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BREAST SUPPORT

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Fig. 1.

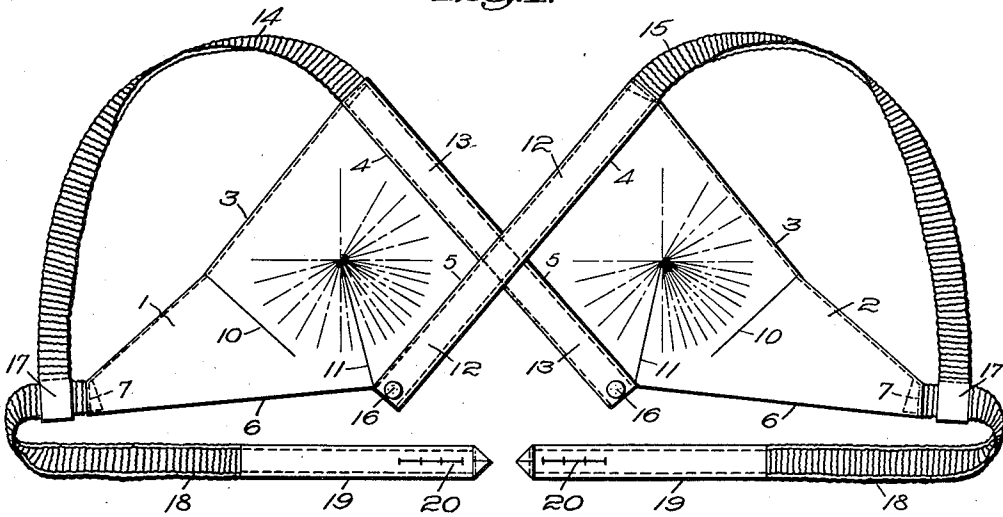
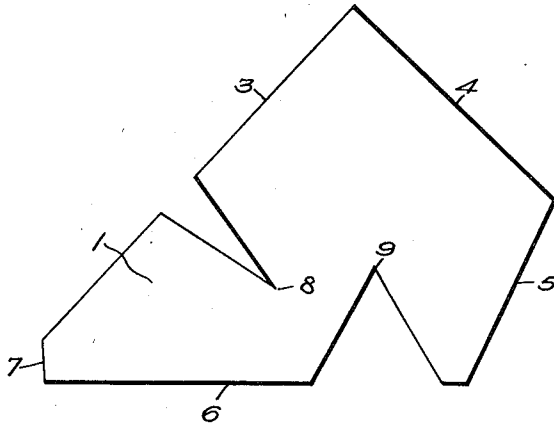


Fig. 2.



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BREAST SUPPORT

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This invention relates to breast supports and its aim is to provide a novel and improved support of that nature having, among others, the advantages and novel features hereinafter described and claimed.

In the drawings of one embodiment of my invention selected for illustration and description herein,

Fig. 1 is a front view; and

Fig. 2 is a detail development of one of the breast supporting pocket members.

Referring to the drawings, Fig. 1, my novel breast support is shown as comprising two polygonally shaped breast supporting pocket members 1, 2, the sides 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 of which form between them angles of varying degrees. These members obviously may be made of any suitable material and of different dimensions to comfortably fit different persons.

In Fig. 2 the member 1 is shown developed as it is initially fashioned. To produce the pocket or sack effect the member has a V-shaped opening 8 of convenient depth cut therein from the side 3 and a similar but larger opening 9 from the side 6, and the openings so made are closed by seams 10, 11, Fig. 1. Obviously more of these openings or darts may be made if desired, although those specified usually are found sufficient. These seams are preferably so located that the apex of the pocket or raised area is just over the nipple of the breast in each case.

While the angle between the sides 3, 6, may be acute and the tapered portion formed thereby may be carried any desirable distance laterally for convenience, the side edges 4, 5 should be so located that they follow closely the corresponding lines of the breast in its normal position.

The supports in use at the present time, whether of the brassière or other type, are unsatisfactory and improperly designed, partly because they fail to provide the proper normal separate support for each breast in the proper position, and also because they flatten out and tend to crowd the two breasts together; and to overcome this and other defects I have designed my novel support.

