July 29, 1941. M. B. FINEGAN 2,250,794

HOSIERY PROTECTOR

Filed Aug. 12, 1939

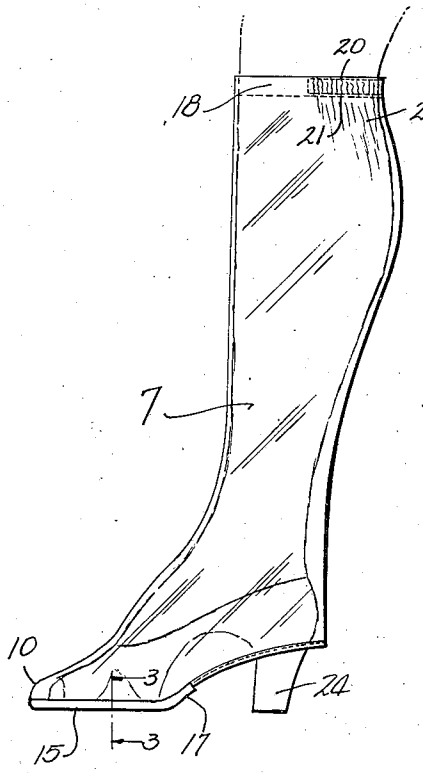


Fig. 1.

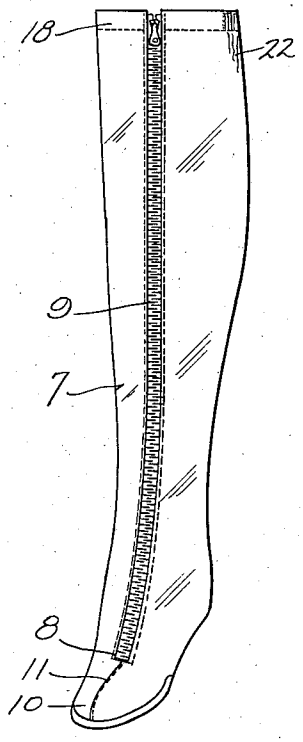


Fig. 2.

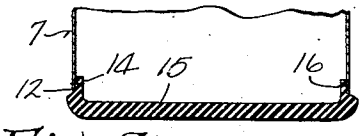


Fig. 3.

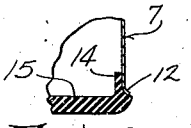


Fig. 4.

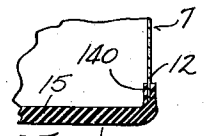


Fig. 5.

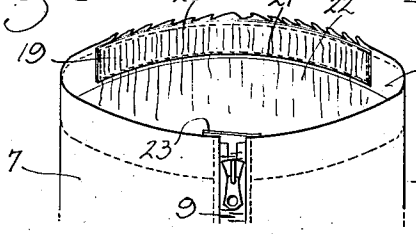


Fig. 6.

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Patented July 29, 1941 2,250,794

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,250,794

HOSIERY PROTECTOR

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Application August 12, 1939, Serial No. 289,747

2 Claims. (Cl. 36—7.1)

This invention relates to improvements in hosiery protectors.

The object of the invention is to provide a transparent splash-proof, easily applicable and comfortable legging for use in rainy weather to protect the shoes and hosiery.

One of the particular objects of the invention has reference to an improved device of the character described in which the hose protector includes a supplemental sole of rubber or the like beneath the fore part of the sole of the wearer's shoe and preferably extending upwardly beneath the arch and to which the transparent legging is marginally secured in substantially watertight relation, whereby the supplemental sole serves to hold the legging at its forward end and to provide a firm anchorage and means for shaping the legging, and gives substantially the protection of a pair of rubbers without being nearly as conspicuous as a pair of rubbers or as apt to damage the footwear.

In the drawing:

Fig. 1 is a view in side elevation of a device embodying the invention as it appears when worn.

Fig. 2 is a view of the device in perspective.

Fig. 3 is an enlarged view showing a detail taken in section on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1.

Figs. 4 and 5 are fragmentary details similar to Fig. 3 showing modified types of connection between the transparent legging or gaiter, and the supplemental sole.

Fig. 6 is an enlarged view in perspective of the top of the device.

Like parts are identified by the same reference characters throughout the several views.

