Aug. 9, 1927. 1,638,609

F. E. WILLIS

TRAY FOR SHOE RACKS

Filed June 19. 1926

Fig. 1.

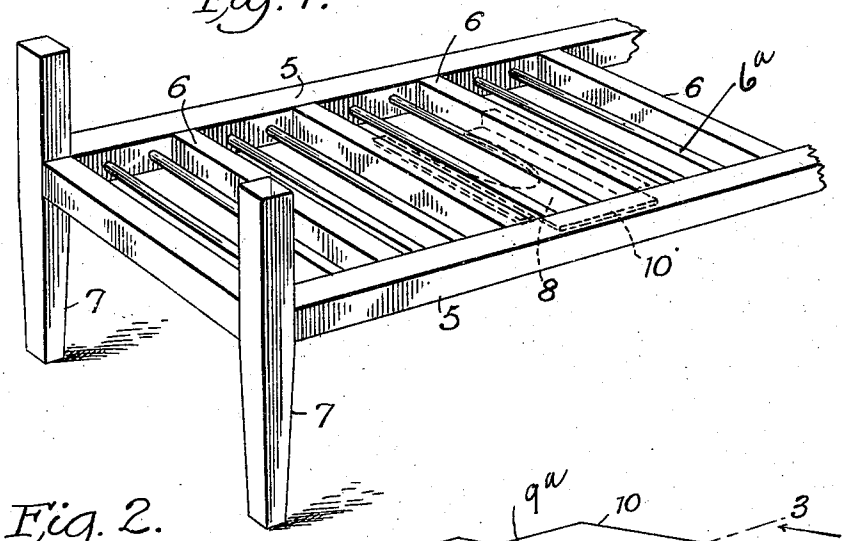


Fig. 2.

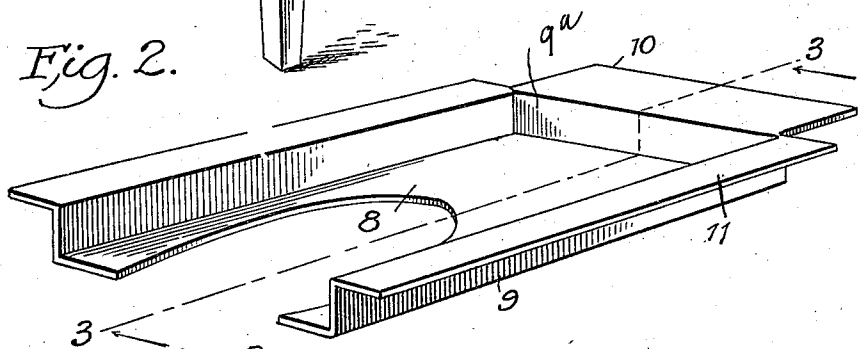
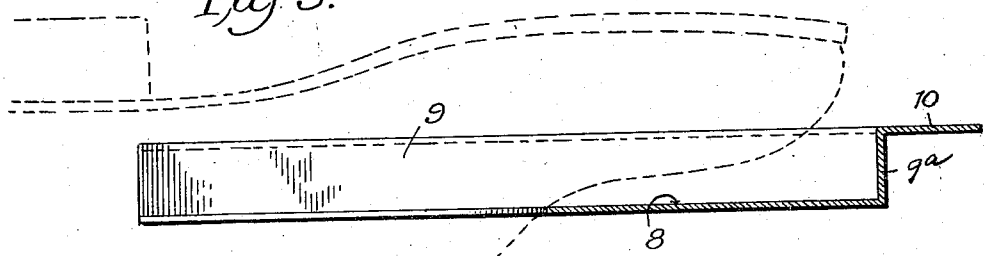


Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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TRAY FOR SHOE RACKS.

Application filed June 19, 1926. Serial No. 117,165.

This invention relates to trays for shoe racks employed in shoe factories and the like, and has for an object the provision of a novel tray for the reception of shoes in the process of manufacture, the said tray being effective to guard the shoe against damage through its contact with portions of a rack, and especially to protect the leather from being scored, discolored or otherwise injuriously affected as the shoe is in process of manufacture.

It is known that racks in shoe factories become daubed or stained by ink used by edge setters and heel finishers, and when the heel finisher is using black ink, it is very desirable that the shoes be protected from contact with the racks.

In the employment of this invention, as will presently appear, shoes may be handled and applied to the racks without liability of their being impaired in the manner stated, and hence those skilled in the art will understand the economical and beneficial results attending the invention.

It is a further object of this invention to provide a tray of the character indicated which can be cleaned from time to time, and in which provision is made for guarding the shoe against engaging the rails or cross supports of racks of the character stated.

With the foregoing and other objects in view, the invention consists in the details of construction, and in the arrangement and combination of parts to be hereinafter more fully set forth and claimed.

In describing the invention in detail, reference will be had to the accompanying drawings forming part of this application wherein like characters denote corresponding parts in the several views, and in which—

Figure 1 illustrates a view in perspective of a fragment of a conventional form of rack with a tray embodying the invention applied thereto;

Figure 2 illustrates a view in perspective of the tray; and

Figure 3 illustrates a sectional view on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1.

In order that the utility of the invention may be understood, a conventional form of rack comprising the rails 5, the cross ribs 6 and bars 6^a therebetween is shown assembled in association with the posts 7. The trays are intended to rest on the bars with flanges covering a portion of the rail and portions of the ribs, the last mentioned portions being intended to prevent the shoe from being soiled by coming in contact with the rack structure.

In the present embodiment of the invention, the tray comprises a shallow support having a bottom 8 which is cut away at the end to form a clearance for the application of a shoe to the tray while the shoe is in an inverted position, and the edges of this recessed or slotted portion serve to hold the shoe in that position while it is stored or being transferred. The tray has upstanding side flanges 9 and an end flange 9^a. The end of the tray opposite the slotted end has an apron or flange 10 which projects over the side rail of the rack and prevents the toe of the shoe from coming in contact with the said side rail, and the side flanges have aprons or flanges 11 which cover portions of the ribs 6.

Preferably, these trays are made of relatively thick paper stock, cardboard or the like, and they are preferably finished with shellac or some other coating which is impervious to water in order that the trays may be washed or otherwise cleaned and used again and again. The cost of manufacturing or producing trays of this character would be little, if any, greater than the cost of trays now in common use, whereas the advantages attending this invention are very great, as those skilled in the art will understand.

I claim:

A tray for shoe racks comprising a bottom having a longitudinally extending opening therein, side flanges integral with the bottom, a flange at the end of the tray opposite the slotted end, and aprons projecting outwardly from the upper edges of said flanges.

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