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E. H. SEPESSY

2,342,974

HOSIERY

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Fig. 1.

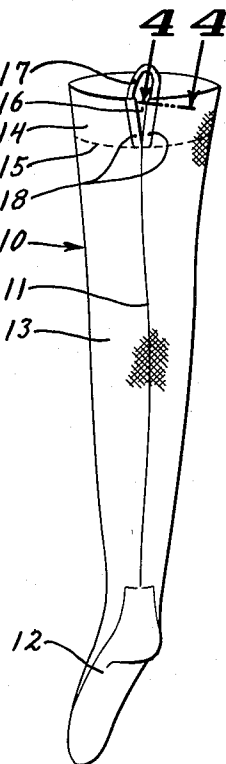


Fig. 2.

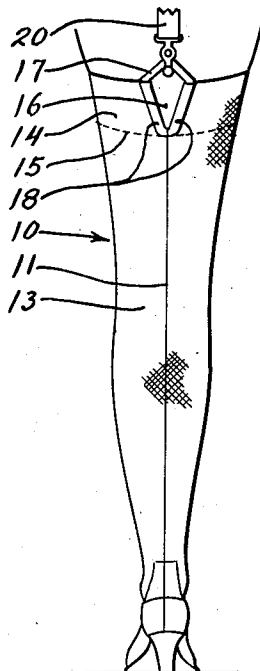


Fig. 3.

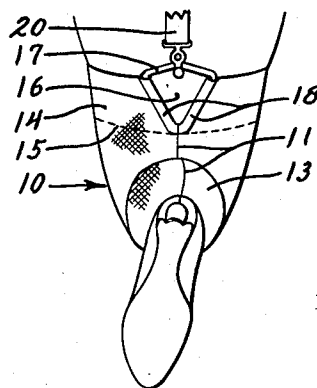


Fig. 4.

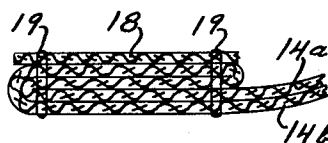


Fig. 6.

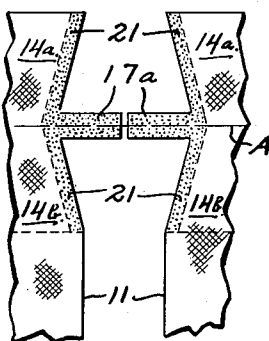


Fig. 7.

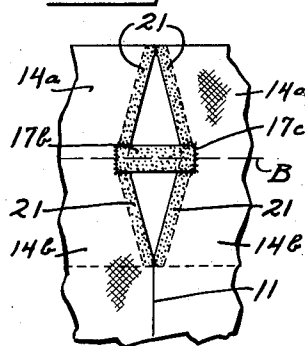


Fig. 5.

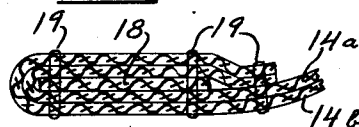
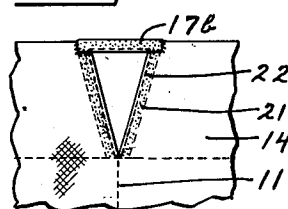


Fig. 8.



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HOSIERY

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4 Claims. (Cl. 2-240)

This invention relates to hosiery and more particularly to hosiery having a tape at the top thereof for attaching a garter and conforming the top of the hose to the thigh portion of the leg of the wearer, and also preventing so-called runs in textile hose.

It is well known that there is a present vogue in hosiery demanding a sheer textile fabric woven of finely spun thread such as silk or synthetic substitute products such as nylon, rayon, and the like.

In this type of hose, especially the long type ordinarily used by women, the upper or top portion is formed by folding the textile material upon itself and providing a woven or stitched circumferential seam to fasten the edge of the in-folded portion to the leg portion of the hose. The upper portion of double thickness of material is generally referred to as the top of the hose, its double thickness providing reinforcement to withstand stretching about the thigh of the wearer, and having sufficient tensile strength to withstand pull of a corset garter attached thereto. However, in order to prevent bagging of the hose at and above the knee, the top portion of the hose is made to fit with considerable tightness about the thigh and frequently is uncomfortable in its binding effect on the leg. Also, hose in the commercial market must be made in standardized sizes, whereas it may be assumed that the thighs of women vary substantially in circumference; also, the muscle of the thigh will vary in circumference as different positions of posture, such as in standing or sitting position, and the stress of garter anchorage will likewise vary in different postures. Both the stretching by wear and stretch from anchoring of a garter cause strains on the top fold portions of the hose and upon the single layer or sheer fabric in the adjoining portion of the leg, resulting in the breaking of one or more threads in the sheer portion and thereby starting a so-called run in the leg portion of the hose. Due to the continuous lengthwise weave of the yarn, the run will quickly extend the entire length of the hose.

