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E. J. TALLARICO

2,913,793

SNAP-A-HOOK

Filed Feb. 18, 1957

FIG. 1.

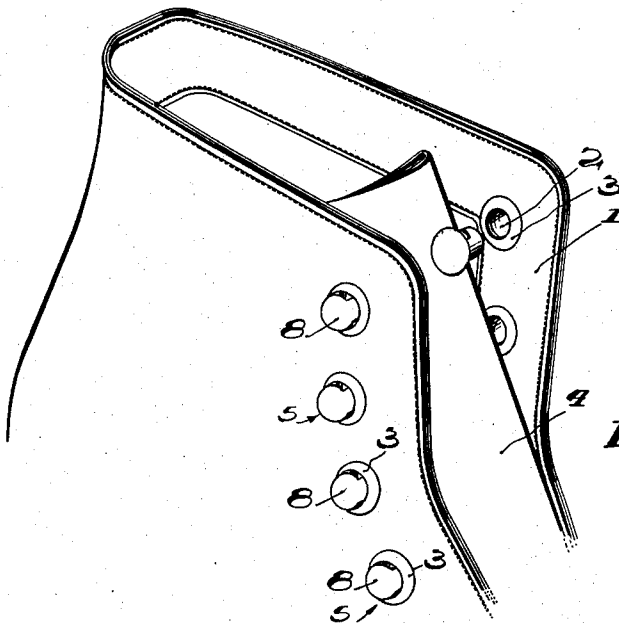


FIG. 2.

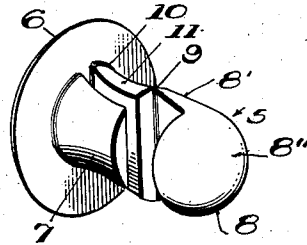


FIG. 3.

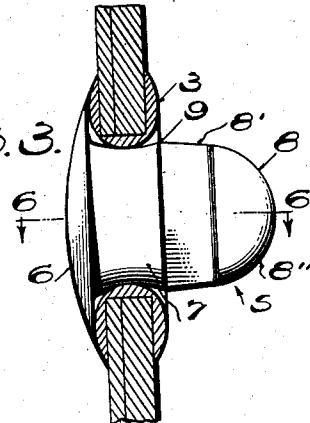


FIG. 4.

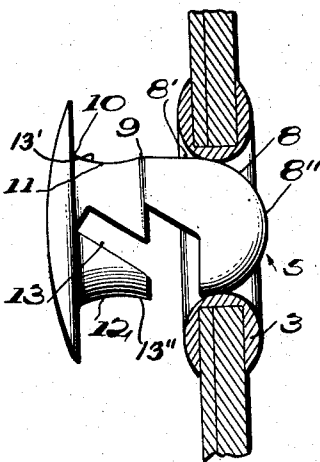


FIG. 5.

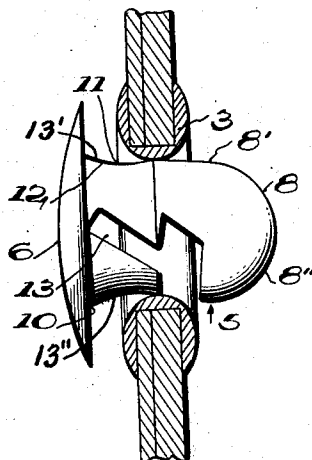
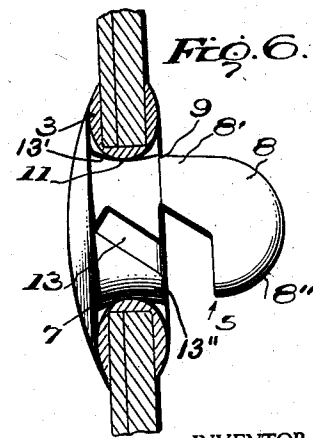


FIG. 6.



