

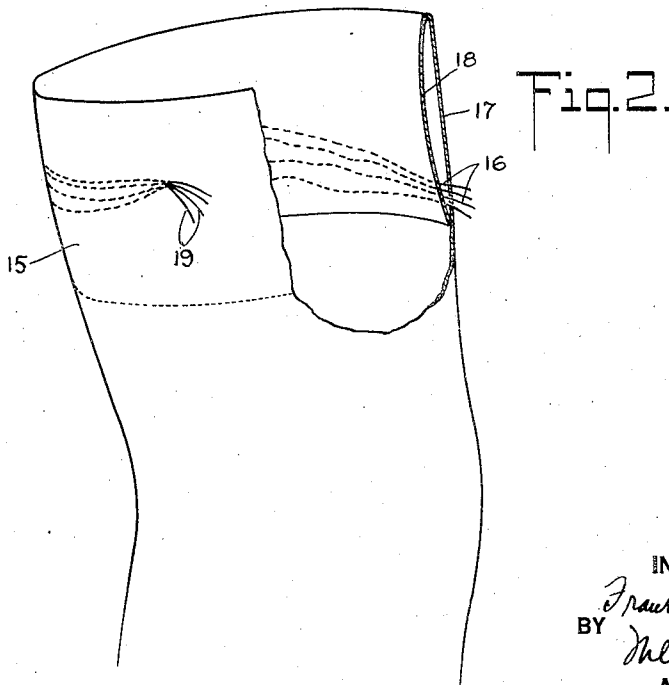
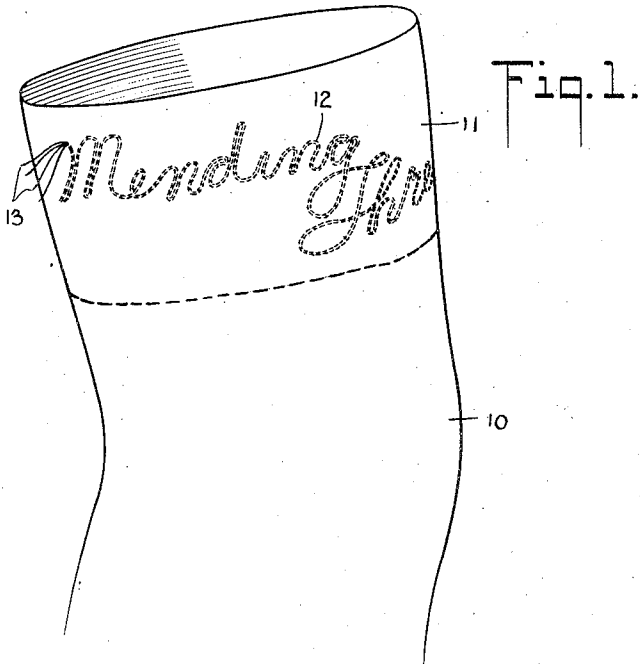
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F. ROSENTHAL

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ATTACHMENT FOR STOCKINGS

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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ATTACHMENT FOR STOCKINGS.

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My present invention relates primarily to hosiery, and has particular reference to an attachment for stockings embodying means for facilitating mending of the stocking.

5 It is well-known that stockings in general are subject to "runs". Because of the knitted construction, a break in the thread will cause and unraveling which will extend for a considerable distance unless it can be checked in time. Ladies' stockings in general use are usually manufactured in a large variety of shades and colors, and it is often difficult to check "runs" by means of mending, even when they are noticed in time, because of the necessity for effecting the mending by means of thread or yarn which is sufficiently similar in color to the stocking itself, so that no unattractive result will be produced.

10 It is an object of the present invention to overcome this difficulty by means of a construction whereby mending threads are always readily available in the identical shade of the stocking, whether the latter has been subjected to use or not.

20 A feature of the invention lies in associating with the knitted stocking one or more loose and sufficiently long threads in the stocking until such time as they are needed; and whereby at that time they are readily and freely removable without interfering in any way with the structural condition of the stocking.

