May 13, 1947. D. RABINOVITZ 2,420,618

FOOTWEAR PROTECTOR

Filed Dec. 19, 1945

Fig. 1.

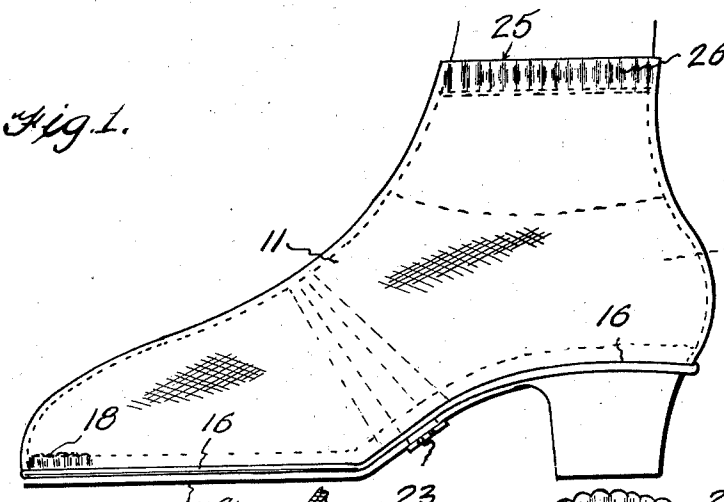


Fig. 2.

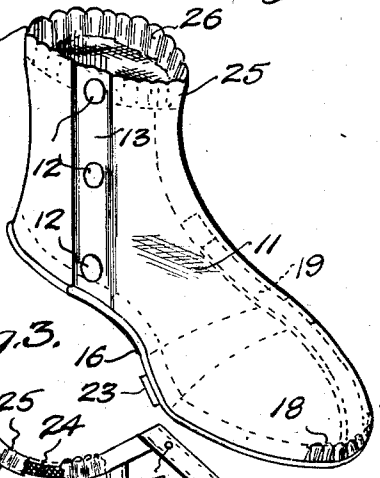


Fig. 4.

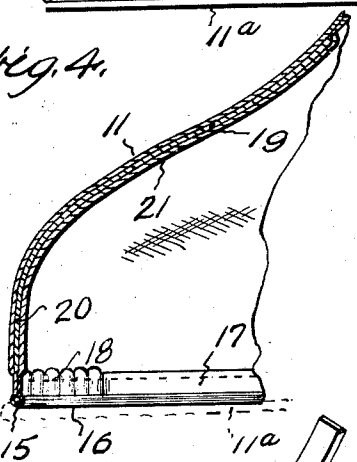


Fig. 3.

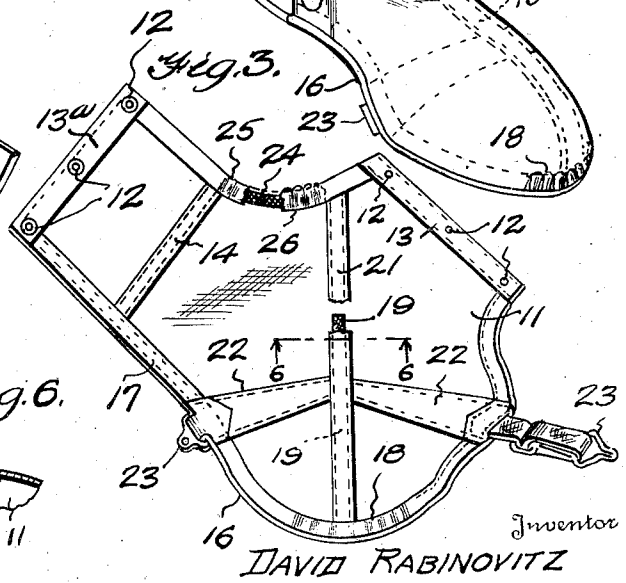


Fig. 5.

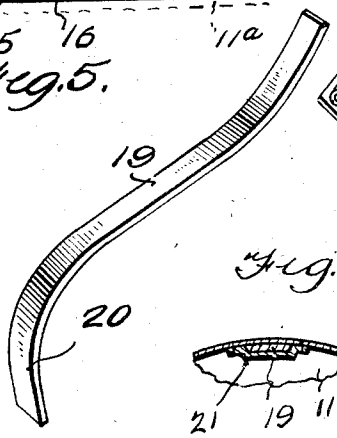


Fig. 6.

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FOOTWEAR PROTECTOR

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1 Claim. (Cl. 36—2)

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This invention relates to footwear protectors, and has for one of its objects the production of a simple and efficient means for protecting the shoe and ankle from becoming soiled or wet in rainy weather.

