May 9, 1950 C. F. SCHUESSLER 2,506,745

KNITTED PRODUCT AND METHOD OF FORMING

Filed May 13, 1947

Fig. 1

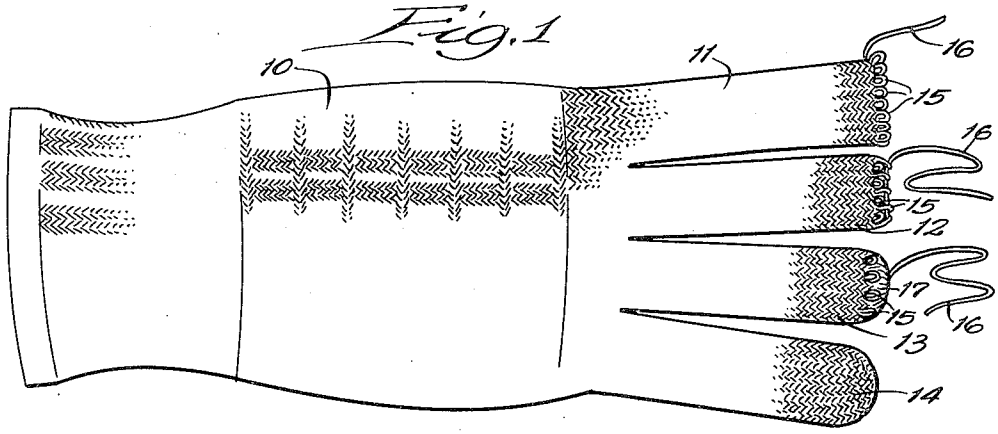


Fig. 2

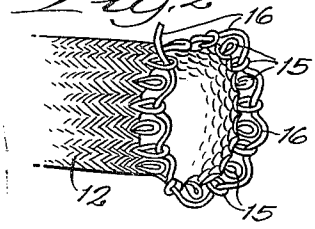


Fig. 3

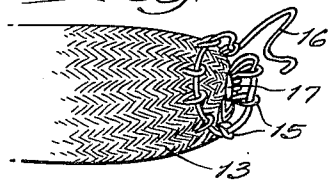


Fig. 4

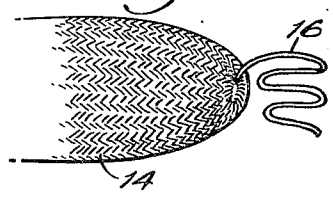


Fig. 5

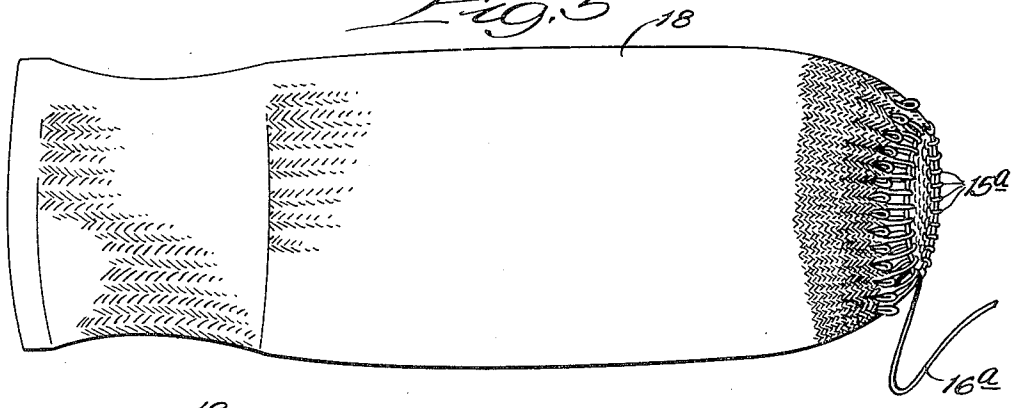
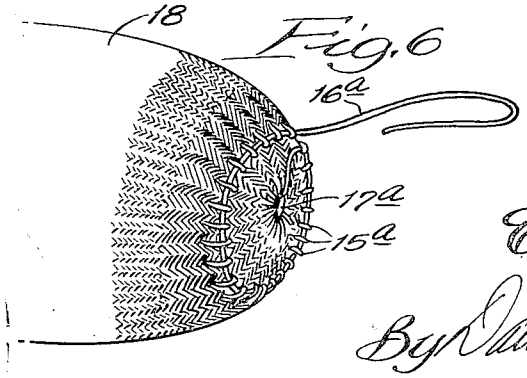


Fig. 6



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,506,745

KNITTED PRODUCT AND METHOD OF FORMING

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4 Claims. (Cl. 66—171)

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This invention relates to a knitted product and method of forming the same.

In the knitting of tubular bodies, such as knitted caps, knitted gloves, and a variety of other tubular knitted garments and fabrics, it is the common practice to employ the terminal thread at the end of the knitted tubular piece, through the extending stitch loops, so as to gather all the loops and thus close the end of the garment or body. This practice effectively secures the end of the garment, but because of the mass of loops there is an irregular and overlapped end portion which is bulky and unattractive in appearance. Such a bulky end has deep valleys and overlapping portions which become set in a definite relation upon the closing of the end.

In the closing of the finger portions of a knitted glove, by reason of the tendency of the ends of the fingers to set in a particular arrangement of channels and overlapping portions, the glove is obliged to remain either as a righthand or as a lefthand glove, and the same cannot be satisfactorily changed by manipulation of the finger ends to convert it from a right or lefthand glove into the mating glove.

In the closing of a tubular knitted cap, the mass of loops bunch together and form an irregular knot or top which represents waste material and presents an unattractive appearance.

