June 19, 1945. E. M. BONYHADY 2,378,461

BOOT CONSTRUCTION

Filed June 24, 1943

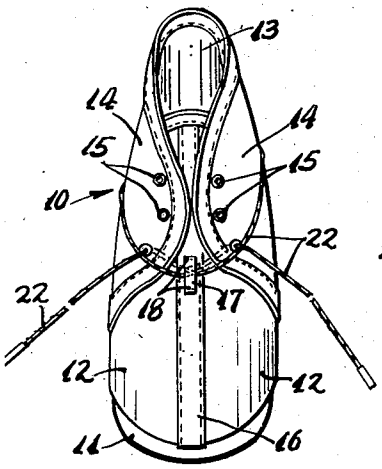



Fig. 1.

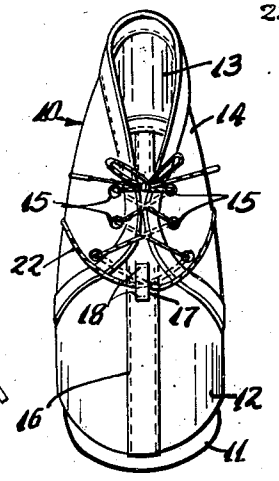



Fig. 2.

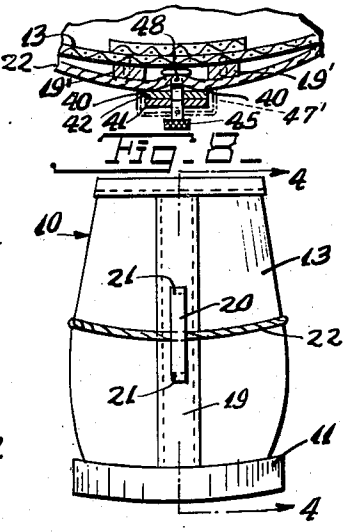



Fig. 3.

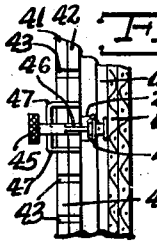



Fig. 9.




Fig. 4.

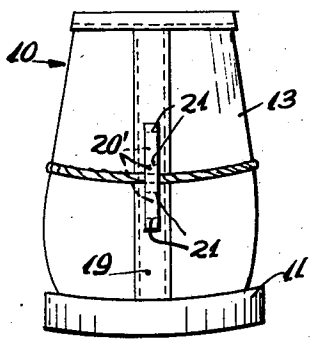



Fig. 5.

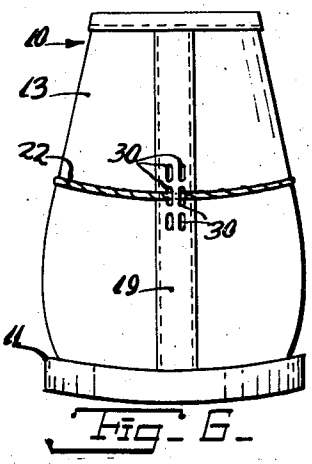



Fig. 6.

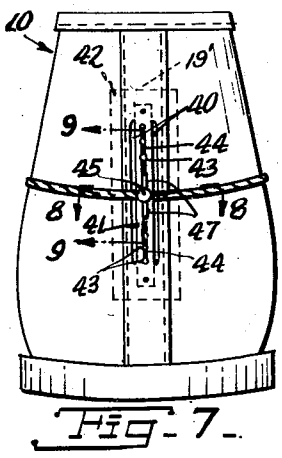



Fig. 7.

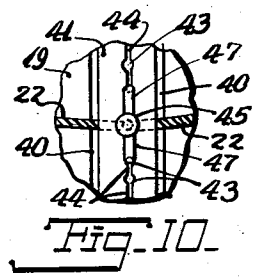



Fig. 10.

INVENTOR.

