June 13, 1939. L. J. GOLDEN 2,162,008

FOOTWEAR

Filed Nov. 14, 1935

Fig. 1.

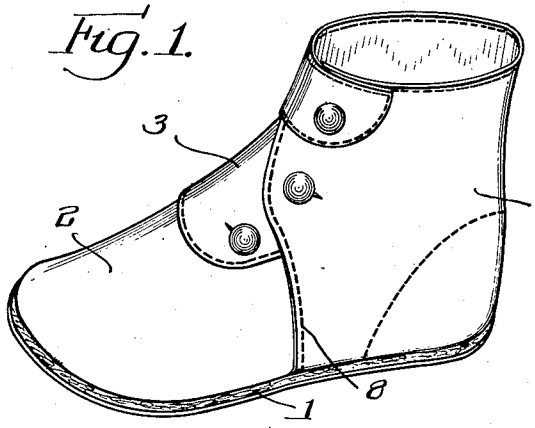


Fig. 2.

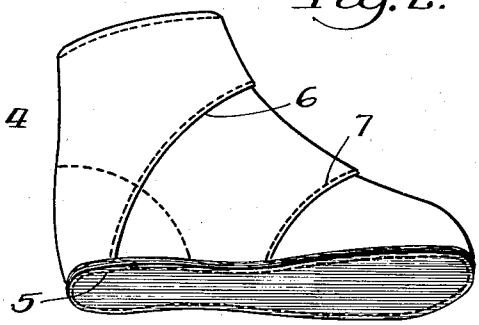


Fig. 3.

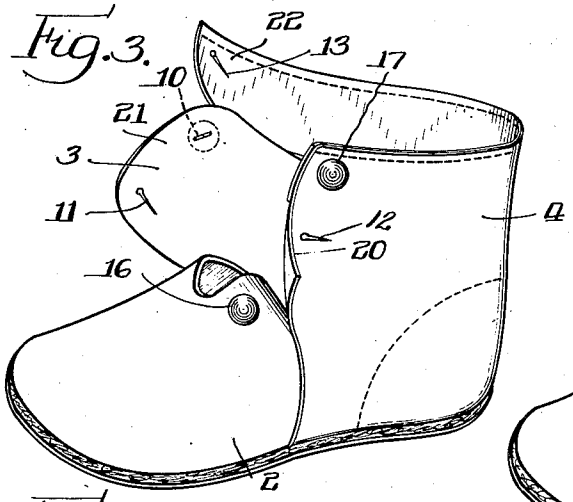


Fig. 4.

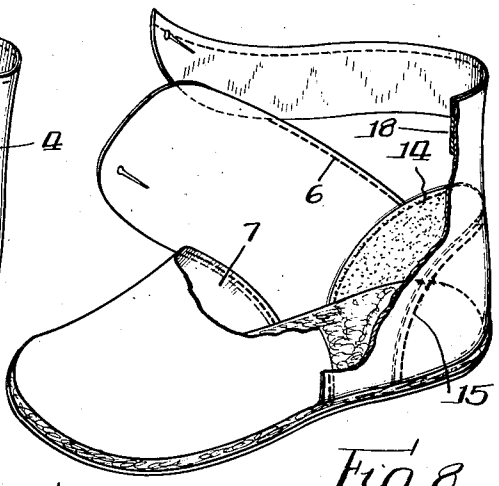


Fig. 5.

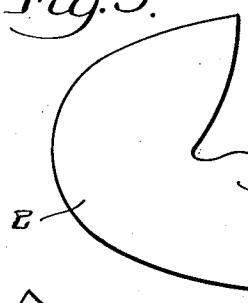


Fig. 6.

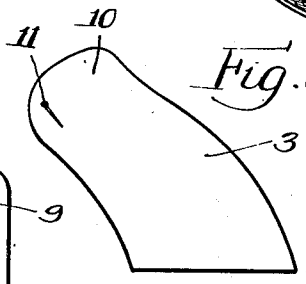


Fig. 8.

