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1,507,415

H. R. OLIVER

HOSE SUPPORTER

Filed April 24, 1923

Fig. 1.

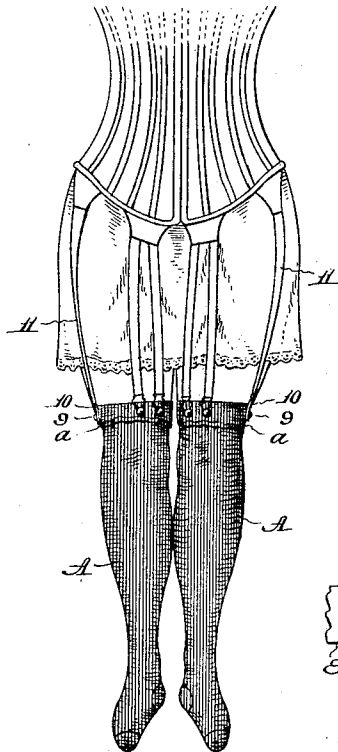


Fig. 2.

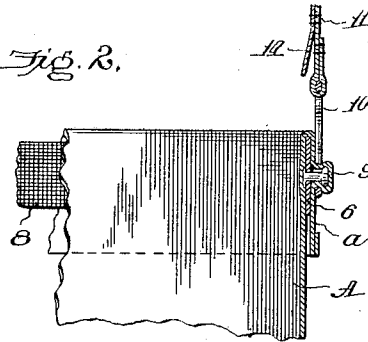


Fig. 3.

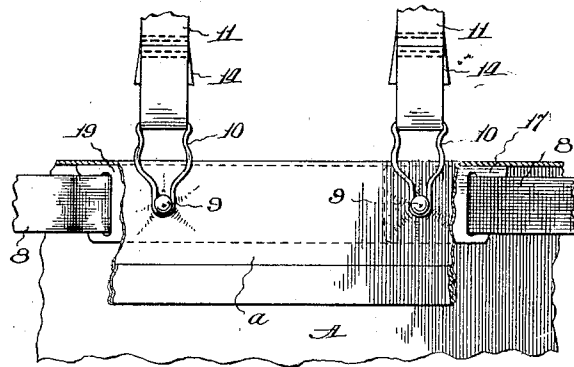


Fig. 4.

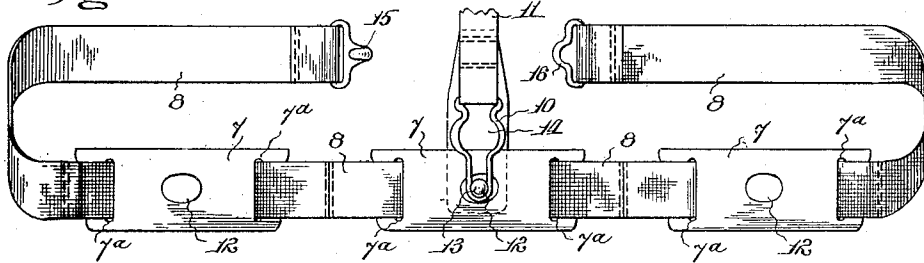
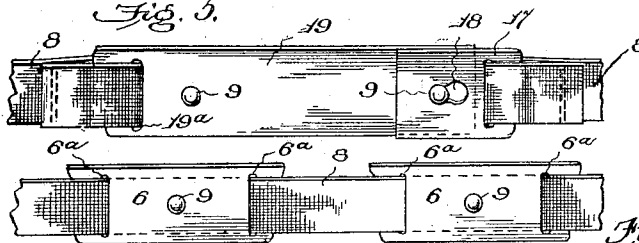


Fig. 5.



Inventor:  
Herbert R. Oliver.

By *Conced Mall*  
Attorney.

## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HERBERT R. OLIVER, OF BALTIMORE, MARYLAND.

## HOSE SUPPORTER.

Application filed April 24, 1923. Serial No. 634,329.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, HERBERT R. OLIVER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Baltimore, in the county of Baltimore and State of Maryland, have invented a Hose Supporter, of which the following is a specification.

My invention is an improvement in that particular class of hose supporters in which the suspending straps are attached to the hose by a clasp comprising a headed stud and engaging loop.

In this conventional type of hose supporters the supporting strain on the hose or stocking is confined to the stud over which the companion member or loop of the clasp engages, and this pulling strain—usually at two or more points—not only tends to give an uneven set to the hose or stocking on the leg of the wearer but the supporting engagement of the clasp being so confined to limited portions of the fabric causes threads thereof to break resulting in material injury to the stocking, and as the breaking of the threads oftentimes occur at a distance below the clasps the body of the stocking is marred.

The primary object of my invention is to obviate the objections hereinabove mentioned by providing an attachment usable in connection with the ordinary clasp whereby to distribute the pulling strain along the upper end of the stocking, in the present instance by a band or garter having special bearing strips over which the upper part of the stocking is folded and to which the clasps and folded stocking are connected.

A further object of my invention is to provide bearing or reinforcing strips especially adapted for women's hose or stockings and which may be readily applied around the leg of the wearer to receive the clasps at the ends of the suspending straps with which corsets are usually provided—in one instance cooperating with the loop member only of the clasp and in another instance usable with the complete clasp comprising loop and headed stud, the latter being carried by a tab, as usual.

Other objects and advantages of my invention will hereinafter appear, and what I particularly claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is more specifically set forth in the appended claims.

In the drawings:

Fig. 1 is a view illustrating the application of my invention in supporting women's stockings.

