

July 29, 1947.

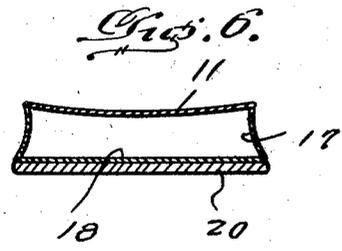
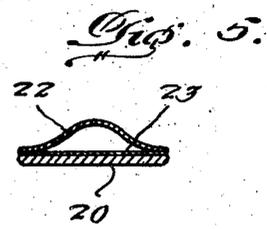
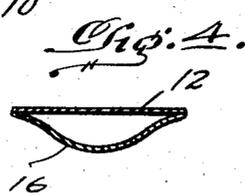
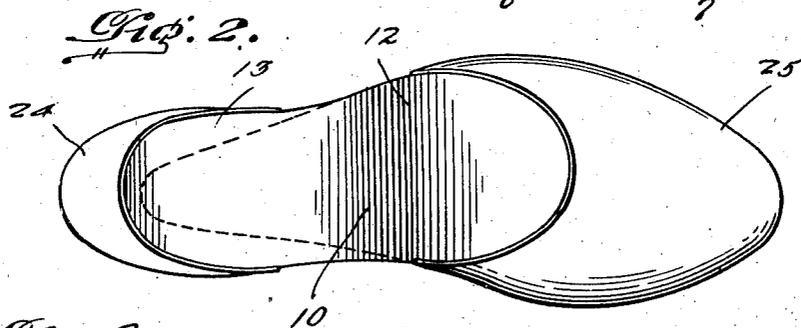
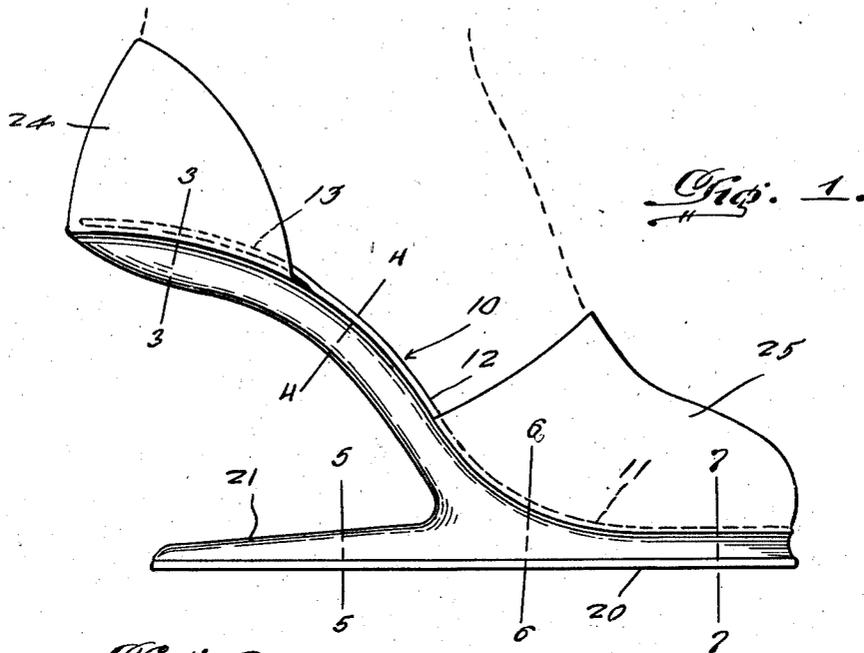
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2,424,609

