

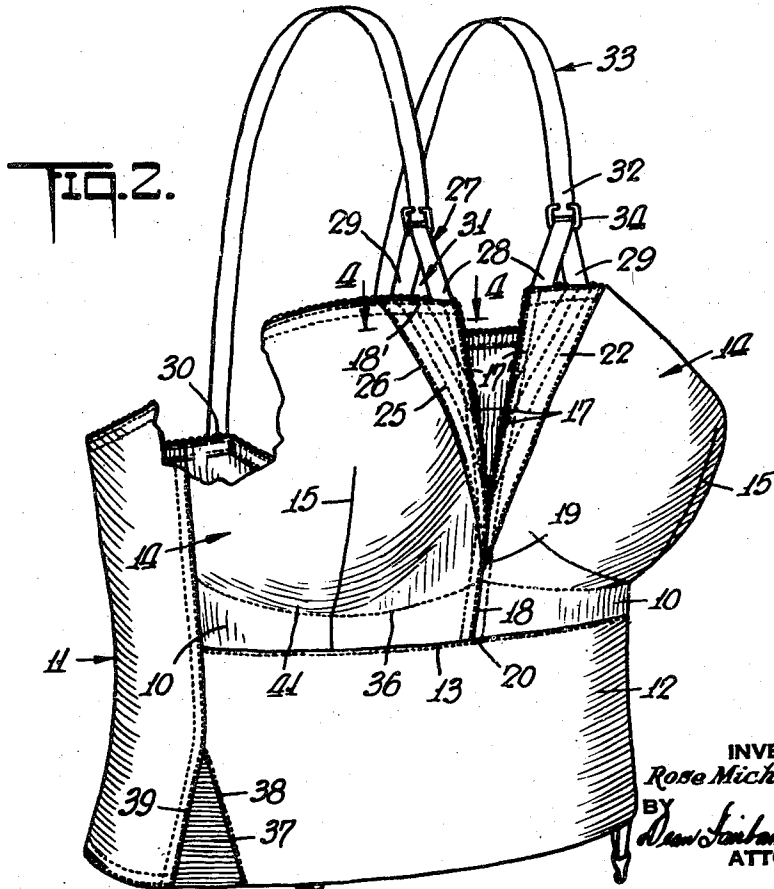
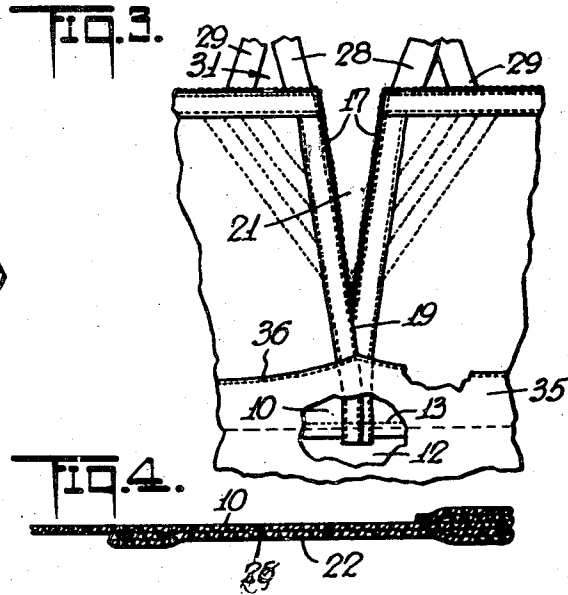
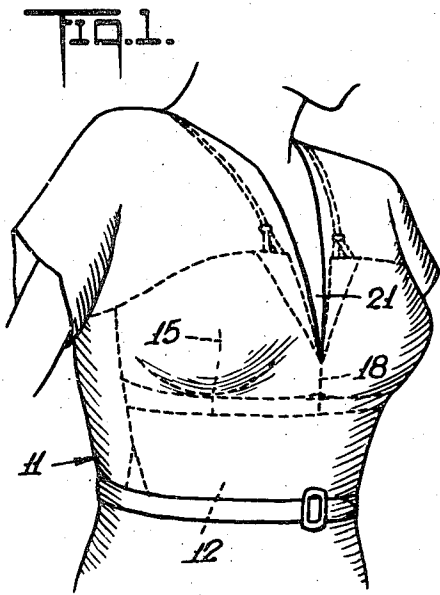
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BRASSIERE

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BRASSIÈRE

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2 Claims. (Cl. 2-42)

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This invention relates to brassières more particularly of the type for use with low cut dresses.

