

Jan. 1, 1935.

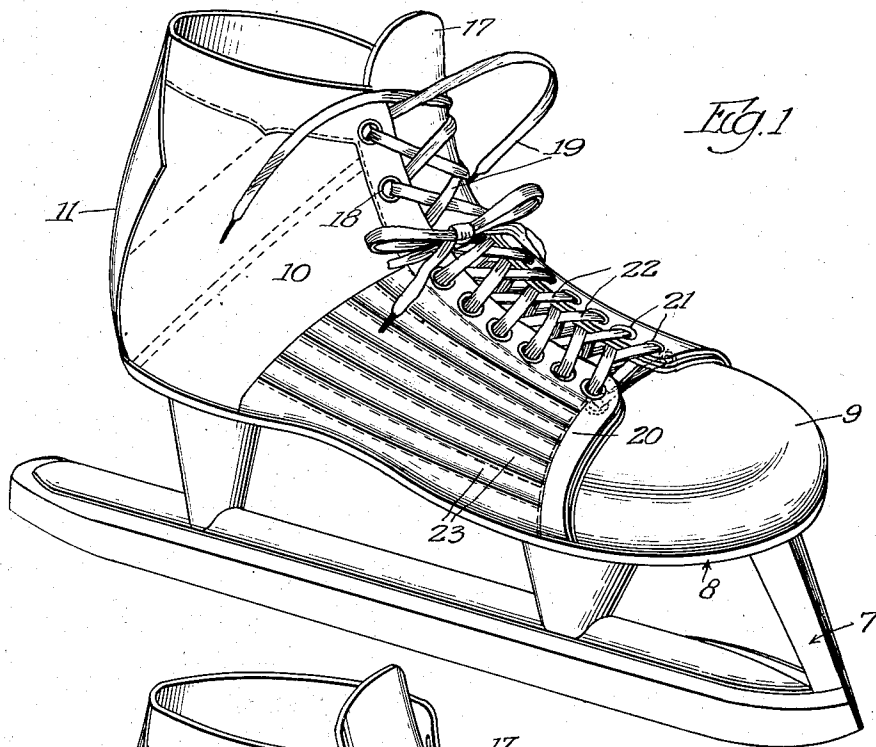
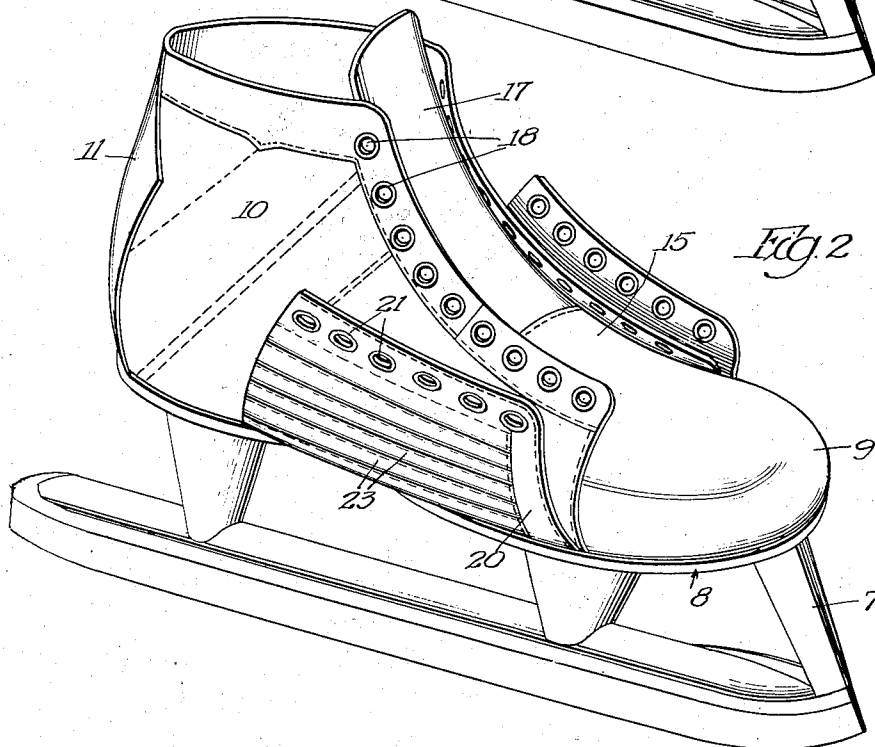
C. I. JOHNSON

1,986,580

HOCKEY SHOE

Filed Feb. 16, 1934

2 Sheets-Sheet 1



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Jan. 1, 1935.

