Dec. 8, 1953 K. A. STRITTER 2,661,548

COVERED SOLE MEMBER

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Fig. 1

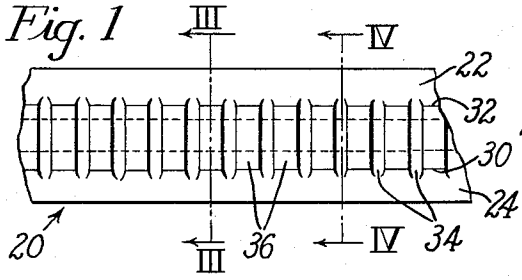



Fig. 2

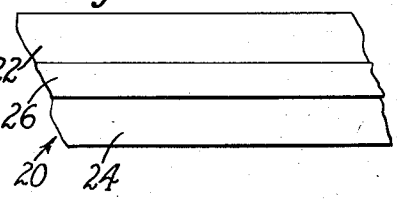



Fig. 3




Fig. 4

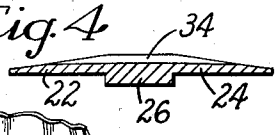



Fig. 5

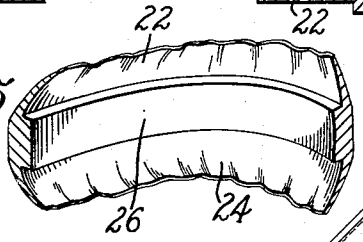



Fig. 6

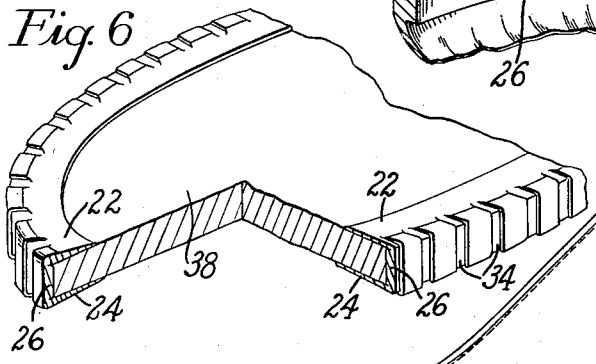
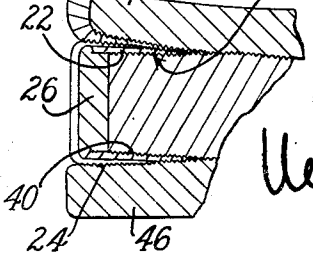



Fig. 7




Fig. 8




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Fig. 9

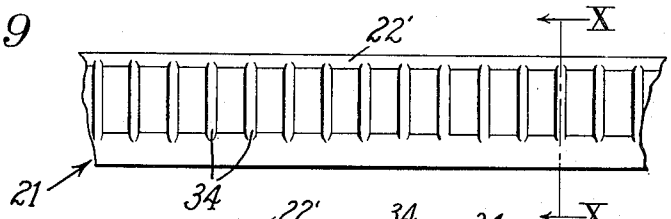



Fig. 10

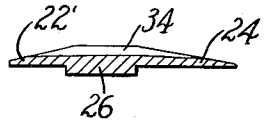



Fig. 12

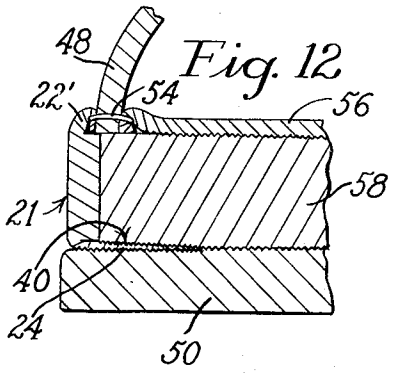
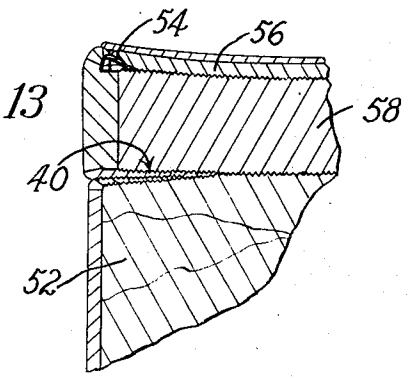



Fig. 11




Fig. 13




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Patented Dec. 8, 1953 2,661,548

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,661,548

## COVERED SOLE MEMBER

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Application March 11, 1950, Serial No. 149,159

3 Claims. (Cl. 36—25)

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This invention relates to covered sole members used, for example, in making platform shoes.

Objects of the invention are to provide covered sole members the covers of which are durable, ornamental and easily applied to the edges and marginal portions of unattached sole members.

The cover is a strip preferably made of leather, although other suitable material may be used. The margins of the flesh face are uniformly reduced in thickness, leaving a portion of full thickness equal in width to the thickness of the sole member or platform to be used. The margins of the grain face of each strip are reduced to form outwardly tapering marginal portions quite thin at their outer edges, a portion of the grain face wider than the portion of full thickness being left between the outwardly tapering margins. Evenly spaced transverse grooves are formed in this grain face, the grooves being shallow but deep enough to enhance the flexibility of the strip, which is important when applying the strip to end portions of the platform. The grooves also produce a striking ornamental effect since the color of the untouched finish of the grain face of the upper may be in strong contrast to the color in the grooves. To enhance this contrast effect dye or stain may be applied to the grooved grain face of the strip, which stain will be readily absorbed by the material in the grooves where the finish is removed and can be wiped off the finished portions between the grooves without substantially affecting the color of the finish thereon.

