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GARTER AND OTHER SUPPORTING MEANS

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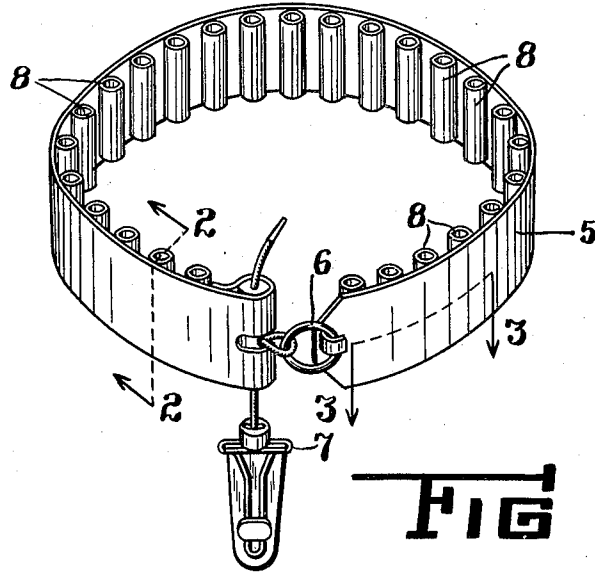


FIG 1

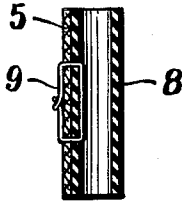


FIG 2

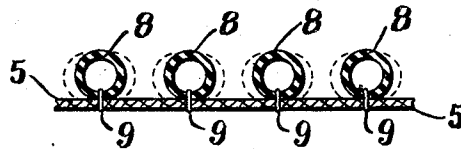


FIG 3

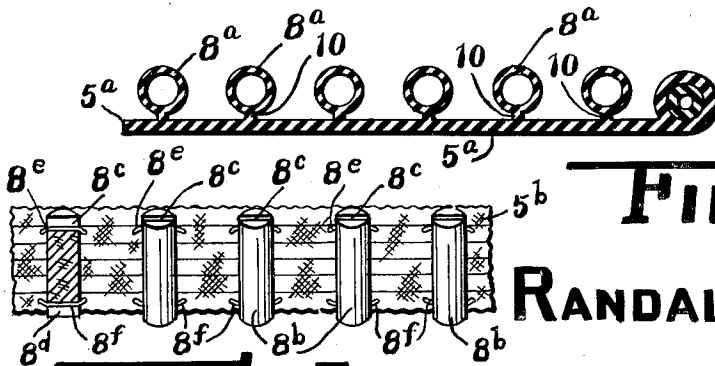


FIG 4

FIG 5

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GARTER AND OTHER SUPPORTING MEANS

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11 Claims. (Cl. 241—6)

This invention relates to improvements in garters and other bands or devices to be worn in fixed contact with or around portions of the human body or any part of the body of an animal.

The invention is particularly adapted for application to a garter in which connection it will be illustrated in the accompanying drawing and hereinafter described.

Objects of the invention are to provide a device of the character above indicated which may be comfortably worn, which will be very efficient in use and which will not materially interfere with the free circulation of the blood.

Particular objects are to provide a garter having a multiplicity of spaced, parallel, tubular, flexible, elastic bearing members on the inner side thereof and disposed thereon in the general direction of the axis of the garter whereby the pressure exerted by the garter will be distributed along spaced areas, thus permitting free circulation of the blood in the flesh underlying the intervening areas.

An additional object is to provide a device of the character described which will include inwardly projecting portions capable of a limited lateral swinging movement thereby permitting a limited relative movement between the device and the part on which the same is mounted.

The above objects are accomplished and additional ends are attained by the novel construction, combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter disclosed with reference to the accompanying drawing in which I have shown an illustrative embodiment of the invention, it being understood that the invention is not confined to the particular form shown or to the particular purpose specified, but may be adapted in various ways to various purposes and that changes and modifications may be made which come within the scope of the claims hereunto appended.

In the drawing,

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a garter constructed in accordance with this invention,

Figure 2 is a cross sectional view taken as indicated by the line 2—2 of Figure 1,

Figure 3 is a longitudinal, sectional view taken as indicated by the lines 3—3 of Figure 1,

Figure 4 is a longitudinal, sectional view of a portion of a garter, the same being a modified form of the invention.

Figure 5 is a fragmentary, perspective view partly in section, illustrating an adaptation of the invention,

Proceeding now to a detailed description of the

invention with reference to the particular adaptation thereof disclosed in the drawing, the numeral 5 denotes a flexible band which may be formed of textile fabric, rubber, leather, elastic webbing or any suitable material. The band 5 is provided with suitable means 6 for detachably securing the ends in operative relation and with the suitable clasps 7 for engaging a stocking.

