June 15, 1965 A. CORTINA 3,188,755

REPLACEABLE HEEL FOR SHOES

Filed Aug. 21, 1963 3 Sheets-Sheet 1

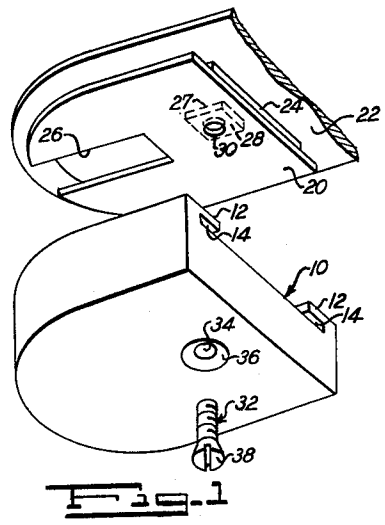



Fig. 1

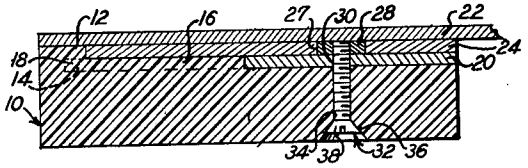



Fig. 2

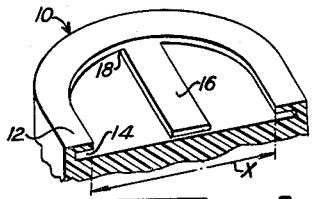



Fig. 3

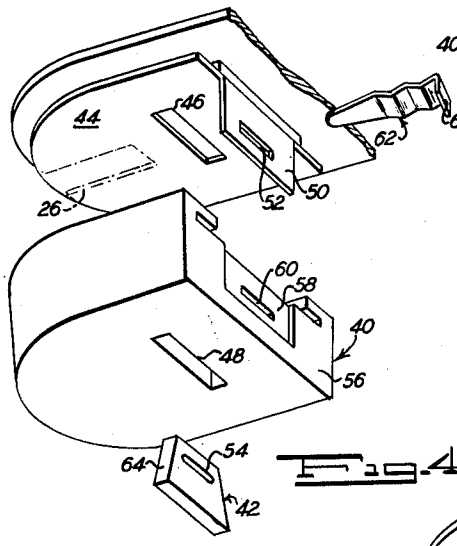



Fig. 4

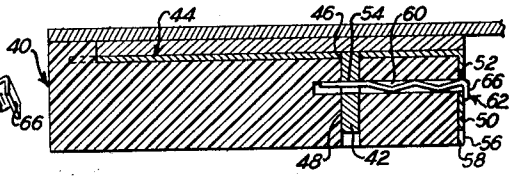



Fig. 5

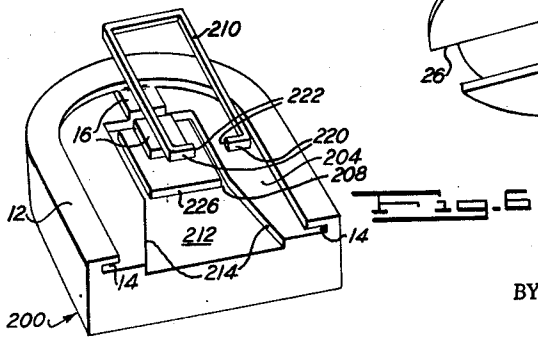



Fig. 6

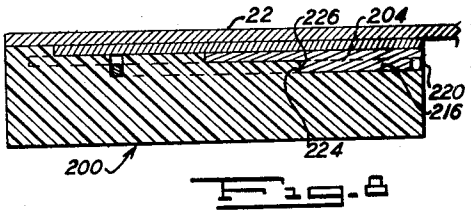



Fig. 8

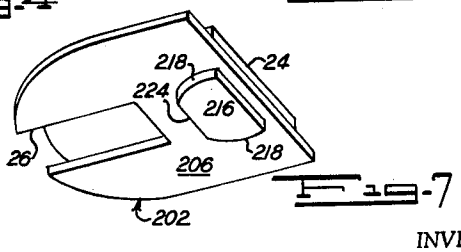



Fig. 7

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REPLACEABLE HEEL FOR SHOES

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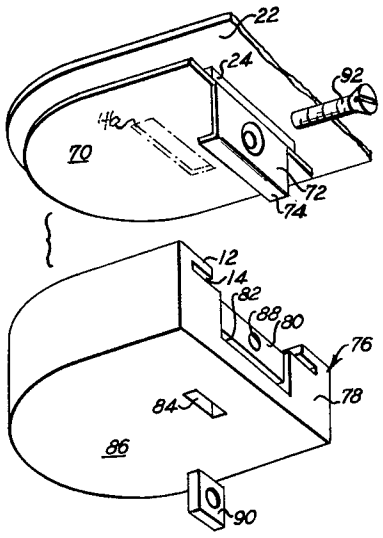



