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H. RASCH

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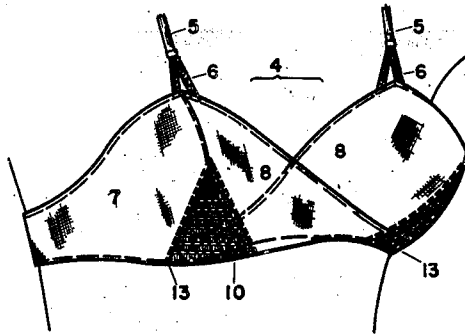


FIG. 1.

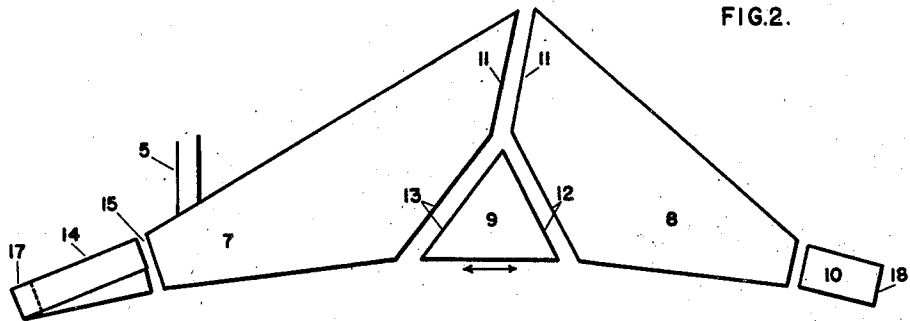


FIG. 2.

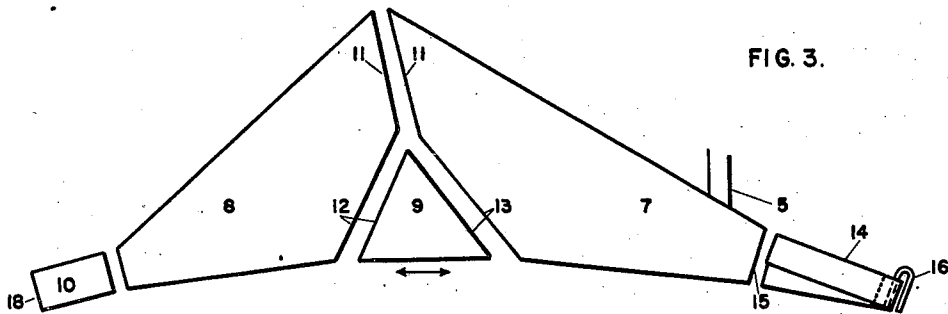


FIG. 3.

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2 Claims. (Cl. 2—42)

This invention relates to bandeaux and more particularly to the construction of bandeaux which may be employed independently or as part of women's undergarments or on the interior of outer garments.

The general object of the invention is to provide an improved construction, simple in design, yet capable of providing snug fit and supporting characteristics heretofore requiring more elaborate and more expensive constructions.

A feature of the invention resides in the provision of two overlapping elements, each of which is substantially identical in form, to provide a self-adjustable arrangement adapted to meet different requirements of wearers whose breasts and waist sizes are different, and whose requirements for adjustability may not be the same on both sides of the wearer.

Another feature of the invention resides in the provision of two elements slidably arranged in overlapping position, each of which has an elastic extension at one end while the other end is in part largely held and in part secured to an elastic insert.

Another feature of the invention covers the use of substantially duplicate breast supporting pieces and end pieces which may be readily and inexpensively cut out and assembled. Each breast supporting piece comprises a combination breast supporting and covering element, one end of said element having an elastic extension, and the other element being adapted to be secured to an elastic insert.

By providing substantially duplicate covering and supporting pieces, applicant's bandeau structure affords an overlapping arrangement in which each piece extends across the front of the wearer. By providing triangular inserts at the ends of said pieces toward the underarm positions, adjustability is assured without distortion or discomfort. The elastic extensions are not as resistant to stretch as the inserts and hence, allow comfortable adjustment where breast sizes may vary. The end pieces serve the triple purpose of holding the elastic insert of one cover and supporting piece, as well as the elastic extension of the other piece, and the usual function of supplying the girdling support about the body.

Further features, making for ease, simplicity, economy, and comfort, in structural and wearing qualities applicable to bandeau and related arrangements will be more apparent from the following description of a typical form of the in-

vention to be read in connection with the accompanying drawing in which:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view showing applicant's bandeau in assembled form;

Fig. 2 is a diagrammatic representation of the elements forming one of the cover and supporting pieces; and

Fig. 3 is a diagrammatic representation of the elements forming the other cover and supporting piece.