Emil M. Bonyhady

BY Zoltan Hlacsky

ATTORNEY

Patented June 19, 1945 2,378,461

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,378,461

## BOOT CONSTRUCTION

Emil M. Bonyhady, Worcester, Mass.

Application June 24, 1943, Serial No. 492,044

5 Claims. (Cl. 36—50)

This invention relates to new and useful improvements in a boot construction.

More specifically, the invention proposes the construction of a boot characterized by an upper consisting of a vamp section and heel section having side panels engaging over the vamp section and being formed with openings at the front for a lace with each section being formed with a loop in a manner to permit the lace to be engaged completely around the boot in the vicinity of the ankle in a manner to draw the upper tightly in position about the ankle.

Still further it is proposed to characterize the loops by a front loop mounted on the vamp section of the upper at a point close to the side panels of the heel section and a back loop mounted on the back of the heel section at a height approximately the position of the front loop to permit the lace to be engaged about the boot in substantially a horizontal position.

Still further it is proposed to so engage the lace about the boot that the ends thereof after being passed through the front loop may be engaged with the openings in the front portions of the side panels of the heel section in a manner to lace the boot up the front.

A further object of the invention proposes a novel means for holding the lace in various vertically adjusted positions in a manner to be engaged about the boot at a desired elevation.

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

In the accompanying drawing forming a material part of this disclosure—

Fig. 1 is a front perspective view of a boot construction in accordance with this invention and with the lace in an open position.

Fig. 2 is a view similar to Fig. 1 but illustrating the lace in a position in which it completely closes the boot.

Fig. 3 is a rear elevational view of Fig. 1.

Fig. 4 is a vertical sectional view taken substantially on the line 4—4 of Fig. 3.

Fig. 5 is a view similar to Fig. 3 but illustrating a modification of the invention.

Fig. 6 is another view similar to Fig. 3 but illustrating another modification of the invention.

Fig. 7 is still another view similar to Fig. 3 but illustrating a still further modification of the invention.

Fig. 8 is an enlarged horizontal sectional view taken substantially on the line 8—8 of Fig. 7.

Fig. 9 is an enlarged partial vertical sectional view taken on the line 9—9 of Fig. 7.

Fig. 10 is an enlarged detailed view of a portion of Fig. 7.

The boot construction, according to this invention, includes a boot having an upper 10 constructed entirely of felt or other similar material and provided with a sole 11. The upper 10 consists of a vamp section 12 and a heel section 13 having side panels 14 which engage over the vamp section. The front edges of the side panels are provided with eyelet openings 15 for conventional shoe lace.

A strip of leather 16 is extended vertically along the front of the vamp section 12. A loop 17 is mounted upon the strip of leather 16 at a point close to the side panels 14. This loop 17 is formed of a piece of leather which has its top and bottom edges secured to the face of the strip of leather 16 by stitches 18.

A strip of leather 19 is extended vertically along the back of the heel section 13 of the upper 10. A loop 20 is mounted upon the heel section 13, and more specifically, upon the strip of leather 19 at a height approximating the position of the front loop 17. This loop 20 is also formed of a small strip of leather and has its top and bottom edges secured to the strip of leather 19 by stitches 21.

A shoe lace 22 has its intermediate portion engaged through the back loop 20 and its free ends extended around the sides of the heel section 13 and then engaged through the front loop 17, as clearly shown in Figs. 1 and 2. The free ends of the lace 22 after being passed through the front loop 17 are adapted to be engaged through the eyelet openings 15 and then be tied in a bow, as shown in Fig. 2, for lacing the front of the boot. The engagement of the lace 22 around the heel section 13 of the upper 10 causes the heel section to be snugly engaged about the wearer's ankle for assisting in maintaining the boot fixedly in position upon the foot.

