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I. ROTH

CORSET AND SIMILAR GARMENT

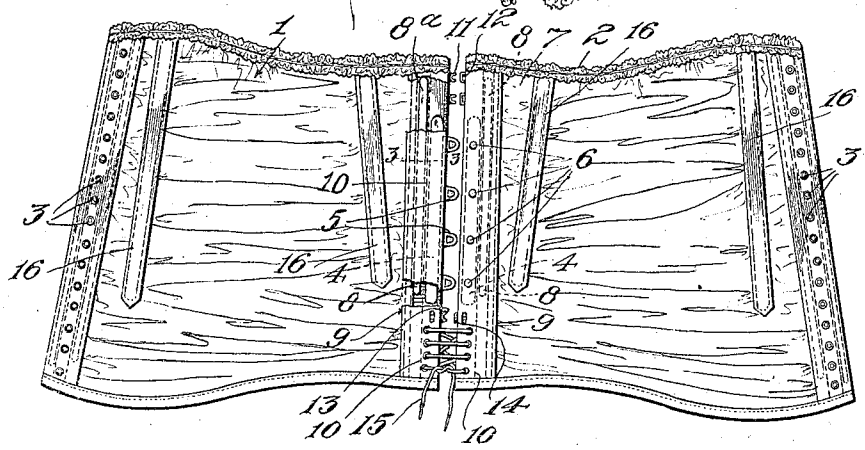
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Fig. 1



Fig. 3

Fig. 2



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CORSET AND SIMILAR GARMENT.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ISIDOR ROTH, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Corsets and Similar Garments, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates more particularly to that class of corsets which have recently come into vogue and may be called low bust corsets, having the upper edge thereof disposed slightly above the waist of the wearer, especially at the front. In a corset of this type the tops of the clasp steels and other stiff stays at the front of the corset are adjacent the lower end of the breastbone of the wearer, so that when the wearer of such a corset bends over or sits down the tops of said clasp steels and other stiff stays dig into the flesh and cause discomfort.

The objects of the invention are to provide a garment of this character which will ensure perfect comfort to the wearer and in which the clasp steels and other stays at the front of the corset are so arranged as to prevent them from digging into the body of the wearer and causing discomfort; to provide a corset of the modern low waisted type in which said necessarily stiff clasp steels terminate a considerable distance below the top edge of the corset, so as to provide a softer portion at the top of the corset to conform and yield to the figure; to provide the necessary support for this softer top portion by more flexible stays, such as bone wires, which will yield to the figure as the wearer sits or bends over and not cause discomfort; to provide separable fasteners, such as hooks and eyes, to connect the two sections of the softer top portion of the front of the corset above the clasp steels, and to obtain other objects and results as may be brought out by the following description.

Referring to the accompanying drawing, in which like numerals of reference indicate the same parts throughout the several views,

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a corset embodying my invention, showing the same applied to a human figure;

Figure 2 is an extended plan view of the corset, portions being broken away and shown in section to more clearly illustrate the invention, and

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

In the specific embodiment of the invention shown in the drawings, numerals 1 and 2 designate two similarly formed sections of the corset, each of which is provided at one edge thereof on the back portion of the corset with a series of eyelets 3 adapted to receive a lacing for securing the sections 1 and 2 together in the usual manner. The opposite edges of the sections 1 and 2, which are disposed at the front of the corset, are reenforced by the clasp steels 4, one of which carries the eyes 5 and the other the studs 6 comprising the main fasteners for securing the front of the corset sections 1 and 2 together about the body of the wearer.

The steels 4 are arranged at the extreme edges of the sections 1 and 2 and extend longitudinally of the corset, the upper ends 4^a of said steels being disposed a considerable distance below the top edge of the corset, as clearly shown by Figure 2. By this arrangement I am able to provide a softer and more yielding portion 7 at the top of the corset above the clasp steels 4, 4, the purpose of which is to give or bend outward when the wearer's body comes against the top edge of the corset, as in leaning forward or sitting down. As it thus yields, with an easy and suitable curvature, said soft top portion forms a fender or guard for the top ends of the clasp steels 4 so that they cannot dig into or hurt the tender flesh below the breast bone of the wearer, and thus great comfort and ease is secured even under the conditions described.

