

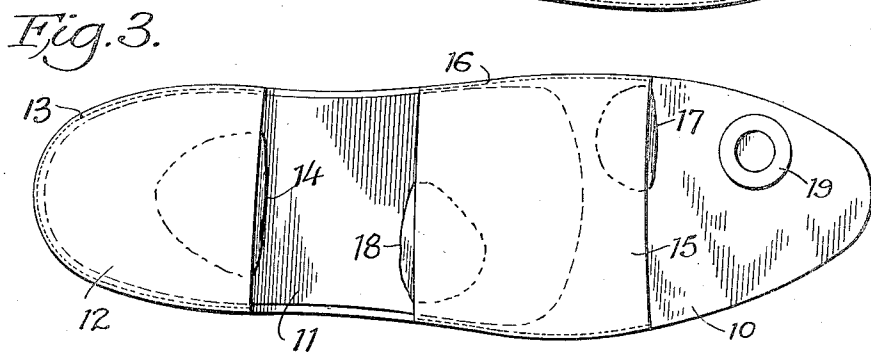
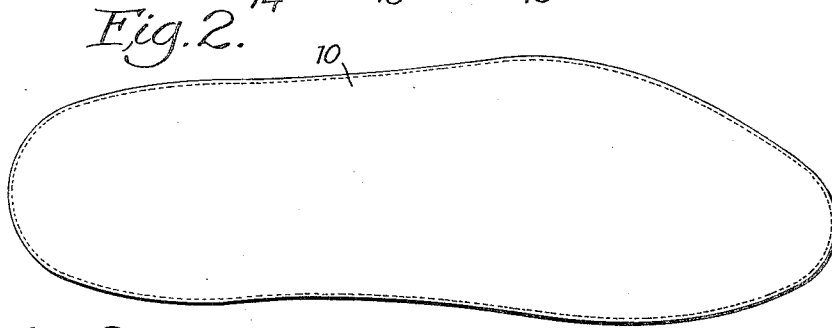
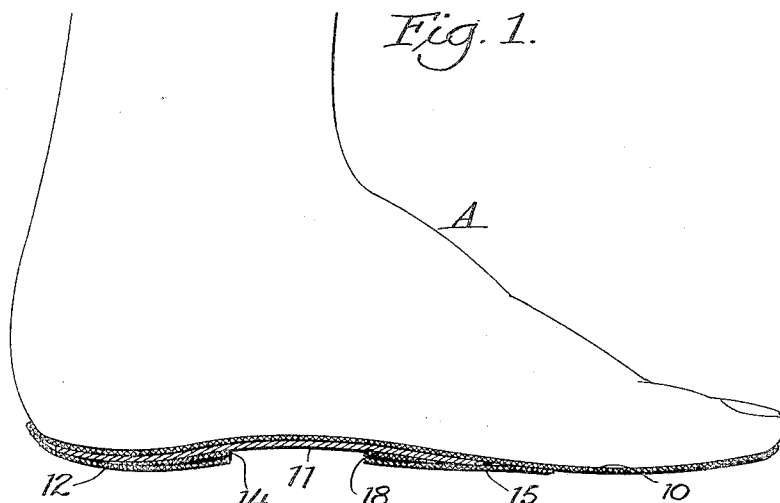
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I. GASH

ARCH SUPPORT FOR SHOES

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ARCH SUPPORT FOR SHOES.

Application filed August 28, 1923. Serial No. 659,715.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, IDA GASH, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Arch Supports for Shoes, of which the following is a specification.

My present invention relates generally to arch supports, and more particularly to arch supports of that type embodying metallic supporting members in connection with a flexible body member which receives and retains the metallic support and which is enclosed between the same and the foot, and the object of my invention is the provision of a rigid supporting member which will effectively brace and properly hold the foot, and a further object is the provision of a simple, strong and durable construction in which the supporting member will last indefinitely and in connection with which the body or covering member may be renewed from time to time as may become necessary.

A still further object of my invention is the provision of an arch support especially adapted for the effective support of tender feet as well as one having permanent and maximum corrective action.

In the accompanying drawing which illustrates my present invention and forms a part of this specification,

Figure 1 is a longitudinal sectional view through my improved arch support as a whole, showing the same in proper position relative to a foot.

Figure 2 is a top plan view, and

Figure 3 is a bottom plan view thereof.

Referring now to these figures my invention proposes an arch support consisting in the first instance of a flexible body member 10 shaped as clearly shown by a comparison of Figures 1 and 2 to conform to the shape of a foot A in connection with which the support is to be utilized and to properly interfit a shoe in which it is employed, the body member being for this purpose shaped as the inner sole of a shoe although it is intended for use therein without actual connection with the shoe itself so as to permit it to be easily positioned in the first instance and removed and reinserted whenever adjustment including the placement or removal of protecting pads may become desirable or necessary.

