

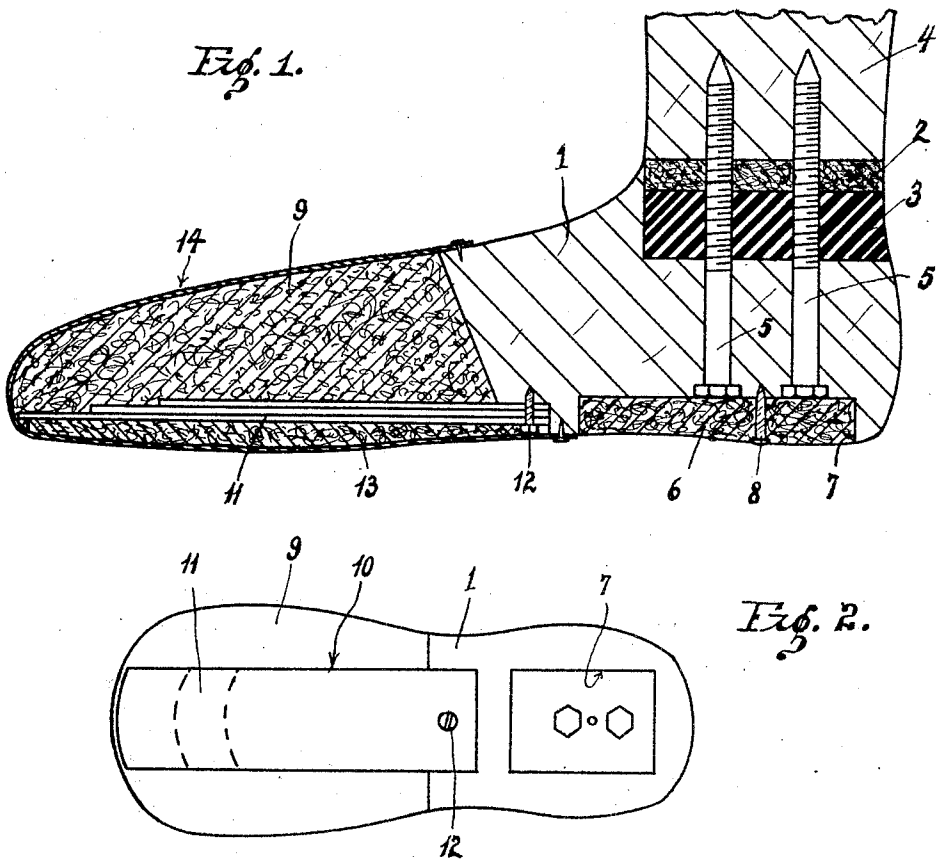
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ARTIFICIAL FOOT

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ARTIFICIAL FOOT.

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In artificial limbs heretofore in use, it was customary to provide a felt tip on the end of the foot which would enable the wearer to bend that portion, simulating the action of the natural foot. This felt tip had no resilience and after it had been worn for a time, the toe portion would bend upwardly resulting in a marked shortening of the stride; that is, the stride would end at a point corresponding to the ball of the foot. This resulted in a limp or a peculiar stride for the wearer of the limb.

An object of my invention is to provide an artificial foot in which a full stride can be taken.

Another object is to provide an artificial foot having a resilient toe portion.

A further object is to provide an artificial foot simulating the action of the natural foot.

Other objects, advantages and features of invention may appear from the accompanying drawing, the subjoined, detailed description, the appended claim, or in the use of my device.

In the drawing—

Fig. 1 is a longitudinal, sectional view of an artificial foot embodying my invention.

Fig. 2 is a bottom plan view of the same on a reduced scale, and with the bottom pads removed.

Referring more particularly to the drawing:

The numeral 1 indicates an artificial foot in the upper part of which is provided the usual felt pad 2 and rubber block 3. The leg portion 4 is secured to the foot 1 by countersunk bolts or lag screws 5. A felt block 6 fits within the recess 7 in the bottom of the foot 1 and is held in position by the usual screw 8.

A felt toe portion 9 is provided on the foot 1, and my invention resides in providing a resiliency for the felt toe. A recess 10 is

formed in the toe 9 and in the wooden foot portion 1, and a laminated spring 11 is set therein. This spring is secured at the rear by suitable means such as the screw 12 or the like. The spring 11 is so arranged as to give a downward pressure on the toe 9; that is, a tendency to curl or move upwardly is opposed. Thus it will be seen that this spring acts in the same manner that the muscles of the natural foot will.

A felt pad 13 fills the recess 10 thus providing a flat surface upon which the wearer may walk. A leather covering 14 extends entirely over the toe portion 9 and is tacked to the wooden foot portion 1. It will be evident that the tension of the spring 11 will have to be varied to suit the weight or stride of the wearer. This can be done by varying the number of leaves in the laminated spring 11, or by varying the material of which the spring is made.

The wooden portion 1 comprises the ankle part of the foot and extends forwardly to about the instep. The felt toe 9 thus forms only the front end of the foot and by reason of the spring 11 a more natural action is obtained; that is, there is no tendency for the foot to bend at the instep and shorten the stride.

Having described my invention, I claim:

An artificial foot comprising a main wooden portion forming the ankle and instep parts of the foot, a yieldable toe secured to said wooden portion, said toe having a recess formed therein, a laminated spring secured to said wooden portion adjacent the forward end thereof, and extending into said recess, said laminated spring extending substantially the entire length of the toe, a fibrous block fitting into said recess and a covering extending around said toe and secured to the main wooden portion.

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