Dec. 6, 1966 R. R. WEISS 3,289,329

SOCK

Filed Oct. 7, 1963

FIG. 1

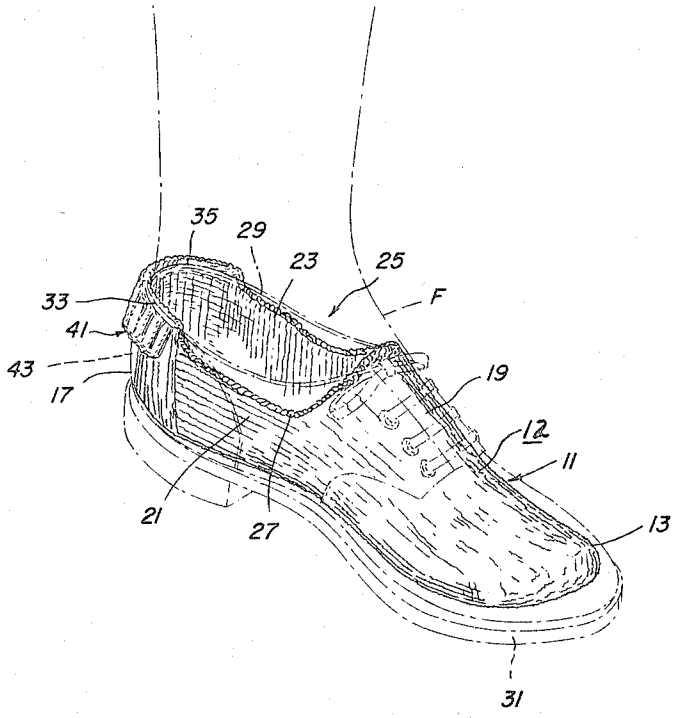


FIG. 2

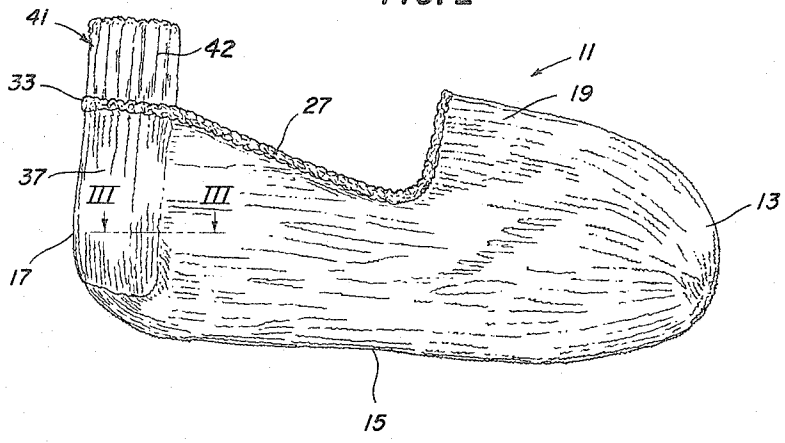
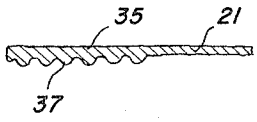


FIG. 3



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SOCK

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This invention relates to an improved sock construction, and particularly relates to that type of sock which has substantially none of the sock protruding above the shoe.

Socks of the above-mentioned type are generally used for sportswear, particularly in playing golf, tennis, and for hiking, and are especially worn by women who desire to get the same tan on the top of their feet and ankles as on their legs. There has heretofore been the problem associated with this type of sock of the sock not staying up and working down into the shoe. This problem can be appreciated when it is considered that in golf, tennis, and hiking there is a great deal of walking done or exercise in which the feet are moved around to cause the sock to have a tendency to fall down in the shoe. There have been previous attempts to solve this problem, but none have been entirely satisfactory for one reason or another.

The present invention is directed towards solving the above-mentioned and other problems in socks of this type.

Thus, one of the objects of the present invention is to provide a sock of the heretofore mentioned type which stays in place in the shoe.

A further object is to provide such a sock that covers all of the necessary places where rubbing might otherwise take place, and which is comfortable to the wearer.

A further object is to provide such a sock that cradles the foot and clings to the shoe so that it remains firmly in place.

A further object is to provide such a sock that has a unique heel portion that assists in keeping the sock in place.

A further object is to provide such a heel portion that includes an inner portion and a relatively thick outer portion, which are combined to provide a heel portion thickness that is at least twice the thickness of the remaining portions of the body of the sock.

A further object is to provide such a heel portion that extends upwardly from the sole to the rearward portion of the sock edge and upwardly therebeyond for a substantial distance to provide a substantially rectangular tab having vertically extending ribs, and adapted to be folded down over the outside of the heel of the shoe to assist in holding the sock in place.

A further object is generally to improve the design and construction of socks.

The means by which the foregoing and other objects of the present invention are accomplished and the manner of their accomplishment will be readily understood from the following specification upon reference to the accompanying drawings, in which:

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of the sock of the present invention shown in place on the foot of a wearer and with the shoe and the foot of the wearer being shown in broken lines.

