G. H. SMITH.

SHOE UPPER.

APPLICATION FILED DEC. 17, 1909.

983,576.

Patented Feb. 7, 1911.

Fig. 3

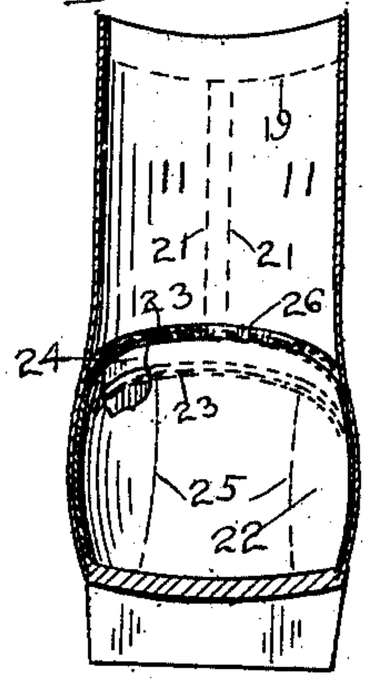


Fig. 1

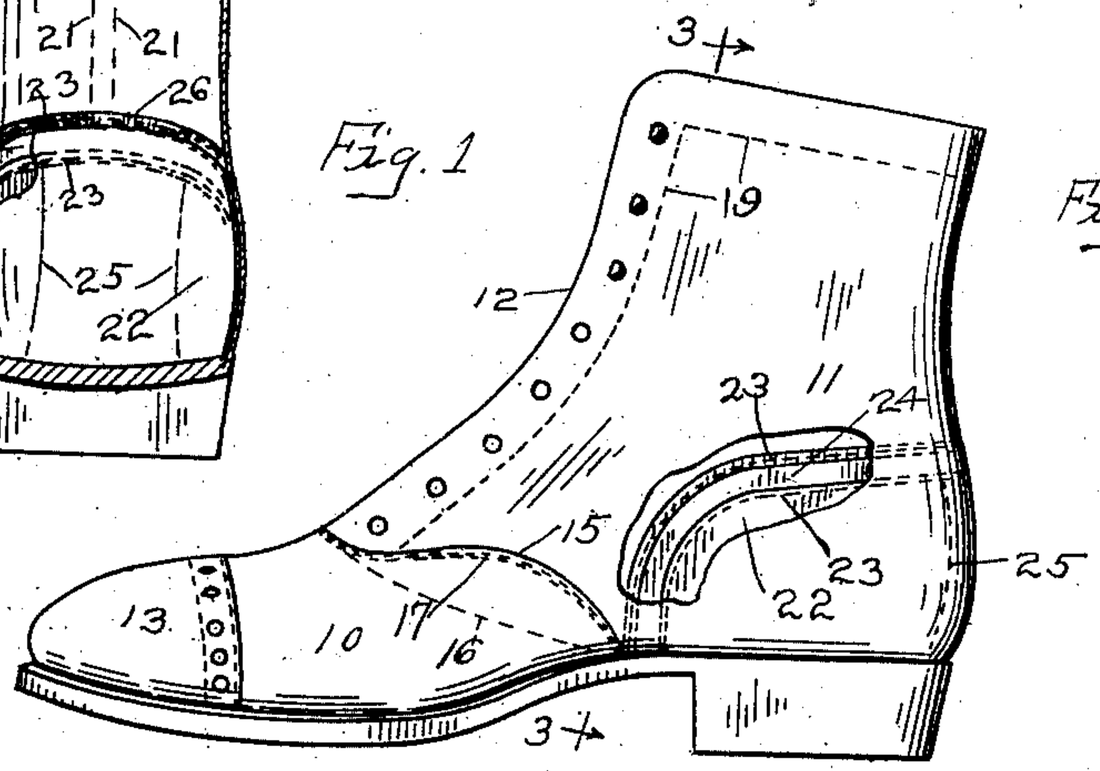


Fig. 2.

