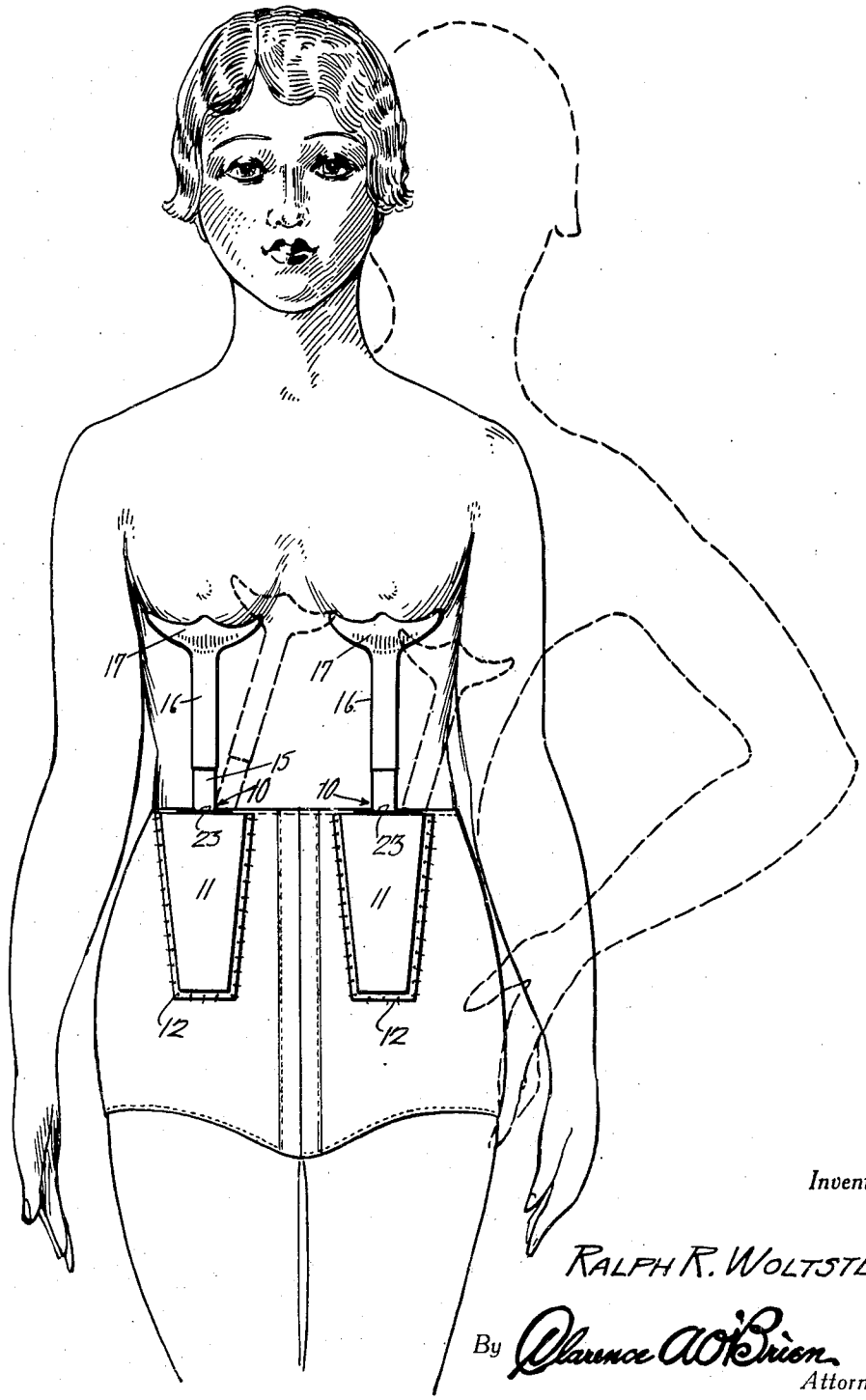
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BREAST SUPPORT

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Fig. 1.



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Fig. 2.

