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J. A. SPAFFORD

INNER STOCKING SOLE

Filed June 23, 1926

Fig. 3.

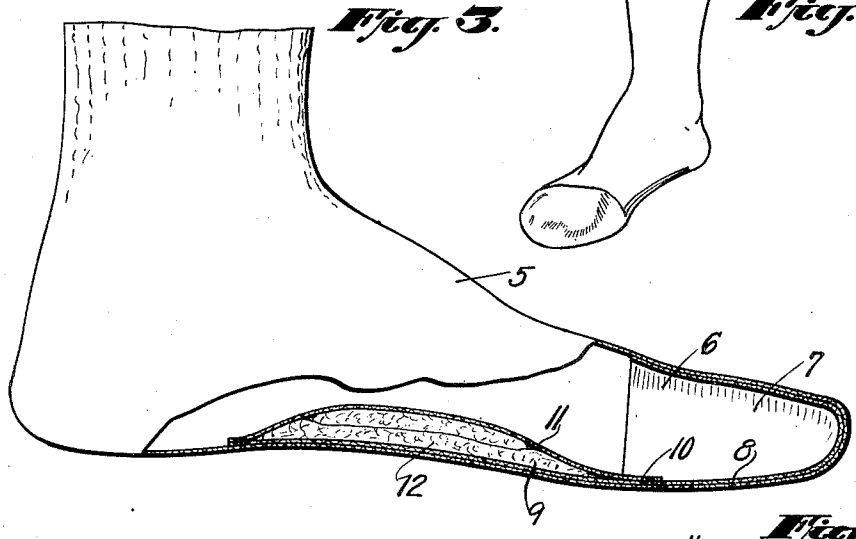
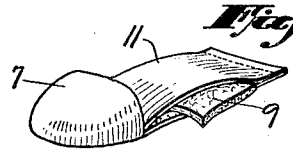


Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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INNER STOCKING SOLE.

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This invention relates to an inner stocking sole or sandal which is adapted to be worn within the regular stocking or sock to afford relief to the foot.

A particular object of the invention is to provide, in the sole of an inner stocking or sandal, a pocket which may be stuffed with suitable layers of material so that an arch portion may be built up upon the sole which will relieve the strain that comes upon the arches of the feet of persons during considerable walking or standing.

A further particular object of the invention is to provide a device which may be readily inserted over the foot and over which the stocking may be readily drawn without providing an unnecessary bulk in the shoe in connection with which the device is worn.

It will be noted particularly that no corrective effect is anticipated from the use of my improved device but rather I have provided a sandal or inner stocking which may be used by golfers, walkers or others using their feet continually for long periods of time and which can be made of light material, such as silk, cotton or wool and which will not materially add to the weight of the foot covering.

A further more particular object of the invention is to allow free movement of the foot and toes, which is always necessary for comfort and at the same time to provide a support for the instep which may be built up to suit the particular individual wearing the same and which may be so arranged that it will allow of other variations to provide for the comfort of the individual wearer.

To enable others skilled in the art to fully comprehend the underlying features of my invention that they may embody the same in the various modifications in structure and relation contemplated, a drawing depicting a preferred form has been annexed as a part of this disclosure and in such drawings, similar reference characters denote corresponding parts throughout all the views, of which,

Figure 1 is a view in perspective of a foot over which my improved sandal has been drawn, subsequent to the drawing on of the stocking or sock worn by the individual.

Figure 2 is a view in perspective of my improved inner stocking sole or sandal showing a full double sole slit at the arch portion thereof and arranged so that a suitable pad element may be placed therein to build up an arch supporting portion in said sandal.

Figure 3 is a view in side elevation, a part thereof being shown in section of a sock or stocking foot, having incorporated therein my improved inner stocking or sandal, the construction of the latter being shown, which provides at its arch portion a suitable pad receiving pocket.

Referring to the drawings in detail 5 indicates a stocking or sock foot of the conventional type which is drawn over my improved inner stocking sole or foot sandal 6, the illustration in Figure 3 showing the arrangement of both as they would appear upon the foot of the wearer.

The inner stocking sole or sandal woven of fabric or other soft material is provided in its front portion with a toe covering 7 and extending rearwardly therefrom, the sole 8. In connection with this sole 8 and at the instep or arch portion thereof, I provide a pocket 9 by sewing to said sole as at 10, the fabric pocket piece 11. It will be evident that this pocket piece 11 can be distended when the pads 12, which are made of any suitable felt material, are placed in said pocket and built up to provide an arch filling or supporting portion.

It is well known that when the feet are used steadily for a long period of time, such for instance by sales people, golfers or walkers, that the feet begin to ache and are tired. It is known that this is caused by insufficient support for the arches of the feet, due to the fact that shoes are not made to fit the individual arch of the wearer and some persons have very high arches while other people have low arches. It is therefore necessary to supply some means for yieldably supporting the arch and in this respect I have provided a very thin, light, soft pad to be placed under the arch portion of the foot, which can be inserted and used in the stocking without causing an unnecessary padding of the foot or without providing an excess padding in the shoe, a thing which is especially to be avoided as the cooler the feet are kept, the less liable they will be to soreness.

The provision of my improved inner sole allows the same to be placed conveniently over the foot preparatory to drawing on the sock or stocking to hold the same properly in place and the pocket portion 11, formed as it is, allows the proper building up by the in-

dividual of the arch portion thereof to suit the particular need, which can be readily determined by experiments on the part of the individual, as it is well known that various types are needed for different individuals.

The correct support of the arch is such that the foot will be evenly supported throughout its area and in this respect it is necessary to guard against supporting the foot solely from the arch portion and to this end, I have supplied a soft material such as a felt pad or the like which can be built up to suit the individual and which will yield under foot pressure to accommodate itself readily to the shape of the arch and thereby perfectly support the same.

It will be evident therefore, that I have provided an improved, inner stocking sole or sandal for the use of those standing, walking or golfing and one which will avoid foot strain thereby eliminating the annoyance caused by aching feet by providing a suitable support for the instep which may be built up to suit the individual need and which is inexpensive to manufacture and can be embodied in a stocking or sock or may be made up as a separate unit for use in connection with outer footwear, as desired.

While I have illustrated and described my invention with some degree of particularity, I realize that in practice various alterations therein may be made. I therefore reserve the right and privilege of changing the form of the details of construction or otherwise altering the arrangement of the correlated parts without departing from the spirit of the invention or the scope of the appended claims.

Having thus described my invention what I claim as new and desire to secure by United States Letters Patent is:—

1. A fabric sandal for the foot consisting of a sole portion, a toe covering, the sole portion being arranged to extend rearwardly to a point just beyond the arch of the foot, a piece of fabric attached at its ends to said sole portion and disposed in the arch section of the sole to form a pocket therein, and a removable felt pad member arranged in said pocket to support the arch of the foot of the wearer.

2. A fabric sandal for the foot constituting a fabric member adapted to be worn inside a stocking and consisting of a flat sole portion of lesser lenth than the foot, a toe covering woven integral therewith, a pocket piece attached at its ends to said sole portion and disposed in the arch section of the sole, and a removable pad member arranged in said pocket to support the arch of the foot of the wearer.

3. A fabric sandal for the foot, comprising a fabric member adapted to be worn inside a stocking and consisting of a flat sole portion, a toe covering woven integral with the sole portion, means to provide a pocket forming a part of said sole portion to underlie the arch of the foot of the wearer, and a pad member arranged in said pocket.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

JULIAN A. SPAFFORD. [L. S.]