Jan. 22, 1957 J. W. MALLEY 2,778,172

METHOD OF PACKAGING HOSIERY

Filed Sept. 25, 1952

2 Sheets-Sheet 1

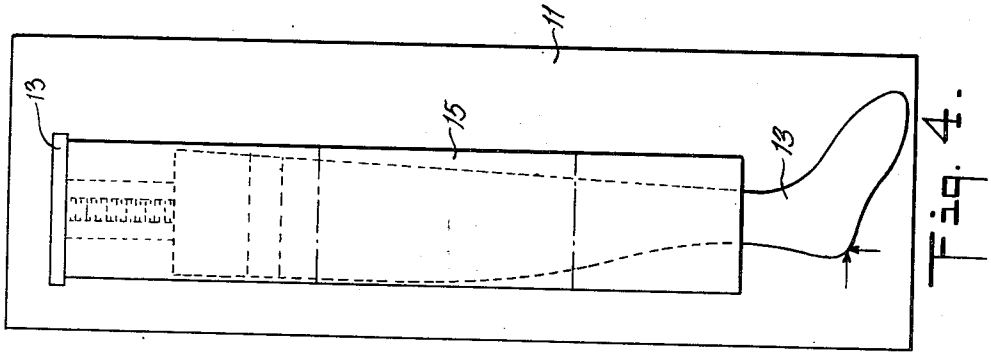


Fig. 4.

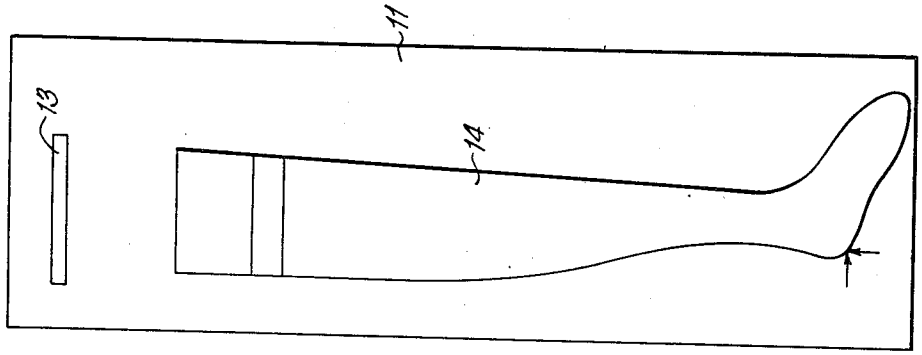


Fig. 3.

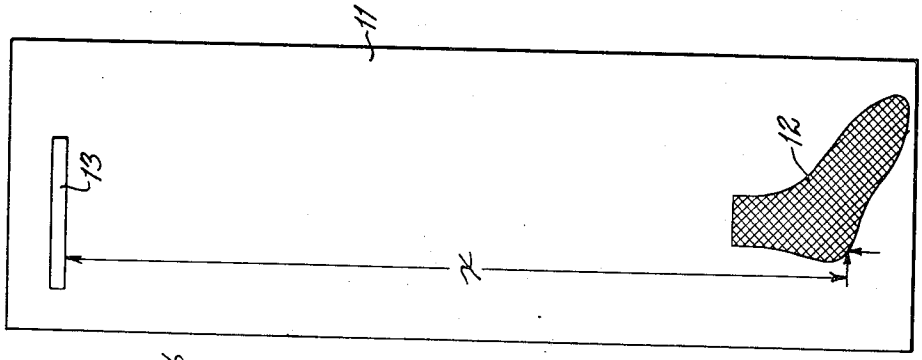


Fig. 2.

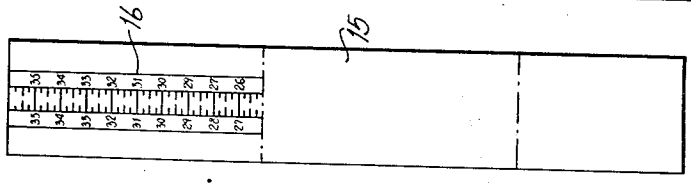


Fig. 1.