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HOCKEY SHOE

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Fig. 3

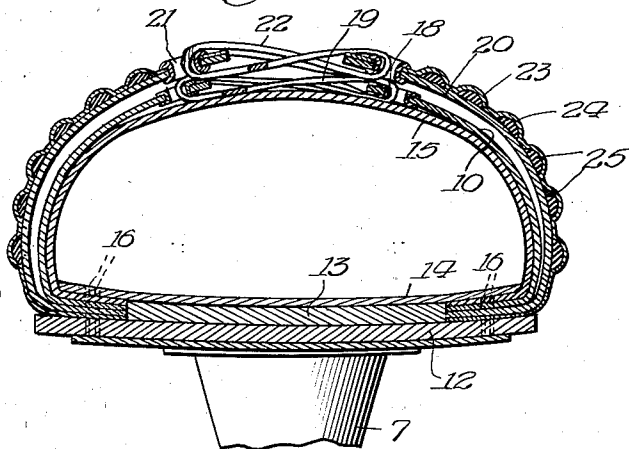


Fig. 4

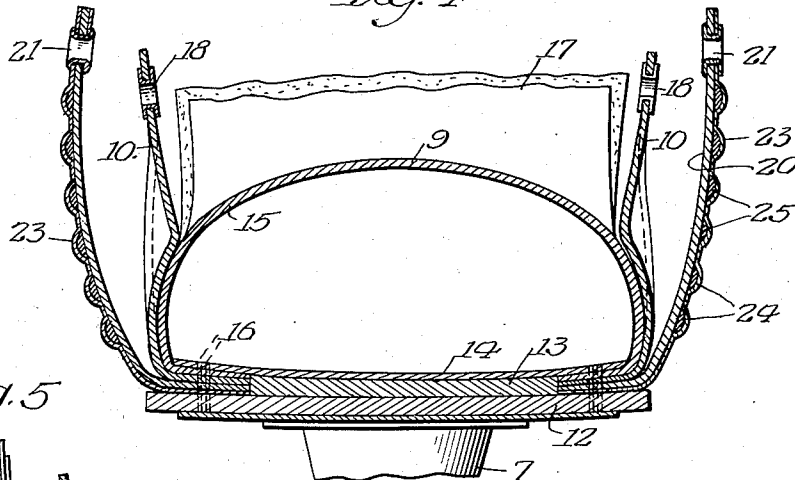


Fig. 5

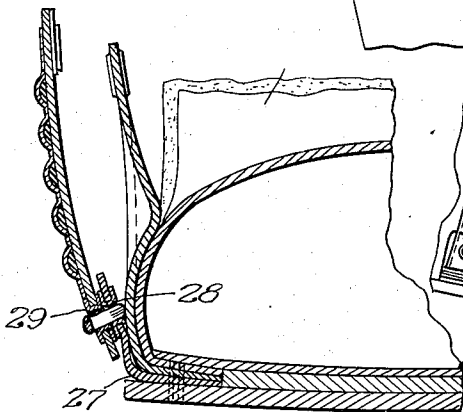
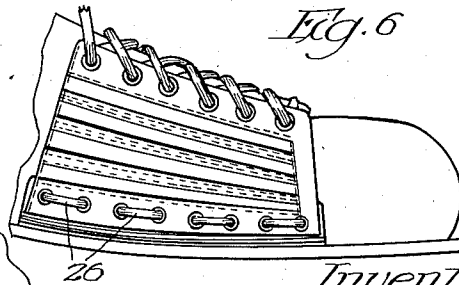