Therefore, among the objects of this invention are to provide means to adjust the binding effect of the top portion of hose circumferentially of the thigh of the wearer; to provide a means for attachment of a garter to the top portion of hose for spreading the stress on the hose; to provide a circumferential adjustment of the top portion of hose to varying positions of posture; to eliminate bagging of hose at the upper portion due to stretching of the top portions thereof; to

reduce the likelihood of runs from breaking threads in or adjacent to the upper portion of textile hose.

With the foregoing and other objects in view, one form which the invention may take is embodied in the following description and illustrated in the accompanying drawing, it being understood that changes in form, size, proportion, and minor details, may be made within the scope of the appended claim, without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

In the accompanying drawing of an embodiment of the invention, Fig. 1 is a rear elevational view of hose illustrating the invention.

Fig. 2 is a rear elevational view of hose being worn, with the wearer in standing position.

Fig. 3 is a bottom view of hose being worn, with wearer in a seated position.

Fig. 4 is an enlarged fragmentary transverse section through the fold, seam, and tape element at line 4-4 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 5 is an enlarged fragmentary transverse section of an alternate modified form of tape attachment.

Fig. 6 is a fragmentary plan view of a modified form of hose blank for employment of the invention.

Fig. 7 is a fragmentary plan view of another modified form of hose blank for employment of the invention.

Fig. 8 is a fragmentary elevational view of hose embodying the modified form of Fig. 7.

Referring to the drawing in which like characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the several views, 10 indicates generally a woman's hose or stocking of textile material such as silk, rayon, nylon, lace, lisle cotton or other suitable materials, many of which are well known in the hosiery art. However, there is a vogue in the present day for sheer translucent hose, and since that type is more susceptible to runs, the invention is especially adapted to this sheer type of woven fabric.

Usually, tubular textile hose of these types have a longitudinal seam 11 where edges of the woven leg portion are joined, the seam being worn at the rear of the leg of the wearer. For the purposes of this description, the hose may be segregated into three portions, the foot 12, leg 13, and top 14. The invention pertains particularly to the top 14.

In manufacture of this type of hose, the top 14 is usually of two layers, one being a continuation of the leg 13 as at 14a, and the other being

folded over upon itself as at 14b, and connected by a circumferential seam 15 which may be woven or stitched. The top portion 14 is provided with an opening 16 formed therein, preferably of V-shape which is open at the free edge of the top 14 and converges downwardly toward the circumferential seam 15. The V-shaped opening may be woven to that form, or be formed by slitting the hose at the rear longitudinal seam 11, and removing a portion of the textile material. In either manner of forming the V-shaped opening, the edges are suitably finished to prevent raveling. Spanning across the top of the V-shaped opening, is a tape 17 which may have the characteristic of elasticity, but at the present time, due to the shortage of rubber, it is alternately preferred to employ a textile tape approximately three-eighths of an inch in width, though wider or narrower tape may also be employed. The tape is secured at each of its ends to the upper edge portion of the top 14 adjacent the terminals of the legs of the V-shaped opening 16. It is preferred that the tape also extend continuously around the periphery of the V-shaped opening as at 18 for purposes of reinforcement and to place evenly distributed stress throughout the top portion of the hose when it is being worn. The tape may be secured to the edges of the V-shaped opening in any suitable manner. Where the V-shaped opening is woven into the hose, the tape may be overlaid thereon adjacent the edge and stitched thereto, whereas if the V-shaped opening is formed by a cut-out of material, the edges of the hose material may be infolded as in Fig. 5, enclosing the tape portion 18 which is maintained by stitching as at 19.

