Aug. 20, 1935. W. H. FRENCH 2,012,188

SHOE

Filed Aug. 10, 1934

Fig. 1.

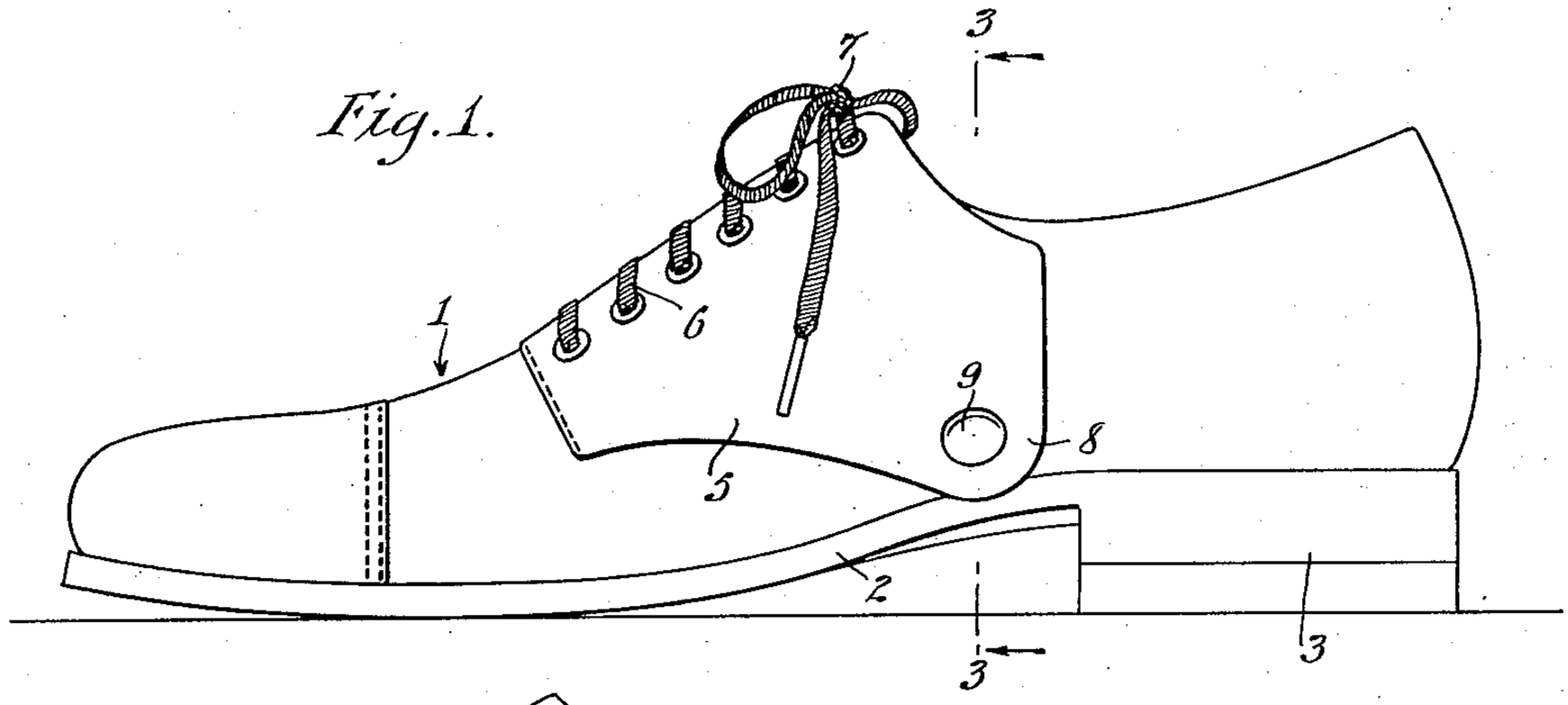


Fig. 2.

