G. B. SMITH.

BUST SUPPORTER.

APPLICATION FILED JULY 16, 1914.

1,139,448. Patented May 11, 1915.

FIG. 1.

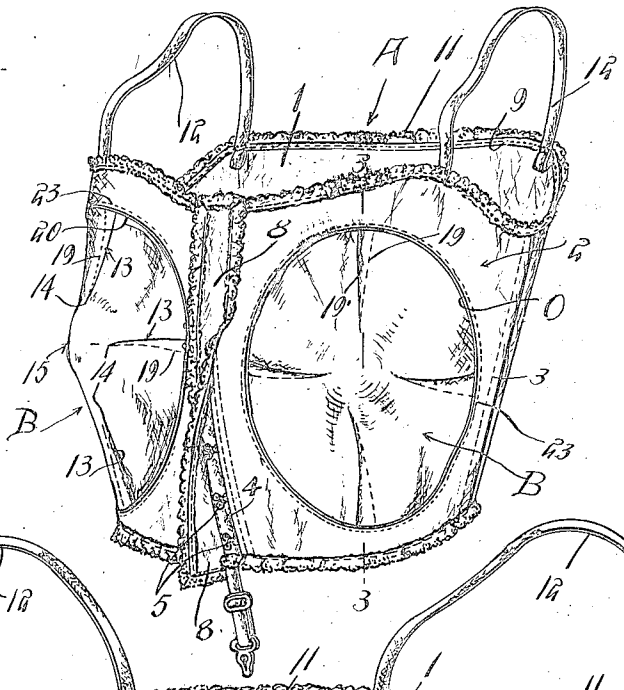


FIG. 2.

