INSTRUCTIONS
FOR USING THIS
Hemstitching
AND
Picotting
ATTACHMENT
TO THE OWNER

This manual provides all the information needed to properly care for and operate this Hemstitching Attachment. Therefore you are urged to refer to it often, read the simple directions thoroughly and follow them closely, in order to familiarize yourself with the attachment and obtain best results through its use.
HEMSTITCHING AND PICOTING

Genuine hemstitching produced on a family sewing machine was unheard of just a few years ago; but a sewing machine equipped with the Hemstitcher makes countless advantages available to its user.

Innumerable are the edge finishes, seam joining and applique possibilities that can be produced when the Hemstitcher is used.

The color applied to the sheet and pillow slips shown in Fig. 46 lifts household linens out of the ordinary class.

The colored hems were joined with hemstitching while the initial was applied with applique stitch.

PREPARING FOR HEMSTITCHING

Set the stitch of sewing machine at (1).

Presser Bar: The pressure on the presser bar should be slightly lighter than for regular sewing, but not too light. Release the pressure on the presser bar by turning the presser bar cap upward three or four complete turns. This will make up for the difference between the height of the regular and the special throat plate. Determine the free action of the presser bar by grasping the holder thumb nut (J, Fig. 50) and moving it up and down. Pressure must not feel heavy.

Needle: The needle used must be perfectly straight and sharp and should be either size No. 1 or No. 0, depending upon the quality of material and the size of the thread to be used. It is important that the point of the needle be in the exact center (front to back) of the needle hole in the special throat plate.

Thread: Mercerized threads are much more desirable than cotton cord threads. The soft finish makes operating easier, while the high lustre makes a more attractive piece of work for hemstitching or picot edging. No. 100-90 mercerized thread known as sheer fabric thread is excellent. "A" stitching silk can be successfully used for silks of high lustre finish, also chiffon and georgette crepe.
Letters in Figs. 47-50-51 indicate the parts it is necessary to understand before one can become thoroughly acquainted with the Hemstitcher.

A — Fork Arm — Placed astride needle clamp screw.
B — The Piercer — Used to make a hole in fabric.
C — The Pawl — Which should rest in a star on the ratchet when Hemstitcher is fitted to machine.
E — Screw — Which allows piercer to be raised.
F — Actuating Lever — Which can be lowered to produce a short stitch.
G — Rubbered Feeding Fingers — Which keep an even pressure on fabric.
J — Attachment Holder Screw — Which keeps attachment fastened tight to machine.
M — Two Screws — For front to back piercer adjustments.
O — Screw — For left to right piercer adjustments.
P — Wrench — To Fasten Hemstitcher to machine.
S — Slotted Shank — Fits onto Attachment Holder.
X — Line on Special Throat Plate — To aid in determining an accurate piercer setting.
SPECIAL NEEDLE PLATE

With the Hemstitcher it is necessary to use a **special** needle plate which covers the feed of the sewing machine. Remove the **regular** needle plate and in its place attach the special plate using the same two screws. Also remove the presser foot.
PREPARING HEMSTITCHER FOR USE

Hold the attachment in the hand, move the operating lever (A, Fig. 47) up and down until the piercer (B) and the feed fingers (G) are at their highest point. The pawl (C) will then be in one of the notches of the ratchet which is marked with a star. With the presser foot removed from the machine and with the special needle plate substituted for the regular plate, bring the attachment into position from the rear of the presser bar, sliding the slotted shank (S) on to attachment holder, at the same time placing the fork of the operating lever (A) so that it straddles the needle clamp of the machine (See Fig. 51).

Be sure the attachment is brought as far toward you as possible and then, with the aid of the special wrench (P, Fig. 49) tighten the holder thumb nut (J, Fig. 50) as tightly as possible. This is important because good work cannot be expected if the attachment becomes loose on the presser bar.

Whenever working with the attachment it is advisable to use the wrench (P) on the holder thumb nut (J, Fig. 50) frequently, to make certain it is always tight.
ADJUSTING THE PIERCER

Lower the presser bar and see that the point of piercer is directly in back of black line on special needle plate (X, Fig. 51), then, with your finger, press the piercer (B) down into slot in plate. Hold both upper and lower threads in your left hand so they will not become knotted, then be sure that, as you slowly turn the disc wheel of the machine, the piercer works freely in this slot, without touching either end or either of the edges of the slot.

