March 18, 1941. J. K. SMITH 2,235,087

SHOE

Filed July 28, 1938

Fig.1

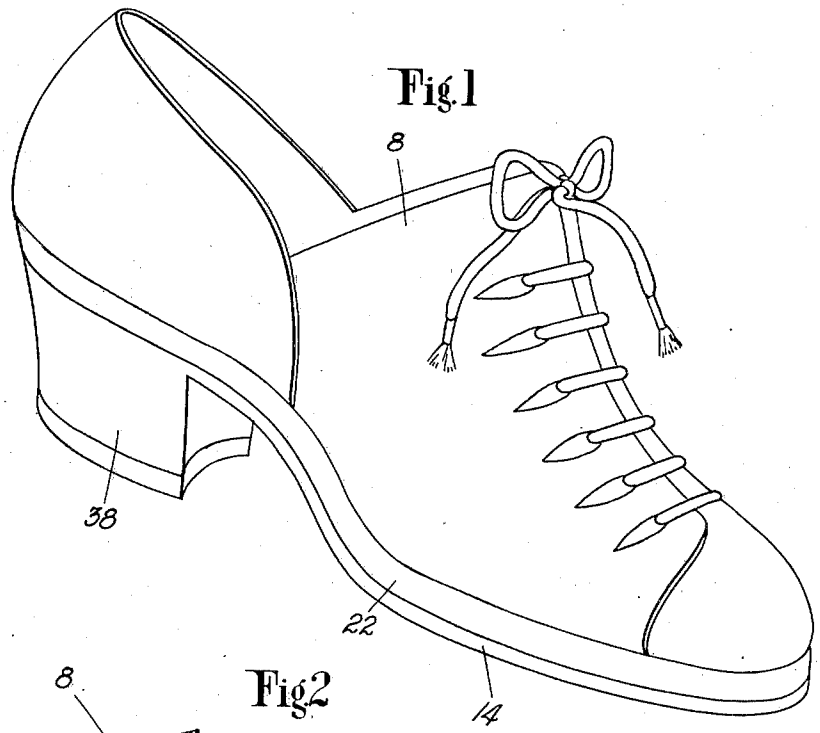


Fig.2

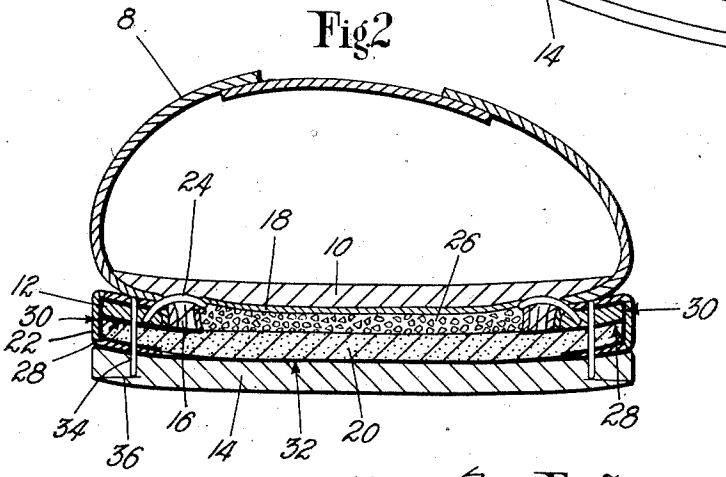
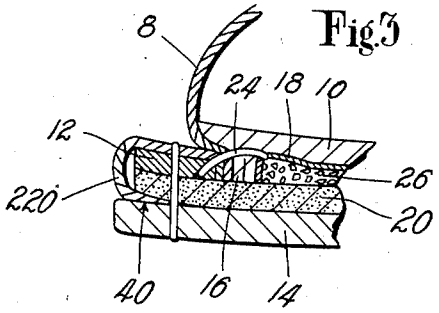


Fig.3



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SHOE

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3 Claims. (Cl. 36—17)

This invention relates to shoes of the type known as "platform" shoes, i. e., shoes which have or appear to have a middle sole or "platform" between the outer sole and the upper.

