



PATENT UNITED STATES OFFICE

2,386,911

SHOE AND METHOD OF PRODUCING SAME

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Application August 20, 1943, Serial No. 499,314

3 Claims. (Cl. 36-11.5)

This invention relates to shoes, slippers, and similar forms of footwear of the lighter weight varieties, all of which, for convenience, will be hereinafter referred to collectively as "shoes."

The invention aims to improve both the con-Ŧ struction of the platform types of shoes and also their method of manufacture with a view to reducing the expense of the manufacturing operations, while at the same time producing a serviceable article. A particularly important object of 10 the invention is to eliminate the lasting operation.

The nature of the invention will be readily understood from the following description when read in connection with the accompanying drawings, and the novel features will be particularly 15 of the insole 2 by the seam 5. Also the forward pointed out in the appended claims.

In the drawings,

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a shoe illustrating one form which the invention may take;

Figs. 2, 3, and 4 are plan views of the insole, 20 platform, and vamp, respectively, of the shoe shown in Fig. 1;

Fig. 5 is a perspective view illustrating the parts at one stage in the process of manufacture of 25 the shoe;

Fig. 6 is a bottom view of the shoe after the assembly of the vamp, insole, platform and heel strap has been completed, but prior to the application of the outsole; and

Fig. 7 is a transverse, vertical, sectional view 30 taken through the forepart of the shoe shown in Fig. 1.

Referring first to Figs. 2, 3 and 4, an insole is illustrated at 2 in Fig. 2, comprising a shank and heel end section a which may or may not be 35separate from the forepart section b but is usually of a firmer construction than the latter. As here shown the forepart section has been slashed or scored transversely to increase its flexibility and an edge binding c covers the entire edge por- 40 registered and preferably with the platform lotion of the insole.

The platform 3 comprises a body member, usually thicker than the insole and of a more resilient or spongy character, and it is customarily reinforced with fabric on both its upper and 45 lower surfaces. Its edge portion also is enclosed in a binding d.

The vamp 4 may take a great variety of forms, the particular construction here illustrated comprising two sections of leather, or other suitable 50upper material, crossed one upon the other, and stitched together and to a lining which completely covers the inner surface of the vamp and frequently, but not always, is made in a single piece. The manufacturing operations on the 55 the other hand, the outsole is to be cemented,

parts 2, 3 and 4 are performed entirely independently of each other, and these parts are completed prior to the assembling operation.

I have found that the lasting operation can be successfully avoided by securing these parts 2, 3 and 4 together while they are in the flat, with the shoe bottom members 2 and 3 disconnected, except as they may be joined together by the vamp, and then bringing the latter members together in their cooperative relationship, and securing them there.

In Fig. 5 a right shoe is shown and it will be observed that the right-hand edge of the vamp 4 has been stitched to the lower marginal surface end of this edge of the vamp is fastened to the toe portion of the insole by the stitching 5 and additionally by a staple 6. In performing these stitching and fastening operations the workman is guided by marks made for this purpose on the bottom of the insole. The opposite or left-hand edge of the vamp is similarly secured to the upper surface of the platform 3 by a seam 7 and additionally by a staple 8 at the toe, the location of these parts being similarly determined by guide marks preliminarily and accurately placed on the platform.

The fastening of the upper to the two bottom members in the manner just described is performed while the parts are in the flat, so that these operations can be performed easily and rapidly. Usually, also, in connection with these same operations the assembly consisting of the heel strap 10 and the ankle strap 12, which have previously been stitched together, is secured to the bottom of the insole by staples or equivalent fastenings 13, Fig. 6.

Next the bottom members 2 and 3 are superposed, one on the other, with their edges properly cated under the forepart section of the insole. These parts are secured together in their registered relationship by suitable fasteners, such as the staples indicated in Fig. 6 at 14.

From this point on, the nature of the operations will depend largely upon the character of the shoe to be made and the manner in which it is desired to secure the outsole in place. Customarily this is done either by McKay stitching or by the cementing process. In either event, if a shank stiffener is to be used, it is secured to the insole at this time, and then the outsole 15, Fig. 1, is laid and the shoe is McKay stitched, if that is the method of securing it to be employed. If, on **2**)) () ()

then a last is inserted in the assembled upper, the upper surface of the outsole and the bottom of the entire assembly, as illustrated in Fig. 6, are coated with cement, and the shoe is placed in a press serving to hold the parts firmly together 5 while the cement hardens and dries.

At some suitable point in this process, also, a lining g, Fig. 1, covering the entire upper surface of the insole 2, is cemented to it. A heel 16, Fig. 1, also is nailed or otherwise secured to the heel 10 seat end of the outsole at any suitable point in the process.

It will be evident from the foregoing that this invention completely eliminates the lasting operation, thus avoiding an expensive step in the cus- 15 tomary process of manufacturing shoes and replacing it with steps which can be performed much more rapidly, economically, and with relatively unskilled help. At the same time the invention produces a shoe comparing favorably in 20 serviceability with those of corresponding quality customarily made by considerably more expensive processes. It will be observed that in this shoe the opposite margins of the vamp 4 are initially secured to the insole and platform, respectively, 25 while the parts are in the flat, by some form of mechanical fastening devices, such as stitches or staples, but that the insole, platform and outsole are secured together by additional means operating entirely independently of those by which the 30 opposite margins of the vamp are initially fastened to the insole and platform, respectively. Also, that the securing means which holds these main portions of the shoe bottom together may be of a non-mechanical nature, such as a cement. 35

While I have herein shown and described a preferred embodiment of my invention, it will be evident that the invention is susceptible of embodiment in other forms without departing from the spirit or scope thereof.

Having thus described my invention, what I desire to claim as new is: 1. That improvement in methods of making

shoes, which consists in providing a completed nifices fails nichtigen Scholtzingen Lasjonalis

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insole, platform and vamp, securing one lateral edge of said vamp to said insole and the other lateral edge to said platform while all the parts are in the flat, and with said first mentioned lateral edge of the vamp extending under the edge of said insole and said second mentioned lateral edge overlapped upon and secured to the opposite edge of the platform, placing one of said bottom members upon and in registering relationship to the other so that the opposite lateral edge portions of said vamp will lie between said bottom members, subsequently securing them together in said relationship and securing an outsole to the assembly so formed.

2. That improvement in methods of making shoes, which consists in providing a shoe upper. an insole, a platform, and an outsole, said upper including a vamp and said insole and platform having bound edges, while said vamp is in a substantially flat condition securing one edge of said vamp to the lower marginal surface of said insole and securing the opposite edge of the vamp to the opposite upper marginal surface of said platform, superposing said insole upon said platform in registered relationship thereto and securing them together, thereby bringing the vamp into its final relation to the shoe bottom, thereafter securing an outsole to the bottom of the platform and fastening a heel to the heel seat portions of said insole and outsole.

3. An open-toe shoe comprising a vamp, an insole, a platform under the forepart of the insole, means fastening one lateral edge portion of said vamp to the bottom of the insole only, other means securing the opposite lateral edge portion of said vamp to the top of the platform only, the vamp extending around the opposite edges of the insole and both edges of said vamp lying between the insole and the platform, additional means securing said insole and said platform together, an outsole, and means securing said outsole to said platform.

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