May 17, 1960 M. PAYNOR 2,936,533

STRAP SUPPORT FOR SHOES

Filed July 21, 1959

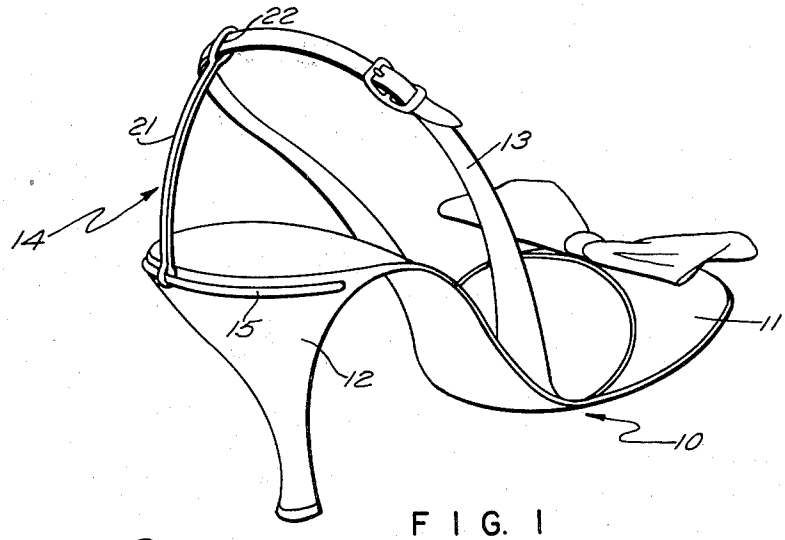


FIG. 1

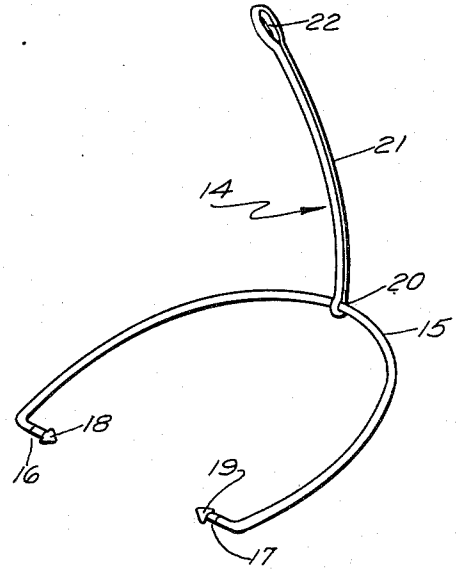


FIG. 2

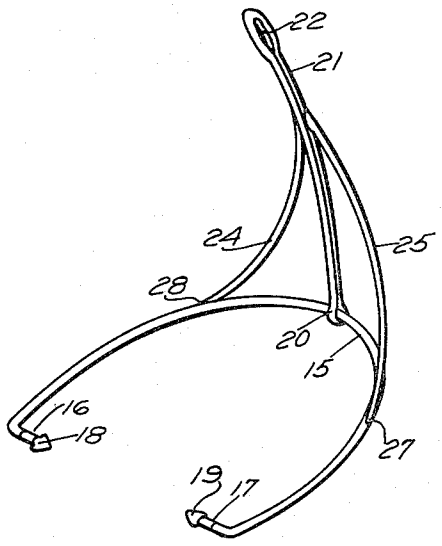


FIG. 3

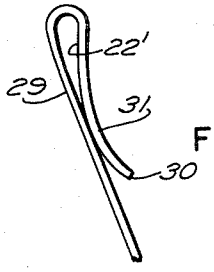


FIG. 4

INVENTOR.
MELVIN PAYNOR

BY
Parlow & Parlow
ATTORNEYS

United States Patent Office 2,936,533 Patented May 17, 1960

2,936,533

STRAP SUPPORT FOR SHOES

Melvin Paynor, Providence, R.I., assignor to Fulford Manufacturing Company, a corporation of Rhode Island

Application July 21, 1959, Serial No. 828,653

1 Claim. (Cl. 36—2.5)

This invention relates to a strap support for shoes and particularly to a means for preventing the strap on certain types of heelless ladies' shoes from falling down over the heel.

Certain types of ladies' shoes have no heel portion and approach that of a sandal. In this particular type of shoe there is a strap leading from an area adjacent the arch portion toward the heel portion of the shoe, which strap is generally arched upwardly to engage the ankle portion of one's foot. Such straps have a tendency to slip down over the heel and it is therefore the principal object of this invention to produce a simple and efficient support means which is adapted to be attached to the heel portion of a shoe for preventing the strap from slipping.

