Feb. 22, 1949. M. H. WITTENBERG 2,462,295

BRASSIERE

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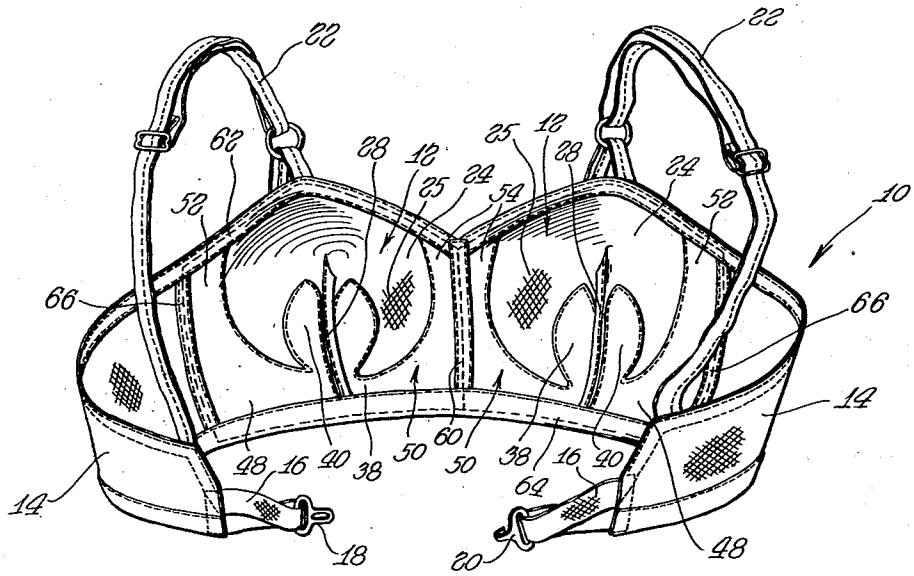



Fig. 1

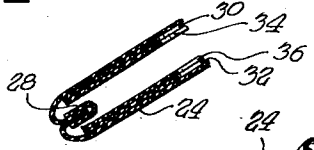



Fig. 5

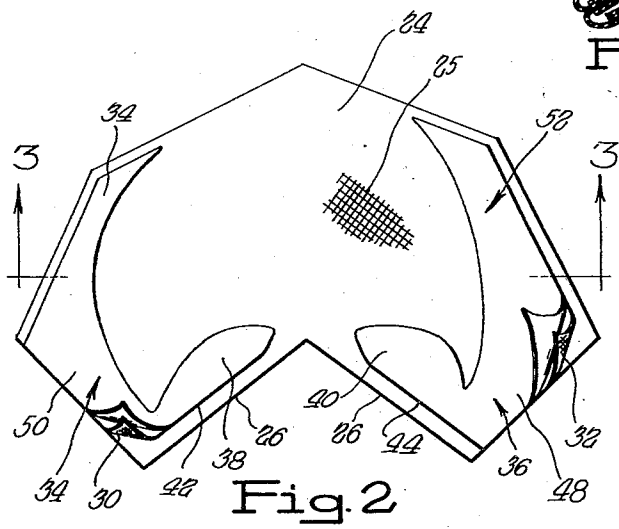



Fig. 2

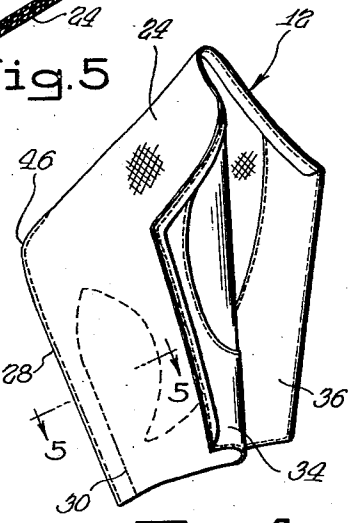



Fig. 4

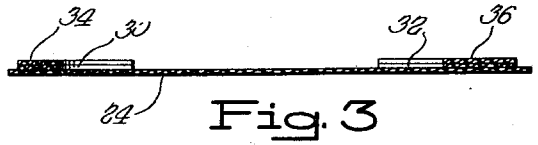



Fig. 3

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## BRASSIÈRE

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4 Claims. (Cl. 2—42)

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The present invention relates to brassières.

The primary object of the present invention is to provide a brassière of the breast pocket type constructed to shape or mold the breasts into the shape of the pockets or cups, with separation of the breasts at the central part of the brassière between the cups, and at the same time to provide proper support for the breasts. Further in this connection, the primary object of the invention includes the provision of a brassière which is of such construction that the breast molding feature is not impaired by washings of the brassière.