Fig. 9

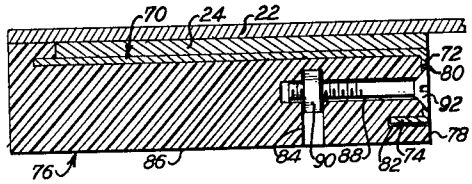



Fig. 10

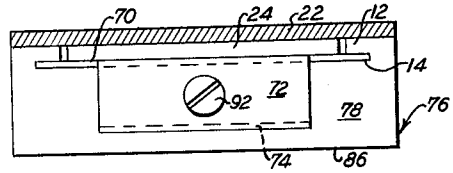



Fig. 11

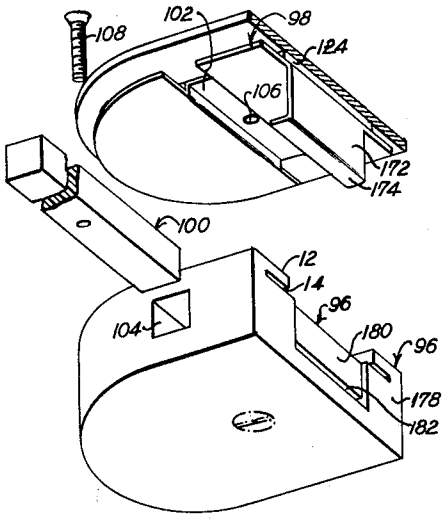



Fig. 12

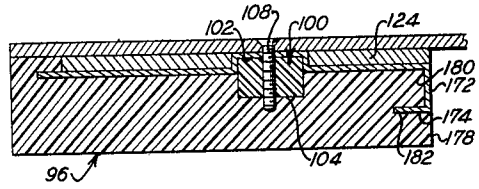



Fig. 13

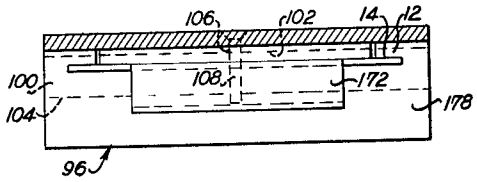



Fig. 14

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REPLACEABLE HEEL FOR SHOES

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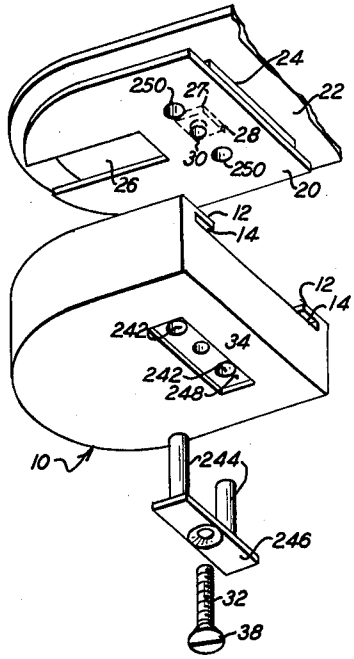