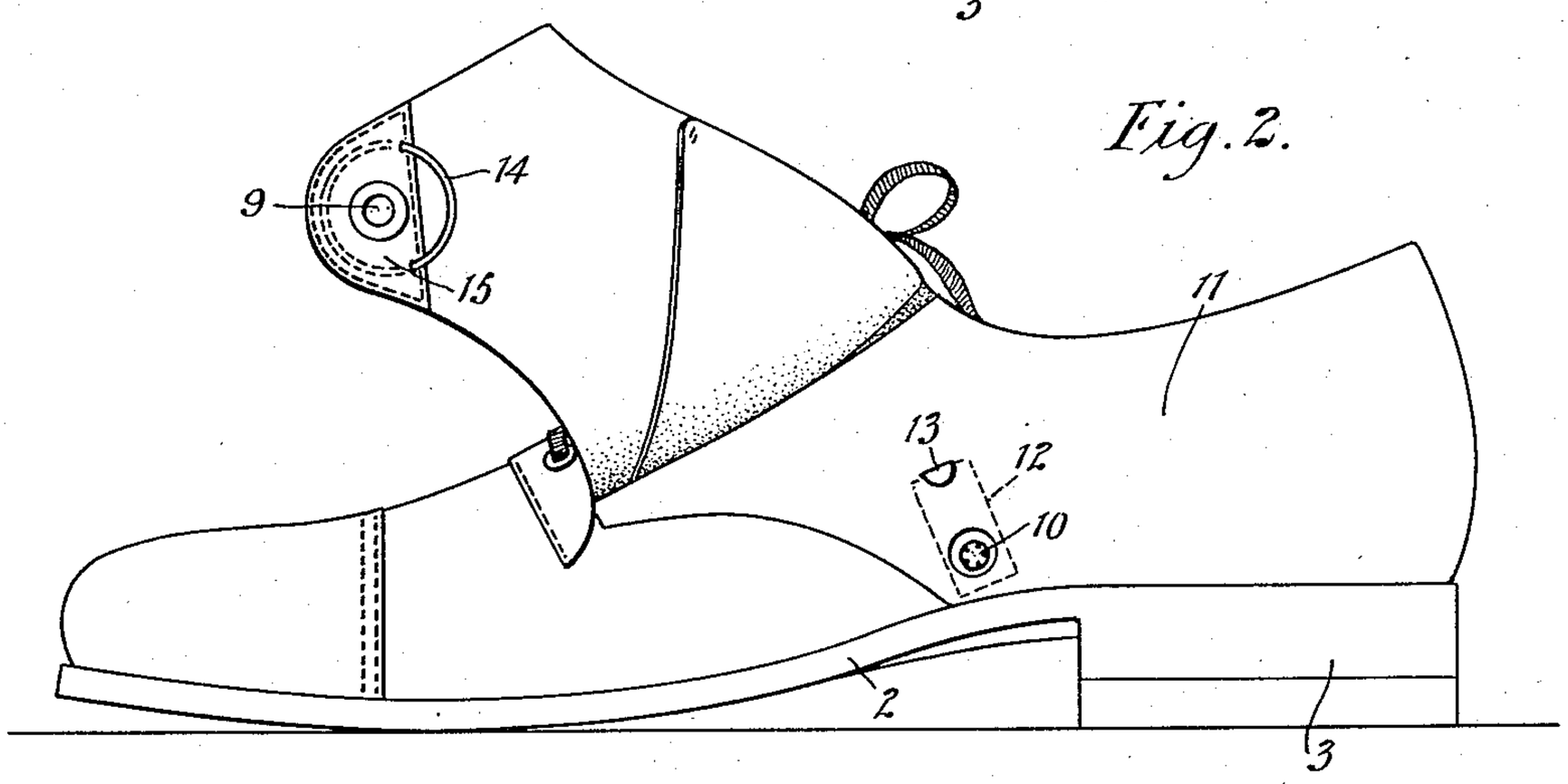


Fig. 3.