The device comprises a legging or gaiter 7 which is preferably shaped into general conformity with the wearer's limbs. This legging may conveniently be made of a transparent waterproof silk, rubber, cellulose or other suitable material. The forward margins of the legging or gaiter above the point 8 on the instep are preferably detachably joined by the slide fastener 9. Forwardly of point 8 the toe portion 10 of the legging has a permanent seam at 11. The lower margins 12 of the legging are secured to the upturned margins 14 of an auxiliary sole 15 which is preferably made of rubber or other relatively waterproof material. In the construction shown in Fig. 3 the margins of the legging are stitched at 16 to the side of the sole. In the construction shown in Fig. 4 they are cemented. In the construction shown in Fig. 5 the margin 140 of the auxiliary sole 15 is formed to provide a channel into which the margin 12 of the gaiter 7 extends and is secured by cement or stitching or both, as illustrated.

The auxiliary sole is upturned at 17 beneath the arch of the wearer's foot, and its marginal connection with the legging portion of the device is continuous to its end. This gives substantial protection to the wearer equivalent to that which is secured by the wearing of rubbers, but the light, flexible, waterproof legging material used in the toe portion 10 of the device is of such a nature that it cannot damage the wearer's shoe as might a heavy pair of rubbers and, unlike rubbers, the weight is not carried by the toe of the wearer's foot but is carried by the calf of the leg, as will hereinafter be explained. Furthermore, the fact that the legging is connected to the sole provides complete protection for the hose even as exposed in the open-work shoes commonly worn.

At its top the legging is turned upon itself and stitched to provide a deep hem at 18 in the rear portion of which is incorporated a band 19 of elastic. The sides and ends of the elastic, as well as the material of the hem, are penetrated by rows of stitching 20 and 21 with the elastic under tension so that when the tension is released the material at the top of the legging portion of the device is shirred, as indicated at 22 in Fig. 6. This holds the top of the device snugly to the wearer's leg above the calf, whereby the entire legging portion of the device is held up under a slight tension to maintain it neatly taut and the weatherproof sole 15 is held to the under surface of the shoe without imposing any such stress on the toe of the shoe as might damage the most delicate footwear.

In order that the device may be worn by a large number of persons without requiring any accuracy of fit, it is preferred to leave its lower end open at the heel so that the heel portion 23 of the wearer's shoe is exposed. However, the exposure of the heel is not to be regarded as per se important to the invention.

An interior flap 24 secured to the tape at one side of the slide fastener 9 is preferably employed as indicated in Fig. 6, to protect the hose from being mutilated by the slide fastener.

I claim:

1. A legging of transparent material adapted to substantially cover a wearer's shoe and that portion of the wearer's leg below the knee, said legging including a front-opening upper portion of waterproof material adapted for loose conformity to the leg of a wearer, garter means con-

fined to the rear portion of the top margin for the support of said legging above the calf of the wearer's leg, and a unitarily connected lower portion adapted to completely enclose the forepart of the wearer's shoe upper and sole, said lower portion including a sole having a shank portion terminating substantially forward of the wearer's shoe heel and provided with an aperture extending from said shank portion rearwardly to permit the heel of the wearer's shoe to project loosely therethrough, whereby tension which would otherwise exist between the heel and shank portions of the wearer's shoe and the upper portions of the legging is eliminated, and the upper leg engaging portion does not substantially shift in respect to the leg of the wearer during use.

2. A leg and shoe protector of transparent material comprising a waterproof member including an upper leg-enclosing portion for extending above the wearer's calf in general conformity to the leg of the wearer and a lower shoe enclosing portion unitarily connected to said leg-enclosing portion, said member being provided with an aperture adjacent said shoe enclosing portion sufficiently large to allow the heel of the wearer's shoe to project loosely therethrough with the lower shank surface of the wearer's shoe substantially exposed, said leg enclosing portion being provided with a hemmed upper margin and an elastic strip disposed in the hemmed margin and having its ends secured to said hem and extending between points spaced circumferentially about the rear of said leg enclosing portion, the unstretched length of said strip being less than the circumferential spacing of the hem portions to which its ends are secured when smooth, whereby to provide garter means to hold the upper front portion of the member smoothly against the leg of the user, while said elastic carrying rear portion is shirred to provide snug engagement with the rear portion of the user's leg.

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