

Aug. 17, 1943.

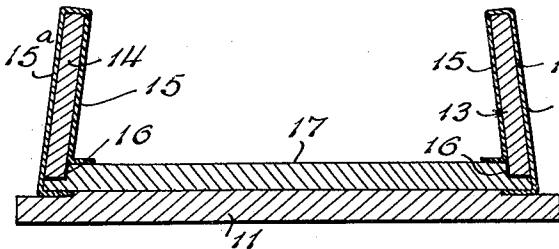
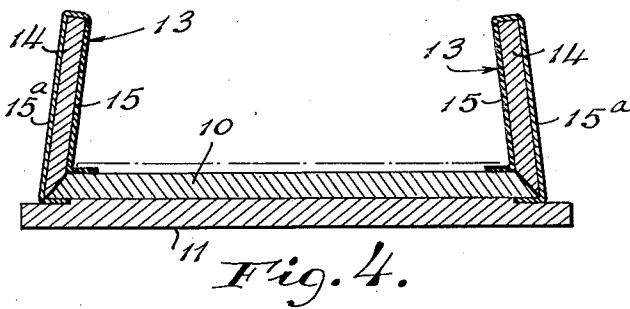
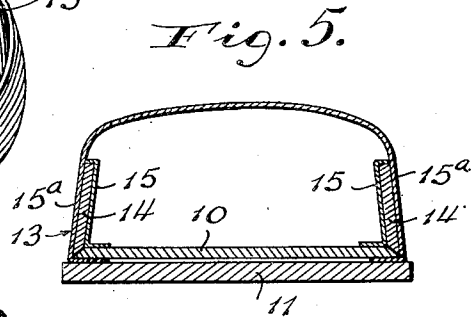
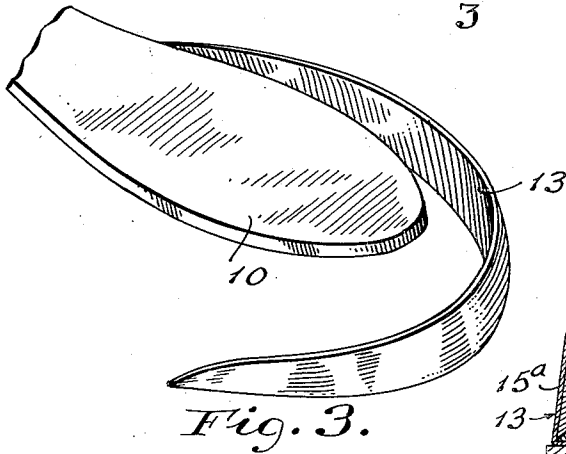
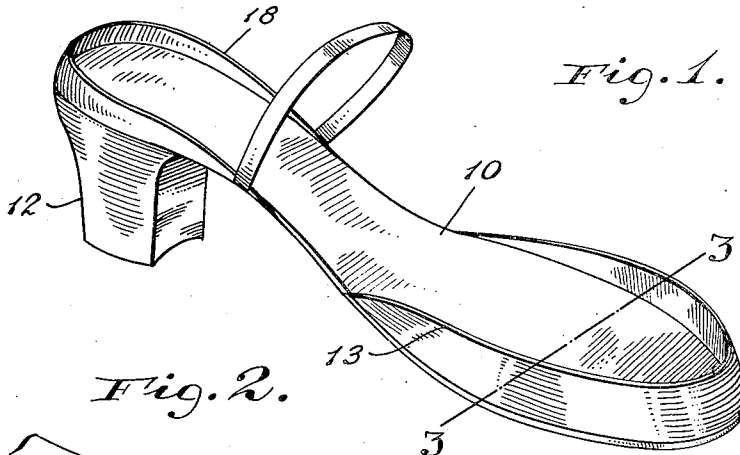
J. H. SLATER

