

May 23, 1950

S. S. ALBERTS
METHOD OF MAKING BRASSIERES

2,508,355

Filed Aug. 10, 1946

3 Sheets-Sheet 1

FIG. 1

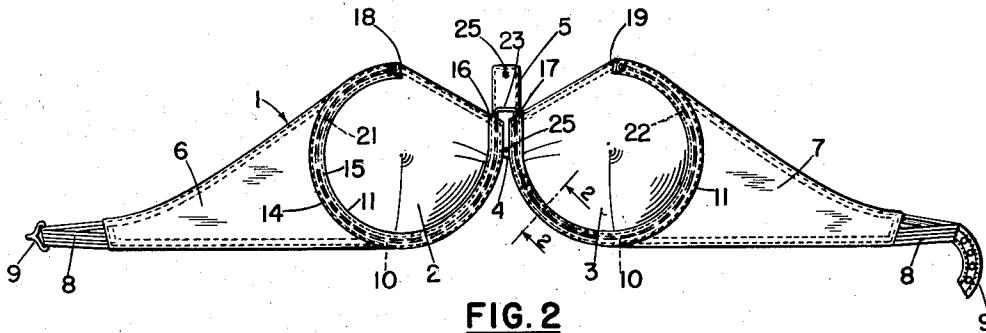


FIG. 2

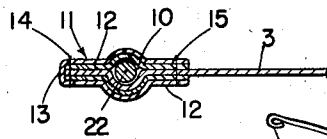


FIG. 3

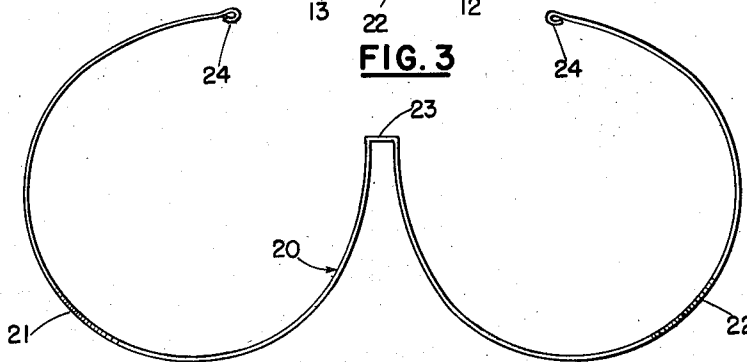
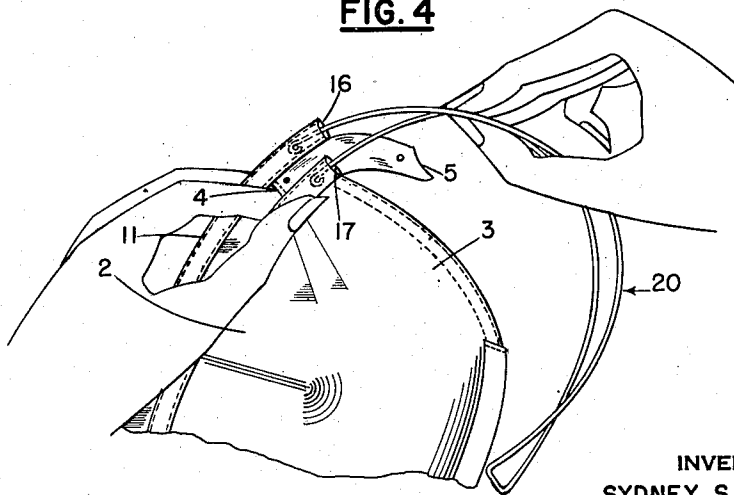


