

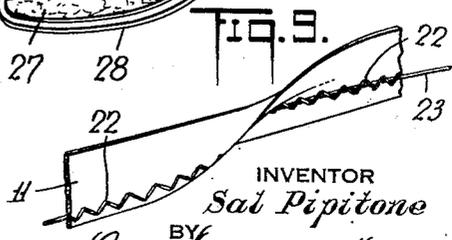
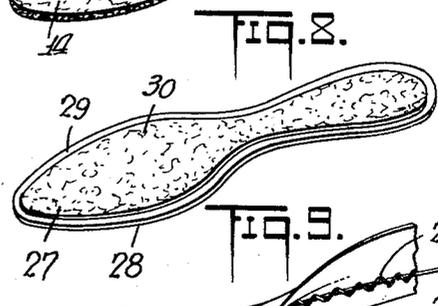
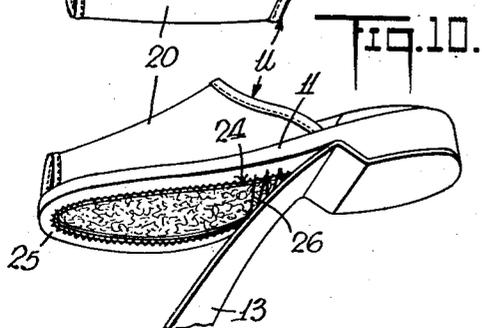
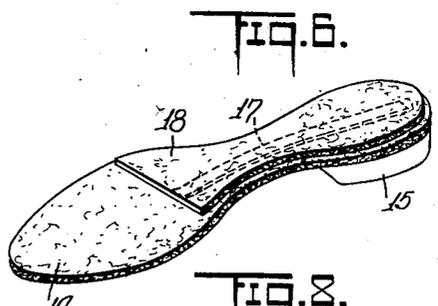
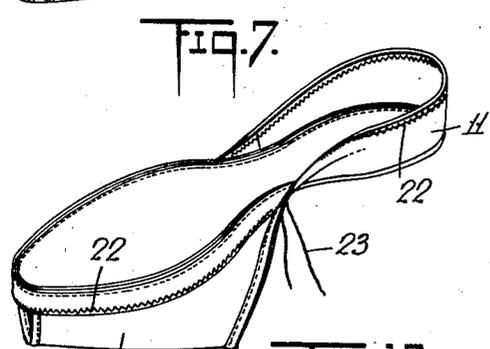
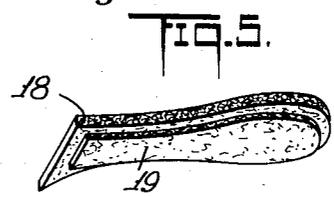
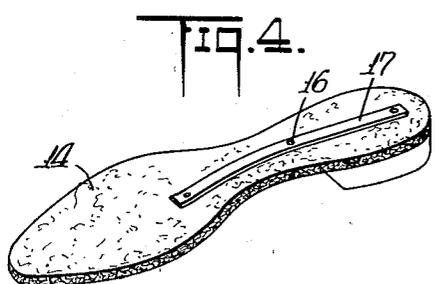
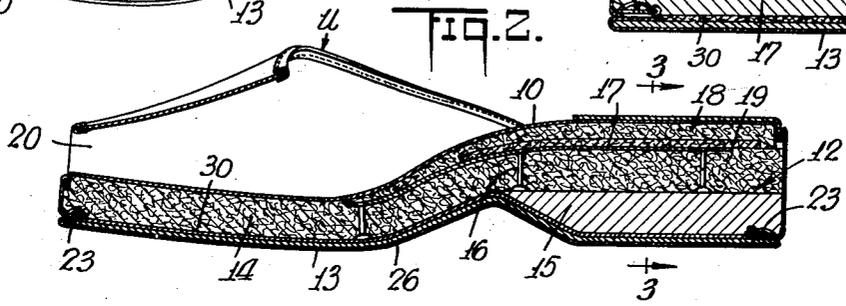
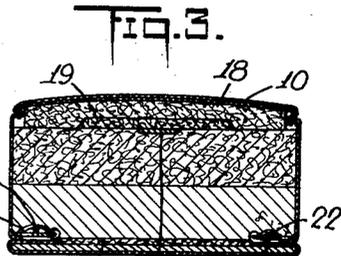
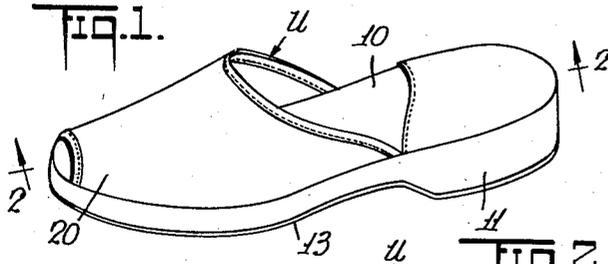
Feb. 20, 1945.