An object of the present invention is to provide a product and process wherein a heavy bunching of loops at the end of the garment to be closed is avoided and a smooth end portion produced. A further object is to provide a method and means whereby a tubular knitted body is closed, with the loops thereof formed in successive circles whereby a relatively smooth exterior surface is produced. Yet another object is to provide means for closing the finger portions of a knitted glove in such a manner that the glove can be converted readily from a righthand glove to a lefthand glove by manipulation of the knitted glove body and finger ends. A still further object is to provide a knitted cap having the top portion thereof formed with successive tiers of loops to provide a smooth portion extending over the top portion of the head and eliminating the excess stitches heretofore employed and which form an unattractive mass at the top of the cap. A further object is to provide a product and process for producing the same in which any tubular garment having a projecting circle of stitch loops may be effectively closed by a very simple process whereby the loops are caused to lie in a series of separate circles spaced from each

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other and forming a smooth merging of the loops into a uniformly-rounded end portion of the tubular body. Other specific objects and advantages will appear as the specification proceeds.

The invention is illustrated in selected embodiments, by the accompanying drawing, in which:

Figure 1 is a top plan view of a knitted glove illustrating my invention; Fig. 2, a perspective view of the end portion of a finger of the glove, with a portion of the loops engaged by the terminal thread; Fig. 3, a view similar to Fig. 2 but showing the engaged threads drawn together and the remaining loops engaged by the terminal thread; Fig. 4, a view similar to Fig. 3 but showing the second group of stitches drawn together to complete the closure of the finger; Fig. 5, a top plan view of a knitted cap with half of the loops engaged by the terminal thread; and Fig. 6, a broken perspective view showing the first group of threads drawn together and the second group of threads engaged by the terminal thread.

In the illustration given in Figs. 1 to 4 inclusive, 10 designates a knitted glove having the fingers 11, 12, 13 and 14. The finger 11 shows the knitted end portion of the finger prior to any step for closing the same. The open end of the knitted finger has the usual series of stitched loops 15 and the terminal thread or yarn 16.

In the practice of my invention, the terminal thread 16 is passed through a portion only of the loops present. As illustrated in Fig. 2, the terminal thread 16 is passed through every other loop, thus skipping each intermediate loop 15. The terminal thread 16 is then drawn after to bring the engaged loops together in the first concentric circle of loops 17, as shown in Fig. 3. The terminal thread 16 is then passed through the remaining loops 15, and when the terminal thread is drawn, it brings the second series of loops into a circle which lies outside of the first circle 17, the finished end being illustrated in Fig. 4. The terminal thread 16 is then passed by means of a needle through the finished end to secure it therein and the loose end thereof cut off, as in the usual practice.

In the above operation, it will be noted that there is first formed an inner circle of loops 17 in which the loops are brought together in a compact circle. Secondly, the remaining groups are engaged and drawn together so as to form a second circle lying without and enclosing the first circle. There is thus no tendency for the material to bunch because the second tier of loops is relatively small and it lies outside of the

first group, thus forming a smooth even exterior.

In the structure illustrated in Figs. 5 and 6, 18 designates a knitted tubular cap. Here again, the terminal thread 16a is passed through only half of the extending stitches or loops 15a and these stitches are drawn together, as shown in Fig. 6, to form an inner ring or circle of stitches 17a. The terminal thread 16 is then passed through the remaining stitches or loops, as illustrated in Fig. 6, and such stitches may then be drawn together to form a circle overlapping the first circle 17a of stitches. The result is a smooth, rounded top, with a minimum of irregularities.

In the case of the knitted glove which has been described in Figs. 1 to 4, the glove may be readily changed from a righthand glove to a lefthand glove by manipulating the knitted material so as to bring the thumb to the desired relative position with respect to the fingers. In gloves heretofore knitted by the old method of drawing together all of the loops, this result was not practicable because the heavy bunching of the loops at the end of the fingers gave a set to the glove, preventing such a reversal. It has, therefore, been the practice to knit gloves as righthand gloves and lefthand gloves, a practice which has been expensive and which results in gloves that cannot satisfactorily be modified after being knitted with respect to such right and left-hand characteristics.

The closing process has been described in connection with specific garments for illustrative purposes. It will be understood that the process is applicable to a wide variety of knitted tubular bodies.

While in the foregoing specification, I have set forth single embodiments of the invention for the purpose of illustration, it will be understood that the details of structure described may be varied widely by those skilled in the art without departing from the spirit of my invention.

I claim:

1. A tubular knitted glove having a finger thereof closed by means of a plurality of circles of stitch loops drawn from a single row, said loops being engaged by the terminal thread of the finger, said circles of loops being concentric.

2. In a process for closing the end of a tubular knitted body having a row of stitch loops and a terminal thread, the steps of passing the terminal thread through a portion only of said loops, drawing said thread to bring said engaged loops together to form an inner circle of loops, passing said thread through the remaining loops, and then drawing said thread to bring said remaining loops together to form an outer circle of loops.

3. In a process for closing an end of a tubular knitted body having a row of stitch loops and a terminal thread, the steps of passing the terminal thread through a portion only of said loops, drawing said thread to form an inner circle of loops, passing said thread through some of the remaining loops, and then drawing said thread to bring said thread-engaged remaining loops together in an outer circle of loops.

4. In a process for closing an end of a tubular knitted body having a row of stitch loops and a terminal thread, the steps of passing said thread selectively through every other loop, drawing said thread together to form an inner circle of loops, passing said thread through the remaining loops, and drawing said thread to bring said remaining loops into an outer circle of loops lying without said first-mentioned circle of loops.

CARL F. SCHUESSLER.

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