ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLAIMER

A zipper pulling device for use by ladies to pull the zipper on the back of the dress upwardly when it is out of full reach by the hands of the wearer. It includes a long handle, with a hook at one end to be attached to the zipper locking rider for then pulling it upwards to locked position at the top of the dress. In a modified form, there is a flexible cable at the upper end of the handle, a pulling hook which engages the locking rider of the zipper. The device may be made of plastic, and in one form may also have teeth at one end to serve as a back scratcher.

This invention relates to improvements in devices for pulling slide fasteners for the convenience of the wearer. An object of the invention is to provide a novel and improved slide fastener pulling device which enables the wearer of a dress and similar garment to reach behind her and pull the slide fastener rider lock upwards to the top of the dress.

Another object of the invention is to provide a novel and improved slide fastener pulling device in which there is a long handle portion to be grasped by the user, with hook means on the other end of the handle portion, for releasably engaging the locking rider of the slide fastener, so that the wearer can easily pull the locking rider upwardly to the top of the garment, without undue bodily strain or contortion.

A further object of the invention is to provide a novel and improved slide fastener actuating device in which there is a hook means for engaging the slide fastener locking ridger, and for either easily pulling or pressing it upwardly along the dress, the device also being constructed for use as a back scratcher.

Still another object of the invention is to provide a novel and improved slide fastener pulling device which is simple in design and construction, is made of few materials and of great durability, and which is easily made by mass production methods at low cost.

These and other objects and advantages of the invention will become apparent from the following description of a preferred embodiment thereof, as illustrated in the accompanying drawings forming a part hereof, and in which:

FIG. 1 is an elevational view of a device according to the invention, the shank being cut away;
FIG. 2 is a sectional plan view taken on plane 2-2 of FIG. 1;
FIG. 3 is a sectional elevational view taken on plane 3-3 of FIG. 1;
FIG. 4 is a sectional elevational view taken on plane 4-4 of FIG. 1, the view being on an enlarged scale;
FIG. 5 is a fragmentary side view of a modified form of the invention, the view being partly broken out for clarity;
FIG. 6 is an enlarged side view of the hook device of FIG. 5, the view being partly broken out.

In connection with the use of slide fasteners, especially on garments, various difficulties have arisen. Thus, where the slide fastener or "zipper" is used to form the closure on the rear surface of a garment such as a ladies dress, it is frequently quite difficult for the wearer to elevate the slide fastener fully to the top of the garment, especially when the fastener extends from the waist to the top of the dress. When there is someone present to assist, then there is no problem, but when she is alone, then the present invention is of help in closing the zipper fully without aid. In order to understand clearly the nature of the invention, and the best means for carrying it out, reference may be had to the drawings, in which like numerals denote similar parts throughout the several views.

As seen in FIGS. 1, 2, 3 and 4, there is a slide fastener pulling device 10, with an elongated handle shank 12 carrying the handle portion 14 secured thereto by adhesive or frictional engagement for being easily grasped by the hand of the user. The shank may be made of plastic, wood, bamboo, or similar materials, and may be fairly flexible. At its upper end 15, the shank 14 engages the lower end 16 of main body 18 for movement together. An opening 20 is formed in the main body 18, and has a transverse rail 22 extending between the upright sides 24 and 26 of the opening 20, and integral therewith. A hook member 28 having hook shaped upper and lower ends 30 and 32 has its right middle body portion 34 as seen in FIG. 4 extending around the right portion of rail 22 as seen in the view, and the stiffening uprights 36 on either side of member 28 may be integral therewith and equally spaced on each side of the hook. Members 36 have openings 40 for receiving the rail 22 for firmly being mounted thereon, and thus for maintaining the positioning of themselves and their joined hook member 28 centrally in the opening 20.

The double ended hook member 28 thus permits the engagement of a slide fastener slider lock member from above or below, either hook end being used, so that the user can either push up on the slide fastener from below while grasping the handle 14, or pull it upwards from above while grasping the handle, while the rounded ends 44 prevent any snagging of the fabric.

It is also seen that the device of FIGS. 1 to 4 can be used as a back scratcher, as its upper end 46 is bent over at 48 to form teeth or tines 50 which are usable for back scratching when the head portion is turned over to have the tines 50 face the skin of the back of the user. The shank 12 of the device may be of any suitable length, and may also be made in sections joined together to form the desired length.

FIGS. 5 and 6 show another form of the device, in which there is a shank 52 of any suitable length, which may have a handle like 14 of FIG. 1 if desired, the shank 52 having at its upper tapered end portion 54, a tapered bore 56. A flexible cord 58 has a stop lug 60 on one end in the bore so as to be retained against pulling out therefrom, and has at its other end 62 a knob enlargement 64 extending through an opening 66 in a safety hook body 68. The safety hook 68 has a snap hook 70 swiveled therein, with which to engage the slider lock of the slide fastener in pulling it up, or pushing it in, as desired to the top of the garment.

Free use is made of plastics in all forms shown, for their low cost and ease of manufacture. Although a preferred form of the invention has been described in specific terms, it is understood that various changes may be made in size, shape, materials and arrangement without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention.

I claim:
1. A moving device for slide fasteners and the like, comprising main body means, shank means carried by said main body means, handle means carried by said shank means and spaced from said main body means, said main body means having a tapered bore formed therethrough, a cable means engaging said tapered bore and blocked against exit wholly therefrom, and hook means carried
by said main body means for engagement with the locking rider portion of a slide fastener for moving the latter, said hook means comprising a hook body secured to the outer end of said cable means, and a normally spring latched hook carried by said hook body for engaging said slide fastener locking rider portion for moving the same.

References Cited

UNITED STATES PATENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Patent Number</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Inventor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2,159,816</td>
<td>5/1939</td>
<td>Murphy.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FOREIGN PATENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Patent Number</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Inventor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>445,045</td>
<td>2/1968</td>
<td>Switzerland.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

BERNARD A. GELAK, Primary Examiner

U.S. Cl. X.R.

24—205.15