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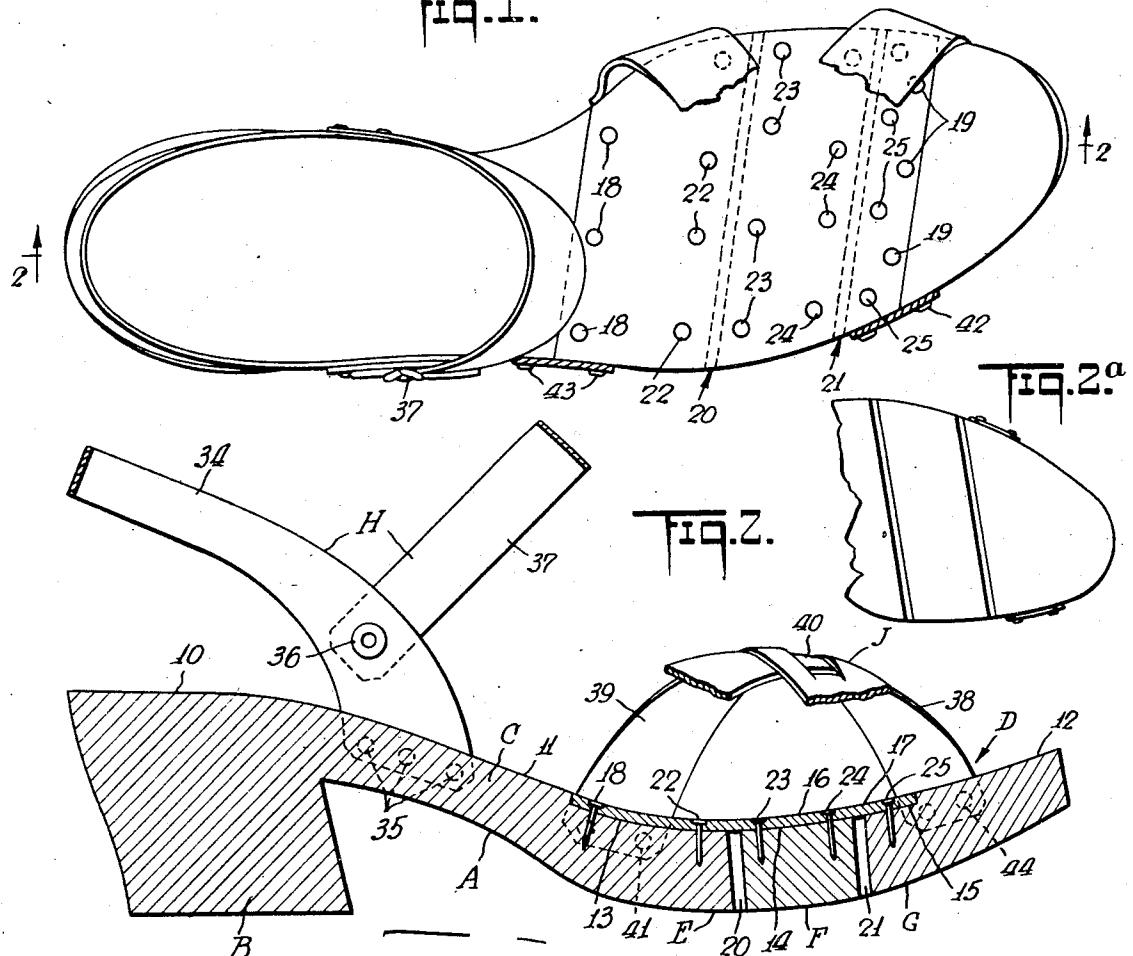
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2,266,732

## BEACH SANDAL CONSTRUCTION

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## BEACH SANDAL CONSTRUCTION

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1 Claim. (Cl. 36—11.5)

The present invention relates to a beach sandal, and it particularly relates to a beach sandal construction of wood.

It is among the objects of the present invention to provide an improved wooden sole beach sandal construction which may be readily used for outdoor beach wear as well as for indoor wear, and which will not have the inflexibility characteristics of wooden sole slippers or shoes.

Another object is to provide another improved beach sandal construction having a relatively flexible sole, although constructed of wood, and which will not be readily distorted or broken when used on uneven or irregular surfaces, particularly in outdoor or beach wear.

Still further objects and advantages will appear from the more detailed description set forth below, it being understood, however, that this more detailed description is given by way of illustration, since various changes therein may be made by those skilled in the art without departing from the scope and spirit of the invention.

In accomplishing the above objects, it has been found most satisfactory according to one embodiment of the present invention, to form the heel and sole of the shoe of wood, but to articulate the sole by splitting the wood forming the same into a plurality of sections.