2,327,322

SHOE CONSTRUCTION

Filed Nov. 18, 1941

2 Sheets-Sheet 1



INVENTOR.
JOHN HAROLD SLATER
BY
Richardson & Geier
ATTORNEYS

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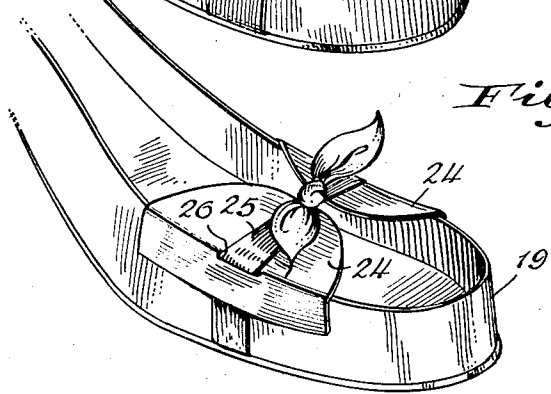
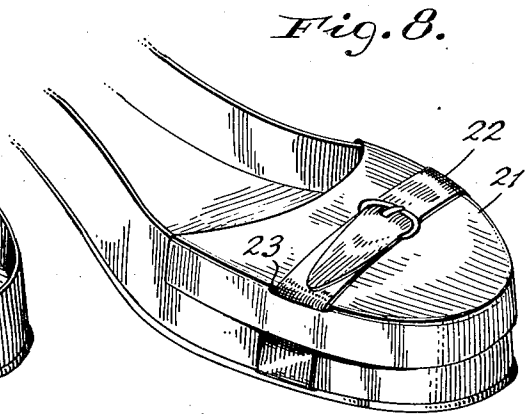
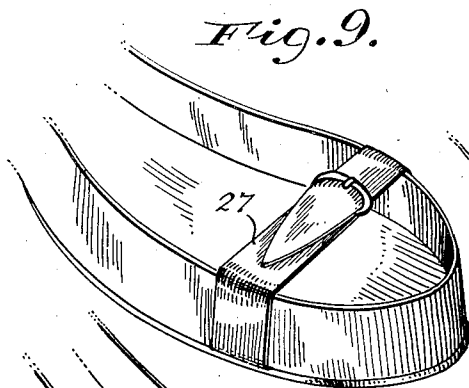
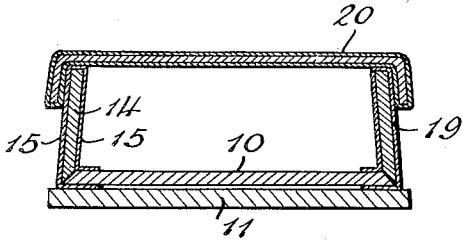
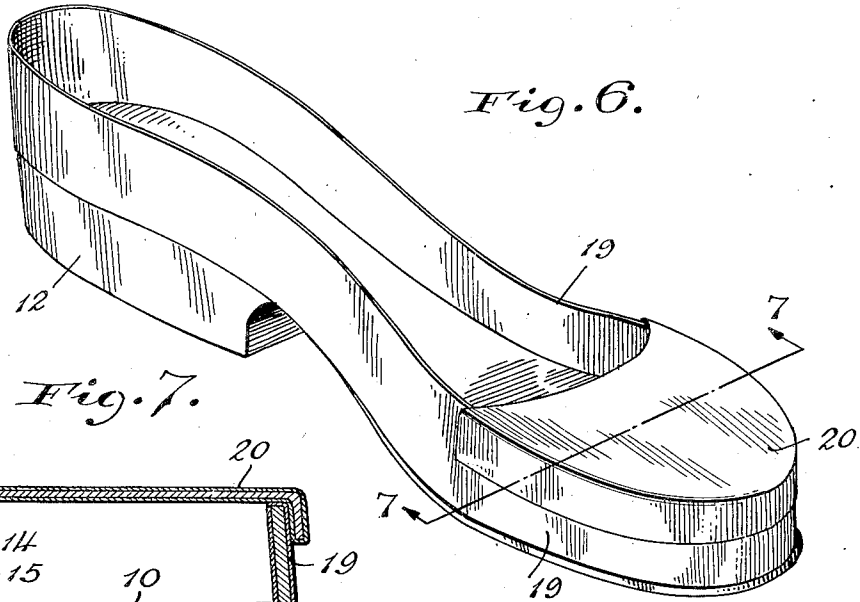
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2,327,322

SHOE CONSTRUCTION

Filed Nov. 18, 1941

2 Sheets-Sheet 2



INVENTOR.
JOHN HAROLD SLATER
BY *Richard & Geier*
ATTORNEYS

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,327,322

SHOE CONSTRUCTION

John Harold Slater, New York, N. Y.

Application November 18, 1941, Serial No. 419,535

2 Claims. (Cl. 36—11.5)

This invention relates to shoes, slippers and the like.

One of the principal objects of the invention is to provide a shoe, slipper or the like, that can be formed without the necessity of using a last and which will maintain its shape under normal wearing conditions.

Another object is to provide a shoe or slipper having a frame that will partially incase and grip the foot of the wearer with a minimum of confinement and still afford ample protection against injury.

A further object is to provide a shoe that will eliminate spreading of the upper over the in-sole, which usually results in stretching of and damage to the fibres.

Still a further object is to provide a shoe construction in which the curvature of the sole of the shoe may be controlled by the side wall frame.

Other objects and advantages inherent in the invention will become apparent from the following specification taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings illustrating a preferred embodiment, together with possible modifications.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a slipper according to the invention;

Figure 2 is a fragmentary view;

Figure 3 is a section taken along the line 3—3 of Figure 1;

Figure 4 is a cross-sectional view similar to Figure 3 of a modification;

Figure 5 is a cross-sectional view of another modification;

Figure 6 is a perspective view of still another modification;

Figure 7 is a section taken along the line 7—7 of Figure 6;

Figures 8 to 10 are fragmentary views of other modifications.

