Jan. 4, 1944. F. O. DONNER 2,338,375

MANUFACTURE OF HOSIERY

Filed June 28, 1940

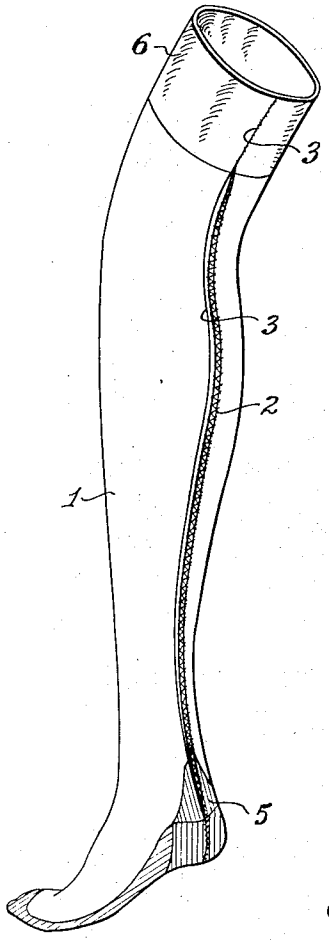

Fig. 1

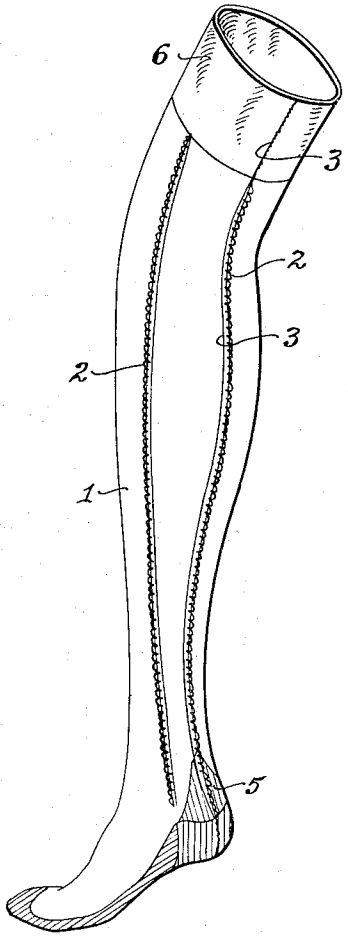

Fig. 2

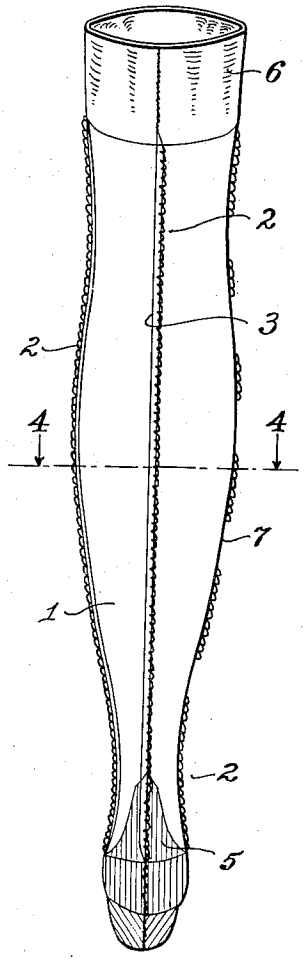

Fig. 3

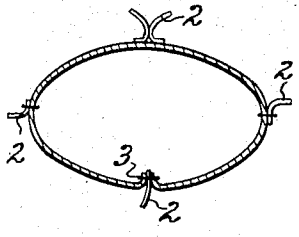

Fig. 4

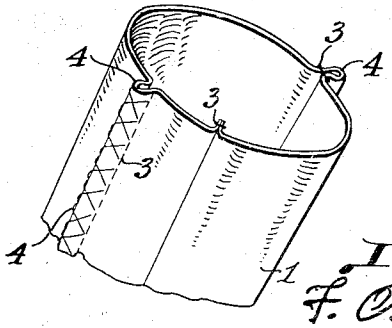

Fig. 5

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MANUFACTURE OF HOSIERY

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Application June 28, 1940, Serial No. 343,057
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4 Claims. (Cl. 2—239)

This invention relates to an improvement in the manufacture of hosiery and is particularly directed to a new type of stocking provided with novel and simple means to prevent the stocking from getting damaged when pulled onto the foot and leg of the wearer.

It is a well known fact that hosiery consisting of thin threads of real silk or artificial silk will easily get torn when pulled onto the foot and leg, because those places of the sock or stocking to which the pulling force of the fingers is applied are neither strong enough to resist that pull of the fingers, nor capable of transmitting the pulling force in properly distributed fashion to the adjacent parts of the sock or stocking.

In order to overcome this rather serious drawback it has already been proposed to provide the sock and stocking along the seam on the back of the article with a tube-like strip of fabric and a cord loosely passing through that latter strip of fabric. The idea being that pulling the stocking along that cord onto the foot and leg of the wearer would be a safe and easy way to prevent the stocking from getting damaged. However, in practical use this kind of an arrangement is rather unsatisfactory, as thinly looped hosiery of real silk or artificial silk when pulled along cords will quickly wear out.