S. PIPITONE

2,370,109

FOOTWEAR

Filed Sept. 1, 1943



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## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,370,109

FOOTWEAR

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4 Claims. (Cl. 36—19.5)

The present invention relates to footwear and has a particular field of utility in slippers for ladies' boudoir use.

It is among the objects of the invention to provide footwear of the above type, which shall afford enhanced comfort in wear and shall be durable in use and which may be produced expeditiously at relatively low cost, largely by machine-work and with a minimum of hand-work, but shall yet afford assurance of neatness and accuracy in workmanship difficult to attain even by the most careful hand-work, and have the earmarks of a more costly hand-made or custom-made article.

The present application is a continuation in part of my copending application, Serial No. 424,253, filed December 24, 1941, now Patent No. 2,344,957, granted March 14, 1944.

In the accompanying drawing, in which is shown one of various possible embodiments of the several features of the invention,

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of the slipper.

Fig. 2 is a view in longitudinal cross-section on a slightly larger scale taken on line 2—2 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a view in transverse cross-section taken on line 3—3 of Fig. 2.

Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the reinforced felt sole body.

Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the felt heel cushion member.

Fig. 6 is a perspective view of the sub-assembly made up of the elements of Figs. 4 and 5.

Fig. 7 is a perspective view of the inverted upper with its attached peripheral binding partly turned down.

Fig. 8 is a perspective view showing the undersole.

Fig. 9 is a fragmentary perspective view showing the drawstring arrangement on the binding, and

Fig. 10 is a perspective view showing the complete assembly with the undersole partly removed.

The article of footwear, shown as a slipper, as appears from the perspective view of Fig. 1 and the sections of Figs. 2 and 3, comprises generally speaking, an assembly of an upper, U, having an insole 10 with a binding 11 encompassing the peripheral edge of the sole body 12 to the base of which is adhesively applied an undersole 13.

The sole body includes a felt sole piece 14 to the under face of which there is adhesively attached the heel 15 desirably of laminated paper

and to the upper face of which is riveted as at 16 an axially disposed narrow spring steel reinforcing strip 17 extending from near the rear of the heel end to somewhat beyond the "waist."

Over the element of Fig. 4 there is superposed a heel cushion shown in Fig. 5. This cushion may comprise a flat sheet 18 of felt preferably backed by a narrower and shorter strip 19 of felt or equivalent yielding material longitudinally thereof and adhesively secured thereto. The narrow strip 19 of the unit of Fig. 5 is superposed over that of Fig. 4 and adhesively secured thereto as shown in Fig. 6.

The upper shown in Fig. 7 includes the inner sole 10 and vamp piece 20. The binding 11 is stitched peripherally about the insole 10 desirably in the same stitching operation by which the vamp is attached thereto. That part of the insole which extends to the rear of the vamp is attached solely to said binder.

The assembly of Fig. 6 and the upper of Fig. 7 are now combined to produce the substantially complete slipper structure. For this purpose, the binding strip 11 before the same is incorporated in the assembly of Fig. 7, is desirably made up with zigzag stitching 22 lengthwise along and completely about the free edge and on both sides thereof, as best shown in Fig. 8. A drawstring 23 is desirably anchored in place under the zigzag stitching at the outer face of the binding concurrently with the zigzag stitching operation.

