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AUXILIARY METATARSAL CUSHION FOR SHOES

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1 Claim. (Cl. 36—71)

Among the principal objects which the present invention has in view are: To provide an auxiliary resilient cushion-like member adapted for operative placement as desired, and needed, to relieve, 5 and distribute, the pressure of the metatarsal elevation with which certain types of shoes are provided, and to simplify the construction of said cushion.

Drawing:

Figure 1 is a top plan view of a cushion constructed and arranged in accordance with the present invention.

Figure 2 is a longitudinal section of same—the section being taken as on the line 2—2 in Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a bottom plan view of the same.

Figure 4 is a top plan view of the device as installed for service upon a shoe sole, part of the sole being cut away to show the cushion.

20 The present invention is especially designed as an accessory to the metatarsal arch supporting elevation provided in certain types of shoes. The supporting elevation referred to is located in the drawing by dotted lines as indicated by the numeral 8 in Figures 1 and 4. The elevation 9 is embodied in the innersole of the types of shoes referred to, between the lateral extremes of the metatarsal arch of the foot, for which the shoes are supplied.

30 It has been found in certain cases where structural peculiarities of the foot existed that the fixed elevation 8 was too far forward, or too far back, to suit the particular foot being fitted. Also, it has been thought that the fixed support has been somewhat positive or harsh upon the foot when worn.

When such conditions arise, the cushion 10 is installed upon the insole 11 of the shoe, the sock-lining being lifted to expose the insole and metatarsal elevation 9.

40 As seen best in Figures 2 and 3 of the drawing, the cushion 10 has a concave section 13 preferably shaped to fit upon and over the elevation 9.

The cushion 10 is further provided with a thickened portion 14 at the rear of the concave section 13. The effect of the portion 14 is to transfer the height or apex of the metatarsal support toward the heel of the shoe to accommodate the foot requiring such rearrangement.

The cushion 10 is preferably constructed of resilient material such as a pliable rubber. The rubber is molded to provide feathered edges 15 which when supplied with the necessary adhesive will lie snugly and permanently upon the insole of the shoe.

When the cushion 10 has been secured in position on the insole 11, the sock-lining 12 is drawn over to conceal the same.

The cushions 10 are preferably surveyed as articles of merchandise which may be applied in service by the purchaser without recourse to the shoe mechanic or factory.

It will be understood that while in the accompanying drawing the thickened portion 14 is shown as located at the rear of the concave section 13, the cushion may be furnished with a thickened portion forward of the concave portion 13 and at varying distances therefrom. In this manner, provision is made for altering the position of the metatarsal support in fitting feet of different structure requiring the same size of shoe with varying length of Shank portion thereof.

I claim:

An auxiliary device as characterized having a body adapted to fit within a shoe and particularly the Shank portion thereof, the forward end of said body having a concave section adapted to fit over 35 and upon an upstanding metatarsal pad, and a convex section extended from the upper side of said body and at the rear of said concave section, said convex section being shaped in correspondence with said metatarsal pad and adapted for lengthwise adjustment thereon.

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