June 24, 1924. 1,498,829

E. VON S. S. BLUM

SPAT

Filed April 9, 1923

Fig. 1.

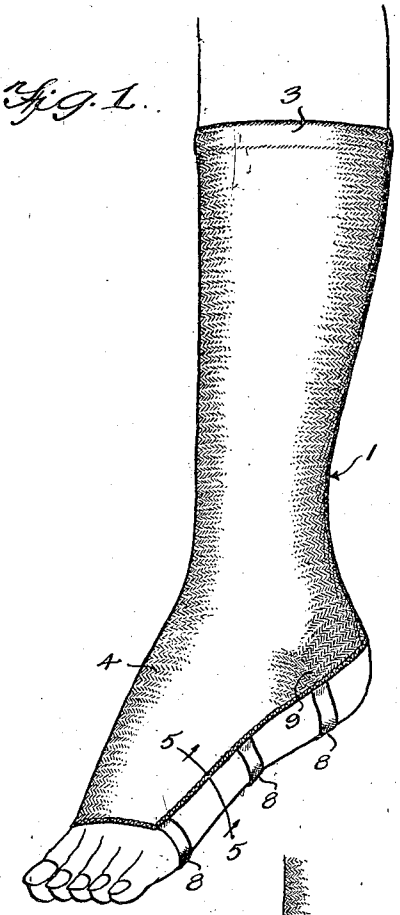


Fig. 2.

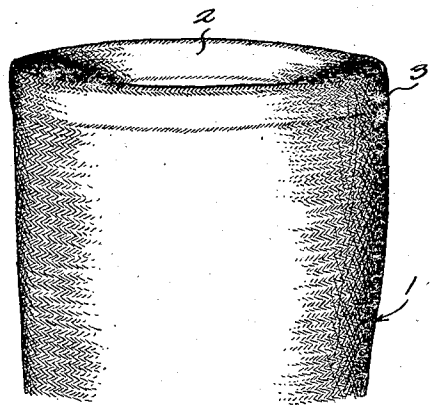


Fig. 3.

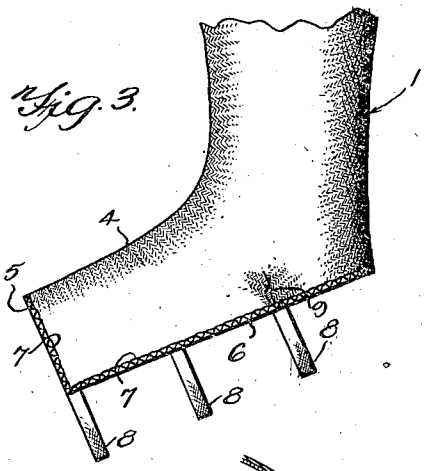


Fig. 4.

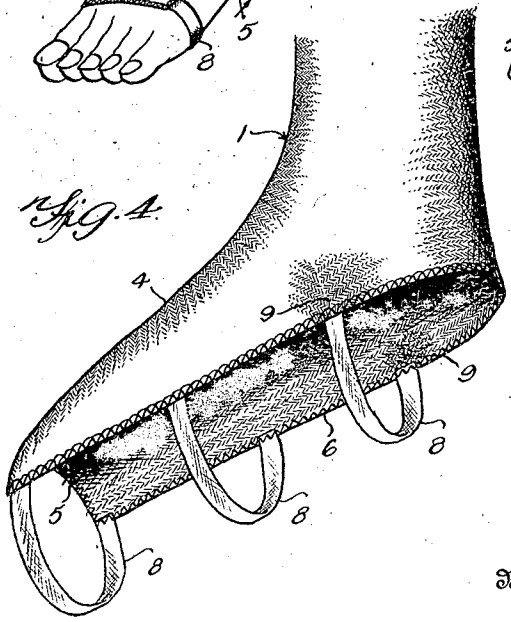
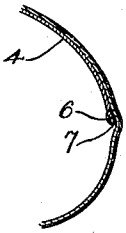


Fig. 5.



Inventor

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Attorney

Patented June 24, 1924. 1,498,829

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ELISA VON S. S. BLUM, OF DALLAS, TEXAS.

SPAT.

Application filed April 9, 1923. Serial No. 630,889.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ELISA VON S. S. BLUM, a citizen of the United States, residing at Dallas, in the county of Dallas and State of Texas, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Spats, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to new and useful improvements in spats and more particularly to such an article adapted to be worn beneath the hosiery whereby the foot and leg of the wearer is protected against the cold when chiffon, lace or other thin hosiery is worn.

The present invention is an improvement over my prior Patent No. 1,435,047 granted November 7, 1922, wherein there is shown and described an article of the above mentioned character having a body portion surrounding a lower portion of the leg of the wearer and an integral foot portion adapted to cover the upper portion of the foot, means being provided for holding the lower edge of the foot portion in snug engagement with the foot.

