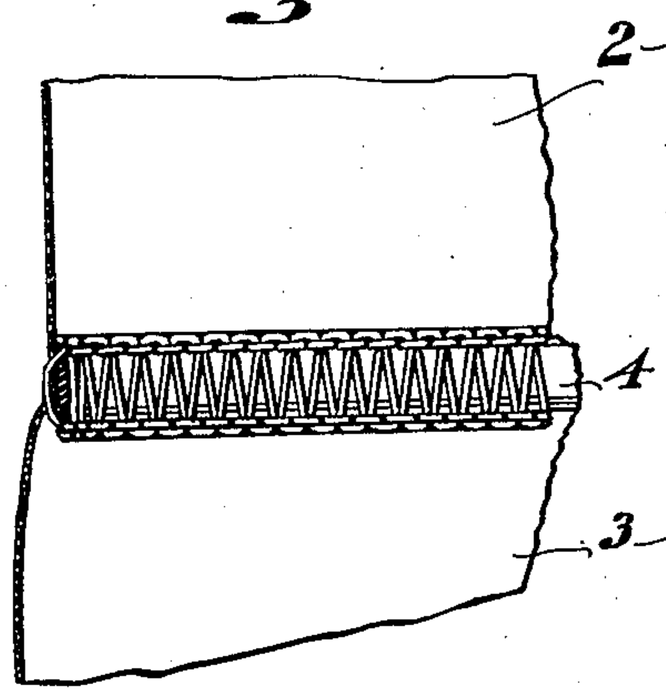
Nov. 26, 1935. G. S. VAN VOORHIS 2,022,444

HOSIERY

Filed March 5, 1935

Fig. 1

Fig. 2



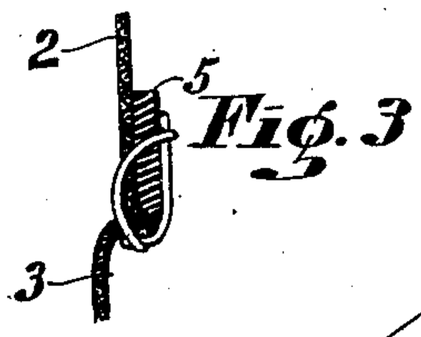


Fig. 3

INVENTOR:
George S. Van Voorhis,

BY J. H. McCready,
his ATTORNEY.

Patented Nov. 26, 1935 2,022,444

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,022,444

HOSIERY

George S. Van Voorhis, Northampton, Mass., assignor to United Elastic Corporation, Easthampton, Mass., a corporation of Massachusetts

Application March 5, 1935, Serial No. 9,438

2 Claims. (Cl. 2—240)

This invention relates to hosiery. It aims to improve hosiery of the very inexpensive types with a view to producing a better article without substantially increasing the cost of production. While the invention is primarily concerned with the very cheap grades of hosiery, it is contemplated that it may also be used to advantage in certain of the better grades, especially some types of sport hosiery.

The nature of the invention will be readily understood from the following description when read in connection with the accompanying drawing, and the novel features will be particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

In the drawing,

Figure 1 is a side view of a stocking embodying features of this invention, the extreme top of the stocking being cut off and part of the structure being illustrated in section;

Fig. 2 is an enlarged view of the seam which joins the cuff to the leg of the stocking shown in Fig. 1; and

Fig. 3 is a sectional view of a slightly different embodiment of the invention.

In making very cheap stockings, especially those designed for children's wear, it is a common practice to knit a foot and leg on a circular knitting machine, and then to stitch a cuff to the top of the leg. The cuff usually is ribbed so as to have considerable circumferential elasticity or stretch. Sometimes, however, the cuff or top section of the stocking is of an entirely different nature.

In making stockings of this type according to the present invention, the top section or cuff 2 and the foot and leg section 3 of the stocking may be assembled in the usual way, the cuff being turned inside out and telescoped over the leg, and the two edges being brought together in registering relationship. These sections are then sewed together, and in connection with the sewing operation, a strip of rubber 4 is secured to the stocking, this strip extending along the seam and around the stocking so that it will give to this part of the stocking a considerably greater circumferential elasticity than it otherwise would have. Preferably the stocking is stretched circumferentially during this operation, and the rubber, or other elastic strip included in the seam, is held under tension so that the degree of elasticity thus imparted to this portion of the stocking can be made greater or less, as desired. The anchoring of the rubber strip 4 in position, and the binding of the adjoining edges of the sections 2 and 3 is facilitated by performing this stitching operation on a "Merrow" binder, or some other sewing machine of the type which will overseam an edge. As shown in Fig. 2, the zig-zag stitches of such a seam may be made to hold the rubber strip 4 securely in its place while still permitting ample circumferential elasticity.

If it is desired to use a wider and stronger strip of rubber, the same operations above described can be performed, but the rubber strip, instead of being located entirely under the zig-zag threads of the seam, can be made to project partly beyond the seam, as shown at 5 in Fig. 3. Here the threads of the seam pass through the rubber strip 5 leaving one margin projecting beyond the threads of the seam while the other margin is confined by the zig-zag threads, as in the arrangement illustrated in Fig. 2.

An important objection to cheap stockings made by the methods above referred to is that the top sections do not have sufficient elasticity to hold them in place. This objection can be effectually overcome in the manner just described. The invention, therefore, produces a considerably better stocking at only a trifling increase in expense of manufacture, the only added cost being that of the rubber strand. The same problem arises in cheap work gloves in which the wrist portion or cuff made of a ribbed or other stretchable material is secured to the hand section of the glove, and the present invention is equally as useful in the manufacture of articles of this character. It gives additional elasticity to the wrist section, particularly at its junction with the hand portion of the glove, exactly as it does in the case of hosiery. Consequently, in the claims, the terms "hosiery" and "stockings" will be used in a generic sense to include gloves, the leg and foot section of a stocking corresponding to the hand and finger section of a glove.

Having thus described my invention, what I desire to claim as new is:

1. That improvement in methods of making hosiery, which consists in producing the foot and leg section of a stocking and a ribbed cuff in independent operations, telescoping one of said sections within the other with the edges of the two sections substantially registered throughout, overseaming said edges to secure the two sections together, and running an elastic strip into the seam so made simultaneously with the seaming operation and securing it to the stocking by the stitches of said seam.

2. In a stocking, the combination of a top section, a foot and leg section, a seam uniting said sections edge to edge throughout the circumference of the stocking, the stitches of said seam extending over and binding the adjoining edges of both sections, and a rubber strip secured to the stocking by said seam.

GEORGE S. VAN VOORHIS.