Mar. 3, 1925. 1,528,254

A. M. McCONNELL

HEEL PROTECTOR FOR SHOES

Filed May 15, 1924

FIG. 1

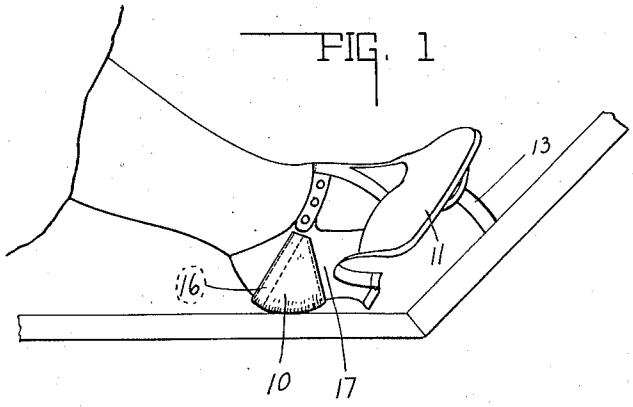


FIG. 2

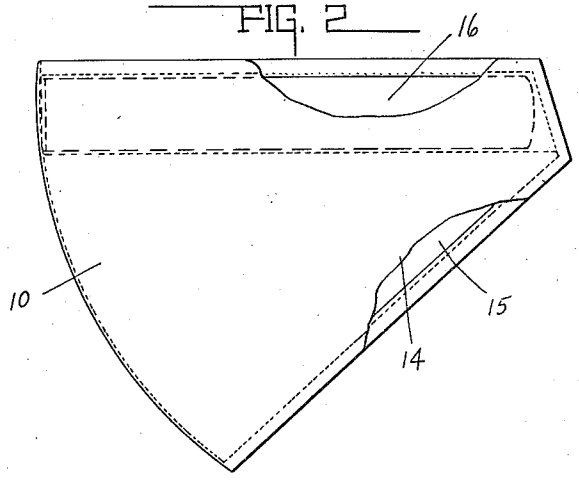
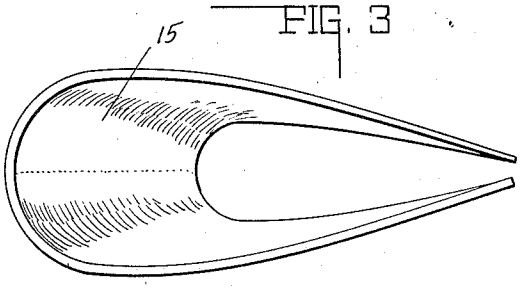


FIG. 3



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ANNA M. McCONNELL, OF INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA.

HEEL PROTECTOR FOR SHOES.

Application filed May 15, 1924. Serial No. 713,454.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ANNA M. McCONNELL, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Indianapolis, county of Marion, and State of Indiana, have invented a certain new and useful Heel Protector for Shoes; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which like numerals refer to like parts.

This invention pertains to a shoe protector particularly adapted for the protection of the heels of ladies' shoes when driving a motor car.

The object of the invention is to provide a removable protector which may be readily clamped about the heel of the lady's shoe or slipper when operating the pedals in driving an automobile. The nature of the pedals is such that the back of such shoes or slippers become marred and disfigured by reason of their contact with the floor and operative parts of the automobile. This is particularly true when a white or light colored slipper is worn as well as patent leather and colored suede. By means of this invention the shoe or slipper can be readily protected by simply clamping the protector thereon in such fashion as to hold it firmly in place whether in or out of the automobile and permit its ready removal at such times as may be desired.

The main feature of the invention lies in the construction of the protector wherein it is provided with a steel spring located about the upper edge thereof for holding it in place, said spring being so constructed as to tension, size and length, as to conform to the contour of the foot, wherein it will be extended beyond and clamped about the counter in the heel but will not dig into the bones of the foot. A further feature of the protector resides in its shape wherein it will conform, for the purpose used, to any type or size of lady's shoe or slipper. A still further feature of the invention resides in the double ply of fabric material such that the exterior ply will withstand wear and usage, and the interior ply or lining will be sufficiently soft to prevent its rubbing the shoe during any movement of the foot without marring or disfiguring the material.

