May 11, 1937. R. D. PARRY 2,080,058

HOSE SUPPORTING ACCESSORY

Filed June 10, 1935

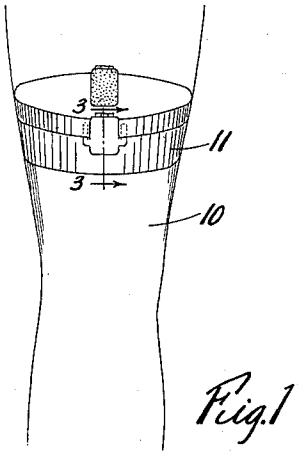


Fig.1

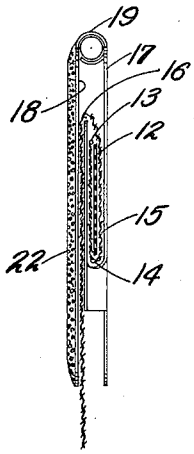


Fig.3

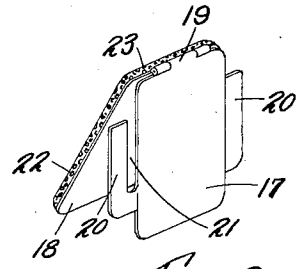


Fig.2

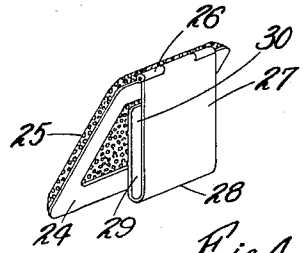


Fig.4

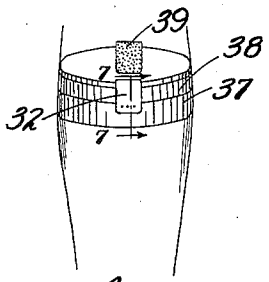


Fig.5

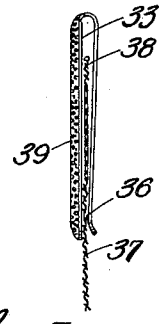


Fig.7

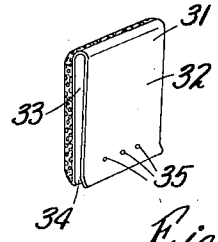


Fig.6

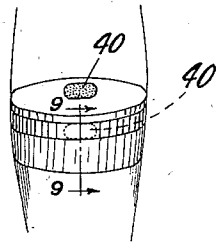


Fig.8

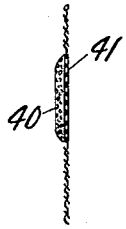


Fig.9

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HOSE SUPPORTING ACCESSORY

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Application June 10, 1935, Serial No. 25,801

2 Claims. (Cl. 241—1)

The present invention relates to the art of supporting hosiery of practically all kinds and styles and has for an object the provision of simple, effective and inconspicuous means adapted to be associated detachably or otherwise to the top portion of the hose and to cooperate with a limb encircling garter or elastic band retaining these articles of wear smoothly and snugly in position and without excessive constrictive force of the garter or encircling band.

Another object of the invention is to provide a means of this kind that is susceptible to a variety of embodiments that are well adapted to the different kinds of hosiery now commonly worn by women and children and also by men.

A further object of the invention is to provide an accessory of the class described in combination with a limb encircling garter for use with women's full length hose, whereby the use of a garter belt may be eliminated together with the disadvantages attending the use of the latter.

A further object of the invention is to provide certain kinds of women's and men's hose having the device of the invention permanently embodied therein.

A still further object of the invention is to provide an accessory of this character that is of particular use with women's three quarter length hose and also with the so-called golf hose.

These and other objects are attained by the means described herein and disclosed in the accompanying drawing, in which:

Fig. 1 is a fragmental perspective view showing a full length stocking operatively associated on a limb with a garter and with the accessories of the invention in the form of garter clips operatively associated with them.

