To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, Edward H. Wales, a citizen of the United States, residing at Hyde Park, in the county of Dutchess and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful improvements in Shoe Forms or Lasts, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in shoe forms or lasts and refers particularly to a form or last which will serve the purpose or function of a last or form and which will dry the shoe.

The leading object of my invention is the provision of a form or last which will snugly fit the shoe and which will have means for imparting heat to the form for the purpose of drying the shoe and preserving the proper shape or form of the shoe.

Another object of my invention is the provision of a form or last capable of instant adjustment to the size and shape of the shoe and having heat supplying means for drying the shoe.

Another object of my invention is the provision of a shoe form or last of hollow construction to fit the shoe and contain heat supplying means, the entire device being of a construction which will insure simplicity, and inexpensiveness of construction and which will be thoroughly efficient and practical in every particular.

To attain the objects stated, my invention broadly stated consists of a hollow form or last and heat supplying devices in the form or last for supplying the heat to the form for drying the shoe and retaining its proper form or shape.

The invention further consists of a form or last of the character and for the purpose stated embodying novel features of construction and combination of parts for service substantially as disclosed herein.

In order that the detailed construction and the manner of applying my last may be understood and its many advantages be fully appreciated I invite attention to the accompanying drawings.

Figure 1 represents a side elevation of a complete form or last embodying my invention in position for use, the shoe being shown in dotted lines. Fig. 2 represents a central longitudinal sectional view of the main portion of my last with the heating device in position. Fig. 3 represents an elevation of the inner end of the main portion of the form, and Fig. 4 represents a perspective view of the heating device removed from the form.

As is well known when the shoe becomes soaked and is permitted to dry in the usual and ordinary manner a long time is necessary and the shape and appearance of the shoe is impaired and my device comprises the hollow main or toe portion A, shaped to fit the toe and instep portion of the shoe, the hollow heel portion B, shaped to fit the heel of the shoe and the said portions or members are made of metal, or in fact any material which could be used for the purpose. The toe and heel sections are each provided with a hinged door C and D, having spring keepers or catches E and F, and the toe and heel sections are made adjustable and accommodating to fit the size of the shoe by means of the heel section link G and the toe section link H, which is formed with a slot H', to be engaged by the binding screw J for holding the links at the proper place to cause the toe and heel sections to perfectly fit the shoe. From this it is evident that the form or last perfectly fits the upper and heel and is adjustable to any size shoe and to supply heat to the upper section I provide the box or casing K, having the exterior knobs L, which support the box within the section and provide the heat surrounding space M. Upon the base of the box is placed the material N, which receives the heat conducting wires O, the terminals P of which are secured to the binding posts Q, having the extended ends R, to be engaged by the plugs S, from which lead the conducting wires T.

The box or casing K is formed with the closed end wall K' and the material carrying the wires is covered by a plate K", and the binding posts Q are embedded in the porcelain block Q'.

The heat is supplied to the heel section in any proper and desired manner and a construction of heater similar to the upper portion may be provided.

In use the form is placed in the shoe and if electricity is used the connection is made and the heat supplied direct to the form and to the shoe, insuring a quick drying of the shoe and the perfect preservation of the shape of the shoe.

It will be understood that any means may be employed for supplying the heat to the box or casing as convenience and circum-
stance may require, the main object and purpose of my invention being to retain the wet shoe in shape and simultaneously dry the shoe.

5 It will be apparent that many changes and modifications may be made without departing from the scope of my invention, and I reserve the right to make such changes as come within the spirit and scope of my invention.

10 I claim:

1. A shoe form or last, comprising heel and toe sections adapted to fit the shoe and having a metal box removable in its entirety contained within and substantially filling each section of the last to supply heat thereto from a suitable heating source.

2. A shoe form or last having hollow heel and toe sections, and a heater in each section for supplying heat thereto from a suitable heating source, said heater comprising a metal box removable in its entirety from and substantially filling each section of the last.

3. A shoe form or last, comprising hollow toe and heel sections, an adjustable connection between the sections, and a heater fitting each of the sections and consisting of a casing arranged within each section in spaced relation with the walls thereof to form a heating chamber, a door for each casing, heating wires arranged in the bottom of each casing, and contact members formed integral with each casing for establishing connection between the casing and its respective section.

4. A shoe form or last, comprising hollow sections adapted to fit a shoe, a heater arranged in each of the sections and consisting of a casing arranged within each section and removable in its entirety therefrom, a door for each casing, heating wires arranged in the bottom of each casing, and contact members formed integral with each casing for establishing connection between the casing and its respective section.

5. A shoe form or last, composed of hollow toe and heel sections adjustably connected with one another, a heater for each section arranged therein in spaced relation with the walls of the section to form a heating chamber, contact members formed integral with each heater casing and contacting with each section, and heating devices arranged in the bottom of each heater.

6. A shoe form or last, composed of hollow heat conductive sections adapted to fit a shoe, an adjustable connection between the sections, a casing in each section, contact members formed integral with each casing and adapted to contact with their respective sections to form a surrounding heating space, an insulating packing within each casing, heat conduction wires in said packing, a conducting plate above said heat conduction wires, and a door in each section whereby the casings may be removed in their entirety from their respective sections.

7. The combination with toe and heel sections of a last of a box or casing adapted to fit within and substantially fill the entire section, said box being rectangular in cross-section and tapering as it approaches the forward portion of its section to conform with the shape of the section, and means for supplying heat to said box or casing from a suitable heating source.

8. The combination with toe and heel sections of a last of a box or casing adapted to fit within and substantially fill the entire section, said box being rectangular in cross-section and tapering as it approaches the forward portion of its section to conform with the shape of the section, projections formed upon the base of each box or casing to space same from the walls of its section and to provide a heating chamber, and means for supplying heat to each section from a suitable heating source.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

EDWARD H. WALES.

Witnesses:

CHAN. E. RIDDOCH,
WM. N. MOORE.