April 26, 1927. F. J. WOJCIK 1,626,489

FOOT SHIELD

Filed Aug. 30, 1926

Fig. 1.

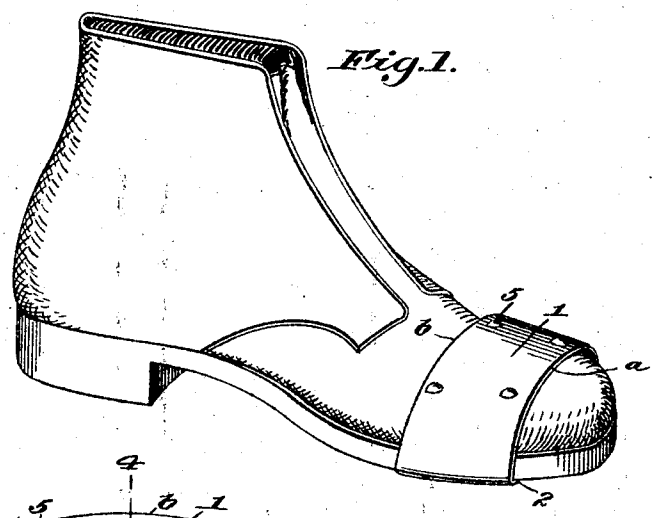


Fig. 2.

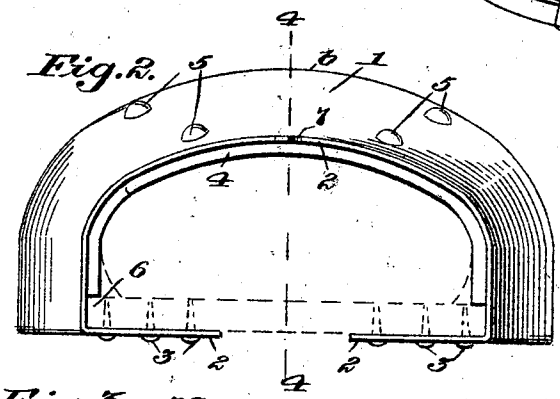


Fig. 3.

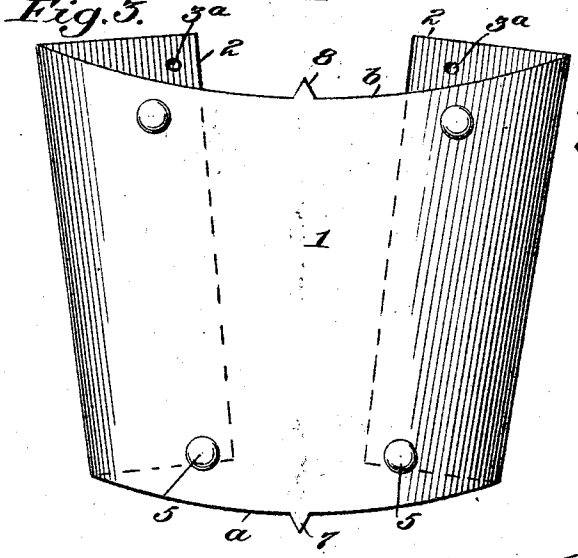
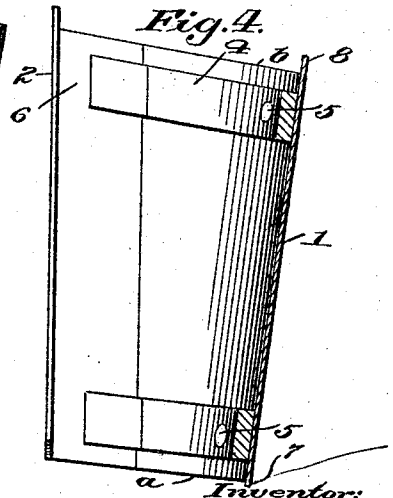


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANK JOE WOJCIK, OF LOWELL, ARIZONA.

FOOT SHIELD.

Application filed August 30, 1926. Serial No. 132,592.

The present invention is a foot guard, especially designed to be worn over the shoes of workmen, miners and the like in order to protect the foot from falling rock and other materials which may crush or otherwise injure the toes or fore-part of the foot.

The object of this invention is to provide a shield or guard of the above stated character of sheet metal constructed to fit over the toe portion of the shoe and to extend rearwardly thereof to a point overlying the vamp of the shoe. Another object of the invention is the production of such a guard or shield, as above stated, which will be extremely strong and durable to withstand the impact of falling material, yet, extremely simple in construction and economical to manufacture and easily applied or removed from the shoe.