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2,913,793

SNAP-A-HOOK

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Application February 18, 1957, Serial No. 640,992

1 Claim. (Cl. 24—146)

(Granted under Title 35, U.S. Code (1952), sec. 266)

The invention described herein, if patented, may be manufactured and used by or for the Government for governmental purposes, without the payment to me of any royalty thereon.

This invention relates to lacing hooks or studs for shoes and has for its primary object to provide a hook which may be inserted and automatically held in one of the eyelets of a shoe which was originally designed with two series of eyelets for lacing purposes.

Another object of the invention consists in the provision of detachable hooks which may be readily applied to or removed from the conventional eyelets of a shoe without the use of tools.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will be apparent from the following description when taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, in which

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the upper portion of a shoe provided with lacing eyelets but showing some of the novel hooks of the present invention mounted therein.

Figure 2 is an enlarged perspective view of one of the hooks.

Figure 3 is an enlarged fragmentary section view through one of the eyelets with a hook mounted therein.

Figures 4, 5 and 6 are views similar to Figure 3 but taken at right angles thereto and showing the several positions of the hook as it is forced into place, Figure 6 being taken on line 6—6 of Figure 3.

Referring to the drawings in greater detail and by reference numeral, the numeral 1 indicates the upper portion of a conventional shoe provided with two series of openings 2 reinforced by eyelets or grommets 3 in the usual manner; the respective series being disposed on the opposite sides of the shoe upper adjacent the conventional tongue.

The novel lacing hooks are indicated generally by the numeral 5 and comprise a base portion 6, preferably circular in shape, a substantially cylindrical body portion 7 centrally disposed with respect to the circular base and a hook portion 8 which may be integrally connected to the upper end of the body 7 as by casting or other conventional fabricating means, and comprising shank 8' and cap portion 8".

As clearly indicated in the various figures the body portion 7 has its greatest diameter at its upper and lower ends as indicated by numerals 9 and 10 and the intermediate portion 11 is of slightly less diameter as indicated by the arcuate line 12 connecting the points 9 and

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10. It is to be emphasized however that each of the diameters 9, 10 and 11 is greater than the inside diameter of the eyelet or grommet.

The cylindrical body portion 7 is provided with a relatively wide slot 13 extending diagonally from the base 6 at one side of the center to the opposite side of the center line at the top thereof to form a web portion 13' and a tapered tongue 13". By reason of this relatively wide slot, a substantial amount of metal is removed from the body portion and provides sufficient "give" or resiliency in the web 13' and tapered tongue 13" to permit the entrance of the body portion into the eyelet 3. The intermediate portion of the body, i.e., the web 13' and tongue 13" will be forced into engagement with the inner face of the eyelet 3 after the portion 9 has passed the eyelet, thus preventing rattling of the hook, and the disk or base member 6 and the enlarged portion 9 of the body releasably hold the hook against inadvertent removal.

It is to be understood of course, that the dimensions of the hook portion 8 are such that it may readily pass into and through the eyelet 3 when the article is being installed, as clearly illustrated in Figures 4 and 5. After the detachable hooks are in place the lacing operation is performed in the conventional manner just as in the case of a shoe having permanently attached lacing hooks. On the other hand, should it be desired to reconvert the shoe back into its original form, the eyelet type, it is only necessary to apply a moderate pressure on the heads 8 so as to force the zone 9 of the body portion past the eyelet 3 after which the detachable hooks may be readily removed.

In accordance with the patent laws, I have described what I now consider to be the preferred form of the invention, but inasmuch as various minor changes may be made in structural details without departing from the spirit of the invention it is intended that all such changes be included within the scope of the appended claim.

I claim:

A quickly detachable snap-type lacing hook comprising a substantially cylindrical body portion adapted to be positioned within the conventional eyelet of a shoe provided with lacing eyelets but having an external diameter slightly in excess of the internal diameter of the eyelet with which it is to be associated, a disk-like base on the lower end of the body portion, said body portion provided with a diagonal slot extending from one side of the center line of the cylindrical body to the opposite side of the center line at the top thereof to provide a resilient web portion and a resilient tongue, and a hook secured to the upper end of the web portion.

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