Brassières used with dresses having low cut necklines, generally known as V-cut dresses, are frequently exposed to view in wear which detracts from the effect of such neckline and is unaesthetic in appearance. A conventional brassière devoid of wires, bone or other stiffeners when used with a V-shaped gap in the center thereof between the breast cups, will generally not afford sufficient support for the bust and as the wearer moves about, the bust may slide out of the cup with resultant embarrassment and discomfort.

Where brassières are used which conform to the contour of such V-cut dress and wire or bone is used to give the required support and stiffness to the adjacent lateral edges of the breast cups, the brassière will be relatively expensive and as the stiff wire or bone has relatively little flexibility if it is adequate to hold the bust in place, the brassière will be uncomfortable to wear and indeed may cut into the flesh of the wearer.

It is accordingly among the objects of this invention to provide a relatively inexpensive brassière of simple yet attractive appearance for use with a low cut V-type neckline dress, which brassière when worn with such a dress will be concealed from view, which is devoid of metal, bone or similar stiffeners and which though it be of relatively flimsy material will securely hold the bust in place without strain or discomfort to the wearer.

According to the invention these objects are accomplished by the arrangement and combination of elements hereinafter described and particularly recited in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings in which is shown one of various possible embodiments of the several features of the invention,

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of the brassière as worn with a low cut neckline dress,

Fig. 2 is a perspective view on a larger scale of the brassière with parts broken away.

Fig. 3 is a fragmentary rear view of the brassière showing the V-shaped gap between the breast cups and,

Fig. 4 is a cross-sectional view on a larger scale taken along line 4-4 of Fig. 2.

Referring now to the drawings, the brassière, which in the embodiment herein chosen to illustrate my invention is of the "long line" type, has a bandeau 11 encompassing the body of the wearer and is closed at its back in conventional manner (not shown).

The front of the brassière has a transverse mid-

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riff panel 12 to the upper edge 13 of which are stitched in side by side relation the lower edges of the substantially square panels 10 each having a breast cup conformation 14 therein shaped by a vertical dart 15 to provide the necessary fullness of material to accommodate the breast.

The adjacent lateral edges 17 of the panels 10 are joined together as at 18 as by stitching for a short distance from the lower edge 20 thereof and flare outwardly from the upper end 19 of such joined portion 18 to the upper edge of the breast cups to form a substantially V-shaped gap 21 between the panels 10, the inverted apex of said gap being at 19.

Affixed to the outer face of each of the panels 10 is a tension transmission member 22, affixed along the adjacent edges of the cups, desirably of fabric as shown and preferably substantially in the shape of a right angle triangle each having a long leg 17' aligned with the lateral edge of the panel 10, extending from the upper end 19 of joined portion 18 to the upper edge of the panel 10 and a short leg 18' along said upper edge.

Preferably a plurality of rows of stitching 25 pass through the tension transmission member 22 and the fabric of the panel 10, said stitching extending substantially parallel to the hypotenuse 26 of said transmission member, more dependably to distribute the tension from the shoulder straps to and along the edges of the V-shaped gap between the breasts.

Affixed to the upper edge of each of the panels 10 respectively, is a narrow strip of fabric 27 one end 28 of which is positioned at the end of the short leg 18' of the tension member 22 adjacent the lateral edge 17 of the panel 10 and the other end 29 of which is positioned at the other end of said short leg. The strip 27 thus affixed forms a loop 31 for attachment of the front end 32 of shoulder strap 33, the other end 30 of which is secured as by stitching to the rear of the bandeau 11 as is shown in Fig. 2. A buckle 34 connects the front end 32 of shoulder strap 33 to permit adjustment of the length of said shoulder strap in accordance with the size and shape of the body and the tension desired on tension transmission member 22 and to distribute the tension uniformly across the width of the upper edge of member 22 and thence along the narrowed length of said member 22.

Desirably an extra thickness of fabric 35 is provided extending from the lower edge of the midriff panel 12 to a point slightly above the upper edge 13 thereof and is secured to the fabric of the breast cups by a line of stitching 36 which

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substantially conforms to the rounded contour of the under side of the bust.

