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TIGHTS AND METHOD OF MAKING SAME

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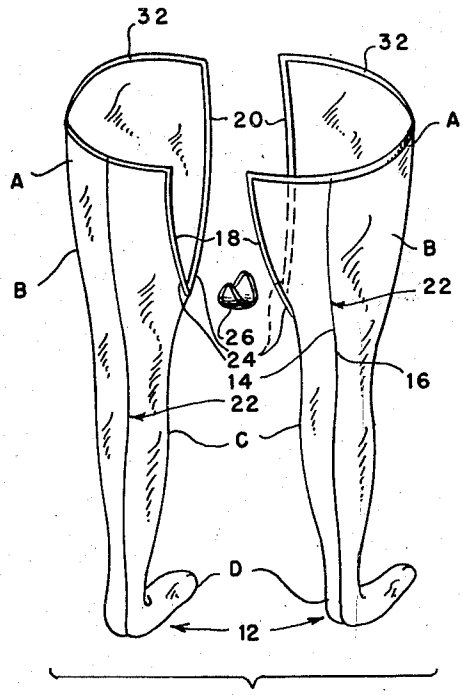
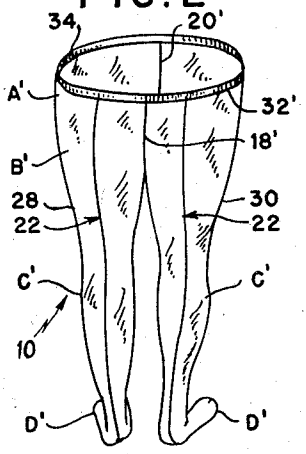


FIG. 1

FIG. 2



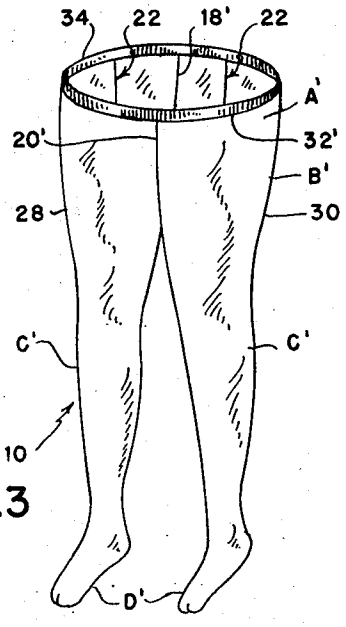


FIG. 3

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TIGHTS AND METHOD OF MAKING SAME

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6 Claims. (Cl. 66—177)

This invention relates generally to improvements in a two-legged garment and a method of making the same and, more particularly, to improvements in the type of theatrical garment commonly referred to as tights and a method of making the same.

One object of the present invention is the provision of an improved method of making tights and similar garments from flat blanks knit on a conventional full-fashioned hosiery machine. Pursuant to this object of the present invention a pair of flat blanks are knit on a full-fashioned hosiery machine and said blanks are subsequently secured together in a manner to be described hereinafter to form garments of the aforenoted character.

Another object of the present invention is the provision of an improved method of making tights of the above character which is inherently simple, and which readily lends itself to efficient and economical mass production.

Yet another object of the present invention is the provision of improved theatrical tights and similar garments which are of full fashioned construction, present an aesthetically attractive appearance, and which are eminently suitable for their intended purpose.

The above and other objects, features and advantages of the present invention will be more fully understood from the following description considered in connection with the accompanying illustrative drawings.

In the drawings:

Fig. 1 is a rear perspective view of a pair of full-fashioned blanks prior to their securement to each other;

Fig. 2 is a rear perspective view of the theatrical tights formed according to the present invention; and

Fig. 3 is a front perspective view thereof.