Fig. 6



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

1,986,580

HOCKEY SHOE

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Application February 16, 1934, Serial No. 711,486

5 Claims. (Cl. 36-2.5)

The invention relates generally to shoes. More particularly, the invention relates to that type of shoe which is designed to have a hockey skate attached thereto and consists of a sole structure, a reinforced, box-like toe at the front end of the sole structure and a pair of uppers which extend around the sides and back of the sole structure and partially envelop the vamp portion and have eyelets in their front edges for a lace.

Heretofore, it has been customary in the manufacture of a shoe of this type to sew pieces of leather to the other faces of the front portions of the uppers in such manner as to form a plurality of vertically spaced, longitudinally extending pockets and to secure between the pieces and the contiguous portions of the uppers and in the pockets, strips of rattan or like material in order to reinforce the front of the shoe and to protect the wearer's foot from injury resulting from blows delivered against the shoe by sticks in the playing of hockey. In practice it has been found that a shoe construction of this character, although practical from the standpoint of reinforcement and protection to the wearer's foot against blows and resulting injury, is, in some respects, impractical because the strips in the pockets due to their inherent stiffness, preclude the front portions of the uppers from being laced around the front of the foot in such manner as to conform snugly thereto. Any looseness of the front of the wearer's foot with respect to the front of the shoe results in chafing and makes it impossible for the wearer to obtain maximum force with the front of the foot during the act of skating.

One object of the present invention is to provide a shoe of the aforementioned type under consideration which is an improvement upon previously designed shoes for the same purpose by virtue of the fact that the strips of rattan or other reinforcing material, instead of being retained in pockets between leather pieces that are sewed directly to the front portions of the uppers, are associated with leather flaps which are anchored to the shoe between the front portions of the uppers and the outsole of the sole structure, are free with respect to the front portions of the uppers and have eyelets at the upper margins thereof whereby they may be laced around the front portions of the uppers and thus secured together in such position that the reinforcing strips thereof serve their purpose as far as strengthening of the shoe is concerned and protecting the wearer's foot against injury. By disposing or securing the reinforcing strips in pockets in flaps

formed separately from the front portions of the uppers, such portions of the uppers are free so that they may be drawn by the lace for the uppers closely into contact with the front of the wearer's foot.

Another object of the invention is to provide a hockey skate shoe of the type and character under consideration in which the flaps extend rearwardly to the front or breast portion of the heel part of the sole structure and have the rear margins thereof inclined upwardly and forwardly at approximately an angle of 45° so that they underlie, support and protect the instep of the foot of the wearer of the shoe and serve when laced in place to lock or hold the wearer's heel in the heel portion of the shoe and thus support the ankle and prevent movement of the wearer's heel with respect to the heel portion of the shoe or the rear part of the skate.

A further object of the invention is to provide a hockey skate shoe which is generally of new and improved construction, may be manufactured at a low and reasonable cost and is more practical and comfortable than previously designed shoes for the same purpose.

Other objects of the invention and the various advantages and characteristics of the present shoe construction will be apparent from a consideration of the following detailed description.

The invention consists in the several novel features which are hereinafter set forth and are more particularly defined by claims at the conclusion hereof.

In the drawings which accompany and form a part of this specification or disclosure and in which like numerals of reference denote corresponding parts throughout the several views:

Figure 1 is a perspective of a hockey skate shoe embodying the invention;

Figure 2 is a perspective showing the shoe unlaced and the flaps at the sides of the front portions of the uppers swung away from the uppers so that the construction and general arrangement thereof may be apprehended;

Figure 3 is a vertical transverse section taken slightly behind the reinforced, box-like toe of the shoe and showing in detail the manner in which the strip-reinforced flaps overlie the front portions of the uppers when they are in their laced position;

Figure 4 is a vertical transverse section showing the flaps in their unlaced position and swung away from the front portions of the uppers;

Figure 5 is a detailed section showing a modified form of shoe wherein the flaps which carry the

strips of rattan or other reinforcing material are formed separately from the front portions of the uppers and are removably secured to welts so that they may be removed when they are not desired or needed; and

Figure 6 is a fragmentary side view of the shoe construction of Figure 5 made on a smaller scale.

