Feb. 7, 1967 C. E. HARTLEY 3,302,312

MOCCASIN-TYPE SHOE

Filed July 19, 1962 3 Sheets-Sheet 1

FIG. 1

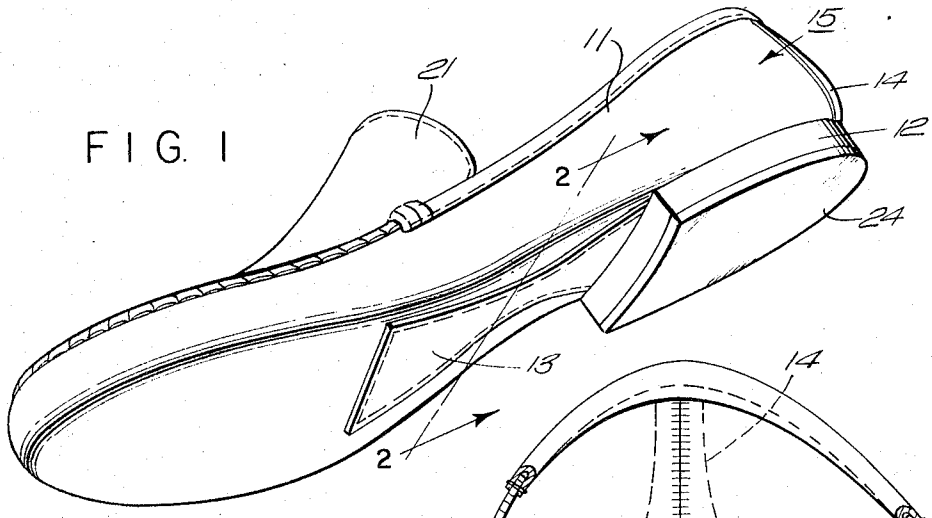
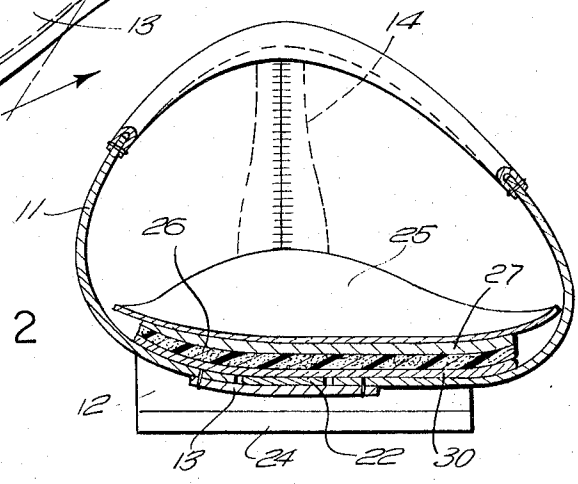


