Dec. 27, 1932. W. J. DE WITT 1,892,300

PEDIFORM ARTICLE

Filed June 11, 1929

Fig. 1

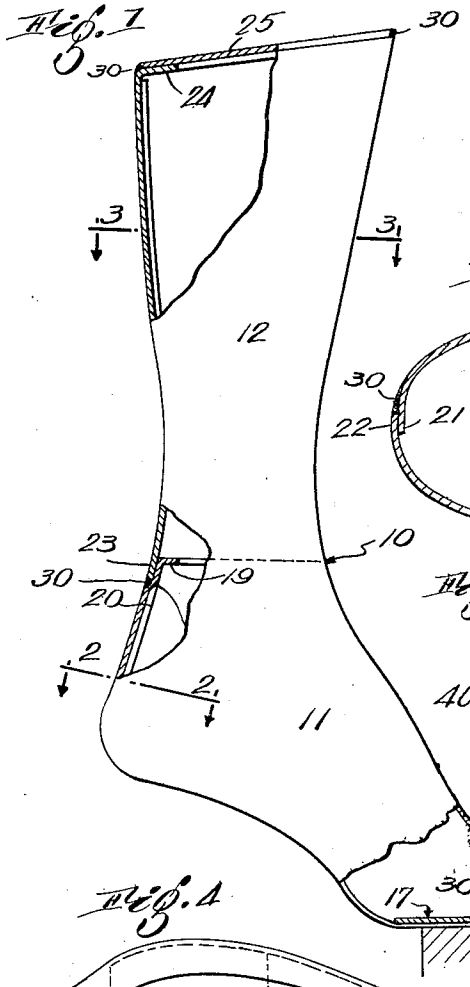


Fig. 3

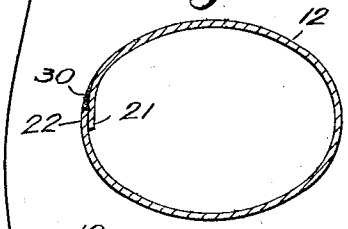


Fig. 7

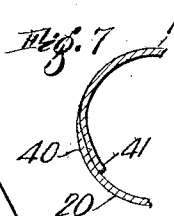


Fig. 6

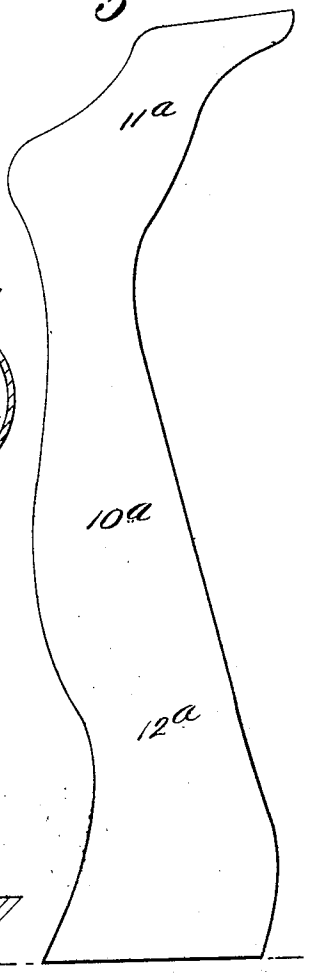


Fig. 4

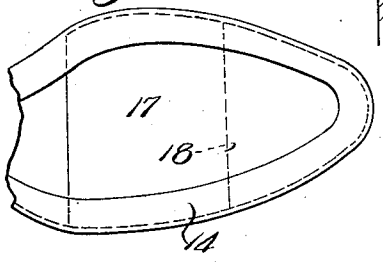


Fig. 5

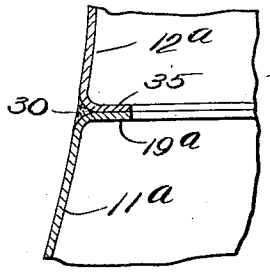
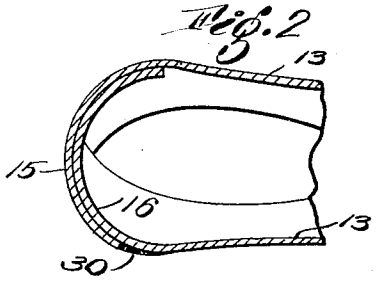