Fig. 17

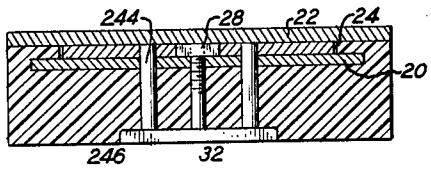



Fig. 18

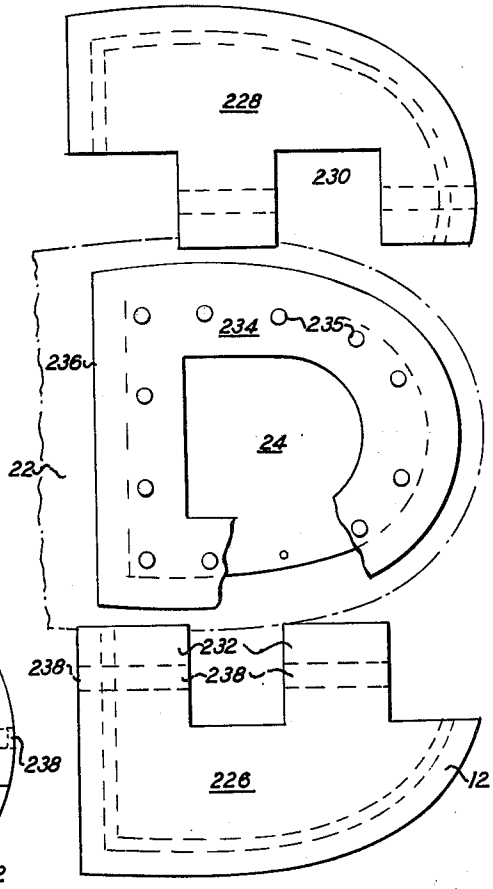



Fig. 15

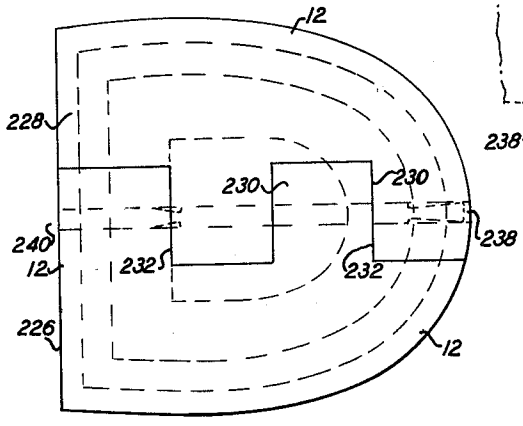



Fig. 16

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United States Patent Office 3,188,755 Patented June 15, 1965



3,188,755

# REPLACEABLE HEEL FOR SHOES

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Filed Aug. 21, 1963, Ser. No. 303,962
7 Claims. (Cl. 36—42)

This invention relates to readily removable shoe heel construction and particularly one which, besides being easily secured and removed, is firmly fastened both about an edge and to be resistant to rotary movement.

The several constructions, according to this invention, show alternate fastening means for quick removability while giving firm marginal securement of the heel by a flange, and further reenforcement is usually available from a core extending from an edge toward and preferably through the center. Such core braces and offsets the tendency of the heel to be dislodged in a torque or twist of the foot of the wearer.

The invention will be further described in relation to the drawings in which:

FIG. 1 shows the parts of a shoe heel illustrating a central reenforcing core, each of the parts positioned as they would be assembled and fastened by a single screw fastener;

FIG. 2 is a longitudinal section through the assembled heel of FIG. 1;

FIG. 3 illustrates a detail of the heel of FIG. 1 showing a flange and core extending inward from one side thereof;

FIG. 4 shows several parts of a heel having both a forward dependent flange at a center plate providing a central stiffening as well as a cooperative locking means, the parts being illustrated in the position in which they are assembled;

FIG. 5 is a longitudinal section through the assembled heel of FIG. 4;

FIG. 6 illustrates a similar heel with a core extending from one side with a spring fastener;

FIG. 7 illustrates a securing plate useful with the spring fastener construction of FIG. 6;

FIG. 8 illustrates the assembled heel of FIGS. 6 and 7 in longitudinal section;

FIG. 9 is a modified form of FIG. 4 using a screw-type fastener, the parts arranged in the order in which they would be assembled;

FIG. 10 is a longitudinal section of the assembly of FIG. 9;

FIG. 11 is a forward inner end view of the assembled heel of FIG. 9;

FIG. 12 illustrates a form in which the central core is laterally locked as well as reenforced by a slidable bar, the parts being positioned as they will be assembled;

FIG. 13 is a longitudinal section through the assembled heel of FIG. 12;

FIG. 14 is an inner end view of the assembled heel of FIG. 12;

FIG. 15 illustrates a heel broken into halves with interfitting zig-zagging sections with elements arranged in the manner of assembly;

FIG. 16 shows the assembled zig-zagged halves;

FIG. 17 illustrates a modified form of FIG. 1 using a multiple bar, screw fastener and support for a heel; and

FIG. 18 is a transverse section assembled through the heel of FIG. 17.

