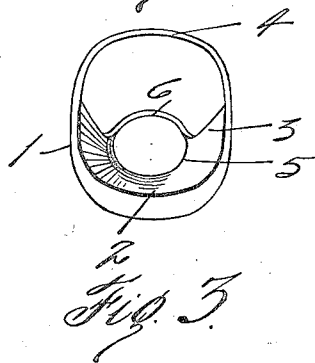
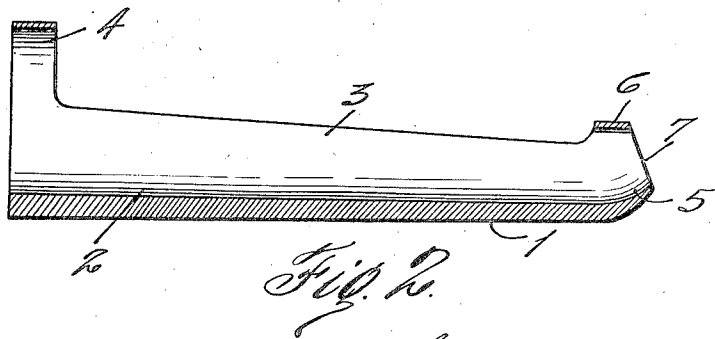
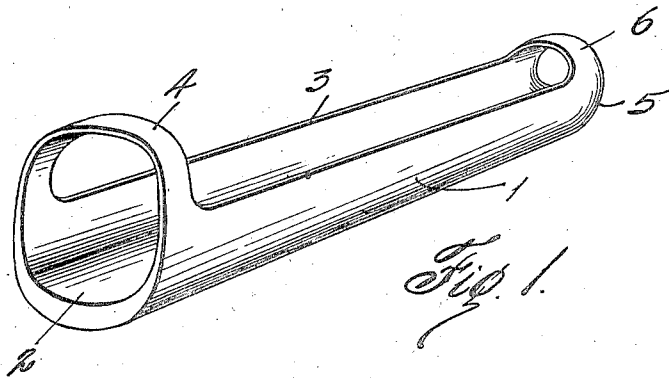


L. H. CRAWFORD AND J. H. PRANTE.
SURGICAL SPLINT.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 26, 1919.

1,362,398.

Patented Dec. 14, 1920.



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SURGICAL SPLINT.

1,362,398.

Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Dec. 14, 1920.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, LYTER H. CRAWFORD and JOHN H. PRANTE, citizens of the United States, residing at Dallas, in the county of Dallas and State of Texas, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Surgical Splints, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to new and useful improvements in surgical splints.

The purpose of the invention is to provide means for holding certain members of the human body in desired positions while undergoing medical treatment, as well as to assist such members in the performance of natural functions.

In carrying out the invention a splint of semi-rigid flexible material is provided and involves the features of simplicity, easy manipulation and rapid adjustment. The term "semi-rigid" as used herein is intended to cover a structure with sufficient rigidity to sustain its shape or form; while material may include soft rubber or any other suitable material.

The invention will be more readily understood from a reading of the following specification and by reference to the accompanying drawings, in which an example of the invention is shown and wherein:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the splint,

Fig. 2 is a longitudinal sectional view of the same, and

Fig. 3 is a rear end elevation of the same.

In the drawings the numeral 1 designates an elongated body member somewhat U-shaped in cross-section. The bottom 2 of the member is thickened along its longitudinal center and is transversely merged into side walls 3, being at the same time gradually reduced in thickness toward each wall,

whereby the walls are made thin and flexible. The thickened bottom lends rigidity to the member so that it not only sustains its shape but supports any member of the human body which is placed therein.

At the rear end of the body a loop 4 is provided and arched from one side wall to the other. The body member is tapered from the rear to the front and abruptly reduced at 5 at the front end by a well rounded curving of the structure. The extreme front end 7 of the member is cut at a receding angle and a contracted aperture is provided. A loop 6 spans the front end. The loops are preferably very thin but must act to support the splint on the member being treated.

We have found soft rubber to be very satisfactory as a material because while it is self sustaining it is also flexible and pliable, readily lending itself to various distortions and adjustments without pain or discomfort, but other materials may be used. The splint is sanitary being readily cleansed.

What we claim, is:

A surgical splint, comprising an integral tubular member formed of semi-rigid material, said tubular member having its lower longitudinal portion thickened and gradually decreasing in thickness upwardly and merging into relatively thin and flexible side walls, said tubular member being provided in its upper portion with a longitudinal opening extending through the same for the greater portion of its length and spaced from the forward and rear ends thereof for providing end encircling bands.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures.

LYTER H. CRAWFORD.
JOHN H. PRANTE.