Dec. 22, 1925 1,566,466

W. R. CLEAVER

BOOT OR SHOE LACE

Filed Dec. 4, 1924

Fig. 1.

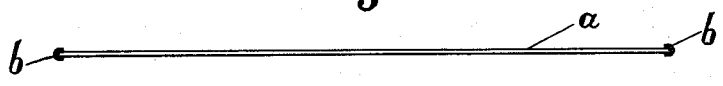


Fig. 2.

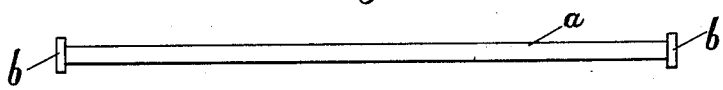


Fig. 3.

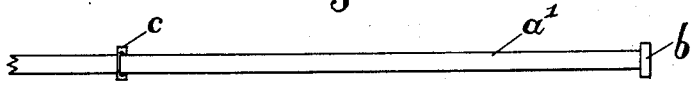


Fig. 4.

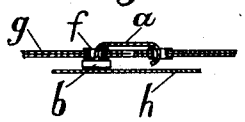
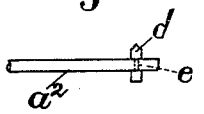


Fig. 5.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILFRED REYNOLDS CLEAVER, OF COVENTRY, ENGLAND.

BOOT OR SHOE LACE.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILFRED REYNOLDS CLEAVER, a British subject, residing at 226 Foleshill Road, Coventry, in the county of Warwick, England, have invented an Improved Boot or Shoe Lace, of which the following is a specification.

This invention refers to boot or shoe laces, and in it I utilize an elastic lace to lace an ordinary boot or shoe, the tags or similar terminals at the ends of this being set crosswise to the lace instead of in line with same as hitherto,

In the accompanying drawings Fig. 1, is a side view of a lace with fixed type of tag; Fig. 2, is a plan view of Fig 1; Fig. 3, is a plan view of a lace with an adjustable tag; Fig. 4, is a section through the finishing eyelets of a boot or shoe, and Fig. 5, is a section of a round lace.

In one form of my invention I provide an elastic lace a, having at each of its ends a piece of metal or tag b, of U-shape in section being slightly longer in length than the width of the said elastic lace a. These said tags b, are roughened on their inner side, and are compressed to each respective end of the lace a, in a manner as shewn in Fig. 1.

If desired I may provide an ordinary tag as hitherto used, being set transversely to the elactic lace which latter is rolled up at each end with the tag and then compressed in a well known manner.

The adjustable type of elastic lace a^1, as shewn in Fig. 3, is provided with tags b, of the kind described with reference to Figs. 1, and 2, and a piece of flat metal c, with a longitudinal slot of sufficient width is mounted on the said lace a^1, in such manner as to allow the latter to be pulled therethrough, but it is not wide enough to allow movement when subjected to the lesser tension it would otherwise have in use. A slide ornament may also be used on the elastic web consisting for example of a piece of metal formed round the elastic web in such a manner that it can be moved along the lace but may be prevented from slipping off by means of the cross tags b. The said piece of metal carries an ornament and may rest between the top two eyelets when the shoe is laced, for the purpose of improving the appearance of the shoe. The tags b, or similar terminals may also finish on the top side of the shoe and be ornamental.

In the case of a round elastic lace a^2, as shewn in Fig. 5, I provide a piece of metal d, of about half an inch long and pointed at one end, and provided with a reduced center as shewn at e, in dotted lines, and said metal piece d, is pressed through the lace a^2, a short distance from the end of same as shewn in Fig. 5, and the lace then rests in the reduced center, and the action is substantially the same as herein set forth.

An ordinary shoe may now be laced, and if the lace is of the non-adjustable type the length may be varied by a different method of lacing. The said lace is exceedingly simple to fit and particularly comfortable in wear, it is also very durable and is easily changed from one shoe to another.

The feature of my invention is that the elastic laces a, a^1, or a^2, are made from elastic web, which causes a different action of the cross tags b, than hitherto, moreover the said lace having elasticity causes the tags b, to be held in vary close contact with the eyelet f, of a boot or shoe upper g, as shewn in Fig. 4, thereby allowing the boot or shoe tongue h, to lie close to the said shoe upper g, and giving comfort to the wearer, and a chief function of the tags b, is to secure the ends of the lace without any other form of tie being necessary.

I claim:—

An elastic lace for boots and shoes having each end compressed by the sides of a terminal U-shaped tag, the latter being roughened on their inner sides, an adjustable tag comprising a piece of flat metal with a longitudinal slot being slidably mounted on the said elastic lace.

WILFRED REYNOLDS CLEAVER.