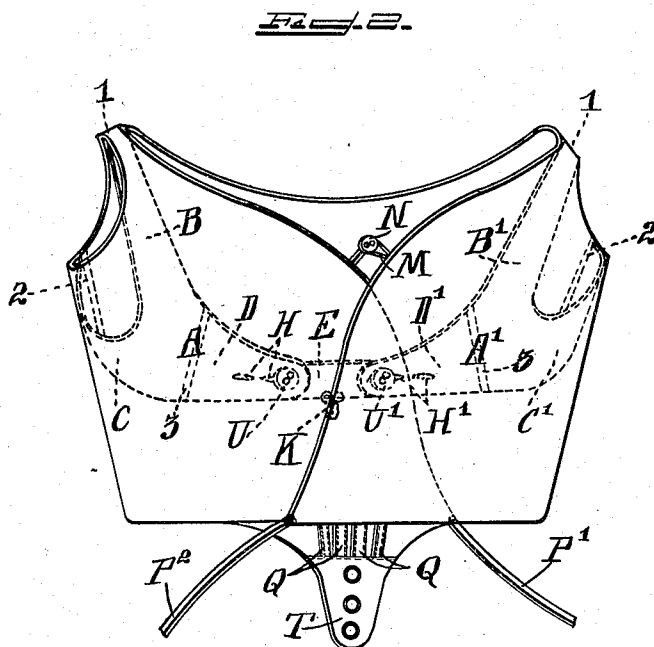
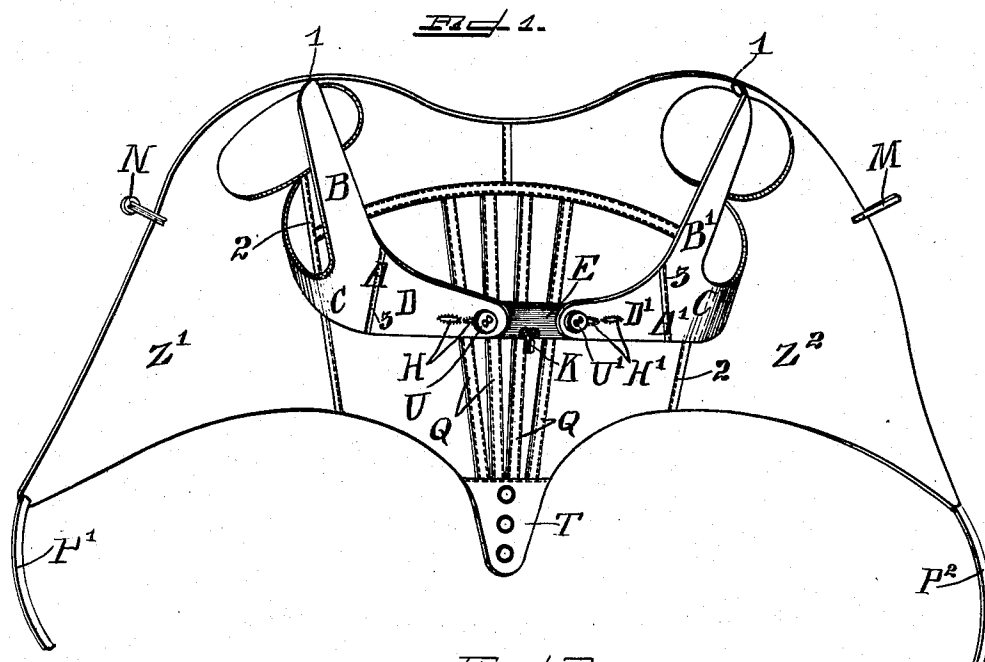


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BRASSIÈRE GARMENT.
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BRASSIÈRE GARMENT.

933,265.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Sept. 7, 1909.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM J. REID, a citizen of the United States of America, and a resident of Scranton, Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Brassière Garments, the principles of which are set forth in the following specification and accompanying drawing, which disclose the form of the invention which I now consider to be the best of the various forms in which the principles of the invention may be embodied.

This invention relates to corset-covers of the brassière type, and consists in novel means, coöperative with the usual brassière function, for always obtaining a form-fitting front for the corset-cover, which is the object of the invention.

