

G. F. DUNN.
WELT FOR BOOTS OR SHOES.
APPLICATION FILED FEB. 8, 1909.

983,695.

Patented Feb. 7, 1911.

Fig. 1

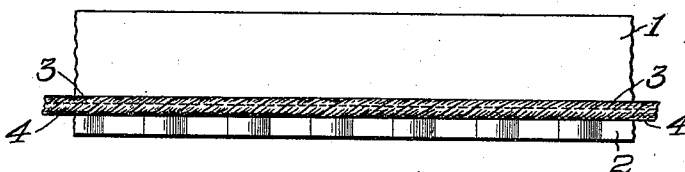


Fig. 2



Fig. 3

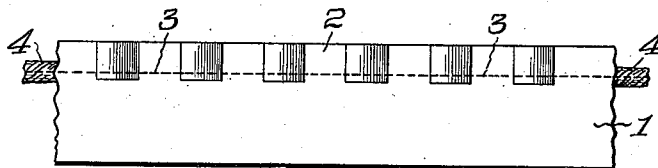
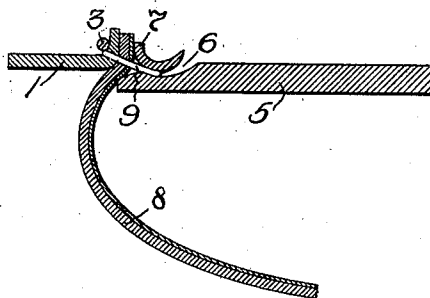


Fig. 4



Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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WELT FOR BOOTS OR SHOES.

983,695.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Feb. 7, 1911.

Application filed February 8, 1909. Serial No. 476,650.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE F. DUNN, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Brockton, in the county of Plymouth and State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improvement in Welts for Boots or Shoes, of which the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a specification, like letters on the drawings representing like parts.

This invention relates to welts for boots and shoes as an article of manufacture.

In order that the principles of my invention may be readily understood, I have disclosed one illustrative embodiment thereof in the accompanying drawings, wherein—

Figure 1 is a plan view enlarged of the sole side of a welt having my invention applied thereto; Fig. 2 is an inner edge view of the welt shown in Fig. 1; Fig. 3 is a plan view of the top side of the welt shown in Fig. 1; and Fig. 4 is a transverse sectional view illustrating one manner of use of the welt embodying my invention.

Welts for boots and shoes have previous to my invention been made of indeterminate length and sold as articles of manufacture for use in Goodyear and McKay boots and shoes. Such welts have been provided upon their inner edges with projections or teeth, as shown for example in the patents to William B. Arnold, No. 646,592 and No. 674,831. While welts constructed in accordance with said patents have been found efficient for the purpose intended, my present invention seeks to improve the same in some respects, but is capable of embodiment in welts generally, whether or not they be provided with teeth or projections, and whether or not such teeth or projections be of the character disclosed in said patents.

Welts constructed in accordance with the patents referred to as well as other welts upon the market have in the manufacture of Goodyear boots and shoes been sewed to the insole in the usual manner. For the purpose of anchoring the stitches by which in Goodyear work the welt has been secured to the insole, it has been common to provide a longitudinal channel or groove along the sole face of the welt, thus forming a shoulder against which the stitch brings up when tightened. The formation of this ridge or groove has not only been an expensive one requiring the use of special machinery, but

it has weakened the welt by reducing its thickness at this point.

In the practice of my invention, I have applied a shoulder to the sole face of the welt, preferably consisting of a strand applied to the welt in such manner as to serve as an anchor for the stitches by which it is sewed to the upper. When this applied anchoring means or shoulder is used in connection with a welt of the type shown in the Arnold patents, it subverts certain other important functions entirely apart from the stitch anchoring feature. The teeth shown in said patents might under certain conditions become misplaced in applying the welt.

My invention contemplates providing one form of means for positioning said teeth or teeth of any other suitable formation, preferably by securing them together, and preferably in such manner that in vertical section the inner edge of the welt is sinuous in character, thus facilitating the application of the welt to the boot or shoe. Moreover, if to position the projections or teeth I employ a strand such as above referred to, this acts also to reinforce the welt and the teeth or projections thereof. In sewing into place a welt having a toothed inner edge, there is danger that the thread will pull or tear through such edge, but by providing the applied shoulder or strand to serve as a stitch anchoring shoulder, this danger is wholly avoided. The strand or applied shoulder or other suitable construction peculiarly co-operates with a welt having a reduced inner edge, whether the latter be produced by the formation of teeth or in any other suitable manner, inasmuch as the inner edge of the welt is necessarily weakened by the reduction in thickness of its inner edge, and if provided with the customary stitch receiving channel, it would be still further weakened, and there would be great danger of the through and through stitching tearing its way into the thinner part or edge of the welt, but by the substitution of an applied stitch anchoring shoulder, such as the described strand or line of stitching, the weakening necessarily occasioned by the reduction in thickness of the inner edge of the strand is compensated for. Thus I secure the advantages of the reduced inner edge of the welt and avoid the disadvantages thereof.

