Sept. 22, 1959 M. GOLDSTEIN 2,904,901

RECEPTACLE HEELS FOR FOOTWEAR

Filed Jan. 14, 1959

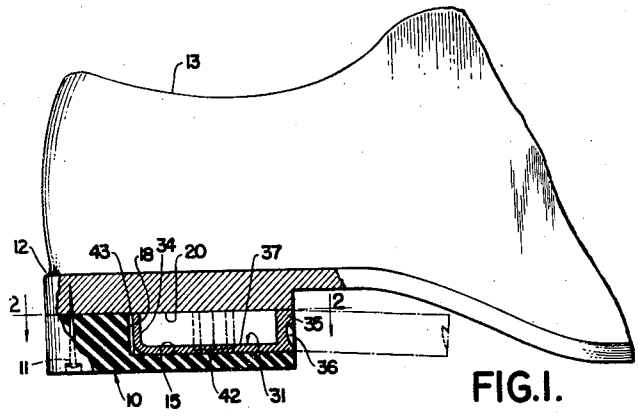


FIG. 1.

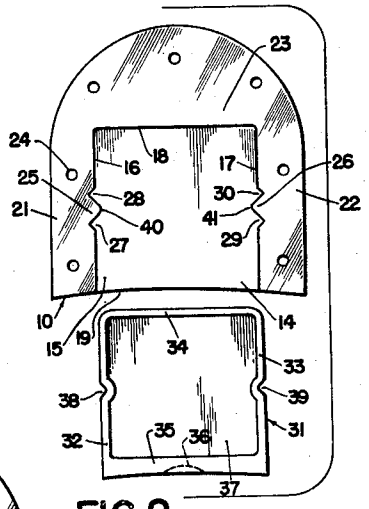


FIG. 2.

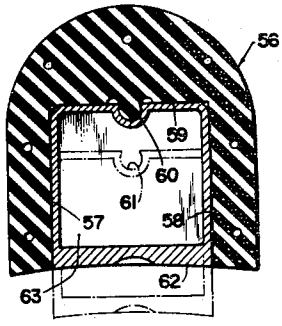


FIG. 7.

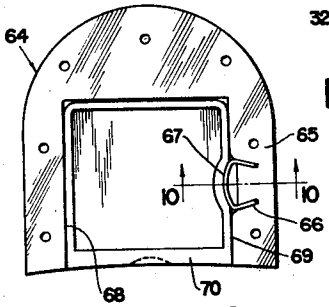


FIG. 9.

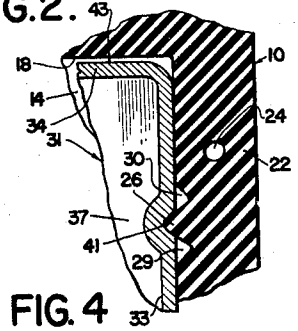


FIG. 4

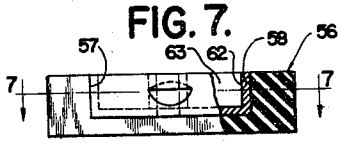


FIG. 8.

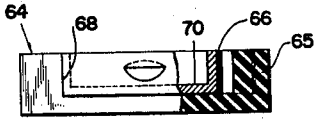


FIG. 10.

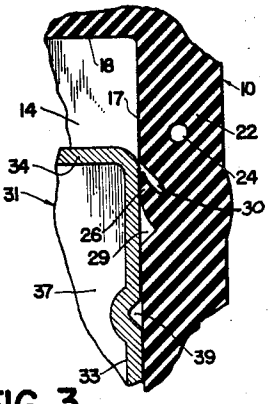


FIG. 3.

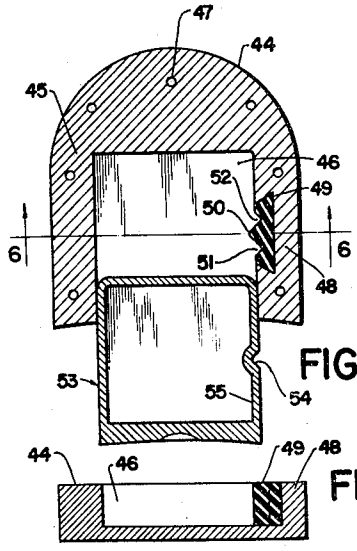


FIG. 5.

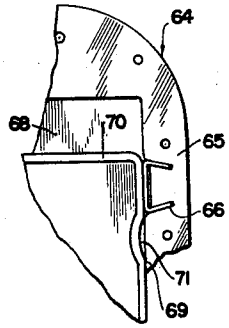


FIG. 11.

FIG. 6.

INVENTOR

MURRAY GOLDSTEIN

BY E. J. Pomack

ATTORNEY

United States Patent Office 2,904,901 Patented Sept. 22, 1959

2,904,901

RECEPTACLE HEELS FOR FOOTWEAR

Murray Goldstein, Brooklyn, N.Y.