Of the drawings, Figure 1 is a rear view, in perspective, of the garment having the invention applied to it, showing the back open to permit a view of the interior improvements of this invention; and Fig. 2 is a similar view showing the back closed, the improvements hereof being indicated by dotted lines.

As usual, the brassière may have the common lower eyeleted front tab T or other attachment having an equivalent down-pulling function, for engagement with the corset-clasp or other securing means on the corset, or with the hose supporter, to keep the front pulled down from working upward; and it may have the overlapping back-pieces with the usual lower corner tapes P¹, P² which are brought around and tied in front; and also the button N operating in button-hole tape M, thus providing an approximate lower back fit in addition to an imperfect front fit.

The object of this type of garment in general is a corset-cover which will fit perfectly, but this common construction does not in all cases insure such a fit, particularly as to the part of the corset-cover above the top of the corset, and also as to the portion below the corset-top.

The object of this invention therefore, is to combine some means with any suitable brassière, and in such manner, as to always insure such a perfect fit of the corset-cover against the bust, including particularly that part above the corset, as will produce the neatest effect, as with either evening dress as to fit or with the sheerest lingerie waists, as to both appearance and fit. This means is as

follows, its function as a whole being to take up all slack in the front of the corset-cover, both in and of itself, and by coöperative action with the lower front tab which is attached to the corset-front. The detail functions of the elements of the means will be described *infra*.

Referring to Fig. 1, A, A¹ constitute a pair of coöperating tension-drafts, which may be of the same sheer material as the corset-cover, and each having three branches, as at B, C, D. All three of these branches are independent of the back of the corset cover, but are adapted to engage the back of the wearer, all being located inside the corset cover and between the front and back thereof. The branch B extends downward substantially vertically from the horizontal line 1 at which it is secured to (or is integral with) the inside of the shoulder strap of the corset cover, thus being adapted to be pulled down, and, simultaneously with branch B¹ of draft A¹, to tend to pull up the front of the corset cover, against the opposition of front-down-pulling means T, so that in a vertical direction the front-form is kept taut. The branch C extends horizontally from the substantial vertical line 2 at which it is secured to (or is integral with) the inside surface of the side of the corset-cover, being thus adapted to be pulled horizontally toward the middle of the back to pull out the sides of the front of the corset-cover, thereby preventing any lateral fullness therein which would otherwise exist in the form of vertical front folds or looseness. The branches B, C and D may be cut from the same piece of material, as shown, and the branch D may be reinforced to strengthen button-holes H by a strip secured to it along its edge and along the vertical line 3 as shown. The angular relation of D to B and C in the draft A is such that a horizontal pull on D to the right, both pulls C substantially horizontally and B substantially vertically, D being functionally a joint continuation of B and C, or a common terminal of both. Thus a force exerted on D will be separated into two components each of which acts respectively through B and C to effect the respective functions thereof as described above. All of the members B, C and D are made of sheer flexible material so that there is no stiffness which might tend to reduce the effective action in draw-

ing tight the front of the corset-cover. The branches D, D¹ are connected and held in coöperative relation as by the elastic strip E, which may be secured so as to be detached when the garment is to be washed, as by the buttons U in the button holes H in said branches. If desired, the proper operating elasticity may be provided irrespective of elastic strip E, by making the tension drafts themselves of elastic material in part or whole; but this is not considered so advantageous for washing, unless such elastic portion be detachable, and the construction with detachable elastic strip E is the preferred specific form. On the strip E is a hook K, secured in position so that its curve projects downward as shown, with its opening upward, to engage upwardly in the back corset-lacing and thereby keep in operative position the entire drafts A and A¹. The rear hook K is the opposite end of the combination from the front tab T, and from the above it will be understood how this combination operates, it being understood that the elastic strip E provides a yielding link in this combination to permit all possible adjustments with respect to the unyielding tab T and also with respect to a condition of vertical front-folding which requires outward tension. Thus all looseness is insured against, including any below or above the top front line of the corset, and from side to side of the front of the corset-cover, all this being accomplished by means entirely independent of the back of the corset-cover, but concealed thereby when the back-pieces are tied and buttoned in place. In donning the improved garment, the drafts A, A¹ are not in the way and do not interfere with the ordinary operation; they naturally locate themselves on the back of the wearer, who has then simply to button as at H, U and cause the hook K to engage in the back lacing of the corset. In Fig. 2 is shown the relative location of the parts after the garment has been applied to the wearer, the tension-drafts being indicated by dotted lines.