FIG. 4



INVENTOR
SYDNEY S. ALBERTS
BY

Pennie, Edmunds, Morton and Barrows
HIS ATTORNEYS

May 23, 1950

S. S. ALBERTS
METHOD OF MAKING BRASSIERES

2,508,355

Filed Aug. 10, 1946

3 Sheets-Sheet 2

FIG. 5

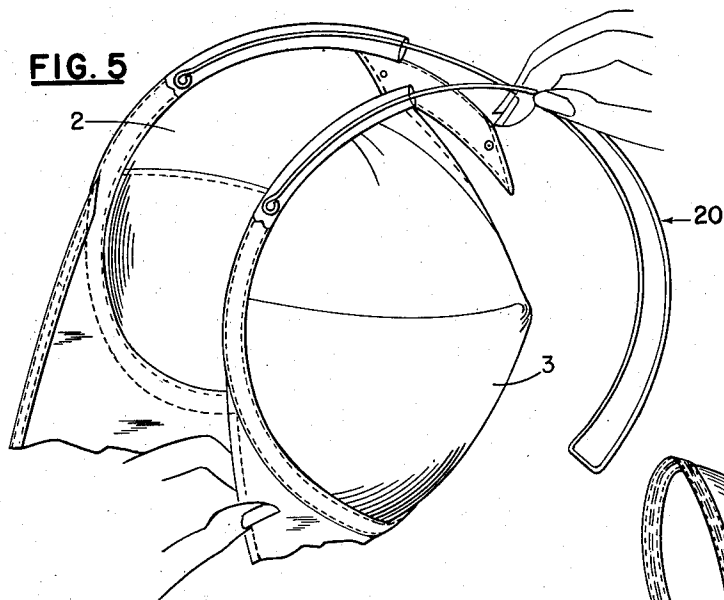
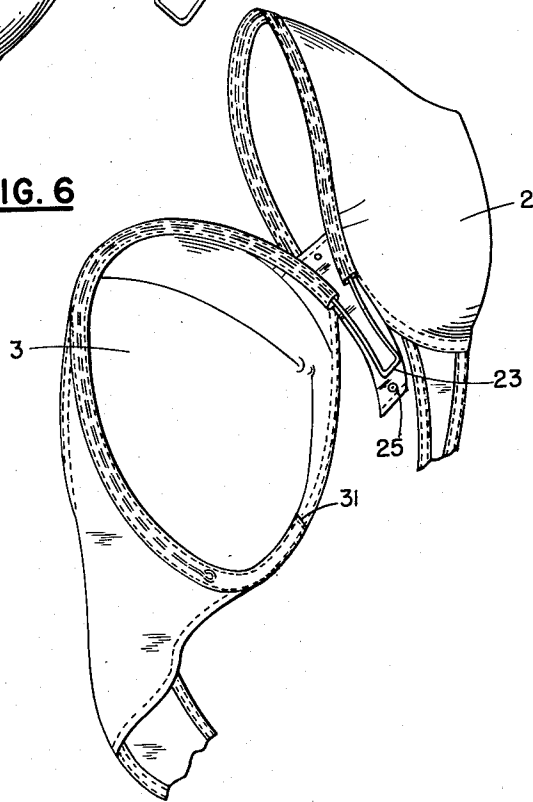


