

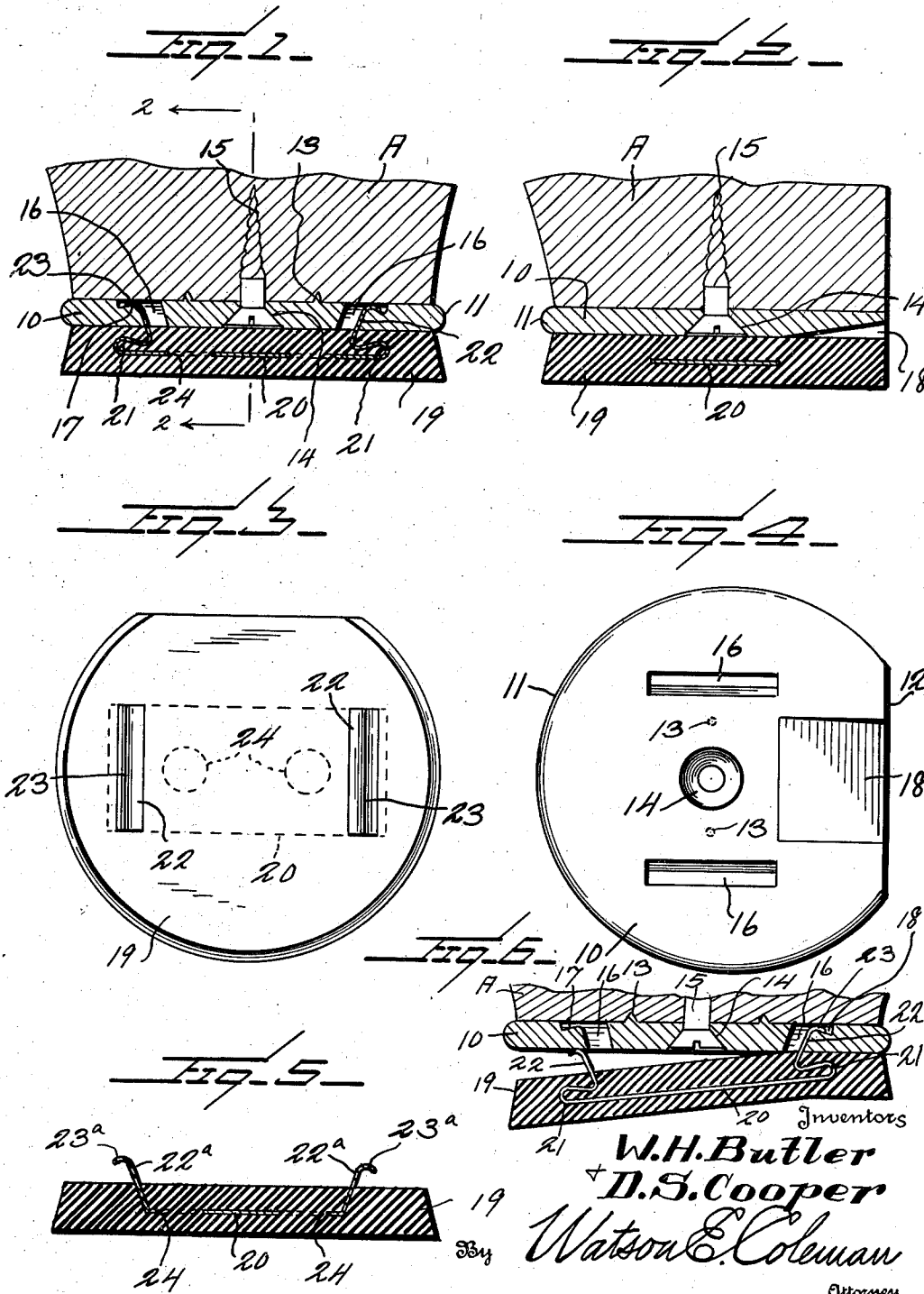
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DETACHABLE HEEL PROTECTOR FOR SHOES

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DETACHABLE HEEL PROTECTOR FOR SHOES

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This invention relates to shoes and particularly to detachable heel pads or lifts adapted to be applied to the heels of boots or shoes to thereby protect the heel.