Referring to FIGS. 1, 3 and 17, a heel 10, which may be of leather or rubber, has a flange 12 cut and extending entirely around its upper edge to provide a retaining groove 14 interrupted at one point by a core element 16 (FIG. 3) extending beneath the rear of the heel at 18. A corresponding heel retaining plate element 20 is securely fastened to extend below the sole 22 of the shoe



in the rear area at which the heel would be fastened. The plate 20 is separated from the sole by an inner spacing element 24 which is smaller than the plate 20, spaced inwardly thereof, corresponding approximately in width to the distance X of FIG. 3, so that the inner end of the flange 12 will bear against the spacer element 24. The spacer 24 supports the plate 20 away from the sole 22 to form a cooperating flange portion of the plate 20 upon which the heel 10 may be slided and be secured to the sole by the flanges 12, gripping the edge about the plate 20 which will be within groove 14. The plate 20 has a radial slot 26 cut therein from the rear which receives the core element 16. The core 16 lying within the slot 26 braces the heel against rotary motion. The spacer 24 has a slot 27 cut in the center in which a nut 28 is received and is retained therein by the overlying plate 20. The plate 20 is bored at 30 to allow communication of the nut 28 with the end of a screw fastener 32. The heel 10 is bored correspondingly at 34 to receive the shank 32 of the screw fastener 38 and is further countersunk at 36 to receive the head 38 of the screw fastener flush with the bottom surface of the heel.

The heel 10 is assembled upon the plate 20 by sliding the flanges 12 upon the outer flanged edges of the plate from the rear inward toward the forward end of the shoe, receiving the edge of the plate 20 in the slot 14 provided beneath the flange 12 and simultaneously the core element 16 slidingly fits into the slot 26 of the plate. In fully inserted position of the heel upon the plate, as shown in the assembly of FIG. 2, the screw fastener 32 is inserted and fastened through the heel 10 into the nut 28, thus easily securing the entire heel and plate together as a firm and rugged but readily separated assembly. For removal it is necessary only to reverse the process, removing the screw fastener 32 and sliding the heel 10 off of the plate 20 toward the rear.

In the modification shown in FIGS. 4 and 5, a longitudinal type fastener for the heel is provided. The twisting movement or torque upon the heel 40 is largely taken up and absorbed in a centrally mounted fastener plate 42. If desired, a similar core element 16 as in FIG. 3 may be built into the heel 40 and a corresponding slot 26 shown in dotted line FIG. 4 may be cut into the modified plate 44. Since much of the rotary torque is accommodated by the wedge plate 42, the core element 16 and slot 26 may be omitted from this modification as desired. Similar to the first modification described above, the plate 44 is fastened to the heel area of an extending sole element 22 and is separated therefrom by a separate spacing element 24 similar to that shown in FIGS. 1 and 2. The plate 44 has a central slot 46 cut athwart the heel axis to receive in sliding fit the inner or upper end of the plate 42. The heel 40 has a corresponding slot 48 cut centrally therein and positioned to be aligned with the slot 46, whereby the wedge plate 42 upon assembly, as shown in FIG. 4, may be passed first through the slot 48 and sunk sufficiently beneath the surface to engage and lie within the slot 46 with its inner end. The plate 44 also has an inner downturned end flange 50 preferably formed integral therewith or otherwise suitably secured thereto. The flange 50 has a horizontal slot 52 cut therein and the plate 42 has a horizontal slot 54 cut therein, both slots 52 and 54 being positioned to be at substantially the same horizontal level when the plate 42 is assembled within slots 46 and 48. The forward end of the heel has a slot 60 cut from the surface 58 horizontally to the rear at a height to intercept and coincide with both the slots 52 at the forward edge and the slot 54 in the plate 42 at the rear. The upper surface of the heel will lie flush against the plate 44, so that the heel 40 will be secured by the annular flange 12 gripping the outer edge of the plate 44 entirely around it with the edge lying within the grooves

14 provided by the flange 12, as described above for FIGS. 1 through 3, except where a further core element 16 is used as shown in FIG. 3. In the latter modification, the flat upper heel surface is interrupted by the core element 16 as in FIG. 3, the core 16 then will lie in the slot 26. The forward inner surface 56 of the heel 40 has a portion of its face indented at 58 for purposes of receiving the plate 50 flush thereagainst.

A securing or latching pin 62 is inserted through slots 52, 60 and 54 from the forward edge 56 thus to lock the heel 40 from being displaced either angularly, centrally downward or to the rear. For preventing the centrally downward displacement of the heel 40, the edges 64 of the plate 42 are preferably slanted each to a side, whereby the plate 42 has the approximate shape of a truncated tetrahedral pyramid. The locking pin 62 preferably has a downturned flange 66 at its forward end whereby the pin may be gripped by the fingers or other gripping tool for insertion or removal. To prevent ready displacement, the pin body 62 may be given an undulating wavy shape whereby the displaced metal humps will tend resiliently to grip the relatively resilient upper and lower surfaces of the heel about slot 60 which may be of flexible rubber or leather, the pin 62 being gripped in a manner to be resiliently held against ready displacement.

