Jan. 12, 1932. R. L. GOGIN 1,841,328

FOOTWEAR

Filed Feb. 17, 1931

Fig.1

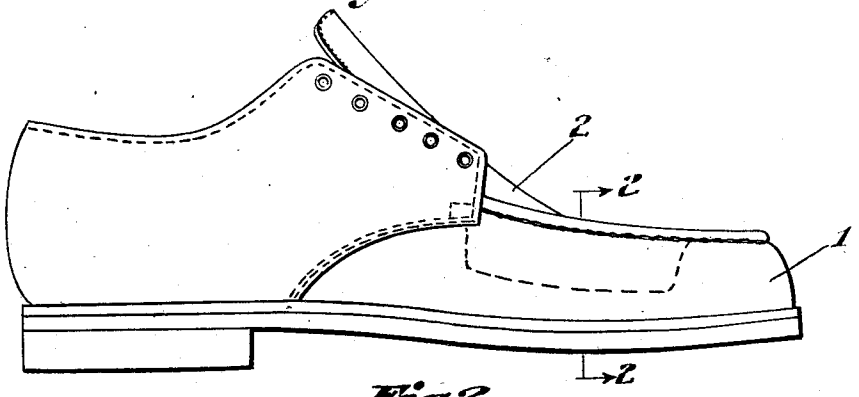


Fig.2

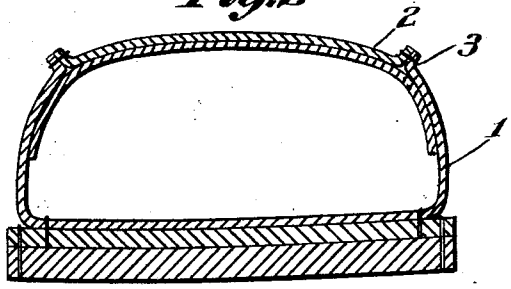


Fig.3

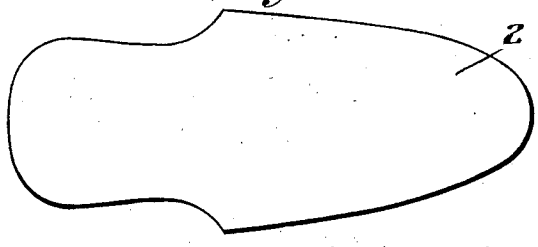
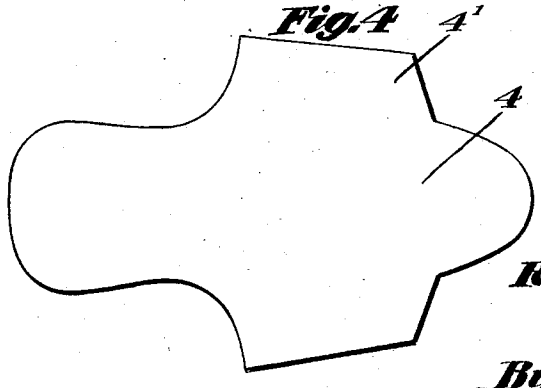


Fig.4



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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FOOTWEAR

Application filed February 17, 1931. Serial No. 516,311.

In the manufacture of foot wear of moccasin type which is characterized by a toe piece and vamp sewed together, it has been difficult to produce a seam of sufficient strength and tightness so that the same would not part or become weakened as the shoe or moccasin was creased under the foot flexation of the wearer. This particular portion of the shoe or moccasin receives maximum strain and it is the purpose of this invention to introduce into the shoe structure a member which will in large part receive this strain so as to avoid weakening in any way the seam which unites the toe piece and the vamp.

Heretofore various types of seams have been used to overcome this likelihood of weakening or separation of the toe piece and vamp, but these have been difficult to sew and in many cases cumbersome and unsightly.

In accordance with my invention, the upper and toe piece may be stitched together in usual manner, the seam being reenforced and protected by the introduction of my novel bearing piece.

As a result of my reenforcement or bearing member it is possible to use a toe piece of relatively light leather, the edge of which may contact with the edge of the vamp to form a moccasin seam of uniform thickness throughout the length thereof.

For the purposes of illustration, I have shown a moccasin type of shoe of general standard type, but may invention might equally well be employed with an ordinary moccasion or any shoe where the toe piece and vamp are joined together.

Throughout the specification and drawings like reference numerals are employed to indicate corresponding parts.

Fig. 1 is a side view of moccasin shoe, my reenforcing bearing member being indicated in dotted lines.

Fig. 2 is a section on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is an outline or pattern of the toe piece and tongue, and

Fig. 4 is an outline or pattern of my reenforcing bearing.

To secure the same advantages, I have developed a construction wherein the toe piece is provided with lateral extension pieces which extend along the side of the foot in the general zone of flexation. This however requires a skiving of the relatively heavy leather which must be used in the toe piece in order to provide for a seaming together of the toe piece and vamp.

While these bearings are of real practical advantage in that much of the strain of the foot flexation is taken up by the portions extending below the seam, nevertheless the seam is difficult to stitch and thus can be done only by skilled operatives.

In my present invention, I provide the usual vamp 1, united to a toe piece 2 by a seam 3 which passes through the edges of the toe piece and vamp to produce the usual moccasin seam. Beneath the toe piece 2 and extending downward to form the projecting flaps 4′ is my reenforcing bearing 4 which may either be cemented to the toe piece 2 and vamp 1 or may be stitched thereto in the general vicinity of the seam 3 so as not to interfere with or mar the finished appearance of the shoe. In the case of stitching it is usually also advisable to cement the flaps 4′ to the vamp to insure the same remaining in proper position while and after the shoe is worn.

This bearing member 4 may be of relatively thin leather and the toe also may be of lighter leather than is usually used.

The cementing of the member 4 to the toe 2 and vamp 1 provides a water-tight construction which will prevent dampness entering the shoe even though the seam itself breaks or wears. In prior constructions if at any time the seam was destroyed, the shoe lost its waterproof character, and either had to be mended or discarded.

In addition to this waterproof feature the member 4 takes up all strains transversely of the shoe and also accommodates the longitudinal flexations in the material which cause wrinkling and tend to open or break the seam at this point.

Various modifications in the seam uniting the toe piece and vamp and in the manner

of connecting the reenforcing member to those parts may obviously be resorted to without departing from the spirit of my invention if within the limits of the appended claim.

What I therefore claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

In footwear of the moccasin type, a toe piece structure to substantially overlie the top of the foot, a vamp to substantially embrace the sides of the foot, a seam uniting the toe piece structure with the vamp, the toe piece structure being inclusive of outer and inner connected together sections, and flaps formed as downward extensions of the inner section and fastened to the sides of the vamp below the seam, said flaps being of a width to extend downwardly from the seam to substantially overlie the sides of the ball portion of the foot, thus to effectively reinforce the vamp in the pucker region whereby sharp puckers are eliminated and whereby the stress is distributed substantially uniformly over this area to prevent breakage of the seam.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

RUSSELL L. GOGIN.