The numeral 8 denotes tubes, which in the adaptation of the invention illustrated are composed of elastic rubber, but which may be formed of any suitable material. Each tube 8 is formed of a length which is approximately equal to the width of the band 5.

The tubes 8 are positioned transversely across the inner face of the band 5 in relatively close, parallel, spaced relation. One side of each tube 8 is secured to the band 5 by the stitching 9 or other suitable means.

A suitable number of tubes 8 are employed to support the garter on the body without bringing the band 5 in contact therewith. While the tubes 8 are preferably formed of elastic rubber, a sufficient number of tubes are employed to properly support the garter without undue distortion of the tubes. As shown in Figures 2 and 3, the tubes 8 are secured to the band 5 for limited swinging movement on the stitching 9 to the positions indicated by dotted lines in Figure 3.

In Figure 4 there is shown a modified form of the invention in which a band 5a and the tubes 8a are integrally formed of one piece of rubber. In this modification, the tubes 8a are connected to the band 5a by a narrow neck 10 which permits a limited lateral swinging movement of the tubes 8a on the band 5a. The limited swinging movement of the portion of the tubes 8 and 8a permit a limited rotary movement of the portion of the body on which the device is mounted thereby providing a construction which will be more comfortable in use than garters of ordinary construction.

In the claims, the word "garter" is used to include any belt, strap or other device to which the invention may be advantageously applied. While the bearing portions are preferably formed as herein set forth, the same may be made solid, made of sponge rubber or in the form of loops and used to advantage over garters of ordinary construction.

In Figure 5 there is shown a band 5b which is preferably composed of elastic webbing. The webbing 5b is provided on the one side thereof with a plurality of spaced, parallel bearing members 8b which are suitably secured thereto. In

the particular adaptation of the invention illustrated, the bearing members 8b are composed of cylindrical pieces of cork. Each bearing member 8b is provided at the upper end thereof with a diametrically arranged slot 8c. The lower end of each bearing member 8b is provided with a like slot 8d. The webbing 5b is provided adjacent the upper edge thereof with a longitudinally extending series of spaced loops 8e which are preferably formed of elastic cord and which are entered in the slot 8c to hold the upper end of the cork on the webbing 5b.

The webbing 5b is likewise provided adjacent the lower edge thereof with a longitudinally extending series of like loops 8f which are adapted to be entered in the slot 8d to hold the lower ends of members 8b in position on the webbing 5b. It will thus be seen that the members 8b are detachably positioned on the band 5b so as to be capable of limited rotary movement relative thereto and that this rotary movement will permit a slight rotary movement of a garter or other band positioned on the body.

It will be understood that the tubes 3 and 8b or equivalent members may be woven into the band 5 or 5b or otherwise associated therewith to produce spaced bearing surfaces which will function as herein set forth.

Having thus illustrated my invention and described the same in detail, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:—

1. In a device of the character described, a flexible band provided on the inner face thereof with a longitudinally extending series of transversely disposed, parallel, spaced, flexible hollow bearing members.

2. A device of the character described including a flexible band and a longitudinally extending series of transversely disposed, tubular, elongated flexible bearing members secured in closely spaced, parallel relation to the inner side thereof.

3. A device of the character described, including a flexible band and a longitudinally extending series of transversely disposed, parallel, cy-

lindrical, flexible bearing members secured to the inner side thereof.

4. In a device of the character described, a flexible band, a plurality of elastic rubber tubes secured to the inner side thereof, said tubes disposed transversely thereof and arranged in relatively close parallel, spaced relation.

5. In a device of the character described, a flexible band, a plurality of rubber tubes on the inner side thereof, said tubes disposed transversely thereof for limited swinging movement on axes disposed transversely of the band.

6. In a device of the character described, a band for encircling a portion of a human body and a longitudinally extending series of transversely arranged, spaced, parallel elongated, flexible members associated therewith and secured thereto for limited rolling movement thereon to form closely spaced bearing surfaces on the interior face thereof.

7. In a garter, a band and a longitudinally extending series of transversely arranged, elastic tubes associated therewith and secured thereto so as to form spaced, bearing surfaces on the interior face thereof.

8. In a device of the character described, an elastic band provided with a plurality of spaced, hollow, elongated bearing members on the inner face thereof.

9. In a device of the character described, an elastic band provided with a plurality of spaced, hollow, flexible bearing members on the inner face thereof.

10. In a device of the character described, an elastic band provided with a plurality of spaced, hollow, elastic, elongated bearing members on the inner side thereof.

11. In a device of the character described, a flexible band, a plurality of cylindrical bearing members secured to the inner side thereof and disposed transversely thereof for limited swinging movement thereon substantially as and for the purposes herein set forth.

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