June 26, 1928. 1,674,627

J. M. ALLEN

STOCKING

Filed Nov. 19, 1925

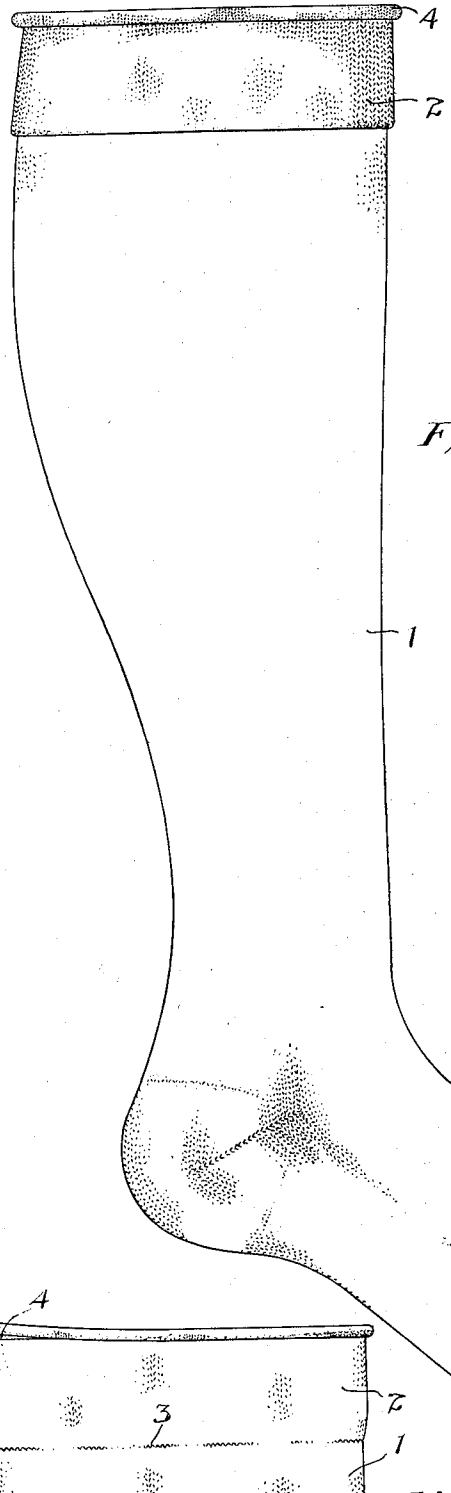


Fig. 1.

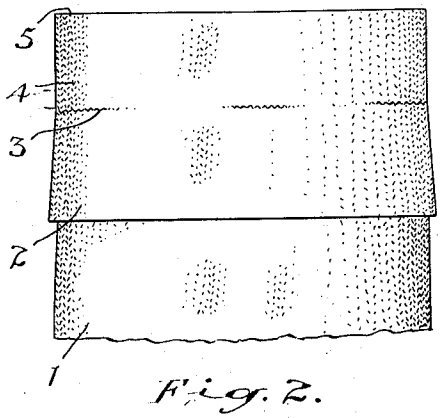


Fig. 2.

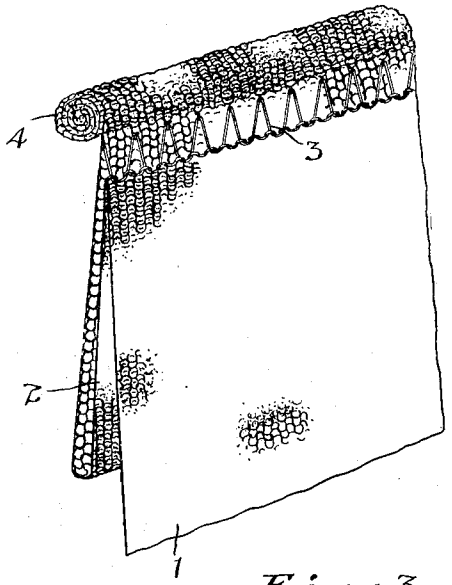


Fig. 3.