The shoe which is shown in Figures 1, 2, 3 and 4 of the drawings and forms one form of the invention, is designed for use with a hockey skate 7. It is formed for the most part of leather and consists of a sole structure 8, a box-like toe 9, a pair of uppers 10 and a counter 11. The sole structure 8 consists of an outsole 12, a slip-sole 13 and an insole 14. The outsole is formed of comparatively thick, stiff leather and is adapted to be secured to the shoe plate of the shoe 7. The slip-sole 13 is positioned between the outsole and the insole. It is smaller than the outsole, as shown in Figures 3 and 4, and is suitably secured to the outsole and the insole. The box-like toe 9 is reinforced by metal or any other suitable material so that it is rigid. It is fixedly secured to the front end of the sole structure and is extended rearwardly so as to form a vamp portion 15 for the shoe. The uppers 10 are formed of leather and extend around the back and sides of the sole structure. The bottom margins of the uppers are turned inwardly and are secured between the margins of the outsole and insole by stitching 16. The back portions of the uppers form the back of the shoe and are secured together and covered by means of the counter 11. The front portions of the uppers extend forwardly so that they partially envelop the vamp portion 15 and the side of the box-like toe 9. A tongue 17 is secured to the vamp portion 15 and is adapted to underlie the front edges of the uppers which are provided with eyelets 18 for a lace 19. The shoe is preferably formed so that the front edges of the uppers do not meet. As a result of this arrangement, the uppers may be drawn tightly together by the lace 19 and into a snug fit as far as the wearer's foot is concerned.

In addition to the uppers 10 and other previously described parts, the shoe comprises a pair of leather flaps 20. The latter are located on opposite sides of the shoe and are positioned directly opposite, and are free with respect to, the front portions of the uppers. The lower margins of the flaps 20 are turned inwardly and are secured by the stitching 16 between the intumed margins of the front portions of the uppers and the side margins of the outsole 12 of the sole structure. The upper margins of the flaps are provided with eyelets 21 whereby the flaps may be laced together as shown in Figure 1 by a lace 22. Pieces 23 of thin, soft leather are stitched to the outer faces of the flaps 20 so as to form between the pieces and the flaps vertically spaced, longitudinally extending pockets 24. Strips 25 of rattan or other reinforcing material fit and are secured in these pockets. These strips serve to strengthen the flaps and prevent injury to the wearer's foot by absorbing blows by hockey sticks against the sides of the shoes. When the flaps 20 are laced in place, they surround or envelop the front portions of the uppers and not only protect the wearer's foot against injury from blows but also strengthen and give rigidity to the shoe. By virtue of the fact that the flaps 20 are formed separately from the front portions of the uppers, it is possible to draw the front portions of the uppers snugly around the wearer's foot. This is of extreme importance inasmuch as it results in

support for the wearer's foot and permits the wearer to obtain maximum pushing action in the act of skating. In view of the fact that the flaps are laced together independently of the front portions of the uppers, there is a double lacing at the front of the shoe which affords protection for the top portion of the wearer's foot. The flaps 20 are shaped conformably to the front portions of the uppers and are cut at their rear ends so that they extend upwardly and forwardly at substantially an angle of 45°. The rear portions of the flaps extend rearwardly as shown in Figures 1 and 2 of the drawings to the front or breast portion of the heel part of the sole structure. Because of this and the fact that the rear margins or ends of the flaps extend upwardly and forwardly at substantially an angle of 45° the flaps 20 underlie, support and protect the instep of the foot of the wearer of the shoe, and serve when laced in place to lock or hold the wearer's heel in the heel portion of the shoe and thus to hold the ankle against turning. By reason of the fact that the flaps overlie and support the instep and lock the wearer's heel in the heel portion of the shoe there is no play or movement between the wearer's heel and the rear portion of the skate. This is an important feature as far as a hockey skate shoe is concerned for the reason that any looseness or movement between the wearer's heel and the heel portion of the shoe is likely to result in turning of the ankle when the wearer of the shoe attempts to stop or turn sharply in skating. The strips 25 of rattan or like material extend from slightly behind the front edges of the flaps to the rear edges and are of such number that they extend over substantially the entire area of the flaps as shown in the drawings. The lowermost strips of rattan, that is the strips nearest the sole structure 8, are located slightly above the sole structure and thus prevent injury to the sides and instep of the foot of the shoe wearer.