In general, my support is designed especially to separate the two breasts and give to each its own independent support to the extent and where it is needed. It is, of course, well known that rarely, if ever, are the two breasts of any woman alike, either in size or configuration. They vary just as one's arms, hands, shoulders and ears vary, and properly each breast should be provided with the support it particularly needs. To that end, by my invention the corners of the pocket members 1, 2, formed by the sides 4, 5 of said members, meet mid sternum, and have only such connection as is required to keep them the correct distance apart and permit free swinging adjustment of each pocket up or down about the point of connection with the opposite pocket to properly support its breast.

For that purpose they are provided with straps 12, 13 of firm material of desired width, which in this case, cross at the meeting point of the pockets and substantially above the bottoms thereof, the straps being preferably about one inch wide and of any desired material to provide the necessary support sufficient to keep the breasts separated and in normal position both laterally and upwardly. It will be noted that by this means each strap end 12, 13 which together form an X-shaped pocket connecting structure, below their meeting point is free to swing and adjust itself, without hindrance from the other strap, to properly support its own breast, which would not be true if the lower strap ends 12, 13 were connected with each other and thus prevented from being freely adjustable. Of course, it is not necessary that the straight straps 12, 13 be used and made to cross each other; a substantially L-shaped strap may be used for each pocket and they may be simply secured at their meeting point.

At its lower end and front face each strap 12, 13 is provided with a suitable fastening device, as a button 16, while the upper ends are attached to shoulder straps 14, 15 of suitable width, preferably at least one inch wide and partially at least of elastic web-

bing to permit free movement of the shoulders, and to support the pockets.

The lower ends of the shoulder straps are provided with loops 17 through which pass the ends of bust straps 18 of suitable material, but preferably at least partly of elastic, at least one inch in width, to permit freedom of movement for the bust with comfort, the strap ends 19 being preferably of firm material and provided with button holes 20 or other suitable fastening devices. The opposite or inner ends of the straps 18 are secured to the members 1, 2, at the meeting point of the edges 3, 6, 3, 6.

It is very desirable that the angle formed by these straps at their crossing point be a substantial one so that when the lower ends of these straps are connected to the bust straps the pull is naturally lateral as well as upward and thus the tendency is to separate and support the breasts.

In use the arms are slipped beneath the shoulder straps 14, 15, and the lateral or bust straps 18 carried about the back, then through the loops 17 on the ends of the opposite straps and each is secured to the button 16 on the lower end of the opposite strap end 12 or 13 beneath the opposite breast.

By carrying each strap 18 through a loop 17, the straps are more certain to be kept in the best position, just below the shoulder blades, thus provided a relatively secure anchorage for the lower ends of the shoulder straps 14, 15 and permit them to give the desired upward support for the pocket members 1, 2, and the breasts.

It will be noted that my novel breast support imposes no pressure upon either breast to impede free circulation of blood nor does it apply pressure to the nerves of the breast. It does not push the breasts toward the median line of the body but separates them and by its adjustability each pocket supports each breast in its normal position. It of course lifts the abnormal breast upward, bringing the nipple approximately to its intercostal position.

Continued wearing of the support day and night will permit nature to contract the loose tissues and tend to create a more normal condition of the breasts.

My invention is not limited to the precise embodiment thereof herein illustrated and described.

Claim:

A breast supporter comprising pockets for the breasts, the adjacent edges of the pockets being of strap-like structure in X-like relation and connected only at their point of contact, a body strap on the outer end of each pocket constructed to pass beneath the wearer's arm and about her body and engage the lower end of the X-strap below the opposite pocket, a pair of shoulder straps respectively extending from the top ends of the X-related

straps over the shoulders and down to the body straps, the foregoing construction providing pockets each of which is individually movable angularly from the other about the said contacting point of the pockets in response to pull from the upper and lower X-strap ends to separate and support the breasts.

In testimony whereof, I have signed my name to this specification.

FLORA M. BAUCKMAN.