

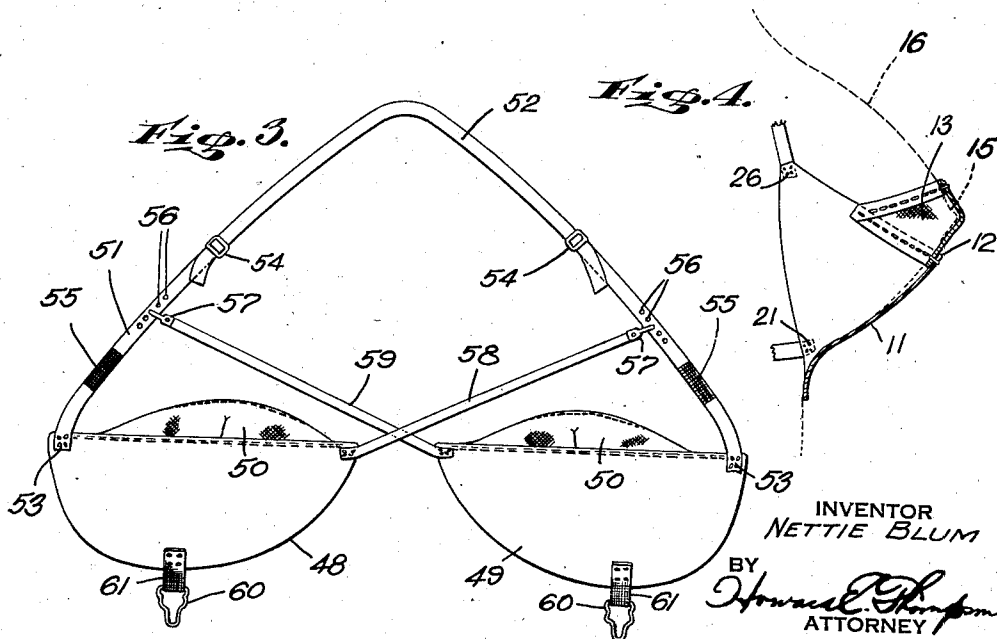
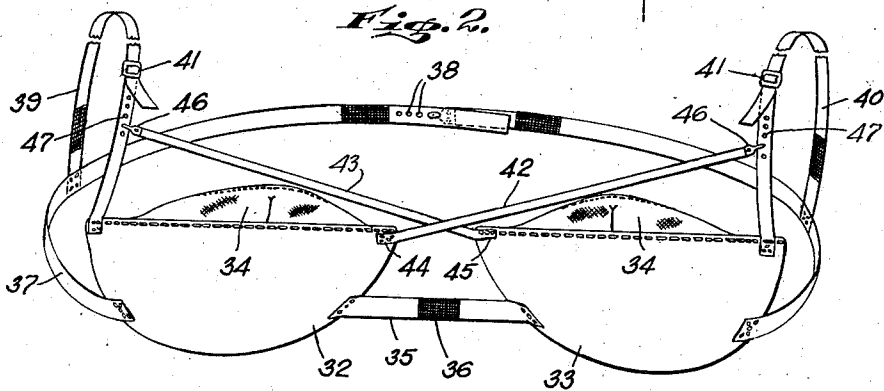
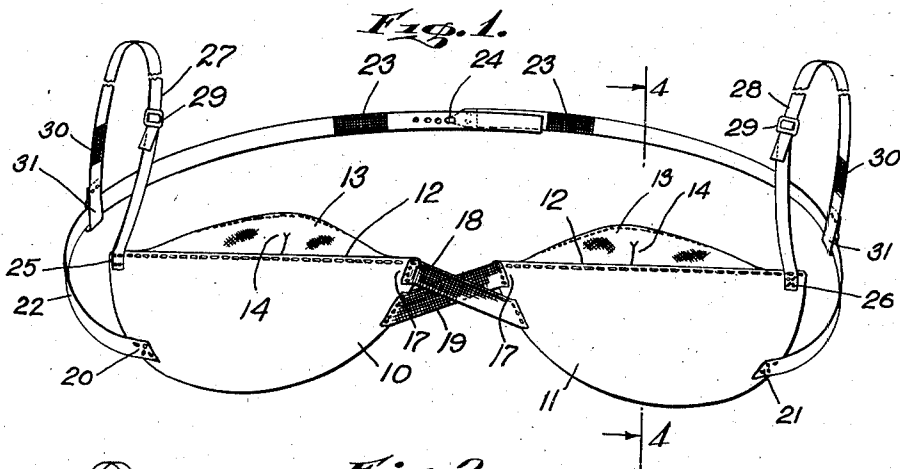
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N. BLUM

