May 3, 1955 J. D. SCALA 2,707,340

WEATHER PROTECTED RUBBER SOLE SHOE

Filed Aug. 17, 1953

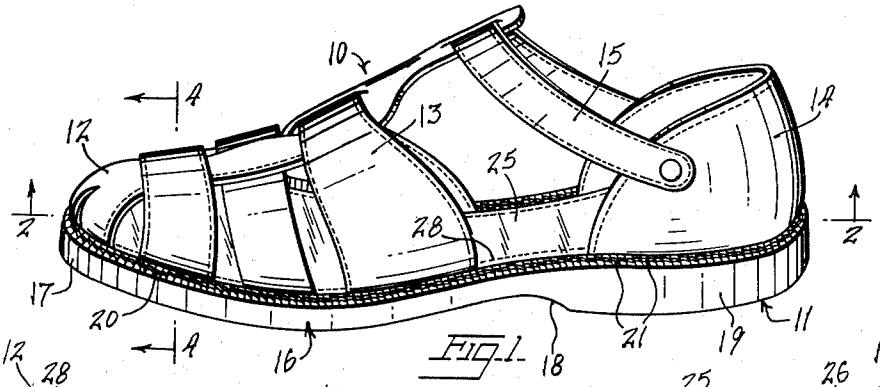

FIG. 1.

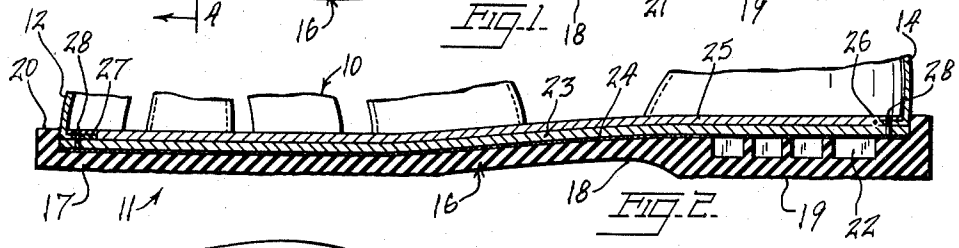

FIG. 2.

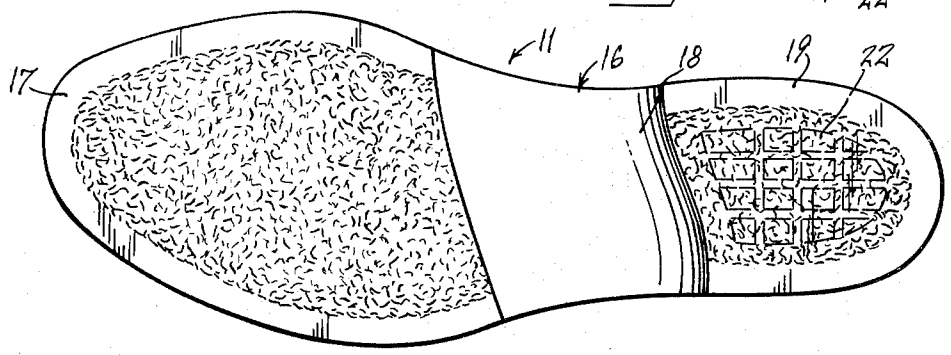

FIG. 3.

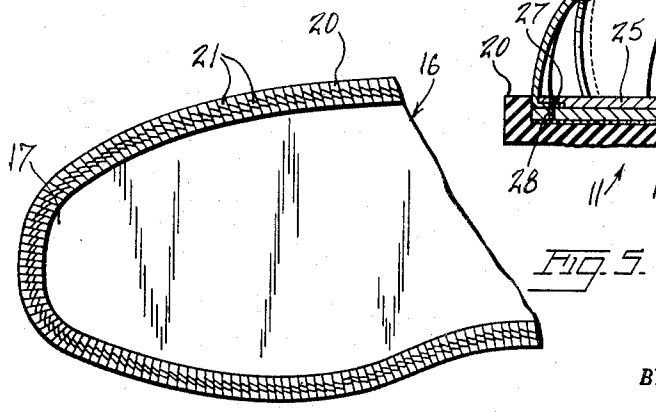

FIG. 5.

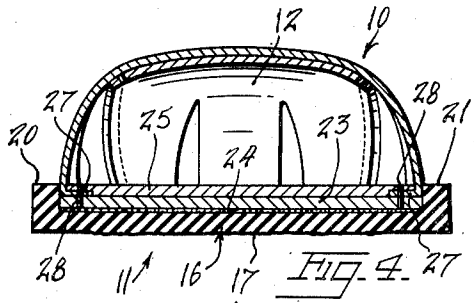

FIG. 4.

