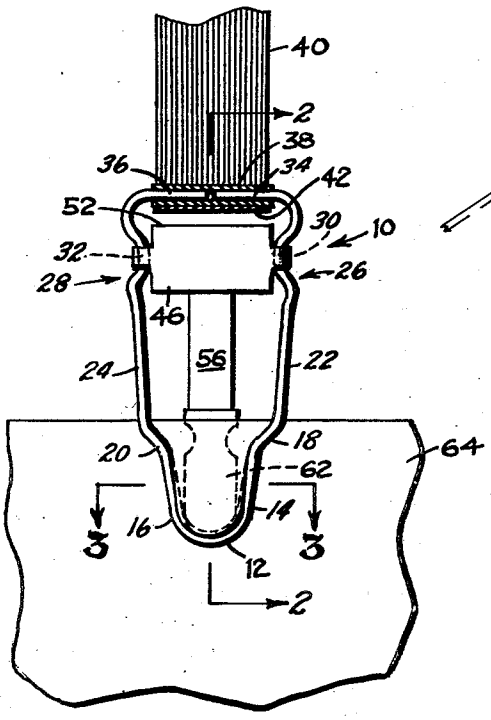
Nov. 12, 1957 C. J. CANTELLO 2,812,565

GARMENT SUPPORTER

Filed July 7, 1955

Fig. 1



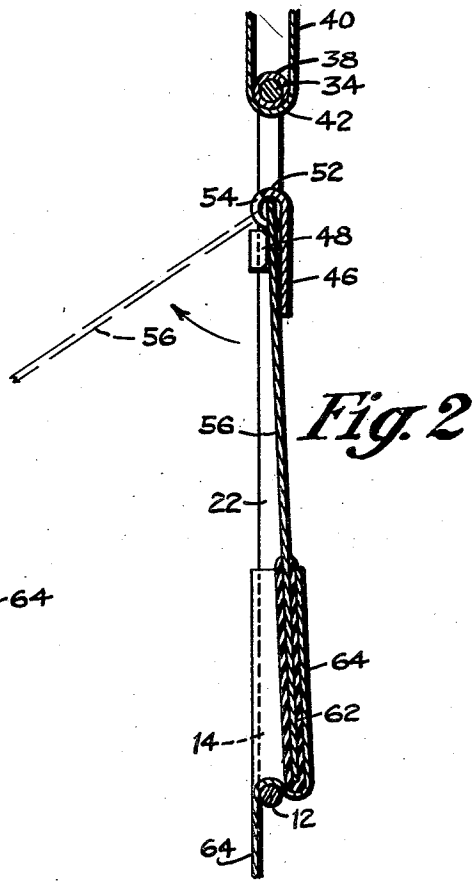
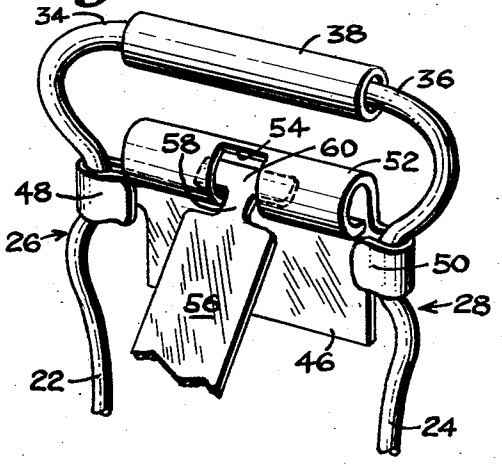


Fig. 2

Fig. 4



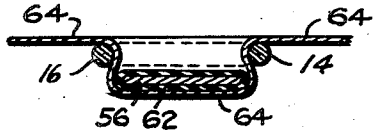


Fig. 3

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GARMENT SUPPORTER

Carl J. Cantello, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Application July 7, 1955, Serial No. 520,433

1 Claim. (Cl. 24—245)

This invention relates to garment supporters, and more specifically, the invention pertains to means for retaining and supporting such garments as stockings and socks, and comprises a continuation-in-part of my copending patent application, Serial No. 487,333, filed February 10, 1955, the copending application being entitled "Garment Supporter."

One of the primary objects of this invention is to provide means of the type described which includes a clasp for use with women's undergarments, such as corsets and girdles, the clasp being relatively thin so as not to appear through the outer clothing.

Another object of this invention is to provide a hose, stocking or sock supporting clasp which is reliable in use and which will not damage the fabric to which it is attached.

A further object of this invention is to provide a hose supporting and retaining clasp which is inexpensive to manufacture, non-complex in construction and assembly, and durable in use.

A still further object of this invention is to provide a hose supporting and retaining clasp of the type to which reference has been made above and which may be quickly and easily secured to the hose at the front and rear of the leg.

Other and further objects and advantages of the instant invention will become more evident from a consideration of the following specification when read in conjunction with the annexed drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a rear elevational view of a garment supporter and retainer clasp constructed in accordance with the present invention, the clasp being illustrated as applied to the upper marginal edge of the welt of a stocking.

Figure 2 is an enlarged detail cross-sectional view of the clasp taken on the vertical plane of line 2—2 of Figure 1, looking in the direction of the arrows.

Figure 3 is an enlarged fragmentary detail cross-sectional view taken on the horizontal plane of line 3—3 of Figure 1, looking in the direction of the arrows.

Figure 4 is an enlarged fragmentary perspective view of the upper end portion of the clasp.