The invention has for its object to strengthen and otherwise improve the construction of shoes of this type without, however, stiffening the shoes unduly or substantially increasing the cost of manufacture thereof.

In accomplishing this object, a shoe has been provided which, as herein illustrated, embodies the characteristic elements and features of Goodyear welt shoes but which includes also a middle sole the margin of which extends between the welt and the outsole, and a binding or casing strip which covers the upper face and outer edge of the welt and the edge and lower marginal surface of the middle sole, which is secured in place by both the inseam stitches and the outseam stitches, and which imparts the external characteristics of a heavy platform type construction to the shoe.

The invention will be explained with reference to the accompanying drawing, in which

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a shoe embodying the features of my invention;

Fig. 2 is a cross-sectional view of the forepart of the shoe; and

Fig. 3 is a fragmentary cross-sectional view of the forepart of the shoe illustrating an alternative construction.

The shoe shown in the drawing comprises an upper 8, an inner sole 10, a welt 12, and an outsole 14, all of which are of conventional construction such as that of corresponding parts in a Goodyear welt shoe. As shown, the insole 14 is provided with a marginal sewing rib 16 which is reinforced by the marginal portions of a layer of canvas 18 that is cemented to the lower side of the inner sole. Preferably, the rib 16 extends along the entire marginal portion of the inner sole including the heel seat portion thereof. Preferably, also, the welt 12 extends entirely around the shoe.

In addition to the parts above mentioned the shoe comprises also a middle or "platform" sole 20 and a binding or casing strip 22. The middle sole 20 may be made of leather or the like or it may be made of yielding or cushioning material such as cork, rubber or felt, and it is made coextensive with the outer sole 14, having an extension edge portion which underlies the welt 12. The binding strip 22 consists of a thin strip or ribbon of leather or other flexible material, the strip being much wider than the welt but, like the welt, it extends entirely around the shoe. Preferably, the binding strip is colored or otherwise finished upon its outer surface so as to contrast with the color or finish of the adjacent portions of the upper and the outsole.

In making the shoe one longitudinal edge portion of the binding strip 22 is positioned between the welt and the upper and during the inseeming operation the inseam stitches 24 are passed through the binding strip as well as through the welt, the upper, and the sewing rib 16 and thus serve as a means for positively securing the binding strip in place between the upper and the welt.

After the inseaming operation has been completed and after the inseamed materials have been trimmed and a suitable filler 26 has been applied to the bottom cavity at the inner side of the sewing rib, the middle sole 20 is laid and secured to the lower face of the welt 12 and to the adjacent trimmed edges of the inseamed materials by means of cement 28. Thereafter cement is applied, as by means of a brush, to the inner side of the binding strip 22 and to the exposed surface portions of the welt and the middle sole which are to be engaged and covered by the binding strip and the binding strip is tensioned over the upper face of the welt, folded tightly across the outer edge of the welt and the edge of the middle sole and overlaid upon the marginal portion of the lower surface of the outer sole, the binding strip being held under pressure against the welt and the middle sole until it becomes securely and smoothly secured thereto by means of cement as indicated at 30 in Fig. 2. The outer sole 14 is then laid with cement 32 by means of which it is attached to the middle sole. The outsole is secured by through-and-through lock stitches 34 to the middle sole and the welt, the stitches 34 being preferably laid in a channel 36 in the outer sole and extending through the portion of the binding strip 22 which underlies the middle sole as well as the portion of the binding strip which overlies the welt. Finally the outsole is edge-trimmed and finished and a heel 38 is attached in any usual manner.