FOOTWEAR

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2 Sheets-Sheet 1



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2 Sheets-Sheet 2

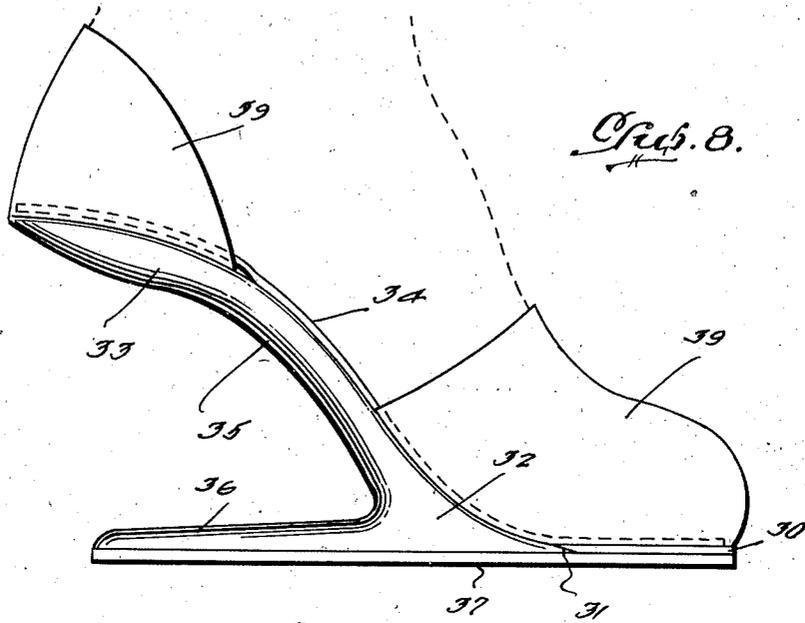


Fig. 8.

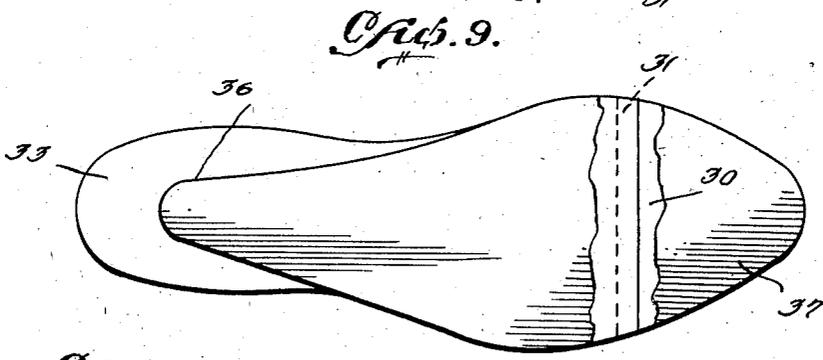


Fig. 9.

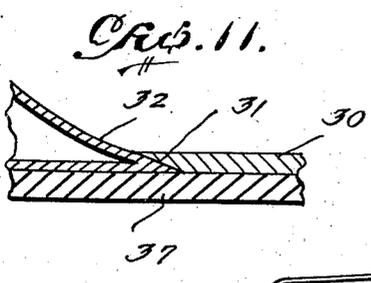


Fig. 11.

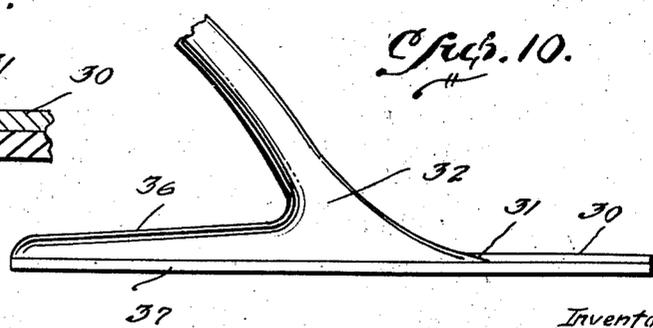


Fig. 10.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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FOOTWEAR

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8 Claims. (Cl. 36—2.5)

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This invention relates to footwear, and more particularly to shoes for women.

A primary object of this invention is the provision of an improved shoe for women characterized by the appearance of a conventional high-heeled shoe, and further characterized by increased strength, resiliency, and comfort.

A further object of the invention is the provision of such a shoe characterized by a rearwardly extending portion of the sole thereof which affords a relatively large supporting surface substantially reducing wear on the sole thereof.

A still further object of the invention is the provision of such a shoe characterized by the omission of the conventional heel portion and the consequent wear incident thereto.

Still another object of the invention is the provision of an improved shoe of this character provided with means whereby flexibility of the toe portion thereof is permitted.