Referring to the drawings in detail, the pair of tights **10** is formed from a pair of similar blanks **12**, the latter being knit in the flat on a conventional full-fashioned hosiery machine. The flat knit blanks **12** may be formed of any suitable material and in the preferred embodiment said blanks are formed of "elastic nylon" which is also commonly known as Helanca processed nylon, manufactured by the Duplan Company, said material being preferred because of its elastic properties. Since each of the knit blanks **12** are similar in all respects the formation of only one of such blanks will be described in detail hereinafter. Each of the blanks **12** have an integrally knit waist portion A, hip portion B, leg portion C, and foot portion D, it being understood that each of said blanks is knit in the flat and is suitably proportioned on a conventional full-fashioned hosiery machine, and is subsequently fabricated to the stage of manufacture illustrated in Fig. 1. The portions A, B, C and D are initially flat, being knit in the flat so as to approximate the wearer's corresponding body portions and each of said blanks will be knit so as to have longitudinally extending selvages **14** and **16** at the free side edges of each of the flat blanks. Each of the flat blanks will also be knit to have longitudinally extending separated selvages **18** and **20** at one side of the waist and hip portions A and B, respectively. From the above, it will be apparent that the knitting operation on the full-fashioned hosiery machine will produce blanks having selvages **14** and **16** at the free side edges thereof and selvages **18** and **20** at one side of the waist and hip portions of said blank. The selvages **14** and **61**, are stitched together in any conventional manner to form the longitudinally extending seam **22**. After the free side selvages **14** and **16** are stitched together, blank **12** will be formed and will have

the appearance shown in Fig. 1, with each of said blanks being of generally tubular configuration having closed tubular leg and foot portions C and D respectively and tubular waist and hip portions A and B, respectively open at the separated selvages **18** and **20**. It will be apparent from the above that the blanks **12**, as shown in Fig. 1, comprise essentially full-fashioned stockings having extending therefrom tubular waist and hip portions A and B, respectively open at the separated selvages **18** and **20**.

The separated selvages **18** and **20** of one of the blanks **12** are secured, preferably by stitching, to companion or corresponding separated selvages **18** and **20** of the other companion blank to form the knit garment or pair of tights **10**, shown in Figs. 2 and 3, having closed tubular waist, hip, leg and foot portions A', B', C' and D', respectively. Thus the pair of companion blanks **12** are formed into the garment **10** by securing the companion selvages **18** and **20** of the companion blanks to each other.

If desired, an end portion **24** of the separated selvages **18** and **20** of the blanks **12** may be left unsecured in the crotch region and the crotch insert or piece **26** may be stitched, or otherwise secured, to said unsecured portion of said separated selvages. Thus the crotch piece or insert **26** constitutes reinforcing structure at the region of the garment normally subjected to a great amount of wear. The stitching together of the selvages **18** of the pair of companion blanks **12** will form the seam **18'** at the rear of garment **10** and the stitching together of the selvages **20** of said blanks will form the seam **20'** at the front of said garment, said seams extending longitudinally of the garment substantially centrally of the side edges **28** and **30** thereof. It is to be noted that the longitudinally extending seams **22** of the garment **10** will be positioned at the rear of the garment and accordingly will be hidden from view when viewing the garment from the front thereof. It will be apparent that the seams **22** will be displaced peripherally of the seam **18'** and the seams **18'** and **20'** will constitute the lines of securement between the blanks **12**. It is also to be noted that the garment **10** will be laterally symmetrical relative to the longitudinal axis of said garment. After the knit blanks **12** are united in the aforedescribed manner a flexible and resilient band **34** is secured to the peripherally extending edge **32'** the latter being formed by the peripheral edges **32** of the blanks **12** when the latter are united. The band **34** is adapted to encircle the wearer's waist and frictionally engage the latter for supporting the garment **10** on the wearer. The only seam that will be visible from the front of the garment is the seam **20'** and it is to be noted that seams **22** extend longitudinally of the garment for substantially the full length thereof. Although the aforedescribed method has its primary application in the manufacture of the type of theatrical garment commonly referred to as tights, it is to be understood that said method is equally applicable in the fabrication of other types of two-legged garments. Since the blanks **12** in the flat condition are formed on a full-fashioned hosiery machine it will be understood that said blanks may be knit proportional to the wearer's body portions whereby the tights **10** will conform substantially to the wearer's body and will result in an excellent fit and attractive appearance. The aforedescribed method will yield a skin tight fitting garment which is of full-fashioned construction and presents an aesthetically attractive appearance. Since the blanks **12** are initially knit in the flat on a conventional full-fashioned hosiery machine, the method aforedescribed is inherently simple and readily lends itself to efficient and low cost mass production.

From the above, it will be apparent that the two legged knit garment or pair of tights **10** will comprise a pair of similar blanks **12** which are secured together in the aforedescribed manner with each of the blanks comprising integral waist, hip, leg and foot portions with the waist and hip portions of each of the blanks being stitched together along lines extending longitudinally of the garment substantially centrally of the side edges **28** and **30** thereof, and each of the blanks will have a seam **22** extending longitudinally thereof for substantially the full length of the garment at the rear thereof. As aforedescribed, in detail, a crotch piece **26** may be secured

to the blanks **12** in the region of the lower portion **24** of the separated edges **18** and **20** of the companion blanks.