FIG. 6



INVENTOR
SYDNEY S. ALBERTS
BY
Rennie, Edmonds, Martin & Barrows
HIS ATTORNEYS

May 23, 1950

S. S. ALBERTS

2,508,355

METHOD OF MAKING BRASSIÈRES

Filed Aug. 10, 1946

3 Sheets-Sheet 3

FIG. 7

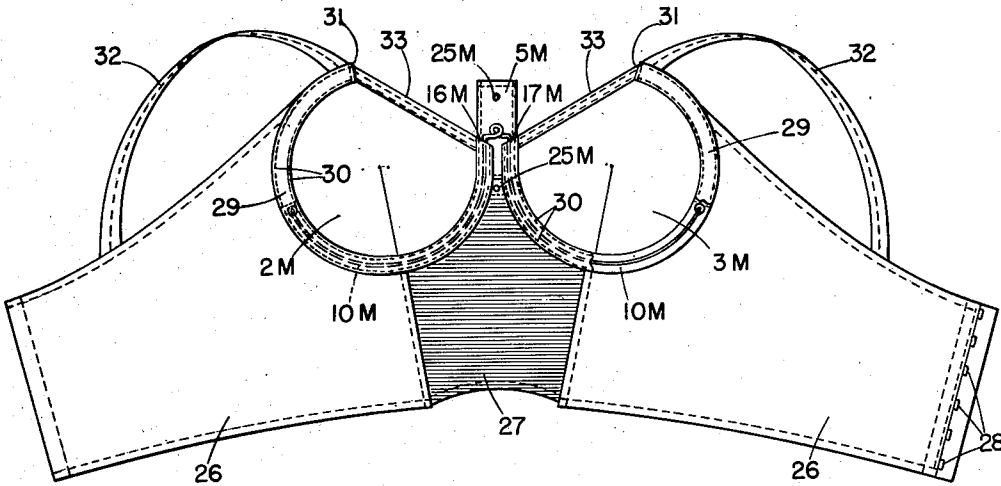


FIG. 8

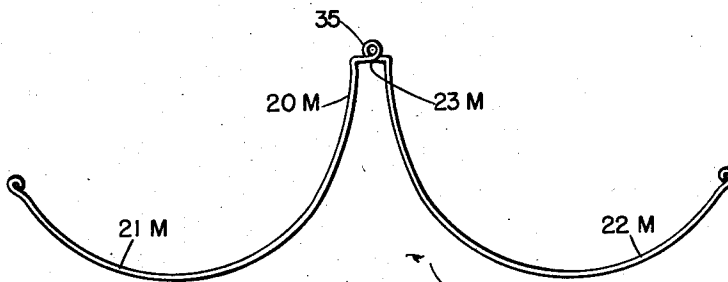
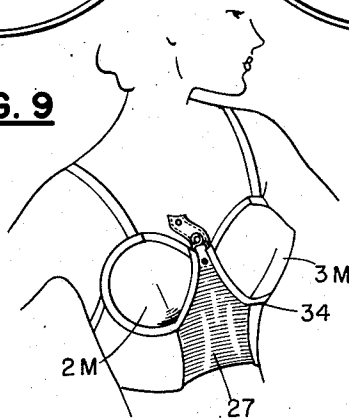


FIG. 9



INVENTOR
SYDNEY S. ALBERTS
BY
Pennie, Edmunds, Martin & Barrows
HIS ATTORNEYS

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,508,355

METHOD OF MAKING BRASSIÈRES

Sydney S. Alberts, Yonkers, N. Y.

Application August 10, 1946, Serial No. 689,688

5 Claims. (Cl. 2-243)

1

This invention relates to women's garments and has for its object to provide a garment such as a brassière, corselette (or other garments incorporating bust cups or breast pockets), of improved construction, and an improved method of making the same. More particularly the invention relates to garments of this kind wherein the breast pockets are reinforced along their margins by means of stays of stiff wire or other stiff resilient or spring-like material. Still more particularly the invention relates to such garments in which stays for the individual pockets are constituted of portions of a single stay member which is resilient throughout its length.

Heretofore it has been the practice to make such garments by hand, that is to say, the application of the stay member to the fabric portion of the garment has involved a considerable amount of hand labor, with the result that the cost has been excessive. The aim of the present invention is to provide a method of making or assembling which facilitates the manufacture and substantially reduces the manufacturing cost of such garments, and also to provide a construction which is susceptible of being manufactured on a quantity production basis.

Another object of the invention is to provide a garment of the class described which is constructed to facilitate removal and replacement of the stay member in connection with the laundering of the garment.