According to the present invention I solve the problem in a very much simpler and more satisfactory way. I provide the leg-portion of the stocking with one or a plurality of longitudinal strips of fabric. These strips I arrange on the outside of the stocking in such a way that they will serve as a means by which the stocking may be seized and pulled onto the leg, whereby the pulling force of the fingers is passed on to the various portions of the stocking in a properly distributed fashion. These strips may be attached to the stocking in various ways. One or a plurality of them may be fastened in the longitudinal seam on the back of the stocking, while additional strips may be arranged on the sides of the stocking or along the symmetry line on the front part of the stocking.

In order to make my invention more readily understood I will now proceed to describe it with the aid of the accompanying drawing which forms a part of this specification and in which the same reference numerals indicate the same or corresponding parts. However, it is to be understood that changes, variations and modifications which come within the scope of the claims hereunto appended can be resorted to.

In the drawing:

Figs. 1 to 3 are perspective views of the stocking, showing how the strips are arranged on the sides of the stocking and along the symmetry line on the back of the stocking;

Fig. 4 is a cross section on line 4—4 of Fig. 3;

Fig. 5 is a fragmentary perspective view of the stocking, showing how the strips may be formed integral with the stocking by providing the stocking with longitudinal folds.

In the drawing 1 is the stocking, while 3 is the seam holding the edges of the stocking together and forming the symmetry line on the back of the stocking. Fastened along the symmetry line is a strip of fabric 2 with one of its longitudinal edges by means of an elastic seam. This strip may be of any suitable kind, but should preferably possess the same elasticity and extensibility as the leg of the stocking. The strip may be produced either through knitting, weaving or braiding with or without the addition of rubber threads. It may be of any shape and formation. It may be smooth or fashioned like lace work; it may be provided with holes or with projections and recesses at the edge; it may be of substantial width or narrow like a cord; it may even consist of only a crocheted or plaited string or a fringe. It is also possible to form the strips from the stocking itself by providing the stocking with longitudinal folds as indicated at 4 of Fig. 5.

In stockings and socks provided with a longitudinal seam 3, one of the longitudinal edges of the strip 2 is fastened in that longitudinal seam (see Fig. 1). Additional strips may be arranged on the sides of the stocking or along the symmetry line on the forward portion of the stocking, either by sewing or with the aid of adhesive material, or in any other suitable way (see Figs. 2, 3, 4). But, care should be taken that the strips do not reach down to that portion of the stocking which, when the stocking is being worn, is covered up by the shoe of the wearer, to prevent the creation of unpleasant areas of pressure. In the examples illustrated in the drawing the lower ends of the strips terminate either in or beside the reinforced portion 5. But, of course, it is also possible to let them reach down a little lower, or, to have them terminate somewhat higher up. And, naturally, the same applies to the upper ends of the strips, which either may start in the reinforced portion 6, or lower down as illustrated in the drawing. It is further possible to subdivide the strips into a number of separate portions with a corresponding number of intervals between the individual portions, as illustrated in Fig. 3. It is important only that the strips are

of such formation that they afford a reliable hold to the hands of the wearer, and, that with their aid the stocking can conveniently be pulled onto the foot and the leg without making it necessary for the wearer to touch the looped fabric of the stocking proper which, if directly touched by the fingers, might not be strong enough to resist the pull and get torn. That is why the strips should be so arranged that their free edge, i. e. the one which is not fastened to the stocking, can be lifted from the looped fabric.

My invention can be applied to any of the ordinary types of stocking. It may be of the regular form as produced on the flat hosiery frame and on the circular knitting machine, or cut from warp fabric and produced of one thread or a plurality of threads of any desired thickness.

What I claim is:

1. In a stocking consisting of looped fabric, strips provided on the outside of the stocking and longitudinally of the latter, said strips being longitudinally attached to the stocking with only one of their lateral edges while the other lateral edge freely projects from the stocking in outward direction to such an extent that it affords a reliable hold to the fingers and thus is adapted to serve as a means by which the stocking can be seized and pulled onto the foot and leg of the wearer.

2. In a stocking consisting of delicate threads of looped fabric, elastic ornamental strips provided on the outside of the stocking and longitudinally thereof, said strips consisting of fabric corresponding in elasticity and extensibility to the looped fabric of the stocking and being longitudinally fastened to the stocking with only one of their lateral edges while the other lateral edge freely and loosely extends from the stocking in outward direction to such an extent that it affords a convenient hold to the fingers and thus is adapted to serve as a means by which the stocking can be seized and pulled onto the foot and leg of the wearer, whereby the pulling force of the fingers is passed on through the medium of said elastic strips to the various portions of the stocking in uniformly distributed fashion, so that the danger of damaging the delicate threads of the looped fabric through unevenly distributed pulling force is reduced to a minimm.

3. In a stocking consisting of looped fabric, strips provided on the outside of the stocking and longitudinally thereof, said strips being fastened in longitudinal seams of the stocking with only one of their lateral edges while the other lateral edge freely and loosely projects from the stocking in outward direction to such an extent that it affords a reliable hold to the fingers and thus is adapted to serve as a means by which the stocking can be seized and pulled onto the foot and leg of the wearer.

4. A stocking as defined in claim 2, in which said ornamental strips are subdivided into a number of separate portions with intervals between said separate portions.

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