An important object of the present invention is to provide an article of the above mentioned character which may be worn with an extreme degree of comfort without danger of the rolling of the edges of the device or the wrinkling of the angle portion.

A further object is the provision of novel reinforcing means for the lower edge of the spat, said reinforcing means being employed for securing the foot engaging straps in position and being adapted to engage with the inner surface of the hosiery to prevent the lower edge of the spat from slipping or rolling upwardly when in use.

A still further object of the invention is the provision of means at the upper end of the spat for engaging with the inner surface of the hosiery to prevent the downward slipping of the upper end of the spat.

A still further object is the provision of a spat formed of preferably closely knitted material adapted to enhance the invisibility of the article while being worn.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will be apparent during the course of the following description.

In the drawings, I have shown one embodiment of the invention. In this showing,

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the spat in position on the foot,

Figure 2 is a fragmentary perspective view of the upper end of the spat,

Figure 3 is a fragmentary side elevation of the lower end,

Figure 4 is a fragmentary perspective view of the same, and,

Figure 5 is a section taken on line 5—5 of Figure 1.

Referring to the drawings, the numeral 1 designates the spat as a whole, preferably composed of knitted material of fine grain. While I prefer to use knitted material it will be obvious that I may employ any material which may be suited to the purpose. I have found that when the material employed is finely knitted or of close grain and of flesh color, it is impossible to detect the presence of the spat beneath the sheerest hosiery. The invention, however, is not limited to a spat of any particular color.

The spat is adapted to extend upwardly a substantial distance upon the calf of the leg and the upper end is turned inwardly and downwardly as at 2, the edge of the material being knitted or otherwise secured to the sides of the body portion of the spat. It has been found that when the upper end of the spat is constructed as described a slight bulge 3 shown in somewhat exaggerated form in Figure 2 occurs at the upper end of the spat and this bulge extends entirely around the spat as will be obvious, and serves to frictionally engage the inner surface of the hosiery to prevent the upper end of the spat from slipping downwardly when in use.

The spat is provided with a foot portion 4 which is adapted to cover the upper portion of the instep and heel as shown in Figure 1. The forward edge 5 of the foot portion is preferably constructed so as to extend straight over the forward portion of the foot preferably slightly to the rear of the toes as shown in Figure 1. The lower edge 6 of the foot portion is also formed preferably in a straight line as shown in Figure 3. The straight line construction of the

forward and lower edges of the foot portion of the spat forms an important feature of the invention as will become apparent. Reinforcing stitches 7 are provided upon the forward and lower edges 5 and 6. These stitches serve to prevent undue stretching of the free edges of the article but do not destroy the elasticity of these edges within reasonable limits. As shown in exaggerated form in Figure 5, the stitches 7 cause a slight thickening of the forward and lower edges of the foot portion whereby the inner surface of the foot of the hosiery may be firmly engaged to prevent upward slipping or rolling of these edges.

As shown in Figures 1, 3 and 4, I provide retaining members in the form of straps 8 secured to the lower edge of the foot portion 4. In practice I have found it advantageous to employ the stitches 7 for securing the straps 8 to the foot portion. As shown in Figure 4 the ends of the straps extend beyond the lower edge of the foot portion only a sufficient distance to be engaged by the stitches 7 and with this construction it has been found that no inconvenience or discomfort is caused in the wearing of the article. I have found it advantageous to employ three straps, the forward one being secured directly at the forward end of the foot portion, the rear strap being secured at a point spaced slightly from the rear end of the heel, while the intermediate strap is preferably equidistantly spaced from the other two. As clearly shown in Figure 3, I prefer that the forward edge of the forward strap 8 form a continuation of the straight forward edge 5 of the foot portion. When so constructed, the strap 8 exerts a slight pull in a direct line over the forward end 5 of the foot portion and effectually prevents the forward edge from rolling or slipping upwardly upon the instep when the device is in use. By forming the lower edge 6 of the body portion in a straight line, particularly when the edge is provided with stitching, I have found that the upward rolling or slipping of the lower edge also is prevented.

In use, the article is placed upon the foot and leg as shown in Figure 1, the upper end being pulled upwardly until the ankle portion of the device snugly fits the ankle of the wearer. The securing straps 8 in conjunction with the bulged portion 3 of the upper end of the spat prevent the ends of the article from slipping toward the center or ankle portion and causing wrinkles. As previously stated, the structure of the lower end of the article is such as to maintain snug contact of the lower edges with the foot. The hosiery is preferably turned inside out before placing upon the foot as will be understood. When the hosiery is pulled on to the foot the straight line construction of the forward edge 5 of the foot portion and the forward strap 8 effectually prevents the forward end of the foot portion from rolling. I have found that when the article is constructed of the proper material, the bulged portion 3 is so slight as to be invisible but is sufficiently thick to engage the inner surface of the hosiery and effectually prevent the upper end of the body portion of the spat from slipping downwardly. By employing stitching 7 rather than solid reinforcing material, snug fitting of the lower end of the article is obtained and upward rolling or slipping may be prevented without sufficiently thickening the lower edge to make it uncomfortable while in use.