The above and other objects, features and advantages of the invention will be fully understood from the following description considered in connection with the accompanying illustrative drawings.

In the drawings:

Fig. 1 is a view of the inner side of a brassière embodying the present invention;

Fig. 2 is a plan view of a pocket or cup forming portion of the brassière, in the flat form thereof;

Fig. 3 is a sectional view on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2;

Fig. 4 is a side view of one of the breast pockets before it is assembled in the brassière with the companion breast pocket and the other parts of the brassière;

Fig. 5 is a detail sectional view on the line 5—5 of Fig. 4.

Referring now to the drawings in detail, the brassière 10 illustrated in Fig. 1 comprises the breast pockets 12 of cup form and the side bands 14 which as here shown are preferably provided with elastic tapes 16 having detachable companion fastener members 18 and 20. Also as here shown, the brassière includes the usual adjustable shoulder straps 22 which are secured to the upper tips of breast pockets 12, respectively, and to the companion side bands 14, respectively. The present invention is concerned more particularly with the construction of the breast pockets or cups 12 which will now be specifically described.

Each breast pocket or cup 12 comprises a fabric layer 24 which is preferably cut on the bias, as indicated by the cross hatching 25, to provide the cup with a desirable degree of stretch at the

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upper portion thereof. The shape of the fabric layer 24 in the flat form thereof is illustrated in Fig. 2 and includes the inwardly converging lower edges 26 which when stitched together by the fashioning seam as indicated at 28 in Fig. 4 produce the fashioned cup form of the breast pocket. Layers 30 and 32 of woven thermoplastic fabric and companion lining layers 34 and 36 of thin flannel or other soft fabric are laminated to each other and to the fabric layer 24 by heat and pressure whereby the superposed layers of the laminated portions are firmly and permanently secured to each other in abutting surface-to-surface relation throughout their surface areas. Layers 30 and 32 are suitably formed of fabric such as that or similar to the pliable stiffened fabric described in U. S. Patent No. 1,903,960. Said layers 30 and 32 are preferably of the same size and shape as the companion covering or lining layers 34 and 36, respectively.

It will be observed that when the converging edges 26 are stitched together to form the breast pocket of cup form from the flat material illustrated in Fig. 2 the laminated portions 38 and 40 are disposed at the central lower part of the form-fashioned breast pocket 12 with the edges 42 and 44 of the companion laminated portions close to each other at the seam 28, the upper ends of said laminated portions 38 and 40 terminating near but somewhat below the upper end of the seam 28. Further, it will be observed that the upper edge portions of the laminated parts 38 and 40 are shaped so that they are spaced laterally of the cup point 46 of the breast pocket. The laminated portions 48 and 50 extend along the bottom of the breast pocket laterally thereof from the laminated portions 38 and 40 toward the outer side portion and central portion, respectively, of the brassière, and the laminated portions 52 and 54 extend upwardly at the outer and inner marginal edge portions, respectively, of the companion breast pocket 12. Portions 52 are disposed adjacent the companion side bands 14, i. e., at the outer marginal side edge portions of the pockets 12 and function to flatten the natural curve of the adjacent portion of the breast whereby to mold the breast to the cup form of the breast pocket, while portions 54 which are positioned adjacent each other in the brassière at the intermediate point thereof be-

tween the two breast pockets provide for separation of the breasts and also for the shaping thereof to the cup form of the breast pockets or cups 12.

The lower laminated portions 48 and 50 and the upwardly extending central portions 38 and 40 provide support for the breasts and also contribute to the shaping and molding of the breast to the form of the breast pockets or cups 12. It will be understood also that laminated portions 48, 50 and 38 and 40 produce an uplift effect and that the stretchable or more yieldable portions 24 of the bias cut fabric prevent flattening of the upper portions of the breasts. It also may be noted that the laminated portions of the breast pockets or cups are non-shrinkable so that the preshaped forms of the breast pockets are maintained without impairment due to washings of the brassière. As illustrated, a suitable binding strip 60 may be provided at the seam between the adjacent edges of the breast pockets 12 and likewise suitable binding strips 62 and 64 may be provided at the upper and lower edges, respectively of the brassière. Also binding strips 66 are provided at the seams between the pockets 12 and the side bands 14.

