

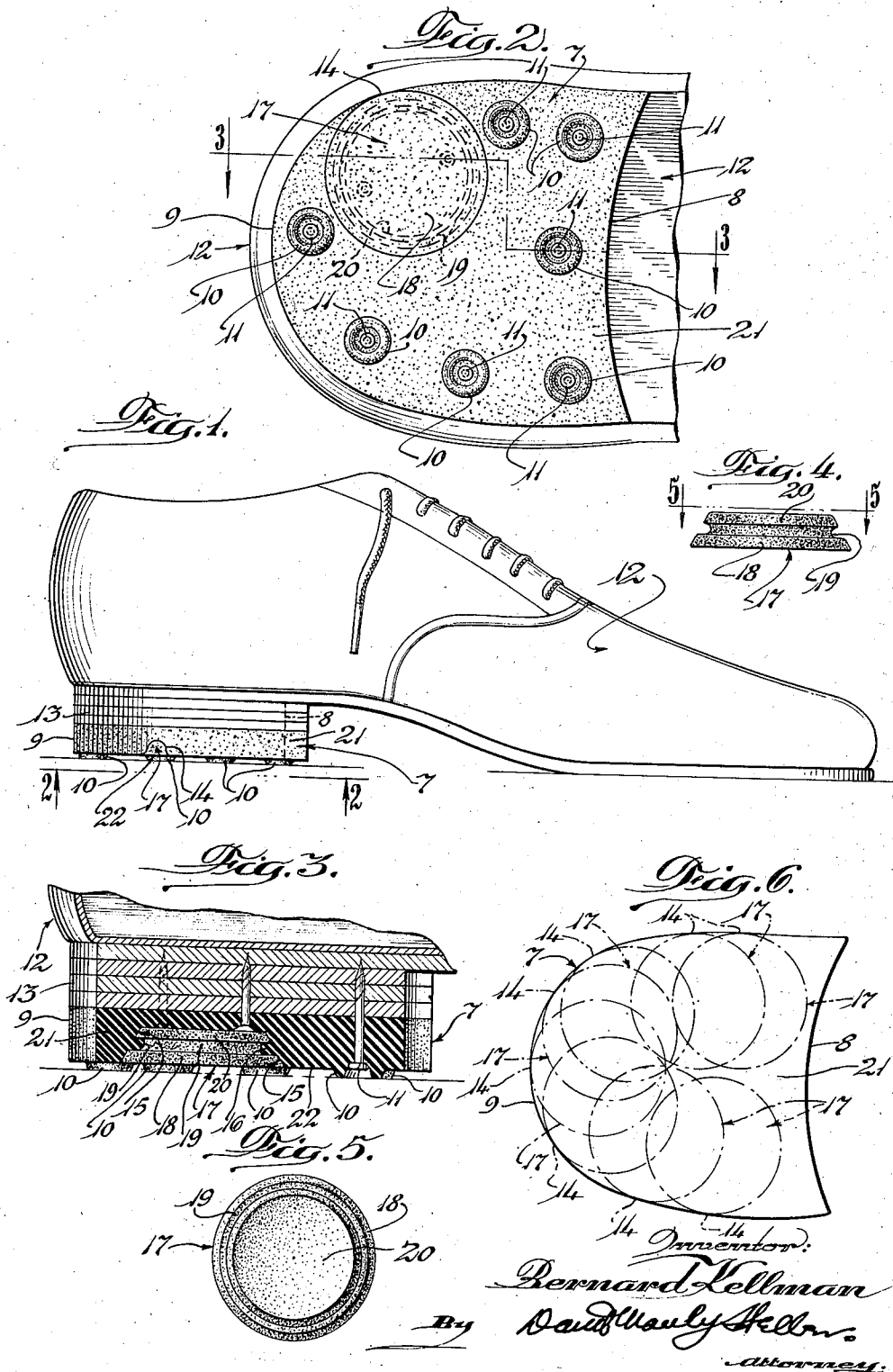
Oct. 16, 1945.

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2,387,029

HEEL

Filed Nov. 15, 1944



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,387,029

HEEL

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Application November 15, 1944, Serial No. 563,464

3 Claims. (Cl. 36—35)

The present invention contemplates the construction of a rubber heel for footwear which will greatly minimize the wear thereof, and prolong its life in a novel manner thus providing a unique and simple construction for the purpose.

One object of my invention is to provide a rubber heel structure which will incorporate therein a rotatable disc for wear purposes and adjustment, the assembly thereof to the heel member constituting the entire arrangement. The two elements comprising the entire structure are held in place frictionally against rotation; hence, when the disc is worn at a particular point the portion can be positioned away from the recess in the heel portion, the disc affording a fresh surface, thus causing the combined heel and disc structure to assume a normal, and new or unworn appearance.

Another object of my invention is to provide a heel structure embracing a non-rotatable disc structure which is mounted so that a lip thereof is interfitted to a groove of the said heel member or element, and having its outer edge in tangential relationship with the outer portion of the heel element proper.

Another object of my invention is to provide tongue and groove means in the combined heel and disc structure which will retain one within the other firmly and lock the same or retain the same positively against rotation.

Another object of my invention is to provide a disc member which is tapered and of a frusto-conical configuration mating with a recess of similar configuration in the heel member proper, the said recess being positioned on the heel member so as to permit the top surface of the disc member to coincide or align itself tangentially with the outer arcuate portion of the heel element proper, the same being firmly retained in place by tongue means within the heel element cooperating with grooved means provided on the frusto-conical surface of the disc element.