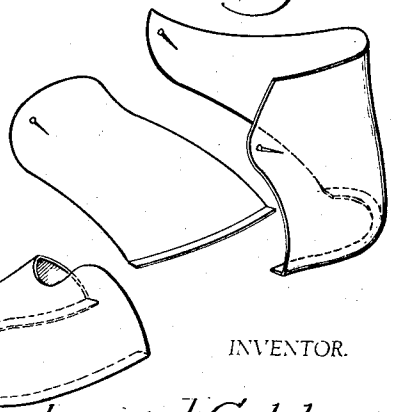
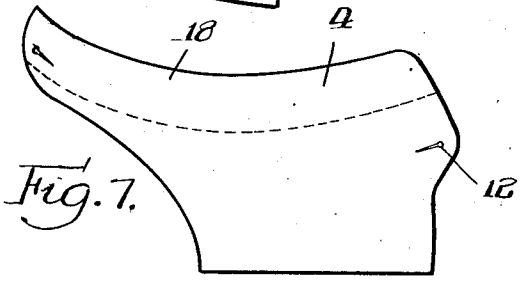


Fig. 7.



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FOOTWEAR

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Application November 14, 1935, Serial No. 49,743

4 Claims. (Cl. 36—45)

This invention relates in general to a new and improved article of footwear and the method of making the same, and more particularly relates to an article of infants' footwear.

It is an object of this invention to provide an article of footwear of more simple and economical construction.

It is another object of this invention to provide an article of footwear for infant use which is more sanitary.

It is another object of this invention to provide an article of footwear which is easier to put on.

It is another object of this invention to provide an article of footwear which has overlapping flaps in place of laces.

It is another object of this invention to provide an article of footwear having new and improved closure means.

Numerous other objects and advantages will more fully appear during the course and progress of the following specification.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a preferred embodiment of the present invention showing one side of the embodiment.

Figure 2 is a perspective view of the preferred embodiment, shown in Figure 1, showing the reserve side of that embodiment.

Figure 3 is a perspective view of the embodiment, shown in Figure 1, showing the closure means in opened position.

Figure 4 is a cut-away view of the embodiment, shown in Figures 1 and 3, showing the internal construction of the embodiment.

Figure 5 is a plan view of the vamp-forming piece used in the embodiment, shown in Figure 1, showing the pattern of said piece.

Figure 6 is a plan view of the instep piece in the embodiment, shown in Figure 1.

Figure 7 is a plan view of the upper-forming piece of the embodiment, shown in Figure 1, showing the pattern of said piece.

Figure 8 is a diagrammatic view of the three pieces, shown in Figures 5, 6 and 7 respectively, showing those pieces in form for assembly into the complete upper portion of a shoe.

The preferred embodiment shown in Figure 1 comprises a sole portion 1, a vamp-forming portion 2, an instep portion 3 and an upper-forming portion 4. The shoe is made by preparing a sole portion in the usual fashion. Then three upper-forming pieces are cut from a flat piece of material. These pieces are the vamp-forming piece shown in Figure 5, the instep-forming piece shown in Figure 6 and the upper-forming piece shown in Figure 4. These pieces are attached to the sole by seaming them along the line 5, as shown in Figure 2, between the component parts of the sole member. The upper-forming pieces of the shoe are seamed together along the seam lines 6 and 7, as shown in Figure 2, and 8, as shown in Figure 1. In cutting out the upper-forming pieces the vamp-forming piece 2 is prepared to receive a closure member, such as a button for instance, at 9, as shown in Figure 5. Similarly the instep-forming piece is prepared to receive a plurality of closure means, preferably a button and buttonhole, at 10 and 11 respectively. Similarly the upper-forming piece 4 is prepared to receive closure members, preferably a button 17, and buttonholes, at 12 and 13. When the pieces forming the upper of the shoe are stitched together an entire shoe upper will be formed.

It has been found desirable to assemble the three upper-forming pieces into a complete shoe upper first and then, subsequently, assemble the upper with the sole-forming member 1 to make the complete shoe. It has also been found preferable to incorporate with the sole-forming member a counter-portion 14, as shown in Figure 4. This counter-portion is secured to the upper-forming member along the seam line 15. It has been found possible in making extremely inexpensive shoes to omit this counter-portion; however, it is thought preferable to include this in the shoe to give structure to the heel part thereof. The counter-portion may be formed with the upper and then attached to the sole. When the whole shoe is assembled the closure means may be applied thereto by completing the formation of the buttonhole 11 in the instep portion 3, as shown in Figure 3, applying a button 16 to the vamp-forming portion 2. Two buttonholes 12 and 13 and a button are respectively applied to the upper-forming member, the button being situated in the position 17, as indicated in Figures 3 and 7.

