COATING OR PLASTIC.

Examiner

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM S. LOWE, OF HAVERHILL, MASSACHUSETTS.

PLASTIC COMPOSITION FOR ARTICLES OF MANUFACTURE.

No Drawing. Application filed October 27, 1922. Serial No. 597,311.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM S. LOWE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Haverhill, in the county of Essex and State of Massachusetts, have invented new and useful Improvements in Plastic Composition for Articles of Manufacture, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a plastic composition for articles of manufacture and has for its object the production of a plastic composition embodying in a high degree, tensile strength and resistance to fracture whereby the same may be employed in moulding heels for boots and shoes, lasts for boots and shoes and other articles of manufacture which are usually constructed from solid blocks of wood and which because of their irregular contour are expensive to produce and often difficult to construct, it being possible with the composition of this invention to easily mould a variety of articles of manufacture and thereby produce the same without any waste of the material employed and at a greatly reduced cost.

The invention consists of a plastic composition for articles of manufacture as set forth in the following specification and particularly pointed out in the claim thereof.

This composition consists of filaments of wood, preferably undried oak wood produced by shredding said wood lengthwise of the grain thereof into filaments of varying lengths up to a maximum of approximately eight inches, said filaments also varying in diameter or thickness up to a maximum of approximately five thousandths of an inch. These filaments are first intermingled to form a tangled mass and are then saturated with a suitable adhesive material, preferably consisting of a suitable amount of sodium silicate after which the composition is placed in a suitable mould and a sufficient pressure is applied thereto to tightly compress the composition to bind the filaments together and cause the mass thus compressed to assume the contour of said mould.

The composition hereinbefore described is particularly adaptable for use in the construction of the heels of women's shoes in which event after the heel has been formed but while the composition is still in an undried state, a dowel is driven through said heel and during the progress of said dowel through said heel the composition is still further compressed from the central portion thereof outwardly toward the walls of the mould. The heel is then removed from the mould and allowed to dry and harden in any suitable manner after which it is rendered waterproof by applying a coating of gloss oil or varnish which is also allowed to dry.

The product consists of a solid hard mass of intermingled filaments of tough material which extend in all directions through the heel and which, when reinforced by the dowel, provides a heel which is strong, tough, light in weight and possesses all the other properties desirable in articles of this character.

A heel moulded as above outlined of filaments of undried oak wood together with a binding material consisting of sodium silicate can be readily removed from the mould while still in an undried condition without danger of injuring said heel or distorting the contour thereof and said heel will furthermore dry and harden after being removed from the mould without swelling and thereby causing said heel to become distorted.

I claim:

A plastic composition comprising filaments of undried oak wood, said filaments not exceeding five thousandths of an inch in thickness and eight inches in length and saturated with sodium silicate.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

WILLIAM S. LOWE.

Witnesses:
FRANKLIN E. LOW,
HAZEL F. LA MUDGE.