It will be noted that, inasmuch as the binding strip 22 is of relatively thin and flexible material and is cemented substantially throughout its width to the surfaces which it covers, a desired square edge platform effect will be imparted to the bottom of the shoe. Moreover, since the edge of the welt 12, as well as the edge of the middle sole 20, is covered by the binding strip, the "platform" of the shoe appears to be substantially twice as thick as the middle sole. A desired heavy platform effect is thus produced without the use of a correspondingly heavy or thick mid-

dle sole and without unduly stiffening the bottom of the shoe. The employment in the shoe of the well-known features of Goodyear welt construction and the sewing of the outseam stitches through the binding strip in locations both above the welt and below the middle sole insures that the middle and outer soles will be securely attached to the shoe and that the binding strip will be firmly anchored, particularly where it is inturned between the middle and outer soles, so that it cannot become loosened and will be held tightly and smoothly against the edges of the welt and the middle sole throughout the life of the shoe. The construction may be such that the outseam stitches **34** will be covered and concealed from view by the portion of the upper which underlies the feather of the insole. This construction is clearly illustrated in Fig. 2 wherein the insole is shown as having a wide feather which extends outwardly a substantial distance beyond the outseam stitches and holds the upper tightly against the stitches. Alternatively the shoe may be made as shown in Fig. 3 in which case the insole is provided with a very narrow feather so that the stitches **34** will be exposed to view and thus will serve as ornamentation for the upper marginal portion of the binding strip. Preferably the binding strip will be colored or finished to contrast with the color or finish of the upper and the outsole so as to accentuate the platform effect.

A shown in Fig. 3, a binding strip **220** is employed which is substantially thicker than that shown in Fig. 2. In folding the strip **220** over the edges of the welt **12** and the middle sole **20** it is preferably curved transversely, as shown, and left spaced more or less from those edges instead of being pressed into actual contact therewith, thus providing a yielding bead between the edge of the outsole and the upper and imparting a rounded edge platform effect. Also, as shown at **40**, the lower marginal portion of the binding strip **220** may be beveled to a thin edge (preferably before the strip is applied to the shoe) so as to avoid the formation of any undesirable ridge or break line upon the bottom of the outsole.

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

1. A shoe comprising an inner sole, an upper and a welt secured together by inseam stitches, a middle sole having an extension margin underlying said welt, an outer sole, a binding strip covering the upper face and outer edge of the welt and the edge of the middle sole and extending between the middle sole and the outer sole, and outseam stitches securing together the outsole, the middle sole and the welt, said stitches extending through said binding strip in localities above said welt and below said middle sole, the outer sole extending beyond the edge of the middle sole and the outer edge of the welt and the edge of the outer sole being in vertical alinement with the outermost portion of said binding strip.

2. A shoe comprising an inner sole having a sewing rib and a wide feather, an upper having its margin underlying said feather, a welt, inseam stitches securing said upper and said welt to said rib, a middle sole having an extended margin underlying said welt, a binding strip secured between the upper and the welt by the inseam stitches, said strip covering the upper face and the outer edge of the welt and also the edge and the lower marginal surface of the middle sole, an outer sole, and an outseam located beneath the feather of the insole and comprising stitches extending through the welt, the middle sole and the portions of the binding strip which overlie the welt and underlie the middle sole and extending also into the outer sole and securing the latter to the shoe, the lower portions of said stitches being covered by a channel flap on the outsole and the upper portions of said stitches being covered and concealed from view by the portion of the upper which underlies said insole feather, said stitches extending also through the portions of the binding strip which cover the upper face of the welt and the lower marginal surface of the middle sole.

3. A shoe comprising an inner sole, an upper and a welt secured together by inseam stitches, a middle sole having an extension margin underlying the welt, the edge face of the middle sole being flush with the outer edge face of the welt and said edge faces being straight in cross-section, an outer sole extended beyond the edges of the welt and the middle sole, a binding strip interposed between the welt and the upper and secured by said inseam stitches, said strip having an upper portion closely overlying the upper face of the welt and a beveled lower portion interposed between the middle sole and the outer sole, and said strip having an intermediate portion covering the edge faces of the welt and the middle sole, said intermediate portion being curved transversely to form a yielding bead between the upper and the outer sole in line with the edge of the outer sole and outseam stitches extending through the outer sole, the middle sole and the welt, and through said upper and lower portions of the binding strip.

JOHN K. SMITH.