Nov. 10, 1931. C. RAMEY 1,830,912

HEEL PROTECTOR

Filed Feb. 18, 1926

Fig. 1.

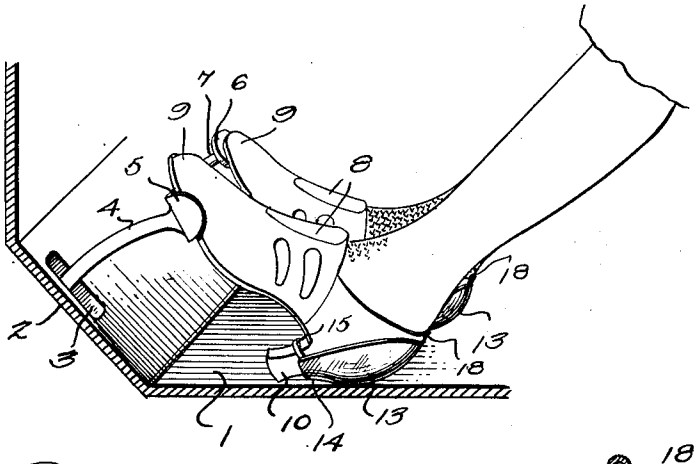
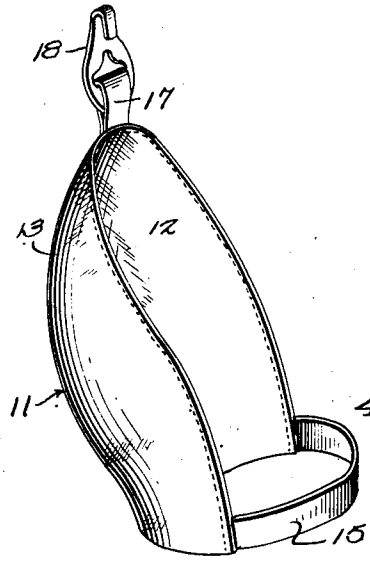


Fig. 2.



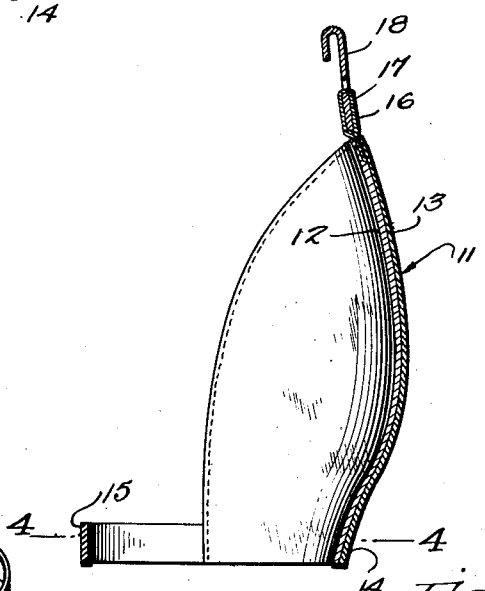


Fig. 3.

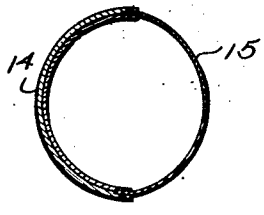


Fig. 4.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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HEEL PROTECTOR

Application filed February 18, 1926. Serial No. 89,106.

This invention relates to heel protectors and more particularly to protectors for use on ladies' shoes in driving motor vehicles.

In driving a motor vehicle the toes of the driver's feet rest upon the clutch and brake pedals, and the heel portion of the shoe upper rests upon the floor boards. When the pedal is actuated this portion of the shoe and the rear of the heel scrape or rub on the floor board scratching and marring the surface of the shoe and heel.

It has been proposed to employ a protector shaped to fit this portion of the shoe and provided with straps for retaining it in position, one of which extends around the heel and the other of which extends over the instep of the wearer. The use of these protectors is open to the objection of unsightliness, especially when worn with pumps or oxfords.