A further object of this invention is the production of a protector which is preferably formed of rubberized silk or other flexible water-proof material, and which is provided with means for firmly holding the toe portion of the protector firmly over the toe of a shoe.

Other objects and advantages of the present invention will appear throughout the following specification and claim.

In the drawing—

Figure 1 is a side elevational view of the protector;

Figure 2 is a perspective view;

Figure 3 is a plan view of the protector looking at the inside face thereof in an open position;

Figure 4 is a vertical sectional view through the toe portion of the protector;

Figure 5 is a perspective view of the reinforcing toe rib of the protector;

Figure 6 is a transverse sectional view taken on line 6—6 of Figure 3.

By referring to the drawing, it will be seen that 10 designates a conventional shoe over which the flexible waterproof protector 11 is adapted to fit. This protector 11 is made of rubberized silk or other flexible waterproof material. The protector 11 is preferably open upon one side which may be closed by means of fasteners 12 carried by the end strips or stays 13 and 13a. A flexible reinforcing strip 14 is extended vertically of the protector near the strip 13a and provides a back reinforcing strip for the protector when placed in position upon a shoe.

An elastic cord 15 extends around the lower edge 16 of the protector 11 and is encased by the inturned hem 17, which hem is gathered slightly at the toe portion of the protector 11, as at 18, to snugly hold the lower edge of the protector 11 around the toe of the shoe just above the sole 11a of the shoe, as shown in Figures 1 and 4. The cord 15 extends around the entire lower edge of the protector 11 to hold the lower edge of the protector snugly in engagement with the upper of the shoe just above the sole thereof or at the junction of the sole and upper.

A shaped front reinforcing strip or stay 19 is carried by the front central portion of the protector 11 and extends upwardly from the toe toward the angle portion of the protector 11 at a center front position upon the protector 11. This

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stay 19 is of flat rigid material such as metal and the like, and is slightly yieldable while at the same time being definitely shaped to the normal contour of the wearer's foot. The forward lower end 20 of the stay 19 is turned downwardly to conform to the normal contour of the toe of a shoe to hold the toe portion of the protector snugly against the forward portion of the toe of a shoe. The forward lower end 20 terminates just above the gathered portion 18 of the protector and the elastic cord 15 will hold this gathered portion 18 and the forward lower end 20 of the stay 19 snugly against the toe portion of the shoe. This stay 19 will not only assist in holding the forward portion of the protector 11 over the toe of the shoe but will reinforce the protector at this point and prevent the forward flexible portion of the protector from sliding or riding upwardly over the toe of the shoe. The stay 19 is secured to the inner face of the protector 11 by means of a binding and encasing tape 21 which tape is stitched in place upon the protector 11. The stay 19 terminates short of the upper edge of the protector 11, as shown in Figure 3, to permit the upper portion of the protector to flex freely as the ankle of the wearer bends. Diverging braces 22 are stitched to the inner face of the protector 11 and diverge laterally from the tape 21, as shown in Figure 3. A separable fastener 23 of any suitable type, preferably having an elastic strap is secured to the opposite sides of the protector near its lower edge and this strap is adapted to extend under the arched portion of the shoe when the protector 11 is placed in position.

The protector 11 carries an elastic strip 24 within the upper hem 25 and this hem is gathered slightly, as at 26, to allow for a proper stretching of the protector at this point, this elastic strip 24 preferably extending only around the inner half of the upper end of the protector, and this is sufficient to hold the upper edge of the protector 11 snugly in contact with the ankle of the wearer and at the same time present a smooth face on the outer side of the ankle.

From the foregoing description it should be noted that the shoe protector may be readily and quickly applied to the shoe of a wearer, and the protector will snugly fit around the ankle of a wearer and also around the toe of a shoe. The stay 19 which is formed of stiff material will hold the toe portion of the protector snugly over the toe portion of the shoe and in proper position and shape. The elastic cord 15 will snugly hold the lower edge of the protector in engagement

with the upper of the shoe at the point adjacent the sole of the shoe. The stay strip 19 will also tend to hold the protector device over the toe of the shoe and prevent the protector from becoming pushed up over the top thereof.

Certain detail changes in the article may be employed without departing from the spirit of the invention, so long as such changes fall within the scope of the appended claim.

Having described the invention, what is claimed is:

A shoe protector of the class described comprising a water-proof flexible body, a reinforcing strip extending longitudinally of the center and over the toe portion of the body, lateral diverging bracing members carried by the body, and separable securing means adapted to extend

under the shank of a shoe for detachably securing the lower edge of the body in position, and a retaining band extending around the lower edge of the body.

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