It will be understood that the laminated portions of the pockets impart a degree of stiffness to the corresponding portions of said pockets without, however, excessively modifying the pliability of said stiffened portions. When the pockets are stitched together in the brassière, the lower laterally extending stiffened portions 50 are disposed with their inner ends adjacent each other near the central seam at strip 60, with a small space between said ends if desired, and the outer ends of laterally extending stiffened portions 48 extend to the side vertical seams at the strips 66. The central stiffened portion formed by portions 38 and 40 and the lateral vertically extending stiffened portions 52 and 54 extend upwardly from the lower stiffened portion 48, 50 of the breast pocket, said upwardly extending portions being in laterally spaced relation. Thus the portions of the breast pocket above the upwardly central stiffened portion and between the laterally spaced stiffened portions are unstiffened and consist essentially of the fabric layer 24. It will be noted that, as here shown (Fig. 1), the laminated portions are additionally secured to each other by stitching at their peripheral edges thereabout.

While I have illustrated and described the preferred embodiment of my invention, it will be understood that the latter may be embodied otherwise than as herein specifically illustrated and described and that in the illustrated embodiment certain changes in the details of construction and in the arrangement of parts may be made without departing from the underlying idea or principles of this invention within the scope of the appended claims.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. In a brassière, a pair of breast pockets of fashioned cup form, each having a fashioning seam in the central lower part thereof and provided with a central laminated stiffening portion extending vertically of the pocket along said seam and disposed substantially entirely below the apex of the cup form, said laminated stiffening portion comprising separate pieces of thermo-plastic woven fabric disposed adjacent to each other at opposite sides, respectively, of said seam, each of said pockets also having laminated vertically extending portions spaced laterally from said central laminated portion and positioned at the opposite lateral portions of the pocket, said last mentioned vertically extending portions including pieces of thermo-plastic material integral with said first mentioned pieces, respectively at the lower edge portion of the cup, each portion of the cup form above the apex thereof and between said upwardly extending stiffened portions being more yieldable than said stiffened portions.



2. In a brassière, a pair of breast pockets of fashioned cup form, each having a fashioning seam in the central lower part thereof and provided with a central laminated stiffening portion extending vertically of the pocket along said seam, and disposed substantially entirely below the apex of the cup form, said laminated stiffening portion comprising separate pieces of thermo-plastic woven fabric disposed adjacent to each other at opposite sides, respectively, of said seam, each of said pockets also having laminated vertically extending portions spaced laterally from said central laminated portion and positioned at the opposite lateral portions of the pocket, said last mentioned vertically extending portions including pieces of thermo-plastic material integral with said first mentioned pieces, respectively, at the lower edge portion of the cup, each portion of the cup form above the apex thereof and between said upwardly extending stiffened portions being more yieldable than said stiffened portions, the one of said last mentioned vertically extending laminated portions of each cup form which is at the outer lateral portion of the companion cup extending upwardly beyond the apex of the cup form.

3. In a brassière, a pair of breast pockets of fashioned cup form each having a fashioning seam in the central lower part thereof and provided with a central laminated stiffening portion extending vertically of the pocket along said seam, and disposed substantially entirely below the apex of the cup form, said laminated stiffening portion comprising separate pieces of thermo-plastic woven fabric disposed adjacent to each other at opposite sides, respectively, of said seam, each of said pockets also having laminated vertically extending portions spaced laterally from said central laminated portion and positioned at the opposite lateral portions of the pocket, said last mentioned vertically extending portions including pieces of thermo-plastic material integral with said first mentioned pieces, respectively, at the lower edge portion of the cup, each portion of the cup form above the apex thereof and between said upwardly extending stiffened portions being more yieldable than said stiffened portions, said last mentioned vertically extending laminated portions extending upwardly beyond the apex of the cup form.

4. In a brassière, a pair of breast pockets of fashioned cup form, each having a fashioning seam in the central lower part thereof and provided with a central laminated stiffening portion extending vertically of the pocket along said seam, and disposed substantially entirely below the apex of the cup form, said laminated stiffening portion comprising separate pieces of thermo-plastic woven fabric disposed adjacent to each other at opposite sides, respectively, of said seam, each of said pockets also having laminated vertically extending portions spaced laterally from said central laminated portion and positioned at the opposite lateral portions of the pocket, said last mentioned vertically extending portions in-

cluding pieces of thermo-plastic material integral with said first mentioned pieces, respectively, at the lower edge portion of the cup, each portion of the cup form above the apex thereof and between said upwardly extending stiffened portions being more yieldable than said stiffened portions, said cup forms being attached to each other at the central vertical line of the brassière and one of said last mentioned vertically extending portions of each cup form extending laterally to said central line of the brassière.

MARGARET H. WITTENBERG.

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