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2 Sheets-Sheet 2

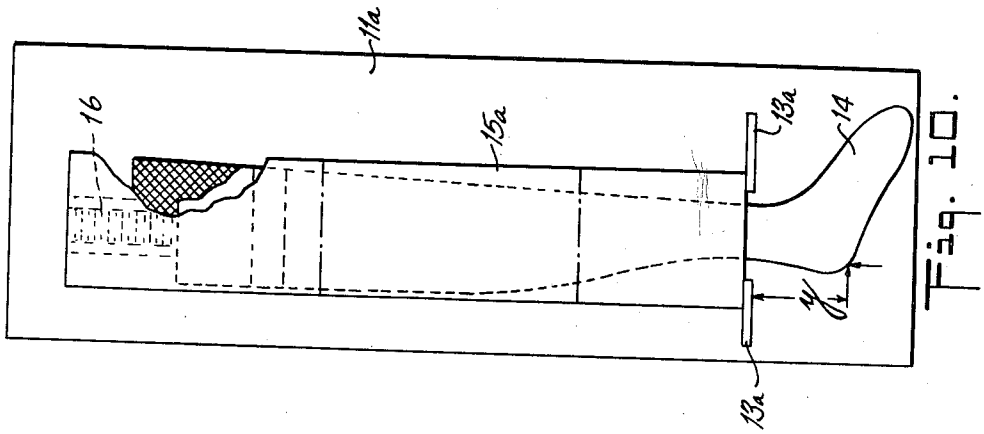


Fig. 10.

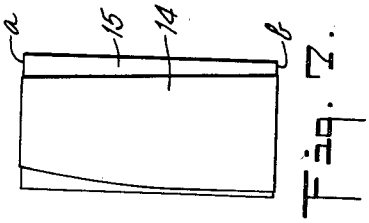


Fig. 7.

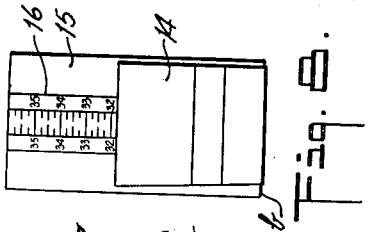


Fig. 8.

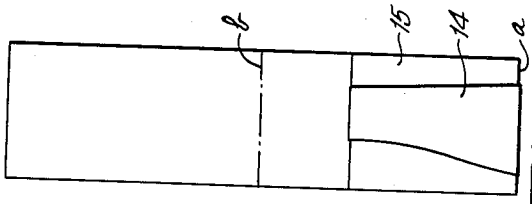


Fig. 6.

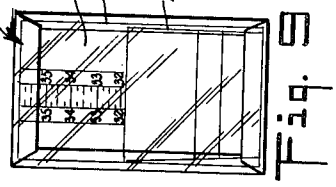


Fig. 9.

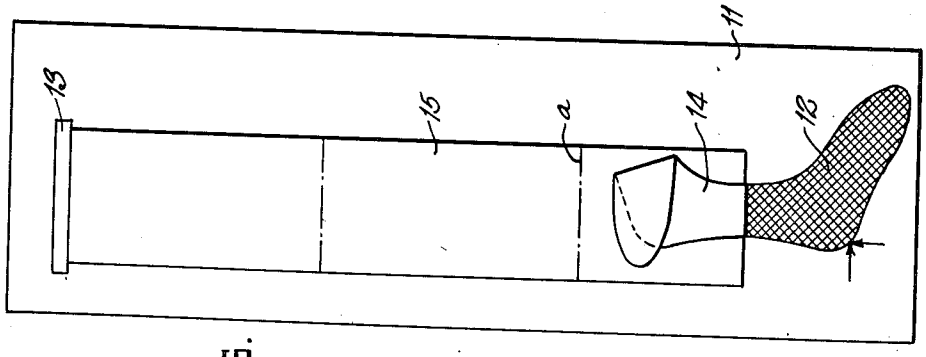


Fig. 5.

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METHOD OF PACKAGING HOSIERY

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Application September 25, 1952, Serial No. 311,374

6 Claims. (Cl. 53—21)

The present invention relates to a method of packaging hosiery. It relates more particularly to the packaging of ladies' hosiery so as to indicate the length thereof.

An object of the present invention is to provide a method of packaging ladies' hosiery and a package therefor whereby the length of the packaged stockings is visibly displayed and can be seen by the purchaser without disturbing or opening the package. Another object of the invention is to provide a package and method of packaging ladies' hosiery so as to display the length of the packaged stockings which is economical and does not require additional labor expense. The present invention not only eliminates any additional labor and the corresponding expense, but it also eliminates the need for envelopes of special construction or with markings thereon.