Fig. 2



Inventor
William J. De Witt
by Roberts, Cushman & Woodberry
his Attorneys

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

WILLIAM J. DE WITT, OF AUBURN, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR TO SHOE FORM CO., INC., OF AUBURN, NEW YORK, A CORPORATION OF NEW YORK

PEDIFORM ARTICLE

Application filed June 11, 1929. Serial No. 370,029.

This application is an improvement in pediform articles and particularly in hosiery forms of the type shown in my copending application, Serial No. 344,266, filed March 5, 1929, of which this is a continuation in part, upon which hosiery may be displayed and which form is made of celluloid or similar material and of such contour as to present a facsimile of the human leg and foot. The form comprises a foot portion and a leg portion which may terminate at the ankle, calf, knee or thigh as preferred. The features hereinafter disclosed are applicable to a form of any height. The object of this invention is to provide a pediform article such as a hosiery form of the general type shown in my copending application but differing therefrom in certain details of construction whereby the appearance of the article and the method of manufacture are improved, all of which details of construction will be pointed out at length in the following specification and in the drawing which forms a part thereof and in which

Fig. 1 is a side elevation of a hosiery form of the calf height embodying this invention, certain parts being broken away for the purpose of clarity;

Figs. 2 and 3 are sectional views taken along the lines 2—2 and 3—3 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 4 is a bottom plan view of the toe portion of the form;

Fig. 5 is an enlarged sectional view illustrating another means of uniting the shoe and leg forms;

Fig. 6 is a side elevation of a hosiery form of thigh height shown in the inverted position; and

Fig. 7 is a sectional view similar to Fig. 3 illustrating the filling of the depressions formed by the overlapping plies or lines of joinder according to another embodiment of this invention.

The hosiery form 10 comprises a foot form 11 and a leg form 12 which are independently manufactured, preferably from celluloid or similar material, and later assembled. The foot form 11 may be made upon a last in accordance with the practice disclosed in my copending application, Serial No. 166,315, filed February 7, 1927 and the leg form 12 may be made by the method disclosed in my copending application, Serial No. 290,252, filed July 3, 1928 or by that disclosed in my copending application, Serial No. 344,266. The particular methods employed form no part of the present invention and other methods than those mentioned may be used if desired.

The side walls 13 of the foot form are preferably provided with a continuous inwardly projecting flange 14 which surrounds the opening in the form and the ends 15 and 16 of the side walls lapped to form the heel portion. Resting upon the flange 14 is an insole 15 which covers a portion of the opening in the foot form and supports a weight 18 located at the toe of the form as shown in my earlier applications. The weight 18 is slipped into the toe and adhesively secured therein preferably by the use of acetone or other cellulose solution applied to the bottom of the weight. The overlapping ends 15 and 16 of the side walls 13 are rigidly united by acetone or other suitable adhesive. The form 11 is provided with a flange 19 at its upper edge which may be offset as shown in Fig. 1 to provide an external shoulder 20.

The leg form 12 shown in Fig. 1 is made from sheet material in the manner disclosed in my application No. 290,252 the edges 21, 22 overlapping along the line corresponding to the back seam in a stocking. The lower edge 23 slips over the upper edge of the foot form 11 and rests against the shoulder 20. A flange 24 at the upper end of the leg form supports a plate or disk 25 of celluloid or similar material which closes the end of the form.