Another object of my invention is to provide a heel structure of the aforementioned character which is simple in construction, practical in its use providing adjustment for wear, and which is of such simple elemental structure as to warrant economical commercial manufacture thereof in quantity production.

Other features, objects and advantages inherent and resident in my invention will become apparent from an examination of the accompanying drawing, having particular reference thereto in the ensuing description, for a complete elucidation of

the objects to be attained; wherein like numbers are used to designate like parts, and in which:

Fig. 1 represents a side view of a shoe embodying the structure comprising my invention.

Fig. 2 is a view looking in the direction of the arrows 2—2 of Figure 1.

Fig. 3 is a staggered longitudinal cross-sectional view taken, substantially, on the line 3—3 of Figure 2.

Fig. 4 is an end view of the disc element comprising an important part of my invention.

Fig. 5 is a view looking in the direction of the arrows 5—5 of Figure 4.

Fig. 6 is a schematic view showing how the disc element may be incorporated in a heel element in various tangentially related positions or locations depending on the wear occasioned by a particular wearer of footwear.

Referring to the various figures, a shoe is, generally, designated 12, and is provided with a partial leather heel structure 13 to which is secured my invention, generally, designated 7, and which is comprised of a heel element proper 21 and a disc element 17. The heel element 21 is of usual construction having two straight sided portions merging with an outer arcuate portion 9, and running into an inner arcuate portion 8 adjacent the arch portion of the shoe 12.

A series of raised beads 10 may be provided with suitable openings therein thru which the heel element 21 is secured to the leather heel portion 13 of the shoe 12 by virtue of the nails 11, whose heads are submerged within the cavities of the portion 10.

At the point of tangency 14, the portion of the heel 21 will be cut away, inasmuch as, that would ordinarily be a rather thin edge and may wear in eroded formation, so that the heel proper 21 will be so made at the outset, thus affording a uniformly neat appearance rather than trusting to the irregular wear being occasioned by the particular gait of the wearer.

The heel 21 is provided, preferably, with a frusto-conical recess 15 and, substantially, at its mid-point with a lip 16 adapted to engage the groove 19 of the disc, generally, designated 17; the said disc being also of a frusto-conical configuration, its groove 19 separating the section 18 from the section 20, the surface of which will bear against the bottom portion of the recess 15 in the heel member, thus affording friction thruout the conical surface, the beaded and grooved portion as well as the bottom surfaces of the recess 15 and the portion 20 of the disc 17 assuming good

frictional engagement which may be pried out or disengaged.

When a certain portion of the disc has become worn while in the position at the point 14, the said disc may be removed and reset in place with a fresh unworn portion coincident with the portion 14, thus lending to the surface 22 of the heel 21 an even and unworn effect, particularly, at the point 14.

In Figure 6, I wish to call attention to the schematic showing of the heel element 21 indicating thereon a number of positions in which the frusto-conical groove 15 might be cut in order to receive a disc 17 so that the various heels could be manufactured with a locus of points of tangency with respect to the outer arcuate edge 9 of the heel element 21, depending on the wear indicated on a particular shoe worn by an individual.

The proper selection of heel needed can be readily determined by an examination of a pair of shoes which are equipped with rubber heels, and which have been worn so as to indicate where that particular wearer has a tendency to produce the greatest amount of wear on the heel. The heels having differently positioned recesses to receive the discs 17 at different locations as suggestively indicated in Figure 6, will be graded accordingly, and assigned to the purchasers depending on which pair of heels will be most suitably adapted for a particular wearer.

I am well aware of the fact that the removable disc has been the subject matter of patent heretofore, yet I wish to stress particularly that my construction has certain novel features. Also the fact that my novel structure resides in a disc and heel element which can be secured as two elements frictionally engaging one another without the use of any other mechanical elements of construction, and the same may be readily assembled or disassembled by the average individual without any tools except the screw driver, or any other common utensil available in the home which may be utilized for prying up or dislodging the disc from the heel; yet the two may then be very readily assembled by pressing the disc into the heel and then the wearer can step on it to further reinforce the assembly.

Altho I have herein shown and described rather succinctly the nature and construction of the features embraced in my invention, and in-

asmuch as I believe the same to be susceptible of many alterations, modifications, and improvements, I reserve the right to all such modifications, alterations and improvements coming within the scope and spirit of my invention, also those implied in the accompanying drawing, as well as those lying within the purview of the foregoing disclosure.

Having thus described and revealed my invention, what I claim as novel and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. An article of the character described comprising, a resilient heel member provided with a frusto-conical recess positioned tangentially with respect to the perimetral line of configuration of the said heel member, and a frusto-conically shaped disc member removably confined within the said frusto-conical recess, the said heel member also provided with a retaining lip portion extending annularly of the wall of the said frusto-conical recess, and the said disc element provided with a mating groove portion on its conical surface adapted to engage removably the said lip portion.

2. An article of the character described comprising, a resilient heel member provided with a frusto-conical recess positioned tangentially with respect to the perimetral line of configuration of the said heel member, and a frusto-conically shaped disc member removably confined within the said frusto-conical recess, the said heel member also provided with a retaining lip portion extending annularly of the wall of the said frusto-conical recess, and the said disc element provided with a mating groove portion on its conical surface adapted to engage removably the said lip portion.

3. An article of the character described comprising, a resilient heel member adapted to be secured to the heel element of a shoe and provided with a frusto-conical recess positioned tangentially with respect to the perimetral line of configuration of the said heel member, the said heel member being further provided with a cut away portion at the point of tangency of the said recess with respect to the said perimetral line of configuration, and a frusto-conically shaped disc member removably confined within the said frusto-conical recess.

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