FIG. 2



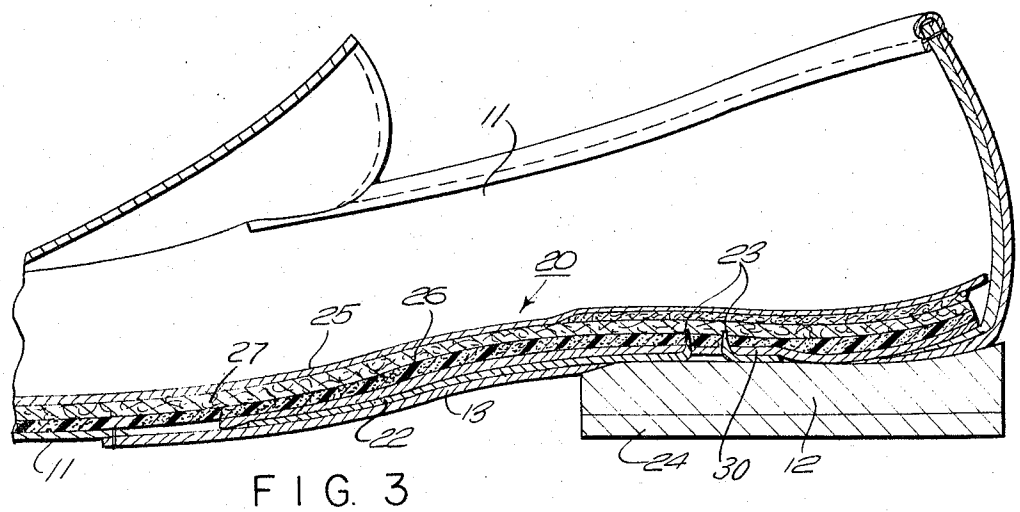


FIG. 3

INVENTOR.
CHARLES E. HARTLEY
BY
Dike, Thompson, Bronstein & Mrose
ATTORNEYS

Feb. 7, 1967 C. E. HARTLEY 3,302,312

MOCCASIN-TYPE SHOE

Filed July 19, 1962 3 Sheets-Sheet 2

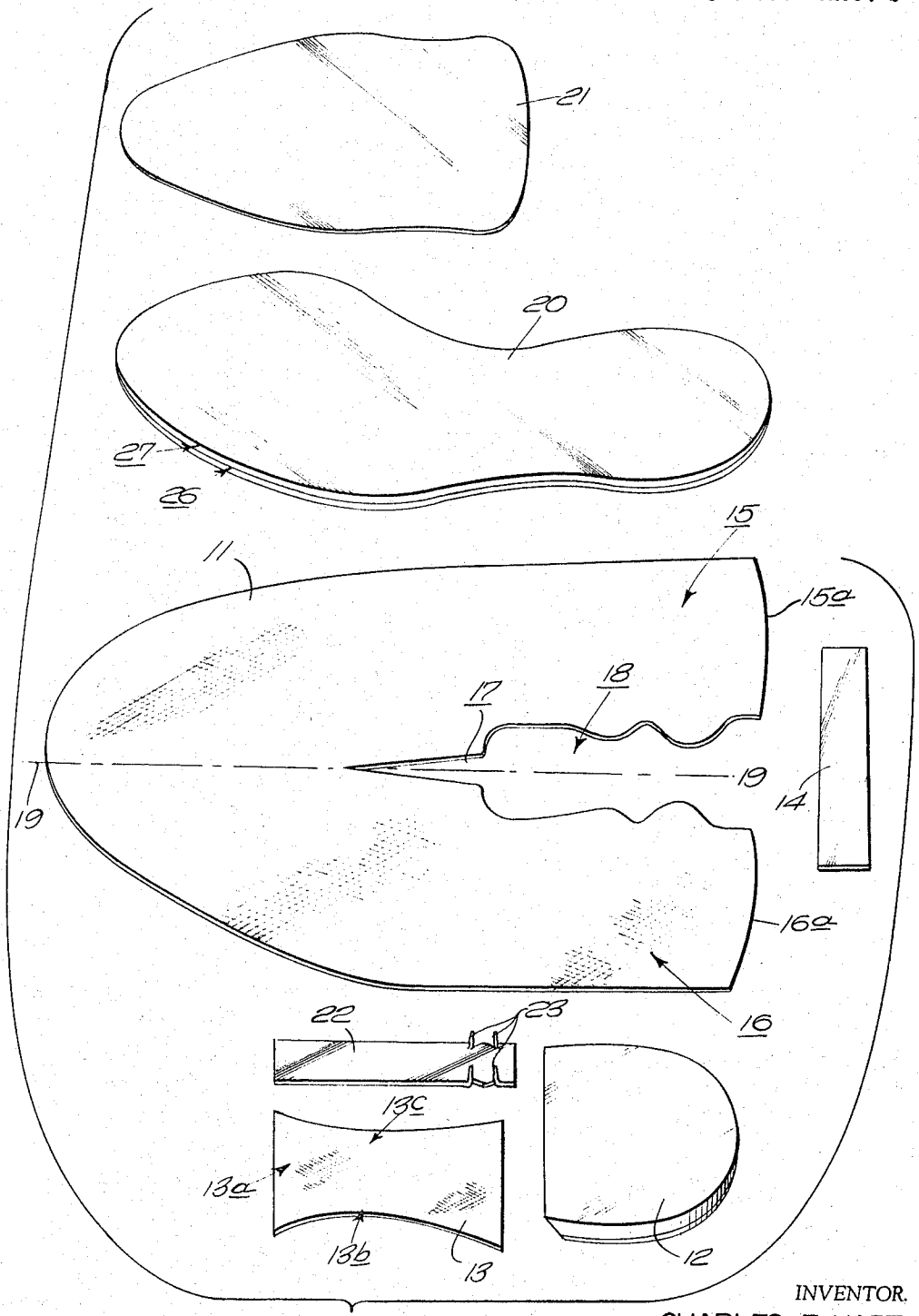


FIG. 1A

INVENTOR.
CHARLES E. HARTLEY
BY
Dike, Thompson, Bronstein & Mrose
ATTORNEYS

Feb. 7, 1967 C. E. HARTLEY 3,302,312

MOCCASIN-TYPE SHOE

Filed July 19, 1962 3 Sheets-Sheet 3

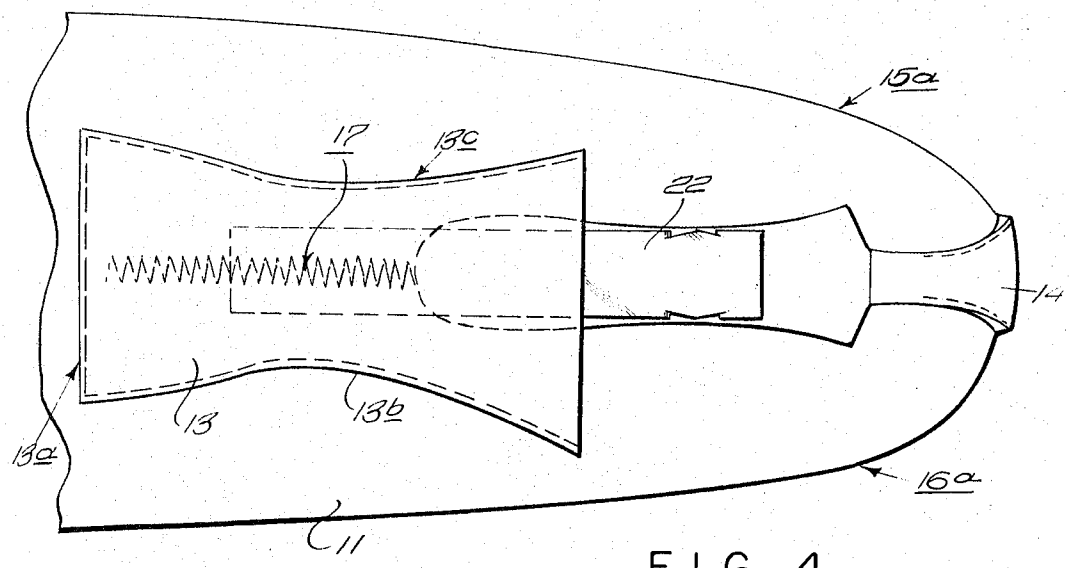


FIG. 4

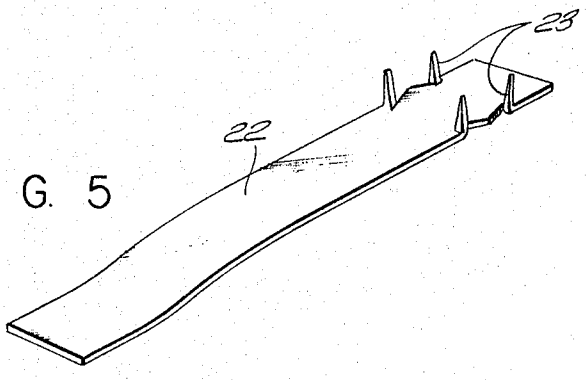


FIG. 5

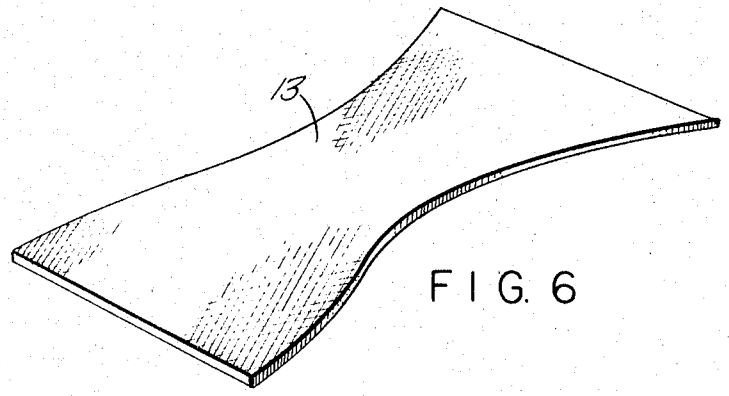


FIG. 6

INVENTOR.
CHARLES E. HARTLEY
BY
Dike, Thompson, Bronstein & Mrase
ATTORNEYS

United States Patent Office 3,302,312 Patented Feb. 7, 1967

3,302,312

MOCCASIN-TYPE SHOE

Charles E. Hartley, Avon, Mass., assignor to The Stetson Shoe Company, Incorporated, South Weymouth, Mass., a corporation of Massachusetts

Filed July 19, 1962, Ser. No. 211,003
4 Claims. (Cl. 36—11)

The present invention has to do with improvements in footwear of the moccasin type, i.e. one in which the upper and the outsole are formed from a single integral piece of sheet-like stock, the sheet-like stock being adapted to extend across the bottom of the shoe under the sole of the foot and at least along a portion of the sides. Moccasin footwear has been popular because of its comfortable, soft, and light qualities, and because it can be made more cheaply than welt constructions with a minimum of expense for material and labor. The moccasin-type footwear is characterized by the fact that the portion of the stock forming