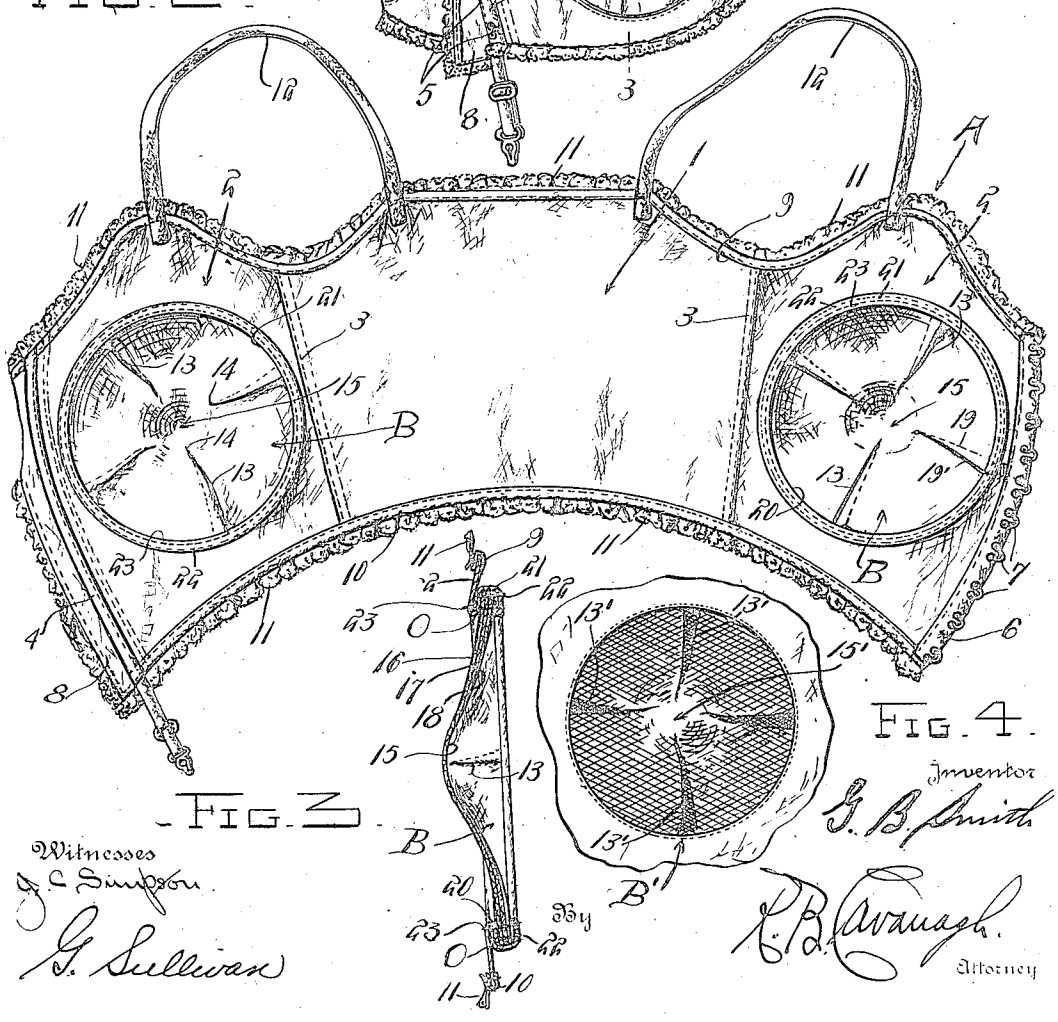


FIG. 3.

FIG. 4.

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BUST-SUPPORTER.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GOODWIN B. SMITH, a citizen of the United States, residing at Philadelphia, in the county of Philadelphia and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Bust-Supporters; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to certain novel and useful improvements in bust supporters or brassières.

In the present instance it is my purpose to provide a bust supporter or brassière which is adapted to receive and support the breasts in a natural position.

Still a further object of the invention is the provision of an article of this class having bust receiving pockets shaped to conform to the natural contour of the breasts, so that the brassière when worn or in use, conduces to the comfort and appearance of the wearer.

Another object of the invention is the provision of a brassière or bust supporter having a pair of substantially semi-spherical bust receiving pockets, which are so constructed as to have small, supplemental pockets formed at the central portions thereof for the reception of the breast nipples.

It is also my purpose to provide a brassière or bust supporter which will embody the desired features of simplicity, neatness, comfort and convenience, and which may be manufactured and marketed at a relatively low cost.

With the above recited objects and others of a similar nature in view, my invention consists in the construction, combination and arrangement of parts set forth in and falling within the scope of the appended claims.

In the accompanying drawings: Figure 1 is a perspective view of a bust supporter or brassière embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a view in elevation showing the inner side or face of the bust supporter illustrated in Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a sectional view taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is a detail view in elevation showing a modified form of bust receiving pocket, in this case the pocket being made of net fabric.

Before entering into a detailed description of my invention, I will briefly state that I form the body of the garment with a pair of spaced bust openings, these openings corresponding in position to the position of the breasts, and these openings are covered by sections or pieces of fabric or other suitable material, forming pockets. In the manufacture of the article the pockets are preferably formed of circular pieces of fabric having darts or folds therein which extend from the edge of the fabric to points adjacent the center of the circular pieces of material. The material of the pocket at the center is, however, unobstructed by stitches, seams, folds, or the like, so that smooth, small supplemental pockets are formed for the reception of the breast nipples. In Figs. 1 to 3 inclusive, I have shown both the body of the article and the pockets thereof; as constructed of imperforate fabric material, such as linen cloth, or the like, which is preferably waterproof, and in Fig. 4 I have shown the pocket as made of a piece of net fabric. Therefore, I wish it to be understood that any suitable material or fabric may be employed in the construction of the brassière or bust supporter.

