March 31, 1959 J. DI GAETANO 2,879,610

HEEL FOR SHOES

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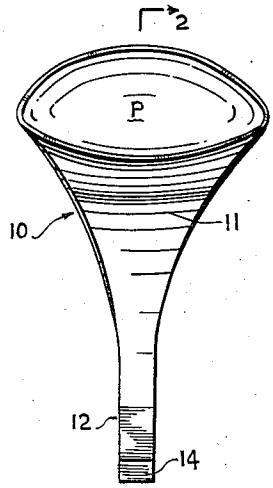


Fig. 1.

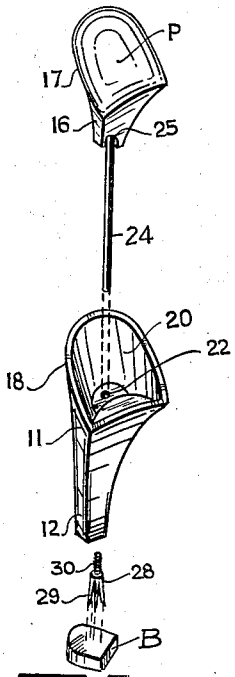


Fig. 3.

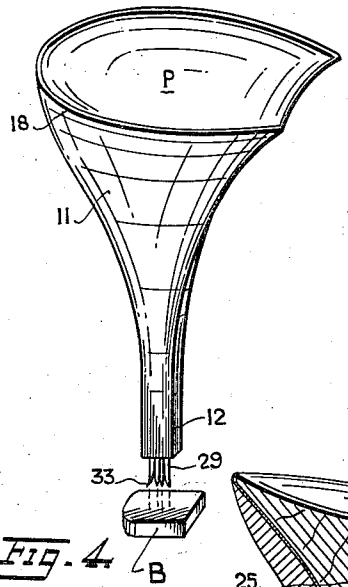


Fig. 4

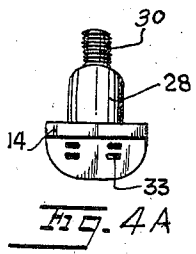


Fig. 4A

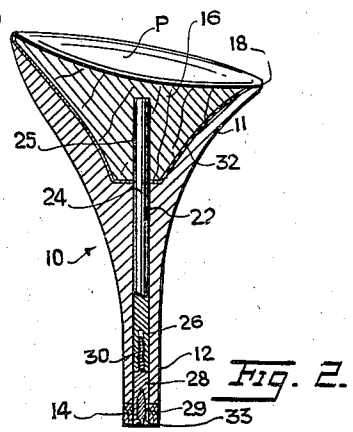


Fig. 2.

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HEEL FOR SHOES

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1 Claim. (Cl. 36—34)

This invention relates to the art of shoe heels and particularly concerns a device for attaching a lift to a heel of a lady's shoe.

Heretofore lifts for heels of ladies' shoes have been made of leather or imitation leather. These lifts were attached to the heels by nailing if the heels were made of a material penetrable by nails, such as wood, plastic, leather, etc. If the heels were made of metal or other hard non-nailable material the lifts were cemented on to the heels. Both the nailing and cementing procedures are time-consuming and laborious. Also, considerable skill is required to attach the lifts without injuring the finish of the adjacent parts of the shoes and without damaging the heels, particularly those of the elongated spike type. Furthermore, special lasts are required to hold the shoes during attachment of the lifts and special tools are required to effect proper attachment of the lifts.

The present invention has as its object the provision of a heel structure whereby a lift is readily attachable to a lady's shoe in a simple and effective manner.

A further object is to provide a lift attachment device including threaded elements.

A further object is to provide a lift attachment device including a threaded member having prong portions adapted to be secured in the body of the lift.

A further object is to provide a lift with threaded means for quick attachment to the heel of a shoe.

For further comprehension of the invention, and of the objects and advantages thereof, reference will be had to the following description and accompanying drawings, and to the appended claim in which the various novel features of the invention are more particularly set forth.

In the accompanying drawings forming a material part of this disclosure:

Fig. 1 is a front elevational view of a shoe heel embodying the invention.

Fig. 2 is a sectional view taken on lines 2—2 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is an exploded perspective view of portions of the heel.

Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the heel at one step in the lift attachment procedure.

Fig. 4A is an enlarged detail perspective view of a fitting and lift.

In Figs. 1 and 2 there is shown a form of heel for a lady's shoe. The heel **10** has a tapered body **11** providing a broad concave platform P and a depending spike **12** to which is attached the leather lift **14**. The body of the heel includes an outer metal shell in which is a wooden insert **16**. The insert is shaped to provide the concave platform B. The outer upper edge **17** of the insert is flush with the rim **18** of the shell. The insert **16** has a tapered body which fits snugly in a tapered cavity **20** in the shell. This cavity communicates with a bore **22**, as clearly shown in Figs. 2 and 3. A rod or bar **24** is anchored securely in the bore **25** in the insert. The rod is formed with an internally threaded bore **26** at its free end.

A cylindrical metal fitting **28** is provided with a threaded stud **30** at one end, which is threaded in bore **26**. This fitting is formed with a plurality of prongs **29** at its other end. These prongs are adapted to be forced through the lift **14** and then the tips **33** of the prongs are bent over flush with the lower surface of the lift as shown in Fig. 2. While four prongs are shown, it will be understood that two or more prongs may be used.

In assembling the heel, insert **16** may be inserted into the cavity **20** and secured there by a layer of cement **32**. Rod **24** will extend through bore **22** and terminate short of the lower end of the spike **12**. Fitting **28** will then be securely threaded in rod **24** with prongs **29** extending therefrom as shown in Fig. 4. A leather blank B may then be forced on the protruding prongs until the tips of the prongs extend out of the lower side of the blank. The tips **33** may then be bent over by hammering thereon to secure the blank to spike **12**. Now the blank may be cut with a sharp knife to conform the outline of the blank to that of the lower end of the spike and thus form the lift **14**. The lift is thus securely attached to the heel.

The insert **16** may of course be formed of any suitable material.

When the lift wears past the retaining bent tips of the prongs, the remaining portion of the lift and fitting may be unscrewed from rod **24** and discarded, and a new fitting and lift may then easily be installed.

If desired, fitting **28** may be attached to the lift **14** as a preliminary step. Such an assembly of the fitting and lift is shown in Fig. 4A and may constitute in itself an article of manufacture. Assemblies of this type can be manufactured by economical mass production processes with high speed machinery. The consumer may then attach a new lift to her shoe without requiring the usual services of a skilled workman, by simply unscrewing the old lift and replacing it with a new one.

While I have illustrated and described the preferred embodiment of my invention, it is to be understood that I do not limit myself to the precise constructions herein disclosed and that various changes and modifications may be made within the scope of the invention as defined in the appended claim.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by United States Letters Patent is:

A heel structure, comprising a tapered metal body terminating in a spike, said body having a cavity in the broader portion thereof and a bore in said spike communicating with said cavity, a tapered insert disposed in said cavity, said insert having a concave platform surface, said insert having a bore axially aligned with the bore in said spike, a rod secured in the bore in the insert and extending longitudinally through the bore in the spike, said rod terminating in a threaded end portion, a cylindrical fitting having one end removably threaded on said end portion of the rod, said fitting terminating at its other end in a plurality of prongs for securing a flat lift to the end of the spike.

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