When the shoe is applied to the wearer's foot, the front portions of the uppers are swung inwardly and are then laced together by means of the lace 19. After these operations, the flaps 20 are swung inwardly and are laced together with the lace 22. The latter bridges the front portion of the lace 19 and when tightened, operates to draw inwardly the flaps 20 into clamped relation with the front portions of the uppers. After the shoe is fully laced, the front portions of the uppers fit snugly around the front of the wearer's foot and the flaps 20 protect the wearer's foot against injury and give support and strength to the shoe. The flaps 20 in addition to protecting the wearer's foot against injury, hold or lock the wearer's heel in the heel portion of the shoe and prevent turning of the ankle.

The shoe of Figures 5 and 6 constitutes a modified form of the invention. It differs from that of Figures 1, 2, 3 and 4 in that the flaps instead of being permanently secured to the shoe, are removably secured by lacings 26 to welts 27 along the sides of the sole structure. The welts, as shown in Figures 5 and 6, are stitched between the intumed bottom margins of the front portions of the uppers of the shoe and the side portions of the outsole and have a longitudinal series of eyelets 28. The lacings 26 extend through these eyelets and through registering eyelets 29 on the bottom margins of the flaps, and together with the eyelets form removable connections for the flaps. When it is desired to remove the flaps from the shoe, the lacings 26 are removed and the flaps thus disconnected with respect to the shoe.

The herein described shoe construction may be manufactured at a low and reasonable cost. It is extremely practical in that it comprehends obtaining a tight fit for the front of the wearer's foot and protecting the foot against injury by way of flaps which are formed and laced separately from the front portions of the uppers. The shoe also comprehends a flap arrangement whereby the foot of the wearer is held snugly in place with respect to the sole structure of the shoe and the wearer's heel is locked or held in the heel portion of the shoe so that the ankle is supported and there is no likelihood of the rear portion of the skate to which the shoe is applied turning with respect to the wearer's heel.

The invention is not to be understood as restricted to the details set forth, since these may be modified within the scope of the appended claims, without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention.

Having thus described the invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:

1. A shoe of the character described designed for use with a hockey skate and comprising a sole structure, a toe at the front end of the sole structure, a pair of uppers connected to and extending around the back and sides of said sole structure and having eyelets in the front margins thereof for receiving a lace by which they may be drawn together and held in place around the foot of the wearer of the shoe, and a pair of flaps with reinforcing and shock-absorbing means associated therewith, secured to opposite sides of the shoe so that they are free with respect to the uppers and shaped conformably, and adapted to cover, the front portions of said uppers, said flaps having eyelets in the top margins thereof for receiving a separate lace whereby they may be drawn together and secured tightly adjacent said front portions of the uppers, and having the rear portions thereof extending to the front or breast portion of the heel part of the sole structure and their rear margins inclined upwardly and forwardly so that they over and underlie the wearer's instep and serve when the flaps are laced together by said separate lace to force the wearer's heel back into locked relation in the heel part of the shoe and to support the wearer's ankle against turning.

