

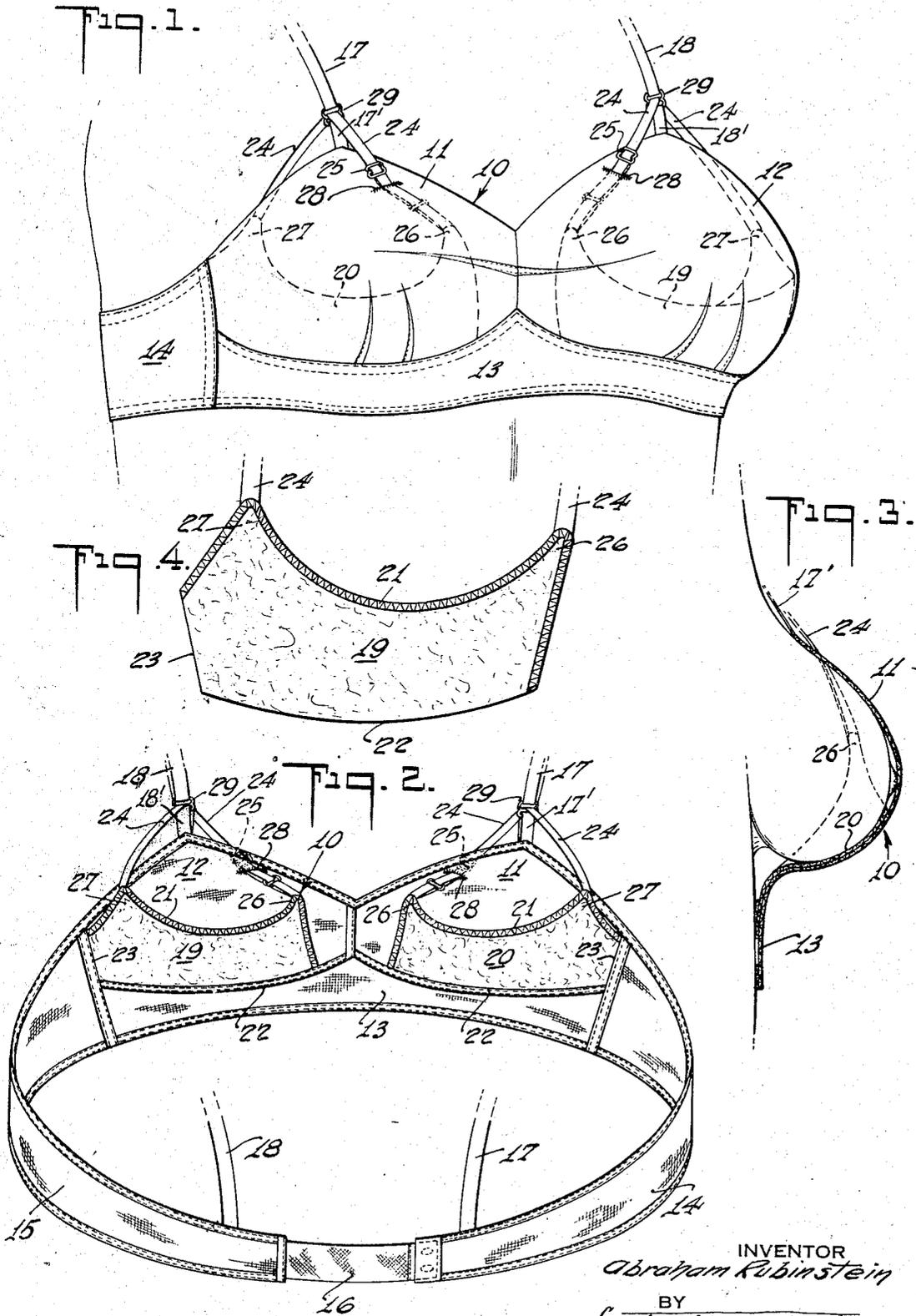
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BRASSIÈRE

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## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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## BRASSIÈRE

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5 Claims. (Cl. 2-42)

This invention relates to brassières and like articles of apparel for supporting the breasts of women.

One of the objects of the invention is to provide a brassière which can be worn with comfort to mold the breasts in natural shape without undue pressure.

Another object is to provide a brassière having breast pockets each containing an individually adjustable breast supporting flap so arranged that the adjustments necessary to shape the breasts may easily be effected when the brassière is in place on the body of the wearer.

A further object is to provide a brassière with supporting flaps that are adjustable to partly encircle the breasts so as to give the latter the desirable uplift and to support them at the sides as well as from below.