It will be appreciated that any twist or torque upon the heel of this modification is offset and resisted both by the plate 42 secured within the slot 46 of the horizontal plate 44, and by the plate 50 lying flush against the face 58 of the front end of the heel 56.

For mounting as before, the heel is slided upon the plate 44 from the rear forward with the edge of the plate 44 lying within the groove 14. In removal the pin 66 is first withdrawn, the wedge plate 42 drops or is pried out, and then the heel 40 is slided back off of the plate 44.

A further modified form is shown in FIGS. 9, 10 and 11. In these constructions a plate 70 terminates at its forward end in a vertical plate 72 which has a backturned flange 74; that is, bent to the rear as in FIG. 9. The plate 70 is supported upon a spacing plate 24 lying upon the heel area of the extended sole 22 with its flanges extending outward from the separator 24 to lie within a groove 14 below a flange 12 of the heel 76 in a manner similar to descriptions above. The forward end of the heel 76 has an indented facing 80 cut inward to receive and retain the outer face of the plate 72 flush with the forward end 78, and is slotted further inward at 82 to receive the backward bent flange 74 of the plate 72.

A vertical slot 84 is cut upward from the bottom 86 of the heel sufficient to intercept a horizontal bore 88 extending a sufficient distance inward from the forward end 78 of the heel to intercept the vertical slot 84. That slot 84 may be sized large enough to receive a nut 90 inserted upward from the bottom of the heel; that is, upward from the position shown in FIG. 9 to the position shown in FIG. 10. A long screw fastener 92 is inserted through the plate 72 into the bore 88 extending to the rear to intercept the nut 84 and is threaded therein to tightly secure the heel 76 against the rear of plate 72, with the rear turned flange 74 lying within the groove 82 and imparting effective bracing. The head of the screw 92 is preferably countersunk into the face of the plate 72 so that it will lie flush therewith, whereby the surface of the forward end of the heel 78 and the plate 72 lie within the cutaway portion 80, and the countersunk head of the screw 92 all lying smoothly in the same forward plate comprising the forward end of the heel.

This construction may as desired be further modified to include a larger wedge plate 42, as in FIG. 4, in substitution for the nut 90 and the plate 42 then may be bored and threaded in substitution for the slot 54 therein, to receive a bolt 88, as a combined screw fastener and wedge plate secured thereby. Where, of course, the larger wedge plate 42 is used, the slot 84 would be made larger to correspond to the approximate size of that of 48 and



the dotted slot 46 of FIG. 9 may be cut to correspond in size and shape to that shown in FIG. 4. In this manner additional resistance against twist of the heel will be provided as shown in FIG. 4, the structure of FIG. 4 then being further reenforced by the rear-turned flange 74, but held more tightly by a screw fastener. Of course the plate 70 could have a slot 26 cut therein as in FIG. 1 and an additional raised core element 16 as shown in FIG. 3 may be added for additional securement of the heel against twist or torque in use.