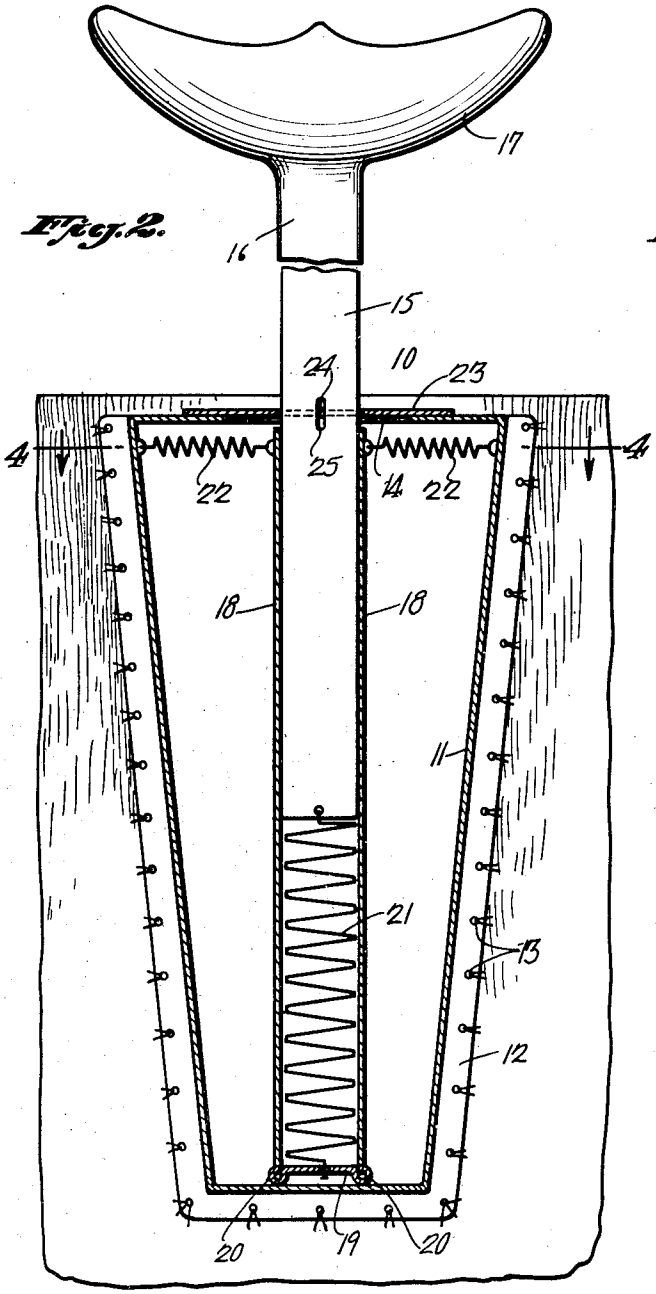


Fig. 3.

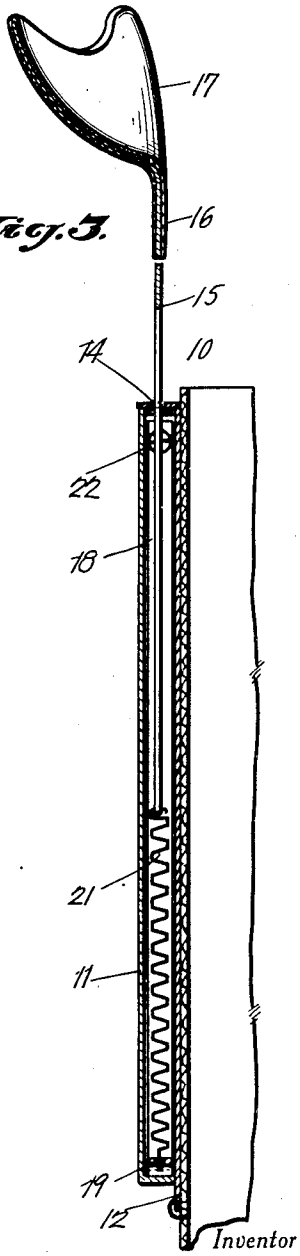
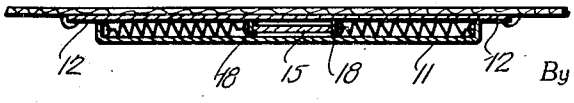


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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BREAST SUPPORT

Application filed July 23, 1929. Serial No. 380,382.

This invention relates to breast supports and is an improvement over my copending application Serial No. 286,050, filed June 16, 1928, allowed June 21, 1929.

The primary object of this invention, like that embodied in the above application resides in breast supports for attaching to women's waist encircling garments for supporting flabby or pendant type breasts in a proper outstanding position to relieve the tiring strain caused thereby and to improve the figure and posture of women so troubled. In the above mentioned application, means is provided for permitting free forward and upward movement of the body during natural body bending movement, but no provision was included to facilitate support of the breast during lateral or side bending body movement.

The main object of this invention is therefore, to construct a breast support which permits free body movement in all directions so as to not interfere with the action of a wearer when indulging in various sports and exercises.

Another object of the invention is to provide a breast supporting device in which the breast supporting member is normally held in a vertical position by equalizing springs which allow lateral movement to be imparted thereto upon side bending body movement of a wearer so that upon the return to an upright position, the said breast supporting member will automatically return to normal position, thus readily adapting itself to the said body movement of the wearer.