Other objects and advantages of the present invention will be apparent from the following description and the accompanying drawings in which:

Fig. 1 is a plan view of the face of a packaging insert made in accordance with the present invention;

Fig. 2 is a plan view of a packaging board employed in carrying out the present invention;

Fig. 3 is a plan view illustrating the first step in packaging a pair of stockings in accordance with the present invention;

Fig. 4 illustrates the second step in packaging a pair of stockings in accordance with the present invention;

Fig. 5 illustrates the third step in packaging a pair of stockings in accordance with the present invention;

Fig. 6 illustrates the fourth step in packaging a pair of stockings in accordance with the present invention;

Fig. 7 illustrates the fifth step in packaging a pair of stockings in accordance with the present invention;

Fig. 8 is a front view of the stockings and the insert shown in Fig. 7;

Fig. 9 shows the completed package; and

Fig. 10 is a plan view illustrating a modified form of the invention.

Referring to the drawings in detail, a packaging board **11**, as shown in Fig. 2, is employed in carrying out the invention. The packaging board **11** has a foot **12** or other suitable mark painted on it at one end and a marker **13** at its other end. For convenience, the marker **13** may be raised and is located at a known distance X from the bottom of the heel of the foot **12**. For the usual ladies' stockings the distance X will generally be thirty-six inches.

The procedure to be followed in packaging a pair of stockings **14** will now be described. After a pair of stockings are mated as to length in the usual way, the stockings are placed on the packaging board **11** with the bottoms of the heels of the stockings located at the bottom of the heel of the foot **12** painted on the board **11**. The stockings **14** are arranged so that they extend lengthwise of the board with the tops thereof being spaced from the raised marker **13**, as shown in Fig. 3.

An insert **15** is then laid face down over the pair of stockings. The insert **15** extends over the legs of the stockings with one end abutting against the raised marker

13 as shown in Fig. 4. The insert **15** is in the form of a strip of paper or other suitable material and has a measuring scale **16** printed on its face, as shown in Fig. 1. The measuring scale **16** extends from the end of the insert abutting against the raised marker **13** to a point intermediate the ends of the insert. The measurement indicated on the scale **16** at the end of the insert abutting against the marker **13** corresponds to the distance X and the scale measurements decrease as the scale extends down the insert.

In the illustrated embodiment, where the distance X is thirty-six inches, the measurement at the end of the insert **15** is thirty-six inches with the other markings decreasing in inches and fractions thereof as the scale extends down the insert. Thus, the point at which the scale **16** registers with the tops of the stockings measures the difference between the known distance X and the tops of the stockings **14**, but is arranged to express this difference in terms of the actual length of the stockings. It will be noted that the length of the insert **15** does not have to be known and hence, such an insert may be inexpensively produced in the usual commercial manner.

After the insert **15** has been placed on the stockings **14** in this manner, the stockings are folded at approximately the ankle so that the feet are on top of the lower end of the insert as shown in Fig. 5. The insert **15** and the stockings **14** are then folded together along the line *a* as shown in Fig. 6. The folding of the stockings and insert together in this manner effectively secures the stockings and the insert against slippage or movement relative to each other and thus, maintains the tops of the stockings at the proper marking of the measurement scale **16** which indicates their length.

After the stockings and the insert have been folded together, they are folded a second time along the line *b* as shown in Fig. 7. This completes the folding and when the folded stockings and insert are turned face up, as shown in Fig. 8, the top of the stockings registers with the marking on the measurement scale which indicates their length.

Thereafter, the folded stockings and insert may be placed in a suitable wrapping or envelope **17**, as indicated in Fig. 9, which is provided with a transparent portion or panel **18** through which the measurement scale **16** is visible and the top end of the stockings **14** registering therewith can be seen. This permits the purchaser to see how long the stockings are without removing them from the envelope. This not only saves the trouble of repackaging stockings that have been taken out of a package for measurement, but it also assures each purchaser of receiving a fresh package of neat appearance.

The length of the insert between the fold lines *a* and *b* and the width of the insert will generally correspond to the dimensions of the envelope **17** so that the folded stocking and insert will fit into the envelope neatly. However, no markings are required on the envelope and the usual transparent envelope with the seller's trademarks or other information printed thereon may be used without change. As previously mentioned the exact length of the insert **15** is of no particular concern and the inserts do not have to be made of a specific length.