25 A preferred embodiment of my invention is directed toward stockings of the so-called full-fashioned type, wherein the raw uncolored yarn is woven or knitted into the complete final form before it is dyed. In this embodiment of the invention, one or more loose threads of the original uncolored yarn are associated with the completed stocking before it is dyed. Thereupon the entire construction is subjected to the coloring process whereby the associated threads will have a color imparted to them identical in every degree to the color of the entire stocking. Moreover, being associated with the stocking during its normal usage, these threads are subjected to the same wear as the entire stocking, and will therefore fade or change color in exactly the same degree that the entire stocking fades or changes color. In this way, there is provided a thread or threads for mending purposes, which are always immediately available and which will always be of the exact shade necessary for the purpose.

The threads are preferably associated with the welt portion of the stocking, and although they may be attached thereto in any desired manner which renders them secure, and at the same time removable, I prefer to associate them with the welt by embroidering a design or similar device thereon. This embroidery may be effected by any means. Where a Bonaz machine is employed, an interlinked construction will result. And by pulling upon one free end of the loose thread, the interlinked construction will unravel, and thereby the thread will disassociate itself from the stocking. Where a Schiffl machine is employed, I prefer to omit the rear shuttle thread from the embroidery, thereby rendering the loose embroidery thread similarly removable. In any event, I prefer to arrange the embroidery along a predetermined sequence of lines or lettering which are so arranged that the embroidery is under no tension, and will therefore not unravel prematurely.

In the accompanying drawings I have illustrated a preferred form of my invention, wherein

Fig. 1 is an elevational view of a portion of a stocking, showing my new attachment therefor;

Fig. 2 shows a modification, the view being similar to Fig. 1 and partly in cross-section.

Referring to the drawings, it will be observed that I have shown the upper portion of a stocking 10, this portion terminating in the marginal strip or welt 11. Associated with the latter, I have shown a plurality of threads 12 embroidered to the welt along lines which spell out the words "Mending threads". It will be understood that the nature of this design is entirely optional, but I prefer to arrange the threads in a generally transverse direction so that they are not subjected to excessive pull which might unravel them prematurely. Although one or more threads may be used, I have illustrated a construction wherein four such threads have been arranged side by side, the ends 13 of these threads being clearly observed in Fig. 1.

In Fig. 2 I have illustrated the upper portion of the stocking constructed with a doubled-over welt 15, this doubling-over providing a pocket or chamber circumferentially disposed about the upper end of the stocking within which the loose threads 16 are arranged. In this type of construction, it is

unnecessary to embroider the threads, and they may be threaded around the pocket so as to lie loosely therein, or they may be sewed to the outer or inner wall 17 or 18 in any desired manner. In any event, the ends 19 are brought out of the pocket at any convenient point or points, so that the threads will be available when necessary.

It will be observed that although I have illustrated and described my invention as applied to full-fashioned stockings, nevertheless as to certain phases, my invention is not limited to this construction or necessarily to stockings. Where the yarn is dyed before being made into stocking form, the threads to be associated with the stocking may be taken from this dyed unwoven yarn. In a preferred form, the threads are associated with the stocking before any of the threads have been dyed, and this preferred form of the invention is most easily carried out with full-fashioned stockings. In any event, the association is such as does not interfere in any way with the structural nature of the stocking. That is to say, the loose mending threads are associated with a portion of the the stocking after at least that portion has been completely knitted. Thereby the loose threads form no integral or essential part of the structure, and their removal is therefore

not accompanied by any weakening or impairing of the stocking.

It will be understood that many changes in the details herein described and illustrated for the purpose of explaining the nature of my invention may be made by those skilled in the art without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as expressed in the appended claim. Thus, the pocket shown in Fig. 2 may be constructed in other ways than by doubling over the welt; and the loose threads may obviously be associated with other portions of the stocking and in any convenient manner.

Having thus described my invention and illustrated its use, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

In a process for making stockings, the step or steps which comprise forming the stocking of undyed textile material, associating one or more strands of the same material with the stocking in a manner whereby they form no essential part of its structure and whereby they are at the same time readily withdrawable from said association, and thereupon dyeing the stocking and the threads associated therewith.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto signed my name.

FRANK ROSENTHAL.