Another object of the invention is to provide a supporting means for the strap of a heelless shoe which may be readily attached to the heel portion of the shoe and be decorative.

A still further object of the invention is to provide a strap supporting means which is contoured to the general heel outline of one's foot.

With these and other objects in view, the invention consists of certain novel features of construction as will be more fully described and particularly pointed out in the appended claim.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a shoe showing the strap supporting device attached;

Figure 2 is a perspective view of the strap supporting device;

Figure 3 is a perspective view of an alternate form of strap supporting device; and

Figure 4 is a partial elevational view showing an alternate top loop construction.

Referring now to the drawings, **10** generally indicates a lady's heelless shoe which is provided with a toe portion **11**, a heel portion **12** and a strap **13** which extends from the area just forward of the shank portion. The strap supporting device of the invention **14**, as will be seen by referring to Fig. 2, consists of a U-shaped piece of material **15** which has inturned ends **16, 17** that are flattened and are provided with barbed tipped ends **18, 19**. From the central bridge portion of the U as at **20**, a supporting strip **21** rises in a general arcuate direction substantially vertical from the planal extent of the U portion **15**. This supporting strip **21** may be formed from a length of half-round material which is spread to form a loop portion **22** and then doubled back upon itself to the point of attachment **20** where the material may be soldered, brazed or otherwise secured to the U portion **15**. For purposes of rigidity it is preferred that the material used in forming the particular supporting strip be tempered wire which will supply the necessary springiness and rigidity to the assembly.

The assembly shown in Fig. 2 is attached to the heel

portion **12** of the shoe by spreading the ends **16** and **17** of the U piece **15** and then driving the pointed ends **18** and **19** into the shoe structure just beneath the sole lining. By virtue of the fact that the U-shaped portion snuggly grips the rear portion of the heel and since the ends **16** and **17** are flattened, rotative movement of the U-shape portion relative to the heel is substantially prevented. At this point it is merely necessary to pass the end of the strap **13** through the loop **22** where it can remain threaded inasmuch as the support means **14** does not interfere with the normal use of the shoe and can be left in place at all times.

In Figure 3 there is shown an alternate form wherein side arm portions **24, 25** extend in an arcuate path from a point above the center point of the supporting strip **21** and thence on to the sides of the U-shape piece **15** as at **27, 28**. These side arm portions **24, 25** are soldered, brazed or otherwise suitably secured to the U-portion **15** and to the supporting strip **21** and extend in a same general curve as does the support **21** so that the whole assembly tends to first bulge rearwardly and then extend forwardly, thus simulating the curve of the rear section of one's foot over the heel and toward the ankle section.

Should it be desired, the loop portion **22** may be varied from that shown in Figs. 2 and 3 and may take the form as shown in Fig. 4 wherein a loop portion **22'** is formed by a single piece of wire **29** that raises upwardly from the point of attachment as at **20** and is reversely bent to form the loop portion **22'** and then terminates as at **30** first bending inwardly to form a keeper as at **31**. In this form of construction it is not necessary to pass the strap end **13** through a loop but merely necessary to hook the strap underneath the end **30** passing it between the bite as at **31** and into the loop portion at **22**.

From the foregoing it will be seen that a simple and effective strap support has been produced which is provided with the necessary attaching means to facilitate its use in conjunction with a shoe and which is provided with a support arm that conforms to the contour of the wearer's ankle thereby preventing the same from bulging when in use.

I claim:

In a shoe construction having a toe portion, heel portion and a shank joining said portions, a strap extending from the shank toward the heel portion, a strap support having a U-shaped base portion with inwardly turned ends embracing the periphery of the heel portion, said ends carrying barbs and being flattened in the planal extent of said portion, said barbs extending into the heel portion, an arched support strip extending substantially normal to the planal extent of said base portion and being fixedly attached thereto, a loop portion at the end of said strip, the arched strip extending in a direction toward the shank portion and supporting the strap in an elevated position above the heel portion.

References Cited in the file of this patent

UNITED STATES PATENTS

208,612	Koopman	Oct. 1, 1878
256,030	Morton	Apr. 4, 1882
355,258	Edney	Dec. 28, 1886
1,109,107	Byrnes	Sept. 1, 1914
1,448,600	Shortridge	Mar. 13, 1923
1,900,515	Miller	Mar. 7, 1933

FOREIGN PATENTS

81,305	Switzerland	July 1, 1919
81,603	Switzerland	July 1, 1919
695,509	France	Sept. 30, 1930
697,221	France	Oct. 27, 1930