Referring now more specifically to the drawings, reference numeral **10** designates, in general, a garment supporting and retaining clasp constructed in accordance with the teachings of the present invention. As illustrated therein, the clasp **10** is seen to comprise a vertically elongated frame of wire having a substantially circular transverse cross-sectional configuration. The frame includes a length of wire centrally bent to form a substantially U-shaped loop at the lower end thereof having a bight **12** and upwardly extending oppositely disposed spaced and diverging side arms **14, 16**. The arms **14, 16** are bent laterally away from each other to provide offset elements **18, 20** which continue upwardly in the outwardly diverging members **22, 24**. These latter members, while diverging at an angle with respect to the longitudinal axis of the clasp **10** do so at a smaller angle than the angle of inclination of the elements **18, 20** with respect

thereto. The upper ends of the members **22, 24** connect with the lower end of a pair of sinuous sections **26, 28** which include a pair of confronting inwardly extending loops **30, 32**. The sinuous sections **26, 28** have the upper ends thereof bent laterally and inwardly toward each other to form a pair of coaxially aligned cross-bars **34, 36** having confronting adjacent free ends disposed in proximity with respect to each other. The cross-bars **34, 36** are normally positioned substantially perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the clasp **10**. A sleeve **38** is loosely mounted on and surrounds a major portion of the cross-bars **34, 36** and extends across the space between the free ends thereof.

A conventional garter strap **40** formed of elastic material is looped around the sleeve **38** as at **42**. Conventional length adjusting means (not shown) is carried by the strap **40**, and the latter is connected at its upper end to a woman's corset, girdle, or other similar garments.

An elongated substantially rectangular plate **46** is provided with oppositely disposed centrally positioned laterally extending tabs **48, 50**. The plate **46** is positioned between the loops **30, 32** in such a manner as to permit the tabs **48** and **50** to be bent around the adjacent bight portions thereof. The upper end of the plate **46** is constructed with an integrally formed horizontally extending hollow sleeve **52** having a centrally positioned recess **54** to serve a function to be described.

An elongated substantially rectangular tongue **56** formed of resilient material is provided with a reduced neck portion **58** which terminates in a cross-bar **60**. As is seen in the drawing, the neck portion **58** of the tongue **56** extends into the recess **54** with the opposed ends of the cross-bar **60** being journalled for pivotal movement on the marginal edge portions of the sleeve **52** proximate the recess **54**, so that the tongue **56** depends from the sleeve **52** and is pivotally supported thereon. The lower end of the tongue **56** is encased in a resilient material such as, a sheathing **62** formed of rubber.

The width of the lower end of the tongue **56** together with its sheathing **62** is slightly wider than the dimension between the arms **14** and **16**, and the tongue **56** is of such length as to project downwardly slightly below the upper edge of the bight **12**. However, due to the resiliency of the wire frame, the tongue **56**, and of the sheathing **62**, the lower end of the tongue **56** may be manually operated to slide by the arms **14, 16** and the bight **12** to pass to opposite sides of the clasp **10**.

The plate **46** and the tabs **48** and **50** prevent the side members of the frame from inadvertent lateral movement toward and away from each other and lend rigidity to the clasp.

In operation, and assuming that the clasp **10** is engaged with the upper marginal edge of the welt **64** of a stocking, as shown in Figures 1, 2 and 3, the operator, to disconnect the clasp **10** therefrom, merely inserts a finger behind the central portion of the tongue **56** and presses outwardly thereon. This force springs the tongue **56** away from the bight **12** and the arms **14, 16** and elevates it to the dotted line position shown in Figure 2. The stocking may now be withdrawn from the adjacent portions of clasp **10**.

To attach the clasp, the bight **12**, arms **14, 16**, elements **18, 20**, and members **22, 24** are slipped downwardly between the upper marginal edge of the welt **64** and the adjacent portions of the wearer's leg with the tongue **56** in its raised dotted line position shown in Figure 2. Thereafter the tongue is pivoted toward the bight **12** and arms **14, 16** and is sprung therethrough with but slight finger pressure to assume the full line positions of Figures 1 and 2, clamping the welt **64** securely therebetween.

Having described and illustrated one embodiment of

this invention in detail, it will be understood that the same is offered merely by way of example, and that the invention is to be limited only by the scope of the appended claim.

What is claimed is:

A clasp comprising an integral U-shaped frame including a bight and upwardly extending oppositely disposed, spaced and diverging side arms, extensions having outward bends continuing from said side arms, elongated diverging members attached at one end thereof to said extensions, sinuous sections, each section having a loop extending from said diverging members and having inwardly directed aligned cross-arms, the free ends of which are disposed in spaced confronting relation, a sleeve loosely mounted on said cross-arms, a substantially rectangular plate disposed between said sinuous sections, said plate having a lug projecting from each side thereof and encircling an adjacent loop of said sinuous sections, an elongated resilient tongue having a reduced neck portion at one end thereof, said neck portion having a cross-bar integrally formed therewith at the uppermost end

thereof, said plate having a sleeve integrally formed at the upper end thereof, said sleeve having a recess formed therein adapted to receive said neck with said cross-bar journalled for rotation within said sleeve adjacent the marginal edges of said recess whereby said tongue depends from and is pivotally supported on said sleeve, and the free end of said tongue normally extending from said plate beyond said bight and by its resiliency being adapted for snap sliding movement between said arms and bight to alternate sides of said clasp.

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