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E. J. HOOPER

SHOE

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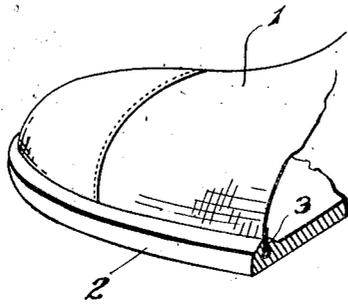


Fig. 1.

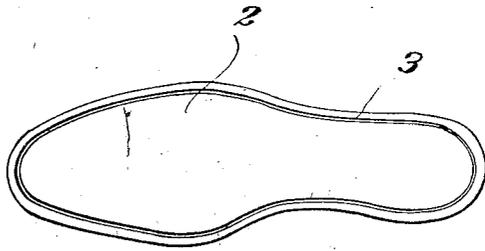


Fig. 2.

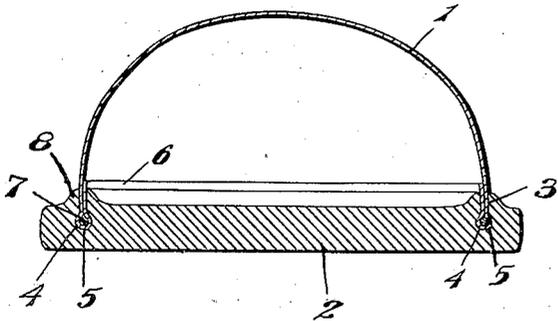


Fig. 3.

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SHOE.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWARD J. HOOPER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Belleville, in the county of Essex and State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Shoes; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to shoes, and more particularly to the attachment of the upper of the shoe to the sole thereof.

The objects of the invention are to provide improved means for securing the upper to the sole; to provide an attachment which avoids stitching the upper to the sole; to provide an attachment which will not readily become separated and will therefore keep the shoe neat and pleasing in appearance; to provide an attachment which may be very readily effected, simple, strong and permanent; and to obtain other advantages and results as may be brought out in the following description.

Referring to the accompanying drawing in which like numerals of reference indicate similar parts throughout the several views;

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a portion of the shoe embodying my invention;

Figure 2 is a plan view of the inside of the sole; and

Figure 3 is a cross sectional view across the toe of the shoe.

In the specific embodiment of the invention illustrated in said drawing, the reference numeral 1 indicates in general the upper of the shoe and the reference numeral 2 indicates the sole of the shoe. The sole in the preferred construction is preferably rubber or composition, although it is to be understood I do not restrict myself to any particular material. Likewise, I prefer to manufacture the shoe with a fabric upper, but this likewise may be varied.

Adjacent the edge of the sole 2, on the inside face thereof, I provide a channel 3 extending continuously around the sole. It will be observed that this channel 3 opens upwardly, and is of appropriate size and shape for receiving the lower edge of the upper 1. Furthermore, said channel 3 is preferably undercut, that is, is larger at the bottom than at the top, as indicated at 4. The upper is arranged so that its lower edge

will be enlarged or provided with a suitable bead 5 to engage in the undercut portion 4 of the channel and lock the upper in the channel. As one means of obtaining such a bead or enlargement of the upper 1, I have shown the lower marginal portion 6 thereof turned back upon itself and including a flexible element 7 within the turned back portion thereby enlarging the turned over edge. This flexible element 7 may be of any suitable material, and for convenience and economy I prefer to use twine, wicking or the like. For greater strength, the sole preferably slopes upwardly as at 8 adjacent the channel 3, thus giving additional material at this place and also obtaining greater rigidity of the sole so as to prevent the channel from opening readily when the shoe is in use.

Preferably the channel 3 is cut perpendicular to the plane of the sole and extends continuously around the margin thereof. By reason of this structure the entire upper may be readily attached to the sole by one operation, having its lower edge forced downwardly into said slot.

When the upper and sole are assembled, it is within the scope of the invention to employ a suitable cement to hold the parts together, or to omit any such cement where the quality of materials used will obtain a sufficiently rigid structure as to prevent opening of the channel and separation of the parts. Likewise, if so desired the parts may be vulcanized after assembling for insuring a rigid and permanent attachment of the upper to the sole.

Obviously other detail changes and modifications may be made in the construction, manufacture and use of my improved shoe without departing from the spirit or scope of the invention, and I do not wish to limit myself except as required by the following claims when read in the light of the prior art.

Having thus described my invention, I claim:—

1. In a shoe, the combination of a sole having a channel enlarged adjacent its bottom, an upper having an enlarged lower edge introduced into said enlarged part of the channel for attaching the upper to the sole.

2. In a shoe, the combination of a sole having a channel enlarged adjacent its bottom, an upper having its lower mar-

gin turned back on itself, and a flexible element within said turned back portion for enlarging the lower edge whereby the same will be held within and by said undercut channel.

5 3. In a shoe, the combination of a sole having means for securing an upper, an upper carried by said means, said means including an increased thickness in the sole

at the line of attachment with the upper 10 therewith.

4. A shoe comprising a sole and an upper, the upper secured to the sole by having its edge enlarged and resiliently clasped between the walls of a channel formed in the 15 sole.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.
EDWARD J. HOOPER.