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BRASSIERE

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2,378,906

BRASSIÈRE

Nettie Blum, Oceanside, N. Y.

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4 Claims. (Cl. 2—42)

This invention relates to what are commonly referred to as brassières, that is to say, garments employing two breast receiving and supporting pockets coupled together and to which are coupled straps for supporting the same upon the body of the wearer. More particularly, my present invention deals with brassières employing breast pockets each comprising a cup portion in which the breast seats, the upper edge of the cup portion having a relatively small section or segment engaging the central nipple portion of the breast in such manner as to leave the major portion of the upper half of the breast exposed. Still more particularly, my invention relates to a brassière of the general type and kind disclosed in my Patent #2,267,365 employing shoulder straps directly attached to outer or side extremities of each pocket of the garment, thereby extending the straps to a point nearer the arms of the wearer than the neck thereof to adapt the garment for use in low cut dresses or other types of evening dresses. The novel features of the invention will be best understood from the following description when taken together with the accompanying drawing, in which certain embodiments of the invention are disclosed, and in which the separate parts are designated by suitable reference characters in each of the views, and in which:

Fig. 1 is a diagrammatic front view of a brassière showing the general arrangement of the parts.

Fig. 2 is a view similar to Fig. 1 showing another adaptation of the invention.

Fig. 3 is a view similar to Figs. 1 and 2 showing a further modification, and

Fig. 4 is a section substantially on the line 4—4 of Fig. 1 indicating part of the construction and the general arrangement of a pocket of the garment upon a breast.

With brassières of conventional construction and aside from the brassière disclosed in my prior patent heretofore identified, it has been customary to completely envelop the breast in a pocket or to provide a covering enveloping substantially the entire breast. This type of construction has the effect of a tight lacing and does not leave the breast in a free and yet fully supported position. These conventional types of brassières in addition to being uncomfortable and unnatural, also are apt to be injurious to the wearer. With my improved brassière, however, such objectionable features are obviated in that the breasts are supported in a more or less natural position without subjecting the

same to any stresses or strain which might become injurious. Brassières of this type and kind play an important part in maintaining the breasts of a young girl or woman in their natural, youthful state, and further a young mother will find it extremely practical and desirable to use brassières of this type and kind not only during a nursing period, but thereafter in order to maintain the breast in proper position thus avoiding and eliminating the drop of breasts which is so common with young mothers after the nursing period. It is also pointed out that matured women including women who have reared children can also beneficially use a brassière made according to my invention in restoring and maintaining the breasts to youthful form. Further, my present brassière is adapted for use in conjunction with dresses or garments having low cut necks or low backs, means being also provided adjustably and detachably coupling other pocket supporting straps with the shoulder straps of the garment.

In Fig. 1 of the drawing, I have shown a brassière which is adapted for use in connection with dresses or gowns having low cut, square or rounded necks rather than what might be termed V-necks. In this construction 10 and 11 represent two breast supporting pockets of substantially similar construction and made of any suitable material or combination of materials to provide flexibility into a contour conforming with the lower portion of the breasts and also with a degree of resiliency. In some instances, these pockets are composed of rubber preferably faced on the inner surfaces with a fabric or may comprise other materials including materials having reinforcements as is taught in the patent previously referred to.

Each pocket has at its upper edge 12 a segment 13 which is cupped or concaved at the central portion 14 thereof to conform with the nipple and adjacent area 15 of the breast 16, as indicated in dotted lines in Fig. 4 of the drawing. The segment 13 may be constructed of any suitable soft and flexible material and insofar as the structure of the pocket including the segment is concerned, it may also be made in accordance with the teachings in two companion applications Serial Numbers 431,552, filed February 19, 1942 and 431,919, filed February 23, 1942.

