Dec. 31, 1946. M. F. FORTNEY 2,413,494

SHOE STERILIZER

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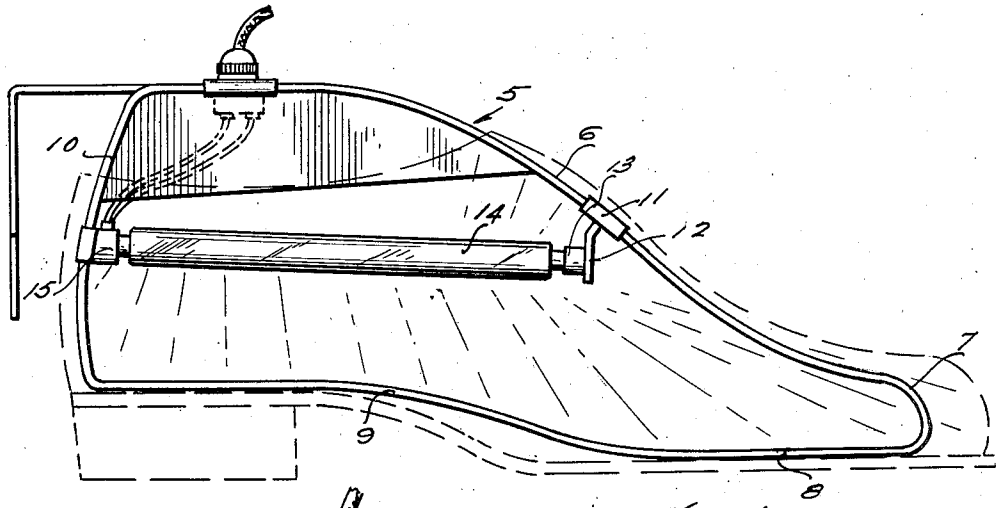


Fig. 1.

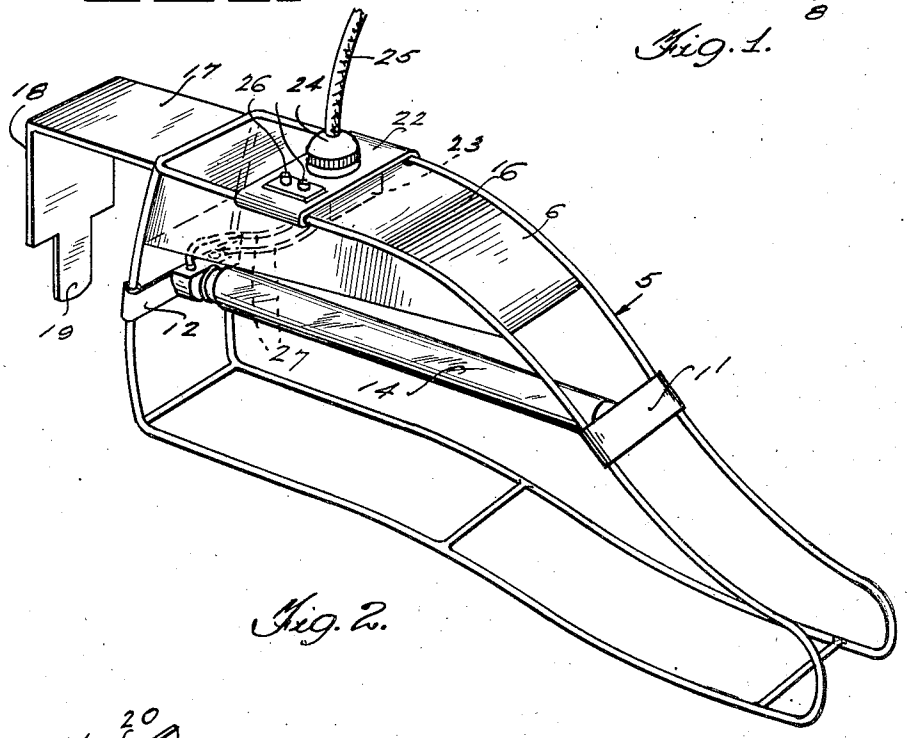


Fig. 2.