As previously stated, I prefer to form the spat of knitted material and when so formed the lower and rear portions of the foot portion is provided with a knitted in gusset 9 preferably arranged adjacent the rearward strap 8. The provision of the gusset 9 permits the spat to be more accurately fitted at the sides of the heel and assists the rearward strap 8 in maintaining the lower rear edges of the foot portion in snug contact with the foot.

It is to be understood that the form of my invention herewith shown and described is to be taken as a preferred example of the same, and that various changes in the shape, size, and arrangement of parts may be resorted to without departing from the spirit of the invention or the scope of the subjoined claims.

Having described my invention, I claim:

1. A spat adapted to be worn on the foot and leg beneath the hosiery, said spat comprising foot and leg portions, said foot portion being adapted to cover only the upper portion of the foot to a point adjacent the toes and having a substantially straight forward edge, and means for holding said foot portion in snug contact with the foot, said holding means having an independent portion secured to said foot portion at the straight forward edge thereof.

2. A spat adapted to be invisibly worn on the foot and leg beneath the hosiery, said spat comprising foot and leg portions, said foot portion being adapted to cover only the upper portion of the foot to a point adjacent the toes and having substantially straight lower edges, and a plurality of straps secured at their ends to said lower edge and extending beneath the foot, one of said straps forming in effect a continuation of the forward edge of said foot portion.

3. A spat adapted to be invisibly worn on the foot and leg beneath the hosiery, said spat comprising foot and leg portions, said foot portion being adapted to cover only the upper portion of the foot and having substantially straight forward and lower

edges, and a plurality of straps secured at their ends to said lower edge and extending beneath the foot, one of said straps forming in effect a continuation of the straight forward edge of said foot portion, the forward and lower edges of said foot portion being provided with reinforcing stitching serving as a securing means for said straps and being adapted to slightly thicken said edges whereby they frictionally engage the inner surface of the hosiery without affecting the visibility of said lower edges.

4. A fabric spat adapted to be invisibly worn on the foot and leg beneath the hosiery, said spat comprising a leg portion and a foot portion adapted to cover only the upper portion of the foot to a point adjacent the toes and having substantially straight forward and lower edges materially thicker than the fabric of the spat, and a plurality of straps secured at their ends to said lower edge and extending beneath the foot, one of said straps forming in effect a continuation of the straight forward edge of said foot portion.

5. A spat adapted to be invisibly worn on the foot and leg beneath the hosiery, said spat comprising a leg portion and a foot portion adapted to cover only the upper portion of the foot to a point adjacent the toes, the forward and lower edges of said foot portion meeting at an angle, and means for holding said foot portion in snug contact with the foot, said holding means including an independent portion secured between the sides of said foot portion adjacent the angle between the forward and lower edges thereof.

6. A spat adapted to be worn on the foot and leg beneath the hosiery, said spat comprising foot and leg portions, said foot portion being adapted to cover the upper portion of the foot and having substantially straight forward and lower edges, and a plurality of straps secured at their ends to said lower edge and extending beneath the foot, one of said straps forming in effect a continuation of the straight forward edge of said body portion.

7. A spat adapted to be worn on the foot and leg beneath the hosiery, said spat comprising foot and leg portions, said foot portion being adapted to cover the upper portion of the foot and having substantially straight forward and lower edges, and a plurality of straps secured at their ends to said lower edge and extending beneath the foot, one of said straps forming in effect a continuation of the straight forward edge of said foot portion, the forward and lower edges of said foot portion being provided with reinforcing stitching serving as a securing means for said straps and being adapted to slightly thicken said edges whereby they frictionally engage the inner surface of the hosiery.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature

ELISA VON S. S. BLUM.

Certificate of Correction.

It is hereby certified that in Letters Patent No. 1,498,829, granted June 24, 1924, upon the application of Elisa von S. S. Blum, of Dallas, Texas, for an improvement in "Spats," an error appears in the printed specification requiring correction as follows: Page 3, strike out lines 39 to 66, comprising claims 6 and 7; and that the said Letters Patent should be read with this correction therein that the same may conform to the record of the case in the Patent Office.

Signed and sealed this 19th day of August, A. D. 1924.

[SEAL.]

KARL FENNING,
Acting Commissioner of Patents.