May 22, 1928. 1,670,468

F. H. MARTIN ET AL

SLIDE FASTENER BOOT AND METHOD OF MAKING THE SAME

Filed July 31, 1926

Fig. 1.

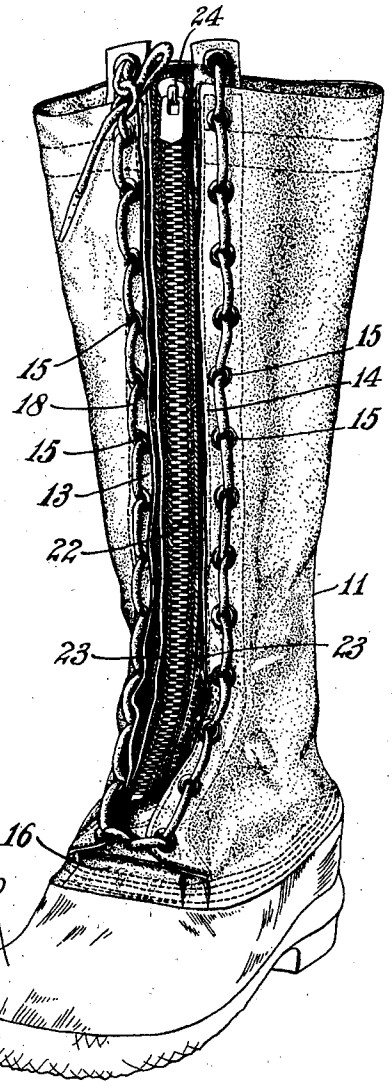
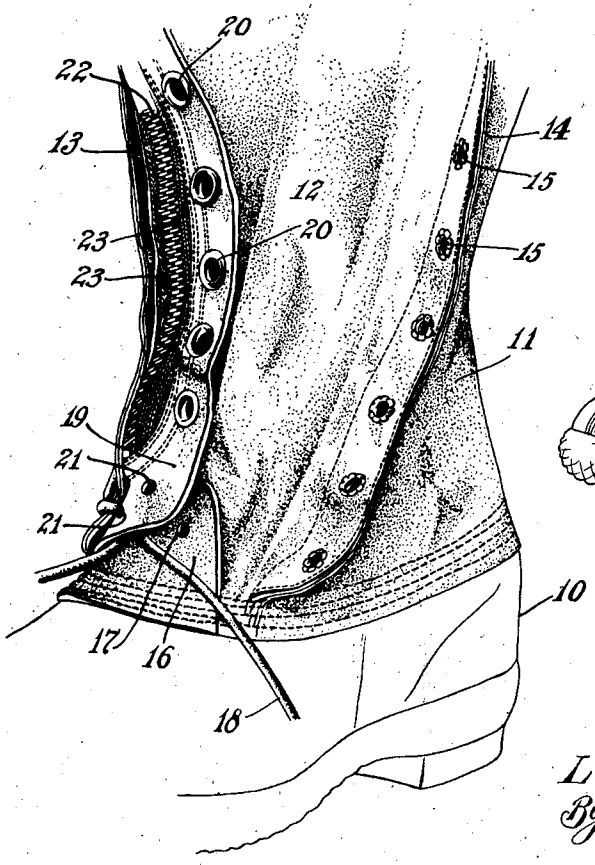


Fig. 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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SLIDE-FASTENER BOOT AND METHOD OF MAKING THE SAME.

Application filed July 31, 1926. Serial No. 126,120.

This invention relates to slide-fastener boots and its chief objects are to provide a slide-fastener boot adapted to be adjusted for fit in the leg portion and to provide a boot such that the slide fastener, mounted upon an insert which is laced into the boot, readily may be removed and the boot worn as an ordinary laced boot if desired, while providing a structure in which the slide fastener may be opened and closed by the simple operation of the slide without undesirably drawing the lacings and concentrating their slack in the vicinity of the slide. Another object is conveniently and economically to provide these features in a boot having a rubber foot portion and a leather leg portion.

Of the accompanying drawings:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a preferred embodiment of our invention with the flies of the boot closed by the slide fastener.

Fig. 2 is a fragmentary perspective view of the boot with the slide-fastener insert unlaced from the boot along one side.