The assembly of Fig. 6 is superposed upon the inverted insole 10, so that it is encompassed by the upstanding rim of the binding 11. Thereupon the drawstring 23 is drawn tight by hand and knotted in place at 24. In this tightening of the drawstring, the upstanding wall of the binding strip 11 is automatically laid down neatly at 25 over the felt sole piece 14 neatly and securely to encompass the edge of the sole body. If desired, cross stitching 26 may be used at the constricted median part to draw the opposite in-turned edges of the binding together, for tacking the same at the narrow or central portion thereof. The binding strip is thus secured with great expedition and perfect neatness about the sole body, and this at a cost of but a fraction of that involved in a hand stitching operation. In this operation, the binding strip is maintained in tensioned condition about the rear part of the insole and the heel cushion of Fig. 5 is thereby snugly compressed between the sole body 12 and the insole 10, so that in the specific embodiment shown, the felt section 18 becomes longitudinally

bowed about the narrower felt backing 19 thereof, as best shown in Fig. 3.

The undersole assembly shown in Fig. 8 may comprise a body of paper or cardboard 27 covered with leather underface 28, the border of which is turned inward and adhesively secured as at 29. Over the inner face is adhesively secured a layer 30 of cotton batting. The undersole assembly may now be adhesively attached over the base of the sole body to conform to the contour of the heel 15 as shown in Figs. 2 and 10. The undersole assembly completely seals the drawstring 23, the inturned rim 25 of the binding 11 and the felt 14.

The compressed felt heel piece affords extraordinary comfort in use.

It will be understood that while the invention finds its preferred application to boudoir slippers for ladies, it is not limited to such use, but might be applied to other articles of footwear.

As many changes could be made in the above construction, and many apparently widely different embodiments of this invention could be made without departing from the scope of the claims, it is intended that all matter contained in the above description, or shown in the accompanying drawing, shall be interpreted as illustrative and not in a limiting sense.

Having thus described my invention what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States is:

1. An article of footwear comprising a sole body having a cushion structure, an insole, a vamp attached to and rising from the forward part thereof, a binding stitched about the periphery of said insole and being the sole element attached to that part of the insole which extends to the rear of the vamp, said binding encompassing said sole body and being inturned and secured at its lower edge under said sole body in tensioned condition about said entire rear part of the insole, whereby the insole is bowed about said cushion structure and maintains the same under compression, and

an undersole overlapping the inturned part of the binding and attached thereto.

2. An article of footwear comprising a sole body, having a felt cushion structure at the rear part thereof and with a heel affixed thereunder, an insole, a vamp attached to and rising from the forward part thereof, a binding strip stitched peripherally about said insole and being the sole element attached to that part of the insole to the rear of the vamp, said binding strip encompassing said sole body and being maintained tightly thereabout with its edge under said sole body and the heel thereof, thereby maintaining the insole stretched and bowed over the correspondingly compressed felt cushion structure, and an undersole overlapping the inturned part of the binding and attached thereto.

3. An article of footwear, comprising a sole body, having a felt cushion structure at the rear part thereof with a heel affixed thereunder, an insole, a vamp attached and rising from the forward part thereof, a peripheral binding strip about said insole and being the sole element attached to that part of the insole that extends rearwardly of the vamp, said insole and said binding strip being held together by peripheral stitching, said binding strip encompassing the sole body and being peripherally inturned and secured under tension with its edge under the sole body and the heel thereof, and smoothly covering the lateral wall of said heel, thereby maintaining the insole stretched and bowed over the edge of the heel end of the correspondingly compressed cushion structure and an undersole overlapping the inturned edge of the binding and attached to the under surface of the sole body and its heel.

4. The article of footwear as claimed in claim 3 in which the binding has zigzag stitching about the periphery thereof, a drawstring maintained by said zigzag stitching and in taut relation, thereby holding the edge of the binding inward under the sole body and maintaining the tension.

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