Dec. 16, 1930. H. S. BUTTENHEIM 1,785,512

CLEANER FOR SHOE LININGS

Filed Sept. 20, 1929

Fig. 1.

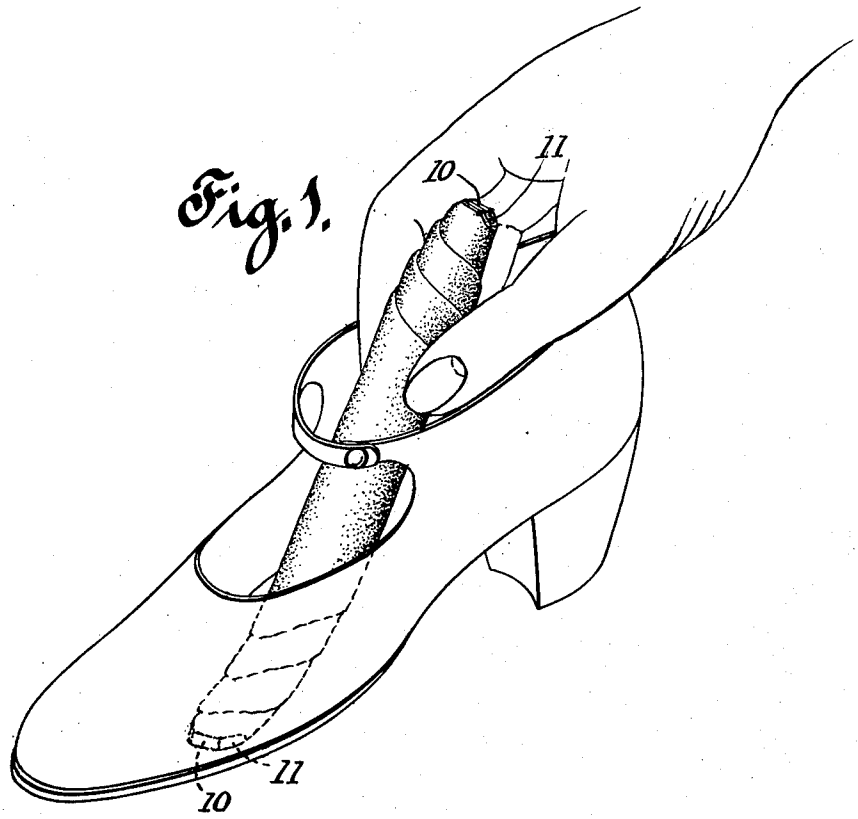
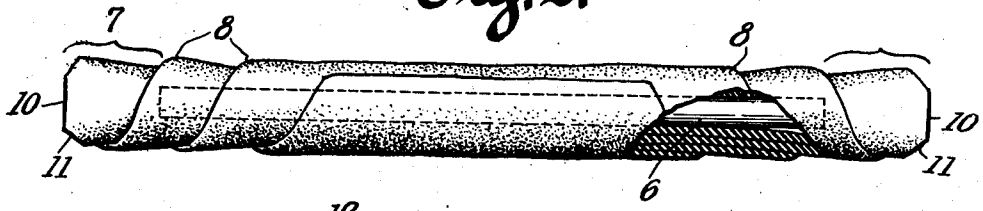


Fig. 2.



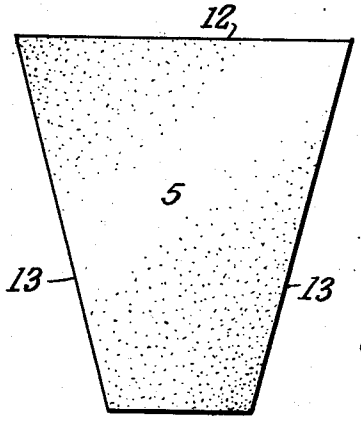


Fig. 3.



Fig. 2a.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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CLEANER FOR SHOE LININGS

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In the commercial manufacture of shoes, the linings of the shoes are frequently soiled and discolored by the hands of the operators and the machinery, tools and materials employed.

The objects of this invention are to provide inexpensive, practical means for cleaning the shoe linings.

These and other desirable objects are attained by the novel form of cleaner described in the following specification and illustrated in the accompanying drawing forming part of the specification.

Figure 1 in the drawing is a perspective view illustrating the method of using the cleaner to scour out the inside of a shoe.

Figure 2 is a plan and broken sectional view of the cleaner.

Figure 2*a* is a broken detail of one end portion of the cleaner, turned at right angles from the position illustrated in Figure 2.

Figure 3 is a plan view of the rubber sheet which is rolled to form the cleaner.

In the form of the invention illustrated, a sheet 5 of unvulcanized or virgin crepe rubber is rolled upon a length of flexible reed 6. This reed, as indicated in Figure 2, does not extend the full length of the roll, thus leaving resilient, flexible and more or less tapered portions 7 at the ends of the intermediate body portion. This intermediate portion, reinforced by the reed or stick, serves as a handle by which the device may be held and used after the manner indicated in Figure 1, to scour out the inside of the shoe.

The rolling of the sheet material provides the external ridges 8, which serve as shoulders, aiding in the scrubbing and cleansing action.

The tips of the cleaner may be flattened down after the manner indicated at 9 in Figure 2*a*, and these flattened tip portions may be cut off squarely at the ends, at 10, and on inclines 11 at the opposite edges to form a series of angularly related facets adapted to reach up into the toe portions of the shoes.

The sheet of unvulcanized rubber may be cut after the manner indicated in Figure 3; that is, in generally trapezoidal form, and be rolled on the reed starting with the base edge 12 so that the convergent side edges 13 will form the helical scrubbing edges or shoulders 8.

The crepe rubber in the unvulcanized form is more or less sticky so that the overlaid convolutions will adhere and form a tight roll by simply rolling the sheet over the reed. A separate adhesive, however, may be employed if found desirable. The reed provides a form and reinforcement for the roll, giving it sufficient strength and stiffness to operate up into the far toe portion of the shoe, and will itself yield sufficiently to prevent pressure being applied which might injure the material of the lining.

What is claimed is:

1. A cleaner for shoe linings, comprising a trapezoidal sheet of unvulcanized crepe rubber rolled closely upon itself with external helical scrubbing shoulders provided by the convergent side edges of the sheet and a stiffening rod at the center of said roll.

2. A cleaner for shoe linings, comprising a trapezoidal sheet of unvulcanized crepe rubber rolled closely upon itself with external helical scrubbing shoulders provided by the convergent side edges of the sheet, the ends of said roll being flattened and the layers of rubber at such ends being cut off to form angularly related scrubbing facets.

3. A cleaner for shoe linings, comprising a short stick and a sheet of unvulcanized virgin crepe rubber having a portion of greater width than the length of said stick rolled tightly on said stick with the wider portions of the sheet projecting beyond the ends of the stick, thereby entirely enclosing the stick and providing freely flexible resilient portions projecting beyond the ends of the stick, the outer convolutions of the roll being of less width than said projecting portions and forming helical scrubbing shoulders on the outside of the roll.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

HAROLD S. BUTTENHEIM.