Referring now to the accompanying drawings in detail, and particularly to Figs. 1 to 3 thereof, the letter A designates the brassière as an entirety. In the preferred form of the invention, this bust supporter is made up of the back section 1, and the front sections 2—2, connected to the back section by rows of stitches 3. To the free edge of one of the front sections 2, I attach a vertical strip of fabric shown at 4, this strip carrying the hooks 5, while to the free edge of the other front end section 2, I attach a strip of fabric 6 carrying the eyes 7, which are adapted to receive and hold the hooks 5 when the brassière is in position on the wearer. A covering strip 8, trimmed and ornamented in any suitable manner, is preferably attached to one of the front sections 2, and is adapted to overlie the hooks and eyes when the article is in use. The upper edge of the body portion is provided with a binding strip 9, while the lower edge has a similar binding strip 10, these strips being preferably ornamented and trimmed with lace edging 11. The shoulder strips for the body portion are shown at 12. Each of the front sections 2 has a substantially circular opening cut therein, these openings being of sufficient size to accommodate the breasts. Each opening is closed by a circular piece or section of fabric forming a pocket indi-

cated as an entirety by the letter B. The material of the pocket is, in the course of manufacture folded and stitched to form the radial darts 13 which extend from the periphery or edge of the pocket to points adjacent the center thereof, the darts terminating at the points indicated at 14, so that a smooth, small, unobstructed, supplemental pocket 15 is formed at the center of each bust receiving pocket. By reference to Fig. 3 it will be noted that each dart is made by folding the material with a double fold, thus making three thicknesses or plies of the material, as shown at 16, 17 and 18, the folds of the darts being fastened by rows of stitching 19 and 19'. The material of each body section 2 surrounding the opening therein, and which opening is indicated by the letter O, is folded inward at 20. A circular binding strip 21 is provided for the pocket, and is connected to the pocket at the edge thereof by the row of stitching 22, while this circular binding strip, and consequently the pocket is attached to the material of the front section 2 by means of the circular row of stitching shown at 23. By reference to Figs. 1 and 3, it will be seen that when the garment or article is made up as just described, the radial darts or folds, in addition to shaping the pocket so that it will conform to the contour of the breast, causes the center of the pocket to project or protrude outward to form the supplemental central pocket 15 for the reception of the breast nipple. In the structure shown in Figs. 1 to 3 inclusive, both the body of the garment and the pockets are formed of relatively imperforate material or fabric, such as linen cloth or the like, but if desired, both the body of the garment and the pockets may be made of knitted fabric or perforated material.

In Fig. 4 I have shown a pocket B' of perforate material which may be in the nature of net, lace or the like, and in fact any soft, perforate material will serve the purpose. This pocket is also provided with darts or folds 13', forming a central nipple receiving pocket 15'. When the brassière, including its pocket, is made of perforate material, this material may be knitted, crocheted, or woven, as desired, or found convenient. It will be noted that by making the brassière with perforate or net-like pockets, I provide a bust supporter which will be cool and ventilated, and will naturally adjust itself to the natural position of the bust so that it will add to the comfort and appearance of the wearer.

While I have herein shown and described one particular embodiment of my invention, I wish it to be understood that I do not confine myself to all the precise details of construction herein set forth by way of illustration, as modification and variation may be made without departing from the spirit of the invention or exceeding the scope of the appended claims.

What I claim is:

1. In an article of the class described, a body section having breast openings formed therein, a fabric pocket overlying each opening and attached to the body section, the material of each pocket being folded from points adjacent the outer edge thereof to points adjacent the center thereof and secured in such folded position to form a nipple-receiving section at approximately the center of the pocket.

2. In an article of the class described, a body section having bust openings formed therein and fabric pockets of perforate material attached to the body section and overlying the openings, the material of each pocket from the edge toward the center thereof being connected by stitches to form a nipple-receiving section at substantially the center of the pocket.

3. In an article of the class described, a body section having substantially circular breast openings therein and a substantially circular section of fabric forming a pocket for each breast, said section of fabric being attached to the body portion and having radial darts extending from points adjacent the periphery thereof to points adjacent the center thereof, the inner ends of said darts terminating short of the center of the pocket the construction being such that the complete pockets are adapted to conform to the natural contour of the breasts.

In testimony whereof, I affix my signature, in the presence of two witnesses.

GOODWIN B. SMITH.

Witnesses:

ANNA T. RYAN,

ERNA E. ERNST.