The general object of the invention is to provide a heel pad, lift or protector which may be readily applied to the heels of boots or shoes, or readily removed therefrom, if necessary.

Another object is to provide a device of this character which includes a metallic keeper plate adapted to be held to the heel of the shoe by a screw or like instrumentality and a rubber or composition protector or lift which is adapted to be readily engaged with or disengaged from the metallic plate but which, when in engagement, is held firmly and rigidly in place until manually disengaged.

A further object is to provide a construction of this character in which the composition or rubber lift or protector is provided with a pair of embedded spring tongues and the metallic plate is provided with slots through which the spring tongues may pass and with which the tongues interlock to hold the lift or protector in place.

Other objects will appear in the course of the following description.

In the drawing:

Figure 1 is a vertical transverse sectional view through a shoe heel, the keeper plate and a detachable lift constructed in accordance with our invention;

Figure 2 is a section on the line 2—2 of Figure 1;

Figure 3 is a top plan view of the detachable lift;

Figure 4 is an underside plan view of the keeper plate;

Figure 5 is a section through the protector or lift showing a modification of the attaching clip;

Figure 6 is a sectional view as in Figure 1, but showing the protector or lift in position as it is being applied.

Referring to the drawing, 10 designates a light metallic keeper plate which may be cast or stamped and which is formed with a rounded outer peripheral edge 11 and a straight breast edge 12. This plate on its inside face is provided with the upstanding prongs 13 and between these prongs with a countersunk aperture 14 for the reception of a screw 15 which, as shown in Figure 1, holds the plate upon the heel A.

The plate 10 is provided on each side of the aperture 14 and equi-distantly therefrom with the laterally and upwardly inclined slots 16, the

inside face of the plate at the outer corner of each slot being slightly recessed at 17, the recess preferably extending downward and laterally and then upward, as shown in Figure 1. The keeper plate also upon its lower face is formed with a tapered recess 18 extending inward from the breast edge 12, the roof of this recess being inclined downward and away from the heel edge, as shown in Figure 2.

In Figure 1, the lift, protector or pad 19, which may be formed of rubber or composition or any material suitable for the purpose, is shown as having embedded therein a clip, this clip being as wide as the length of the slots 16 and being of metal. The clip is designated 20 and the extremities of this clip in Figure 1 are bent over upon themselves, as at 21, and then extended upward and laterally at 22 to form spring tongues, the extremities of these tongues being angularly flanged or bent to form the lips 23. These tongues 22 are adapted to be forced through the slots 16 and the lips or hook-like portions 23 will engage within the recesses 17, as shown in Figure 1, to thus interlock with the plate 10 and hold the pad or protector 19 firmly in place.

The body 20 of the clip is preferably provided with apertures 24 through which the material of the pad or protector 19 passes to thus firmly engage the embedded clip with the material of the lift or pad 19. In Figure 5, we have illustrated a modification of the spring clip in which the body 20 is embedded and provided with the aperture 24, as previously described, but in this case, the extremities of the body 20 are extended directly upward and laterally and not rebent, as at 21 in Figure 1, the extremities of the portions 22 being bent to form small hooks 23^a as previously described. In this modification the resilient tongues 22^a engage within the inclined slot 16 in precisely the same manner as heretofore described, and the hooks 23^a will engage in the recesses 17, as heretofore described.

In the use of this device, the metallic plate 10 is secured to the heel A by means of the screw 15 and then the resilient tongues of the clip are retracted and inserted into and pushed up through the slots 16 until the hooked extremities 23 or 23^a engage within the recesses 17, the outer ends of these resilient tongues snapping into the recesses 17, thereby firmly securing the pad, lift or protector 19 in place.

In order to detach the member 19 from the plate 10, a small screw driver or other suitable implement of this character is inserted into the tapered recess 18 between the plate and the ele-

ment 19 and may be used to pry the member 19 away from the plate so that one of the resilient tongues of the clip is free from its engaging recess, as shown in Figure 6, whereupon the pad or protector 19 is readily removed. The pad or protector 19 may be readily engaged with the plate 10 by forcing one of the tongues up through one of the slots until it snaps into place, then forcing the pad against the plate 10, which will cause the other resilient tongue to be forced inward into the corresponding slot 16 and eventually snapped into place, or a screw driver may be inserted between the member 19 and the plate to force this last named tongue into position within the corresponding slot 16 and then the member 19 be forced upward into place.

