UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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COMBINED LAST-SUPPORT AND LAST-UNLOCKING DEVICE.

983,930.


To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE G. SCHELTER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Rochester, in the county of Monroe, State of New York, have invented new and useful Improvements in Combined Last-Supports and Last-Unlocking Devices, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in a combined last support and last unlocking device.

In the manufacture of lasts it is customary to divide the last transversely and to connect the same by a link or hinge where-by the last can be shortened when being inserted in or removed from the shoe. It is also customary to provide such lasts with a device for locking the parts firmly together when the parts are in their lengthened or normal relation. A form of such a last is shown in the drawing, Figure 1, the same consisting of the heel part A and toe part B connected by a link C and provided with a locking bar D, pivotally mounted in one part, having one end E adapted to move into and out of locking engagement with the other part. The locking bar D is provided with a lever arm G extending slightly above the top of the last.

The object of the present invention is to provide a device having a spindle adapted to take into the socket of the last and so mounting it that it, together with a last carried thereon, can be moved so as to bring the projecting end of the locking bar into engagement with a stationary portion of the spindle device, whereby the continued movement of the last and spindle device forces the locking bar out of engagement with the fore part unlocking the last and permitting the last to be broken and the shoe removed from the last while the last is on the spindle.

In the drawings hereewith accompanying and making part of this application Fig. 1 is an elevation of my improved device and a last mounted thereon, said last being partly in section; Fig. 2 is an elevation of a different form of the device having the spindle and spring mounted in a stationary member in the form of an inclining housing; Fig. 3 is a side view of the same and Fig. 4 is a top plan view of the same. Same letters of reference refer to like parts.

The device consists of a stationary mem-

ber H adapted to be secured to the bench or stand J in any convenient manner, preferably removably, by having a foot I adapted to take into a socket in the bench or stand. Pivotedly secured to said stationary member is a fast-receiving and holding spindle proper K, the upper end extending up above the stationary member and through a slot L in an offsetting portion M of the stationary member, the portion of the spindle above the part M being adapted to take into the socket of a last. The movement of the pivoted member K should be sufficient to cause the part M to engage the projecting part G of the locking bar and force it toward the toe of the last until its locking end is disengaged. A spring N tends constantly to hold the spindle K yieldingly in ready position. For convenience the spindle except the part that projects above the offset member may be contained in a suitable housing as shown in Figs. 2 and 3 in which case the stationary member is made hollow and the spindle is pivotally secured near the bottom thereof as seen at O.

The operation of my device is as follows. The last with the parts locked is placed on the spindle in the position shown in Fig. 1. The hand is placed on the fore part of the last and the last is pushed backward until the stationary member strikes the locking lever and disengages it from the fore part. Downward pressure on the fore part of the last then breaks the last turning the fore part into shortened relation, when the shoe can be readily placed upon or removed from the last as the case may be.

The advantages of my improved last supporting spindle and last unlocking device are that the last can be unlocked and broken by one movement and it obviates the necessity for manually moving the locking bar.

Having thus described my invention and its use I claim:

1. In a combined last support and last unlocking device, a stationary member provided with a forwardly projecting offset and a movable member adapted to support a last whereby backward movement of said movable member causes said stationary member to engage and unlock the locking device of a last mounted upon said movable member.

2. In a combined last support and last unlocking device, a stationary member pro-
vided with a forwardly projecting offset and a last-receiving spindle member mov- 
ably mounted relative to said stationary member whereby backward movement of 
said movable member causes said stationary member to engage and unlock the locking device of a last mounted upon said movable member.

3. In a combined last support and last unlocking device, a stationary member pro-
vided with a forwardly projecting offset, a movable member and a spring adapted to 
hold the last supporting member yieldingly in ready position whereby backward move-
ment of said movable member causes said stationary member to engage and unlock the locking device of a last mounted upon said movable member.

4. In a combined last support and last unlocking device, a stationary hollow hous-
ing provided with a forwardly projecting offset, a last-receiving spindle pivotally mounted in said housing, the end of the spindle projecting above the top of the hous-
ing whereby backward movement of said movable member causes said stationary member to engage and unlock the locking device of a last mounted upon said movable member.

In witness whereof, I have signed my name to this specification in presence of two subscribing witnesses this 15th day of June, 1909.

GEORGE G. SCHELTER.

In presence of—

JOHN CALLAHAN,
WILLIAM J. LECKINGE.