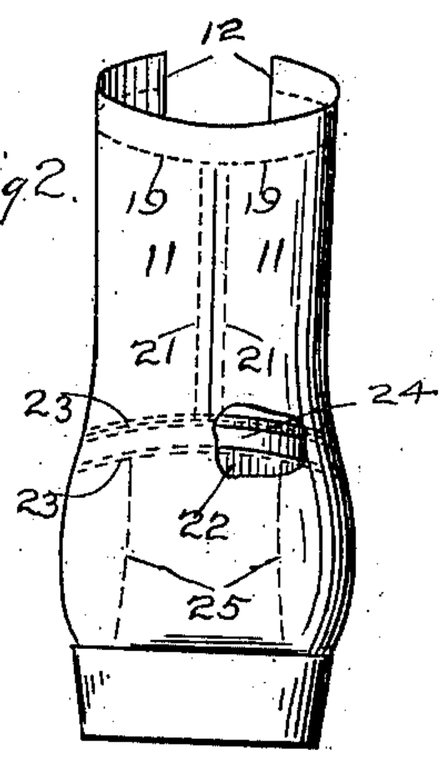


Fig. 4

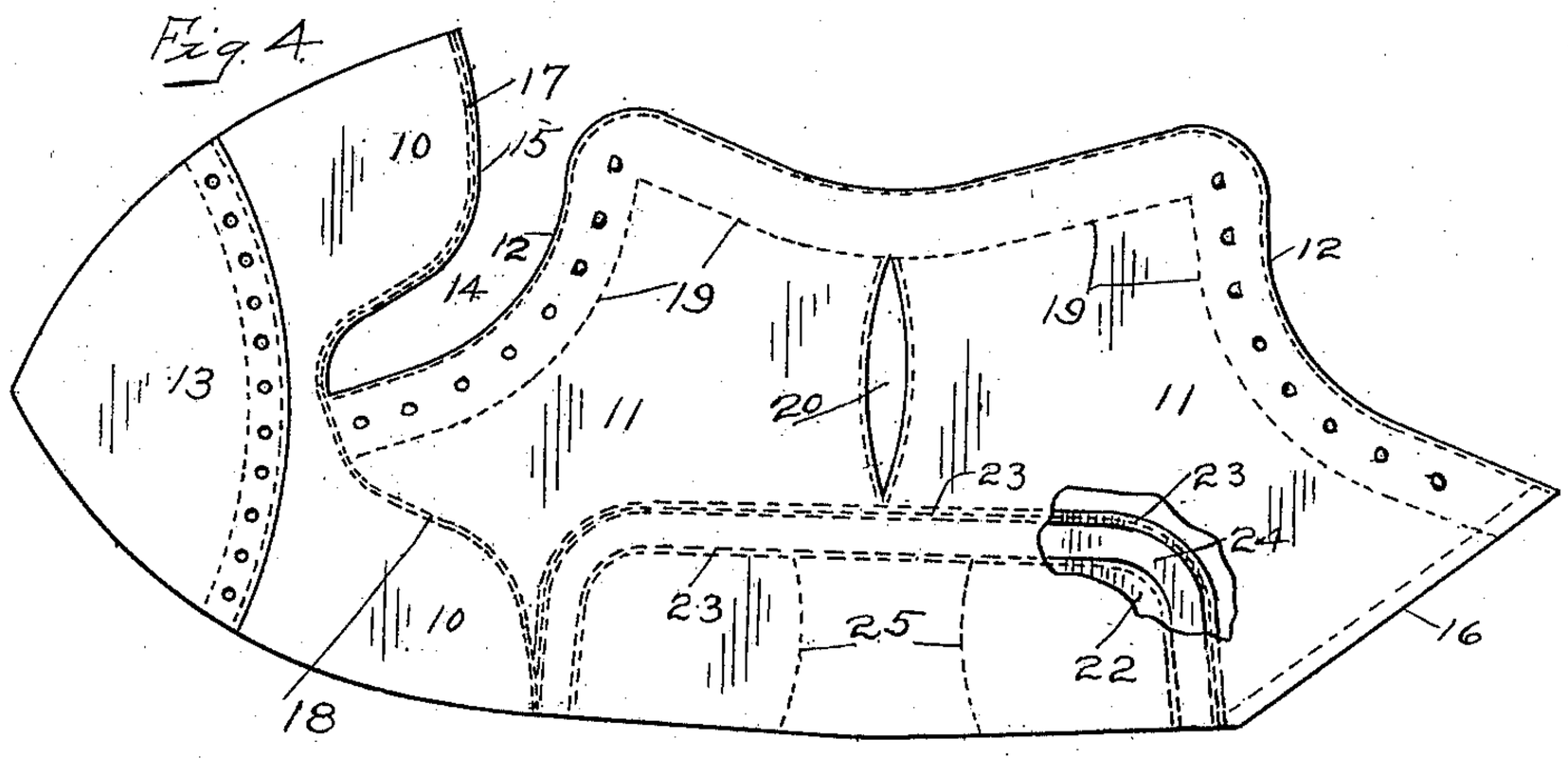
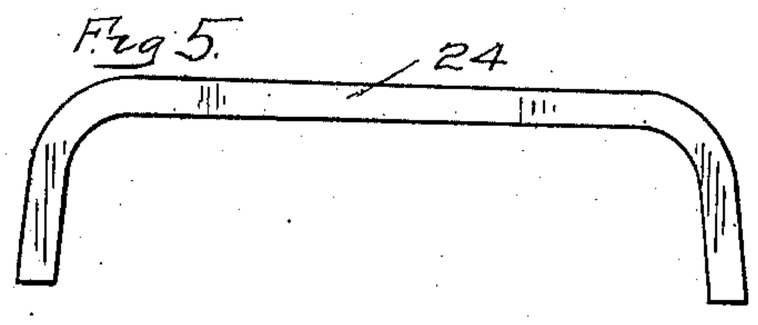


Fig 5.