In making a shoe upper in accordance with the present invention it is also possible to prepare lining members so as to form a lined shoe or to provide eyelet facing or top facing dependent upon how finished an article of manufacture is desired. In the embodiment shown in the drawing a piece of material 18 in the form of a relatively narrow band is cut out and mounted on the inner surface of the upper-forming portion contiguous with the top edge thereof, as clearly shown in Figure 4. In the embodiment shown the strip of material 18 may be sewn in place on the inner surface of the upper-forming member 4, as shown in Figure 4. If desired, the upper edge of the

top-forming portion 4, including the band of material 18, may be folded over to provide a finished top edge for the shoe. It is possible to retain this top edge in "folded over" position by means of sewing, gluing, or in some cases even by simple folding. The dotted line in Figure 7 represents the relative position of the lower edge of the strip 18 when operatively mounted upon the upper blank 4.

The shape or pattern for the three upper-forming pieces 2, 3 and 4 respectively, may be increased or decreased in size respectively so as to provide varying sizes of shoes for different sizes of feet. Furthermore other closure means than a button and buttonhole arrangement may be employed. Thus a male portion of a snap fastener may be substituted for the button 16, for instance, in which case a female portion of a snap fastener may be substituted for the buttonhole 11. It is also possible to use hook fasteners instead of a button and buttonhole although for infants' shoes this is not though particularly desirable.

When a shoe made in accordance with the present invention is finished it will be found that it may be closed by bringing the buttonhole 11 over into engagement with the button 16. The flap portion 20 of the upper-forming piece 4 will then be brought to externally overlie the flap portion 21 of the instep-forming piece 3 and the buttonhole 12 brought into engagement with the button 10. Then the top flap portion 22 of the upper-forming piece will be brought around to overlie the top of the flap portion 21 of the instep-forming portion 3 and at the same time overlie the upper part of the flap portion 20 on the upper-forming portion 4 so that the buttonhole 13 may be brought into engagement with the button 17, thus closing the shoe and securing it on a foot.

A shoe made in accordance with the present invention will be found to be extremely simple in construction and manufacture and has, therefore, all the attendant advantages of economy, quick manufacture and low cost. In addition to this a shoe made in accordance with the present invention will be found to fit the curvature of a normal foot and, particularly, the curvature of a baby's foot with unusual exactness. This exactness of fit results in part from the fact that the seam lines coincide largely with the lines along which size variations in feet occur so that any stretching or forming of the shoe during the course of wear takes place much more readily than in shoes of orthodox construction which have seam lines so arranged that the shoe is much more rigid and resistant to the stresses which tend to conform the shoe to the shape of the foot. A shoe made in accordance with the present invention is also more comfortable by reason of the fact that there is no seam running vertically up the back or heel portion of the shoe and no seam running across the vamp portion of the shoe.

A shoe made in accordance with the present invention furthermore is particularly suitable for use under certain conditions. For instance, the shoe may be made with a heavier sole in which an arch-forming member is placed and a heel applied to the sole in constructing a shoe for adults in accordance with the present invention. The shoe thus formed by reason of the overlapping character of the closure area thereof presents a water-resisting construction in the sense that if water is spilled from above down on the upper of the shoe it will run downwardly over the overlapping flap portions and be directed off of the shoe rather than be caught in the lace portion and directed into the shoe as is true of shoes of customary lace construction. This feature results in a very sanitary type of footwear when used for infants' shoes for the reason that any fluids precipitated upon the top of the shoe will be similarly disposed of rather than permitted to enter the shoe and cause rotting of the lining and inside thereof.

It has also been discovered that a variety of unusually decorative effects in infants' footwear can be achieved as a result of the present invention. Thus, for instance, the vamp-forming portion 2 and the upper-forming portion 4 may be made of patent leather while the instep-forming portion 3 is made of gunmetal or kid. Similarly the various pieces may be made in different colors whereby to provide various novel shoe designs. Similarly various materials other than leather may be used, such as canvas and fabrics. Furthermore it has been found possible to make a shoe with a higher top by adding successive bands of material around the top of the upper member, extending the upper member further upward away from the heel of the shoe so that the top of the shoe will encase the leg further above the ankle. This increase in height of the shoe may also be accomplished to a limited extent by extending the size of the upper-forming piece shown in Figure 7. It should also be noted that shoe uppers made in accordance with the present invention can be applied to sole members in forming the entire shoe either by the welt, turn or out-sole methods.

