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L. H. MIDDLECOFF

2,333,434

BRASSIERE PADS

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Fig. 1

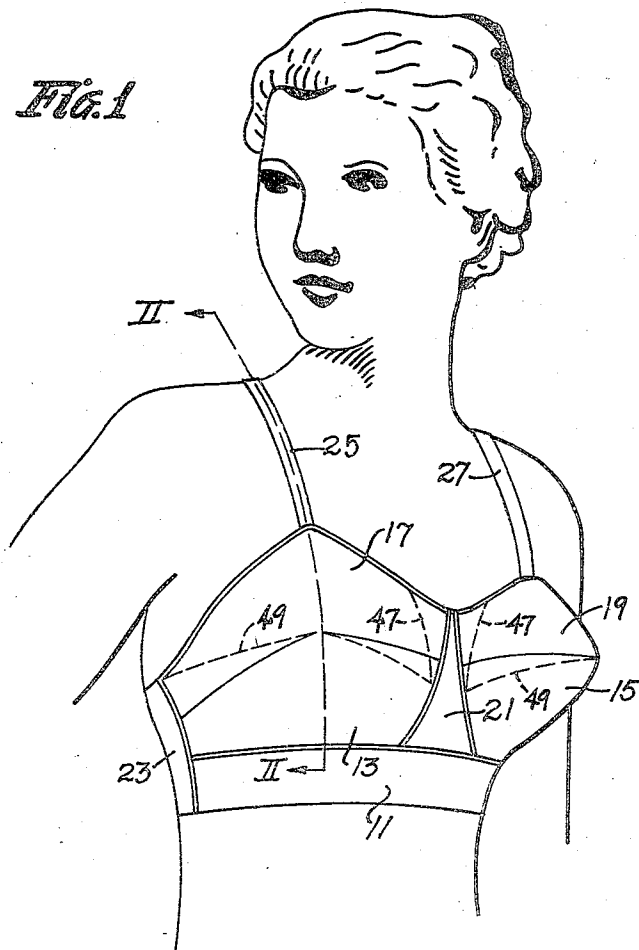


Fig. 2

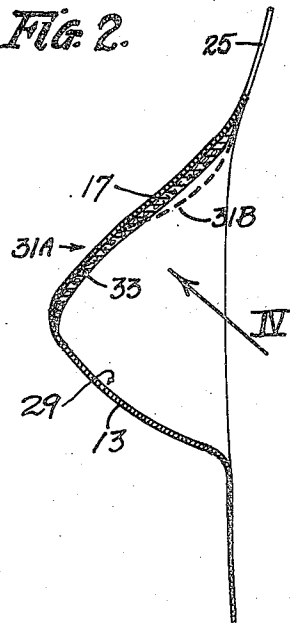


Fig. 3

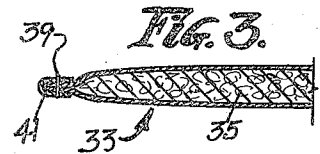
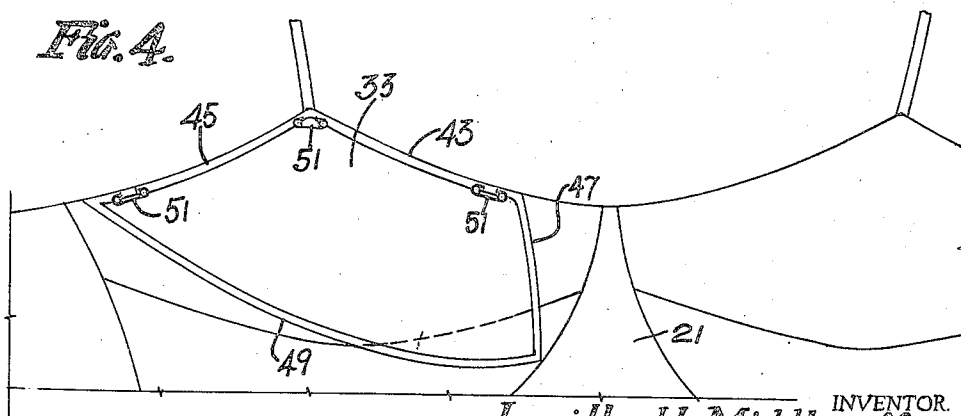


Fig. 4



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BRASSIÈRE PAD

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3 Claims. (Cl. 2—42)

This invention relates to improvements in brassière pads and has especial relation to pads for use with any of the usual types of brassières now on the market. It further relates to such pads for use with bathing suits or the like.