The forms, assembled as shown in Fig. 1, are united by the use of a suitable adhesive preferably acetone. The depressions in the outer surface made by the overlapping edges which result from the formation of the foot and leg forms and the lines of joinder between the forms detract from the appearance of the complete form and present a danger that the hose slipped thereon might be torn thereby. One purpose of this invention therefore is to provide a pediform article in which is eliminated or removed this condition

whereby the overlapped and joined edges are concealed and the form is caused to simulate the human leg particularly when viewed through hose of silk, lace or other sheer material. I have found that by using plastic cement or putty 30 that these depressions can be filled and the lines of joinder concealed. Figs. 2 and 3 illustrate the way the depressions formed by the overlapping portions of the foot and leg forms are filled and Fig. 1 illustrates how the lines of joinder between the foot and leg forms and between the leg form and the plate 25 are concealed. The cement 30 may also be used in order to supplement the action of the adhesive in securing the weight 18 in the toe of the form.

After all the depressions have been filled and the lines of joinder concealed the entire form is sprayed, dipped or otherwise coated with a suitable paint, lacquer, varnish or the like preferably of the quick drying type having a cellulose base.

The weight 18 in the toe of the foot form will support the complete hosiery form 10 upright upon a surface as indicated in Fig. 1. Moreover, the leg form 12 terminates at its upper end in a surface of such slope that the form may be inverted and will remain in that position without need of any external brace or support. Fig. 6 illustrates this feature in connection with a form 10^a of thigh height.

Fig. 5 discloses one way of uniting a foot form 11^a with a leg form 12^a made from a tube in the manner disclosed in my application Serial No. 344,266 to produce the form shown in Fig. 6. The form 11^a terminates at its upper edge in a flange 19^a upon which rests a flange 35 with which the lower edge of the form 12^a terminates it being, of course, understood that the contours of the forms at the point of joinder substantially agree. The flanges 19^a and 35 are united by the use of acetone or other suitable material and the line of joinder concealed by the cement 30 so that the completed form may be finished in the same manner as the form previously described.

In place of using the cement 30 the depressions made by the overlapping plies and lines of joinder may be completely concealed by dissolving the edges of the outer layers of material with acetone or similar solvent and smoothing them down to fill the depressions. This is illustrated in Fig. 7 of the drawing in which the edge of the outer ply 40 is dissolved so that it fills the depression which had been formed and forms an integral union with the inner ply 41. When suitably coated the form presents the finished appearance of a unitary article.

Forms made in accordance with this invention being of celluloid or similar material are elastically yieldable so that when a stocking is drawn over a form it will yield to pressure in substantially the same way as when drawn over the human leg. The form 10 is of calf height while the form 10^a is of thigh height being of a length sufficient to receive and hold distended substantially the entire length of a woman's stocking and comprising the foot form 11^a and the leg form 12^a. The leg form 12^a is of thin resilient seamless tubular celluloid and has substantially the contour of a human leg including the calf, knee and a portion of the thigh. Forms of other heights can be made if desired and I am not limited to the particular heights here shown and described.

The employment of the plate 25 to close the top of the form and of the plastic cement 30 to improve the appearance of the form, fill the depressions in the outer surface and conceal lines of joinder is not limited to hosiery forms particularly shown and described but may be applied to any pediform articles without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as set forth in the following claims.

I claim:

1. A hollow pediform article comprising a foot form having an opening at the toe portion and a leg form united into a composite form, said foot form having at its toe portion an inwardly projecting flange, an insole attached to said flange and covering the opening in the toe portion of the foot form and a weight resting upon said insole.

2. A hollow pediform article comprising a foot form having an opening at the toe portion and a leg form united into a composite form, said foot form having at its toe portion an inwardly projecting flange, an insole attached to said flange and covering the opening in the toe portion of the foot form and a weight resting upon said insole, and rigidly secured thereto.

3. A hosiery form simulating the human leg and foot, the bottom of the toe portion being flat and having a weight in the forepart of the toe portion so that the form stands upright thereon with the heel higher than the toe, and the leg portion terminating at its upper end in a planar surface so inclined to the body of the form that when the form is inverted to rest on such surface it will stand unsupported in such inverted position, the weight in said toe portion acting to hold the form in such position.

Signed by me at Auburn, New York, this 28th day of May, 1929.

WILLIAM J. DE WITT.