Jan. 29, 1929. 1,700,569

J. R. HILLERY

TARSAL SUPPORT

Filed April 28, 1927

Fig. 1.

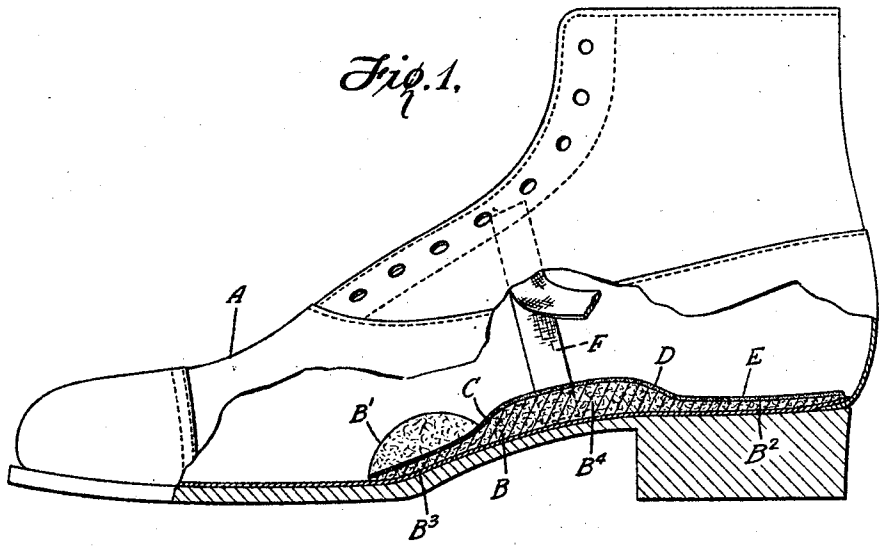


Fig. 2.

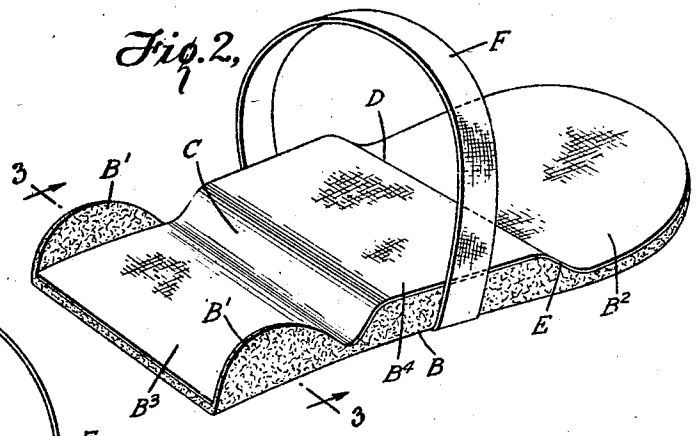


Fig. 3.

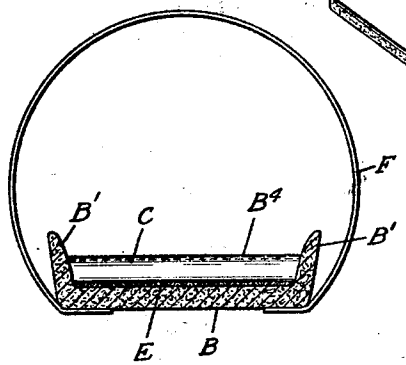
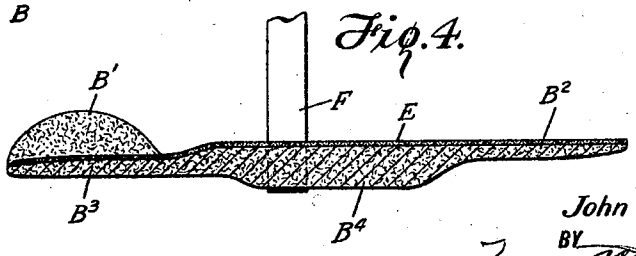


Fig. 4.



INVENTOR
John R. Hillery
BY
Frank M. Ashley
ATTORNEY

Patented Jan. 29, 1929. 1,700,569

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN R. HILLERY, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

TARSAL SUPPORT.

Application filed April 28, 1927. Serial No. 187,214.

My invention relates to means for supporting the arches of the feet.

The object of my invention is to provide a proper tarsal support which can be used with comfort by the wearer, is light in weight, and made of soft flexible yielding material.

A further object is to provide a tarsal support that is sanitary, and that may be used in a shoe or slipper, or independent thereof, and embodies means for holding it to the foot of the user.

Referring to the drawings which form a part of this specification,

Figure 1 is a longitudinal sectional view of a tarsal support shown in position in a shoe, the lower part of the shoe being shown in section.

Figure 2 is a perspective view of the support illustrated in Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a cross sectional view, taken on line 3—3 of Figure 2.

Figure 4 is a side view of a modified form of construction embodying my invention.

A, indicates a shoe, the near side of which is broken away to disclose a tarsal support B, located in proper position therein, and shown in longitudinal section.

My preferred construction comprises a body portion of felt formed as illustrated in Figure 2, and having a vertically extending flap portion B^1 formed integral with the body at each side thereof near its front end, as shown, the outer side being formed flush with the outer edge portion of the body portion. The part B^2 is adapted to rest under the heel and is made to fit the shoe, and is about $\frac{3}{16}$ths inch thick, and the front end B^3 is about the same in thickness.

The portion B^4 is preferably made about $\frac{3}{8}$ths inch thickness for general distribution, but may be more or less in cases requiring more or less support for the arch of the foot. The outer surface is preferably inclined as shown at C and D.

The top surface of the felt is preferably covered with a thin water-proof fabric E, secured thereto by sewing, or by a rubber cement, and prevents the felt from becoming soiled or absorbing perspiration.

A band F is secured to the bottom of the body portion, and extends over the instep of the wearer to hold the support in position on the foot, and by its use the support may be worn on the bare foot of the wearer if desired.

In Figure 4, the pad portion B^4 is located below the medium line on the under side of the support instead of above the medium line, as shown in Figures 1, 2 and 3, and this form is preferred for women's wear, due to the high heels generally used with women's shoes; however, either form will support the tarsal members of a foot in a proper manner.

The supports are made in several sizes and dimensions, and therefore the proper size may be selected to fit the persons requiring them.

The material is made fairly stiff so it will hold its form, and the side flaps B^1 serve to support the joints of the foot adjacent thereto and also serve to prevent side movement when worn on a bare foot, or without a shoe or slipper.

Felt is preferred as it does not absorb moisture and odors as readily as cotton, but cotton matted may be used if desired.

This support affords great comfort in use and is cheap and durable.

Having thus described my invention I claim as new:

1. A tarsal support comprising a body portion of soft matted material having a flat middle portion of greater thickness than the end portions and having sharply inclined portions joining the upper and lower levels of the front and rear end portions to the middle portion, and having a flap portion at each side of the front portion.

2. A tarsal support comprising a body portion of soft matted material having a flat middle portion of greater thickness than the end portions and having sharply inclined portions joining the upper and lower levels of the front and rear end portions to the middle portion, and having a flap portion at each side of the front portion and means for holding the support to the foot of the wearer.

In testimony whereof I have affixed my signature.

JOHN R. HILLERY.