Brassières have made great strides in appearance and also in improving the appearance of the female figure under many conditions.

The present brassières have an under portion adapted to support the underside of the breasts and an upper or covering portion overlying the upper half of the breasts. Where the breasts are firm, as in youth, the use of a brassière rounds up the breasts and steadies them, adding much attraction to the figure. Where, however, the breasts have become flabby the supporting effect is still extremely advantageous, but the uplift has a tendency to crowd the top front portion of the breasts upward causing bulges which to a certain extent accentuate the sag of the upper breast portions adjacent the body, more or less defeating the purpose which their use was intended to serve. To compensate for this pads have been used, these pads being ordinarily lozenge shaped in cross section, that is thick in the middle and thinning out, usually along curved lines, toward the peripheral edges, such pads being adapted to fill the enlarged depression created by the upward front bulge and without doubt improving the situation, but creating usually a double pair of bulges and an abrupt dubbing off where the breasts join the body that is of artificial rather than natural appearance. Also these bulging pads have been carried to the extent of full replacement where breasts have been removed, but such structures have nothing in common with the present device.

The objects of my invention are:

To make a pad which will rearwardly displace the front bulge into and cause it to fill up the sag closer to the body and which in addition will smooth up and firm up the upper surface of the breast from the tip to the body line thereby substantially restoring the natural and desired contours of the breast and greatly improving the youthful appearance and feel of the figure.

To make a pad which so smooths and evens up the upper contour of the breast as to substantially defy detection by observance or touch.

I accomplish these objects by making a thin pad of substantially uniform thickness throughout, except at and along the peripheral edges where the covering materials of the pad are brought together, preferably bound, and fastened together as by stitching, affording blending

edges of minor extent which obliterate any abruptness which even the minor thickness of the pad might have had.

The means by which I accomplish these and other objects and the manner of their accomplishment will readily be understood from the following specification upon reference to the accompanying drawing, in which:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a brassière on the person of a wearer with dotted lines indicating the lower lines and inner ends of the pads.

Fig. 2 is a sectional elevation taken as on the line II—II of Fig. 1 showing in dotted lines the contour effected by the uplifting action of the lower portion of the brassière and in full lines the smoothing out of the contour accomplished by the use of the pad.

Fig. 3 is an enlarged fragmentary view showing the edge construction of the pad; and

Fig. 4 a fragmentary developed view of the underside of the brassière looking in the direction of the arrow 4 of Fig. 3 showing the general outline of the upper portion of the brassière with one of the pads fitted and secured in place.

Referring now to the drawing in which the various parts are indicated by numerals:

The brassière shown includes a belt portion 11, such as is used in certain types of brassières, but is often only a narrow strap; uplift sections 13, 15 and corresponding upper sections 17, 19; a middle section or gore 21, a back section or sections 23, and supporting straps 25, 27 for the upper sections 17, 19 respectively. It will be understood here that the brassière construction shown is intended to be typical only of a brassière, and is not in any way a limiting or controlling one.

The uplift sections 13 and 15, as the section 13 in Fig. 3, press against and uplift or raise and support the under sides 29 of the breasts. This raising action tends to be greatest at the tip where there is less resistance and has a tendency to over-raise the upper front and form a bulge 31—A and to accentuate the sag of the upper portion adjacent the body as shown by the dotted line 31—B, the bulge ordinarily being also slightly displaced inwardly toward the center of the body.

The upper or top lines, as the lines 17—A, 17—B of the section 17 of the brassière have the usual upward conformation, outward from the middle section 21, and inward from the outer side, meeting in an apex 17—C at the point of strap attachment.

