

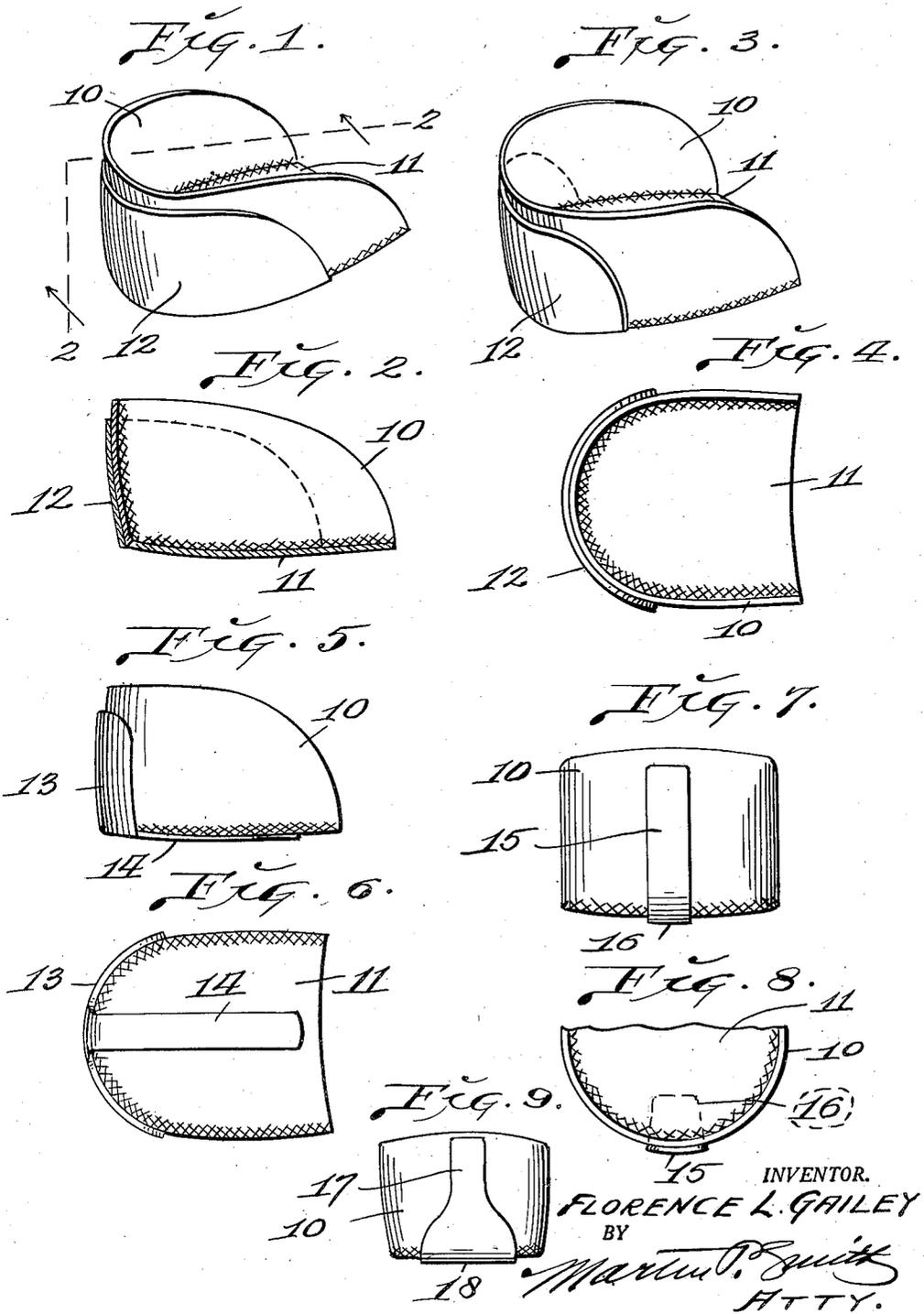
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STOCKING HEEL PROTECTOR

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,438,280

STOCKING HEEL PROTECTOR

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1 Claim. (Cl. 36—55)

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My invention relates to a stocking heel protector and has for its principal object, to provide simple, practical and effective means applied to the rear walls and bottoms of conventional stocking heel protectors, for reinforcing same and counteracting forces tending to collapse, wrinkle and crush said walls to such a degree as to render them uncomfortable to the wearer and unfit for service.

Conventional stocking heel protectors are generally made from this flexible moistureproof material and in use, the rear portions of the upright walls of said protectors are prone to buckle, crush down and fold or wrinkle, to the discomfort of the wearer and my invention is designed to eliminate these undesirable results, by securing to the outer faces of the rear end walls of the protectors, thin reinforcing layers of smooth flexible material such as sheet plastics, thereby materially increasing the life or periods of service of the protectors, also adding to the wearing comfort thereof.

With the foregoing and other objects in view, my invention consists in certain novel features of construction and arrangement of parts which will be hereinafter more fully described and claimed and illustrated in the accompanying drawing in which:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a stocking heel protector constructed in accordance with my invention.

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

Fig. 3 is a perspective view of a modified form of the protector.

Fig. 4 is a plan view of the form of protector seen in Fig. 3.

Fig. 5 is a side elevational view of a further modified form of protector.

Fig. 6 is a view looking against the bottom of the form of protector seen in Fig. 5.

Fig. 7 is a rear elevation of a further modified form of my invention.

Fig. 8 is a plan view of the form of protector seen in Fig. 7.

Fig. 9 is a rear elevational view of a further modified form of the protector.

Referring by numerals to the accompanying drawings, which illustrate a preferred embodiment of my invention, 10 designates the upright wall and 11 the bottom of a conventional stocking heel protector, and in the form of the invention disclosed in Figs. 1 and 2, a reinforcing member 12 of thin flexible sheet material such as plastics, Celluloid, pressed fibre, or the like is se-

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cured, preferably by moistureproof cement, to the outer face of the rear portion of wall 10 and to the rear of the sides thereof. The height of the reinforcing member 12 is slightly less than the height of the rear portion of wall 10.

The outer face of member 12 has a smooth finished surface in order to minimize friction between same and contacting portion of the shoe upper.

Figs. 1 and 2 show member 12 extending forwardly on the side portions of wall 10 and in Figs. 3 and 4 said member covers only the rear portion of said wall 10.

In the modified construction illustrated in Figs. 5 and 6, a reinforcing member 13, is applied to the rear portion only of wall 10 and a narrow strip of flexible material 14, integral with said member 13, extends beneath and is secured to the underface of the protector bottom 11.

In Fig. 9, a narrow reinforcing strap 17 is secured in vertical position on the outer face of the rear portion of wall 10 with a wider integral portion 18 extending beneath and secured to the bottom 11 of the protector.

Thus it will be seen that in all forms of my invention, the applied member of thin, flexible, moistureproof material, is positioned upon the protector so as to materially reinforce same and counteract tendency of the wall to collapse, wrinkle and crush down while in service.

It will be understood that minor changes in the size, form and construction of the various parts of my improved stocking heel protector may be made and substituted for those herein shown and described without departing from the spirit of the invention, the scope of which is set forth in the appended claim.

I claim as my invention:

The combination with a stocking heel protector formed of thin, soft material and comprising a bottom and an upright wall having its lower edge secured to the side and rear edges of said bottom of a reinforcing member of thin flexible plastic material secured to the outer face of the upright wall of the rear portion of said protector and a narrow strip of plastic material integral with the lower edge of said reinforcing member, which strip extends forwardly beneath and is secured to the under face of the bottom of said heel protector and which reinforcing member and strip are provided with smooth finished outer surfaces.

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