Fig. 2 is a perspective view of a clip of the type shown in Fig. 1 separated from the hose and garter.

Fig. 3 is a cross sectional view taken on line 3—3 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 4 is a perspective view of a modification of the device shown in Fig. 2.

Fig. 5 is a fragmental perspective view showing a modified form of the accessory of the invention operatively associated with a three-quarter length stocking.

Fig. 6 is a perspective view of the clip shown in Fig. 5, but separated from the hose.

Fig. 7 is a cross sectional view taken on line 7—7 of Fig. 5.

Fig. 8 is a fragmental perspective view showing the accessory of the invention permanently embodied at the top of a stocking.

Fig. 9 is a cross-sectional view taken on line 9—9 of Fig. 8.

The problem of supporting hose of various kinds on the limbs of wearers presents difficulties varying with the type of hosiery.

Referring now to the drawing, and particularly to Figs. 1, 2, and 3, there is shown the form of hose supporting accessory of the invention that is particularly adapted to replace the well-known garter belt with its plurality of depending straps and hose fasteners at the end thereof. The thigh encircling hose supporting garter is not universally acceptable among those wearing full length hose for the reason that the constrictive force of the garter necessary to hold the hose in adjusted position is in various cases uncomfortable. A less constrictive force exerted by the garter is in many other instances insufficient to support the hose in a fashion satisfactory to the wearer. As shown in Figs. 1 and 3, the hose 10 normally has a specially knitted top portion 11 which may be encircled by any suitable flat elastic garter 12 and then rolled once, so that the extreme top edge 13 of the hose 10 is adjacent the top inside edge of the garter. The top portion 11 of the hose 10 thus passes downwardly on the inside of the garter at 14 then across the bottom edge of the garter and upwardly over the outside thereof at 15 and again downwardly over the edge 13 as shown at 16. This preparation forms a fold of the hose and garter as shown in Figs. 1 and 3 and the garter clips are now ready to be applied to the front and back. Each of said garter clips consists essentially of a pair of leaves or plates 17 and 18 hingedly connected together at the tops as at 19. The front plate has one or more integral portions 20 bent from the body thereof so as to provide an open topped way 21 that permits the portions 20 to be inserted upwardly between the fold 14 and the portion 16 of the hose and so that the garter and the surrounding portions of the hose may be entered completely into the way 21 as shown in Figs. 1 and 3. When inserting the clip, the hingedly connected plate 18 is swung into the approximate plane of the front plate 17 and thereafter the hose and garter is stretched sufficiently away from the wearer's thigh to permit plate 18 to swing downwardly into the inside of the hose so that when the garter is allowed to exert its normal mild elastic force on the limb of the wearer, the plate 18 will be pressed firmly, but mildly, against the wearer. The face of plate 18 which is adjacent the wearer is covered with a thin sheet of soft material which presents a multiplicity of tiny suction cups so that when

in contact with the skin, it will not easily slide thereover when any mild pressure is exerted thereon. The patch of sheet material **22** is preferably made of soft sponge rubber which characteristically presents a myriad of tiny depressions or suction cups **23** on the surface thereof. It is to be understood that molded soft rubber having a multiplicity of tiny depressions in the surface thereof, may also be used.

When the hose with the garter and clips mounted thereon as shown in Fig. 1 is adjusted to the desired position, it will remain so adjusted in spite of the usual stresses and strains incident to walkng, sitting, bending, etc., as well as under unusual strains such as in running. This is due to the fact that the anti-slip patch **22** will cause the contacting adjacent flesh to move with it rather than to slip beneath it so that when the strain is relieved, the tendency of the clip and the hose and garter associated therewith is to return to its normal adjusted position.

In the form just described, the hose supporting accessory is adapted to fabrication from thin sheets of metal of non-corrosive or suitable plated type, and can further be fabricated as an article of precious metal ware. Any other thin and fairly rigid material such as phenolic condensation products, nitro-cellulose products, etc., may be employed in lieu of metal. The clip of Fig. 2 is to be understood as being subject to a variety of modifications as to design and is, of course, understood to be susceptible to various modes of ornamentation.