The invention will be understood from a consideration of the accompanying drawings which illustrate by way of example two embodiments of the improved garment, and also illustrates the method of manufacture. In these drawings:

Fig. 1 is a view in front elevation of a brassière of the strapless bandeau type embodying the invention;

Fig. 2 is an enlarged detail section taken on line 2-2 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a plan view of a stay member;

Figs. 4, 5 and 6 are perspective views illustrating three steps in the method of making or assembling the garment;

Fig. 7 is a view similar to Fig. 1, of a modified form of brassière;

Fig. 8 is a plan view of a modified stay member; and

Fig. 9 is a perspective view showing the garment of Fig. 7 in position as worn.

Referring now to the accompanying drawings and first to Fig. 1, the brassière 1 is provided with two substantially circular pocket portions 2 and 3 individually shaped to enclose the breasts of

2

the wearer. These pocket portions may be made of any suitable fabric and they are connected together at the longitudinal center of the garment in any suitable way, as for example, by means of a section 4 of fabric having an upward extension 5 for a purpose which will appear later. At the outer sides of pockets 2, 3 are attached substantially triangular extensions 6 and 7, and secured to the ends of these extensions are elastic tapes 8, 8 and a releasable and adjustable connection 9, 9 to hold the garment in place in the usual way.

Commencing at the center of the garment adjacent fabric section 4 and extending along the peripheries of pocket sections 2 and 3 there are two channels 10, 10 which may be placed on either the inside or the outside of the garment. As shown in Fig. 2 these channels are constructed by attaching a tape 11 along the margin of the material constituting the pocket sections 2, 3. Tape 11 has its opposite margins 12, 12 folded inwardly against the opposite surfaces of the material of the pocket section, and the tape itself is folded at 13 along its longitudinal center line around the peripheral edge of the pocket sections.

The tape is secured by two lines of stitching 14 placed one adjacent the inner, and the other adjacent the outer, edge of tape 11. This leaves a channel 10 (Fig. 2) between the tape and the surface of the material of the pocket section. The two channels 10, 10 of pocket sections 2 and 3 are open at their inner adjacent ends 16, 17 but are closed by stitching at their opposite ends 18 and 19.

It will be understood that instead of applying a folded tape, such as tape 11, in order to form the space or channel 10, this channel can be formed by suitably folding and stitching the material of which the pockets 2 and 3 are made, or the channel may be constructed in any other desirable way. Also, as garment 1 has been described, channel 10 follows the seam between the pocket portions 2, 3 and their respective triangular extensions 6 and 7, the latter being cut from pieces of material which are separate from the material of pockets 2 and 3. It will be understood, however, that if desired each of the pockets and its adjacent triangular extension may be made of one piece of material.

The single stay member is shown at 20 and has two symmetrical halves or arms 21, 22 connected together by a short cross-piece 23. The ends 24 of the two arms may each be bent into the form of a closed eye forming a rounded en-

largement at each end. When the stay member 20 is in place in the garment shown in Fig. 1, the arm portions 21 and 22 occupy the two channels 10, 10 of pocket sections 2 and 3 respectively, the ends 24 extending to the ends 18 and 19 of the channels which are disposed substantially vertically above the centers of the two pocket sections. Cross-piece 23 extends between the two adjacent opposite ends 16 and 17 of the channels and may be concealed by means of extension 5 of fabric section 4 which is arranged to be folded over the end and secured in place by means of a snap fastener 25, 25.

Stay member 20 is stiff and resilient and may be made of spring steel or other material of somewhat similar stiffness and resiliency. Its ends 24, before the stay is placed in the garment, occupy positions somewhat higher and somewhat nearer each other than after being placed within the channels 10, as may be seen by comparing Fig. 3 and Fig. 1. The upper edges of pocket portions 2 and 3 between the ends 18 and 19 of the channels and the center of the garment are stretched and held taut by the resiliency of stay 20.

The improved method of assembling the stay and garment is illustrated in Figs. 4, 5 and 6. The first step is to fold the two halves of the garment so as to bring the two pocket sections 2 and 3 and the two channels 10, 10 into substantially parallel relation with one another, in which position they may be held for example by means of the left hand, with the index finger inserted just below fabric section 4 which connects the two pocket sections. Stay member 20 is grasped by the right hand either before or after folding the garment as just described and is bent to bring its two halves or arms 21 into approximately parallel relation and may be held by the right hand as shown in Fig. 4. The ends 24 are then inserted in the open ends 16 and 17 of channels 10, and slid part way into the channels.

