Buckles and shoe laces may not be exciting, but they were certainly necessary. As you will see, there’s more than one version of the nursery rhyme and there are many options to choose from when you are looking at buckles and laces for those era shoes.

Buckles could be decorative (a subject for another article) as well as used to keep the shoe securely on the foot. The images show the buckles on the outer edge of the strap or in the center of the strap.
Shoe laces were available in many lengths and materials. Most commonly, they were made of silk, cotton or leather. Note that the ends could be wrapped tight in a fiber or metal tip or end in a mini tassel. Leather laces did not have tips on them. You would not have found colors more stimulating than black, brown, tan and white in the Model A era.

This listing is for silk laces with tassels and tubular cotton laces with fiber tips. They came in 18” and 27” lengths.

These laces have tasseled ends.

The white canvas shoes came in a strap with center buckle style as well as a lace up style.
Round and flat tubular laces came in lengths of 27”, 36”, 40”, 54” and 72” and in black, brown or sometimes, white.

As there is more than one version of the nursery rhyme, there’s more than one way to use a buckle or tie a shoe.

References: The shoe laces are from the Fall and Winter 1927-1928 Montgomery Ward and Co catalogue. The images of the shoes are from the A H Berry Shoe Corporation 1928 catalogue, Ward’s Little Catalogue of mid-summer 1931 and Montgomery Ward and Co’s Fall and Winter 1927-1928 catalogue.