June 28, 1949. C. T. MASON 2,474,634

SURGICAL SPLINT FOR SMALL ANIMALS

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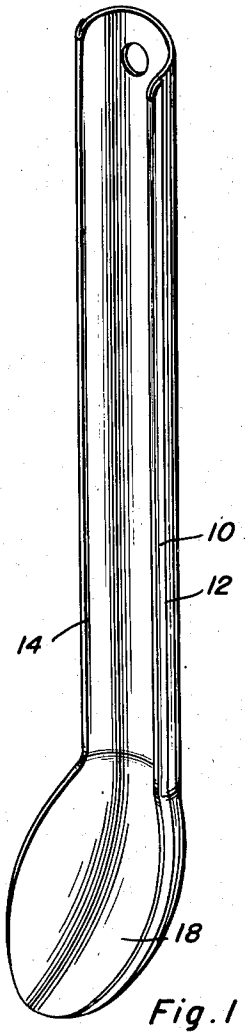


Fig. 1.

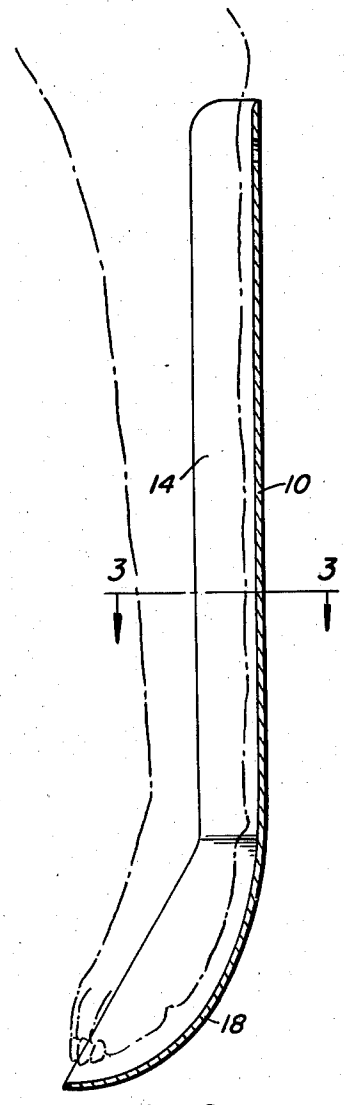
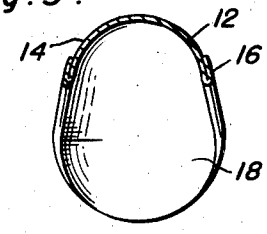


Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.



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SURGICAL SPLINT FOR SMALL ANIMALS

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1 Claim. (Cl. 128—89)

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This invention relates to an improved splint for use in lieu of a cast.

An object of this invention is to provide an improved light weight support which maintains the proper predetermined configuration, which does not splinter, which may be shaped to selected contours and which is relatively comfortable in use.

Another object of this invention is to provide a light weight metallic splint including a longitudinal section having arcuate walls and an integral dished portion which is adapted to accommodate the foot of an animal.

Other objects and novel features will become apparent to those skilled in the art, in following the description of the preferred form of the invention illustrated in the accompanying drawings, wherein:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the preferred form;

Figure 2 is a similar view showing the invention in use, and

Figure 3 is a sectional view taken substantially on the line 3—3 of Figure 2, and in the direction of the arrows.

This invention has been developed to fulfill a number of requirements peculiar to the treatment of injured small animals, such as dogs and cats.

In certain instances when one or more toes have to be amputated, the present invention is of great value to protect these areas during their healing. In open carpal joints immobilization by a comfortable appliance such as the present invention is of great use both to the animal and the surgeon.

Mowing machine lacerations frequently occur. At times, the flexor and extensor tendons as well as the metatarsal or metacarpal bones are severed. Likewise, tin cans and broken bottles present a problem of similar nature. To cope with the injury with a degree of success, there is required an appliance which can be easily removed for daily dressing. Lacerations of the digital pads and webs are frequent occurrences in general practice. The process of healing is accelerated and the period of incapacity shortened by a device to keep the pad of the foot from spreading when weight is placed on the affected area.

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The above outlined uses and others require a simplified device which could be used in a variety of manners and something which is light, comfortable and which can be applied in a number of cases even without anesthetic.

An aluminum splint shaped to fit the plantar and volar surfaces of the limb, which extend in spoon fashion over the pads and to the middle of the medial and lateral aspect of the limb was designed. On the forelimb, it should extend a short distance above the carpal joint; on the hind limb to the hock joint. In certain cases, such as fractures of the radius, it is necessary that it extend to the elbow joint.

Viewing Figures 1 and 3, there is illustrated a splint composed of integral smoothly curved arcuate walls 12 and 14 respectively. The peripheral edges of the walls may be supplied with rolled edges 16 if found desirable.

Integral with the section 10 is a dished portion 18 disposed at an angle to the longitudinal axis of the said section. The section and portion cooperate to form a splint having a spoon shaped appearance.

From the foregoing, a clear understanding of the invention is readily apparent. However, it is understood that slight changes may be made without departing from the spirit of the invention.

Having described the invention what is claimed as new is:

For use in a cast, a splint including a longitudinal section having arcuate walls and an integral dished portion, said dished portion adapted to accommodate the foot of an animal and the longitudinal section adapted to partially encircle a leg of an animal, the dished portion being disposed at an angle relative to the axis of the longitudinal section.

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REFERENCES CITED

The following references are of record in the file of this patent:

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Number	Name	Date
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458,804	Ellis	Sept. 1, 1891