FIGS. 6, 7 and 8 show a modification in which the heel is mounted to the shoe by a single impulse or snap fastening. For this purpose the heel body 200 has an upper flange 12 and a groove 14 adapted to slidingly engage the edge of a plate 202 (FIG. 7) secured to the underside of a sole 22 through a spacer 24, as described above. A slot 26, cut in from the rear of the plate 202 may engage a twist-resisting core 16 as in FIG. 3. The upper surface of the heel 204 will lie flat against the surface 206 of the plate 202. Between the surface of the plate 206 and the upper surface of the heel 204 a U-shaped groove 208 is cut, sized to receive a U-shape spring clasp 210 with its open U portion directed forward as shown. A forward portion of the heel surface 204 is cut away at 212 and cut laterally to a slanted wall 214 at each lateral side to allow lateral clasping movement of the arms of the spring 210 for clasping and unclasping engagement of a boss 216 depending from plate 202. The center portion of the cutaway section 212 thus receives and houses a filling and securing boss 216 supported from the underside surface 206 of the plate 202. The boss 216 has tapered and rounded sides 218 against which the laterally distending spring arms of the clasp 210 will bear and be resiliently separated in the forward sliding mounting of the heel 200 to the plate 202. For that purpose, upon assembly, the resilient arms of the clasp 210 set in the groove 208 of the heel. The heel is brought to the rear of the plate 202 with the edges sliding in groove 14, and by sliding movement the boss 16 engages the ends 220 of the arms of the clasp forcing them laterally apart against walls 214 and sliding upon the sides 218. The core element 16 slidingly enters the slot 26. The ends of spring arms 210 are each bent at right angles toward each other to provide clasp retaining bars 220, each extending only a short clasping distance toward each other, and leaving a substantial opening 222 therebetween. That opening 222 corresponds approximately to the linear distance between the small tapered ends of arcuate sides 218 of the boss 216. After the heel has been moved forward upon the plate 202 a sufficient distance, the clasp ends or retaining bars 220 of the spring arms 210 engage the sides 218 of the boss 216 and are resiliently forced apart laterally toward the slanted lateral walls 214, the bars 220 bearing against the arcuate surface 218 for this purpose, until the heel has been pressed forward to fully engage the plate 202. In that position the spring arms 210 have now fully encompassed and claspingly engage the boss 216 within the grip of the bar ends 220, which after passing the depending sides 218 of the boss, resiliently return laterally to engage the front end of the boss 216 and thus lock the boss and plate to the heel as it is mounted upon the plate with the bar ends 220 securing the boss 216 between them in their spring grip. The heel may be thus easily and quickly mounted upon the plate by a quick sliding movement there, a quick forced distension of the spring arms of the clasp, and a quick locking return to the clasped position of the arms gripping the boss. In this manner the heel is resiliently fastened to the plate in a snap-acting motion of the clasp arms about the boss 216. For removal of the heel of this modification it is necessary only to mechanically press apart the bar ends 220 of the spring arms until they bear laterally against the slanted walls 214, a distance sufficient to release the boss 216 from their grasp, and then slide the heel to the rear until it slides entirely off the retaining edges of the plate 202. To minimize lateral twisting movement, the boss 216 is gen-

erally sized long enough, with respect to the flat cut out housing portion **212**, so that its rear surface **224** bears as a bracing stop against the rear wall **226**. The heel is thus firmly secured against twisting movement by the gripping and support of the plated edges lying within the groove **14**, by the core element **16** lying within the slot **14**, and also by the rear wall of the boss **224** bearing against the cut away wall **226**.

In an alternate construction, as shown in FIGS. 12, 13 and 14, the heel **96** may be secured to the plate **98** by a latching rod **100**. In this modification the plate **98** as shown in FIG. 12 has a deep groove or channel **102** pressed into it preferably from side to side, that is, athwart the heel usualy at about the center portion, but it could be located somewhat forward or behind it, as desired. The same construction may be used with the latching rod slideable longitudinally, along the axes of the shoe, if desired. The heel body **96** has a corresponding slot **104** cut from side to side, or from either side at least a substantial distance inward from a side to receive a latching bar **100** mounted in the heel slot **104** extending as well into and engaging slot **102** of the plate **98**. The heel is mounted on this plate **98** by sliding it inward from the rear for mounting, as in other modifications described above. As shown in FIGS. 4 and 9, the plate **98** may also have a downturned forward plate **172** for its front end which may carry a rear-turned flange **174**. The flange **172** lies within and mates into the correspondingly cut away flange housing portion **180** and flange receiving slot **182** in the forward end of the heel **178**. For mounting of the heel **96** of FIG. 12, it is first slided from the rear forward upon the latching plate **98** until the forward plate **172** lies and is housed flush within the cut away portion **180**, and the rear-turned flange **174** lies within the groove **182**.

In that assembled position the grooves **102** and **104** will be aligned for receiving the lateral sliding latching rod **100** which is slid into locking position from either side of the heel. The center part of the groove **102** may be bored and threaded at **106** to receive a threaded stud **108** which is fastened into the bore **106** after first passing through the latching bar **100**. In this manner the stud **108** prevents the latching bar **100** from being displaced, and the bar **100**, in turn, braces the heel against any twist or torque. The heel otherwise remains securely fastened to the plate **98**, as described for other modifications above, that is, by the edge of the plate **98** being retained within the groove **14** beneath the flange **12**.

While, as shown, the heel of this modification is fastened by a single latching bar **100**, that bar may be substituted by two bars, one inserted from each side, and each having a fastening screw **103** for securing the same; or alternatively, a single shorter section of a bar may be inserted from either side for a short distance to extend slightly beyond the heel center, to have a substantially equal latching effect to prevent rotary torque. Of course the screw fastener **108** can be substituted by other fastening means; for instance, a fastener **38** as shown in FIG. 1 may be inserted upward from the bottom of the heel **96** in the dotted line position thereof, the shank of the screw being passed through the latch **100** and being threaded into the bore **106** for screw threaded securement of the assembly. As in FIG. 1, the stud **38** may be countersunk below the surface of the heel. Moreover, such screw fastener modification as described below in FIG. 17 will be equally suitable for fastening the heel to the plate **98**.