Fig. 2 is a detail sectional view showing one form of connecting the clasp and stocking to the bearing strip.

Fig. 3 is a front elevation showing two of the supporting strips formed to provide means for connecting the ends of the band together.

Fig. 4 is a view illustrating a modification to provide for using both members of an ordinary clasp.

Fig. 5 is a detail view of the form of connection of the band illustrated in Fig. 3.

Fig. 6 is a front elevation of a portion of the band with intermediate plates carrying headed studs.

In carrying out my invention I provide a band or garter as an auxiliary to the ordinary hose-supporter clasps to give an even set to the stocking and primarily to protect it from injury, said band or garter being made up of a plurality of strips or plates, as 6 (Figs. 2 and 6) or 7 (Fig. 4), each being of a length to provide the desired bearing for the upper portion of the stocking A folded thereover, as hereinafter explained, and are connected together to be suitably spaced apart by strips 8 of elastic material. In one instance, as shown in Figs. 2, 3 and 5, each bearing strip or plate is provided with a headed stud 9 to receive the loop member 10 of an ordinary form of clasp at the end of the suspending straps 11, and in another instance the plates may be provided with elliptical holes or openings 12, as shown in Fig. 4, whereby a complete clasp at the end of the suspending strap comprising loop member 10 and cooperating member or headed stud 13 on tab 14 may be used; it being understood that when the headed stud is formed on the bearing strip or plate the stud 13 is not required and therefore may be removed by simply cutting the tab, as illustrated in the drawings.

In Fig. 4 wherein the plates 7 are shown provided with openings for using complete clasps at the ends of the suspending straps 11 the ends of the garter comprising said plates and connecting elastic strips or bands 8 are fastened together detachably by a

metal hook 15 at one end of the garter engaging a metal loop 16 at the other end of said garter; but as shown in Fig. 5 the ends of the garter may be connected by providing one of the plates, as short plate 17, with a keyhole slot 18 to engage a headed stud 9 on a companion plate 19, said stud serving also to receive a clasp loop-member in attaching the folded stocking to said plates, and the latter may be of such a length as to have another stud 9 thereon spaced a suitable distance from the one hereinabove mentioned.

When plates are used having holes to receive a hose-supporter clasp I prefer to connect the several plates by short strips of elastic, as shown in Fig. 4, but when the plates are provided with headed studs, as shown in Fig. 5, I prefer to connect them by a single long elastic strip or band threading the same through the slots 6<sup>a</sup> and across the back of the plates in the well known manner, and in this instance of course said plates can be spaced apart to the desired extent by simply sliding them on the elastic strip.

The bearing strips or plates of the band or garter are made of celluloid or other material having the required stability and resiliency to conform to the leg of the wearer, and in practice are each of a length to give the required bearing for the folded upper end of the stocking.

The use of the band or garter will be readily understood from the foregoing description in connection with the drawing, for it is applied around the leg of the wearer over the stocking below the upper end so that a portion thereof, as *a*, may be folded over said garter, and then the clasp is engaged to hold the stocking and garter together for suspension by the straps 11. When the plates are provided with studs the fold of the stocking is engaged by said studs and the loop-member of the clasp, and when said plates are provided with holes or openings (Fig. 4) both parts of the fold of the stocking are engaged by the stud and loop of the clasp, the hole of course being made large enough for the purpose. When applied, as shown in Fig. 1, the upper edge of the folded portion of the stocking is supported by the upper edges of the several bearing strips or plates so that the stocking is relieved of the strain on the studs to prevent breaking of the threads.

A garter or band with reinforcing plates for the stocking may be sold as a separate article, for, as hereinbefore explained, it is usable with the ordinary suspension straps and clasps with which corsets are provided. However, the garter or band may be used

also in supporting men's socks in connection with the conventional garters which have straps and clasps.

I claim:

1. A device for supporting hose in connection with suspending straps and hose fasteners comprising a band to encircle the leg and hose a sufficient distance below the upper end of the latter so that the upper portion of said hose is folded forwardly over said band, means for connecting the ends of the band, plates carried by the band and having their upper edges of considerable length to provide extensive bearings for the fold of the hose, and means forming a part of said plates respectively for cooperating with the aforesaid hose fasteners in connecting the folded portion of the hose to the plates, whereby the pull of the hose is along the upper edges of said plates around the leg of the wearer.

2. A device for supporting hose in connection with suspending straps and hose fasteners comprising a band to encircle the leg and hose a sufficient distance below the upper end of the latter so that the upper portion of said hose is folded forwardly over said band, means, for connecting the ends of the band, plates carried by the band and having their upper edges of considerable length to provide extensive bearings for the fold of the hose, and studs projecting outwardly from the plates and over which the folded portion of the hose is fastened by the aforesaid clasps, whereby the pull of the hose is distributed along the upper edges of the plates around the leg of the wearer.

3. A device for supporting hose in connection with suspending straps and hose fasteners comprising a band to encircle the leg of the wearer over the hose a sufficient distance below the upper end of the latter so that the upper portion of said hose is folded over said band, plates carried at the ends and intermediate portion of the band, said plates being of considerable length to provide extensive bearings for the fold of the hose, studs projecting outwardly from the plates and over which the folded portion of the hose is fastened by the aforesaid clasps, a plate at one end of the band having a keyhole slot, and a plate at the other end of the band with a stud engaging the keyhole slot and over which the hose is fastened, the last mentioned plates connecting the band around the leg of the wearer, whereby the connecting plates and intermediate plates provide for distributing the pull of the hose along the upper edges of said plates around the leg of the wearer.

HERBERT R. OLIVER.