Fig. 4.

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STOCKING.

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The principal object of the invention is to provide a novel article of hosiery, particularly adapted for ladies' wear and especially designed for use as a short length roll top stocking intended to terminate just above or below the knee and which will have an unimpaired circumferential flexibility at the top.

The principal feature of the invention consists in forming at the top of the stocking a selvedged edge free strip of fabric extending above an encircling band, said free strip forming a roll top.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is an elevational view of a stocking constructed in accordance with this invention.

Figure 2 is an elevational view of the top of the stocking, showing the encircling band turned down with the selvedged edge free strip extending thereabove before rolling.

Figure 3 is an enlarged sectional detail of a portion of the top of a stocking showing the fabric construction.

Figure 4 is an elevational detail showing the band turned upwardly.

At the present time it is a very prevalent custom, particularly with girls and young ladies in the summer season to wear short length hosiery and the present invention has been devised to supply for this demand a stocking which will have an extremely neat appearance and which will not be bulky or cumbersome at the top.

The stocking consists of a foot and leg portion 1 of ordinary design having a band 2 here shown in the form of a pocket welt 2 fitted at the top end which is adapted to be turned either upwardly or downwardly over the top of the leg portion 1 and which forms a covering for a garter. This narrow band may be dyed a different colour from the body of the stocking, if desired, and thus made very attractive in appearance.

The knitted fabric is continued beyond the row of coupling stitching 3 which forms the pocket welt and this extension strip 4 of fabric thus formed is finished with a selvedge edge 5. The natural tendency for this free fabric strip is to roll up in the manner illustrated in Figures 1 and 3 and it thus forms a very neat continuous roll top for the hose.

The knitting of this stocking is commenced at the selvedge edge 5 and when a suitable number of rows have been completed, the coupling stitches 3 are retained until a suitable number of rows to form the pocket welt 2 are completed. Then the coupling stitches are picked up in the usual manner of forming a pocket welt. It will thus be seen that there is no circumferential seam to form an undue restriction to circumferential expansion so that the stocking will fit neatly and snugly without binding.

When in use the pocket welt fits snugly around the overlapped portion of the upper end of the stocking and will effectively cover a garter fastener if such is desired, though the doubled over pocket welt together with the natural elasticity of the rolled top strip is usually sufficient to hold the stocking securely in place.

The arrangement of the band 2, secured at one edge to the stocking is a very important feature as on account of the varying length of limbs to be fitted some adjustment is required. When a stocking is fitted on a short limb the band 2 may be turned down, as shown in Figure 1, and when it is applied to a much longer limb the band may be turned up as shown in Figure 4. The free edge is sufficiently long to extend above the band when it is turned upward and to roll over the top edge. The same conditions apply when the stocking is made long enough to extend above the knee.

The band 2 is herein shown as a pocket welt knitted into the stocking but it must be understood that the band may be made separately and suitably secured to the stocking if desired.

What I claim as my invention, is:—

1. A stocking having an integrally knitted welt, and a free selvedge edged upper portion knit integral with the stocking and extending above the welt a sufficient distance to form a roll at the top of the welt and being rolled downwardly thereto.

2. A stocking formed with a selvedged edge portion adapted to form a roll, a welt

knit integral with said roll portion and with the body of the stocking, and loop stitches connecting the body portion of the stocking with the roll portion in the formation of the welt.

3. A method of making stockings, consisting in commencing the knitting at the top forming a selvedge edge and continuing to form a length of fabric which is adapted to be rolled, then withholding alternate needles from knitting in one course retaining the alternate stitches then continuing the knitting to form a length of fabric sufficiently long to form a pocket welt, then picking up the retained loops forming a pocket welt in the knitted fabric, and then continuing the knitting of the stocking in the usual manner.

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