Application January 14, 1959, Serial No. 786,841

3 Claims. (Cl. 36—1)

This invention relates to heels for footwear and is particularly directed to heels with removable receptacles therein.

To meet the long-felt need for a compartmented shoe wherein could be stored shoe laces, coins for emergency use or small personal appurtenances, various shoe and heel devices have been devised; but these have generally been impractical either because of their interference with the wearer's comfort, or because of exceedingly high costs entailed in their fabrication. It is accordingly my object to provide a practical shoe device that can conveniently serve as a small depository for items of the class above-mentioned, and that has none of the aforesaid shortcomings.

More specifically, it is an object of this invention to provide a heel structure that has a receptacle which is normally hidden from view, and which is nevertheless readily accessible and removable. And in this aspect of my invention it is another object to provide novel resilient locking means which safely holds the receptacle locked to the heel, and which, by its yieldable action, permits the receptacle to be removed by a simple manual manipulation, without the need to employ special tools.

Another object of my invention is the provision of a simple heel device having the aforesaid features, that is, adaptable for mass production and is hence inexpensive, and which can be attached to a shoe by the same techniques employed for the attachment of the usual solid heels.

Other objects, features and advantages will appear from the drawings and the description hereinbelow given.

Referring to the drawings,

Figure 1 is a fragmentary side elevation of a shoe, shown partly in section, having attached thereto the heel device of my invention, the dot-dash lines showing the receptacle component thereof partly removed from the rubber heel compartment.

Figure 2 is a disassembled top view of the heel and receptacle components of Figure 1, shown looking in the direction of the arrows 2—2.

Figure 3 is an enlarged fragmentary horizontal section of the components of the device of Figures 1 and 2, showing the receptacle partly inserted in the inner compartment of the heel.

Figure 4 is a view like Fig. 3, but showing the receptacle fully positioned within the inner compartment of the heel.

Figure 5 is a horizontal section of the heel and receptacle components of another form of my invention, the receptacle being shown partly inserted in the inner compartment of the heel.

Figure 6 is a section of Fig. 5 taken along line 6—6.

Figure 7 is a horizontal section of the heel and receptacle components of still another embodiment of my invention, the dot-dash lines showing the receptacle partly inserted, the section being taken along line 7—7 of Fig. 8.

Figure 8 is a front view, partly in section, of Fig. 7.

Figure 9 is a top view of the heel and receptacle components of another form of my invention, the receptacle being shown fully in place.

Figure 10 is a front view, partly in section, of Fig. 9.

Figure 11 is a fragmentary top view like Fig. 9 but showing the receptacle component only partly inserted in the inner compartment of the heel.

In the form of my invention illustrated in Figures 1 to 4, the heel **10**, preferably made of rubber or other resilient material, is attached by fasteners **11** to the rear heel portion **12** of the shoe **13**. The heel **10** contains an inner compartment **14** defined by the base **15**, side walls **16** and **17** and rear wall **18**. The front center portion of the said heel is recessed at **19** to form a front opening for the compartment, the overlying portion **20** of the shoe constituting the roof of said compartment. The marginal portion of the heel surrounding the compartment **14** comprises the opposite lateral portions **21** and **22** and the rear portion **23**, such portions being substantially U-shaped and being proportioned so as to accommodate therein the holes **24** for receiving therethrough the fasteners **11**. The arrangement is hence such that the heel **10** can be attached to the shoe in conventional manner.

Integral with the said resilient marginal portions **21** and **22** and extending from said respective lateral walls **16** and **17** slightly into said compartment **14** are the flexible tongues **25** and **26**, respectively, the former being flanked by recessed portions **27** and **28**, and the latter by recessed portions **29** and **30**, said tongues forming releasable locking members in a manner to be hereinbelow described.

Proportioned to be slidably accommodated within said compartment **14** is the container **31** comprising the side walls **32** and **33**, the rear wall **34**, the front wall **35** with the finger grip recess **36** and the floor **37**. The said side walls **32** and **33** have therein the respective inwardly extending indentures **38** and **39**, positioned and proportioned for operatively receiving therein the said respective tongues **25** and **26**, as will more clearly hereinbelow appear. It should be noted that in the particular form illustrated, said tongues **25** and **26** are wider at their respective bases than at their free inner edges shown as apical edge portions **40** and **41**, said tongues being separated at **42** from the base **15** of the heel, so as to enable the tongues freely to flex forwardly and rearwardly.

During the operative insertion of the container **31** within the heel compartment **14**, the tongues **25** and **26** are deflected by the respective container sides **32** and **33**, whereby the container is permitted to slidably move into the said compartment against the slight frictional resistance of said tongues. As will be seen from Fig. 3, the tongue **26** is deflected into the adjacent space **30**, the tongue remaining substantially in this position until the indenture **39** of the container reaches the tongue whereupon, due to the latter's resiliency, it will spring forwardly when the tongue's apical portion **41** enters the indenture, this action being facilitated by the space **43** between rear wall **34** of the container and the rear portion **23** of the heel member **10**. The container **31** is now releasably locked within the compartment **14** due to the yieldable holding action of the said tongues **25** and **26**. In this operative position, the container is not visible, the heel appearing—and functioning—like a conventional heel. To withdraw the container **31**, a pull is applied to the recessed gripping portion **36**, whereupon said yieldable tongue will be urged forwardly to permit the container to slidably move out of engagement with the heel **10**.