In a further modification, as shown in FIGS. 15 and 16, a heel is formed of two halves **226** and **228** with each portion cut longitudinally of the heel (or laterally when preferred), and each half is provided with deep zig-zag lobes **230** in one side, which fit and intermesh with similar deep complementary zig-zag lobes **232** cut in the opposite half as shown, the assembled pair of halves forming a continuous heel with the lobes intermeshed. For mounting to the shoe, a plate **234** is provided which is fastened by screws, nails or rivets **235** upon a separator **24**, which in turn rests against an extended sole portion **22** in the area of the heel. As thus mounted, the plate **234** has edges **236** spaced away from the heel continuously around its periphery. Consequently, the heel halves for fitting upon such plate have a flange portion **12** in each half extending entirely around the periphery of the heel, the flange portion **12** being separated from the upper surface of the heel by a groove **14**, not shown in this figure, but similar to the groove **14** shown in several of the figures described above. For mounting of the heel the two halves, as in FIG. 15, are slided laterally together from the opposite sides of the plate where the heel has been cut into longitudinal halves, upon the plate **34** until both halves grip the edge of the plate through their flanges **12**, the edges of the plate lying within the groove **14** as in assembled position of FIG. 6. Each of the lobes is sized so that a single longitudinal bore **238** is cut from the forward to the rear completely intercepting and penetrating each of the lobe portions of each heel half, the bore **238** being a continuous passage axially of the assembled heel through each of the meshing lobes as shown in the assembled portion of FIG. 16. Consequently, a single pin **240** is inserted from the forward edge of the heel to the rear for pinning and retaining both assembled heel halves together in locked position from the plate **234**. For removal it is merely necessary to withdraw the pin **240** and slide both heel halves laterally apart on the plate **234**.

In an obvious modification, the two heel halves may be cut laterally; that is, athwart the heel from side to side and mounted with a forward end and a rear portion similarly pinned by a single pin inserted through the meshing lobes passed from either side of the heel. While as shown the meshing lobes are divided into two equal half portions, they may be unequal, and a larger portion corresponding to a forward end and a smaller portion corresponding to an after end, both meshed together in their lobed areas and similarly secured to a heel plate by a pin. That unequal portion may be useful for a heel portion that receives an unusual amount of wear. It would thus be possible to replace only the rearmost portion alone since that would usually receive the greater amount of wear.

In a further modification shown in FIGS. 17 and 18, the heel **10** of FIG. 1 may have a modified fastener to be more securely fixed to a plate. For this purpose the heel **10** is centrally bored with three bores, a central bore **34** as in FIG. 1 to receive the shank **32** of a screw fastener **38** which, as in FIG. 1, threads into a nut **28** retained beneath the plate **20** within a slot **27**. Two additional bores **242** are cut through the heel **10** on each side of the bore **34** to receive parallel bracing arms **244** secured to a horizontal yoke bar **246**. The bottom surface of the heel **10** is further grooved, trenched or indented at **248** inward of the wearing surface to receive the horizontal yoke bar **246** with the vertical bracing arms **244** lying within the bores **242**. The plate **20** is further bored at **250** to receive the extending upper ends of the arms **244**, to allow the further bracing of the heel upon the plate **20** by the yoke arms **244** extending within the bores **250** after passing through the heel **10**. The modification, accordingly, of FIGS. 17 and 18 allows similar quick fastening of the heel **10** as in the FIG. 1 by a single screw fastener **38** after sliding of the heel upon the plate **20**, but imparts a greater bracing effect in that easily secured position by the presence of the yoke bar **246** and arms **244** which distribute the fastening tension imparted by the fastener **38** over a wider area of the heel surface through the yoke bar **246** and further resists any twisting tendency of the heel in use.

As thus described, several readily secured, removable heel elements are provided, each securing the heel against rotary movement. Other modifications of the constructions shown will occur to those skilled in the art within the spirit of this invention and it is accordingly intended

that the several descriptions be regarded as illustrative and not limiting except as defined in the claims appended hereto.