WITNESSES

Ernst P. Wold

S.W. Atherton

INVENTOR

George H. Smith

BY

N. M. Wooster

ATTORNEY

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE H. SMITH, OF BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT.

SHOE-UPPER.

983,576. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Feb. 7, 1911.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE H. SMITH, a citizen of the United States, residing at Bridgeport, county of Fairfield, State of Connecticut, have invented an Improvement in Shoe-Uppers, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to the manufacture of shoes and is applicable to all classes of shoes but is especially adapted for use in the manufacture of school shoes, so called; that is relatively heavy shoes which are required to be sold at a low price and to have excellent wearing qualities.

It is of course well understood that the manufacture of shoe uppers is a business by itself and that the attachment of the soles and heels to the uppers is frequently an independent business. Heretofore in the manufacture of school shoes it has been customary to line them and to insert the counter between the lining and the quarter when the sole was attached, thus making the attachment of the counter a portion of the operation of soling instead of the operation of making the upper.

My present invention has for its objects to provide school shoe uppers which may be formed from a single piece of stock and to provide the uppers with attached counters and thus do away with the necessity for a lining while at the same time the cost of the upper is reduced rather than increased and the cost of soling is reduced as the attachment of an independent counter as a part of the operation of soling is wholly done away with.

With these and other objects in view I have devised the novel shoe upper which I will now describe, referring to the accompanying drawing forming a part of this specification and using reference characters to indicate the several parts.

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a shoe embodying my novel upper partly broken away to show the attached counter and a metallic stay therefor; Fig. 2 a rear elevation corresponding therewith; Fig. 3 a section on the line 3—3 in Fig. 1 looking in the direction of the arrows; Fig. 4 a plan view of the upper before being formed and stitched to place; and Fig. 5 is a view of a metallic counter stay which may or may not be used.

The upper may be made under any ordinary or preferred system. In the form illustrated in the drawing the upper is shown as cut from a single piece of stock and comprises essentially a vamp indicated by 10 and a quarter indicated by 11.

12 indicates the lacing flies and 13 a toe cap which may or may not be used. Between one side of the vamp and the corresponding lacing fly the stock is cut away leaving a curved opening 14. The exact shape and size of this opening is of course immaterial.

In assembling, the free edge of the vamp, indicated specifically by 15, is lapped over the edge 16 of the quarter and is secured in place by stitching at the dotted lines indicated by 17, the edge 16 being in practice skived down leaving it perfectly smooth. In practice this line or lines of stitching will be placed upon either the inner or the outer side of both shoes, preferably upon the outer side. In Fig. 1 I have shown a left shoe and have shown the line of stitching upon the left side of the upper, and in Fig. 3 have shown a right upper upon which the line of stitching will be upon the right side. On the opposite side of each shoe I place corresponding ornamental lines of stitching indicated by 18. Other lines of stitching may be placed upon the upper for ornamentation, as the line indicated by 19. In order to provide for shaping the back of the quarter inward above the counter, an elongated pointed opening 20 may be cut out from the quarter and the edges closed together by a seam at the dotted lines indicated by 21 in Figs. 2 and 3.

22 denotes the counter which is shown as secured to the back of the quarter by lines of stitching indicated by 23, and skived down at the top as at 26, leaving the edge perfectly smooth. In addition to stitching 23 I secure said counter to the quarter by vertical or approximately vertical lines of stitching indicated by 25, so that it cannot slip or break down. By this arrangement the counter is practically made a part of the upper, and being securely retained in place does not need to be covered by a lining. Thus the lining to cover the counter is dispensed with.

24 denotes a metallic counter stay made broadly U-shape which may be secured between the counter and the quarter as by the lines of stitching on opposite sides thereof indicated by 23, which attach the counter to the quarter. The stay when used becomes

an integral part of the upper and the counter under all circumstances is an integral part of the upper.

By attaching the counter to the quarter and making it part thereof I greatly increase the wearing qualities of the shoe and prevent the counter from running over and from breaking down as it is apt to do when inserted between a lining and the quarter in the operation of attaching the sole, this for the reason that the lining is apt to wear through or tear, leaving the counter unprotected and as it is unattached to the quarter it frequently breaks down.

Having thus described my invention I claim:

As an article of manufacture an unlined shoe upper formed of a single piece of stock and having an independent counter permanently attached thereto, and a metallic stay having a body portion secured to the upper edge of said counter and having depending ends secured to the end edges of the said counter, said stay being located between said counter and said upper, whereby a lining for the counter and its stay is rendered unnecessary.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

GEORGE H. SMITH.

Witnesses:
A. M. WOOSTER,
S. W. ATHERTON.