In the present construction, the adjacent edge portions 17 of the pockets are joined by cross straps 18 and 19 and these straps may in part be composed of elastic material to provide a yieldable coupling between the pockets. Attached to

the lower outer edge portions of the pockets 10 and 11, as seen at 20 and 21, is a suitable body encircling strap 22 preferably having elastic portions, as at 23. This strap may, if desired, be detachably and adjustably coupled centrally at the back, as indicated at 24. Attached to the upper, outer edges of the pockets 10 and 11, as at 25, 26, are adjustable shoulder straps 27, 28 each having adjustable buckles, as at 29. These straps also preferably include elastic portions 30 and may either have their ends 31 fixedly secured to the strap 22, or adjustable thereon. In the construction shown, the ends 31 are looped around the straps 22 to provide adjustment.

With a brassière of the kind illustrated in Figs. 1 and 4 of the drawing, the breast pockets 10 and 11 are supported upon the shoulders of the wearer solely by the straps 27, 28. These straps are attached to the extreme outer or side edges of the pockets and extend over the shoulders adjacent the arms instead of mid-way between the arm and neck, as would be the case with straps suspended from the central top portion of the pockets. This construction will substantially fully expose the chest of the wearer thus adapting the brassière for use with dresses having the large square neck openings and further with dresses having low cut neck openings as in evening gowns.

In Fig. 2 of the drawing is shown a slight modification of the structure shown in Fig. 1 which adapts the brassière to dresses or gowns having wide neck openings, but not of such extremely low cuts. In this construction, the breast pockets are illustrated at 32, 33 and have segments 34 similar to the segments 13. Adjacent edges of the pockets are joined by a strap 35 which may be entirely elastic or including elastic portions 36 as may be desired. At 37 is shown a body encircling strap similar to the strap 22 and adjustably coupled at the back, as seen at 38. At 39 and 40 are shown shoulder straps substantially similar to the straps 27 and 28 and having buckles 41 for adjustments thereof. The structure of Fig. 2 differs from Fig. 1 primarily in the location of the strap 35 and in substituting for the straps 18 and 19 two longer straps 42 and 43. The strap 42 is coupled with the upper end 44 of the pocket 32 whereas the strap 43 is coupled to the upper end 45 of the pocket 33. The straps are crossed intermediate the pockets, and the ends thereof are provided with hooks or other couplings 45 adapted to engage one of a number of eyes 47 arranged longitudinally of the straps 39 and 40, so as to properly position and adjust the straps 42 and 43 over the top of the breast or upon the body just above the breast thus exposing the greatest possible amount of the chest of the wearer, as will be apparent. This type of garment not only is adapted for use in the higher cut, square or wide neck garments, but also to the V-neck or rounded neck garments.

It will be apparent that the straps 42 and 43 also aid in supporting the inner adjacent ends 44, 45 of the pockets closer upon the body of the wearer and also provide a slight upward lift of the pockets which will aid in maintaining the breast in the desirable raised position. The combination of adjustments of the straps 42, 43 on the straps 39, 40 and adjustment through the medium of the buckles 41 will adjust the breasts to the desired supporting position to suit the fancies of the wearer.

In Fig. 3 of the drawing, I have shown a modification of both of the structures shown in Figs. 1 and 2 which will adapt the garment for use on

evening dresses commonly suspended from the neck of the wearer and having low cut backs. With this construction, the breast pockets are represented at 48 and 49, the pocket segments at 50, and at 51 is shown a supporting strap which takes the place of the shoulder straps but will be more properly defined as a neck strap in that the central looped portion 52 thereof is adapted to be arranged around the back of the neck with the side portions of the strap extending downwardly to the outer upper corners 53 of the pockets 48 and 49. The strap 51 will preferably have two buckles 54 to adjust both side portions of the strap and will also preferably include two elastic portions 55. The side portions of the strap 51 are also preferably provided with a series of spaced eyes or openings 56 to receive hooks or other fastenings 57 on the ends of straps 58 and 59, similar to the straps 42 and 43.

