March 26, 1957 H. STEINER 2,786,206

BRASSIERE AND GIRDLE CONSTRUCTION

Filed Jan. 21, 1955

Fig. 1.

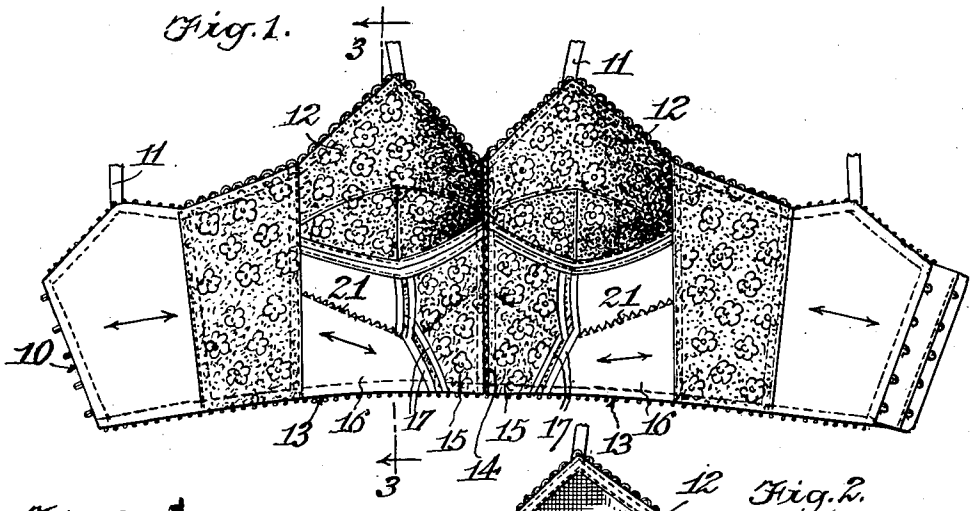


Fig. 2.

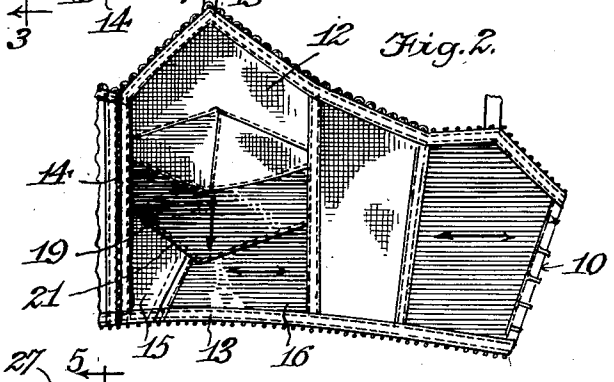
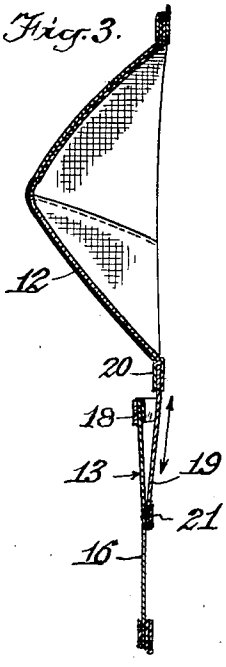


Fig. 3.



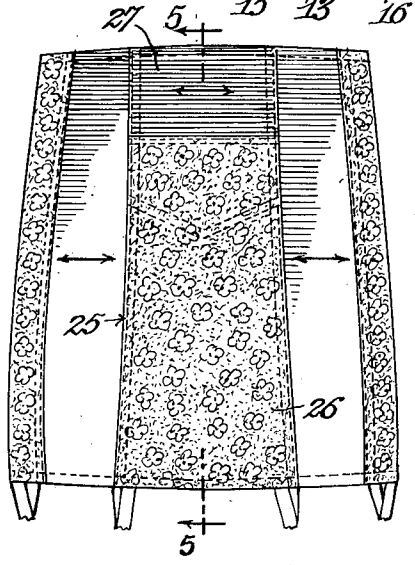


Fig. 4.

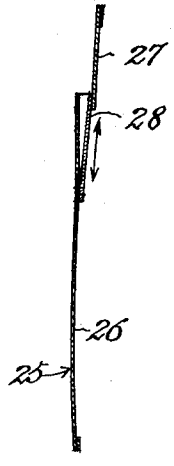


Fig. 5.