The upper face of the forward portion of the sandal is recessed and in said recess is inserted a heavy piece of rubber, or, less preferably, leather. The rubber is nailed at intervals or tacked to the sole sections at points adjacent and removed from the edge of the split wooden elements.

Desirably the flexible leather or rubber strip is inset so that its upper face will be flush with the interior face of the sandal construction.

In the drawing, which illustrates one of the embodiments of the present invention to which the invention is, however, by no means restricted,

Fig. 1 is a top plan view of a sandal construction according to the present invention,

Fig. 2 is a side elevational view in side section upon the line 2—2 of Fig. 1,

Fig. 2a is a fragmentary bottom view of the forward part of the sandal of Figs. 1 and 2, upon a reduced scale as compared to Figs. 1 and 2.

Referring to Figs. 1 and 2, the sandal is formed of a base A of wood, having a heel B, a shank C and a sole portion D, formed of the sections E, F and G.

The forward part of the slipper or sandal is provided with the heel engaging strap members H, and the forward part of the sandal is pro-

vided with the foot engaging straps J. The wooden base B, C, and D of the sandal is preferably cut out so as to have a smooth interior face, indicated at 10, 11 and 12, with the sole portions E, F and G being recessed as indicated at 13, 14 and 15.

This recess is made of such depth as to correspond to the thickness of the piece of leather or, more preferably, heavy rubber 16. The upper surface 17 of the rubber 16 is flush with the surfaces 10, 11 and 12, and is nailed in positions removed from the splits 20 and 21, as indicated at 18 and 19. The leather, or more preferably, the rubber 16, is also nailed or tacked into position closely adjacent the splits 20 and 21, as indicated at 22, 23, 24 and 25.

As is indicated best in Fig. 2, the spacing of the splits 20 and 21 is uniform from the top to the bottom of the split.

In the rear strap arrangement, there is one strap 34 which extends over the back of the heel and is tacked at each side at 35 to the bridge C of the sandal.

This strap receives, by the eyelet 36, a strap 37 which is designed to extend over the instep of the slipper. If desired, a buckle may be provided at 37 adjacent the outside of the sandal construction. The provision of the front crossing strap arrangement J is quite important in relationship to the split sections E, F and G.

It is found important to have the straps 38 and 39 extend entirely over the middle section F. A slotted or interlaced connection between the straps is preferably provided at 40.

The ends of the strap 38 are connected at 41 and 42 respectively, to the sections E and G adjacent the lines of tacking 18 and 19, best shown in Fig. 1. The strap 38 is tacked at 43 and 44 to the sections E and G, respectively, adjacent the lines of attachment 18 and 19.

By this crossing strap arrangement extending over the middle section F, which is flexibly mounted in respect to the sections E and G, a most comfortable sandal construction is obtained, which is most satisfactory for beach or other outdoor wear.

Although it is stated that the sole construction A is preferably of wood, it may also be made of molded plastic materials, such as Bakelite, Lucite, Tenite and so forth.

Desirably, there is only one middle section F, which is relatively narrow and extends obliquely and longitudinally but a short distance across the ball of the foot.

Although the beach sandal is shown as being

made of wood, it can be made of any plastic material. Moreover the heel section B may also be made of other shapes and forms, and made of cork, a composition, or of rubber, as the case may be.

The connecting piece 16, which is shown as being of rubber, may be also made of leather or any other flexible material, and such piece may be attached to the elements B, C and D by hand tacking or machine tacking or by screws or even by adhesive or wedge connections.

Many other changes could be effected in the particular features of beach sandal construction disclosed, and in specific details thereof, without substantially departing from the invention intended to be defined in the claim, the specific description herein merely serving to illustrate certain elements by which, in one embodiment, the spirit of the invention may be effectuated.

What is claimed is:

A beach sandal construction having a stiff, heavy, substantially unflexible sole composed of only three sections separate from one another and having limited flexibility downwardly, the

adjacent lower edges of said connections having sharp corner portions to act as stops against the adjacent faces of the sections, which otherwise do not contact with one another, one section constituting the heel and the instep, a second section constituting the toe, and the third relatively narrow intermediate section being located between and spaced from said first and second sections for the full width of the sole and extending 10 obliquely across the ball portion of the sandal; said sections being connected together by a heavy strip of a flexible material extending entirely across said third section and recessed into the adjacent marginal portions only of the upper 15 faces of the first and second toe and heel sections respectively and forming the only means of connection between said third section and said toe and heel sections, and interlaced crossed straps extending between the toe section and the heel 20 section without attachment to the intermediate section, the spaces between said separate sections having parallel walls when said sandal is in normal position.

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