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E. M. TABB

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BRASSIÈRE

Filed Nov. 5, 1925

Fig. 1.

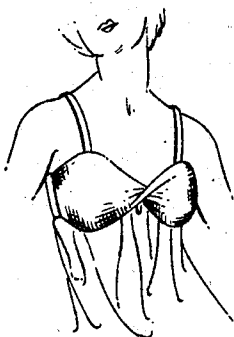


Fig. 2.

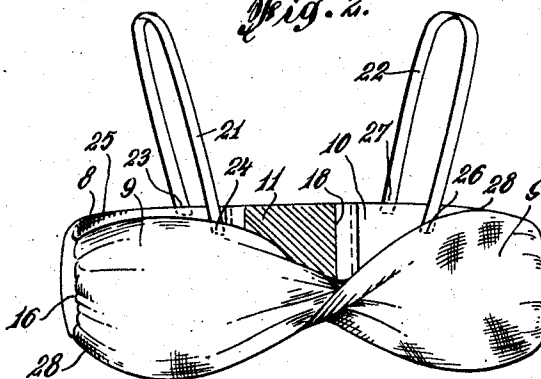


Fig. 3.

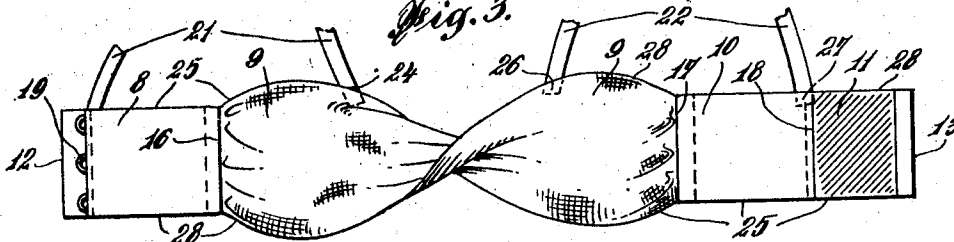


Fig. 4.

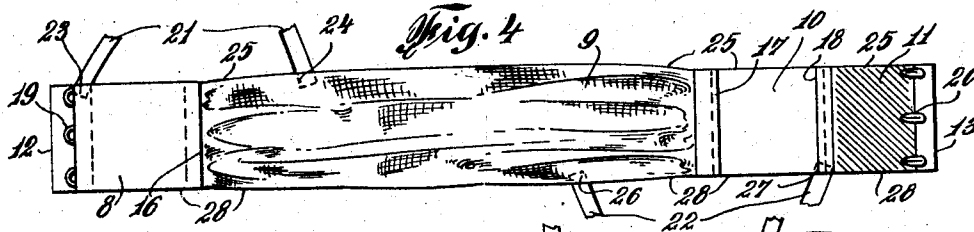


Fig. 5.

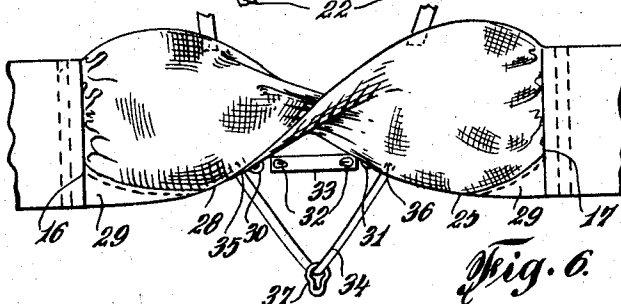
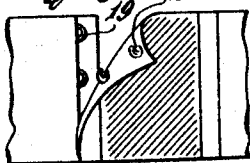


Fig. 6.

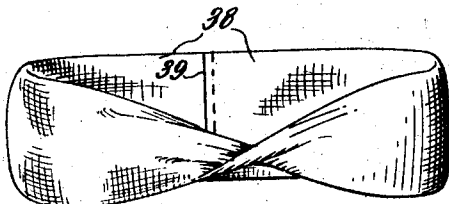


Fig. 7.

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## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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## BRASSIÈRE

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This invention relates to the class of women's apparel used for supporting or confining the bust, and in particular to the class of such apparel commonly known as brassières.

A purpose of this invention is to provide apparel of the above class which will mould the figure along natural and graceful lines and at the same time confine and support the bust to the extent desired.

