Jan. 8, 1924. 1,480,381

C. FEIG

STOCKING OR SOCK TOP

Filed April 20, 1922 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

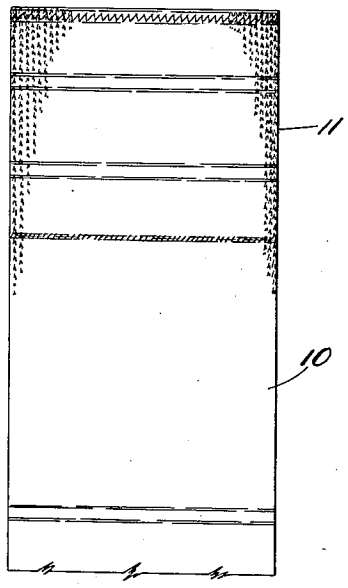


Fig. 1

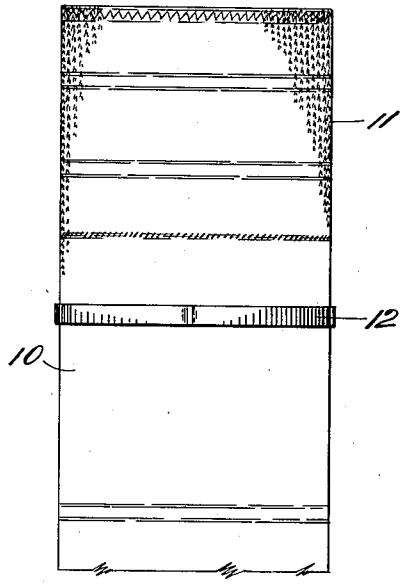


Fig. 2

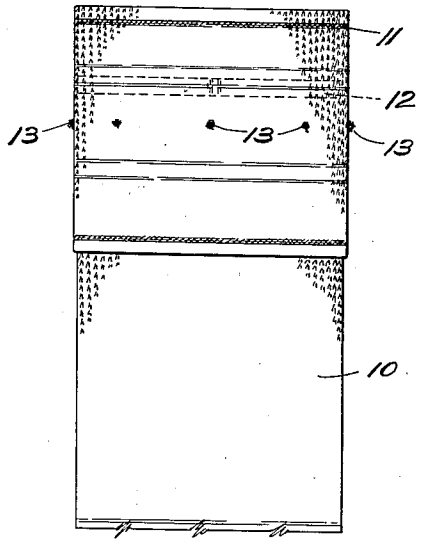
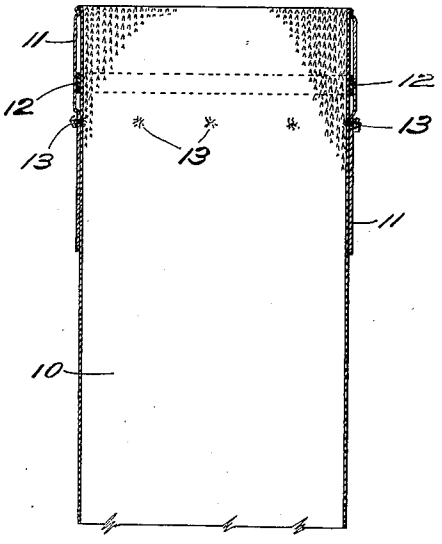


Fig. 3

Fig. 4



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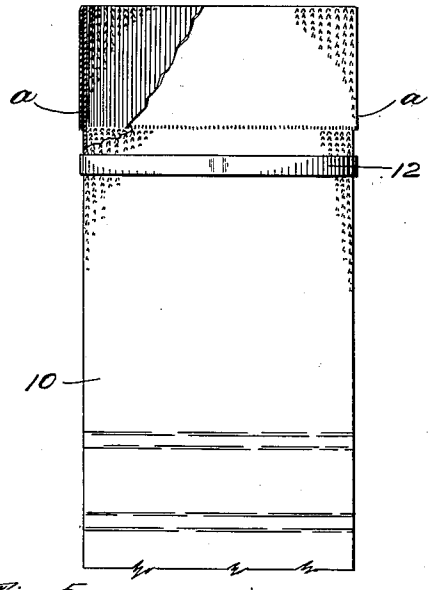