In the form of my invention illustrated in Figures 5 and 6, the heel **44**, which need not be of resilient ma-

terial as in the form above described, is of a configuration substantially similar to that of said first form, the substantially U-shaped marginal portion generally designated 45 surrounding the compartment 46 on three sides, and being proportioned for accommodating in the body thereof the fastener apertures 47. Affixed to the right marginal section 46 is the locking insert 49, made of resilient material such as rubber, and comprising a flexible tongue 50 flanked by two recessed portions 51 and 52.

The container number 53 is substantially like container 31, except that it has an indenture 54 in only one lateral wall 55, positioned and proportioned for releasable interlocking engagement with said tongue 50, in the manner aforesaid. This embodiment of my invention, functioning like the form shown in Figures 1 to 4, is thus particularly though not exclusively adapted for use with leather or non-resilient heels. It has the added advantage of permitting the locking member 49 to be made of material having the required physical characteristics for a yieldable holding member, which may be different from those of the heel proper.

Figures 7 and 8 illustrate still another form of my invention, in which the heel 56 is substantially like the corresponding heel member of the form first above described, the lateral walls 57 and 58 being, however, smooth and only the rear wall 59 having the forwardly protruding preferably resilient tongue member 60 proportioned to frictionally and releasably enter the correspondingly positioned indenture 61 of the container 62 when the latter is operatively positioned within the compartment 63 of heel 56. It is evident that said container 62 can be readily inserted and removed so as to function like the corresponding containers of the above described embodiments of my invention.

In Figures 9 to 11 the preferably resilient heel 64 has anchored in the lateral marginal portion 65 thereof the resilient spring member 66, the innermost portion comprising the crown 67 extending slightly into the compartment 68 of the heel and positioned for frictional engagement with the side 69 of the container 70, said side 69 having therein the recessed portion 71 proportioned and positioned to receive therein said crown. The arrangement is hence such as to permit a ready insertion and withdrawal of the container, the latter being yieldably locked within the heel in its operative position, being hidden from view, and being in non-interfering relation to the conventional heel fastening means.

In the above description, the invention has been disclosed merely by way of example and in preferred manner; but obviously many variations and modifications may be made therein. It is to be understood, therefore, that the invention is not limited to any form or manner of practicing same, except insofar as such limitations are specified in the appended claims.

I claim:

1. In a heel device adapted for attachment to the heel portion of a shoe, a heel member having a hollowed portion in the body thereof forming a compartment, said heel member having U-shaped portion enveloping said compartment at the lateral side and rear portions thereof, whereby said U-shaped portion may receive therethrough suitable fasteners for attaching the heel member to the heel portion of said shoe, a yieldable locking member extending from the body of the heel member into said compartment, the front portion of said heel member being recessed to form an opening communicating with said compartment, and a container member slidable within said compartment through said front opening thereof, said container member having an indentured portion proportioned and positioned for releasably receiving therein said locking member when the container member is operatively disposed within said compartment.

2. In a heel device adapted for attachment to the heel portion of a shoe, a heel member having a hollowed portion in the body thereof forming a compartment, a locking member having a yieldable portion extending from the body of the heel member into said compartment, and two recessed portions flanking said yieldable portion, and a container member slidable within said compartment and engageable with said yieldable portion, said compartment being proportioned to accommodate therein said container in a fully inserted position, said container member having an indentured portion proportioned and positioned for releasably receiving therein said locking member when the container member is in its said fully inserted position.

3. In a heel device adapted for attachment to the heel portion of a shoe, a heel member having a hollowed portion in the body thereof forming a compartment, said heel member having a base, laterally opposite side walls and a rear wall defining said compartment, the front portion of said heel member being recessed to form an opening communicating with said compartment, a locking member comprising a resilient tongue extending from one of said side walls into said compartment, and two recessed portions flanking said tongue, said tongue being mounted for flexing movement forwardly and rearwardly, and a container member slidable within said compartment through said front opening, said container having in a side portion thereof an indentured portion proportioned and positioned for releasably receiving therein said tongue when the container member is operatively disposed within said compartment.

References Cited in the file of this patent

UNITED STATES PATENTS

922,499	Molitor	May 25, 1909
1,085,254	Halley	Jan. 27, 1914
2,478,411	Martin	Aug. 9, 1949

FOREIGN PATENTS

484,172	Italy	Aug. 29, 1953
910,292	France	Jan. 21, 1946
933,974	France	Jan. 7, 1948