Still another object of the invention is the provision of such a shoe which will be sturdy and durable in construction and relatively inexpensive to manufacture and assemble.

Other objects will in part be obvious and in part be pointed out as the description of the invention proceeds and shown in the accompanying drawing wherein there is disclosed a preferred embodiment of this inventive concept.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a side elevational view of one form of shoe embodying features of the instant inventive concept.

Figure 2 is a top plan view of the shoe disclosed in Figure 1.

Figures 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 are sectional views taken substantially along the appropriate section lines of Figure 1.

Figure 8 is a side elevational view of a modified form of construction.

Figure 9 is a bottom plan view of the construction shown in Figure 8, certain portions thereof being broken away.

Figure 10 is an enlarged detail view of the sole construction, the upper portion of the shoe being removed.

Figure 11 is a fragmentary sectional view taken substantially along the longitudinal center line of the shoe at the juncture of the sole and supporting surface therefor.

Similar reference characters refer to similar parts throughout the several views of the drawing.

Having reference now to the drawing, the shoe

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of the instant invention is comprised of a resilient metallic plate generally indicated at 10 and comprising a sole portion 11, a shank portion 12, and a heel portion 13. The plate 10 is formed in arcuate configuration to conform to the normal configuration of the lower portion of a woman's shoe, of the high-heeled type, and is reinforced throughout the heel and shank portions, as best shown in Figures 3 and 4, by a reinforcing strip 15 of arcuate configuration in cross-section, the arc tapering from a relatively sharp curve, as shown in Figure 3, to a lesser curve, as indicated in Figure 4 at 16. As best shown in Figures 6 and 7, the sole portion 11 is provided with an air chamber or space 17, which may be filled if desired with suitable material, such as felt or the like, the lower portion of which is closed by a metallic sole member 18. As shown in Figure 7, the sole tapers to a conventional narrowed or pointed portion, and the entire sole is provided with a plastic, or other suitable outer sole 20, as best shown in Figures 6 and 7.

Extending rearwardly from the sole portion 11 of the shoe is an elongated supporting member 21 of arcuate configuration, as indicated at 22 in Figure 5, and provided with a flat rearwardly extending sole portion 23, the arcuate portion serving as reinforcement therefor. It is to be noted that the sole 20 extends substantially the entire length of the fore sole, as well as extending rearwardly of the arcuate portion to provide a substantially elongated foot-supporting surface of substantially the length of the foot. The portion 20 terminates slightly forwardly of the heel portion, but in effect provides a substitute for the normal or conventional heel portion of a high-heeled shoe, as well as retaining all the artistic and ornamental effect of such a shoe.

Suitable heel and toe portions of any desired ornamental configuration are indicated at 24 and 25, respectively, of Figures 1 and 2.

In the modified form of construction disclosed in Figures 8 to 11, inclusive, means are provided for enhancing and increasing the flexibility of the toe portion of the shoe. In this particular construction, the device is comprised of a metallic toe portion 30 of relatively resilient material, beveled at its extremity, as at 31, and adapted to engage the correspondingly beveled portion of a ball portion 32 terminating in a heel portion 33. An inner sole 34 which may be either of relatively resilient metal or of leather, as desired, is also provided. The heel and vamp portions 32 are

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provided with an arcuate underlying reinforcing member 25 similar to that which underlies the portions 12 and 13, and which merges into a portion 36 similar to the extending portion 20 of the previously described modification. An outer sole 37 is also provided which underlies the entire extent of the portion 36, as well as the flexible metallic sole 30.

Suitable heel and toe portions 38 and 39, respectively, of any desired configuration may be utilized if desired.

In the modification just described, it will be seen that by virtue of the relatively flexible toe plate 30, although all the advantages of the previously described modification are embodied in this construction, a limited flexibility is permitted to the toe of the wearer which will under certain instances facilitate walking and enhance the comfort of the wearer.

From the foregoing it will now be seen that there is herein provided an ornamental shoe retaining all the advantages of the conventional high-heeled shoe, but obviating the disadvantages thereof, in that the shoe of the instant invention provides a relatively large supporting surface, as well as enhanced resiliency affording increased comfort to the feet of the wearer, which accomplishes all the objects of this invention, and others, including many advantages of great practical utility and commercial importance.

