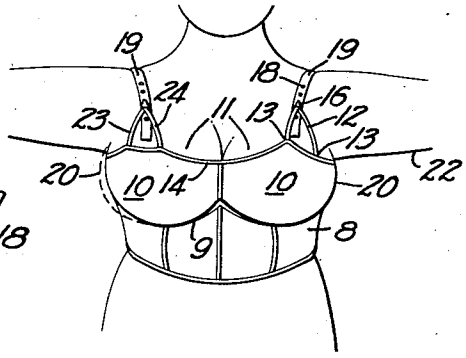


FIG. 3

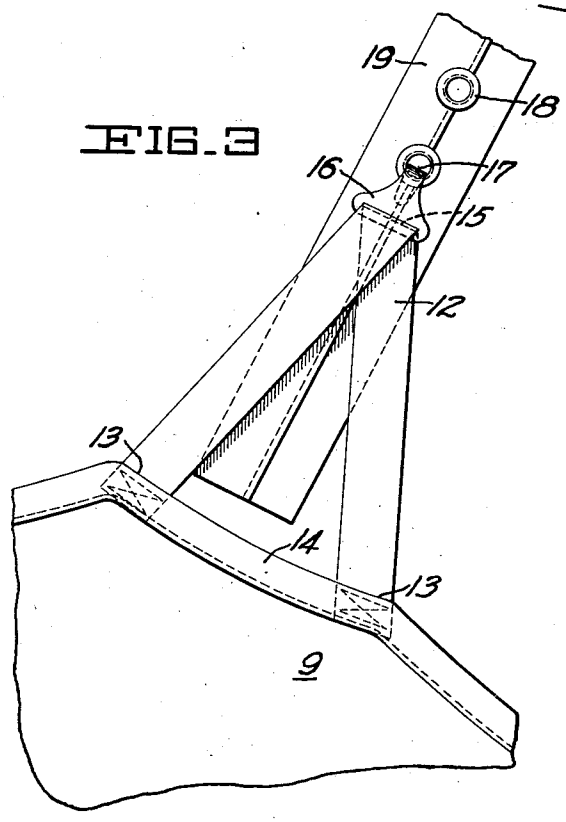
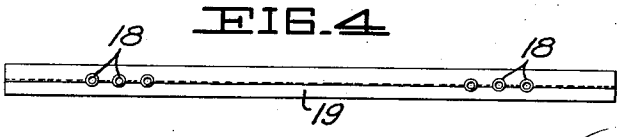


FIG. 4



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BRASSIÈRE

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2 Claims. (Cl. 2—42)

This invention relates to a form-supporting foundation garment and more particularly to the construction of the shoulder straps therefor.

It is the principal object of the invention to provide a shoulder strap for the type of garment referred to, which permits tensioning of different portions of the garment, so as to force the flesh, such as for instance, the bust, into desirable positions, so that any excess of flesh or sagging busts, may be molded into the figure to obliterate any undesirable bulges which could not be corrected if the usual type of brassière were used.

Another object of the invention is to provide a shoulder strap that is instantly adjustable to any desired position, without pinning or sewing.

A still further object is to provide a shoulder strap that is readily removable for cleaning, without the necessity of ripping and re-sewing.

Other objects and features of advantage will be apparent and will be specifically pointed out in the specification hereunto annexed. It is to be understood however, that the invention is not to be limited to the particular form thereof shown and described, as various embodiments thereof may be employed within the scope of the appended claims.

The broader aspects of the invention may be understood upon reference to the accompanying drawing in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a figure clad in the conventional type of brassière. This figure incorporates none of the features of the invention and is used for comparison only.

Figure 2 is a perspective view, similar to Figure 1, showing a brassière constructed in accordance with the principles of the invention and fitted with the improved shoulder straps thereof.

Figure 3 is an enlarged front elevational view showing the attachment of a shoulder strap to the brassière.

Figure 4 is a plan view of the shoulder strap.

There are several undesirable features inherent in the conventional type of brassière, such as that illustrated in Figure 1, the most important of which is the lack of adjustability of the garment to afford proper support for any flabby flesh which may be present on the body, and particularly in the bust. A common deformity, as shown in the figure, is the presence of surplus flesh of the breast 5 under the arm, as is indicated by the numeral 6. This causes the bust to appear abnormally wide, which is usually most undesirable. Some women are naturally possessed of flabby, infirm breasts while in others the breasts become flabby due to loss of considerable weight or from other causes. It is impossible to provide a conventional brassière which will properly support and shape all busts since the individual shape and condition of the latter, even though they are possessed of the same girth, differ so widely. Thus, in Figure 1, even though the shoulder straps 7 be shortened, the only result obtained will be to elevate the bust 5 while the surplus flesh 6 under the arms will be unaffected. Similarly in a person having a flabby bust, although no surplus flesh is present under the arms, shortening of the shoulder straps will cause compression of the bust as the upper edge of the brassière is raised, and consequent widening of the bust as shown in the figure.