For slip-lasted work one of the margins of the strip may be made narrow so as to provide only a seam allowance for attachment by the usual seam to the upper and sock lining.

In the drawings—

Fig. 1 is a view of the grain side of a strip showing the transverse grooves;

Fig. 2 is a view of the flesh side of the strip showing the central portion of full thickness which is as wide as the platform is thick and showing the uniformly reduced marginal portions;

Fig. 3 is an enlarged transverse section on the line III—III of Fig. 1 through the ungrooved portion;

Fig. 4 is a similar section on the line IV—IV of Fig. 1 through one of the grooves;

Fig. 5 is a perspective view of a strip in preformed condition;

Fig. 6 is a fragmentary view, partly in section, of a platform with the strip attached to it;

Fig. 7 is a side elevation of a completed shoe having a forepart platform bound with the strip of the present invention;

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Fig. 8 is a much enlarged fragmentary section taken on the line VIII—VIII of Fig. 7;

Fig. 9 is a view of the grain face of a strip with one margin reduced in width to adapt it for slip-lasted work;

Fig. 10 is an enlarged transverse section of the strip of Fig. 7 through one of the grooves;

Fig. 11 is a side elevation of a slip-lasted shoe having a full-length platform covered with the strip of Fig. 9;

Fig. 12 is a much enlarged fragmentary sectional view on the line XII—XII of Fig. 11; and

Fig. 13 is a similar sectional view on the line XIII—XIII of Fig. 11.

As shown in Figs. 2 and 4, a strip **20** of leather, for example, has the marginal portions **22**, **24** of its flesh face uniformly reduced in thickness, leaving between the marginal portions a portion **26** of its original thickness having abrupt shoulders separated by a distance equal to the thickness of the sole member with which it is to be used.

On the grain face (Fig. 1) the marginal portions are treated from the lines **30**, **32** outwardly to a skiving or roughing operation by which the finish is removed and the marginal portions tapered outwardly. On the grain face also between the lines **30**, **32**, which define an area wider than the portion **26** on the flesh side, shallow transverse grooves **34** are formed, the grooves being preferably evenly spaced from each other lengthwise of the strip. The grooves are deep enough to remove the finish on the grain face of the leather and to enhance the longitudinal flexibility of the strip so that it can be more readily applied to the toe and heel portions of a sole member. Between the grooves **34** there remain rectangular areas **36** which retain the original finish of the leather and form a color contrast to the grooves where the finish is removed. If desired, the color contrast may be increased by applying colored dye or stain to the grain face of the strip and wiping it off the rectangular areas **36** which, having the original finish, are less absorbent than the material in the grooves and along the marginal portions. In place of the grooves other striations or ornamental shapes may be employed.

To facilitate application of the strip to sole members, it is preferably preformed, as shown in Fig. 5, where the marginal portions are substantially bent toward the portion **26** on the flesh side.

The described strip is applied to a sole member or platform as indicated in Fig. 6. The thick portion **26** of the strip is laid against the edge face of the platform **38** and the marginal por-

tions 22, 24 are cemented or otherwise secured, for example by stitches, one to the top marginal portion of the platform and the other to its bottom portion. A shoe having a forepart platform thus covered is shown in Fig. 7. The much enlarged sectional view of Fig. 8 indicates cement 40 holding the marginal portions of the strip to the upper and lower faces of the platform. The upper 42 may be attached by cement to the marginal portion 22 of an insole 44 and to the marginal portion 22 of the strip. An outsole 46 is attached by cement to the marginal portion 24.

The exposed rear portion of the insole 44 may be covered, as indicated in Fig. 7, by a strip 20 made of suitable dimensions to suit the thickness of the insole.

In Figs. 9 and 10 is shown a strip 21 in all respects similar to the strip 20 of Figs. 1 to 4 except that one of the marginal portions 22' is narrower. This portion is wide enough to provide a seam allowance only by which it may be attached to the upper and sock lining or to a sock lining only as in slip-lasted work. Fig. 11 represents a slip-lasted shoe having a full-length platform bound with the strip of Fig. 9, the shoe having an upper 48, an outsole 50 and a covered heel 52. As shown in Fig. 12, the upper 48 is attached by a seam 54 to a sock lining 56 and to the narrow margin 22' of the strip 21, the wide margin 24 of the strip being attached by cement 40 to the lower margin of a platform 58 and the outsole 50 being attached by cement to the wide margin 24. At the shank and around the heel end, where there is no upper, the sock lining 56 is stitched directly to the narrow margin 22' of the strip 21, as indicated in Fig. 13.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States is:

1. A sole member having its edge face and marginal portions covered by a leather strip having a portion of full thickness engaging the edge face of the sole member and having marginal portions of reduced thickness secured to the marginal portions of the sole member, the marginal portions of the strip tapering inwardly with respect to the sole member.



2. A sole member having a leather strip covering its edge face and marginal portions, said strip having on its flesh face an unreduced portion covering the edge face of the sole member and reduced marginal portions forming abrupt shoulders adjacent to the corners of the edge face of the sole member, the marginal portions of the strip being outwardly tapered on the grain side and being secured one against one margin of the sole member and the other against the other margin of the sole member, the untapered portion of the grain side being wider than the unreduced portion on the flesh side.

3. A sole member having its edge face and marginal portions covered by a leather strip grain side out, the strip having a portion of full thickness engaging the edge face of the sole member and having marginal portions of reduced thickness secured one to one side of the sole member and the other to the other side of the sole member, the marginal portions of the strip tapering inwardly of the sole member, and said strip having on its grain face grooves extending through the grain and not through the strip for imparting longitudinal flexibility to the strip.

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