

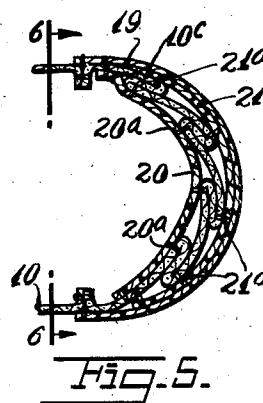
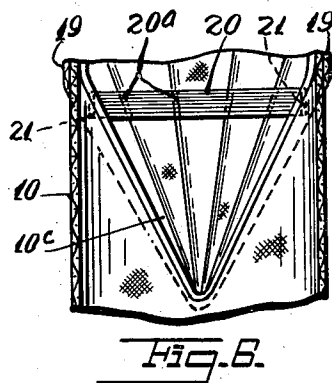
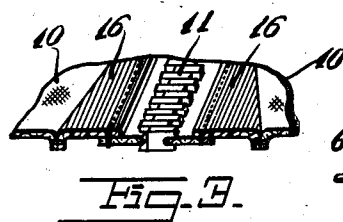
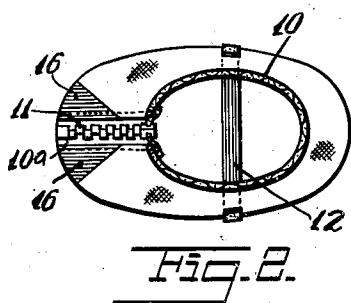
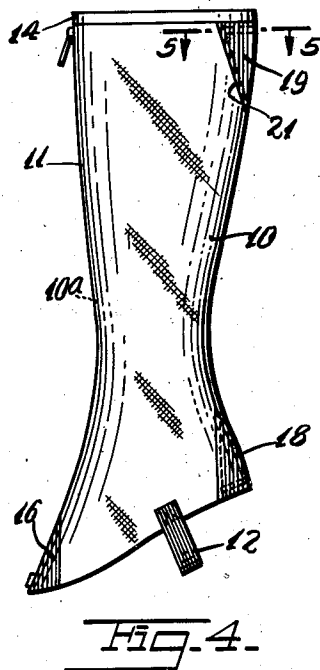
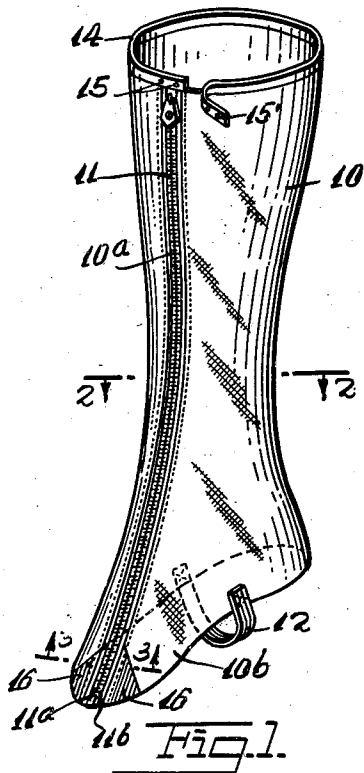
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WATERPROOF HOSIERY PROTECTOR

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WATERPROOF HOSIERY PROTECTOR

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2 Claims. (Cl. 36-2)

This invention relates to new and useful improvements in a waterproof hosiery protector.

The invention has for an object the construction of a hosiery protector which is characterized by a waterproof sheath of flexible cloth material adapted to encase the leg from the top of the shoe to about the knee to protect the hosiery, particularly in inclement weather.

Still further the invention contemplates cutting the cloth material of the sheath on the bias to take advantage of the inherent elasticity thereof so that the sheath is somewhat elastic laterally and so better encase the leg.

Another one of the objects of this invention is to arrange the sheath to be open along one side and to provide fastening elements for closing the side so as to facilitate the engagement and taking off of the protector.

Still further the invention proposes the provision of elastic inserts set into the top and bottom portions of the protector to render these areas more elastic and so better fashion the protector to one's leg.

Another object of the invention resides in a novel arrangement of the waterproof sheath in the vicinity of the inserts to render these areas waterproof.

For further comprehension of the invention, and of the objects and advantages thereof, reference will be had to the following description and accompanying drawing, and to the appended claims in which the various novel features of the invention are more particularly set forth.

In the accompanying drawing forming a material part of this disclosure—

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a waterproof hosiery protector constructed in accordance with this invention.

Fig. 2 is a horizontal sectional view taken on the line 2-2 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a fragmentary sectional view taken on the line 3-3 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 4 is a side elevational view of a waterproof hosiery protector constructed according to a modified form of the invention.

Fig. 5 is a fragmentary horizontal sectional view taken on the line 5-5 of Fig. 4.

Fig. 6 is a fragmentary vertical sectional view taken on the line 6-6 of Fig. 5.

The waterproof hosiery protector, in accordance with this invention, includes a waterproof cloth sheath 10 of flexible cloth material such as oiled silk, rubberized cloth and the like, adapted to encase the leg from the top of one's shoe to about the knee. The sheath 10 is cut on the

bias so that the inherent elasticity of the cloth material functions in a lateral direction. This serves to cause the sheath to better engage one's leg in form fitting fashion.