In carrying out this feature of my invention, the fabric of said soft top portion 7 of the corset is supported by highly flexible corset stays or bone wires 8, arranged along the inner opposite edges of the clasp steels 4, 4, the upper ends 8^a of said flexible stays 8 extending above the upper ends of the steels 4 nearly or substantially to the top edge of the corset, as clearly shown in Figure 2. These flexible stays 8 provide sufficient support and yet yield readily when the wearer sits or bends, to shield or guard the wearer from the stiff steels as has been described. The clasp steels 4 and flexible stays 8 may be secured upon the corset in any suitable manner, but in the present instance are shown as enclosed in a stay strip 9 sewed to the front marginal portion of each sec-

tion 1 and 2 of the corset, the line of stitches 10 being arranged between the steels 4 and stays 8 to provide snug stay pockets and hold the stays in position. The front edges of the yielding top portion 7 of the corset are also preferably fastened together above the clasp steels 4 by means of suitable separable fasteners, such as the hooks and eyes 11 and 12, respectively, which connect them without interfering with their yielding functions described.

If desired other stays 16 may be arranged at proper positions in the corset to provide additional support and maintain the corset in a smooth condition on the body.

With my corset it will be seen that the tops of the clasp steels are arranged at a position where they will cause no discomfort to the wearer, and that the support ordinarily supplied by these steels in conventional modern corsets is provided by the soft flexible bone wires 8 which extend alongside the clasp steels and above the upper ends thereof to substantially the top of the corset. The edges of the soft portions 7 thus formed are secured together by small comfortable fasteners 11 and 12 and the flesh under said soft portions tends to force the same outwardly, the bone wires 8 forming a connection between the top of the stiff clasp steel 4 and the soft top which bends on a gentle curve and prevents a break in the corset at the top of said stiff clasp steels. A soft top of graduated flexibility is thus provided, which acts as a guard or fender for the stiff part of the corset and conduces to great comfort in the present low corsets.

The clasp steels 4 also have their lower ends a considerable distance above the bottom edge of the corset, as shown in Figures 1 and 2, and below said ends the edges of the corset sections 1 and 2 are shown connected by a small hook and eye 13 and 14, respectively, and lacing 15.

While I have illustrated my invention as specifically applied to the top of the front of a low bust corset, it will be obvious that it could be applied to any horizontal edge of a corset lying adjacent a projecting portion of the body of a wearer, to prevent said edge digging into such projecting portion. Furthermore, while I have used the word "corset" it is obvious that my invention is applicable to similar garments, such as supports, waists, brassières, or anything which contains stiffening members the ends of which are adapted to lie adjacent a projecting portion of the body of a wearer. I therefore wish to be understood as covering the application of my invention to every garment in which it can be used.

Various modifications and changes may be made in manufacturing my improved corset by those skilled in the art, without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention, and I do not wish to be understood as restricting myself except as required by the following claims when construed in the light of the prior art.

Having thus described the invention, what I claim is:

1. A garment one end of which longitudinally of the body of a wearer is adapted to lie adjacent a projecting portion of said body of a wearer and is sufficiently flexible and free at its horizontal edge to bend or curl outwardly under pressure of said projecting portion of the body of a wearer, a stiffening member for the garment disposed longitudinally of said body of a wearer with its extremity a substantial distance from said edge of the garment, and a second stiffening member lying in the general plane of the first-mentioned stiffening member parallel thereto and extending beyond the end of said first-mentioned stiffening member toward said edge of the garment, said stiffening members being connected so that outward flexing of the extended portion of the second stiffening member tends to deflect outward the corresponding end of the first-mentioned stiffening member.