the sides also extends across the bottom of the sole, and is formed integral therewith. As modified in accordance with the present teachings, this construction can provide the basis for an exceedingly satisfactory and useful type of shoe for many purposes, and in styles and sizes for men, women and children.

For descriptive purposes, certain areas of the moccasin-type shoe may be identified as the forward area, the intermediate or arch area and the heel area.

The moccasin-type shoe embodying my present invention is characterized by the facts that it incorporates an insole extending the full length and width of the moccasin, is fitted about a last to form the arch, is shank-stiffened along the intermediate area, and provided with a heel secured to the heel area, such that it has style and foot-supporting advantages hitherto limited to shoes having separate outsoles while at the same time being light, comfortable and soft. For these purposes, the upper is split rearwardly of the intended sole portion, and stock is removed along a rear portion at the intended site of the heel, after which the forward proximate edges of the split lying substantially within the intermediate area of the shoe are then sewn together, the upper portions is then shaped about the insole and a last. Over the sewn edges of the split, there is an outside patch fastened by stitching along two sides and the front end, but leaving the rear end open at the intended heel site. This arrangement forms a pocket between the patch and the insole, the pocket being open at the rear before a heel is applied. Into the pocket is slipped a suitable flat spring-metal shank stiffener which protrudes from the rear end of the pocket and is there provided with prongs or other suitable fastenings which anchor it to the heel tuck in the heel area and leaving the front end free so that the shank may be flexed by the wearer in walking. Thereafter, the shoe is completed by nailing on a suitable heel, in the usual manner, the heel serving to close the rear end of the pocket and to mask and support the pronged end of the metal shank stiffener. Moccasin shoes embodying my invention are found to have exceptional wearing properties; this results in part because a soft cushion insole in provided between the foot and the portion of the upper which forms the outsole. Impact of the shoe on a walking surface is less violent, and the sole is not bent too sharply; consequently, the wear is appreciably less and the shoe tends to remain in good condition longer.

My invention resides in part in the herein described method of manufacturing the shoe. This will be fully understood from the following description and the drawings, wherein:

In the drawings, FIGURE 1 is a view in perspective of the moccasin shoe embodying my invention;

FIGURE 1A illustrates the principal parts of the shoe of FIGURE 1;

FIGURE 2 is a section on line 2—2 of FIGURE 1;

FIGURE 3 is a longitudinal section part of the shoe shown in FIGURE 1;

FIGURE 4 is a view of the bottom of the rear portion of a shoe embodying my invention, the heel being absent;

FIGURE 5 is a view in perspective of a shank stiffening element and

FIGURE 6 is a perspective view of a bottom patch.