FIG. 2 is a side elevational view of the sock of the present invention shown in a flat position.

FIG. 3 is an enlarged sectional view taken as on the line III—III of FIG. 2.

Referring now to the drawings in which the various parts are indicated by numerals, the sock **11** of the present invention comprises a sock body **12** including a toe **13**, sole **15**, heel **17**, instep engaging portion **19**, and opposite sides **21**, **23**.

Sock **11** includes an opening **25** through which the foot F of the wearer is adapted to pass in putting on the sock. Opening **25** is defined by an edge **27** which is preferably of a firmer stitch such as crocheting so that the edge will encircle and hug the foot F of the wearer. Edge **27** preferably includes an elastic thread to grip the foot to cause it to feel firm and secure and to help keep the shape of the sock. Edge **27** is of such a height that it extends to a place adjacent the edge **29** of the shoe **31** when the shoe and the sock are in place on the foot F of the wearer, as shown in FIG. 1. Although edge **27** extends to a place adjacent edge **29**, it does not extend thereabove so that substantially the entire area of the foot F which is exposed by the shoe **31** is also exposed by the sock **11**. Edge **27** includes a rearward portion **33** adjacent heel **17**, which, in addition to its function as a means for closely embracing the foot F, also serves as a hinge-like structure, as will be better understood in the description to follow. It should be noted that the cut of opening **25** appears substantially V-shaped when sock **11** is placed flat, as shown in FIG. 2, so that when the sock is worn with a shoe the portions of edge **27** adjacent the sides **21**, **23** will be spaced well below the edge of the shoe while those portions of edge **27** adjacent heel **17** and instep **19** will be nearer the edge of the shoe to cover places where the shoe might otherwise rub the wearer's foot.

The heel **17** and the related structure form an important part of the present invention and is preferably constructed as follows: Heel **17** comprises an inner portion **35** that is the actual portion that engages the heel of the wearer, and is preferably a plain purl stitch. In addition, heel **17** includes a relatively thick outer portion **37** that is integrally formed by suitable well-known knitting means with the inner portion **35** and is preferably formed by stitches which include slip stitches and knit stitches, that is, knitting one or more stitches alternated with slipping one or more stitches to establish a somewhat rib-like appearance with the ridges or ribs extending vertically. Thus, inner and outer portions **35**, **37** form a relatively firm reinforced heel which is at least twice the thickness of the remainder of the body of the sock and which extends from adjacent sole **15** upwardly to rearward portion **33** to aid in holding the sock in place on the foot of the wearer and prevent it from falling down. Also, the material of heel **17** preferably continues upwardly for a substantial distance, as, for example, 1½ inches, beyond rearward portion **33** to establish a substantially rectangular tab **41**. In other words, when the sock **11** is in the flat position shown in FIG. 2, the tab **41** forms an extension of heel **17** that extends above rearward portion **33**. Tab **41** is preferably formed by a ribbed stitch to establish vertical ribs **42**. Tab **41** is adapted to be folded down over the outside heel **43** of the shoe **31**, as seen in FIG. 1, with the rearward portion **33** serving as the hinge or folding place, which tab aids in keeping the sock **11** in place on the foot F of the wearer.

From the foregoing description it will be understood that the sock of the present invention stays firmly in place and will not fall down into the shoe, yet provides a sock which is very comfortable to the wearer. In addition, the sock of the present invention is neat in appearance and economical to manufacture. Additionally, the sock of the present invention exposes substantially all of the foot of the wearer that is exposed by the shoe, and yet covers all of the necessary places where rubbing might otherwise take place.

Although the invention has been described and illustrated with respect to a preferred embodiment thereof, it is to be understood that it is not to be so limited since changes and modifications may be made therein which

are within the full intended scope of this invention as hereinafter claimed.

I claim:

A sock comprising a body including a toe, sole, heel and instep engaging portion; said sock body having an upper crocheted edge defining a substantially V-shaped opening through which the foot of the wearer is adapted to pass, said edge including elastic means therein and being of a height to extend adjacent the edge of a shoe to be worn with said edge of said sock adjacent the sides thereof being spaced substantially below the edge of the shoe and with said edge of said sock adjacent said heel and said instep engaging portion being closer to the edge of the shoe whereby none of said sock extends over the portions of the wearer's foot and ankle that are exposed by the shoe and yet the portions of the shoe which might otherwise rub are covered, said edge including a rearward portion adjacent said heel of said sock, said heel of said sock comprising an inner portion and a relatively thick outer portion of a plurality of vertically extending rib-like structures which provides a heel thickness of at least twice the thickness of the remainder of the body of the sock, said heel of said sock extending

upwardly from said sole to said rearward portion of said edge and upwardly therebeyond for a substantial distance to provide a substantially rectangular tab having vertically extending ribs and adapted to be folded down over the outside heel of the shoe to be worn with said rearward portion of said edge serving as the folding place.

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