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MOLDED RUBBER BOOT WITH FLEXIBLE TOP

Filed July 12, 1929

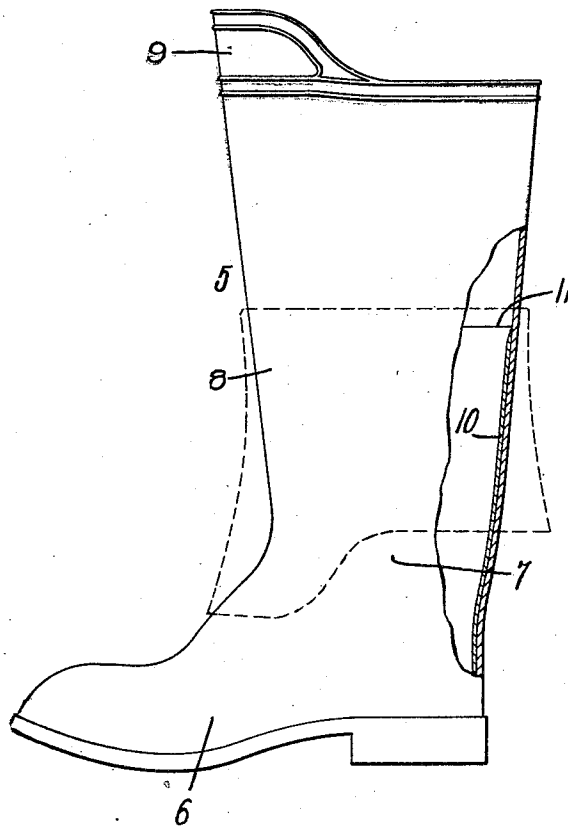


Fig. 1.

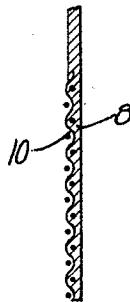


Fig. 2.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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MOLDED RUBBER BOOT WITH FLEXIBLE TOP

Application filed July 12, 1929. Serial No. 377,789.

This invention relates to improvements in rubber boots, and particularly to a molded knee length rubber boot having a flexible upper portion.

The object of the invention is to provide a knee length rubber boot having foot, ankle and lower leg portions of the usual thickness and stiffness, the stiffness being obtained by causing the rubber compound and lining of which the boot is composed to be imbedded and intermingled one with another during the molding and vulcanizing operation; and the flexibility of the upper portion of the boot leg being obtained by terminating the lining at a point approximately midway of the length of the leg portion so that the upper portion of the boot leg, when turned down so far that the line of fold is approximately at the junction of the stiff and flexible portions will be suspended from the stiff portion and will terminate at the ankle.

The invention consists in a rubber boot as set forth in the following specification and particularly as pointed out in the claims thereof.

Referring to the drawings:

Fig. 1 represents a side elevation of a rubber boot embodying my invention with a portion of the leg and foot portions broken away and illustrated in section.

Fig. 2 is an enlarged detail vertical section through the leg portion of the boot illustrating the lining imbedded in the rubber compound.

Like numerals refer to like parts throughout the several views of the drawings.

In the drawings, 5 is a rubber boot embodying a foot portion 6, ankle portion 7, leg portion 8 and knee portion 9 formed of rubber compound. Within the boot a lining 10, preferably formed of knitted fabric, is provided for the foot and ankle portions 6 and 7 respectively, and said lining terminates within the leg portion 8 at 11 at a point substantially below the top of the leg portion and preferably approximately midway between the ankle portion 7 and knee portion 9. The foot and ankle portions and lower leg portion of the boot are of the usual relatively stiff character, and this stiffness is obtained

by molding the rubber compound of the boot upon the lining 10 and causing the rubber compound and the threads of the lining to become intermingled and imbedded one with another during the molding and vulcanizing operation.

The rubber compound of the upper portion of the leg portion 8 is of approximately the same thickness as the rubber compound of the lower leg portion, but by terminating the lining at the point 11 of said leg portion, the upper leg portion is rendered extremely flexible in character as compared to the lower portion, thereby making it possible to fold the upper leg portion over the lower leg portion as shown in dotted lines, Fig. 1, in the same manner that the extensions of hip type rubber boots are folded.

The boot of this invention is preferably constructed in accordance with a process disclosed in United States Patent No. 1,722,697, process for manufacturing rubber boots, to which reference may be had if it is so desired.

I claim:

1. A rubber boot embodying a foot and leg portion of molded rubber compound, and a lining of fabric extending from the foot portion upwardly to a point substantially below the top of the leg portion, the material of adjacent surfaces of the fabric and rubber compound intermingling one with another and stiffening the lower portion of the boot, whereby the upper leg portion is rendered relatively flexible as compared to the lower leg portion.

2. A rubber boot embodying a foot and leg portion of molded rubber compound, and a lining of knitted fabric within the leg and foot portions and terminating at a point substantially below the top of the leg portion, said fabric being imbedded and vulcanized in the rubber compound and rendering the same relatively stiff as compared to the unlined leg portion.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand.

LAURENCE H. BURNHAM.