Referring now to FIGURE 1, at **11** is indicated the upper which has been combined with an insole, a heel **12**, a bottom patch **13**, and a back-stay **14**, to form a finished moccasin-type article of footwear.

In making the shoe, the combined sole and upper or vamp **11**, is first cut to the proper form, which will be clearly seen from FIGURE 1A. The sheet-like blank **11** for the combined upper and sole member has two rear end portions, **15** and **16**, which are spaced apart by a V-shaped slit **17** at the intermediate portion corresponding to the instep area of the foot of the user and by a wider opening **18** at the intended site of a heel seat for the shoe. Ends **15***a* and **16***a* of portions **15** and **16** are brought together and stitched, closing the rear of the shoe, and a back stay **14** may subsequently be stitched over the seam, if desired. Next, the side edges of the slit **17** along the median line **19—19** of the upper are brought together and stitched. This advantageously shapes the upper somewhat to the instep of the wearer. The bottom patch **13** is stitched in place onto member **11** in overlying relationship to stitched slit **17**, by through-and-through stitches along its near-marginal front edge **13***a* and side edges **13***b* and **13***c*, only. Then the shaped cushioning insole **20** is tacked on the bottom of a suitable last, two tacks ordinarily being used for this purpose, one over the heel and the other forward of it. The member **11** is then suitably moistened or otherwise tempered and is stretched over the last with the insole applied; this is done by the handsewer. The edges of the top of the upper are fastened, by hand stitching, to the edges of a suitable plug **21** which forms the top of the forepart of the shoe. The shoe is next dried on the last, to fix the desired contouring.

Cement is then applied to the heel seat and allowed to dry, after which the last is pulled and the insole removed, then the last is put back in, and a heel tuck **30** is inserted in the back bottom part of the heel area. The heel seat is lasted on a known type of heel seat lasting machine to wipe in excess leather, the latter being fastened to the heel tuck in the heel area.

Preferably, the heel seat laster also applies heat to assure proper wiping of the upper material around the heel. A resilient shank stiffener of a suitable material **22** is slid under the patch **13**, between the patch and outside of stitched slit **17**, and is fastened in place. For the latter purpose I prefer to use a shank stiffener with prongs **23**; these are caused to pierce the heel tuck **30** at the heel site and are then pounded down or clinched against the metal heel plate with which the last is usually provided. The shank stiffener helps maintain the shoe sole area in a resilient extended position. The heel is put on over the exposed open end of patch **13**, and the exposed end of the shank stiffener **22**, thus closing the pocket containing the shank stiffener **22**. The usual finishing operations are then performed. The top lift **24** (FIGURE 3) is put on and fastened by cement or nailed; the heel is shaved, scoured, stained and polished; the last pulled out, the insole put back in, the upper stained, a sock lining **25** inserted, and the upper sprayed, dried and brushed. It will be understood that these finishing operations are in general old and form no part of my present invention, except as part of the novel sequence of steps, and that the

shoe can be finished by any ordinary shoe finishing operations.

Cushion insole 20 is preferably prepared by laminating a thin layer of foam rubber sponge 26 with a layer of leather or leather board material 27, the sponge side of the composite insole being positioned lowermost such that it is in cushioning engagement with the inside of the sole portion of the shoe where it absorbs impacts and other forces when the shoe is worn. In the finished product, the outsole is integral with sides of the upper, there being no separate outsole attachment, while at the same time the intermediate area of the shoe is contoured to fit the instep of the user's foot comfortably and to accommodate the addition of a heel which imparts the desired wearing characteristic of a shoe. The entire footwear assembly is thus preserved soft and extremely light, and manufacture involves but low cost.

While specific preferred practices and constructions have been illustrated and described, it should be understood that various changes, modifications, and substitutions may be effected by those skilled in the art without departure from these teachings, and it is intended in the appended claims to embrace all such variations as fall within the true spirit and scope of this invention.