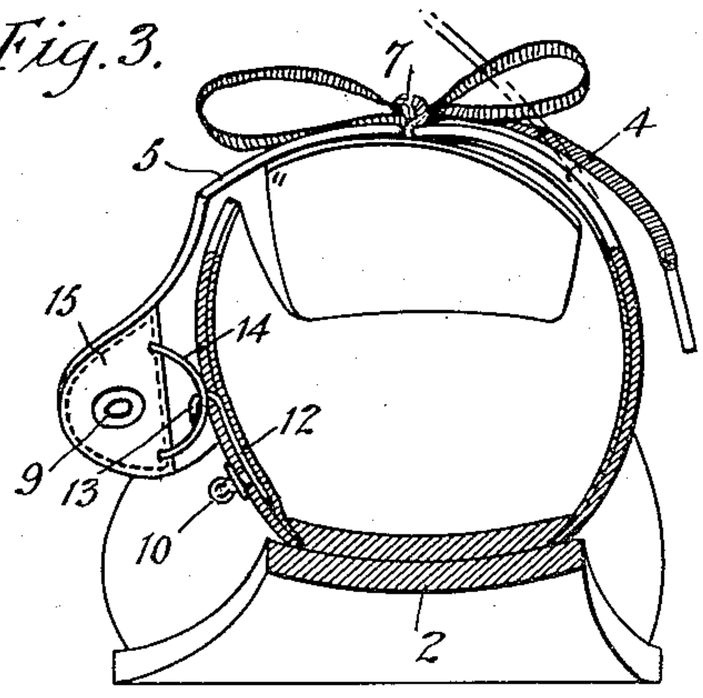
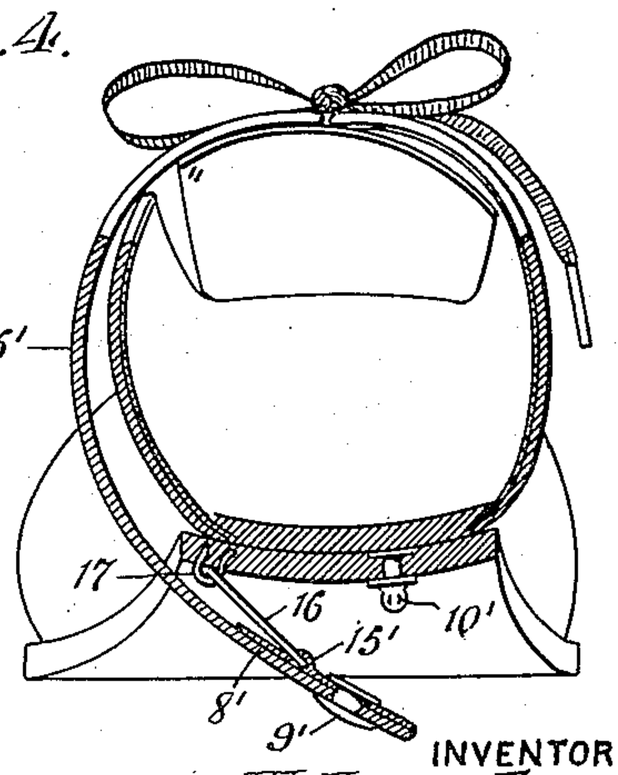


Fig. 4.



WITNESSES

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SHOE

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Application August 10, 1934, Serial No. 739,308

1 Claim. (Cl. 36—50)

This invention relates to an improvement in shoes and particularly to an improved construction for permitting a laced shoe to be readily applied and removed without molesting the lacing.

The object of the invention is to provide an improvement in laced shoes which involves a construction adapted to permit the opening of the shoe so that it may be applied or removed without adjustment of the lacing.

Another object of the invention is to provide in a laced shoe auxiliary fastening means and lever mechanism for securing a desired tension to the shoe as the fastening means are moved to interlocked position.

A further object, more specifically, is to provide an improved shoe wherein extending flaps are provided which will extend to the lower part of the shoe or beneath the shoe, and which are associated with fastening means and fulcrum means for securing a tension immediately before the fastening means function.

In the accompanying drawing—

Figure 1 is a side view of the shoe disclosing an embodiment of the invention;

Figure 2 is a view similar to Figure 1 but showing one of the flaps swung back for better illustrating the invention;

Figure 3 is a sectional view through Fig. 1, approximately on the line 3—3;

Figure 4 is a sectional view similar to Fig. 3 but showing a modified form of the invention.