With these and other objects in view, the invention resides in certain novel features of construction and combination and arrangement of parts, the essential features of which are hereinafter fully described, are particularly pointed out in the appending claims and are illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a front elevation of a woman showing my invention in use, the dotted lines indicating the position of the parts upon side bending movement of the wearer.

Figure 2 is a vertical sectional view through one of the breast supporting units.

Figure 3 is a vertical transverse sectional view taken at right angles to Figure 2.

Figure 4 is a horizontal sectional view on the line 4—4 of Figure 2.

Referring more particularly to the drawings, the reference character A designates a corset, girdle or other form of waist encircling garment worn by women, and associated therewith at the upper edge thereof and at opposite sides of the center directly beneath the breasts of the wearer are spaced breast supporting units 10—10, each of these breast supporting units 10—10 are of identical construction, therefore a description of one will suffice for the other.

Each of the breast supporting units 10 includes a casing or housing 11 which is relatively thin in thickness, the side walls of which converge toward the bottom, and which casing is provided with attaching flanges 12 provided with spaced openings 13 for facilitating the attachment of the casing to the garment A by stitching or the like. The top wall of the casing 11 is provided with an elongated slot 14 for the passage of a flat stem 15 which constitutes the lower end of a breast supporting member 16. The top of the stem 15 is provided with a breast rest 17 of a shape to snugly receive the breast of a female to support the same in a proper outstanding position as clearly shown in Figure 1 of the drawing. The stem 15 as mentioned extends through the slot 14 within the casing 11 and is interposed between a pair of flat rods 18 hingedly connected at their lower ends to a horizontally disposed plate 19, as shown at 20. A flat expansion spring 21 is interposed between the lower end of the stem 15 and the plate 19 which tends to normally urge the breast support in an upward direction, the tension of which is sufficient to overcome the weight of the hanging breast.

Connected to the upper end of each of the rods 18 is one end of each of a pair of expansion springs 22—22, the other ends of the springs being respectively connected to the opposite side walls of the casing 11. These springs 22 tend to normally support

the breast supporting member in a vertical position, but permit lateral movement of the same in opposite directions to accommodate side body movement of a wearer. Closing the slot 14 in the top of the casing is a slide plate 23 which is connected to the stem 15 by a pin 24, which passes through an elongated slot 25 in the said stem.

From the foregoing description, it will be appreciated that the spring 21 permits downward movement of the breast support during the forward bending of a wearer and serves to return the same to normal position upon backward movement to an upright posture.

Upon the side body movement of a wearer as shown in dotted lines in Figure 1 of the drawing, it will be understood that the hinged joint 20 permits lateral movement of the breast supporting member against the action of the spring 22 during which time the breasts are firmly supported, and upon movement of the wearer to an upright posture, the said equalizing springs 22 will tend to return the said breast supporting member to a normal vertical position. It will be appreciated that a person possessed with flabby breasts and wearing a garment equipped with the invention or breast support hereinbefore described, may have free body movement in any direction so as not to interfere with the wearer's indulgence in sports and other forms of exercise.

While I have described what I deem to be the most desirable embodiment of my invention, it is obvious that many of the details may be varied without in any way departing from the spirit of my invention, and I therefore do not limit myself to the exact details of construction herein set forth nor to anything less than the whole of my invention, limited only by the appended claims.

Having thus described the invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:—

1. In combination with a waist form encircling garment, means for supporting a woman's breasts in proper position, said means including a pair of sockets fixedly attached to said garment, a pair of breast supports having stems extending into said sockets, spring means acting upon said stems to extend said breast supports outwardly of said sockets, and resilient means for securing said stems in said sockets for normally supporting said supports in a vertical position and for permitting lateral movement thereof in opposite directions.

2. In combination with a waist form encircling garment, a pair of housings fixed to said garment, spaced hinged bars mounted within each housing and coacting therewith to provide sockets, breast supports provided with flat stems which extend into said sockets, springs within said sockets tending to extend said breast supports in an upward direction, spring means tending to urge the free ends of said bars into engagement with the sides of said stems to normally support the same in vertical position and for returning the same to such position after swinging movement in either direction.

3. A breast supporter comprising a casing adapted to be fixedly secured to a waist encircling garment and having a slot in the top wall thereof, a pair of spaced hingedly connected bars mounted within said casing, a breast support provided with a flat stem interposed between said bars, an expansion spring beneath said stem tending to urge the same outwardly of said casing, and equalizing expansible springs respectively connected to said bars and to the opposed side walls of said casing.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

RALPH R. WOLTSTEM.