M. E. BENJAMIN.

SOLE FOR FOOTWEAR.

APPLICATION FILED OCT. 21, 1916.

1,249,000.

Patented Dec. 4, 1917.

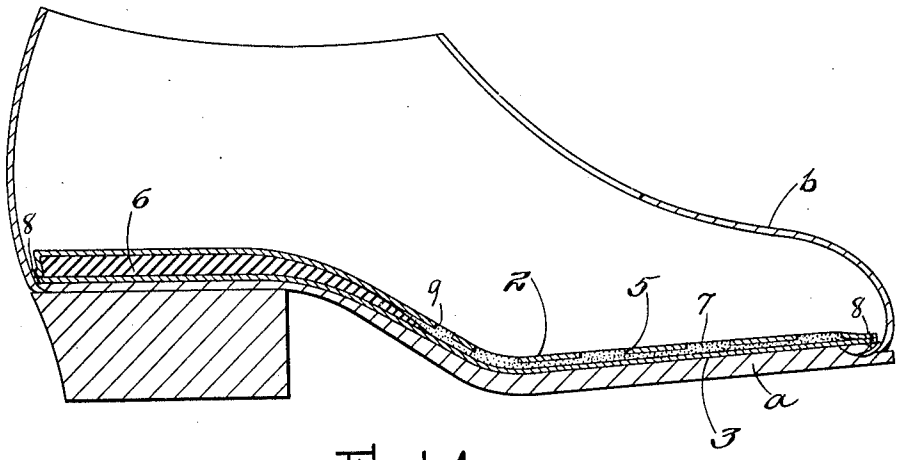


Fig. 1.

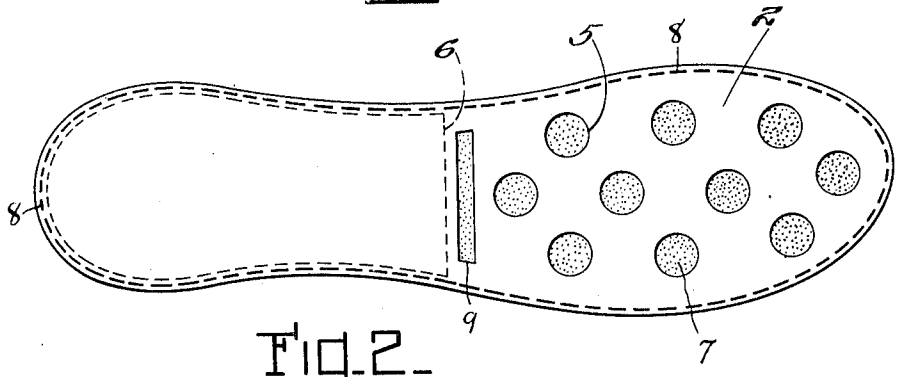


Fig. 2.

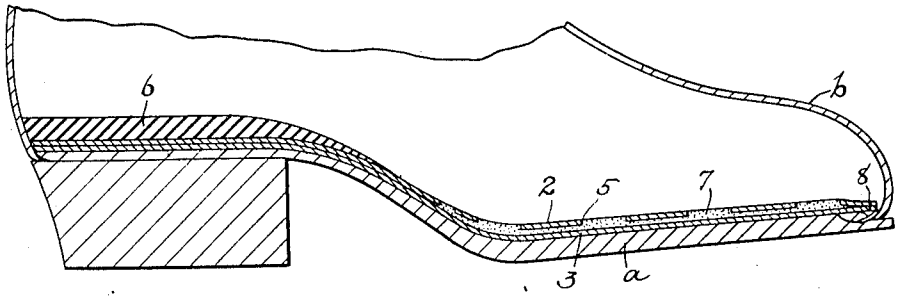


Fig. 3.

INVENTOR.

Miriam E. Benjamin.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MIRIAM E. BENJAMIN, OF WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

SOLE FOR FOOTWEAR.

1,249,000. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Dec. 4, 1917.

Application filed October 21, 1916. Serial No. 126,929.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MIRIAM E. BENJAMIN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Washington, in the District of Columbia, have invented new and useful Improvements in Soles for Footwear, of which the following is a specification.

This invention has for its object to provide an article of footwear the innersole of which is adapted to contain, between its bottom and top surfaces, powdered material such as sulfur, and to expose portions of said material at the upper surface of the sole, the powdered material being intended to prevent certain diseases and ailments, to aid in keeping the feet warm, and to promote the circulation of the blood.

The invention is embodied in the improvements which I will now proceed to describe and claim.

Of the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification,—

Figure 1 represents a longitudinal section of a shoe embodying my invention.

Fig. 2 represents a top plan view of the innersole, shown by Fig. 1, removed from the shoe.

Fig. 3 represents a view similar to Fig. 1, showing a modification.

The same reference characters indicate the same parts in all of the figures.

In the drawings,—

a represents the outer sole and *b* the upper of a shoe which may be of any suitable construction.

The sole embodying my invention is formed preferably at its fore portion only, as a pouch adapted to contain powdered material such as sulfur, although various other powdered materials may be employed. The upper side of the pouch is pervious to said powder so that the latter may find its way to the bottom of the wearer's foot.

I make the sole by marginally uniting a sole-shaped bottom layer 3 and a sole-shaped top layer 2 by means such as stitches 8. The fore portions of said layers constitute a pouch adapted to contain a charge 7 of powdered material. The bottom layer 3, which is continuous and of material impervious to moisture, such as rubberized cloth, protects the charge 7 from any dampness which may enter the bottom of the shoe. The top layer 2 is also of material impervious to moisture, such as rubberized cloth, and is cut away at intervals to form openings 5 adapted to expose portions of the charge 7. The impervious material of the top layer 2, excludes moisture from the foot from the portions of the charge covered by the top layer, so that said portions remain dry and free to shift laterally to the openings 5, to replace portions escaping through the openings. An additional elongated opening 9 is provided through which the charge may be inserted, and the sole may be introverted, cleansed and refilled. 6 represents a cushioning layer of elastic rubber attached to the rear portions of the innersole and either interposed between the layers as shown by Fig. 1 or superimposed on said layers as shown by Fig. 3 with or without attachment thereto. The sole may be permanently attached to the shoe, or may be inserted loosely therein.

I claim:—

1. A sole for footwear comprising marginally connected top and bottom layers forming a pouch, and a charge of powder inserted in said pouch, the bottom layer being impervious to moisture penetrating the bottom of the shoe of which said sole forms a part, while the top layer is also of material impervious to moisture, and is cut away at intervals to form openings exposing portions of said charge, other portions of the charge being protected from moisture by the material of the top layer.

2. A sole for footwear comprising marginally connected top and bottom layers forming a pouch, and a charge of powder inserted in said pouch, the bottom layer being impervious to moisture penetrating the bottom of the shoe of which said sole forms a part, while the top layer is also of material impervious to moisture, and is cut away at intervals to form openings exposing portions of said charge, other portions of the charge being protected from moisture by the material of the top layer, one of the layers being provided with a slit therein through

which the sole may be introverted for the purpose of cleansing and through which the sole may be refilled.

3. An introvertible sole for footwear comprising marginally connected top and bottom layers forming a pouch, adapted to contain a charge of powder, the top layer being cut at intervals to form openings exposing portions of said charge one of said openings being formed to permit the sole to be turned inside out.

In testimony whereof I have affixed my signature.

MIRIAM E. BENJAMIN.