In embodiment of the invention illustrated in Fig. 10, raised markers **13***a* are placed on a packaging board **11***a* at a known distance *y* from the bottom of the heel of the foot **12** but at a point intermediate the length of the stocking. In this case, the lower end of an insert **15***a* is placed against the markers **13***a* and a measurement scale **16***a* printed on the face of the insert **15***a* indicates the distance from the heels of the stockings to the tops of the legs thereof. The procedure in folding of the stockings **14** and the insert **15***a* is the same as that previously described and need not be repeated.

It will be understood that various modifications may be made in the embodiments of the invention illustrated and described herein without departing from the scope of the invention as defined by the following claims.

I claim:

1. In a method of packaging hosiery, the steps of laying a pair of stockings flat on a surface with the heels thereof located at a heel mark on said surface and with the tops thereof extending toward a second mark on the surface spaced from said heel mark by a known distance, then placing a strip of paper face down over the legs of the stockings with one end of said strip being located at said second mark and the other end extending to a point intermediate the tops and the heels of the stockings, said strip having a measurement scale printed on the face thereof and being positioned with the scale extending over the tops of the stockings, said scale measuring the distance from the second mark to the tops of the stockings and expressing said distance in terms of the distance from the heel mark to the tops of the stockings, then folding the feet of the stockings over the strip at one end thereof and then folding the strip together with the stockings.

2. In a method of packing hosiery the steps as defined in claim 1 which includes the step of folding the strip and stockings together at least twice.

3. In a method of packaging hosiery, the steps of laying a pair of stockings flat on a surface with the heels thereof being located at a heel mark on said surface and with the tops thereof extending toward a second mark on said surface, said second mark being spaced from said heel mark by a known distance, said distance being greater than the length of the stockings, then placing an insert in the form of a sheet of paper face down over the legs of the stockings with one end of the insert being located at said second mark and the other end thereof extending to a point short of the heels of the stockings, said insert having a measurement scale printed on the face thereof, said scale extending from said one end of the insert to a point beyond the tops of the stockings and having measurements thereon expressed in terms of the distance from the heel mark to the tops of the stockings, then folding the feet of the stockings over the other end of the insert and then folding the insert together with the stockings.

4. In a method of packaging hosiery, the steps of laying a pair of stockings flat on a surface with the heels thereof located at a heel mark on the surface and with the tops of the legs thereof extending beyond a second mark spaced from said first-mentioned mark by a known distance, placing an insert in the form of a sheet of paper face down over the legs of the stockings with one end of the insert being located at said second mark, said insert extending over the top ends of the stockings and having a measurement scale printed on the face thereof, said scale extending over the top ends of the stockings and having measurements thereon expressed in terms of the distance from the heel mark to the top end of the stockings, then folding the feet of the stockings over the other end of the insert and then folding the insert together with the stockings.

5. The method of packaging hosiery so as to indicate the length thereof which comprises the steps of placing a pair of stockings on a surface with the heels thereof being located at a mark on said surface and with the tops thereof extending toward a second mark on said surface, said second mark spaced from said first mark by a known distance, said distance being greater than the length of the stockings, then measuring the distance between the tops of the stockings and said second mark by placing an insert face down over the leg of the stocking with one end thereof located at said second mark and the other end thereof extending to a point intermediate the tops and the heels of the stockings, said insert having a measurement scale printed on the face thereof, said scale extending from said one end of the insert to a point beyond the tops of the stockings and having measurements expressed in terms of the distance from the heels to the tops of the stockings, then folding the feet of the stockings over the other end of the insert and then folding the insert together with the stockings.

6. In a method of packaging hosiery, the steps of laying a pair of stockings flat on a surface with the heels thereof located at a mark on the surface and with the tops of the legs thereof extending beyond a second mark spaced from said first-mentioned mark by a known distance, then measuring the distance from the second mark to the tops of the stockings by placing an insert face down over the leg of the stocking with one end thereof located at said second mark, said insert extending over the top ends of the stockings and having a measurement scale printed on one face thereof, said scale extending over the tops of the stockings and having measurements thereon expressed in terms of the distance from said second mark to the tops of the stockings plus the known distance between said marks, then folding the feet of the stockings over the insert and then folding the insert together with the stockings.

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