The upper sections 17 and 19, though not thus

shown in Fig. 3, would and do sag into conformity with the sag 31—B, established, and/or accentuated, by the uplift with to say the least far from graceful contour.

To meet this situation I make a thin substantially flat pad 33, comprising a filler 35 of resilient fibrous material covered on its opposite faces usually with light cloth covers 37, which for expensive types may be silk or satin and as ornate as desired.

Where the pads are to be used with a bathing suit they will preferably be covered with oil cloth, thin rubber or other water-proof material. The filler extends close to the edges of the pad and may feather out along a narrow adjacent zone. The cloth is brought together and secured as by stitching 39. As shown in Fig. 3 a narrow ribbon or tape 41 may be folded over the edge as a binder and the stitching done through the tape.

The pads are preferably the same on both sides so that they may be turned with either face toward the brassière and right and left not be necessary. Each pad has an upper edge 43 which is adapted to be conformingly secured as along the brassière top edge 17—A from the apex 17—C inward about three fourths of the distance toward the brassière center, an outer end edge 45 diverging at a flatly obtuse angle to conformingly lie along the brassière edge 17—B outward from the apex, and of length to extend adjacent the outer end of the section 17, an opposite end edge 47 diverging at a slightly obtuse angle from the inner end of the edge 43 and extending downwardly somewhat below the top of the uplift section 13 adjacent the gore 21, and a convexly curved lower edge 49 joining the bottoms of the ends 45 and 47.

The pads may be built in as a part of the brassière or they may be securely fastened therein as by stitching. Preferably, however, they are loose and removable and are secured to the brassière as by small safety pins 51, though snap fasteners or buttons and button holes may be made use of.

I claim:

1. In a brassière which includes breast uplifting portions and complementary upper or covering portions, thin substantially flat pads, each respectively secured behind a said upper portion; said pads each having an upper edge shaped to lie along substantially the entire top edge of said upper portion, from its outer end into adjacency with its inner end, a lower, arcuately convexed, edge extending from the outer end of its

said upper edge substantially to the inner edge of the related uplift portion below the upper edge of such portion, and an inner end edge joining the inner ends of said upper and lower pad edges, said lower edge intermediate its length being spaced from said upper edge to substantially traverse the tip of the related breast; said pads substantially entirely covering upper breast portions only; whereby said pads are adapted to rearwardly displace upward bulges adjacent the tips of the breasts, caused by raising action of said uplift portions, and to smooth and even out the upper contours of the breasts.

2. In a brassière which includes breast uplifting sections and complementary upper or covering sections, thin substantially flat pads, filled with resilient material; each said pad respectively being secured behind a said upper section, each pad having an upper edge shaped to lie along the top edge of its said upper section and extending the major portion of the length thereof, a lower edge extending from the outer end of its said upper edge substantially to the inner edge of the related uplift section below the upper edge of such section, and an inner end edge connecting the inner ends of said upper and lower edges; said lower pad edge, intermediate its length, being spaced from said upper edge to lie immediately adjacent the tip of the related breast; whereby said pads are adapted to rearwardly displace upward bulges adjacent the tips of the breasts, caused by raising action of said uplift sections, and to smooth and even out the upper contours of the breasts.

3. In a brassière which includes breast uplifting portions and complementary upper or covering portions, thin pads of resilient material, substantially uniform in thickness throughout, each respectively secured to and behind a said upper portion, and adapted to be held thereby in covering contact with substantially the upper half only of a said breast; said pads each respectively having an upper edge shaped to lie along the top edge of a said upper portion of said brassière, substantially from its outer side to adjacency with its inner side, and a lower, arcuately convexed edge, spaced intermediate its length from said upper edge to substantially traverse the tip of the related breast; and being adapted to rearwardly displace upward bulges adjacent the tip of the breast caused by raising action of said uplift portions and to smooth and even out the upper contours of the breast.

LUCILLE H. MIDDLECOFF.