In this correct position the fabric will be pierced so that needle enters the hole at the right end without "clipping" the fabric. See detail drawing in Fig. 51.

Although the piercer is correctly set in the attachment at the factory, some adjustment may be necessary to get the finest results.

To Position the Piercer to Right or Left in Relation to the black line on Special Needle Plate: Lower the presser bar, loosen screw (O, Fig. 51). Take projection on piercer in left hand and move slightly to right or left as desired; then tighten screw (O).
ADJUSTING PIERCER TO FRONT OR REAR

Lower the presser bar, loosen the two screws (M, Fig. 52) and with your fingers depress the piercer arm so piercer is down in the piercer slot, and move the piercer slightly to the back or front as desired, then firmly tighten the screws (M). The best front to back adjustment of the piercer in the piercer slot is usually obtained by holding the piercer all the way down in the slot while you tighten the screws (M).
TENSIONS

A slightly different adjustment of the tensions from that used in regular sewing is sometimes necessary. Determine this by practice. A prettier purl and a more defined hole will result when both upper and lower tensions are a little "snug".

Lower presser bar, turn disc wheel and draw up under thread. This turn has moved hemstitcher for a left side travel.

Hold onto both threads while you turn disc wheel and allow Hemstitcher to complete its right travel and forward feeding. At this point the piercer, feeding fingers and needle are at their highest point and presser bar can be raised in preparation for entrance of material.

HEMSTITCHING

As shown in Fig. 54, scallops are being hemstitched over tarlatan, see tarlatan Backing, page 11. Best results are obtained if first row of hemstitching is made on the outside edge of scallop. The inside stitching can then be guided easily.

GUIDING THE WORK

Note the position of the first line of stitching in relation to the slot in the foot, (D, Fig. 55) of the attachment. As you run the machine, gently guide the work so that the piercer point goes down into every hole made by the first line of stitching. The closer the point of the piercer comes to the first line of stitching the better. Do not hold back on the work or otherwise interfere too greatly with its free movement through the attachment.

AVOID SPEED

For easy guiding and neat accurate work sew at moderately slow speed.
TRACKING

To insure good open hemstitching be sure that the piercer comes down in the hole every time with its point close to the first line of stitching.

By running the machine slowly and steadily and stopping it at reasonable intervals, you can easily determine if the piercer is beginning to fail to enter accurately the holes already pierced. If this is the case, stop the machine, raise the presser bar, slightly adjust the work, press the piercer down by hand into the center of the hole, and hold it there; lower the presser bar and proceed with the work as before.

PRACTICE

Before hemstitching a garment it is advisable to practice with the attachment. For testing use a generous strip of the material. Make sure the adjustment of machine tensions are suitable to the material. Use tarlatan on a portion of test strip to determine whether use of tarlatan improves appearance of hemstitching. Before hemstitching on linen or similar fabrics, pull several threads to use as a guide.

HEMSTITCHING EDGE OF A HEM

Guide the work so the piercer comes down on the single thickness of material close beside the edge of the hem so the stitching catches the hem's edge. (See Fig. 55). Try this first on a scrap of material. When hemstitching coarse linen or closely woven materials, draw out one or two threads and baste the turned edge of the hem close to the drawn threads.

TO TURN WORK

Complete stitch, allowing piercer and feeding fingers to rise free of the fabric with take up lever at its highest point. Raise presser bar, turn work, and place needle in hole of stitch just completed. This gives a pierced hole
beyond actual hemstitching. With the presser bar lifted, press the piercer down (with your finger) so that it passes through the center of the hole made by the piercer the first time through, and hold the piercer down in this hole while you slowly lower the presser bar and continue to sew.

TURNING A SQUARE CORNER

Picot the inside of square first, then when retracking complete the stitch in corner perforation. (This means that a hole will be pierced beyond the square). Raise presser bar and place needle in corner perforations where stitch was finished. Lower presser bar and continue to retrack.