If desired stay 20 may be pushed all the way into channels 10, but when the ends 24 have been pushed in to about the distance shown in Fig. 5 the resiliency of stay 20 causes the arms to spread apart and propel the stay into channels 10. This self-propulsion will continue, the arms 21 and 22 sliding through the fingers until the insertion of the stay is almost complete, with only a short portion, about as shown in Fig. 6, still remaining to be pushed in by the operator. The operator then folds extension 5 over cross-piece 23 and closes the snap fastener 25, 25 to complete the assembly.

It will be observed that the stiffness and resiliency of stay 20 is such that, although the two halves of the stay can be bent by the hands into parallelism, as shown in Fig. 4, when the arms are released the resiliency is sufficient to maintain the garment substantially flat, that is to say stretched out into bust-conforming position, approximately as shown in Fig. 6, where the inside portion of the garment is given a concave curvature to conform generally with the shape of the wearer's body.

In Fig. 1 the invention has been illustrated in connection with a bandeau garment of the strapless type in which the seams or hems along the lower edges of the two extensions 6 and 7 constitute in effect a band fitting snugly around the body, and the upper outline of the garment being maintained in proper position by the stiffness of the stay member 20. In Fig. 7 the in-

vention is illustrated in connection with a long line type of brassiere which is provided with shoulder straps and in which the stay member 20m is shorter.

In this modification the garment comprises a comparatively wide band portion, consisting of two side sections 26 and an intermediate central elastic section 27. The side sections 26 are provided with the usual fastening devices 28 by means of which the garment may be fastened together at the rear to hold it in place. The pocket sections 2m and 3m stitched along substantially arcuate seams in part to side sections 26 and in part to mid-section 27. Along these seams there also extend the two channels 10m, 10m which may be formed by the application of a strip of tape 29 over the circular seams, this tape being held in place by two lines of stitches 30 along its marginal edges.

Inasmuch as stay member 20m is shorter than stay 20 channels 10m may be terminated short of the top centers 31 of the pocket sections, although from a manufacturing standpoint it may be simpler to continue the channels to the tops of the pockets as is the case in Fig. 1. Shoulder straps 32 are attached at the top centers 31 and at the proper points at the rear of the two side sections 26. The inner ends of channels 10m are open as before, as indicated at 16m and 17m, and after the stay has been put in place, its upper portion may be concealed by means of a flap extension 5m which is held in place as previously described.

In this form of garment the two pocket sections 2m and 3m are interconnected by means of the elastic insert 27, as well as by fabric section 4m which is preferably but not necessarily inelastic. The method of assembling stay 20m in channels 10m is similar to that described above. The length of the arm portions 21m and 22m can be varied as desired.

Although the upper edges 33 of pockets 2m and 3m between the top center points 31 of the pockets and the longitudinal center of the garment (also the similar edges of the garment of Fig. 1) are shown as being straight, it will be understood that they may have a circular or other curved outline as desired. Also it may be understood that the pocket sections of either the garment of Fig. 1 or Fig. 7 although shown as being made of one piece of material, may be of the two piece type, that is with the lower pocket sections of somewhat heavier or stiffer material than the upper or of any other suitable material, or style, as dictated by the fashion of the time.

Because of the stiffness of arm members 21m and 22m and the width of the band sections 26, 27 of the garment of Fig. 7, there is a tendency for the lower portions of the two pocket sections to hang away from the body. This tendency is overcome by the stretching of the elastic section 27 which may be composed of any suitable stretchable material. Thus for example as shown in Fig. 9, in order for the lower portions of pocket sections 2m and 3m to fit snugly against the body, as at 34, it is necessary that elastic insert 27 be stretched along its lower edge to a greater extent than in its upper portion. The stretch or extension of this material in the upper part of section 27 between the pocket sections enables the pocket sections to be brought into proper fitting relation to the breasts. This is provided for in the garment in Fig. 1 by the flexing of stay member 20.

