SHIFTABLE GARTER HITCH

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SHIFTABLE GARER HITCH

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4 Claims. (Cl. 2—33)

1. This invention relates to garters or hose supporters of the general type commonly employed in multiple as a part of women's apparel to engage with and support conventional stockings, and more particularly to that garter or hose supporter unit connectible with the rearward zone of a conventional stocking, and has as an object to provide an improved such rearwardly-disposed garter selectively shiftable for facility of use.

A further object of the invention is to provide an improved mounting and support for the rearwardly-disposed unit of a conventional hose-supporting garter set.

A further object of the invention is to provide improved means for operatively and shiftably associating the rearwardly-disposed unit of a hose-supporting garter set with a conventional corset, girdle, or the like.

With the foregoing and other objects in view, my invention consists in the construction, arrangement, and combination of elements as hereinafter set forth, pointed out in my claims, and illustrated by the accompanying drawing, in which:

Figure 1 is an elevation of a typical construction and arrangement of elements exemplifying the principles of the invention. Figure 2 is a cross section, on an enlarged scale, taken substantially on the line marked 2—2 of Figure 1. Figure 3 is a diagrammatic view of the improvement in position of practical use.

For the support of long stockings conventionally worn by women, it is customary to provide a plurality of garter or hose supporting elements on and in depending relation from the lower margin of a girdle, corset, belt, or similar undergarment, in a spaced relationship appropriate for engagement with the rearward zone of each stocking, three such units being frequently provided for the support of each stocking. The location of the rearwardly-disposed garter unit of each stocking set is such as to facilitate the operations of connecting and disconnecting it relative to the stocking top, and the instant invention is hence directed to the provision of novel and improved means for associating such rearwardly-disposed garter unit with the appropriate garter, girdle, or equivalent garment, in a manner facilitating such operations through shiftability of the unit in a horizontal plane and to a position of ready availability on the person of the wearer.

As shown in the drawing, the numeral 10 indicates generally a corset, girdle, or analogous garment, having a lower margin, or hem, 11 spaced in position of wear somewhat above the top line 12 of conventional stockings in their positions of wear. A slide member 13 of any suitable rigid material, such as sheet metal, molded plastic, or the like, is formed as a thin sheet of an appropriate length several times exceeding its width and with a longitudinal slot 14 extending the major length of the member and terminating at one of its ends in a laterally-offset notch 15 adjacent the corresponding member end. There being a rearwardly-disposed garter unit for each leg of the wearer, a slide member 13 will be provided for each of said garter units, the said complementary slide members being longitudinally curved to overlie the leg curvature in approximately horizontal extension along the garment hem 11 and being appropriately paired to position their ends accommodating the notches 15 to overhang the rearward zones of the corresponding stocking tops and to extend forwardly thence to the wearer's legs.Secured at its upper margin to and to overlie a fabric backing 16, as by means of stitching, snap fasteners, or rivets 17, each slide member 13 is arranged to parallel an upper margin of the backing 16 which is in turn arranged for connection, preferably detachably, to and along the appropriate zone of the garment hem 11. While the upper margin of the backing 16 may be permanently stitched to the garment hem 11, it is desirable that the slide member be removable and replaceable relative to the garment 10, for which purpose it is feasible and expedient to stitch a tape 18 carrying one element of a slide fastener to the hem 11 and to mount the other slide fastener element on the upper margin of the backing 16, thereby utilizing well known and readily-available means in the form of conventional slide fasteners 19 for detachably engaging the backing 16 carrying the slide member 13 to and in the desired relation with the garment hem 11. As will be apparent, other selectively-detachable means may be utilized to effect the mounting of the backing 16 on the hem 11 to function as hereinafter described.

Any appropriate type or construction of garter clasp 20 is engaged with and to depend from the lower end of an elastic loop 21 slidably engaged on and loosely about the lower bar of the slide member 13, so that said loop 21 may slide freely along said bar from one end to the other end of the slide member 13 and may engage, at times, in the notch 15 at the rearward end of said member; the elastic connection of the loop 21
functioning in the manner usual to and characteristic of the conventional elastic straps employed for the mounting of garter clasps.

Construction and arrangement as shown and described, the improvement is of advantage in permitting manipulation of the rearward-disposed garter clasp 20 relative to the associated stocking without the strains and contortions incident to the use of a permanently fixed such garter unit. When it is desired to manipulate the clasp 20, the loop 21 may be lifted slightly and moved forwardly about the leg through consequent disengagement of said loop from the notch 15 and elidable engagement of the loop with the slide member 13 lower bar. If the clasp is to be engaged with a stocking top, it is shifted forwardly on the slide member to the end of said member remote from its notch 15 and is there positioned for convenient access and engagement with the appropriate selected point of the stocking top, thereafter the loop is returned along the slide member lower bar for reengagement with the notch 16, the stocking top is smoothed into proper alignment with the new position of the clasp, and the stretching of the stocking reflected through the clasp and loop operates to maintain the loop 21 engaged in the notch 15 and to hold the garter unit against shift away from its notch-determined position. Manifestly, disengagement of the clasp 20 from the stocking top may be effected in the rearward disposition of the garter unit or after the garter unit is disengaged from the notch 15 and again shifted to the forward end of the slide member 13.

As will be apparent, the form and construction of the slide member 13 in its operative association with the garter unit and in its detachable mounting on the garment 10 provides a comfortable, compact, and practical arrangement for shifting the garter unit difficult of access to a position of ready availability and for return of such unit to its desired position of use with facility and convenience.

Since many changes, variations, and modifications in the particular form, construction, and interrelation of the elements shown and described may be had without departing from the spirit of my invention, I wish to be understood as being limited solely by the scope of the appended claims, rather than by any details of the illustrative showing and foregoing description.

I claim as my invention:

1. A garter hitch adapted for association with a body garment comprising, an elongated, narrow, longitudinally-slotted plate, means parallel to a lower garment edge, whereby to suspend the plate slot substantially horizontal, a loop engaged through the plate slot about the plate slot remote from said means, whereby to slidably relate said loop with the plate portion thereby embraced, and a garter clasp carried by the end of said loop remote from the plate.

2. The organization according to claim 1, wherein said plate is provided with a notch laterally offset from and enlarging the rearward end of the plate slot for the reception and retention of said loop.

3. The organization according to claim 1, wherein said plate overlies and is secured at one of its long margins to a flexible backing member and the margin of said backing member outwardly paralleling the so-secured plate margin is adapted for connection with a garment lower edge to suspend the plate from and in the desired relation with the garment.

4. A garter hitch adapted for association with a body garment comprising, a flexible backing member sheet, an elongated, narrow, longitudinally-slotted plate overlying and secured at one of its long margins to said sheet, a loop engaged through the plate slot and between said plate and backing sheet about the plate portion remotely paralleling the so-secured plate margin, whereby to slidably relate said loop with the plate portion thereby embraced, a notch laterally offset from and enlarging one end of the plate slot for the reception and retention of said loop, a garter clasp on the end of said loop remote from the plate, and means at the margin of said backing member outwardly paralleling the so-secured plate margin connectible to and along a lower edge portion of a garment, whereby to suspend said plate from the garment with the plate slot substantially horizontal, the notch of the plate slot at the end of the plate directed rearwardly of the garment, and the loop-supported garter clasp depending from said slidable association with the plate lower portion.

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