March 28, 1944. R. M. EVANS 2,345,187

FOOTWEAR

Filed Nov. 7, 1942

Fig. 1.

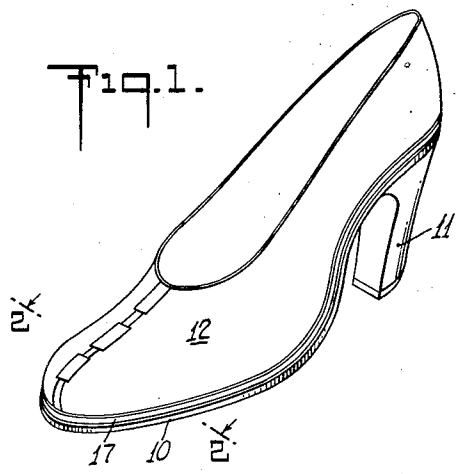


Fig. 2.

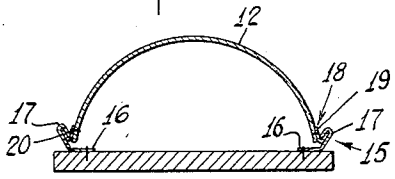


Fig. 3.

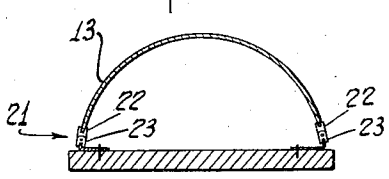
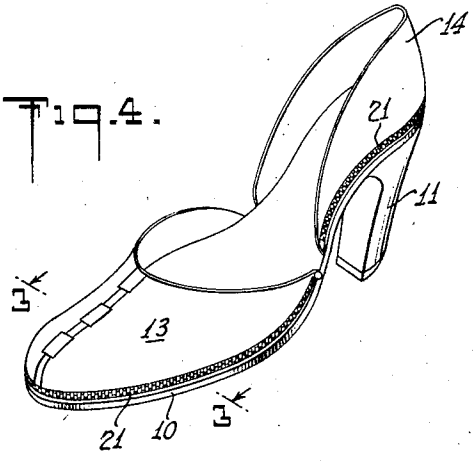


Fig. 4.



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FOOTWEAR

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2 Claims. (Cl. 36—2.5)

This invention relates to footwear, and more particularly to footwear having detachable soles.

The principal object of my invention is to provide a shoe or the like with fastening means whereby the sole and uppers may be readily attached to or detached from each other.

The invention permits of easily detaching the sole from the uppers, when the sole becomes worn out, or when for any other reason it may be desired to replace it with a new or fresh one. Furthermore, and especially in the case of application of the invention to women's shoes, it permits of readily substituting the uppers with another of a different color or material so that a woman can conveniently and inexpensively match or harmonize her shoes with her dress, or adapt them for use for different occasions, as, for instance, street wear or evening dress.

In the accompanying drawing, illustrating the invention:

Figure 1 is a view in perspective of a shoe embodying the invention;

Fig. 2 is a section in elevation taken on the line 2—2 of Figure 1;

Fig. 3 is a section in elevation of a modification of the invention taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 4; and

Fig. 4 is a view in perspective of a shoe embodying a modified form of the invention.

For the purpose of illustration, I have shown the invention applied to a woman's shoe, but it may be applied to men's and children's boots and shoes, as well as to other footwear of various types, including shoes for army and navy use.

The shoe comprises generally a sole 10, which may or may not be provided with a heel 11, and uppers 12. These parts may be of any desired construction and material. The uppers usually extend around the entire sole, as illustrated in Figure 1, but in certain types of women's shoes or sandals, as shown in Fig. 4, the uppers are formed with separate toe and heel parts 13 and 14, and in some instances straps are substituted for the heel part.

Referring now to the form of invention illustrated in Figs. 1 and 2 of the drawing, 15 indicates a flange or band of suitable stiff or stiffened material having a flat portion 16 which rests on the upper surface of the sole, preferably spaced inward from the outer edge thereof, and which is stitched or otherwise permanently attached to the sole. The flange 15 also has an outwardly and upwardly projecting portion 17 which is bent in hook-shape, as shown in Fig. 2, to provide a channel or groove in which the companion attaching elements of the uppers may be engaged.

A single flange 15 extending around the entire sole or two separate flanges, one around the toe portion and another around the heel portion, may be provided, depending upon the type or style of footwear in which the invention is embodied.

Extending around and attached to or formed integral with the lower edge of the uppers 12, or around the toe and heel parts 13 and 14 thereof where those parts are made of separate pieces, is a flange or band 18 of similar material to the flange 15. The flange 18 has a portion 19 which is permanently attached to or formed integral with the uppers or the parts thereof, and a portion or arm 20 that extends outwardly and upwardly, preferably at an angle to form a V with the portion 19, and that is adapted to engage in the hook-like portion 17 of the companion flange 15 of the sole.

By engaging the flange 18 of the uppers with the flange 15 of the sole, as shown in Fig. 2, the parts may be easily attached together, and similarly, by disengaging these flanges the sole and uppers may be detached from each other.

In the modification shown in Figs. 3 and 4, the fastener 21 of the type commonly known as "zippers" or hookless fastener, is employed for detachably securing the sole and uppers. In this form of the invention one part of the fastener, indicated at 22, is attached to the sole 10, while the other part 23 is attached to the toe and heel parts 13 and 14 of the uppers.

Various changes and modifications in the construction herein illustrated and described may be made within the scope of the invention as defined in the claims.

What I claim is:

1. Footwear comprising uppers and a sole, a flange on the sole having an upwardly extending inwardly bent portion forming a channel, and a flange along the lower edge of the uppers having a projecting portion for engagement in said channel to fasten the sole and uppers detachably together.

2. Footwear comprising uppers and a sole, a flange secured to the lower edge of the uppers and having an outwardly projecting arm, and a second flange secured to the sole and having an upwardly extending inwardly directed hook-like portion for receiving the arm of the first mentioned flange to fasten the uppers and sole detachably together.

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