In terms of broad inclusion, the invention contemplates a shoe construction having a vamp frame of substantially resilient material having a degree of rigidity, extending upwardly from the in-sole at least in the forepart of the shoe and which frame has an inward lean whereby a partial incasement for the foot is formed.

Throughout the drawings, the same reference characters indicate the same or analogous parts.

Referring in greater detail to the drawings, 10 represents the in-sole, to which is attached the usual outer sole 11. The slipper may be provided with a heel 12, if desired.

The vamp frame 13 is made of substantially

resilient material having a degree of rigidity and extends upwardly at a slant from the in-sole. The slant or inward lean may be caused by the bevelling of the outer edges of the in-sole, as shown in Figure 4 of the drawings, and then pulling the vamp frame about the beveled edge and cementing it or otherwise securing it thereto.

The vamp frame 13 consists preferably of a curved or horse shoe shaped strip of material so that when the same is attached adjacent one of its longitudinal edges about the beveled edge of the in-sole 10, it will have an inward slant. It thus will grip the foot of the wearer firmly.

The vamp frame 13 is preferably made of an inner core 14 consisting of some rubberized material and cork or some other suitable composition. The inner face of core 14 is covered with a lining 15 of leather or similar material, which is attached to the top surface of the in-sole and joins with the vamp outer covering 15a, which is attached to the bottom of the in-sole and top of the outer sole. In this manner, the attachment of the vamp frame 13 to the in-sole is reinforced. By shortening the upper edges of the vamp frame, the curvature of the sole of the shoe can be controlled. Obviously, the shorter the upper longitudinal edge of the vamp frame member relative to the lower longitudinal edge, the greater a curve the shoe sole will have. The tensioning or shortening of the upper edge of the vamp frame 13 may be accomplished by pulling it downwardly towards the bottom edge and fastening it to the in-sole.

If desired, the heel portion of the shoe may be provided with a frame 18, similar to the frame 13. This frame also has the characteristic inward lean sufficient to grip the heel of the wearer.

Figure 4 shows a different form of attaching the vamp frame member 13 to the in-sole. In this modification, vamp frame member 13 is fitted into a recess or channel 16 of the in-sole 17. It will be understood that the inner wall of the recess is beveled so as to give the vamp the characteristic inward lean or slant.

If desired, the frame member may be provided with a regular upper completely incasing the foot, as shown on Figure 5 of the drawings.

The modification illustrated in Figure 6 shows an uppers frame member 19 extending about the entire in-sole. A flat lid 20 is disposed over the forepart of the shoe and telescopes the uppers frame member 19. The lid 20 thus constitutes the vamp and it may be cemented or otherwise attached to the side of the frame 19.

It will be seen from the drawings that the

aforesaid shoe construction may be embodied in a great variety of styles, as exemplified in Figures 8 to 10, inclusive. In Figure 8, for instance, the lid or vamp 21 is held in place over the frame member 19 by a strap 22 attached to the in-sole and pulled through the slot 23 of the lid 21. Figure 10 shows a pair of flaps 24 at opposite sides of the side wall member 19 and which are held in place by a ribbon 25 attached to the in-sole and pulled through the slots 26.

The modification shown in Figure 9 simply has a strap 27 across the forepart of the shoe.

It will be understood from this disclosure that the basic construction consisting of the uppers frame member 19 may be used for a great variety of styles. Thus the same basic shoe can be embodied in the various styles shown in Figures 6 to 10 of the drawings.

It will be understood that this disclosure is given by way of example only and not by way of limitation. The invention may lend itself to a variety of expressions within the scope of the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

1. In a shoe construction, a sole member of leatherlike material, a self-sustaining frame ex-

tending upwardly from said sole member at least in the forepart thereof, said frame consisting of a curved strip having an inward slant and forming a partial incasement for the foot of the wearer, the upper free longitudinal edge of said strip being tensioned and attached to said sole member so as to impart to the sole an upward curvature when the shoe is off the foot whereby said frame will be tensioned about the foot when the wearer's weight is placed on said sole member.

2. A shoe comprising a sole member of leatherlike material, a self-sustaining frame extending upwardly from said sole member at least from the forepart thereof, said frame consisting of a curved strip, having an inward slant and forming a partial incasement for the foot of the wearer, the upper free longitudinal edge of said strip being tensioned and attached to said sole member so as to impart to the sole an upward curvature when the shoe is off the foot, whereby said frame will be tensioned about the foot when the wearer's weight is placed on said sole member, and further foot securing means supported by said frame.

JOHN HAROLD SLATER.