Fig. 5

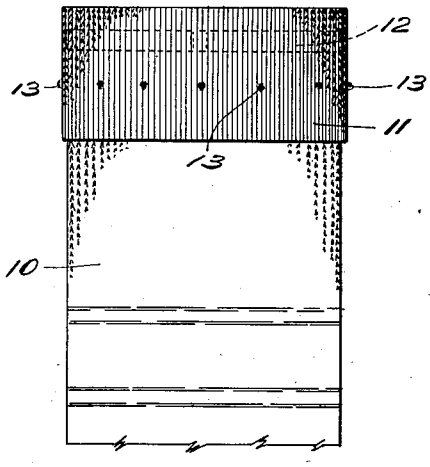


Fig. 6

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Patented Jan. 8, 1924. 1,480,381

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CURT FEIG, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA, ASSIGNOR TO JUNIOR HOSIERY COMPANY, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA, A CORPORATION OF PENNSYLVANIA.

STOCKING OR SOCK TOP.

Application filed April 20, 1922. Serial No. 555,690.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CURT FEIG, a citizen of the United States, residing at the city of Philadelphia, county of Philadelphia, and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a certain new and useful Improved Stocking or Sock Top, of which the following is a specification.

This invention generally stated relates to stockings and socks and has more particular relation to the formation of tops therefor. While the features embodying the present invention are applicable to stocking and sock tops as a general class, they are especially adapted for use in the manufacture of children's socks. Such socks as at present manufactured are provided at their tops with cuffs and practice dictates that in use these cuffs frequently become misplaced, that is the bottom edges of the cuffs are turned upwardly. Another disadvantage resides in the fact that a sock top frequently slips down a child's leg and assumes a position adjacent a shoe-top.

It is the leading object of the present invention to provide a stocking or sock top possessed of unique structural characteristics primarily designed to be worn by children whereby not only is the cuff of a stocking or sock top maintained in proper position but the stocking or sock top itself is prevented from slipping down the leg of the wearer. A further object of the present invention is to provide a certain arrangement, combination and connection of parts for attaining the results sought by said leading object. Other and further objects not at this time more particularly pointed out will be hereinafter referred to.

The invention consists of the improvements hereinafter described and finally claimed.

The nature, characteristic features and scope of the invention will be more fully understood from the following description taken in connection with the accompanying drawings forming part hereof, and in which:

Fig. 1, is a view of a stocking or sock top showing a single cuff portion extended.

Fig. 2, is a similar view illustrating the manner of fitting a rubber band over the stocking or sock top.

Fig. 3, is a view of a stocking or sock top showing the cuff portion turned down to normal position over the rubber band and further illustrating such band and the cuff itself maintained in position by means of French knots.

Fig. 4, is a view in section of the parts shown in Fig. 3, and

Figs. 5 and 6 are views of a stocking or sock top having a double cuff portion.

For the purpose of illustrating my invention I have shown in the accompanying drawings several forms thereof which are at present preferred by me, since the same have been found in practice to give satisfactory and reliable results, although it is to be understood that the various instrumentalities of which my invention consists can be variously arranged and organized and that my invention is not limited to the precise arrangement and organization of the instrumentalities as herein shown and described.

While the features embodying the invention are applicable to stockings and socks generally they are especially designed for use in connection with children's socks and for illustrative purposes will be so described. In this connection it is to be noted that the socks may be fashioned upon a straight knitting machine or upon a circular knitting machine and may have single or double cuffs. If fashioned upon a straight knitting machine the usual seam at the top of the sock is first made to provide a tubular top. For illustrative purposes let it be assumed that the sock top shown in the drawings has been made upon a circular knitting machine. Referring now more particularly to Figs. 1 to 4, 10 designates the tubular top and 11 a single cuff as fashioned therewith. With the cuff 11 extended, that is turned upwardly, I place over such cuff and move downwardly to a position slightly below the upper edge of the sock top, a conventional rubber band 12. The rubber band should be of a size to easily slip over the sock top without resorting to expansion thereof. That is an easy fit should be effected. With the rubber band in this position, see Fig. 2, I next turn down the cuff over the sock top including the rubber band and attach the cuff to the sock top so that the rubber band is prevented from being displaced and the cuff itself prevented from being moved upwardly with respect to the sock. In practice French knots 13, see Fig. 3, are especially effective in that an or-