Referring to the accompanying drawing by numerals, 1 indicates the shoe as a whole, provided with the usual parts which make up a shoe, including a sole 2 and a heel 3. There are also provided flies 4 and 5, the fly 4 being of the usual construction, while fly 5 is of a special construction specific to the invention. These flies are secured together by suitable lacing 6, the lacing being applied through the eyelets in the usual manner and then tied with a knot to hold the flies together.

In laced shoes of the kind shown in Fig. 1 it is customary to unlace the shoe in order to remove the same, and later on to relace the shoe after the same has been applied to the foot. For quickly applying and removing the shoe this lacing and unlacing retards the operation. According to the present invention means have been provided whereby a shoe of conventional shape and appearance is presented and means for quickly loosening the flies so that the shoe may be quickly applied and as quickly removed.

In forming the fly 5 an extension 8 is provided supplied with, for instance, a socket 9 for receiving the stud 10 carried by the quarter 11. The socket 9 and stud 10 form what is commonly known as a snap fastener and, if desired, the stud could be applied to the extension 8 and the socket to the quarter 11. This snap fastener is mounted in a position to hold the fly 5 in correct position so that when the lacing 6 is first applied it may be drawn tight and the shoe caused to fit the foot properly. After this has been done and the knot 7 formed, the lacing is never molested but the snap fastener is engaged or disengaged according as the shoe is to be applied or removed. When disengaged the parts may be swung over to the position shown in Fig. 2, or partly to this position, whereupon there is sufficient looseness or opening to permit the wearer to apply or remove the shoe. The stud 10 may be fastened to a metal plate 12 or only secured to the leather. However, the metal plate 12 is embedded in the quarter 11 and held therein by cement or merely by friction, as the hook portion 13 extends through the quarter at a desired point spaced from the stud 10.

The hook 13 forms a fulcrum for receiving the lever 14, which lever is in the form of a ring with part held in place by a small section 15 of leather which is stitched in place. Section 15 is also pierced by the socket 9 thus providing reinforcing of the socket as well as a holding means for the ring 14.

After placing the foot in the shoe the parts are moved over to the position shown in Fig. 3 with part of the ring 14 interlocked with the hook 13. The outer end of section 8 is then swung over, which will naturally swing the ring over and the ring at this time will act as a lever for pulling the fly 5 tightly by the time the socket 9 reaches the stud 10 over which it snaps. After this has been done the shoe may be worn in the usual manner.

When it is desired to remove the shoe the lace is left in knotted position and the lower edge is grasped and swung to the position shown in Fig. 3 and then swung a little further to disengage the ring from the hook 13, after which the parts may be swung to the position shown in Fig. 3 and the parts will be loosened so that the foot may be easily removed. This provides a structure which will permit a shoe to be quickly removed and at the same time present to the ordinary observer a shoe of the usual construction.

Under some circumstances it may be desired to use the modified form shown in Fig. 4 which is identical with that shown in Figs. 1 to 3 except

that the lever 16 is a perfectly straight bar having an eye for accommodating the fulcrum 17 which may be a staple or other securing means, and a small section of leather 15' which is substantially identical with section 15. However, the fly 5' in this form of the invention is provided with an extra long extension 8' so that the stud 10' of the snap fastener may be arranged at the center of the bottom of the sole, or further over than the center from the side occupied by the fly 5'. It will be understood that the socket 9' will be correctly positioned in the extension 8' to snap over the stud 10' when the fly 5' has been brought under the desired tension by the lever 16. Aside from the parts specifically mentioned the remaining features are identical to those shown in Fig. 3, and the same numerals will apply. It will also be understood that the flaps or extensions may be made on one side, as shown in the drawing, or on the opposite side, that is either at the right or the left according to the demands of the public.

I claim:—

In a device of the character described, a fly having an extension, disengageable fastening means for securing the extension to the body of a shoe, a plate having a hook carried by the body of the shoe and positioned near said fastening means, and a ring carried by said extension positioned so that it may engage said hook and act as a lever for moving the extension as the disengageable fastening means are brought into interlocked relation.

WILLIAM HORACE FRENCH.