The luncheon set (Fig. 56) is the result of close adherence to these instructions.
TARLATAN BACKING

The use of tarlatan backing is advisable and is positively necessary when hemstitching soft, sheer, flimsy fabrics or scalloped edges. Tarlatan can be secured in any department or dry goods store and white is the best color to use. The finer weaves are best for this purpose, but the coarser weaves may also be used. For hemstitching in a straight or approximately straight line, the tarlatan backing should be cut into strips crosswise of the material and it sometimes improves the work to baste the tarlatan to the material. When the work is finished the tarlatan is easily cut away with scissors as near as possible to the line of stitching on one side. The other side will then pull out easily.

Never cut tarlatan on both sides of hemstitching as this makes the removal of the length thread difficult and if allowed to remain it coarsens the finished work.

PICOTING

When a picot edge is desired, it is only necessary to run the work through the attachment once, keeping edge of material to be cut off to the left.

FINISH OF PICOTING

As shown in Fig. 57, after one line of stitching has been made the unstitched side of the material should be cut away close to the edge of the holes made by the piercer.
When a more definite purl is desired or when picot edge is necessary on both edges of material, as for ruffling strips, retrack as for regular hemstitching and cut hemstitching apart thus obtaining two picoted edges.

A very durable and attractive finish can be obtained if a row of purling is stitched outside the row of hemstitching. This is particularly lovely when one desires to crochet or tat into the hole perforated by the hemstitching.

To accomplish this work proceed as instructed for regular hemstitching. Then move hemstitching so that piercer will enter work definitely in the thread hole or previous stitching. Working in this manner allows the needle to enter hemstitched hole as material is moved to the left by the feeding fingers. Thus double strength is given to the purl against which you now cut for crochet work.

The very practical and lovely household linens (Fig. 58) make use of the hemstitched purl on a scalloped chair back and square tray cloths.
APPLIQUE

Fabric of the same or contrasting color to that forming the background of a garment or other article can be appliqued, using the attachment with piercer in place as for regular hemstitching.

The applique should first be basted to the base material. After hemstitching, the applique material is cut away outside the design close to the line of stitching.

The applique suggested in Fig. 59 is generally found on exclusive gowns for evening wear.

The dress foundation is fine white net while the material applied is organdy.

Note the irregular scallop definitely finished with picot.

For a closer applique stitch, buttonhole edge or point Turk stitch, loosen screw (E, Fig. 52) and raise piercer (B, Fig. 60) toward you to a horizontal position. Tighten screw (E) and piercer will not contact fabric while applique work or decorative stitching is being done.

Now shorten the attachment stitch by lowering the actuating lever (F, Fig. 60) to a horizontal position. This produces a shorter stitch or feeding of the attachment which is necessary for fine applique work and decorative stitching.

When turning materials during the time that applique work or decorative stitching is being done, the needle should be down in the material and the rubbered fingers free of the fabric. This happens when both side travels have been made and hemstitcher is ready to feed forward. Rubbered fingers will not rise on either of the side travels.
However, when material is to be taken from the machine the needle and the piercer arm should rise free of the fabric, in which position the feeding fingers (G, Fig. 60) are pressing down on the materials. Now, to free the feeding fingers use the thumb of each hand and push them backward away from you. Raise presser bar and remove work.
The crepe satin slip and stepins shown in Fig. 61 were made entirely with the Hemstitcher.

The lace applique and the point Turk seaming used the setting previously described covering applique.

Shoulder straps and free edges were hemstitched for picot.

RESETTING HEMSTITCHER

To again put the attachment in proper position for hemstitching, lower piercer by loosening screw (E, Fig. 52) and allow piercer to drop back so that it is central in piercer slot of special needle plate. Make sure that piercer is back as far as it will go by placing forefinger against it from the front and hold thus while tightening screw (E, Fig. 52).

Now raise actuating lever (F, Fig. 60) back into position for hemstitching by allowing the feeding fingers to move forward into their position nearest to you, then lift the actuating lever up to its original position as shown at F, Fig. 47.

LUBRICATING THE HEMSTITCHER

Apply a little vaseline to all of the principal bearings and moving parts of the attachment at intervals. Be sure to apply a little vaseline or light grease to edge (circumference) of large circular cam located in center of the attachment just behind the presser bar.

FOR BEST RESULTS

The fabric should not be wrinkled. If necessary, press it before attempting to picot or hemstitch — particularly if the hemstitching is to be used flat and on a conspicuous part of a garment or other article.

For good hemstitching, good lighting is absolutely necessary. Do not try to operate the hemstitcher too fast.