With the construction shown in Fig. 3, the central coupling straps, such as 18, 19 or 35 may be employed, but this can also be dispensed with and for this reason are not shown in Fig. 3. However, it is preferred that garment engaging coupling devices 60 be attached to the lower central edge portions of the pockets 48 and 49 through flexible or elastic straps 61 so that the brassière may be secured to any other garment worn by the wearer; such for example as a girdle or similar garment, and if a girdle is not worn, the device may be attached to the dress. With this construction, the body encircling strap can be dispensed with and the entire garment will thus be suspended from the neck of the wearer, the coupling as at 60 being employed simply to maintain the lower edge portions of the brassière in a position which would otherwise be maintained by the body encircling straps.

In all of the construction shown, the main support of the garment is taken up by the shoulder or neck straps and these are coupled with outer extremities of the breast pockets. When straps such as the straps 42, 43, 58, and 59 are employed, these are substituted for the central coupling straps at the upper adjacent ends of the pockets and extend the support of one pocket to the shoulder strap of the opposed pocket.

In addition to using various types and kinds of reinforced fabrics, resilient semi-rigid sheetings, such as the pockets of the brassière may be constructed of plastic or metallic materials. In all instances, the various materials employed in constructing the pockets may be fixed on either or both surfaces by suitable fabrics for finishing or ornamental purposes, the illustrations in the accompanying drawing being entirely diagrammatic.

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

1. A brassière comprising two substantially similar breast receiving and supporting members, each of said members comprising a half pocket band disposed on the lower portion and sides only of the breast, a segment of concave contour at the upper edge of the band intermediate the ends thereof, said segment overlying the nipple and adjacent area of the breast, leaving the major part of the upper portion of the breast exposed, means supporting said members in spaced relation to each other, back and shoulder straps attached to outer side extremities only of said members for supporting the members upon the body of the wearer, and said shoulder straps being adapted to extend from the upper portion of said

side extremities perpendicularly and directly to the shoulders of the wearer.

2. A brassière comprising two substantially similar breast receiving and supporting members, each of said members comprising a half pocket band disposed on the lower portion and sides only of the breast, a segment of concave contour at the upper edge of the band intermediate the ends thereof, said segment overlying the nipple and adjacent area of the breast, leaving the major part of the upper portion of the breast exposed, means supporting said members in spaced relation to each other, back and shoulder straps attached to outer side extremities only of said members for supporting the members upon the body of the wearer, said shoulder straps being adapted to extend from the upper portion of said side extremities perpendicularly and directly to the shoulders of the wearer, and said first named means comprising straps of greater length than said members and coupling the inner end of one member with the shoulder strap of the opposed member.

3. A brassière comprising two substantially similar breast receiving and supporting members, each of said members comprising a half pocket band disposed on the lower portion and sides only of the breast, a segment of concave contour at the upper edge of the band intermediate the ends thereof, said segment overlying the nipple and adjacent area of the breast, leaving the ma-

jor part of the upper portion of the breast exposed, means supporting said members in spaced relation to each other, back and shoulder straps attached to outer side extremities only of said members for supporting the members upon the body of the wearer, said shoulder straps being adapted to extend from the upper portion of said side extremities perpendicularly and directly to the shoulders of the wearer, and said first named means comprising a strap of greater length than said members and attached to the inner edge of each of said members and adjustably coupled with the shoulder strap of the opposed members.

4. In a brassière comprising two substantially similar independent and relatively movable breast receiving and supporting members, a body encircling strap supporting said members upon the body of the wearer, shoulder straps coupled with outer and upper side extremities only of each member and with said body encircling strap, said shoulder straps extending perpendicularly from and maintained in substantial vertical alinement with said side extremities, each member having a strap coupled with the inner adjacent edge portions of said members, and the last named strap of each member being of greater length than each member and extending to and being adjustably coupled with the shoulder strap of the opposed member.

NETTIE BLUM.