It will be seen that the advantages of this construction are many. Once the metallic plate is fastened to the shoe, it is obvious that from time to time worn pads or lifts 19 can be readily removed and new pads or lifts put in place thereof, and if the pads are worn down and it is impossible to immediately replace the pad with a new one, then the metallic plate will protect the main heel piece until a new pad can be put in place. It is obvious also that the pads of a pair of shoes may be reversed from time to time, thus preventing an unequal wearing down and keeping the uppers in better shape. The plates may be readily fitted to new shoes or to old shoes and obviously may be applied to shoes having heels of any cross-sectional area or height. Spare pads can be readily carried so that at any time the pads may be renewed. The combination of the metal plate and the rubber or composition pad 19 will give a distinctive finish to a shoe and the pads may be made in various colors to harmonize with the colors of the uppers or be of a different color therefrom.

While we have illustrated certain details of construction and arrangement of parts, we wish it understood that we are not limited to the exact construction shown except as defined in the appended claims.

What is claimed is:—

1. A detachable heel protector for shoes, including a metallic keeper plate having a central countersunk aperture through which a screw may be passed to hold the plate in place upon the shoe, the keeper plate being formed with a pair of upwardly and laterally inclined slots, the outer edge of each slot on the inner face of the keeper plate opening into a downwardly and outwardly inclined recess, and a heel lift having a pair of laterally inclined tongues embedded therein and projecting beyond the inner surface of the lift, said tongues being resilient and being urged by said resilience away from each other, the extremities of the tongues being formed with hooks detachably engaged in said recesses.

2. A detachable heel protector for shoes, including a metallic keeper plate having a central countersunk aperture through which a screw may be passed to hold the plate in place upon the shoe, the keeper plate being formed with a pair of up-

wardly and laterally inclined slots, the outer edge of each slot on the inner face of the keeper plate opening into a downwardly and outwardly inclined recess, and a heel lift having a metallic clip embedded therein, the extremities of the clip being bent to extend beyond the inner surface of the lift to form resilient tongues, the tongues being urged outward by their resilience and having hook-shaped extremities detachably engaged within the recesses of the inner face of the plate.

3. A detachable heel protector for shoes, including a metallic keeper plate having a central countersunk aperture through which a screw may be passed to hold the plate in place upon the shoe, the keeper plate being formed with a pair of upwardly and laterally inclined slots, the outer edge of each slot on the inner face of the keeper plate opening into a downwardly and outwardly inclined recess, and a heel lift having a metallic clip embedded therein, the clip consisting of a strip of metal extending transversely across the lift, then rebent upon itself at its ends and then extended upward and laterally beyond the inner face of the lift to form tongues, said tongues being resiliently urged away from each other, the extremities of the tongues being formed with hooks inserted into and detachably engaged with said recesses in the keeper plate.

4. A detachable heel protector for shoes, including a metallic keeper plate having a central countersunk aperture through which a screw may be passed to hold the plate in place upon the shoe, the keeper plate being formed with a pair of upwardly and laterally inclined slots, the outer edge of each slot on the inner face of the keeper plate opening into a downwardly and outwardly inclined recess, and a heel lift having a pair of laterally inclined tongues embedded therein and projecting beyond the inner surface of the lift, said tongues being resilient and being urged by said resilience away from each other, the extremities of the tongues being formed with hooks detachably engaged in said recesses, the keeper plate having on its lower face a recess extending inward from the edge of the plate whereby to permit an implement to be inserted between the lift and the plate and disengage the plate and lift.

5. A detachable heel protector for shoes, including a metallic keeper plate having means whereby it may be held in place upon the heel of a shoe, the keeper plate being formed with a pair of upwardly and laterally inclined slots, the outer edge of each slot on the inner face of the plate opening into a downwardly and outwardly inclined recess, and a heel lift having a pair of laterally inclined tongues embedded therein and projecting beyond the inner surface of the lift, said tongues being resilient and being urged by said resilience away from each other, the extremities of the tongues being formed with hooks detachably engaged in said recess.

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