In the modification of the invention shown in Fig. 5 the construction of the boot is similar to that previously described, except for the provision of a plurality of loops 20' through which the intermediate portion of the lace 22 may be selectively engaged to alter the vertical position of the lace with relation to the heel section 13. The loops 20' are formed by attaching a longitudinal strip of leather to the strip of leather 19 by a plurality of horizontal rows of vertically

spaced stitches 12' guiding leather into a plurality of loops 20'.

In other respects this form of the invention is identical to the previous form and like parts are identified by like reference numerals.

In the modification of the invention shown in Fig. 6 the construction of the boot is also similar to that previously described except for a slightly different method for shifting the vertical location of the intermediate portion of the lace 22. In this form of the invention the strip of leather 19 is formed with laterally spaced vertically arranged openings 30. The openings 30 are arranged in aligned pairs and the intermediate portion of the lace 22 may be selectively engaged through a desired pair of these openings 30 for varying the location of the lace 22.

In Figs. 7 to 10 still another method for vertically adjusting the intermediate portion of the lace 22 as well as a means for tightening the lace independently of the tied ends thereof is illustrated.

In this form of the invention a piece of leather material 19' which is extended vertically along the back of the heel section 13 the piece of leather 19' is provided with a pair of parallel vertically extended slots 40 which divide off and bound a strap portion 41 at a height approxiating the position of the loop 17 mounted on the vamp section 12 of the boot 10. The intermediate portion of the lace 22 is engaged behind the strap portion 41 and has its ends passing out through the slots 40 and around the sides of the heel section 13 to the front of the boot 10 as hereinbefore described.

A rigid strap 42 reinforces the strap portion 41. The rigid strap 42 is formed of metal, bone or other similar material and is securely adhesively secured to the back of the strap portion 41. The strap portion 41 and rigid strap 42 are formed with vertically spaced apertures 43 which are connected with each other by means of narrow passages 44.

A stud 45 engages through one of the apertures 44 and has a narrow section 46 adapted to be slipped through the narrow passages 44 in a turned position of the stud 45 enabling the stud to be moved vertically from one aperture 43 to the other. Fingers 47 project from diametrically opposite sides of the stud 45 and are arranged to be engaged with the apertures 43 above and below the aperture 43 engaged by the stud 45, as shown in Figs. 9 and 10. This engagement of the fingers 47 with the apertures 43 holds the stud 45 against being turned unless the stud 45 is pulled outwards to disengage the fingers 47 from the apertures 43. When the fingers 47 are in the position illustrated by the dot and dash lines 47' in Fig. 9, the narrow section 46 of the stud 45 will be properly aligned with the narrow passages 44 permitting the stud 45 to be moved from aperture to aperture to adjust the vertical position of the stud 45 and the intermediate portion of the lace 22 as will become clear as this specification proceeds.

A portion of the stud 45 is engaged through an intermediate portion of the lace 22 and a pin 48 fixedly connects the adjacent portions of said lace and the stud 45 to cause the lace to be wound upon the stud 22, when the stud 45 is turned relative to the strap and strap portion. This winding of the lace 22 upon the stud 45 permits the lace to be tightened independently of the tied ends of the lace 22. It is to be understood that the strap portion 41 and strap 42 are sufficiently flexible to permit the fingers 47 to be disengaged from the openings 43 so that the stud 45 may be turned to wind the lace 22 upon itself or to align the narrow section 46 of the stud 45 with the narrow passages 44 so that the stud may be moved vertically from aperture to aperture.

In other respects this form of the invention is similar to that previously shown and like reference numerals identify like parts in each of the several views.

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

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

1. In a boot having an upper with a counter section formed with forwardly extending side panels and openings at the front with a lace having its intermediate area extended across said counter section and its ends engaged through said openings for holding said panel closed, a strip of leather extended vertically along the back of said counter section and formed with laterally spaced vertical openings through which the intermediate area of said lace is passed, vertically spaced apertures formed in the material of said strip of leather between said openings and connected with each other by narrow passages, a clip engaged through one of said apertures and having the intermediate area of said lace securely attached thereto, and means for releasably holding said clip in a selected vertically adjusted position with one of said apertures, and a reduced area formed on said clip and alignable with said narrow passages in a pulled out condition of said clip in which said holding means will be inoperative permitting said clip to be moved vertically from aperture to aperture to adjust the vertical position of said lace.

