May 16, 1933. M. BAUMGÄRTEL 1,908,725

ELASTIC FABRIC

Filed Oct. 20, 1930

Fig. 1.

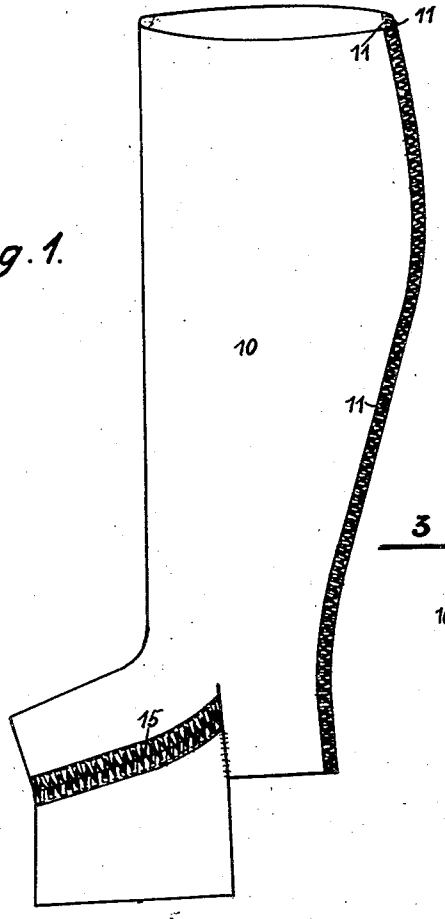


Fig. 2.

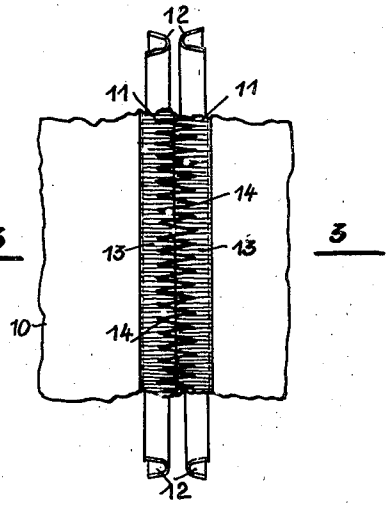
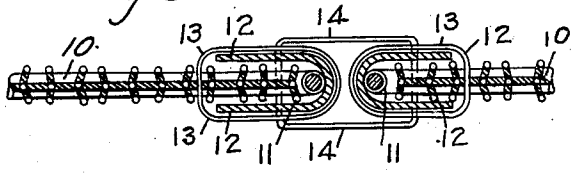


Fig. 3



Inventor:

Max Baumgärtel

Patented May 16, 1933 1,908,725

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

MAX BAUMGÄRTEL, OF ZEULENRODA, GERMANY, ASSIGNOR TO JULIUS ROMPLER AKTIENGESELLSCHAFT, OF ZEULENRODA, THURINGIA, GERMANY

ELASTIC FABRIC

Application filed October 20, 1930, Serial No. 490,040, and in Germany May 31, 1930.

This invention relates to a fashioned, flat-knitted elastic fabric used for the production of stockings or the like.

It is the primary object of the invention to provide a stocking or the like having an improved seam, so that the latter will offer a minimum of inconvenience to the wearer.

A further object is to provide a seam which will not be unsightly in appearance.

Other objects and advantages obtained will become apparent as the description proceeds.

In the case of flat-knitted elastic stockings of the kind in question it has hitherto been usual to unite the edges of the fashioned fabric to form the complete stocking by sewing the same together by hand or by means of a machine. Along the edges to be connected the rubber or elastic threads are turned over and taken from one row to the next, thus forming small loops, which are of irregular size. This irregularity is particularly noticeable along the edges of the fashioned portion, where the same is greatly increased in consequence of the narrowing or the widening of the fabric. In the method of connection hitherto adopted it has been necessary by means of sewing to draw the contacting edges tightly together for the purpose of producing a proper seam. In consequence of this, however, the long loops were forced towards the inside or outside of the stocking, causing the seam to assume an unsightly and irregularly thickened form, not only causing discomfort to the wearer by reason of the pressure, but also being elevated towards the outside so as to be conspicuous below the ordinary silk or other stocking worn over the same.

It has already been proposed to flatten the seam at least on the outside by sewing a tape or other suitable strip of flat material over the contacting edges. Since this strip, however, is necessarily composed of a fabric, the same is naturally quite conspicuous as compared with the knitted stocking, and is readily visible through the ordinary stocking worn thereover. Beyond this the use of the strip or tape causes the end loops to be forced to a greater degree towards the inside, which obviously increases the discomfort to the wearer.

According now to the present invention, the drawbacks referred to in the above are overcome by the fact that the edges of the fashioned flat-knitted fabric to be connected are enveloped by a strip of material firmly sewn thereto by stitches taken across the complete strip, whereupon the enveloped edges are placed adjacent to each other and sewn together. In this manner a completely smooth and flat seam is obtained which, on account of the overedge stitching employed, has practically the appearance of the knitted portion and does not differ to any marked degree.

The invention will now be described with reference to the accompanying drawing, which illustrates a possible form of embodiment by way of example.

Fig. 1 is a general view of a stocking including the seam.

Fig. 2 is a front view of part of the seam on enlarged scale.

Fig. 3 is a section through the seam according to the line 3—3 in Fig. 2.

Referring now to the drawing, the fashioned elastic stocking, which is more particularly intended for use by those afflicted with varicose veins, etc., comprises a flat knitted portion 10, which consists of rows of textile threads 9 and rubber shoot threads 8 drawn through the meshes of the fabric. The edges 11 of the flat knitted portion 10 contain the reversing stitches 7 of the rubber shoot threads 8, as shown in Figure 3. The flat knitted portion 10 is to be connected along its two edges 11.

For this purpose strips of material 12 are placed over the edges 11 and secured in position by overedge stitches 13, which cover the strip over its whole width. In this manner the edges are made completely flat and smooth. The same are then laid together, so that they exactly contact, and are thereupon united by the stitching 14.

In Fig. 3 the single parts 11, 12, 13 and 14 have, for the sake of clarity, been shown as superimposed. It will be obvious, however,

that in reality this exaggerated thickness does not exist.

The method of connection described in the above is not only applicable to the seam at the back of the leg but may also be employed in conjunction with the foot seam 15.

It will be obvious that no restriction is made to the specific form of embodiment described, and that various modifications are quite possible within the meaning of the above and the annexed claim without departing from the spirit of the invention.

What I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

As an article of manufacture, an elastic fabric carrying rubber shoot-threads drawn through its meshes and having edges containing the reversing stitches of said rubber shoot-threads, and an enveloping strip of a tissue-fabric covering each one of said edges and connected with said elastic fabric by overedge stitches totally embracing said strip, each pair of adjacent edges being in abutting relation with respect to each other and being interconnected by zigzag stitching.

In testimony whereof I have affixed my signature.

MAX BAUMGÄRTEL.