The sheath 10 is open along its front side 10^a. This open side is provided with fastening elements 11 by which the opening may be closed. The fastening elements 11 comprise a conventional slide fastener of the type which has stop elements 11^a and 11^b at its starting end capable of complete separation. An elastic strip 12 is mounted between the opposed side portions of the open bottom of the sheath 10. The top edge of the sheath 10 is finished with a strip of piping material 14, or strap. This strap 14 is provided with snap fastener elements 15 at one of its ends cooperative with complementary elements 15' at its other end by which the strap may be secured closed when desired. The strap 14 may be made either of elastic or waterproof material.

The sheath 10 is fashioned in a form fitting manner. Consequently, the lower portion is provided with a vamp area 10^b adapted to cover the vamp portion of one's shoe. This vamp area has elastic inserts 16 mounted in the side portions of the opening 10^a. The slide fastener 11 extends along the elastic inserts 16. With this arrangement there is a sufficient stretch at this point to permit the engagement of the separable elements 11^a and 11^b when the hosiery protector is engaged on one's leg. When the elements 11^a and 11^b are released the elastic inserts 16 act to snugly engage these parts against the vamp portion of the shoe. Thus there are no loose parts.

The operation of the protector is as follows:

The snap fasteners 15, 15' are opened. The control slide of the fastener 11 is pulled downwards to its lowermost position and the separable elements 11^a and 11^b opened up. The sheath may now be engaged about one's leg in a manner so that the strap 12 engages beneath the arch of the shoe. Then the separable elements 11^a and 11^b are inter-engaged and the slide 11 is drawn upwards to its top position. The strap 14 is then closed by engaging the fasteners 15, 15'. The wearer's hosiery is now protected against splashing by mud or damage by snow or rain.

In Figs. 4 to 6 inclusive a modified form of the invention has been disclosed which distinguishes from the prior form in the fact that additional dart shaped elastic inserts or cover pieces 18 and 19 are arranged upon the hosiery protector at the heel portion and at the top of the leg portion. These dart shaped pieces are constructed of elas-

tic webbing material. The pieces 18 and 19 engage over and encase waterproof inserts 10^a of dart shape, made from waterproof pleated material and set into openings cut out from the material of the sheath 10. These inserts 10^a have the pleats extending from their apexes to the opposite sides as indicated particularly in Fig. 6.

Elastic bands 20 and 21 are extended transversely across the pleats on the opposite sides of each insert 10^a and are fixedly secured at their ends to the material of the inserts. The inner band 20 is sewed by stitches 20^a to the adjacent folds of the pleats. The outer band 21 is sewed by stitches 21^a to the folds of the adjacent pleats. The arrangement is such that the bands 20 and 21 function, when normally free, to hold the pleats in formation.

When the hosiery protector is engaged on one's leg it is possible for the straps 20 and 21 and the dart shaped webbing 18 and 19 to stretch to render the protector more form fitting. When the parts stretch the pleats are open to a small extent, or to a larger extent, as needed, and the bands 20 and 21 will maintain the pleats closed as far as possible. When the protector is removed, the bands 20 and 21 will contract and replace the pleats into their original conditions. In other respects this form of the invention is similar to the previous form.

It is to be understood that the size, proportion and ornamentation may be changed as desired to make it appropriate for men, women, infants or children.

While we have illustrated and described the preferred embodiments of our invention, it is to be understood that we do not limit ourselves to the precise constructions herein disclosed and the right is reserved to all changes and modifications coming within the scope of the invention as defined in the appended claims.

Having thus described our invention, what we claim as new, and desire to secure by United States Letters Patent is:

1. A waterproof hosiery protector, comprising

a waterproof sheath of flexible cloth material cut on the bias and adapted to encase the leg from the top of one's shoe to about the knee and open along one side, fastening elements for closing said open side, and elastic inserts set into the heel portion and the top back edge of said sheath, said elastic inserts each including a dart shaped insert of waterproof material pleated from the apex to the opposite side and set into cutaway material of the sheath, an elastic band extended transversely across the pleats on one side of said insert and secured to the adjacent folds of the pleats, another elastic band extended transversely across said pleats on the other side of said insert and secured to the adjacent folds of said pleats, and an elastic webbing dart shaped cover element engaged over said insert and secured at its sides to the edges of said insert.

2. A waterproof hosiery protector, comprising a waterproof sheath of flexible cloth material cut on the bias and adapted to encase the leg from the top of one's shoe to about the knee and open along one side, fastening elements for closing said open side, and elastic inserts set into the heel portion and the top back edge of said sheath, said elastic inserts each including a dart shaped insert of waterproof material pleated from the apex to the opposite side and set into cutaway material of the sheath, an elastic band extended transversely across the pleats on one side of said insert and secured to the adjacent folds of the pleats, another elastic band extended transversely across said pleats on the other side of said insert and secured to the adjacent folds of said pleats, and an elastic webbing dart shaped cover element engaged over said insert and secured at its sides to the edges of said insert, said elastic bands acting normally to return said pleats to their original formation when freed.

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