The construction of the brassière proper may be as is customary, out of fine batiste; and with light frontal bones shown as in the usual pockets Q, although the operation of this invention in maintaining the fit of the front of the corset-cover is such as to obviate the necessity for stiffeners of any kind in the corset-cover.

I claim:

1. The combination with a corset-cover of the brassière type having two back-pieces integral with the front, of two coöperating tension-draft strips of flexible material, independent of the back of the corset-cover and of the corset but adapted to lie flat against the back of the corset and be concealed by the back of the corset-cover when

the two halves thereof are fixed in place on the wearer; and the front-down-pulling means for the corset-cover; each tension-draft operatively consisting of three branches, one of which is a joint common terminal for the other two, the other ends of which other two branches extend to the corset-cover, one to a substantially horizontal line of the shoulder of the corset-cover, from which it depends substantially vertically in position to pull up the front of the corset-cover vertically in opposition to said front-down-pulling means thereof; and the other of said other two branches extending to a substantially vertical line of the side of the corset-cover, from which it extends substantially horizontally in position to pull outwardly the side of the front of the corset-cover; and an elastic strip detachably connecting the adjacent ends of the common terminal branches of the two tension drafts.

2. The combination with a garment of the brassière type adapted to be worn over a corset to confine the corset-top, of two co-operating tension-draft strips of flexible material adapted to lie flat against the back of the corset; each tension-draft operatively consisting of three branches, one of which is a joint common terminal for the other two, the ends of which other two branches extend to said garment, one to the shoulder of said garment, from which it depends substantially vertically in position to pull up the front of the garment; and the other of said other two branches secured to the side of said garment, from which it extends substantially vertically in position to pull outwardly the side of the front of said garment; an elastic strip detachably connecting the adjacent ends of the common-terminal branches to permit automatic adjustments with respect to the requisite tension on the front of said garment; and a hook secured to said elastic strip to engage the back corset-lacing and thereby maintain the tension-drafts in their coöperative positions relative to the corset-cover.

3. The combination with a garment of the brassière type adapted to be worn over a corset to confine the corset-top, of two co-operating tension-draft strips of flexible material adapted to lie flat against the back of the corset; each tension-draft operatively consisting of three branches, one of which is a joint common terminal for the other two, the ends of which other two branches extend to said garment, one to the shoulder of the corset-cover, from which it depends substantially vertically in position to pull up the front of said garment vertically; and the other of said other two branches secured to the side of said garment, from which it extends substantially horizontally in position to pull outwardly the side of the front

of said garment; and an elastic strip detachably connecting the adjacent ends of the common-terminal branches, to permit automatic adjustments with respect to the requisite tension on the front of said garment.

4. The combination with a garment of the brassière type adapted to be worn over a corset to confine the corset-top, of two co-operating tension-draft strips of flexible material adapted to lie flat against the back of the corset; each tension-draft consisting of three branches, one of which is a joint common terminal for the other two, the ends of which other two branches extend to said garment, one to the shoulder thereof, from which it depends substantially vertically in position to pull up the front of said garment vertically; and the other of said other two branches extending to the side of said garment, from which it extends substantially horizontally in position to pull outwardly the side of the front of said garment; said joint common terminals of the respective tension-drafts being connected to coöperate in keeping the front of the corset-cover under tension vertically and horizontally; and means for imparting elasticity to the combination to permit automatic adjust-

ments with respect to the requisite tension on the front of said garment.

5. The combination with a garment of the brassière type adapted to be worn over a corset to confine the corset-top, of two co-operating tension-draft strips of flexible material adapted to lie flat against the back of the corset; each tension-draft consisting of three branches, one of which is a joint common terminal for the other two, the ends of which other two branches extend to said garment; one to the shoulder thereof, from which it depends substantially vertically in position to pull up the front of the corset-cover vertically; and the other of said other two branches extending to the side of said garment, from which it extends substantially horizontally in position to pull outwardly the side of the front of the corset-cover; said joint common terminals of the respective tension-drafts being connected to coöperate in keeping the front of said garment under tension vertically and horizontally.

W. J. REID.

Witnesses:

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PHILIP FARNSWORTH.