2. A garment one end of which longitudinally of the body of a wearer is adapted to lie adjacent a projecting portion of said body of a wearer and is sufficiently flexible and free at its horizontal edge to bend or curl outwardly under pressure of said projecting portion of the body of a wearer, a stiffening member for the garment disposed longitudinally of said body of a wearer with its extremity a substantial distance from said edge of the garment, and a second stiffening member of different flexibility from the first-mentioned stiffening member lying in the general plane of said first-mentioned stiffening member parallel thereto and extending beyond the end of said first-mentioned stiffening member toward said edge of the garment, said stiffening members being connected so that outward flexing of the extended portion of the second stiffening member tends to deflect outward the corresponding end of the first-mentioned stiffening member.

3. A garment one end of which longitudinally of the body of a wearer is adapted to lie adjacent a projecting portion of said body of a wearer and is sufficiently flexible and free at its horizontal edge to bend or curl outwardly under pressure of said projecting portion of the body of a wearer, a stiffening member for the garment disposed longitudinally of said body of a wearer with its extremity a substantial distance from said edge of the garment, and a second stiffening member of comparatively greater flexibility than the first-mentioned stiffening member lying in the general plane of

the first-mentioned stiffening member parallel thereto and extending beyond the end of said first-mentioned stiffening member toward said edge of the garment, said stiffening members being connected so that outward flexing of the extended portion of the second stiffening member tends to deflect outward the corresponding end of the first-mentioned stiffening member.

4. A corset one end of which longitudinally of the body of a wearer is adapted to lie adjacent a projecting portion of said body of a wearer and is sufficiently flexible and free at its horizontal edge to bend or curl outwardly under pressure of said projecting portion of the body of a wearer, clasp steels for the corset with their extremities a substantial distance from said edge of the corset, and stiffening members lying in the general plane of said clasp steels parallel thereto and extending beyond the ends of said clasp steels toward said edge of the corset, said stiffening members being connected to said clasp steels so that outward flexing of the extended portion of the stiffening members tends to deflect outward the corresponding ends of the clasp steels.

5. A corset one end of which longitudinally of the body of a wearer is adapted to lie adjacent a projecting portion of said body of a wearer and is sufficiently flexible and free at its horizontal edge to bend or curl outwardly under pressure of said projecting portion of the body of a wearer, clasp steels for the corset with their extremities a substantial distance from said edge of the corset, and stiffening members of comparatively greater flexibility than said clasp steels lying in the general plane of said clasp steels parallel thereto and extending beyond the ends of said clasp steels toward said edge of the corset, said stiffening members being connected to said clasp steels so that outward flexing of the extended portion of the stiffening member tends to deflect outward the corresponding ends of the clasp steels.

6. A low bust corset the upper horizontal edge of which is adapted to lie beneath a projecting front portion of the body of a wearer and is sufficiently flexible and free to bend or curl outwardly under pressure of the overhanging portion of the body of a wearer, a stiffening member for the front of the corset disposed longitudinally of said body of a wearer with its upper extremity a substantial distance from said upper horizontal edge of the corset, and a second stiffening member lying in the general plane of the first-mentioned stiffening member parallel thereto and extending beyond the end of said first-mentioned stiffening member toward said upper horizontal edge of the corset, said stiffening members being connected so that outward flexing of the extended portion of the second stiffening member tends to deflect outward the corresponding end of the first-mentioned stiffening member.

7. A low bust corset the upper horizontal edge of which is adapted to lie beneath a projecting front portion of the body of a wearer and is sufficiently flexible and free to bend or curl outwardly under pressure of the overhanging portion of the body of a wearer, clasp steels at the front of the corset with their upper extremities a substantial distance from said upper horizontal edge of the corset, and stiffening members lying in the general plane of said clasp steels parallel thereto and extending beyond the ends of said clasp steels toward said upper horizontal edge of said corset, said stiffening members being connected to said clasp steels so that outward flexing of the extended portion of the stiffening members tends to deflect outward the corresponding ends of the clasp steels.

ISIDOR ROTH.