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BRASSIERE AND GIRDLE CONSTRUCTION

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Application January 21, 1955, Serial No. 483,290

6 Claims. (Cl. 2—42)

This invention relates to the construction of brassieres, girdles and analogous garments.

An object of the present invention is the provision of a brassiere or like garment embodying improved features of construction by virtue of which the wearer's busts are properly supported with the desired effect while allowing a vertical or up and down stretching action for desired bust movement; and also allowing a transverse stretch of the brassiere below the breast pockets in the region of the wearer's thorax thereby achieving proper diaphragm control and at the same time eliminating midriff bulge with no nip at the waist line so that the waist is thus eased.

Applied to a girdle or foundation garment the present construction enables the wearer to have free movement in taking a sitting position and in bending forward and backward.

With the foregoing, other advantages and benefits of the present invention will appear when the following description is read in conjunction with the accompanying drawing in which

Fig. 1 is a front view of a brassiere constructed in accordance with the present invention.

Fig. 2 is the inside of a portion of the brassiere.

Fig. 3 is an enlarged vertical sectional view taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1 and looking in the direction indicated by the arrows.

Fig. 4 is a rear view of a foundation garment or girdle embodying the invention.

Fig. 5 is a vertical sectional view, the section being taken on the line 5—5 of Fig. 4 and looking in the direction indicated by the arrows.

The brassiere as shown in Figs. 1, 2 and 3 of the drawing comprises a body band or belt **10** having shoulder straps **11** and cooperative means at the ends of the band to detachably connect said ends, which together with the straps **11** support the brassiere on the wearer's body.

The band **10** embodies curviform breast pockets or cups **12** of any preferred material or combination of different materials. Panels **13** forming parts of the band **10** are arranged below the pockets **12** respectively in a side by side relation. The adjacent vertical edges of the panels **13**, and the adjacent vertical edges of the pockets **12**, are connected to each other by a continuous line of stitching or other securing means **14**.

Each of the panels **13** comprises sections or portions **15** and **16** respectively. Adjacent edges of the portions **15** and **16** are secured to each other throughout by means of reinforcing crisscrossed ribbons and lines of stitching **17**. The upper edges of the portions **15** and **16** in continuation of each other are curved in conformation to the curvature of the related pocket **12** at the bottom of the latter. The lower edge of the panel **13** formed by the portions **15** and **16** is straight or nearly so. The portion **15** is made of two plies of non-stretchable or inelastic material, there being one front ply of lace and an inner ply of woven fabric in the present instance. The portion **16** is made of woven fabric which is elastic or stretchable lengthwise with respect to the band **10**, or transversely with respect to the wearer's body.

An insert **19** is interposed between each pocket **12** and the related panel **13**. The insert **19** is made of woven fabric which is elastic or stretchable only vertically in use. The upper arcuate edge of the panel **13** has stitched to it a ribbon **18** which causes the brassiere to lie against the curvature of the body of the wearer directly below the breast during body movements holding panel **13** against the body more like an elastic girdle. The insert **19** has its upper arcuate edge stitched throughout to the lower arcuate edge of the material of the related pocket **12**, use being made of a ribbon **20**. The use of the ribbons **18** and **20** give a neat and finished appearance to the brassiere where the panels **13** and the pockets **12** meet. The lower V-shaped edge of the insert **19** is sewn to the portions **15** and **16** of the respective panels **13** by a continuous line of zig-zag stitching **21** below the upper edges of the portions **15** and **16** on the inside thereof. Thus the insert **19** is secured to the related panel **13** below the upper edge of the latter in an overlapping relation in which the insert **19** is covered by the upper portion of the panel **13**. The upper portion of each of panels **13** has a free upper end and overlaps and covers the stretchable inserts **19**. The construction of the panel **13** is one which is made in part of inelastic material by virtue of the portion **15**, and made in part of horizontally or transversely elastic material by virtue of the portion **16**.