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WEATHER PROTECTED RUBBER SOLE SHOE

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1 Claim. (Cl. 36—19.5)

This invention relates to footwear and, more particularly, to new and useful improvements in a shoe construction.

In the ordinary shoe construction, the junction between the upper of the shoe and the sole construction thereof together with the stitching are exposed to the weather and subject to wear. Furthermore, such constructions are unsightly.

It is the principal object of the present invention to provide a shoe construction wherein the junction between the upper and the sole together with the stitching therethrough is protected and hidden from view.

Another object of the invention is to provide a sole construction for a shoe which will permit the shoe to be worn comfortably by the wearer and which will absorb and reduce the normal shock prevailing during the engagement of the shoe with a hard surface.

It is further proposed to produce a shoe construction which is simple and durable, pleasing in appearance and which can be manufactured and sold at a reasonable cost.

For further comprehension of the invention, and of the objects and advantages thereof, reference will be had to the following description and accompanying drawings, and to the appended claim in which the various novel features of the invention are more particularly set forth.

In the accompanying drawings forming a material part of this disclosure:

Fig. 1 is a side elevational view of a shoe embodying the invention.

Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view through the center of the sole construction, taken on line 2—2 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a bottom plan view of the shoe.

Fig. 4 is a vertical sectional view taken on the plane of the line 4—4 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 5 is a fragmentary top plan view of the outer sole.

Referring in detail to the drawings, the shoe illustrated is of the sandal type having an upper **10** and a sole construction indicated generally at **11**. The upper consists of a toe portion **12**, a vamp portion **13** and heel portion **14**. The toe and vamp portions are formed of cross-crossed leather straps and the heel portion of heavy leather. The shoe is held on the foot of the wearer by a strap **15**.

The sole construction comprises a full length outer sole **16** which is preferably of rubber or a rubber composition adapted to be molded into a predetermined shape. The outer sole consists of a toe or forepart **17**, a shank part **18** and a heel part **19**. A narrow upstanding rim **20** extends around the periphery of the outer sole on its inner face. The rim is formed on its outer face throughout its length with ornamental ridges **21**. A plurality of pockets **22** are formed on the inner face of the outer sole at the heel part **19** and are arranged in "tic-tac-toe" formation. The pockets provide additional cushioning effect to the heel.

A midsole **23** of rubber composition or other suitable insulating and flexible material covers the inner surface of the outer sole and the pockets **22** formed therein. The midsole is secured to the inner surface of the outer sole by means of a suitable adhesive **24**, such as rubber cement, or it may be vulcanized to the inner surface of the outer sole. The rim **20** facilitates the proper positioning of the midsole.

An inner sole or sock lining **25** of leather or other suitable flexible material is positioned over the midsole **23** and the bottom end **26** of the heel portion **19** and the bottom ends **27** of the straps forming the portion and vamp portions are bent inwardly and inserted between the inner sole **25** and the midsole **23** and secured in position therebetween by a row of stitching **28**. The row of stitching is inwardly of the outer edges of the inner sole and midsole, and the rim **20** protects said outer edges from the weather and from damage and also hides said edges and stitching from view when the shoe is being worn. The stitching may be lock-stitched and may be done accurately and rapidly by machinery already available for that purpose.

It will be understood that the outer sole **16** may be made of foam rubber, "crepe" rubber or other suitable rubber mixtures or compositions, or it may be made of plastic or leather.

While I have illustrated and described the preferred embodiment of my invention, it is to be understood that I do not limit myself to the precise construction herein disclosed and the right is reserved to all changes and modifications coming within the scope of the invention as defined in the appended claim.

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

A shoe construction comprising an upper having toe, vamp and heel portions of leather, and a sole construction, said sole construction including an outer sole of rubber composition, a midsole of flexible insulating material covering the inner surface of the outer sole and an inner sole of flexible leather covering said midsole, said upper portions having their bottom ends bent and disposed between the midsole and inner sole, a row of stitching inwardly of the outer edges of the inner sole and midsole securing said bent ends, midsole and inner sole together as a unit, said unit being secured to said outer sole by an adhesive, a rim around the periphery of the outer sole enclosing the juncture between the upper and the sole construction and said stitching, said outer sole having pockets on the inner surface of its heel portion, and ridges on the outer surface of said rim, said bent ends and the outer ends of the inner sole being together equal in thickness as the remainder of the inner sole.

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