

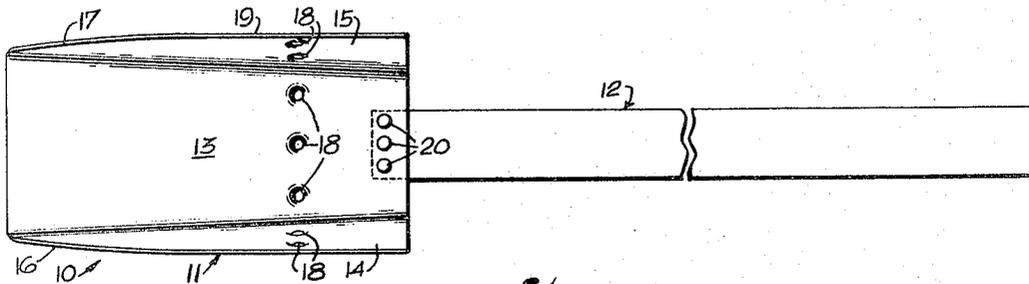
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J. CLAUSS

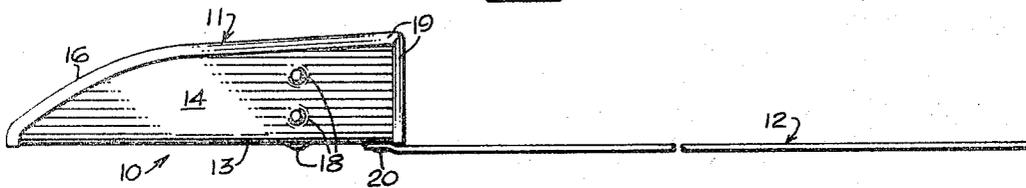
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DEVICE FOR FACILITATING THE PUTTING ON OF STOCKINGS

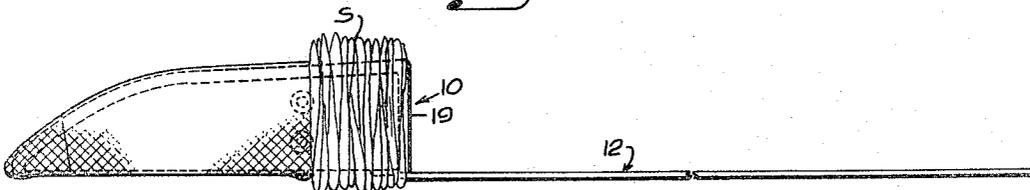
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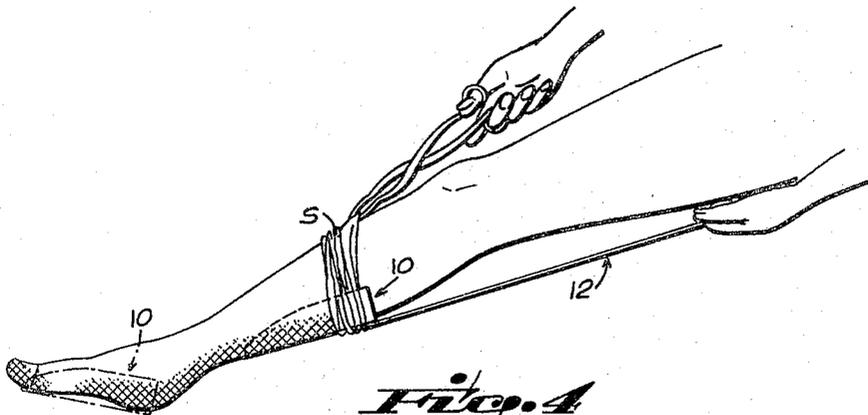
*Fig. 1*



*Fig. 2*



*Fig. 3*



*Fig. 4*

INVENTOR.  
JOHN CLAUSS  
BY *James J. Cannon.*  
ATTORNEY.

1

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**DEVICE FOR FACILITATING THE PUTTING  
ON OF STOCKINGS**

John Clauss, 15-17 Saddle River Road,  
Fair Lawn, N.J. 07410  
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My invention is directed generally to devices assisting in the putting on of stockings and the like, and is directed particularly to an improved and simplified device for facilitating the putting on of stockings by invalids or others handicapped in not being able to bend the legs or body to the extent necessary to put on stockings in the usual manner.

In many instances, handicapped persons having only limited bending capabilities of the body and legs are required to wear tight-fitting surgical stockings and the like in the treatment of circulatory disorders. Since such stockings are even more difficult to put on than ordinary hose, many tools have heretofore been devised for assisting the handicapped wearer in this process. Such devices as have been proposed, however, are deficient in that they are either unduly complicated and expensive, or ineffective for general use.