namental appearance as well as efficient and inexpensive stitching is provided. These French knots are fashioned by means of a conventional button sewing machine.

The French knots secure the cuff to the stocking body at spaced intervals only. The function of stitching the cuff to the stocking body at spaced intervals, rather than by a continuous line of stitching, is that the spaced stitching does not tend to destroy the elasticity of the stocking. In other words if a continuous line of stitching is employed, as is usual in making a stocking web, there is relatively little elasticity or give to the stocking top. Elasticity of the stocking top is essential in the present instance because of the rubber-band employed in the annular pasasge formed between the exteriorly encircling cuff and the stocking body. As the stitching is arranged substantialy mid-way of the top and bottom of the cuff, an upper pasage is formed while the lower edge of the cuff is free of the leg portion of the stocking. The rubber-band is continuous and normally of substantially the same length as the circumference of said leg portion. Upon expansion of the rubber-band in use, the stocking top readily yields to such expansion and causes the free, lower edge of the cuff to closely hug the stocking leg. Because the cuff is secured to the stocking body at intervals only, a rubber-band is maintained losely in said annular passage and is relatively free to move. A rubber band when maintained in a fixed position, as in the case where a continuous line of stitching is employed, has the tendency to lose its elasticity more quickly than when it is more or less free to move. The above described method of forming a stocking or sock top provides a unique, simple, inexpensive and practical way of commercially bettering children's socks so that not only are the cuffs maintained in proper position but the socks themselves prevented from slipping down the legs of the wearer. The idea of employing conventional rubber bands has several advantages. Since the socks themselves are of various sizes different sizes of elastics must be employed. If especially designed elastics are employed hand work is required in cutting and sewing the same. Since rubber bands are made in assorted sizes I am enabled to select proper sizes from stock and cutting and sewing is therefore eliminated. Since water does not materially affect the efficiency of rubber bands the socks can be readily washed. In use should a rubber band within a sock top break, it is a simple matter to make a substitution. The form of stitching employed is effective because of its ornamental appearance and because the cuff is merely stitched at intervals, it being understood that a button sewing machine severs the thread at the completion of each operation.

Referring now more particularly to Figs. 5 and 6 I have illustrated a stocking or sock top having a double cuff. For instance the stocking or sock top 10 may be so knit that its top edge is not finished. That is no seam, welt or equivalent edge is present. In such case I position a conventional rubber band 12 adjacent the stocking or sock top and then turn down the unfinished top as at *a*, see Fig. 5, or in other words just above the rubber band 12. I next turn this part *a* over upon the stocking or sock top including the rubber band, see Fig. 6, and stitch the double cuff thus formed to the stocking or sock top.

It will now be apparent that I have devised a novel and useful construction which embodies the features of advantage enumerated as desirable in the statement of the invention and the above description and while I have in the present instance shown and described the preferred embodiment thereof which has been found in practice to give satisfactory and reliable results, it is to be understood that the same is susceptible of modification in various particulars without departing from the spirit or scope of the invention or sacrificing any of its advantages.

What I claim is:

In an article of the character stated the combination of a sock having an integrally knit cuff exteriorly encircling the top of the leg portion of said sock, means between said cuff and leg portion securing the intermediate portion of the cuff to said leg portion at spaced intervals only and forming an upper annular pasage, and a continuous rubber band loosely positioned in said passage and normally of substantialy the same length as the circumference of said leg portion, whereby the expansion of said rubber band in use causes the free, lower edge of said cuff to closely hug said leg portion.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto signed my name.

CURT FEIG.