

FABRIC REPORT 5

and the Yarn Division of Klinger Manufacturing Co. Ltd.

The combined resources of these companies have been pooled to enable Klinger Yarns to plan and implement its own marketing. The advertising campaign for Soflons and Soflon is to continue throughout 1966 and will co-ordinate with other merchandising and marketing promotion.

It is against this background of research, development and promotion that the new Ripple nylon jersey fabric appears.

No special precautions are necessary in their knitting, beyond those normally employed in knitting continuous filament bulked yarns. It is, however, advisable to fit ceramic yarn guides and the yarn packages should be

mounted so that they are centrally under the first yarn guide, which should be set six to eight inches above the package.

It is important, when using plant fitted with a positive yarn feeding system, to apply sufficient tension to straighten the yarn before it enters the positive feed. Failure to do this can result in variations in the amount of yarn supplied at different feeders.

140 denier Ripple yarns are ideal for producing the self-coloured jacquard fabrics in various types of cloque and blister stitch which are currently enjoying great popularity. If fabrics of this nature are to perform satisfactorily in use they must be knitted tightly, and this immediately raises the question of what is meant by 'tight' knitting. It is not possible to give precise knitting stiffness directions for jacquard fabrics. In any one fabric the course lengths being knitted at different feeders can vary widely, depending upon the pattern being knitted, whilst fabrics which differ in pattern will obviously differ to some degree in average yarn length per course and this should be borne in mind when considering course lengths for different gauges and diameters of machine.

New Warp-Knit Double Jersey

Warp-knit "double jersey" fabrics constructed in a number of different varieties of surface texture, drape, handle, stripe pattern and print in Courtaulds' filament and textured yarns are the latest newcomers to the knitted fabric field. Can they do for warp-knitting what double jersey has done for circular weft-knitting during the past 10 years? There is a parallel in that the warp-knit "double tricots" are knitted on two sets of needles as are their weft-knit cousins. Technically, the fabrics are bearded needle, double needlebar Simplex constructions. In filament and textured Celon, Tricel and Dixel, this structure claims not only an exceptional range of desirable properties but end-use capacities which could in time give significant penetration into such diversified fields as fashion, sportswear and household furnishings.

Double warp-knits of this type can claim a combination of functional and fashion properties, prime among which is a high degree of dimensional stability for a knitted fabric, allied to good drape and suppleness of handle. In synthetic and man-made fibres such as nylon and triacetate, easy-care properties of washability and wearability are inherent. Opacity, which could dispense with the need for a lining, is a further important attribute, together with good crease-resistance.

Fabrics are in most cases reversible and provide an exceptional base for prints. Abrasion resistance is high

and this same inherent toughness gives the fabrics, without changing their basic characteristics, the ability to withstand severe finishing treatments which can alter their whole aesthetics in such terms as embossed and plasticised surfaces.

Areas foreseen as being open for warp-knit double jerseys in Courtaulds' filament and textured yarns are: day, evening and cocktail dresses, with particular reference to prints. Prints are also an interesting possibility for two-piece suits. Fabric properties and appearance could likewise be important for blouses, jackets, draped swimwear, beachwear, casual shirts, knitted separates and other forms of leisurewear. Then there is millinery, emphasised by the growing trend for matching separates and accessories; trews, slipper fabrics, stretch covers, domestic and car upholstery, linings, underwear for the older woman where opacity is an attribute, and bras; stretch pantaloons and suitcase fabrics. The latter aspect is interesting. A thermoplastic double faced fabric is pliable and if necessary readily mouldable. To get away from the plastic look such fabrics can have a very muted sheen in plain-dyed shades or, in line with the plastic look, they can be embossed with various designs.

Yarn usage has deliberately not been too wide during the eighteen months of development work which have now resulted in a range of commercially available