It is accordingly the principal object of my invention to provide an improved and simplified device for facilitating the putting on of stockings, whether socks, ordinary stockings, or elastic or surgical stockings, by persons having limited bending capacity in the legs or at the waist.

It is a more particular object to provide an improved device of the above nature comprising an open-ended pan-like slide member adapted to receive the foot and including means to receive and retain the toe end of a stocking over the toe end of the slide member before applying the foot therein, and further including a strap attached to the heel end of the slide member for remotely pulling the slide member together with the stocking over the heel and up over the leg of the wearer.

Yet another object of the invention is to provide a device of the character described which will be simple and compact in construction, low in cost, fool-proof in operation, and long wearing in use.

Other objects, features and advantages of the invention will be apparent from the following description when read with reference to the accompanying drawings. In the drawings, wherein like reference numerals denote corresponding parts through the several views:

FIG. 1 is a top view of a device for facilitating the putting on of stockings embodying my invention;

FIG. 2 is a side elevational view thereof;

FIG. 3 is a side elevational view similar to that of FIG. 2, but shown with a stocking in place preparatory to placing the foot therein; and

FIG. 4 illustrates the use of the device in pulling the stocking over the heel and leg of the wearer.

Referring now in detail to the drawings, 10 designates, generally, the device embodying the invention, the same being comprised of a pan-like slide member 11 having a flexible strap 12 attached at one end. The slide member 11, which may conveniently be fabricated of sheet aluminum bent into shape, or alternatively molded of a strong synthetic plastic material, is in the general shape of a deep

2

pan, open at each end and comprising a bottom portion 13 and upwardly-extending side walls 14, 15. The front or toe ends of the side walls 14, 15 are rounded off, as indicated at 16, 17, respectively, to merge with the front corners of the bottom portion 13. The slide member 11 is formed with a plurality of outwardly-extending protrusions 18 arranged in transversely spaced relation in the bottom portion 13 and slide walls 14, 15 at a position approximately one-quarter the length of the device in from its heel end, there preferably being three such protrusions in said bottom portion and two in each of said walls, as illustrated. If made of sheet aluminum, for example, the marginal edges of the slide member 11 are preferably bent over to provide a smooth peripheral bead 19.

The strap 12, which may be of supple leather or of a resilient synthetic plastic, for example, is preferably about two and one-half feet long and is affixed at one end against the underside of the bottom portion 13 of the slide member 11 at the heel end thereof as by rivets 20.

In use, a stocking will first be placed over the toe end of the slide member 11, as illustrated in FIG. 3, with the leg of the stocking bunched up in accordion-like fashion behind the protrusions 18. The front of the foot will then be placed well within the slide member so that toe end of the stocking covers the front of the foot, after which the strap 12 will be pulled upwardly by its outer end, the strap being long enough to be within easy reach of the user. As illustrated in FIG. 4, the resultant upward sliding of the slide member 11 over the heel and the back of the leg of the user carries along the stocking S, which slides off over the protrusions 18 as it advances in covering relation over the leg. It has been found that if the stocking is unusually close fitting, a long-handled pair of tongs T can be used with the free hand to aid in pulling the stocking over the front of the leg, as is illustrated in FIG. 4.

While there is illustrated and described herein only one form in which the invention can conveniently be embodied in practice, it is to be understood that this form is presented by way of example only, and not in a limiting sense. The invention, in brief, comprises all the embodiments and modifications coming within the scope and spirit of the following claims.

What I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A device for facilitating the putting on of stockings comprising, in combination, an elongated U-shaped slide member having a bottom portion and opposed side walls upwardly extending from said bottom portion, the front ends of said side walls at one end of said slide member being rounded off to merge with said bottom portion, said slide member having a flexible strap secured to and extending outwardly of the other end of said bottom portion, said slide member having spaced and laterally aligned outwardly extending protrusions formed inwardly of said other end, said outwardly extending protrusions adapted to frictionally retain the open-ended leg portion of a stocking which has been bunched in accordion fashion about said slide member.

2. A device for facilitating the putting on of stockings as defined in claim 1, wherein said side walls are of such height adapted to extend beyond the upper portions of a normal human foot placed in said slide member, whereby the foot portion of a stocking placed over said slide mem-

3

ber will be supported in spaced relation above a foot spaced in said slide member.

3. A device, for facilitating the putting on of stockings as defined in claim 1, wherein the edges of said slide member are bent over to provide a smooth peripheral bead.

4. A device for facilitating the putting on of stockings as defined in claim 1, wherein said slide member is made of aluminum material.

5. A device for facilitating the putting on of stockings as defined in claim 1, wherein said slide member is made of plastic material.

4

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10 JORDAN FRANKLIN, Primary Examiner.