Referring specifically to the drawing, the welt of suitable material is indicated at 1, it

being preferably made of indeterminate length as an article of manufacture. The inner edge thereof is provided with teeth or projections 2 preferably constructed in the manner disclosed in the said Arnold Patent No. 674,831 and overlapping as indicated most clearly in Fig. 2. It will therefore be understood that the toothed edge of the welt is of reduced thickness. In order to position said teeth, thereby rendering more easy and rapid the application of the welt to the work and at the same time reinforce the same, I provide a line of stitches 3 which furnish also a shoulder along the welt although I may lay beneath the stitch or part thereof a strand 4 of suitable material, such for example as a cord of proper diameter. The stitch anchoring shoulder or strand or line of stitching is preferably applied and secured to the welt along the roots of the teeth, that is, along substantially the base of the said reduced edge. In this manner, the inner edge of the welt is given a sinuous character in vertical section, as indicated clearly in Fig. 2. This characteristic facilitates the bending of the welt into shape conforming to that of the portion of the shoe to which it is to be applied. Moreover the part 3 or 4, of whatever character and however secured, serves as an applied shoulder to anchor or position the stitches by which the welt may be secured to the insole and upper in certain kinds of work.

In Fig. 4, I have represented a Goodyear boot or shoe wherein the insole 5 is provided with the usual stitch receiving and retaining channel 6 and shoulder 7, the latter receiving the edge of the upper 8. The welt 1 having been applied thereto in the manner indicated in said figure, the several parts are secured by through and through stitching, as indicated at 9, the part 3 or 4 serving as a guide to direct the welter in stitching and to anchor the stitches as clearly indicated in said figure.

It is apparent that a welt constructed in accordance with my invention is serviceable in both Goodyear and McKay work for the reasons indicated. When the strand is used with a welt having projections or teeth upon its inner edge, it is preferably secured to the welt along the roots of the teeth as indicated. When used as a reinforcing or teeth positioning means, the strand may be secured to either face thereof, but is preferably secured to the sole face.

It is apparent that a welt constructed in accordance with my invention has certain marked advantages over welts heretofore constructed. No special tool is required to form a stitch anchoring means. The cord or strand may be sewed or otherwise secured thereto or may be formed as a line or lines of stitching, far more rapidly than it has been customary heretofore to groove the

welt to provide the anchoring means. Moreover the strand does not weaken or reduce the thickness of the welt, but on the contrary provides a reinforcing means. Moreover, when the welt is of the type having projections or teeth upon its inner edge, the strand serves also to position the teeth and to impart the described sinuous shape thereto to facilitate their application to the boot or shoe.

Having thus described one illustrative embodiment of my invention, I desire it to be understood that although specific terms are employed, they are used in a generic and descriptive sense and not for purposes of limitation, the scope of the invention being set forth in the following claims.

Claims.

1. As a new article of manufacture, a welt of indeterminate length having an applied, relatively narrow, stitch-anchoring shoulder of material other than the welt, extending longitudinally thereof and secured to its sole face adjacent its inner edge and presenting a well defined elevation from said sole face of the welt body between the through and through stitching and said inner edge, thereby to anchor said stitching.

2. As an article of manufacture, a welt of indeterminate length having its inner edge of reduced thickness and an applied stitch anchoring reinforcement for said reduced inner edge secured to and extending longitudinally of the welt and adjacent its inner edge but sufficiently spaced therefrom to leave exposed the reduced portion thereof.

3. As a new article of manufacture, a welt of indeterminate length having its inner edge of reduced thickness and a stitch anchoring strand extending longitudinally of the welt and secured to the sole face thereof along substantially the base only of said reduced inner edge.

4. As an article of manufacture, a welt having its inner edge provided with projections and with positioning means for said projections.

5. As an article of manufacture, a welt having its inner edge provided with overlapping projections and with means to secure said projections together.

6. As an article of manufacture, a welt having its inner edge provided with projections and an applied stitch anchoring reinforcement for said projections.

7. As an article of manufacture, a welt having its inner edge provided with reinforced projections.

8. As an article of manufacture, a welt having its inner edge provided with projections and with combined stitch-anchoring means and positioning means for said projections.

9. As an article of manufacture, a welt having teeth at one edge and reinforcing

means secured to said welt along the roots of said teeth.

10. As an article of manufacture, a welt having its inner edge provided with projections and an applied reinforcement for said projections terminating short of and leaving free the tip ends of said projections.

In testimony whereof, I have signed my name to this specification, in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

GEORGE F. DUNN.

Witnesses:

EVERETT S. EMERY,
IRVING U. TOWNSEND.