The full nature of the invention will be understood from the accompanying drawings and the following description and claims:

Fig. 1 is a side elevation showing the position of a lady's shoe or slipper when applied to the foot pedal with the protector clamped thereon. Fig. 2 is a side elevation showing an enlargement of the protector. Fig. 3 is a plan view looking down thereon.

In the drawing there is shown a heel protector 10 that is to be clamped about the heel of the shoe or slipper 11 for protecting the same against wear and disfiguration when resting upon the floor 12 upon its being applied against the foot pedal 13.

The protector comprises a body portion formed of fabric such as satin or similar material of any suitable or desirable color that is so formed as to correspond to the curvatures of the rear portion of the heel of a lady's slipper or shoe, extending forwardly therefrom to a point substantially above the instep. The upper edge or top of the protector is so shaped as to fit about the heel adjacent the top thereof while the bottom embraces the upper part of the heel projection extending and engaging thereabout at substantially the point of least diameter. As will be noted in Fig. 1, the body of the protector is arranged to embrace only the bulge part of the heel, covering the curved surface having substantially the same radius of curvature. This permits of a more simple structure giving a better fit, being more applicable to various sizes, and principally causing the protector to be more firmly sustained in position.

The body of the protector is provided with two plies of cloth, or similar fabric, the outer ply 14 being of such nature as to provide wearing properties and having the desired color, while the inner ply or lining 15 is formed of canton flannel or a similar cushioning fabric for protecting the material of the slipper or shoe.

For clamping and sustaining the protector in position, there is provided about the upper edge thereof a spring metal clamp 16, capable of being clamped about the rear upper portion of the slipper or shoe as shown in Fig. 1, the spring tension of said clamp being sufficient to hold the same in clamped position so that the sides thereof will engage the side surfaces of the heel and the ends will engage the shoe just forward of the

counter 17 of the heel for holding the rear portion of the clamp against the rear of the shoe. The clamping member 16 is substantially of a horse shoe shape, the tension thereof bearing inwardly toward the free ends, the shape of the member accommodating itself to the shape of the upper portion of the shoe and protector and secured in the latter between the plies of fabric which are stitched together along each edge thereof. By reason of the clamping function of the ends of the member 16 the forward end of the protector will be held upwardly in place and thereby hold the lower rear portion of the protector securely against the concave portion of the heel projection.

The invention claimed is:

1. A heel protector for footwear comprising a single fabric body portion shaped to conform to the shape of the heel of the footwear and extending only about the rear portion thereof, and a resilient clamping member secured to said fabric adapted to embrace the upper part of the heel portion of said footwear for removably clamping said protector in position thereon.

2. A heel protector for footwear comprising a single fabric body portion shaped to conform to the shape of the heel of the footwear and extending only about the rear portion thereof, and a resilient spring metal clip adapted to embrace the upper portion of the heel and clamp against the sides of the shoe for removably securing said protector thereon, said spring being inclosed and covered by the fabric and forming the upper edge thereof.

3. A heel protector for footwear comprising a single fabric body portion formed of an outer protective cloth and an inner protective lining, said protector being shaped to conform to the shape of the heel portion of the footwear and extending from the upper part thereof to a point substantially midway between the ends of the heel projection, and a resilient metallic clamping spring formed substantially horse shoe shaped and secured between the outer fabric and the lining so as to be secured thereto along the upper edge, said spring conforming substantially to the shape of the upper portion of the heel and extending forwardly thereabout so that the free ends of the said clamp will engage the side portion of the heel for supporting the upper portion of the protector thereabout and holding the lower portion thereof against the lower portion of said heel, substantially as and for the purpose described.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto affixed my signature.

ANNA M. McCONNELL.