Considering the drawing, similar designations referring to similar parts, numeral 4 designates in general a bandeau of brassiere structure as shown in Fig. 1. The shoulder straps 5, shown in fragmentary form, extend, as illustrated, from the front of the bandeau, being secured thereto by elastic attachment links 6. The other ends of the shoulder straps are fastened to the top edges of end pieces 7 adjacent the extremities thereof.

The construction of the bandeau is symmetrical in that, in effect, it consists of two substantially identical assemblies of cooperating elements. Considering Figs. 2 and 3, it may be noted that the elements of Fig. 2 are substantially identical with those of Fig. 3, except in reverse. Thus, in practice, the assembly of Fig. 2 will be adapted to serve the lefthand side of the wearer, whereas the assembly of Fig. 3 will serve the righthand side of the wearer. However, the two assemblies, when linked together, provide a snug fitting and adjustable arrangement, so that desired conformation to the shape of the body will effectively take place and the structure adjust itself to different requirements of wearers whose breast and waist size and breast positions are different.

Considering each assembly, numeral 8 constitutes a main element of a covering and supporting structure whose other elements are triangular elastic insert 9 and elastic extension 10. The triangular insert 9 is stretchable only in a crosswise direction, as indicated by the arrows, and not in a vertical direction. Also, these inserts are made of substantially heavy elastic material, so that a snug fit will be assured rather than a loose fit as may occur if the stretch took place more readily. The elastic extensions 10, on the other hand, stretch easily and are intended to provide an elongation to the element 8.

The end pieces 7 are respectively secured to the elements 8 along edges 11—11. The insert 9 is secured to element 8 at edges 12—12 and to the end pieces 7 along edges 13—13. In view of the conformation of elastic inserts 9, a pocket structure will result when element 8, insert 9,

and end pieces 7 are seamed together along said edges. The pocket structure will be adjustable and because of the elastic characteristic of insert 9 will compensate for differences in size and position of the wearer.

The rear elastic members 14 are stitched to the edges 15 of the end pieces and are adapted to be linked together by hook 16 attached to one of the members which easily slips within the pocket formation 17 at the extremity of the other member 14.

To form the finished bandeau, each of the assemblies are stitched together, whereupon the edge 18 of each extension 10 is stitched along the seam formed by edges 13 of the other assembly.

The construction is simple and inexpensive. Except for the attachment links 6, inserts 9, extensions 10, and members 14, the other elements may be of silk, rayon or other suitable material. The elements of each assembly are identical with the elements of the other and hence, cutting operations are reduced to a minimum. The combination of elements 8, 9 and 10 afford a combination covering and supporting pocket which is attractive, well-fitting, and possessing of many advantages otherwise requiring a more complicated assembly of elements. The combination of this pocket and supporting structure, with the end piece, provides a snug, conforming arrangement which is desirably adjustable because of the manner of attaching this assembly to the other assembly. The stitching of edge 18 of one assembly to the seam formed by edges 13 of the other assembly results in an overlapping and enfolding structure, with each of the assemblies slidable and adjustable with respect to the other.

The construction, depending upon requirements of design, may be varied by reversing inner and outer portions, by variations in cut of

the elements, by modifications in the manner of imparting elastic characteristics to the overlapping assemblies, and otherwise by modifications in pattern and structure without departing from the principle, manner of assembly and interconnection of assemblies. Applicant therefore does not limit himself to precise details of design and includes all equivalent structures within the purview of the appended claims.

I claim:

1. A bandeau structure of the character described including two substantially identical assemblies, each of said assemblies comprising a cover piece, an end piece attached in part to the cover piece and an elastic insert attached to the cover and end pieces, the cover piece, end piece and insert forming a pocket with the insert serving as a breast supporting portion each cover piece of each assembly having an elastic extension attached thereto, the elastic extension of each assembly being secured to a seam connecting the end piece and the insert of the other assembly.

2. A bandeau structure of the character described including two substantially identical assemblies, each of said assemblies comprising a cover piece and an end piece stitched together to form the upper portion of a pocket, an elastic insert stretchable in one direction and secured to the cover piece and the end piece to form a lower portion of the same pocket, said insert serving as a breast supporting portion each of said pieces being tapered at an extremity removed from the pocket, an elastic extension at each of said tapered extremities, the extension attached to the cover piece of each of the assemblies being secured to a seam of a pocket of the other assembly, and means for connecting together the extensions attached to the end pieces.

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