This invention relates to shoe constructions, and more particularly to an improved method of attaching heels to women's shoes.

An object of the invention is to overcome a common fault and defect in shoes of prevailing construction, utilizing a wood or similar pre-fabricated heel, namely the tendency of the heel to separate from the sole and create an unsightly gap at the forward or breast end of the heel.

More specifically, the objects of the present invention are to provide for a stronger, more rigid and durable connection between the heel and sole portions of women's shoes, to effect a saving of sole leather, and to provide an improved method of joining the heel and sole at the breast of the heel which results in a neat, trim appearance of the shoe at this point.

In the drawing, Fig. 1 is a sectional view through the heel end of a shoe, showing the means and method employed in carrying out the present invention. Fig. 2 is a transverse sectional view, taken at line 2—2 of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a perspective view showing the heel end of an outer sole as prepared for connection with the heel. Fig. 4 is a sectional plan view as taken at line 4—4 of Fig. 1, and Fig. 5 is a perspective view of a heel adapted for application to a shoe in accordance with the present invention.

Referring now by reference of the drawing, numeral designates a pre-formed heel of wood or other suitable material, embodying means which adapt the same for attachment to the shoe upper in accordance with the improved method of my invention. The heel illustrated is of so-called continental Louis type, and is characterized by a lip 7, formed integrally with the heel body, which projects forwardly from the plane of the breast 8, the upper surface of lip 7 forming a continuation of the upper surface of the heel body. A shallow recess or pocket 9 is formed in the upper surface of the heel structure, such pocket extending rearwardly from the forward edge of lip 7, approximately to the plane of the breast, the side margins of the pocket being spaced inwardly from the sides of the heel. The lip is provided with two perforations 10, located at opposite sides of pocket 9 near the forward edge of the lip. The heel structure thus described may be provided with a leather or other covering, in accordance with conventional practice.

In Figs. 1 and 2, 11 designates, generally, a shoe counter having its lasting allowance 12 secured to an inner sole 13 in the usual or any preferred manner. The outer sole 14 is preferably of initial length to extend from the toe of the shoe to a point shortly beyond (rearwardly) of the breast line, considerable saving in sole leather being realized by such sole, as compared to the conventional sole which is adapted to extend under the heel of the wearer. The sole 14 is prepared, prior to its attachment to the shoe structure, by splitting the heel end thereof depthwise, a distance substantially equal to the length of the heel lip 7. The split upper section (which is considerably thicker than the split lower section or flap 15) is suitably trimmed to form a tongue 16 (Fig. 3) which will fit the pocket 9 of the heel. The outer sole 14 is attached to the inner sole 13 by any desired method to the upper structure, and the heel is positioned and cemented to the shoe, the sole tongue 16 projecting into and substantially filling the lip pocket 9. Nails 17 or other suitable securing elements are driven from the inside of the shoe, through the inner sole 13 and into the body of the heel. The sole flap 15 is laid back and additional securement of the heel, constituting an important feature of the invention, is attained by driving two short nails 18 from the outside of the shoe through the preformed apertures 10 in the lip 7, the lasting allowance 12, and into (or through) the inner sole 13. The pointed ends of nails 18 may be clinched over the inner sole and later covered by a sock lining, not shown. The operation is completed by cementing the sole flap 15 to the under side of the heel lip, and trimming the flap 15 at the breast line.

The described method results in a neat, trim junction of the heel with the outer sole, prevents the formation of a gap between the heel and sole at the breast line and otherwise greatly strengthens the heel joint so as to preclude any tendency toward separation even under the most adverse wearing conditions.

Having described my invention, what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

A shoe, including an insole, an upper having turned marginal portions underlying and secured to the insole, a preformed heel secured to the bottom of the shoe, an integral lip on said heel, projecting forwardly at the upper edge of the breast surface of said heel, said lip having a shallow cavity in its upper surface; an outside secured to the shoe bottom, said outside terminating in a tongue of reduced width projecting into and substantially filling said lip cavity; securing elements extending through said heel lip laterally of the cavity therein, and a flap, split from said outside, cemented to the under surface of said heel lip.

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