

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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ATHLETIC SHOE

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This invention relates to a shoe to be worn by athletes and particularly those engaged in high-jumping, broad-jumping and pole-vaulting and it is particularly aimed to provide such a shoe as will be light in weight, serviceable, safe and inexpensive and one which may be used with a high as well as a low upper.

A specific object is to provide such a shoe as will have all of the advantages of those used at present and in addition will render it unnecessary to use heavy heels and dangerous heel spikes as at present, and further provides safety in "taking off", especially in broad-jumping, where the shock from a slight misstep often causes "shin-splints".

With the foregoing and additional objects which will become apparent or pointed out as the description follows, an operative embodiment is shown in accompanying drawings, wherein:

Figure 1 is a central longitudinal section taken through a shoe embodying the invention,

Figure 2 is a cross sectional view taken on the line 2-2 of Figure 1,

Figure 3 is a plan view of the sponge-rubber heel pad, and

Figure 4 is a side elevation of such sponge-rubber heel pad.

Referring specifically to the drawings, 10 designates a conventional athlete's shoe which may be of any height desired, being relatively low as shown or a high shoe. The particular illustration is of a shoe slightly higher than that used at present in sprinting. Such shoe may be of canvas, leather or other suitable material and has a conventional upper 11. The sole of the shoe consists of inner and outer soles 12 and 13, preferably of leather, relatively thin and of the shape of the bottom of the shoe and extending the full length thereof, being marginally stitched or otherwise secured to the shoe.

At the heel of the shoe and interiorly thereof, a pad 14 is disposed. Such pad is held in place by a retaining sheet 15, of leather or other flexible material, which is stitched completely around its margin to the upper and sole 12 as shown in order to pre-

vent displacement of the pad 14. Such pad 14 is preferably made of superposed layers or blocks of sponge-rubber 16 which is stitched together as at 17, to hold the same in place. In actual practice, the layers 16 are approximately one-fourth or five-sixteenths of an inch in thickness. The forward end of the pad is inclined upwardly and forwardly along the line 18 at the front thereof so as to efficiently engage, cushion and yield with the fore part of the heel or the instep. It will be noted that this construction provides a cushioned or yielding heel which is exceedingly light in weight and one in which the full flexibility thereof may be realized in view of the thinness and yieldability of the soles 12 and 13.

Under the forward portion of the sole 13, an extra sole of leather or other material 19 is fastened thereto in any suitable way and serves to locate and retain a suitable number of spikes 20.

Obviously the shoe may be provided in pairs or right and left as desired.

Various changes may be resorted to within the spirit and scope of the invention.

I claim as my invention:—

An athletic shoe having a relatively thin sole, a pad at the heel of the shoe and located within the same, said pad comprising superposed plies of sponge-rubber and extending materially above the upper surface of the forward portion of the sole, said pad at its forward end terminating at the instep and extending upwardly and forwardly substantially at an angle with respect to the sole, the space between the said end and sole being substantially unrestricted, and a pad retaining sheet disposed over the same and secured completely about its margin to the upper and sole of the shoe.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.
FREDERICK L. HETTER.

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