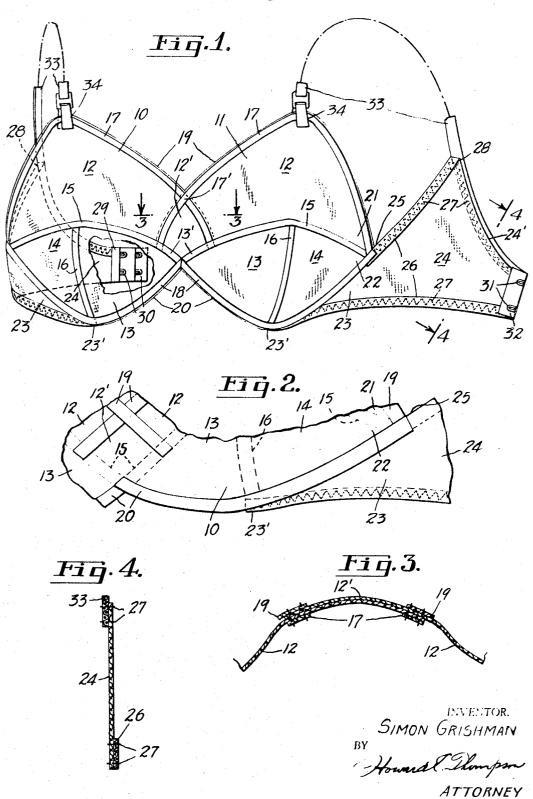
BRASSIERE

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3,465,755 BRASSIERE

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9 Claims

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A brassiere wherein each side of the garment is formed principally of a one-piece panel having a contracted end extending to the lower center of the adjacent cup and a part of each cup forming the remainder of each side, said part, in combination with the panel, forming a V-shaped underarm recess. Further, each panel includes an upwardly contracted shoulder strap attaching end, preferably higher than the low center of the adjacent cup.

Background of the invention

The brassiere deals with side panels having finishing tapes and bands, all composed of extensible material. Further, each cup is formed from an upper fabric piece 25 and two lower fabric pieces, the upper fabric piece of one cup overlapping the corresponding piece of the adjacent cup at the front center of the brassiere.

To applicant's knowledge, brassiere sides have heretofore not been formed by one-piece panels in combination 30 with extensions to outer sides of the cups.

Summary of the invention

The invention deals with a brassiere wherein the side panels have contracted outer ends, one panel having spaced coupling elements engaged by coupling elements at the end of the other panel in adjustable support of the brassiere upon the body of the wearer. Further, when the side panels are formed of extensible material, the shoulder straps joining upper edges of the panels with the top centers of the cups are formed of elastic material and these elastic straps are fixed to the upper outer edge of each of the panels.

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 inside view of a brassiere 50 showing one side extending laterally and the other side folded forwardly, part of one cup being broken away to show the end of the last named side.

FIG. 2 is an enlarged diagrammatic view of part of the lower portion of one side in an extended flat position. 55 FIG. 3 is an enlarged section on the line 3—3 of FIG. 1; and

FIG. 4 is an enlarged section on the line 4—4 of FIG. 1.

Considering the diagrammatic inside view of FIG. 1, 60 10 and 11 are left and right cups, generally of the same construction and each made of upper pieces 12, inner lower pieces 13 and lower outer pieces 14. The pieces 12 cover the major portion of the breasts to a position below the nipples. Each piece 12 joins 13 and 14 by horizontal seam tapes 15 and 13 joins 14 in a similar vertical tape 16. Adjacent edge portions of pieces 12 overlap, as seen at 12'. Upper inner and outer edges of pieces 12 have finishing tapes 17, which cross, as seen at 17'. The lower edges of pieces 13 and 14 have finishing tapes 18, which extend from the center of the brassiere to the outer edges of the cups 10 and 11. All of the tapes

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15, 16, 17 and 18 are on the inner surface of the cups. However, finishing ribbons 19 and 20 are arranged on the outer surface of the cups. Ribbons 19 extend the full length of 17 and ribbons 20 extend the full length of 18. Part of the ribbons 19 and 20 are best seen in FIG. 3 of the drawing and the showing of these ribbons is purely diagrammatic.

In FIGS. 1 and 2, there is no showing of seams and stitchings. This is done to simplify the drawing. These details are well-known to those skilled in the art.

In the diagrammatic showing of FIG. 2, one side of the brassiere is illustrated in a flat extended position to clearly show that the outer contracted sides of the pieces 12 and 14 extend a material degree from the center of the cup to form parts 21 and 22, respectively, of sides of the brassiere. These side parts 21, 22, in conjunction with forward portions 23 of the side panels 24, collectively form the sides of the brassiere. Upper edges of 12 and 23-24 diverge or flare in forming a V-shaped recess 25 at each side of the brassiere. These recesses will be located generally under and in alinement with the armpit of the wearer of the brassiere.