While I have shown and described the preferred embodiments of my invention, it will be understood that various changes may be made in the present invention without departing from the underlying idea or principles of the invention within the scope of the appended claims.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:

1. A method of making a two-legged garment comprising the steps of knitting a pair of flat blanks with each of said blanks having integral waist, hip, leg, and foot portions, and with each of said knit blanks having longitudinally extending separated selvages intermediate the opposite side edges of said waist and hip portions and free selvages at the opposite side edges thereof, securing together said selvages at the opposite side edges of said blanks to form a pair of tubular blanks having closed tubular leg and foot portions open at said separated selvages with longitundinally extending seams positioned at the back thereof, and securing together said separated selvages of one of said tubular knit blanks to corresponding separated selvages of the other of said tubular knit blanks to form a knit garment having a closed tubular waist and hip portion.

2. A method of making a two-legged garment comprising the steps of knitting a pair of flat blanks having integral waist, hip, leg and foot portions, and with each of said knit blanks having longitudinally extending separated selvages intermediate the opposite side edges of said waist and hip portions and free selvages at the opposite side edges thereof, securing together said selvages at the opposite side edges of said blanks to form a pair of knit blanks having closed tubular leg and foot portions and tubular waist and hip portions open at said separated selvages extending therefrom and with longitudinally extending seams positioned at the back of said knit blanks in peripherally displaced relation to said separated selvages, and securing together said separated selvages of one of said knit blanks to corresponding separated selvages of the other of said knit blanks to form a knit garment having a closed tubular waist and hip portion having depending therefrom a pair of closed tubular leg and foot portions.

3. A method of making a two-legged garment comprising the steps of knitting a pair of flat blanks having integral waist, hip, leg and foot portions, and with each of said knit blanks having longitudinally extending separated selvages intermediate the opposite side edges of said waist and hip portions and free selvages at the opposite side edges thereof, securing together said selvages at the opposite side edges of said blanks to form a pair of knit blanks having closed tubular leg and foot portions and tubular waist and hip portions open at said separated selvages extending therefrom and with longitudinally extending seams positioned at the back of said knit blanks in peripherally displaced relation to said separated selvages, and securing together said separated selvages of one of said knit blanks to corresponding separated selvages of the other of said knit blanks leaving an end portion of said separated selvages in the crotch region unsecured, and securing a crotch piece to said unsecured separated selvages.

4. A two-legged knit garment, comprising a pair of similar knit blanks secured together, each of said blanks comprising integral waist, hip, leg and foot portions and being knit to provide longitudinally extending separated selvages intermediate the opposite side edges of said waist and hip portions and free selvages at the opposite side edges thereof, said waist and hip portions of said blanks being secured together at said separated selvages along lines extending longitudinally of the garment intermediate the side edges thereof to form a tubular waist and hip portion, and said selvages at the opposite side edges of said knit blanks being secured together to form seams extending longitudinally of the garment at the back thereof and to form closed tubular leg and foot portions depending from said tubular waist and hip portions.

5. A two-legged knit garment, comprising a pair of similar knit blanks secured together to form a closed tubular waist and hip portion having depending therefrom a pair of closed tubular leg and foot portions, each of said blanks comprising integral waist, hip, leg and foot portions and being knit to provide longitudinally extending separated selvages intermediate the opposite side edges of said waist and hip portions for the full length thereof and free selvages at the opposite side edges thereof, said waist and hip portions of said blanks being secured together at said separated selvages along lines extending longitudinally of the garment substantially centrally of the side edges thereof, and said selvages at the opposite side edges of said knit blanks being secured together to form laterally spaced seams extending longitudinally of the garment at the back thereof in peripherally displaced relation to said lines.

6. A two-legged knit garment, comprising a pair of similar knit blanks secured together to form a closed tubular waist and hip portion having depending therefrom a pair of closed tubular leg and foot portions, each of said blanks comprising a lower tubular part having extending therefrom tubular waist and hip portions, said waist and hip portions of said blanks being secured together along lines extending longitudinally of the garment intermediate the side edges thereof, and each of said blanks having a continuous seam extending longitudinally thereof at the rear of the garment and in peripherally displaced relation to said lines of securement, the latter and said seams being constituted by secured together free selvages initially provided in said knit blanks.

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