With this flexible body member 10, which

is preferably formed of leather of a durable nature, my invention proposes the use of an intermediately arched supporting member 11 which extends along the lower surface of the body member along its heel and arch portions and terminates at its forward portion approximately at that portion of the body member opposite the arch of the foot.

The member 11 which controls the shape or corrective contour of the body member and which from its front to its rear end extends for approximately the full width of the body member along the heel, arch and ball portions of the latter, thus leaves a front or toe portion of the body member which is entirely flexible. Moreover this supporting member 11 is preferably formed of a metal such as brass having sufficient stiffness and strength to permanently retain its original shape and prevent flattening or distortion under the weight of the user and, as will be noted by a careful inspection of Figures 2 and 3 this rigid metallic supporting member is free of active connection with the body member in so far as fastening members, usually in the nature of rivets, are concerned. Thus should the support 11 be retained in proper relation to the body member, wear through, it is a comparatively simple matter to remove the worn parts.

The heel portion of the support 11 is retained by virtue of a rear covering member 12, preferably of flexible material such as leather, which is secured as by means of stitches 13 along the rear and side edges of the heel portion of the body member 10 and which is open along its front edge so as to thus form a pocket receiving and holding the heel portion of the supporting member 11 and adapted to receive and hold one or more pads 14 as for instance seen in Figure 3 either designed for the additional protection of tender feet or for the purpose of throwing a particular foot forwardly.

The forward portion of the arched supporting member or plate 11 is retained by virtue of a forward covering strip 15 which extends across the lower surface of the body member 10 and overlies the forward end of the arched plate 11. This forward covering member or strip is secured as by means of stitches 16 along its side edges to the adjacent portions of the side edges of the body member 10 and is preferably open at its

front and rear edges to form forwardly and rearwardly opening pockets into which one or more pads 17 and 18 respectively may be disposed to relieve certain portions of the foot from abnormal pressure in use as well as to additionally protect and comfort tender feet.

It is obvious from the foregoing that by forming the arched plate 11 of brass sufficiently heavy to permanently preserve its original arched shape and avoid all danger of flattening or distortion in use, as well as by retaining this plate in connection with the body member without rivets or other fastening members, I provide for the ready renewal of the body member and the covering strips or members.

It is further obvious that by utilizing a flexible body member of full foot form and substantial thickness and shaping the same like the shape of an insole to interfit a shoe, the body member will prevent any tendency of the parts to shift or become displaced beneath the foot in use and that a flexible portion of the body member will thus extend beyond the forward end of the arched supporting plate for the reception of various foot easing members such as for instance a callous protecting ring 19 which may be easily secured as by means of adhesives to the lower surface of the forward free portion of the foot to protect the foot without actually contacting therewith.

It is further obvious my invention as thus shown and described presents a construction which is not only simple and inexpensive in the first instance but will be durable and highly effective in use.

I claim:

1. An arch support including a body member of flexible material having full foot form, a rigid supporting plate extending along the heel and arch portions of the body member for substantially its full width and to approximately that portion thereof underlying the ball of a foot in use, and retaining means in connection with the body member for the said plate including members upon and attached to the lower surface of the body member covering the front and rear portions of the plate, said members presenting forwardly and rearwardly opening pad receiving parts as described.

2. An arch support including a body member of flexible material having full foot form, a rigid supporting plate extending along the heel and arch portions of the body member for substantially its full width and to approximately that portion thereof un-

derlying the ball of a foot in use, and retaining means in connection with the body member for the said plate including members upon and attached to the lower surface of the body member covering the front and rear portions of the plate.

3. An arch support including a body member of flexible material having full foot form, a rigid supporting plate extending along the heel and arch portions of the body member for substantially its full width and to approximately that portion thereof underlying the ball of the foot in use, and retaining means in connection with the body member for the said plate including members upon and attached to the lower surface of the body member covering the front and rear portions of the plate, said members being flexible and the forward member opening forwardly and rearwardly to receive adjusting pads as described.

4. An arch support including a body member of flexible material having full foot form, a rigid supporting plate extending along the heel and arch portions of the body member for substantially its full width and to approximately that portion thereof underlying the ball of a foot in use, and retaining means in connection with the body member for the said plate including members upon and attached to the lower surface of the body member covering the front and rear portions of the plate, the forward member consisting of a strip secured to its side edges along portions of the side edges of the body member and open along its front and rear edges to form a forwardly and rearwardly opening pad receiving pocket.

5. An arch support including a body member of flexible material having full foot form, a rigid supporting plate extending along the heel and arch portions of the body member for substantially its full width and to approximately that portion thereof underlying the ball of a foot in use, and retaining means in connection with the body member for the said plate including members upon and attached to the lower surface of the body member covering the front and rear portions of the plate, the rear member consisting of a strip secured along the rear and side edges thereof to the rear and side edges of the heel portion of the body member and open along its forward edge to form a pad receiving pocket.

In testimony whereof I have affixed my signature.

IDA GASH.