5

The modified form of stay member 20m is shown as being provided with a properly tempered spring loop 35 in its connecting cross-piece 23m so as to facilitate the bending together of the two halves or arms of the stay member during the assembly operation.

It will be understood that whenever reference is made in the appended claims to the peripheries of breast pockets, it is to the boundary of that portion of the pocket intended actually to enclose the breast which is referred to rather than to the pattern or seam of the pocket which may be square or rectangular or oblong and may extend beyond the channels 10.

It will be understood that the present invention is not limited to the particular forms which have been illustrated and described above by way of example, but may be variously modified within the scope of the appended claims.

I claim:

1. The method of making a brassière or the like having two interconnected adjacent breast receiving pockets which comprises providing channels extending along the peripheries of said respective pockets having open ends adjacent the longitudinal center of the garment, folding the garment to bring said channels into approximately parallel relation with one another, providing a resilient stay member having connected symmetrical arms shaped to conform substantially to the shape of said channels, bending the arms of said member into approximately parallel relation, inserting the ends thereof in the open end portions of said channels and releasing said stay member, the resiliency thereof serving automatically to propel the member into said channels.

2. The method of making a brassière or the like having two interconnected adjacent breast receiving pockets which comprises providing channels extending along the peripheries of said respective pockets having open ends adjacent the longitudinal center of the garment, providing a resilient stay member having symmetrical halves shaped to conform substantially to the shape of said channels, folding said stay member and said garment to place the halves of the stay member approximately parallel and the ends thereof facing in the same direction, and the channels of the garment in approximate parallelism, bringing said folded parts into juxtaposition and inserting and releasing the two ends of the stay member simultaneously in the open ends of said channels.

3. The method of assembling a brassière or the like having two interconnected adjacent breast receiving pockets with channels extending along the peripheries of said respective pockets having

6

open ends adjacent the center of the garment and a resilient stay member having symmetrical halves shaped to conform substantially to the shape of said channels which comprises folding the garment to place said channels into approximately parallel relation with one another, bending the arms of said stay member into approximately parallel relation, inserting the ends of said arms in the open end portions of said channels and releasing said stay member, the resiliency thereof serving automatically to propel the member into said channels.

4. The method of making a brassière or the like having two connected adjacent breast receiving pockets which comprises providing channels extending along the periphery of said respective pockets having open ends adjacent the longitudinal center of the garment, folding the garment to bring said channels into approximately parallel relation with one another, providing a resilient stay member having connected symmetrical arms shaped to conform substantially to the shape of said channels, bending the arms of said member into approximately parallel relation, and inserting said stay member in position in said channels.

5. The method of making a brassière or the like having two connected adjacent breast receiving pockets which comprises providing channels extending along the periphery of said respective pockets having open ends adjacent the longitudinal center of the garment, folding the garment to bring said channels into approximately parallel relation with one another, providing a resilient stay member having connected symmetrical arms shaped to conform substantially to the shape of said channels, bending the arms of said member into approximately parallel relation, inserting the ends thereof in the open end portions of said channels, and pushing said stay member into position therein.

SYDNEY S. ALBERTS.

REFERENCES CITED

The following references are of record in the file of this patent:

UNITED STATES PATENTS

Number	Name	Date
1,837,958	Ferrero	Dec. 22, 1931
1,989,303	Alberts	Jan. 29, 1935
2,347,578	Roher	Apr. 25, 1944
2,402,302	Spiecker	Jan. 18, 1946
2,420,593	Gluckin	May 13, 1947

FOREIGN PATENTS

Number	Country	Date
413,228	Great Britain	July 12, 1934
781,297	France	Feb. 18, 1935