2. In a boot having an upper with a counter section formed with forwardly extending side panels and openings at the front with a lace having its intermediate area extended across said counter section and its ends engaged through said openings for holding said panel closed, a strip of leather extended vertically along the back of said counter section and formed with laterally spaced vertical openings through which the intermediate area of said lace is passed, vertically spaced apertures formed in the material of said strip of leather between said openings and connected with each other by narrow passages, a clip engaged through one of said apertures and having the intermediate area of said lace securely attached thereto, and means for releasably holding said clip in a selected vertically adjusted position with one of said apertures, and a reduced area formed on said clip and alignable with said narrow passages in a pulled out condition of said clip in which said holding means will be inoperative permitting said clip to be moved vertically from aperture to aperture to adjust the vertical position of said lace, said holding means being also adapted to hold said clip in various rotated positions with said lace wound thereon for controlling the tautness of lace.

3. In a boot having an upper with a counter section formed with forwardly extending side panels and openings at the front with a lace having its intermediate area extended across said

counter section and its ends engaged through said openings for holding said panel closed, a strip of leather extended vertically along the back of said counter section and formed with laterally spaced vertical openings through which the intermediate area of said lace is passed, vertically spaced apertures formed in the material of said strip of leather between said openings and connected with each other by narrow passages, a clip engaged through one of said apertures and having the intermediate area of said lace securely attached thereto, and means for releasibly holding said clip in a selected vertically adjusted position with one of said apertures, and a reduced area formed on said clip and alignable with said narrow passages in a pulled out condition of said clip in which said holding means will be inoperative permitting said clip to be moved vertically from aperture to aperture to adjust the vertical position of said lace, said means comprising fingers projecting from diametrically opposite sides of said clip and engaging the apertures of said strip of leather above and below the aperture engaged by said clip.

4. In a boot having an upper with a counter section formed with forwardly extending side panels and openings at the front with a lace having its intermediate area extended across said counter section and its ends engaged through said openings for holding said panel closed, a strip of leather extended vertically along the back of said counter section and formed with laterally spaced vertical openings through which the intermediate area of said lace is passed, vertically spaced apertures formed in the material of said strip of leather, between said openings and connected with each other by narrow passages, a clip engaged through one of said apertures and having the intermediate area of said lace securely attached thereto, and means for releasibly holding said clip in a selected vertically adjusted position with one of said apertures and a reduced area formed on said clip and alignable with said narrow passages in a pulled out condition of said clip in which said holding means will be inoperative permitting said clip to be moved vertically from aperture to aperture to adjust the vertical position of said lace, and means for reinforcing the material of said leather strip between said vertical openings.

5. In a boot having an upper with a counter section formed with forwardly extending side panels and openings at the front with a lace having its intermediate area extended across said counter section and its ends engaged through said openings for holding said panel closed, a strip of leather extended vertically along the back of said counter section and formed with laterally spaced vertical openings through which the intermediate area of said lace is passed, vertically spaced apertures formed in the material of said strip of leather between said openings and connected with each other by narrow passages, a clip engaged through one of said apertures and having the intermediate area of said lace securely attached thereto, and means for releasably holding said clip in a selected vertically adjusted position with one of said apertures, and a reduced area formed on said clip and alignable with said narrow passages in a pulled out condition of said clip in which said holding means will be inoperative permitting said clip to be moved vertically from aperture to aperture to adjust the vertical position of said lace, and means for reinforcing the material of said leather strip between said vertical openings, said latter means comprising a rigid strap secured to the back of said leather strip and formed with apertures and narrow passages in alignment with the apertures and narrow passages of said leather strap.

EMIL M. BONYHADY.