Further purposes of the invention are to provide such apparel as the above which will be easily applied and adjusted and likewise easily removed; which will be comfortable to wear and will not unduly compress or confine any vital portion of the body such as the chest or diaphragm; and which will adjust itself readily to movements of the body, and thus be more suitable than are previous designs of this class for athletic activity.

Another purpose of the invention is to provide such a supporter as will be simple of construction for the convenience of the home dress-maker; and more easily adaptable than are previous inventions of this class to the various requirements of size adjustment in shop manufacture.

This invention comprises especially a band or section thereof whose ends are reversed or rotated with respect to each other producing thereby a crossed or twisted formation. Such a band or section thereof may be closed and encircle the body, and may in itself constitute a garment complete or otherwise may form only a section of, or an attachment to, a garment of the class described or a garment of a related class. Certain means and arrangements are comprised, adapting a band or section of a garment of this class to assume in operative condition such a formation as the above; and certain combinations with such bands are comprised, constituting garments of the above class.

The formation of such a band or section, and the nature of such means, arrangements and combinations will be seen by reference to the accompanying drawings and the following description.

In the drawings:—

Figure 1 is a three-quarter front perspec-

tive view showing a brassière according to this invention, in operative relation to the female figure.

Figure 2 shows in perspective the brassière of Figure 1 in operative formation but removed from the body.

Figure 3 shows the above brassière disconnected and in partially developed formation with parts removed.

Figure 4 shows the same brassière in fully developed formation with parts removed.

Figure 5 shows in greater detail a portion of the brassière of Figures 1 to 4 inclusive.

Figure 6 shows in part the invention in a more elaborate form than above.

Figure 7 shows in perspective a simplified form of brassière according to this invention.

Figures 1 to 5 inclusive present a form of this invention which comprises a band 8—9—10—11, having joinable ends 12 and 13 and adapted to encompass the body of the wearer; and two shoulder straps 21 and 22 attached thereto. The band comprises a front section 9 and back sections 8, 10, and 11, joined by the seams 16, 17, and 18. The back section 8 of the band carries members 19 adjacent the end 12 of the band; and the back section 11 carries members 20 adjacent the end 13, adapted to cooperate with the members 19 to join the end portions of the band when in operative formation.

The construction of the brassière is shown most clearly by Figure 4. The twisted band of Figure 3 is obtained from the developed band of Figure 4 by a reversal of the ends 12 and 13 with respect to each other, i. e. by a rotation of one end with respect to the other through a half revolution about a line joining the ends.

The joining members 19 and 20 are placed on the same face of the band, as shown by Figure 4, and somewhat removed from the ends 12 and 13 respectively of the band. Such an arrangement would not form a convenient and neat connection if the ends of the band were joined in simple relation, but when the ends are reversed as in Figure 3 the members 19 and 20 cooperate properly to be joined as in Figure 5, and in this relation the end por-

tions of the band form inner and outer covers for the joining members.

Likewise the shoulder straps 21 and 22 are located in inverted relation on the developed band of Figure 4, the right shoulder strap 21 having its connections 23 and 24 adjacent the longitudinal edge 25 of the band, while the left shoulder strap 22 has its connections 26 and 27 adjacent the opposite edge 28 of the same. When the front section 9 of the band is twisted, however, the shoulder straps assume a uniform relation to the twisted band, and with the ends joined as in Figure 5 the shoulder straps 21 and 22 appear as in Figure 2.

The shoulder straps may be made of elastic, tape, or of ribbon, or any suitable material. The back section 11 is preferably formed of elastic material, making the garment comfortably extensible. A soft material such as silk or jersey may be used for the front section 9; this material should be reversible preferably, to preserve a similarity of appearance when in crossed formation; or otherwise a double thickness of thin material may be used with its similar faces adjacent; or otherwise a reversible insertion or lacing may be provided in the central portion of the section 9. The material of the back sections 8 and 10 may be the same as that of the front section, or otherwise, and may be reversible or not as preferred. If non-reversible material is used dissimilar faces of the material of sections 8 and 10 respectively should correspond in the developed formation of the band. Likewise if the seams 16, 17, and 18 are not reversibly formed the seam 16 should have its smooth face corresponding with the projecting faces of the seams 17 and 18. Thus if non-reversible constructions are used, the obverse face of the developed band will be unsymmetrical and also the reverse face; but on account of its crossed formation, the band in operative relation to the body will present a symmetrical appearance.