It is to be noted that one purpose of the tape at the open top of the V is for the attachment thereto of a garter 20 from a corset or foundation garment. It is also to be observed that when a person is in a standing posture, the muscle of the thigh is longitudinally stretched, whereas in a sitting posture the same muscle is contracted in length. Therefore, when a person is seated, the thigh is of a greater circumference than when the person is standing. This would normally stretch the weave of the fabric at the top portion 14 and cause a bagging or looseness at the top and at the knee portion adjacent thereto. But in the present invention, the top portion is permitted to enlarge in diameter by the spreading of the V-shaped opening, thus relieving stress on the top portion of the hose when the thigh is thus enlarged. When a wearer is in a standing posture, the garter attached to tape portion 17 pulls upward on the tape portion 17, and thus narrows the opening of the V, causing the hose top to conform to the lesser diameter of the thigh, and thereby maintaining a comfortably tight, neat fit of the hose top about the thigh at all postures, and eliminating liability to bagginess thereof; such expansion and contraction of the opening also serving to eliminate the binding effect which may be uncomfortable or impede circulation. In addition, because of the tensional stress on the top portion of the hose of the usual type, runs will frequently happen from the breaking of a thread, whereas, in the present invention, the liability of breaking a thread of the sheer leg portion is reduced to a minimum, due to the elimination of strains and stresses at the top of the hosiery.

In Fig. 6 there is illustrated an alternate or modified exemplification of the invention in

which a reinforced edge 21 of the V-shaped opening and the spanning tape are integrally more heavily woven into the body of the hose. Since there is usually a longitudinal seam at the rear of the hose as indicated at 11, the hose blank in the modification in Fig. 6, may be woven so as to provide the spanning tape or strap as a pair of tongues 17a, which, when the seam 11 is brought together, will overlap; and when the top portion of the blank is folded on the fold line A, and V-shaped opening will be formed in the overlying layers of the top, with the overlapped tongues 17a forming the spanning strap at the upper open end thereof. The edges of the V-shaped opening and the edges of the spanning strap may then be stitched.

In Fig. 7 a further modified form of the invention is illustrated, in which the edges of the V-shaped opening are reinforced by more heavily weaving the hose blank as at 21, but in this modification, the strap or tape 17b is a separate member stitched at its ends 17c to the hose blank, so that when the top portion is folded on the line B, a V-shaped opening will be provided at the edge of the hose which will be spanned by the tape or strap 17b, as shown in Fig. 8, the overlying edges of the V-shaped opening and the edges of the tape being stitched as at 22.

The edges of the V-shaped opening and the strap or tape of the modification of Fig. 6, may also be stitched in like manner as in Fig. 8, when the two layers 14a and 14b are folded to overlying relation to form a hose top 14.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A tubular hose having foot and leg portions, and having a top portion attached to the leg portion, the top portion comprising a tubular textile fabric body having an opening at the rear of the free edge thereof, said opening extending from said free edge and converging longitudinally downwardly, and a tape secured to the hose along the marginal edge of the sides of the opening, and said tape spanning the open top of the opening and having fixed attachment to the opposite ends of the free edge of the hose at said opening.

2. As an article of manufacture, a textile tubular hose having a leg portion and a top portion, the top portion consisting of a plurality of layers of textile material overlaid upon itself, said top portion having a V-shaped opening at its rear and extending from the upper free edge thereof and converging longitudinally downwardly, and a tape fixedly secured to the hose continuously around and adjacent to the marginal edge of the V-shaped opening and spanning the top thereof.

3. As an article of manufacture, a tubular hose having a foot and leg portion, and a top portion attached to the leg portion, the top portion comprising a textile fabric body having a V-shaped opening at its rear and extending from the upper free edge thereof and converging longitudinally downwardly, and a tape secured to the hose continuously around and adjacent to the marginal edge of the V-shaped opening and spanning the open top thereof, the tape portion along the V-shaped opening of the hose being enclosed within a fold of the fabric material adjacent to the edge of said opening.

4. An article of wearing apparel comprising a tubular fabric hose having foot and leg portions and a top portion attached to the leg portion, said top portion comprising a tubular tex-

tile fabric body having an upper free edge and having at its rear portion reinforcing strips of flexible material longitudinally of the hose and extending downwardly from said free edge, the downward extending strips being connected at the lower ends thereof and relatively disconnected at the upper ends thereof, and a tape at the free edge of the top portion of the hose extending between and fixedly secured to the upper ends of said downwardly extending strips, said tape 10

being adapted for attachment thereto of a garter of a body garment whereby variations of tension of the garter on the tape may alternately draw the upper ends of the downwardly extending strip toward each other or permit them to spread responsive to expansion and contraction of the circumference of the engaged leg portion of the wearer.

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