Referring to the drawings, the boot here shown comprises a foot portion 10 of rubber and a leg portion 11 of leather sewed thereto, although our invention is not wholly limited to this construction. The leg portion includes a bellows tongue 12 connecting the flies 13, 14 of the boot, and the said flies are provided with eyes 15, 15 such that they may be laced together in the usual way when desired.

Sewed to the base of the bellows tongue between the flies is an upwardly projecting tab 16 formed with eyes such as the eye 17 adapted to receive the boot-lace 18 by which there is laced to the flies and to the tab an insert comprising a U-shaped marginal portion 19 of leather, provided with suitable eyes 20, 20, 21, 21, and a slide fastener 22 of well-known construction having its jaw-anchoring strips 23, 23 sewed to the arms and base of the marginal leather strip. The actuating slide for the fastener is shown at 24.

The tab 16 is of such narrow width as to permit the base of the marginal leather strip of the insert to project beyond the tab, under the respective flies of the boot, at each side, for lacing of the said base to the flies.

The tab is adapted to hold the slide-fastener insert downward against the pull of the slide 24 in the closing movement of the latter and thus to avoid such transmission of the pull of the slide to the lace 18 as would excessively draw the lace through the eyes locally and cause an excessively loose fit at the lower part and an excessively tight fit at the upper part of the leg, and would cause a bending upward of the lower corners of the flies and thus interfere with the proper functioning of the fastener. The provision of the tab thus permits various types of lacings to be employed satisfactorily, but we preferably employ a chain-stitch lacing with a single lace as shown, so that running of the lace in the eyelets is resisted in the pulling downward of the slide 24 to open the fastener, although the stitches of the lacing may be more or less slack according to the leg-size adjustment desired.

In the case of a rubber boot having a leather top, such as the one here shown, all of the permanently affixed leather parts, comprising the leg 11, the bellows tongue 12 and the tab 16, may be sewed together, at a leather goods factory, for example, before being sewed onto the rubber foot portion, which it may be desirable to manufacture at a different locality, and thus in this type of boot our invention provides for convenience and economy in manufacture. The mounting of the tab on the leather portion also gives it a firmer mounting than it could readily be given if mounted directly upon the rubber portion and permits the joining of the foot portion to all other parts simultaneously by the sewing of a simple circumferential seam.

The slide-fastener insert readily may be mounted in and removed from the boot at will, and yet when in place in the boot operates at least as well as if it were built thereinto.

Details of the boot may be modified without departure from the scope of our invention as defined in the appended claims.

We claim:

1. A boot having vertical flies and a slide fastener having its two jaw-anchoring strips secured to the respective flies for joining them together, the slide fastener being detachably so secured to the boot as to prevent vertical movement of the jaw-anchoring strips with relation to the flies in the upward, closing movement of the slide.

2. A boot as defined in claim 1 in which the jaw-anchoring strips are laced to the respective flies and are anchored to the body of the boot at their lower ends.

3. A boot comprising a rubber foot portion, a leather leg portion secured thereto and having vertical flies, a slide fastener having its two jaw-anchoring strips secured to the respective flies for joining them together, the slide fastener being detachably so secured at its lower end to the leather leg portion of the boot as to anchor it against the upward pull of the slide.

4. The method of making a boot which comprises forming a rubber foot portion, forming a leather leg portion having vertical flies and a slide-fastener-anchoring part under the lower ends of the flies, joining the foot portion and the leg portion, and detachably mounting a slide-fastener insert between the flies and detachably securing it to the said anchoring part.

5. In combination with an ordinary shoe whose upper is provided with the usual row of eyelets along each edge of its opening; a pair of detachable flexible strips arranged in lapping relation to the eyelet-carrying portions of the upper, said strips having eyelets corresponding in spacing to the shoe upper eyelets to register therewith, two rows of lacing passing through said eyelets and securing both of said strips detachably and adjustably to the shoe upper, and slide-controlled means for connecting said strips with each other.

6. A quick-acting fastening attachment for an ordinary shoe whose upper is provided with the usual rows of eyelets along the edges of its opening; said attachment comprising two detachable flexible strips to lap the eyelet-carrying portions of the shoe upper and themselves having eyelets corresponding in spacing to the shoe upper eyelets to register with said eyelets when the device is applied and adapted to receive securing laces, and slide-controlled fastening means for connecting said strips with each other.

In witness whereof we have hereunto set our hands this 28th day of July, 1926.

FREDERICK H. MARTIN.
LESLIE H. L'HOLLIER.