It will be noted that in operative formation, the edges 25 and 28 of the band are crossed in an angular relation and the longitudinal fibres of the fabric are likewise crossed and partially wound about each other in helical spiral formation, but are free to shift with respect to each other. The band is thus adapted to conform to the shape of the body and to adjust itself to the muscular movements of the shoulders and back. Also the ends 16 and 17 of the front section 9 are in effect rotated with respect to each other about the central longitudinal fibres joining them; these central fibres are shortened less therefore by the twisting process than are the outside fibres. A cupped formation results, which in the form shown is increased and modified by gathering the ends of the front section 9 at the seams 16 and 17. This cupping will be affected by the manner of gathering at the seams 16 and 17, i. e. whether uniform or

otherwise; by the initial width and the length of the section 9, the width of the back sections 8 and 10, the shape of the transverse edges of the various sections, etc. In the garment shown the sections are initially cut to rectangular shape and the section 9 has an initial width about double that of the sections 8 and 10. On account of the flexible formation of this garment exact patterning is less important than in brassières of the usual forms, although by such variations as above, and others, the garment is well adapted to manufacture in a wide variety of sizes and shapes.

Figure 6 shows a modification of the brassière previously described, which is designed to give an additional security of formation and position under certain conditions. In this modification the width of the back sections is increased, providing an extension of these sections downward when in operative formation. The seams 16 and 17 are thereby extended, and preferably carry whale bone or other stiffening insertions. Triangular insets 29 brace the edges 28 and 25 respectively, to the seams 16 and 17.

Connectors 30 and 31 are provided adjacent the edges 28 and 25 respectively of the section 9 to receive cooperating connectors 32 of an elastic coupler 33 which may be used to maintain the under edges of the garment in more definite relation than otherwise. Additional security of position is provided by the bridle 34, having end connections 35 and 36 to the edges 28 and 25 respectively of the front section 9, and carrying an eyelet 37 adapted to engage a belt or other garment worn about the waist. The downward fastening provided by the bridle 34 although not generally necessary makes this form of garment particularly suited to athletic wear. A variation of this arrangement will consist of such a garment as is shown in Figure 6 or such as is shown in Figures 1 to 5, inclusive, with the bridle omitted, but with connections provided at positions such as 35 and 36 to permit the use of a bridle if desired.

The characteristics resulting from the twisted formation of the front section 9 of the brassière above described make shoulder straps less necessary than in most garments for the same purpose. The shoulder straps 21 and 22 may be omitted therefore and only connections for such straps be provided at positions 23, 24, 26, and 27 of Figures 2 to 4 inclusive. Or for certain conditions or purposes the band may be made without such provision.

Figure 7 shows a simple form of this invention. The brassière here comprises only a one piece band 38 spirally twisted and permanently joined at 39. The band is made preferably of elastic material and so may be easily donned. Such a band, if formed of non-porous material such as rubber, may constitute an effective reducer. This form may be

varied by using a non-elastic material having an elastic inset, or by the introduction of gathers, darts, or other shaping expedients.

Various other forms and modifications of this invention will be apparent. The forms shown and described are thought sufficient to make clear the inventive idea, the scope of which is set forth in the appended claims.

I claim:—

10 1. In a garment comprising a band to confine the bust, adapted to be worn in twisted formation as by rotation of the ends of a section thereof about a central longitudinal line of said section, said band comprising in developed formation two opposite longitudinal edges thereof; means adapting said band to be worn in said twisted formation, said means comprising a shoulder strap connection adjacent one of said edges, and a second shoulder strap connection adjacent the other of said edges.

2. In a brassière, comprising a front section having in developed formation two opposite longitudinal edges; means adapting said front section to be fastened downward of the body of the wearer; said means comprising connections for a strap, one of said connections being positioned on said section adjacent one of said edges, another of said connections being positioned on said section adjacent the other of said edges.

3. A brassière comprising a front cover section having in developed formation two opposite longitudinal edges, said section having in operative formation a twist in a portion thereof with a crossing of said edges by said twist; and a longitudinally extending coupler joining said edges to maintain said twist.

40 In witness whereof I have affixed my signature this 4th day of November, 1925.

ELIZABETH MINOR TABB.

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