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2,284,164

ARCH SUPPORT

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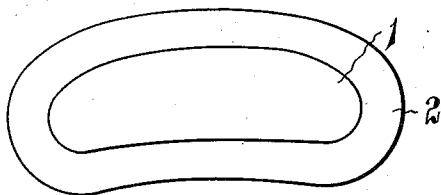


FIG. 1.



FIG. 7.

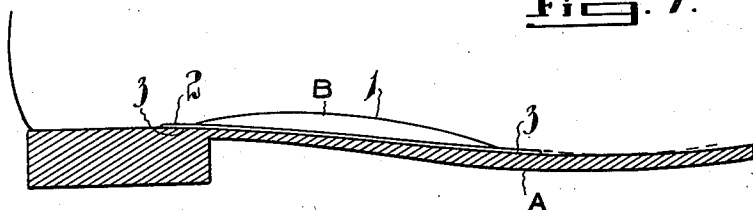


FIG. 2.



FIG. 3.

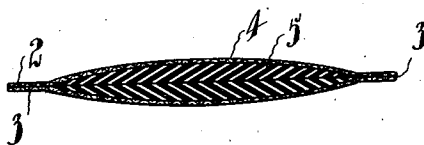


FIG. 4.

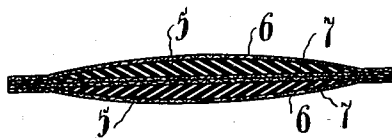


FIG. 5.

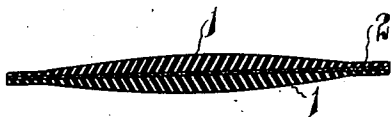


FIG. 6.

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ARCH SUPPORT

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2 Claims. (Cl. 36—71)

This invention relates to devices for use in boots and shoes for the purpose of supporting weak or fallen arches, and the object of my invention is to devise an effective support which is simple and cheap to construct, and which is easy to position in the shoe.

I attain my object by means of the constructions hereinafter described and illustrated in the accompanying drawing in which

Fig. 1 is a plan view of the support;

Fig. 2 a side view of a support in position in a shoe;

Fig. 3 a side view, partly broken away, of a pair of supports of simple construction, as put up for marketing;

Fig. 4 a similar view of a modified form of construction;

Fig. 5 a similar view of another construction;

Fig. 6 a similar view showing a modified form of construction; and

Fig. 7 a similar view showing a single support.

In the drawing like numerals of reference indicate corresponding parts in the different figures.

Referring particularly to Fig. 2, A indicates part of a shoe, and B the arch support. The arch support will usually be shaped in plan approximately as shown in Fig. 1, and comprises a central shaped supporting portion 1 and a peripheral flange portion 2.

In the form shown in Figs. 2 and 3 each support is of unitary construction, being moulded of rubber or other suitable resilient material, such, for example, as that known under the trade name "Nuprene," now better known under the trade name "Neoprene."

As these supports are usually sold in pairs, one for the right foot and one for the left foot, an important feature of my invention is the manner in which the pairs are put up for marketing. The two supports are arranged with their flat backs contacting one another as shown in Fig. 3, and these backs are secured together by a cement or other adhesive which has the character of remaining tacky or non-setting. It will be sufficient in most cases to apply the adhesive to the peripheral flange 2 only, as indicated at 3, to hold the supports together.

When the purchaser buys a pair of supports, they may be readily separated, as indicated in dotted lines in Fig. 3, and each support placed in the proper shoe, the adhesive 3 tending to hold the support in its proper place in the shoe.

In Fig. 4 a slightly modified form of support is shown in which the pad comprises a fabric outer covering 4 and a resilient pad 5 secured

together by a permanent cement, or adhesive, to avoid accidental separation while separation of the two supports is taking place. The fabric extends beyond the pad to form the peripheral flange, and the non-setting adhesive is applied to this fabric flange.

In Fig. 5 the pad is provided with a fabric front 6 and back 7, both of which extend beyond the resilient pad 8 to form the flange and may be stitched or otherwise secured together. The non-setting adhesive is applied to the flange portion of the back 7.

In Fig. 6 I show a modification of the form shown in Fig. 1 in which a fabric strip 8 is interposed between the pads 1 and 2. This strip is thrown away when the pads are separated for insertion in the shoes.

While it would add slightly to the cost, the pads may be put out as individual units by using a fabric strip 8 for each pad.

If desired, finger grip tabs may be provided to assist the separation of the units.

It will be seen from the above description that each unit is easy to make, that they are easy to assemble into pairs, that the adhesive is protected until such time as it is desired to separate the supports for positioning in the shoes, and that the original adhesive which holds the two units together is also available for positioning the individual units in the shoes.

Further, in the event that the pad is not properly positioned, the non-setting adhesive will permit of the support being readily shifted to the proper location.

In case of any oozing of the adhesive around the edges of the support, powdered talcum may be sifted over the adhesive to prevent any sticking to the hose.

While the invention is intended particularly for use in connection with supports for the main arch of the foot, it could also be used in connection with metatarsal pads or the like, or a combination of the main arch support and a metatarsal or other pad.

In the case of women's shoes, for example, where the arch part of the shoe has a marked inclination, it may be advisable to tack the support in place to provide additional security and I may incorporate in the pad reinforcing means to prevent the head of a tack pulling through the pad.

What I claim as my invention is:

1. A pair of foot supports, each comprising a main supporting portion and a thin flange extending about its entire periphery, the back sur-

face of the flange of each of said supports having a non-setting adhesive applied thereto, said supports being positioned back to back with the adhesive temporarily retaining them in said relationship for packing purposes, said adhesive when the supports are subsequently separated for insertion in the respective members of a pair of shoes being adapted to retain the support in position in the shoe.

2. A pair of foot supports, each comprising a resilient supporting pad, and a facing of larger area than the pad and extending beyond the

periphery of the pad on all sides to form a peripheral flange, the back surface of each flange having a non-setting adhesive applied thereto, said supports being positioned back to back with the adhesive temporarily retaining them in said relationship for packing purposes, said adhesive when the supports are subsequently separated for insertion in the respective members of a pair of shoes being adapted to retain the support in position in the shoe.

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