From the foregoing it will be understood that by reason of the vertically stretchable inserts **19** the brassiere embodies means which enables up and down bust movement, without excessive strain, properly supported by the pockets **12**; that the panels **13** reduce to a minimum the possibility of the brassiere riding upwardly on the wearer's body; that by reason of the transversely or horizontally stretchable portions **16**, the band **10** is self-adjustable to the wearer's body without disturbing the disposition of the pockets **12**, due to the extension and contraction of the portions **16** below the lines of stitching **21**, or at the wearer's waist line with the result that the wearer's waist is eased; and that the mentioned stretchable nature of the portions **16** also enables diaphragm control so as not to adversely affect the wearer's natural respiration because the transverse or horizontal stretch occurs between the lines of stitching **21** and the bottom edge of the band **10** at the waist line of the wearer.

In Figs. 4 and 5 there is shown a foundation garment or girdle which is generally elastic transversely about the hips and waist of the wearer. The garment includes a central rear panel **25** stitched or seamed in the garment along its opposite vertical side edges. The panel **25** comprises three rectangular sections, namely, a lower inelastic section **26** of lace or other inelastic material, an upper horizontally elastic section **27** of woven material, and an intermediate vertically elastic section **28** of woven material.

The intermediate vertically elastic section **28** is in the nature of an insert. It is interposed between the sections **26** and **27** and has its upper edge seamed to the lower edge of the horizontally elastic section **27** and its lower edge stitched to the inelastic section **26** horizontally across the same below the upper edge of the section **26** at the inside thereof. The upper portion of the section **26** covers the section **28** thereby giving a neat and finished appearance to the garment where the panel **25** is located. By reason of the interposition of the vertically elastic section **28**, the garment in use may stretch vertically so that the wearer has free movement in taking a sitting position and in bending forward and backward and prevents the garment from riding upwardly.

I claim:

1. In a garment of the character described, a body

band having breast pockets made of non-stretchable material, a panel below each of said pockets, said panel being made in part of material stretchable transversely with respect to the wearer's body, and an insert made of vertically stretchable material between said panel and its related pocket and having its upper edge stitched to the lower edge of the pocket and the lower edge of the insert being stitched to the panel below the upper edge of the latter on the inside thereof, the upper edge of each panel being free and not connected to the respective breast pocket, whereby the upper portion of each of said panels has a free upper end and overlaps and covers each of said stretchable inserts.

2. In a garment as set forth in claim 1, wherein the upper edge of said panel is curved to substantially conform to the shape of the related breast pocket.

3. In a garment of the character described, a body band comprising panels made in part of material stretchable transversely with respect to the wearer's body, said panels having their adjacent vertical edges connected to each other, breast pockets of non-stretchable material connected to each other at the front and center of the garment in vertical alignment with the vertical edges of said panels, and inserts made of vertically stretchable material interposed between said panels and breast pockets respectively, the upper edges of said inserts being stitched to the lower edges of the respective breast pockets, and the lower edges of the inserts being stitched to the respective panels below the upper edges of the latter on the inside thereof the upper edge of each panel being free and not connected to the respective breast pocket, whereby the upper portion of each of said panels have a free upper end and overlaps and covers each of said stretchable inserts.

4. In a brassiere or the like, a body band having breast pockets, and panels arranged below said pockets respectively and connected to each other side by side, each of said panels comprising a portion made of non-stretchable fabric and a portion made of fabric stretchable only transversely with respect to the wearer's body and having adjacent edges stitched to each other, and inserts made of material stretchable only vertically interposed between said pockets and panels respectively back of said panels, the inserts having their upper edges stitched to the respective pockets and their lower edges being stitched to the respective panels below the upper edges of the latter the upper edge of each panel being free and not connected to the respective breast pocket, whereby the upper portion of each of said panels have a free upper end and overlaps and covers each of said stretchable inserts.

5. An undergarment comprising a panel made of material stretchable transversely with respect to the wearer's body; said panel of transversely stretchable material being secured to a panel made of vertically stretchable material; and a panel made of non-stretchable material secured to said panel of vertically stretchable material, said panel of non-stretchable material overlapping at least a portion of said panel of vertically stretchable material to conceal the same.

6. In a garment as set forth in claim 2, wherein a ribbon is stitched along said upper edge of each of said panels whereby said panels are held against the curvature of the body of the wearer below the breast at all times.

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