While the panels 24 can be formed of non-extensible material, in the structure shown, an all-way stretch fabric is employed. Thus, the finishing edges of the panels will have elastic ribbons 26 secured thereto by extensible stitching, as diagrammatically seen at 27, FIG. 1.

The upper end of each panel 24 is contracted, as seen at 28, and these ends 28 are preferably normally above the low center of the cups 10 and 11 in the use of the brassiere. The rear end of the panel 24 of the left cup 10 terminates in a coupling tab 29, having spaced pairs of eyes 30 adapted to receive a pair of hooks 31 on the tab 32 at the rear end of the panel 24 of the right cup 11.

Shoulder straps, shown, in part, at 33 in FIG. 1, are attached to the outer surface of the upper rear side 24' of each of the panels 24, this attachment being shown in FIGS. 1 and 4 on the panel fixed to the cup 11. The other ends of the shoulder straps are fixed to the upper center of the cups 10 and 11, as seen at 23 in FIG. 1. It will, thus, be apparent that, in the structure shown, the shoulder straps are elastic, consistent with the extensibility of the panels 24. When non-extensible shoulder straps are employed, they will simply be attached to the upper contracted ends 28 of the panels 24. It will be apparent, from a consideration of FIG. 4 of the drawing, that the straps 33 are on the outer surface of the panels 24; whereas, the ribbons 26 are on the inner surface of the panels 24.

Considering FIGS. 1 and 2 of the drawing, it will be apparent that the terminal ends 23 of the panels extend to the lower center of the cups 10 and 11 or, in other words, where the lower ends of taps 16 join the tapes 18, as seen at 23'. FIG. 3 simply illustrates clearly the arrangement of the ribbons 19 on the outer surface of the overlapped pieces 12 at 12' and the tapes 17 are on the inner surface thereof. All of the pieces 12, 13 and 14 can be composed of any suitable material or combinations of materials. In some instances, one of the materials can comprise lace.

From a consideration of the foregoing, it will be apparent that a simple and economical form of brassiere will result from the combination as defined and the brassiere sides, formed, in part, by the panels and extensions of the outer sides of the cups, will give extreme comfort to the wearer and, when extensible materials are employed in the panels 24, freedom of movement of the body of the wearer is provided, while maintaining desirable comfort to the wearer.

For purposes of description, the overlapping of the pieces 12 at 12' may be said to define a front shield on

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the brassiere. Considering FIGS. 1 and 2 of the drawing, it will be apparent that the adjacent joined end portions of the pieces 13 are stitched to the lower edges of and partially form the shield, as seen at 13' in FIG. 1 of the drawing.

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

- 1. A brassiere employing a pair of cups, panels secured to lower outer sides of the cups, rear contracted ends of said panels having means for adjustably coupling said panels at the rear of the brassiere, and inner end portions of said panels being contracted and terminating at the lower central portion of the cups, said cups having extended sides which, in combination with adjacent parts of said panels, form sides of the brassiere, and said sides of the brassiere having flaring upper edges forming V-shaped underarm recesses on the brassiere.
- 2. A brassiere as defined in claim 1, wherein said panels are formed of extensible material, and upper and lower free edges of said panels being bound by elastic ribbons
- 3. A brassiere as defined in claim 2, wherein said panels have upwardly contracted ends, and shoulder straps coupled with said ends and with the upper central portion of said cups.
- 4. A brassiere as defined in claim 3, wherein said shoulder straps are formed of elastic material and extend onto outer upper edges of said panels, and said panels being formed of extensible material.
- 5. A brassiere as defined in claim 1, wherein each 30 cup comprises an upper piece, a lower inner piece and a lower outer piece, a tape joining the upper piece with said inner and outer lower pieces, a tape joining said lower pieces, and each panel having contracted inner end portions fixed to the full length of the lower edge of 35 the lower outer piece.

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- 6. A brassiere as defined in claim 5, wherein said upper pieces and lower outer pieces of the cups have outwardly extended contracted ends forming, in conjunction with the contracted inner end portions of the panels, sides of the brassiere, and said sides of the brassiere having said flared upper edges forming the V-shaped underarm recesses.
- 7. A brassiere as defined in claim 1, wherein the cups include overlapped portions on upper parts of the cups forming, centrally of the front of the brassiere, a shield, and the lower portions of the cups include adjacent parts fixed to and forming lower edges of said shield.
- 8. A brassiere as defined in claim 7, wherein forward portions of the panels and outer extended sides of said cups collectively form sides of the brassiere, and said sides of the brassiere having said upper flared edges forming the V-shaped underarm recesses.
- 9. A brassiere as defined in claim 8, wherein said panels extend to the lower center of the cups, upper ends of the panels being contracted, and elastic shoulder straps fixed to said panels and to the upper central portion of adjacent cups.

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