With the above and other objects in view, the invention resides in sundry details of construction, combination and arrangement of parts, hereinafter more fully described and pointed out in the appending claims.

In this specification and the annexed drawings, the invention is disclosed in the form in which it is considered to be the best, but the invention is not limited to such form because it is capable of being embodied in other forms; and it is to be understood that in and by the claims following the description herein it is intended to cover the invention in whatever form it may embody within the scope thereof.

In the drawings which show the preferred embodiment of the invention as at present devised:—

Figure 1 shows the shield or guard of the invention applied to a shoe;

Figure 2 is an enlarged front end view of the shield or guard removed from the shoe;

Figure 3 is a top plan view of the shield or guard as shown in Figure 2; and

Figure 4 is a longitudinal sectional view of the guard taken substantially on line 4—4 of Figure 2.

Referring particularly to the drawings in detail wherein like characters denote similar and like parts throughout the several views, 1 designates the shield which consists of an elongated strip of sheet metal which is bent transversely on an arc of suitable radius to form an arch with its end portions bent inwardly to provide the inwardly extending flanges 2.

In bending the metal forming the shield to form the arch, it is preferred to so shape the same that its forward end *a* will form a flatter arch than the rear end *b*, and at the same time the walls of the shield widening from the forward end *a* to the rearward end *b*, so as to be somewhat wedge-shaped to readily slip on and fit over the toe of the shoe, in the manner which will be clearly understood and which is shown in the drawings. The flanges 2 are to underlie the sole of the shoe and are perforated to receive nails or other securing means 3 for securing the shield to the shoe. In order to give added rigidity and strength to the shield, it is provided at points adjacent its ends *a* and *b* with rigid arcuate reinforcing members or strips of metal 4, which, if not made integral with the shield, are riveted to the same as shown in the drawings, at 5. These reinforcing strips take the same contour as that portion of the shield which they engage and in lieu of being riveted may be welded.

These reinforcing arches, preferably, have their ends terminated at a point above the inwardly extending flanges 2 and are designed to rest upon the top of the sole of the shoe, as clearly indicated in Figure 2.

By this construction, the shield is held firmly on the shoe as the sole will slide in guide-ways 6 formed by the lower ends of reinforcing strips 4 and the flanges 2, while at the same time, the sole of the shoe will form a support for the reinforcing members and will, to a degree, cushion any impacts imparted to the shield. Also, this construction enables the shield to more closely fit the contour of the shoe and readily adjusted in position.

The shields will be made in varying sizes to correspond with the varying sizes of shoes, and in view of their tapered construction may be adjusted along the length of the fore-part of the shoe to meet the needs and desire of the wearer.

It will also be understood that the width of the shield may be varied in order to cover more or less of the shoe or foot as may be found needed for particular purposes.

In some forms of the invention the shield is provided on its end edges with prongs 7 and 8 which may be pressed downwardly to extend into the material of the shoe so as to more permanently secure the upper portion of the shield to the shoe and to keep the

same from having undue relative movement with respect to the upper.

The inventive thought may have a variety of expressions as is contemplated in what is claimed and desired to be secured by U. S. Letters Patent, as follows:

1. A foot shield to be worn over the forepart of a shoe comprising an elongated strip bent transversely on an arc forming an arched shield open at its ends, the terminal portions of said strip forming inwardly extending flanges, said shield having bendable means on the ends thereof adapted to be extended into the material of the shoe upper for maintaining the same in position with respect thereto.

2. A foot shield to be worn over the forepart of a shoe comprising an elongated strip bent transversely on an arc and having its terminal portions forming inwardly extending flanges, said flanges being adapted to engage with the bottom of the soles of the shoe and having perforations therein to receive securing elements for securing the shield to the shoe, reinforced arched portions on the inner face of the shield having their ends terminating at a distance above said flanges to engage the top surface of the sole of the shoe.

3. A foot shield to be worn over the forepart of a shoe comprising an elongated strip bent transversely on an arc forming the arched shield open at its ends, the terminal portions of the strip forming inwardly extending flanges, arched reinforcing strips at the arched end portions of said shield.

4. A foot shield to be worn over the forepart of a shoe comprising an elongated strip bent transversely on an arc and havings its terminal portions forming inwardly extending flanges, arched reinforcing strips on the inner face of said shield and having their ends terminated at a point above said flanges to co-operate with the latter to form guide-ways to receive the sole of the shoe, said shield being tapered toward its outer end.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand.

FRANK JOE WOJCIK.