As many embodiments may be made of this inventive concept, and as many modifications may be made in the embodiment hereinbefore shown and described, it is to be understood that all matter herein is to be interpreted merely as illustrative and not in a limiting sense.

I claim:

1. In a shoe for women, the combination of a resilient metal sole, arch and heel-supporting portion of arcuate configuration and extending upwardly at the heel in the manner of a high-heeled shoe, and an elongated portion having an overlying reinforcing portion of arcuate cross-sectional configuration and extending rearwardly from the sole portion to a point substantially beneath the rearmost extremity of the shoe.

2. In a shoe for women, the combination of a resilient metal sole, arch and heel-supporting portion of arcuate configuration and extending upwardly at the heel in the manner of a high-heeled shoe, and an elongated portion having an overlying reinforcing portion of arcuate cross-sectional configuration and extending rearwardly from the sole portion to a point substantially beneath the rearmost extremity of the shoe, said elongated portion being substantially rigid and providing a substitute for the heel of said shoe.

3. In a shoe for women, the combination of a resilient metal sole, arch and sole-supporting portion of arcuate configuration and extending upwardly at the heel in the manner of a high-heeled shoe, an elongated portion having an overlying reinforcing portion of arcuate cross-sectional configuration and extending rearwardly from the sole portion to a point substantially beneath the rearmost extremity of the shoe, said elongated portion being substantially rigid and providing a substitute for the heel of said shoe, and an outer sole extending entirely beneath said sole portion and said elongated portion.

4. In a shoe for women, the combination of a resilient metal sole, arch and heel-supporting portion of arcuate configuration and extending upwardly at the heel in the manner of a high-heeled shoe, and an elongated portion having an

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overlying reinforcing portion of arcuate cross-sectional configuration and extending rearwardly from the sole portion to a point substantially beneath the rearmost extremity of the shoe, said elongated portion being substantially rigid and providing a substitute for the heel of said shoe, said extending portion being comprised of metallic material.

5. In a shoe for women, the combination of a resilient metal sole, arch and heel-supporting portion of arcuate configuration and extending upwardly at the heel in the manner of a high-heeled shoe, and an elongated portion extending rearwardly from the sole portion to a point substantially beneath the rearmost extremity of the shoe, said elongated portion being substantially rigid and providing a substitute for the heel of said shoe, said extending portion being comprised of metallic material, and reinforcing portions of arcuate cross-sectional configuration secured to and underlying said arch and heel portion.

6. In a shoe for women, the combination of a resilient metal sole, arch and heel-supporting portion of arcuate configuration and extending upwardly at the heel in the manner of a high-heeled shoe, an elongated portion extending rearwardly from the sole portion to a point substantially beneath the rearmost extremity of the shoe, said elongated portion being substantially rigid and providing a substitute for the heel of said shoe, said extending portion being comprised of metallic material, reinforcing portions of arcuate cross-sectional configuration secured to and underlying said arch and heel portion, and a further reinforcing portion of arcuate cross-sectional configuration carried by and overlying said elongated portion.

7. In a shoe for women, the combination of a resilient metal sole, an arch and heel-supporting portion of arcuate configuration extending upwardly at the heel in the manner of a high-heeled shoe, an elongated portion having an overlying reinforcing portion of arcuate cross-sectional configuration and extending rearwardly from and secured to the arch-supporting portion, to a point substantially beneath the rearmost extremity of the shoe, and an outer sole extending entirely beneath the extending portion, the base of the arch-supporting portion, and the sole portion.

8. In a shoe for women, the combination of a resilient metal sole, an arch and heel-supporting portion of arcuate configuration extending upwardly at the heel in the manner of a high-heeled shoe, an elongated portion extending rearwardly from and secured to the arch-supporting portion, to a point substantially beneath the rearmost extremity of the shoe, an outer sole extending entirely beneath the extending portion, the base of the arch-supporting portion, and the sole portion, and a resilient metal toe portion having a beveled end secured to a corresponding beveled portion of said arch-supporting portion.

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