June 3, 1930. J. N. MARKS 1,762,025

FOOT' SUPPORT

Filed Aug. 6, 1928



Fig. 1.

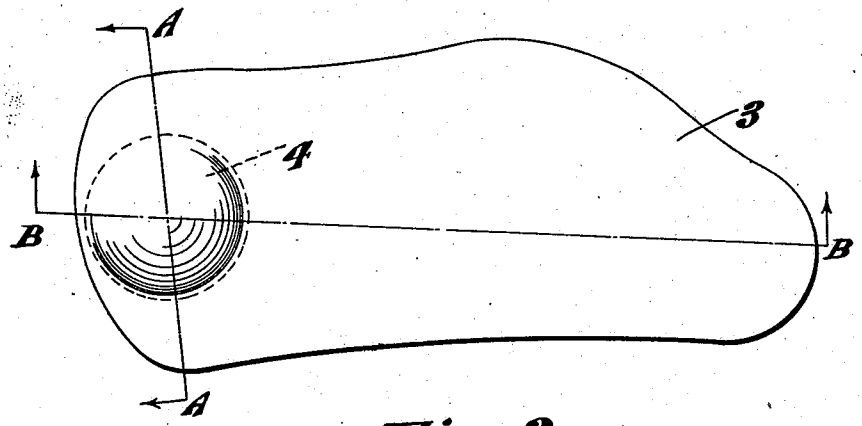


Fig. 2.



Fig. 3.

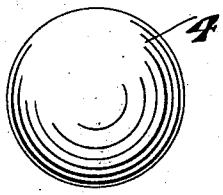


Fig. 4.

Inventor
James Nelson Marks
By B. Singer, Atty.

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JAMES NELSON MARKS, OF LONDON, ENGLAND

FOOT SUPPORT

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This invention relates to foot supports.

Foot supports for the treatment of weak, flat or abnormal feet usually consist of a thin metal, vulcanite or other plate covered with leather or a combination of rubber and leather and similar materials. The objection to these forms of device are that they are of a bulky nature and take up a considerable amount of room in the footwear.

Other foot supports are known consisting of thin metal plate only, which is polished, enameled electroplated or treated in order to present a smooth and neat appearance. These latter while not suffering from the defect and bulkiness have the objection that if made of steel or nickel silver and materials of a like kind, they give the wearer the impression of being alternatively cold or hot to the feet. In the case of supports made of aluminum, duralumin and similar materials, it has been found that the friction set up causes a dirty mark or deposit to be left on the material of the stockings which are thereby badly soiled.

The object of the present invention is to provide a foot support in which all these disadvantages are overcome and the invention consists broadly of a foot support comprising a thin metal plate having applied thereto a covering by means of a perpetually tacky adhesive—such as a surface of suitable fabric or leather.

A further feature of the invention is the combination with a foot support of the foregoing character of a pad or dome which may vary in shape providing that it is within a superficial area of 2¼ inches of metal, rubber, felt or other material held in position by means of the surface covering with no other means of fixing than the adhesive covering.

A foot support according to the invention consists therefore of a thin metal or other material plate, either of duralumin, aluminum, nickel, silver, steel or other material, which may vary in shape and outline according to the needs of the particular foot trouble to be treated and which is covered, on the upper surface, that is that surface which comes into contact with the foot, with a layer of cloth, thin leather or the like, the cloth or leather being affixed to the metal by means of a perpetually tacky adhesive such as is well known. The advantage of the latter feature is that when the cloth becomes soiled, it may be removed instantly and without difficulty and the new cloth can be affixed in position almost as quickly, while owing to the nature of the adhesive employed the wearer can put the support into wear immediately, there being no necessity to wait, such as would be the case if the adhesive were of a nature that required the article to stand by for a process of drying out. The thickness of the cloth is negligible but it will be appreciated that any desired thickness of material may be employed to suit requirements. The material is preferably of a nature affording slight stretch so as to take up the uneven contours of the supporting plate and lie flat over its surface without wrinkles or folds.

In the case of a support required for supporting the transverse arch of the foot, referred to as the metatarsal arch, or support for supporting both the longitudinal and transverse arches the invention offers an effective and simple means of affixing a pad or dome of any shape desired made of metal, rubber, felt or any suitable material of either a hard or yielding description. In such a case it is only necessary to peel back the cloth from the front end of the metal exposing the upper front section of the metal plate. The pad may be placed in the desired position on the plate and the cloth laid back so as to cover the pad and the supporting plate again. In practice it has been found that the pad is maintained definitely in the position required.

A manner of carrying out the invention is illustrated by the accompanying drawings wherein—

Figure 1 is a longitudinal section on B—B of Figure 2;

Figure 2 a plan of the complete foot arch support;

Figure 3 a transverse section on A—A of

Figure 2 and Figure 4 a plan of the pad or dome.

In these drawings, 2 is the usual plate of a foot arch support made of metal or other suitable material, 3 a fabric covering coated on its under surface with a perpetually tacky adhesive, 4 an initially loose dome or pad made of rubber or any other suitable material. The dome or pad 4 is shown of circular plan, it may however be of any other suitable shape.

In using the support the dome 4 is placed on the plate 2 in the desired position and then the covering 3 applied with its tacky surface against the plate and the positioned dome, when by pressing the covering all over against the plate both the covering and pad will be detachably held on the plate in the desired positions.

It may be of advantage in some instances to cover the underside of the metal plate by similar means as already described, and it may also be found advantageous to affix between such covering and the underside of the metal plate at the front end a protective material for the purpose of preventing the front edge of the metal plate from cutting into the inner sole of the shoe in the course of wear.

What I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:—

1. A foot arch support comprising a supporting plate, a pad thereon, and an initially flexible covering united to the plate by a tacky adhesive and hence also securing the pad in place.

2. A foot arch support comprising a supporting plate, a loose pad thereon, and an initially flexible covering united to the plate by a tacky adhesive and hence securing the pad in any adjusted place on the supporting plate.

In witness whereof I affix my signature.

JAMES NELSON MARKS.