In order that the midriff panel shall fit snugly against the body, yet permit contraction and expansion of the diaphragm as the user breathes and moves about, a substantially triangular gusset 37 of elastic material is inserted between the oblique lateral edges 38 of the midriff panel 12 at the lower edge thereof and the adjacent lateral edge 39 of the bandeau and thus forms part of the bandeau 11 as is clearly shown in Fig. 2.

In use, with the bandeau fastened at the rear thereof, the lower edges 41 of the breast cups 14 will be securely retained against the wearer's body and anchored against movement thereon by the midriff panel 12 which is tightly pressed against the body.

With the shoulder straps 33 tightened they will exert tension on the upper edge of panel 10 and along the area of the latter covered by the tension transmission member 22. As this member and the fabric of the panel 10 therebeneath lies on the chest of the user between the breast cups and the breasts therein and as the lower edges 41 of the breast cups are secured against movement, it is readily apparent that such tension will cause member 22 and the fabric therebeneath tightly to press against the body, defining the V-shaped gap 21 between the lateral edges 17 and securely retaining the busts in their respective cups 14.

It is to be noted that the tension exerted by the shoulder straps will be transmitted to the portion of the chest between the busts and the tension exerted by the bandeau will be transmitted substantially solely across the diaphragm covered by the midriff panel 12. As a consequence there is practically no strain whatever on the breast cups themselves in which the bust is contained and hence little if any pressure will be exerted against the breast proper, the cups merely acting as a hammock to sustain the breasts.

Although a long line type brassière is illustratively shown, it is of course to be understood that the midriff panel could be dispensed with and the tension transmission member could be used in conjunction with a brassière having a narrow band.

Thus with the constructions above described a brassière has been provided devoid of bone, wire or similar stiffeners, that may be used with V-cut neckline dresses, which will hold the busts securely in place without discomfort to the wearer and without exposure of any part of the brassière or danger of the bust slipping from the respective cups.

As many changes could be made in the above construction, and many apparently widely different embodiments of this invention could be made without departing from the scope of the claims, it is intended that all matter contained in the above description or shown in the accompanying drawings shall be interpreted as illustrative and not in a limiting sense.

Having thus described my invention what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States is:

1. A brassière comprising a pair of substantially square panels at the front thereof, each having a breast cup conformation therein, said panels being positioned in side by side relation

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and having two adjacent lateral edges connected at the lower portion thereof and flaring outwardly from said lower portion to the upper edge of each of said panels to form a substantially V-shaped gap between said adjacent lateral edges, a tension transmission member on each of said panels between said breast cup conformations, said members being substantially in the shape of a right angle triangle having a long leg and a short leg, said long legs being aligned with the respective lateral edges of said panels extending from the inverted apex of said V-shaped gap to the top edge of the respective panels, and said short legs being aligned with the upper edges of the respective panels, a pair of shoulder straps secured respectively at their rear ends to the back of said brassière, a connector loop affixed at each end to the upper edge of the respective panels with the ends of said loop aligned with the ends of the short leg of said tension transmission member and means connecting the front end of said shoulder straps to said connector loops, whereby when said brassière is worn the tension from said shoulder strap will be transmitted through said tension transmission member securely to press the latter against the chest of the wearer between the breasts.

2. A long line brassière comprising a pair of panels at the front thereof each having a breast cup conformation therein, said panels being positioned in side by side relation and having two adjacent lateral edges connected below the upper edges thereof and flaring outwardly from said connected portion to the upper edge of each of said panels to form a substantially V-shaped gap between said adjacent lateral edges, an elongated tension transmission member on each of said panels between said breast cup conformations, said members each having a long side aligned with and secured along the respective lateral edges of said panels extending from the inverted apex of said V-shaped gap to the top edge of the respective panels, and aligned with and secured at their upper edges to the upper edge of the respective panels, a pair of shoulder straps secured respectively at their rear ends to the back of said brassière, a connector loop affixed at each end to the upper edge of the respective panels with the ends of said loop aligned with the upper end of said tension transmission member and means connecting the front ends of said shoulder straps to the respective connector loops, whereby the tension from said shoulder strap will be transmitted through said tension transmission member securely to press the latter against the chest of the wearer between the breasts.

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