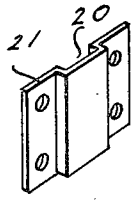


Fig. 3.

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SHOE STERILIZER

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Application April 18, 1944, Serial No. 531,655

2 Claims. (Cl. 250—51)

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This invention relates to new and useful improvements in sterilizers for shoes, the principal object being to provide a device for installation in a shoe to rid the interior of the shoe of dangerous bacteria, fungus, etc.

Other important objects and advantages of the invention will become apparent to the reader of the following description.

In the drawing:

Figure 1 represents a side elevational view of the device, a shoe being shown in broken lines in an enveloping position with respect to the device.

Figure 2 is a perspective view of the sterilizer.

Figure 3 is a bracket for supporting the sterilizer.

Referring to the drawing wherein like numerals designate like parts, it can be seen that numeral 5 generally refers to a frame of general shoe configuration, the same having a sloping top portion 6, a toe portion 7, a sole portion 8, an arch and heel portion 9 and a back portion 10. Bridge members 11 and 12 are provided on the intermediate portion of the top 6 of the frame and the back portion 10, the bridge member 11 having a depending lip 12 provided with a socket 13 for receiving one end of an ultra-violet ray tube 14, the other end of the tube being disposed into a socket 15 carried by the bridge member 12.

The tube 14 underlies a hood-like structure 16 preferably of highly polished material and serving as a reflector.

Projecting from the back end of the hood 16 is a member 17 having a depending portion 18 terminating in a depending tongue 19 which can be disposed into the offset portion 20 of a bracket 21 which may be situated on a wall or other vertical structure. This adequately serves to support the sterilizer in a handy and protected manner.

It can be seen that the frame 5 is constructed of wire members preferably having some resiliency so that the frame can be easily inserted into a shoe.

A bridge plate 22 is provided on the upper portion 6 near the rear end thereof and this carries a socket 23 with which engages a plug 24 on a current supply cord 25. Connections are made from the socket 23 to a push button switch structure 26 and from this switch wires 27 extend to the tube 14.

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Thus it can be seen, that the present practice of stuffing shoes with chemical impregnated material for the purpose of killing bacteria, fungus and the like, and which chemical may later prove injurious to the feet, is substituted for by the present invention which thoroughly penetrates the inner surfaces of the shoe to thoroughly kill all bacteria and fungus without leaving any harmful after-effect possibilities.

While the foregoing specification sets forth the invention in specific terms, it is to be understood that numerous changes in the shape, size and materials may be resorted to without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as claimed hereinafter.

Having described the invention, what is claimed as new is:

1. A shoe sterilizer adapted to be inserted within a shoe including laterally extending spaced frame elements shaped to approximate the inside contour of a shoe, transversely extending reinforcing connections between said frame elements, electric sockets supported by said connections, an ultra-violet tube between said sockets, and a combined reflector and guard supported by the upper portion of said sterilizer frame elements to overlie said tube to direct the rays therefrom downwardly into the interior of the shoe and to completely fill the shoe opening to guard against injury to the eyes of the person operating the sterilizer by the rays of said tube.

2. A shoe sterilizer adapted to be inserted in a shoe including laterally extending spaced frame elements shaped to approximate the inside contour of the shoe, transversely extending reinforcing connections between said frame elements, electric sockets supported by said connections, an ultra-violet tube between said sockets, a combined reflector and guard supported on the upper frame element of said sterilizer to overlie said tube to direct the rays therefrom downwardly into the interior of the shoe and to completely fill the shoe opening to guard against injury to the eyes of the person operating the sterilizer by the rays of said tube, an electrical connection supported on said frame elements for connection with one of said sockets, and said frame elements being shapeable to fit varying types and sizes of shoes.

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