Fig. 4 illustrates a particularly simplified modification of the device shown in Fig. 2, and consists of an apertured rear plate **24** covered completely on the outer face with anti-slip material **25** of the character previously described and is hingedly connected as at **26** to a front plate **27** which is turned as at **28** to provide a way **29** for receiving a flat garter band and the top of a stocking as previously described. The upturned portion **30** is of such size and shape as to enter the aperture in rear plate **24** and to be held therein by the garter so that a very thin and compact assembly results. The member **30** presses flatly against the sponge rubber **25** when the device is in use.

For hose of the so-called three quarter length in which the top of the hose has embodied therein some form of elastic material within the general catagory of garter top hose, the invention conveniently takes a simpler form such as a U shape clip of the type shown in Fig. 6. The clip indicated at **31** is in this embodiment preferably of spring material such as spring metal providing integrally resilient and yieldably connected arms **32** and **33** which conveniently have contact with one another at or near the free edges thereof as indicated at **34**. Depressions **35** in the front leaf **32** provide bosses **36** on the contacting side so that the inserted top **37** of the hose may be firmly gripped between the leaves. The integral elastic portion **38** constituting the garter top may be of any approved type and the particular design thereof forms no part of the present invention. On the outside face of the leaf **33** is adhesively or otherwise affixed a covering **39** of the sponge rubber or other suction type anti-slip material which is intended to contact the leg of the wearer when used on hose that reach a height below the knee. It is to be understood however that while this form of garter clip is considered admirably adapted to the shorter hose, it may effectively be applied to full length hose if such be provided with an integral or otherwise attached elastic garter band portion.

As shown in Figs. 8 and 9 the invention may be embodied in its simplest form in garter top hose and men's one-half hose with elastic bands woven into the tops thereof by permanently securing, by stitching or otherwise, to the inside of the hose, at places which normally contact the leg or ankle, a small thin patch of sponge rubber **40**, the patches **40** to be disposed beneath the integral elastic band portion **41** of the hose.

From the foregoing it will be noted that in each of the embodiments illustrated, the invention has taken the form of small "spots" or patches of suction type surfaced material to be disposed against the wearer's limb, and means to fix the same relative to the inside of the top of an article of hosiery under an encircling garter band.

This type of pad is of a readily washable type of material and, for sanitary purposes as well as for effectiveness in holding the article of hosiery and the garter in adjusted position, is superior to certain heretofore proposed pile fabric materials and other materials presenting protuberances to the wearer's limb instead of tiny suction cups. The pile fabrics are unpleasant to numerous persons and protuberances are irritating to some skins and therefore not desirable.

The devices will be understood to be subject to minor modifications and structural changes within the spirit of the invention and the scope of the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A garter clip of the class described comprising an apertured rear plate, a front plate hingedly connected thereto and having a rearwardly and upwardly turned portion providing a way for the reception of a stocking top and associated garter, said turned portion adapted for entry in the aperture in the rear plate and an exteriorly disposed anti-slip covering material over the rear plate, and the aperture therein adapted for contact by said turned portion of the front plate.

2. In a device of the class described the combination with a stocking top, of a garter adapted to exteriorly encircle the exterior of the stocking on the wearer's limb and to have the stocking top enfolded downwardly and about it, a plate member having a way therein adapted to receive the lower edge of the garter and stocking top folded about the garter, a second plate hingedly connected with said first-mentioned plate and adapted to be passed over the top edge of the garter and the stocking enfolded thereabout and to be disposed interiorly of the stocking, and a thin cushion of friction material on a face of said second plate adapted to contact directly upon the limb of the wearer and to be mildly pressed thereon by the exteriorly disposed encircling garter.

ROBERT D. PARRY.