An object of the present invention is the provision of improved means for fastening the upper end of the protector in place.

More specifically the invention comprises a protector having a strap at the bottom adapted to surround the heel of the shoe and provided with a hook at the top adapted to be secured over the adjacent upper edge of the shoe.

A further object of the invention is to provide a device that may be adjusted for use on heels of different sizes and also on different style heels such as French, Cuban, military heels and the like.

In the accompanying drawings I have shown one embodiment of the invention. In this showing,

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a portion of a motor vehicle showing the feet of the driver and showing the protector in place,

Figure 2 is a perspective view of the protector removed from the shoe,

Figure 3 is a substantially central vertical sectional view, and,

Figure 4 is a detail view through the body and lower strap substantially on line 4—4 of Figure 3.

Referring to the drawings, the reference numeral 1 designates a portion of the floor board of a motor vehicle in front of the driver's seat. At the forward edge of the horizontal portion of the floor board there is provided the usual inclined portion having slots 3 through which the lever 4 of a brake or clutch pedal 5 extends. The accelerator 6 is connected to a rod 7 which extends through an opening (not shown) in this portion of the floor board in the usual manner.

In the drawings I have shown the driver's feet 8 in the normal position with the toes 9 resting upon the pedals 5 and 6 respectively. When in this position the rear portion of the shoe upper engages the surface of the floor board as clearly shown in Figure 1 of the drawings with the heel 10 substantially parallel to the floor board.

The attachment forming the subject matter of the present invention consists of a protector 11 shaped to fit the heel portion of the shoe upper and the rear of the heel proper. As shown, it consists of an inner layer 12 which is relatively stiff and an outer layer 13 of suitable leather which may be of any desired shade or color to match the shoes with which it is used. As shown (see Figure 3) the upper and intermediate portion of the protector is elliptical in horizontal cross section and the bottom is formed in a skirt 14 which is substantially semi-circular and adapted to fit around the upper rear portion of the heel. A strap 15 of any suitable elastic material is secured to this skirt and is adapted to surround the heel as shown in Figure 1 of the drawings.

At the upper end of the protector I provide a loop 16 of suitable elastic material which is secured to the edge of the protector in any suitable manner, as by sewing, and which is adapted to receive the base portion 17 of a hook 18. This hook is adapted to engage the upper edge of the shoe when the device is in use.

The operation of the device will be apparent from the foregoing description. The protector when in position will prevent scratching or otherwise marring the heel portion of the shoe upper or the rear of the heel proper when the foot is moved along the floor board in operating the control pedals of the vehicle. As will be noted from Figure 1, the strap 15 is in engagement with the heel

of the shoe and exerts a downward pull on the protector to produce a firm fit between the back of the shoe and the protector. The method of attaching the protector is such that if the driver of the vehicle should fail to remove it when leaving the vehicle, due to forgetfulness, it does not seriously mar the appearance of the wearer's feet.

It is to be understood that the form of my invention herewith shown and described is to be taken as a preferred example of the same, and that various changes in the shape, size, and arrangement of parts may be resorted to without departing from the spirit of the invention or the scope of the subjoined claim.

I claim:

A protector for the back of a low shoe and the like comprising, a body portion permanently shaped to conform with the contour of the back of the shoe and covering part of the back portion of the shoe and substantially all of the upper portion of the heel, said body portion being composed of an inner layer of relatively stiff material capable of holding its shape and an outer layer secured to the inner layer throughout, a substantially wide elastic strip secured to the lower end of the body portion and embracing the heel of the shoe, an elastic member extending from the upper portion of the body portion, and a hook at the end of the elastic member for engaging the upper edge of the back of the shoe for yieldingly securing the protector in operative position, said elastic strip exerting a downward pull to produce a firm fit between the back of the shoe and the protector.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

CHAKER RAMEY.