It is thought that the invention and numerous of its attendant advantages will be understood from the foregoing description and it is obvious that numerous changes may be made in the form, construction and arrangement of the several parts without departing from the spirit or scope of the invention, or sacrificing any of its attendant advantages, the form herein described being a preferred embodiment for the purpose of illustrating the invention.

Having thus described the invention what is claimed as new and desired to be secured by Letters Patent is as follows:

1. A shoe comprising a vamp, a quarter piece secured to the vamp along an upstanding side portion thereof, said quarter piece extending around the rear of the shoe and having an opposite upstanding edge secured to an instep piece interposed between the quarter piece and vamp, means for securing said shoe upon the foot comprising means to overlap said vamp and instep pieces, said vamp and instep pieces having releasable fastening means thereon to join said pieces, releasable fastening means to join said instep piece and said quarter piece, and releasable fastening means to join opposite sides of said quarter piece.

2. In a shoe, a vamp, a quarter piece secured to the vamp at one side of the shoe, and an instep piece upon the opposite side interposed between the quarter piece and the vamp and secured to the quarter piece by a generally upwardly extending seam, the shoe being of the type wherein the upper has free edges extending upwardly above the vicinity of the instep portion and said edges being adapted to be releasably secured together to fasten the shoe on the foot, the upper ends of said seamed pieces adjacent the seam providing one of said free edges and being adapted

to extend over the vicinity of the instep and beyond the opposite free edge of the upper, said opposite free edge of the upper being provided by an opposed, substantially upstanding edge of the quarter piece, the upper ends of the quarter piece and instep piece adjacent the seam being continued beyond the end of the seam to provide separate flaps, said quarter piece flap extending over the opposite free edge of the quarter and the instep flap extending underneath the opposite free edge of the quarter, said flaps and opposed quarter having means thereon for releasably securing the members together in the said position.

3. In a shoe, a vamp, a quarter piece secured to the vamp at one side of the shoe, and an instep piece upon the opposite side interposed between the quarter piece and the vamp, the edge of the quarter piece being raised above the adjacent edge of the instep piece and secured thereto by a generally upwardly extending seam, the shoe being of the type wherein the upper has free edges extending upwardly above the vicinity of the instep portion and adapted to be releasably secured together to fasten the shoe on the foot, the upper ends of said seamed pieces adjacent the seam providing one of said free edges and being adapted to extend over the vicinity of the instep and beyond the opposite free edge of the upper, said opposite free edge of the upper being provided by an opposed, substantially upstanding edge of the quarter piece, the upper ends of the quarter piece and instep piece adjacent the seam being continued beyond the end of the seam to provide separate flaps with a slit therebetween, said quarter piece flap extending over the opposite free edge of the quarter and the instep flap extending underneath the opposite free edge of the quarter with the end of the seam adjacent said opposite free edge, said flaps and opposed quarter having means thereon for releasably securing the members together in the said position.

4. In a shoe, a vamp, a quarter piece secured to the vamp at one side of the shoe, and an instep piece upon the opposite side interposed between the quarter piece and the vamp and secured to the quarter piece by a generally upwardly extending seam, the shoe being of the type wherein the upper has free edges extending upwardly above the vicinity of the instep portion and adapted to be releasably secured together to fasten the shoe on the foot, the upper ends of said seamed pieces adjacent the seam providing one of said free edges and being adapted to extend over the vicinity of the instep and beyond the opposite free edge of the upper, said opposite free edge of the upper being provided by an opposed, substantially upstanding edge of the quarter piece, the upper ends of the quarter piece and instep piece adjacent the seam being continued beyond the end of the seam to provide separate flaps, said quarter piece flap extending over the opposite free edge of the quarter and the instep flap extending underneath the opposite free edge of the quarter, a flap on the vamp adjacent said opposite free edge of the quarter, the instep flap in said position extending above the vamp flap, said flaps and opposed quarter having means thereon for releasably securing the overlapping members together in the said position.

LOUIS J. GOLDEN.