I claim:

1. A readily removable heel structure comprising a heel shaped retaining plate having plane sides rounded at the rear, spacing means for mounting said plate below the heel area of a shoe body, said retaining plate having side and rear edges extending outwardly of said spacing means for support of a heel thereon, a slot formed a substantial radial distance inward toward the center from the rear edge of said plate, a heel having a flange extending inward around its upper edge and separated from the upper heel surface by a groove cooperative with the spaced edges of said retaining plate for slidably mounting the heel upon said plate and a core element on said heel extending radially inward from said flange and positioned to lie in sliding fit within the slot in said plate on sliding engagement of the heel thereon, and ready fastening means on said heel securing it to said plate against sliding disengagement of the heel and plate.

2. A readily removable heel structure comprising a heel shaped retaining plate having plane sides rounded at the rear, spacing means for mounting said plate below the heel area of a shoe body, said retaining plate having side and rear edges extending outwardly of said spacing means for support of a heel thereon, a screw fastening element retained centrally between said plate and shoe body, said plate having a bore therein for fastener communication with said screw fastening element, a heel having a flange disposed inward around the edge of its upper surface cooperative with the spaced edges of the retaining plate for sliding securement of said heel upon said plate and adapted to be retained with the flange of the heel between the plate and shoe body, a screw fastener, said heel having a bore extending vertically through the center thereof for receiving said screw fastener cooperative with the screw fastening element retained by said plate, said flange and screw fastener removably securing said heel at its edges and centrally to said plate.

3. The readily removable heel structure defined in claim 2 wherein the vertically bored heel further has additional spaced vertical bores beside the center bore, a yoke bar having yoke arms, each additionally spaced vertical bore receiving the yoke arms of said yoke bar, said yoke bar having an intermediate bore formed therein aligned with said first bore and receiving the screw fastener, said plate having further bores therein correspondingly on either side of the fastener receiving bore receiving the yoke arms of said yoke bar, said heel having an indentation in its lower surface receiving said yoke bar and lying substantially flush with the lower heel surface, said screw fastener being mounted cooperative with the screw fastener element retained by said plate in alignment with the bore in the center of said yoke bar, whereby the yoke bar and screw fastener centrally secures and braces the center portion of said heel against said plate.

4. A readily removable heel structure comprising a heel shaped retaining plate having plane sides rounded at the rear, spacing means for mounting said plate spaced below the heel area of a shoe body with its edges exposed and spaced below the shoe body for heel support thereon, the forward portion of said plate having a downturned flange, said downturned flange having a longitudinal bore therein, a heel having a flange disposed inward around the edge of its upper surface and spaced therefrom cooperative with the spaced edges of the retaining plate for sliding securement of said heel upon said plate with the flange of the heel slidingly and adapted to be retained between said plate and shoe body and with the forward edge of said heel bearing against the face of said downturned flange, a slot formed vertically through the center portion of said heel, a horizontal bore in said heel aligned with the longitudinal bore in said downturned flange and intercepting said vertical slot, a veritcal fastening element having a horizontal slot, and mounted in said vertical heel slot, said horizontal slot of said vertical fastening element being aligned with the horizontal bore of said heel, a horizontal fastening element, said horizontal fastening element mounted in the longitudinal bore of said heel, intercepting said slot in the downturned flange and the horizontal slot of said vertical fastening element for securing said heel to said plate.

5. The readily removable heel structure defined in claim 4 wherein the horizontal fastening element is a stud screw and the vertical fastening element mounted in the vertical slot is a screw threaded element cooperative with said stud.

6. A readily removable heel structure comprising a heel shaped retaining plate having plane sides rounded at the rear, spacing means for mounting said plate spaced between the heel area of a shoe body for heel support thereon, said retaining plate having a dependent boss at its forward edge, said depending boss having tapered rounded edges, a heel having a flange disposed inward around the edge of its upper surface cooperative with the spaced edges of the retaining plate for sliding securement of said heel upon said plate, with the flange of the heel being adapted to be retained between the plate and shoe body, a U-shaped spring clamp having springs with inturned ends, a horizontally disposed U-shaped groove formed in the upper surface of the heel receiving and retaining said U-shaped spring clamp for sliding distension of the spring arms about the round tapered edges of the depending boss for firm clasping securement about the outer end of said depending boss, an angular cut depression on the top portion of said heel for slidingly receiving and housing said depending boss, and allowing lateral displacement of said spring arms in sliding locking engagement about said depending boss.

7. The heel structure defined in claim 6 wherein the plate has a slot formed inward a substantial radial distance toward the center from the rear edges thereof, a core element formed integral with the upper heel, a flange extending radially inward from a position corresponding to said slot, said core being received within said slot in sliding fit to engage the heel upon the retaining plate.

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