What I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States is:

1. A moccasin-type shoe comprising an upper formed of pliable sheet-like material adapted to extend about the foot of a user having a forward portion, an intermediate portion and a heel portion, said upper including at least two side sections and an integral bottom section extending between the side sections to form an outsole for the shoe, an inside sole extending throughout the inner sole area of the shoe, the upper being provided with a V-shaped slit within the sole area adjacent the forward portion of the shoe and positioned substantially within the sole area of the intermediate portion and merging with a heel opening dividing said heel portion, the edges of the slit being stiched together in the sole area of the intermediate portion to conform the upper to the instep of the user, means securing said divided heel portion, a patch on the bottom of the sole area of the intermediate portion over the stitched edges of the slit having at least its side edges secured to the said upper to form a rearwardly opening pocket between the outer surface of the upper and the patch, a resilient shank stiffening element positioned within said pocket and extending rearwardly thereof overlying said heel portion, and heel means overlying the rearwardly extending portion of said shank stiffening element, thereby normally holding the sole of the shoe in a resilient extended position.

2. A shoe comprising a moccasin-type upper member having a forward portion, an intermediate portion and a heel portion, the upper member extending across the bottom of the forward portion to form an outsole integral with the sides of the upper portion, the upper member having a V-shaped slit opening rearwardly of the forward portion and lying along the intermediate portion thereof, said slit merging with an opening in said heel portion of the upper member which divides the heel portion thereof into two separate ends, the edges of the slit being placed adjacent and secured to each other to shape the upper in the intermediate portion to a predetermined form, means for securing the two separate ends of the heel portion of said upper together, a patch on the bottom of the intermediate portion extending over the stitched edges of the slip and onto the heel portion of the upper member, stitching the front and side edges of the patch to the outer portion of the upper member and forming a pocket therebetween, said pocket being open at its rear end, a heel tuck, a resilient shank stiffener positioned in said pocket projecting out of the open end thereof and overlying the heel portion of the upper member, a heel closing the upper rear end of said pocket and overlying the outwardly projecting end of the said shank stiffener, a plug stitched along the forward sides of the upper member to close the top front portion of the shoe and a cushion insole extending at least over the top of the outsole portion of the said upper member.

3. A shoe as set forth in claim 2 wherein said cushion insole extends fully across the outsole portion of the upper, the intermediate and heel portions of the shoe and includes a layer of sponge rubber, and wherein said shank stiffener includes prongs the outwardly-projecting ends thereof being fixedly engaged with said heel tuck.

4. The method of making a shoe which comprises preparing a one-piece moccasin-type upper member having an integral outsole portion, a cushion insole, a heel tuck, a plug, a bottom patch, and a metal shank stiffener, the upper member having a V-shaped slit along its median line rearwardly of the outsole portion and merging with a heel opening separating the heel ends of the upper member, securing the heel ends of the upper member together by stitching, drawing together and securing the edges of the slit to arch the upper member along the intermediate portion thereof, wetting the said upper portion, stretching the upper member while wet over the insole and last, stitching the front side portions of the upper member to the plug, stitching the front and side edges of the bottom patch over the seam on the outer portion of the upper member formed by the stitched-together edges of the slit and thereby forming a pocket open at the rear end overlying the heel portion of the upper member, inserting the metal shank stiffener into the pocket with the rear end thereof projecting outwardly thereof and overlying the heel portion of the upper member, securing the rear end of the shank stiffener to the heel tuck, and fastening a heel over the rear end of the bottom patch to close the pocket and to cover the rear end of the shank stiffener.

References Cited by the Examiner

UNITED STATES PATENTS

377,757	2/1888	Hickson	36—11
1,594,308	7/1926	Llewellyn	36—11
1,972,249	9/1934	Schneider	128—589
2,157,818	5/1939	Disch	36—76 X
2,645,042	7/1953	Stritter	36—11
2,866,211	12/1958	Herlihy	36—11
2,946,069	7/1960	Bozza	12—142

JORDAN FRANKLIN, *Primary Examiner.*

DAVID J. WILLIAMOWSKY, *Examiner.*

F. J. COHEN, H. H. HUNTER, *Assistant Examiners.*