2. A shoe of the character described designed for use with a hockey skate and comprising a sole structure, a rigid, box-like toe at the front end of the sole structure, a pair of readily flexible uppers connected to and extending around the back and sides of said sole structure and having the front portions thereof extended to lap the rear portion of the toe and also having eyelets in the front margins of said front portions for receiving a lace whereby the uppers may be drawn together and held in place around the foot of the wearer of the shoe, and a pair of flaps with reinforcing and shock absorbing means associated therewith, secured to opposite sides of the shoe so that they are free with respect to the uppers and having the front portions thereof shaped conformably to and continuous with the front portions of the uppers, said flaps having eyelets in the top margins thereof for receiving a separate lace whereby they may be drawn together and secured tightly against said front portions of the uppers, and having the rear portions thereof extending to the front or breast portion of the heel part of the sole structure and their rear margins inclined upwardly and forwardly so that they under and

overlie the wearer's instep and serve when the flaps are laced together by said separate lace to force the wearer's heel back into locked relation in the heel part of the shoe and to support the wearer's ankle against turning.

3. A shoe of the character described designed for use with a hockey skate and comprising a sole structure, a toe at the front end of the sole structure, a pair of uppers connected to and extending around the back and sides of the sole structure and having eyelets in the front margins thereof for receiving a lace by which they may be drawn together and held in place around the foot of the wearer of the shoe, a pair of flaps secured to opposite sides of the shoe so that they are free with respect to the uppers and shaped conformably, and adapted to cover, the front portions of said uppers, said flaps having eyelets in the top margins thereof for receiving a separate lace whereby they may be drawn together and secured tightly against said front portions of the uppers, and having the rear portions thereof extending approximately to the front or breast portion of the heel part of the sole structure, and the rear margins inclined upwardly and forwardly so that they over and underlie the wearer's instep and serve when the flaps are laced together by said separate lace to force the wearer's heel back into locked relation in the heel part of the shoe and to support the wearer's ankle against turning, and a plurality of reinforcing and shock-absorbing strips extending lengthwise of and carried by said flaps and arranged in series form and so that they extend from the upper margins of the flaps to the portions immediately adjacent to the sole structure in order to protect the sides and sole portion of the wearer's foot.

4. A shoe of the character described designed for use with an ice skate and comprising a sole structure, a toe at the front end of the sole structure, a pair of uppers connected to and extending around the back and sides of the sole structure and having eyelets in the front margin thereof for receiving a lace by which they may be drawn together and held in place around the foot of the wearer of the shoe, and a pair of reinforcing and strengthening flaps secured to opposite sides of the shoe between the bottom margins of the uppers and the sole structure so that they are free with respect to said uppers and shaped conformably to, and adapted to cover, the front portions of the uppers, said flaps having eyelets in the top margins thereof for receiving a separate lace whereby they may be drawn together and secured tightly to said front portions of the uppers, and having the rear portions thereof extending to the front or breast portion of the heel part of the sole structure and their rear margins inclined upwardly and forwardly at approximately an angle of 45°, so that they over and underlie the wearer's instep and serve when the flaps are laced together by said separate lace to force the wearer's heel back into locked relation in the heel part of the shoe and to support the wearer's ankle against turning.

5. A shoe of the character described designed for use with a hockey skate and comprising a sole structure having welts along the side margins thereof, a toe at the front end of the sole structure, a pair of readily flexible uppers connected to, and extending around, the back and sides of said sole structure and having eyelets in the front margins thereof for receiving a lace by which they may be drawn together and held in place around the foot of the wearer of the shoe,

and a pair of separately formed side flaps with longitudinal reinforcing and shock absorbing strips thereon secured removably to the welts and adapted to fit against and protect the front portions of the uppers, said flaps having eyelets in the top margins thereof for receiving a separate lace whereby they may be drawn together and secured tightly to said front portions of the uppers, and having the rear portions thereof ex-

tending to the front or breast portion of the heel part of the sole structure and their rear margins inclined upwardly and forwardly so that they over and underlie the wearer's instep and serve when the flaps are laced together by said separate lace to force the wearer's heel back into locked relation in the heel part of the shoe and to support the wearer's ankle against turning.

CHARLES I. JOHNSON.