Most adjustable brassières which have heretofore been made tend to draw the breasts together. This is objectionable in that it gives them an unnatural appearance.

One of the important features of my invention consists in the provision of a brassière which is designed to keep the breasts apart and to hold each breast naturally in place.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will appear more fully from the following description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, in which:

Figure 1 is a view in perspective of the brassière as worn;

Fig. 2 is a rear view of the brassière;

Fig. 3 is a sectional view through one of the breast pockets; and

Fig. 4 is a rear view of one of the breast supporting flaps, laid out flat.

Referring now to the drawing, 10 indicates the brassière generally, which may be made of any desired material. The brassière has a right breast pocket 11, a left breast pocket 12, a band portion 13, side portions 14 and 15, a fastening strap 16, and adjustable shoulder straps 17 and 18. These parts are all conventional and may be of any desired construction. If desired, some of these parts may be omitted or suitably altered.

According to my invention, both breast pockets are provided on the inside with adjustable breast supporting flaps 19 and 20. Each flap is fastened to the brassière along one or two edges only, and is free from permanent attachment at all other points, so that, as will hereinafter be described, the flaps may be separately adjusted to partly encircle the breasts whereby to mold them into natural appearing shape and to hold them apart.

The two breast supporting flaps 19 and 20 are exactly alike in form, except that one is reversed end for end with respect to the other, and they both function in the same manner. I shall, therefore, for the sake of simplicity, limit the detailed description of these parts to the flap 19 of the left breast pocket. A rear view of this flap, laid out flat, is shown in Fig. 4. The flap may be made of a piece of canton flannel or other suitable soft and flexible material. It is preferably cut with a concavely curved upper edge 21 and it may be stitched or otherwise fastened to the brassière, at the inside of the breast pocket, along its lower edge 22 and one side edge 23, the rest of the flap being loose. A fabric strap 24, provided with a slide buckle 25 for adjusting its length, is attached at one end of the tab portion 26 of the flap and at its other end to the tab portion 27.

Each flap adjusting strap 24 is slidably supported by an eye 29 carried on the shoulder straps 17 and 18 respectively. The front end of each strap, from the eye 29 downward, may be in the form of an elastic loop 17' and 18' to provide a desirable tension on the breast pockets and on the flaps when the parts have been adjusted.

The inner end of each flap adjusting strap 24 preferably passes freely through a slit or opening 28 in the breast pocket, and the slide buckle 25 preferably lies on the outside of the pocket. This construction permits of conveniently adjusting the flaps, from the outside of the breast pockets, when the brassière is worn. If desired, however, the slits 28 may be omitted.

In use, the brassière is applied and adjusted to the body of the wearer in the usual manner. The supporting flaps 19 and 20 may be separately adjusted by sliding the buckles 25 to shorten the lengths of their respective straps 24. This adjustment draws the tab portions 26 and 27 upwardly towards each other so that the flap will partly encircle the breast and will support the breast at the sides as well as from below. The adjusted flaps uplift the breasts and keep them apart, giving them a natural appearing form.

Various modifications in the details of construction herein illustrated and described may be made without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention defined in the claims.

What I claim is:

1. In a brassière, a pair of breast pockets, a breast supporting flap within each pocket and secured thereto along its lower and one side edge, and an adjusting strap secured at spaced points to the upper edge of each flap, one end of each

strap passing from the inside to the outside through an opening in each pocket.

2. In a brassière, a pair of breast pockets, a breast supporting flap having a concavely curved upper edge disposed within each pocket and secured thereto along its lower and one side edge, an adjusting strap secured at spaced points to the upper edge of each flap, each strap having an end portion that passes through an opening in the pocket from the inside to the outside, and a buckle on each strap for adjusting the length of the strap positioned on the outside of the pocket.

3. In a brassière, a pair of breast pockets, a breast supporting flap within each pocket and secured thereto along its lower edge, and a strap secured at spaced points to the upper edge of each flap, one end of each strap passing from the inside to the outside through an opening in each pocket.

4. In a brassière, a pair of breast pockets, a breast supporting flap within each pocket and secured along its lower edge, a strap secured to end portions of the upper edge of each flap, the proximate side edges of the two flaps being unattached to the breast pockets and to each other, whereby when the brassière is adjusted in position upon the wearer's body the flaps will partly encircle and hold the breasts apart.

5. In a brassière, an outer fabric covering, a pair of breast supporting flaps secured along their lower edges in and to said outer fabric covering, the proximate side edges of the two flaps being unattached to the outer covering and to each other, and means connected to the flaps for adjustably molding them around the breasts to support and to hold the breasts apart.

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