I have overcome this undesirable feature by providing a brassière on which the shoulder straps may be adjusted to tension the brassière over parts of the bust where bulgy or flabby flesh is present, thus controlling and molding the bust to a more desirable form.

In detail, the usual form of fabric brassière is employed, comprising the belt portion 8, which is provided as usual with hooks for holding it in position encircling the wearer's waist, and the upper portion 9 which has the usual shaped portions 10 for the reception of the breasts 11. Instead of the strap 7 shown in Figure 1, I provide a loop 12 of fabric or elastic tape whose ends 13 are stitched in spaced relationship to the upper edge 14 of the brassière, and the loop of which is passed through the slot 15 in the shank 16 of the hook 17. The size of the slot is slightly smaller than the width and thickness of the tape so that to move the shank along the tape requires a little effort, and when the shank has been moved to a desired position it may not, under normal stresses, be readily displaced. The hook 17 is adapted to be engaged in eyelets 18 provided in each end of a fabric strap 19, which is shown in Figure 4.

It will of course be understood that loops similar to the loop 12 are provided on the edge 14 of the brassière at the rear of the latter and that these loops are also each provided with hooks for engaging the eyelets of the strap 19.

Figure 2 illustrates but one manner in which the brassière of my invention, particularly the improved shoulder straps thereof, functions to support, mold, and in a large degree obliterate flabby or excess flesh of the wearer. This, it will be understood, is but an example as it is obviously impossible to illustrate all conditions which the invention will remedy. The figure

illustrates in the right-hand portion thereof, the condition referred to above, in which a portion **20** of the flesh of the bust **11** extends over the side of the body under the arm **22**. The pocket **10** of the brassière supports the breast in the usual manner, being itself supported by the shoulder strap attached to the loop **12** as described above.

By referring now to the left-hand portion of the figure it will be seen how the protruding portion **20** of the bust may be so displaced that it will be practically obliterated. Obviously, to accomplish this, the portions of the brassière overlying the protruding portion must be tensioned so as to exert pressure on the flesh against the body. This is done by shifting the shank of the hook along the loop so that the portion **23** thereof will be shorter than the portion **24**. This tightens the fabric of the brassière along a line terminating at its respective ends at the waist portion of the brassière, and the hook **17**, and passing above the area where the excess flesh is located. It is obvious that this tensioning is supplemented by the elastic loop **12**. By so tensioning the fabric, the flesh is forced forward of the body where it will merge with the flesh of the breast. Additional tension may be procured by raising the hook to the next higher eyelet **18** of the strap.

From the above, it is obvious that by careful manipulation and adjustment of the shoulder straps and loops, the bust, or the flesh immediately adjacent, may be forced, within limits, into any desired position, and that any unsightly excess or flabby flesh may be molded into the figure to give the latter the curvature desired. It will also be seen that the elastic loops **12** permit stretching of the shoulder straps to accomodate any normal body movements.

Other desirable features of the invention are, that the straps **19** are wide and unlike the narrow straps usually employed and are not likely to chafe the shoulders of the wearer; that no elastic is used in the straps, which, due to breakage of the rubber strands, disturbs the adjustment of the straps; and that the straps are removable for washing.

I claim:

1. In a brassière, a strip of fabric having each end thereof attached to said brassière to form a loop, a metallic member having an aperture therein disposed in said loop with said fabric strip passing through said aperture, said aperture being smaller than the cross-sectional size of said strip so as to compress the portion of the latter passing through said aperture, said member being provided with a bent portion to provide a hook, a shoulder strap having spaced apertures therein adjacent each end thereof, and metallic eyelets mounted in said apertures in which the hook of said member is engageable.

2. In a brassière, a strip of fabric having opposite ends thereof attached in substantial spaced relation to said brassière to form an inverted V-shaped loop, said loop being attached to said brassière in a position whereby extensions of lines passing longitudinally of said portions of the strip forming the sides of the loop will each pass over different portions of a breast of the wearer, and in substantial angular relation with respect to each other, a shoulder strap secured at one end thereof to said brassière and provided with a plurality of apertures spaced longitudinally thereof, a member having an opening therein through which the strip forming said loop passes and a hook thereon engageable with any of said shoulder strap apertures, the area of said opening being less than the cross-sectional area of said strip whereby the portion of said strip passing through the opening is compressed to secure, against ready movement, said member on said strip, and whereby, upon movement of said member to different positions along said loop, said shoulder strap may be maintained more nearly in alinement with said line passing longitudinally of one of the portions of the strip forming the loop than with the line passing longitudinally of the other portion of the strip forming the loop, so that the supporting force may be adjustably applied in various angular directions, within the limits of the angular relation of the side portions of the loop, over the surface of the breast.

SUSIE KIBBE.