July 25, 1967 I. R. GRESSLEY 3,332,151

SHOE MEASURING DEVICE

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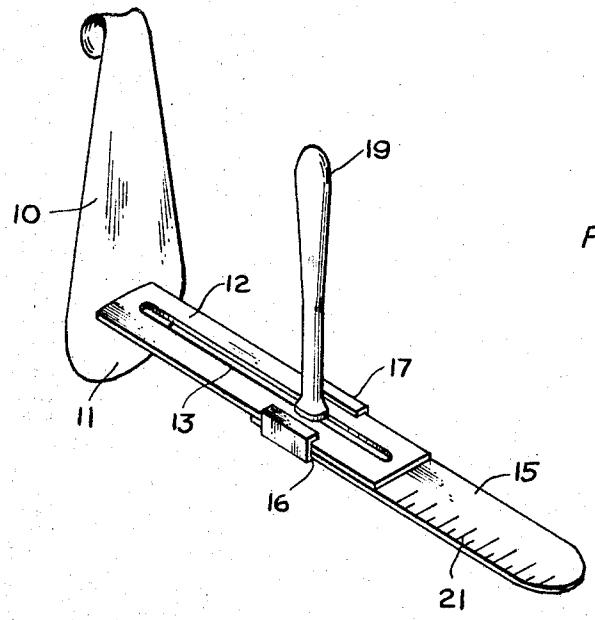

FIG. 1

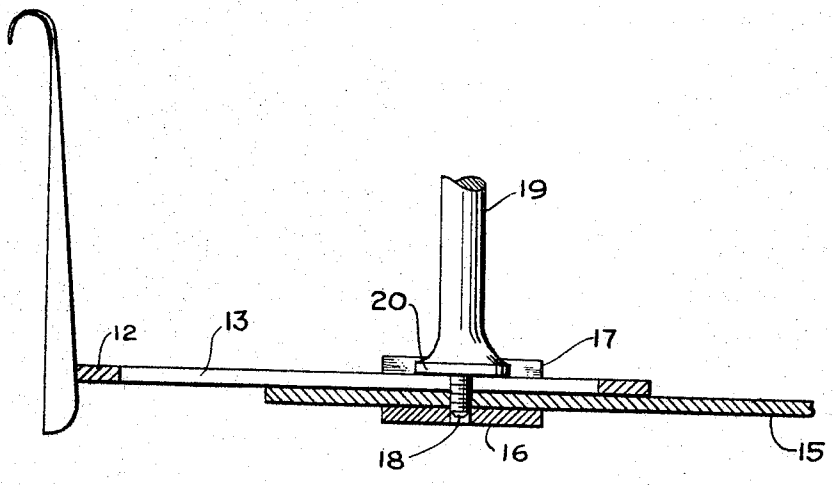

FIG. 2

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SHOE MEASURING DEVICE

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3 Claims. (Cl. 33—3.2)

This invention pertains to measuring devices and more specifically to a single device adapted to measure both a shoe and the foot on which the shoe is to be worn.

In the fitting of shoes, particularly on children's feet, it is often desirable to know how much space there is between the toe of the child and the end of the shoe. Sometimes this can be learned by crushing the toe of the shoe so that the child's toe can be felt. Some shoe fitters are able to tell the location of the joint of the large toe. However, neither of these methods will satisfy all parents. Furthermore, neither is as accurate as might be desired.

Several devices have been proposed to measure the comparative size of the shoe and foot. These have generally comprised fairly complex devices; in some instances measuring the total length of the foot and shoe simultaneously and in other measuring the distance from the joint to the tip of the large toe.

By my device, I provide a simple inexpensive device capable of measuring them comparatively. The device is simple enough to be used by anyone and can be used to display quite accurately and graphically the amount of room remaining in the shoe for growth of a child's foot.

A more complete understanding of my invention in its embodiment may be had from a study of the following specifications and the accompanying figures in which:

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of my device, and

FIG. 2 is a partial medial sectional view of the device showing the clamping arrangement.

Briefly my invention comprises a device having a slidable guage which will fit inside a shoe to measure the shoe, and is also adapted to be placed on the sole of a foot to measure the foot.

More specifically, my device includes a rear stop **10** which may take the appearance of a shoe horn, i.e. having a concave and a convex surface. Extending from the concave side of the rear stop from a point somewhat above the lower edge **11** is a tongue **12**. This tongue is formed to provide a slot **13** extending along the length thereof.

A slide member **15** is sildably connected to the tongue **12**. This is accomplished by providing a slide housing **16** on the member **15**. Ears **17** on the housing embrace the tongue **12** so that the slide **15** may be freely slidable relative to the tongue. A clamping handle **19** is threaded into the member **15** so that a threaded stud **18** thereof extends through the slot **13**. A shoulder **20** on the handle **19** engages the surface of the tongue **12** so that by screwing the handle down, the tongue **12** is clamped between the slide **15** and the shoulder **20** to prevent slipping of the slide from any adjusted position.

A graduated scale **21** may be provided on the tongue **12** adjacent any appropriate part of the slide member **15** so that some relative indication of size may be known. This may be graduated according to shoe size or any other appropriate scale.

The use of my device is fairly obvious. When a shoe is to be fitted, an approximate size is chosen. The length of the inside of the shoe may then be guaged by inserting my device into the shoe with the clamping action of the handle **19** released. The rear stop **10** is held against the

inside of the heel of the shoe and the slide **15** is moved forward until it touches the inside of the toe. The clamping handle **19** is then clamped down to hold the slide in place.

After setting the device, it can be withdrawn from the shoe and used to compare that to the length of the foot. This is done by inverting the device and placing against the heel of a stockinged foot, that part of the rear stop **10** which extends below the tongue **12**. Thus the tongue **12** and slide **15** will extend toward, and beyond the toes of that foot. The amount of extension of the slide beyond the foot is a measure of the amount of space within the shoes when the foot is inserted. Any shoe fitter will recognize that some allowance must be made for the extension of the foot as weight is placed on it when stepping in a shoe. Still, by my device a reasonably accurate comparison is possible quickly and also is readily demonstrable. The device is relatively inexpensive and is easy to operate. Thus, it is capable of use by almost anyone in the fitting of shoes and can be used to convince parents, and other purchasers of shoes as to the adequacy of the size of the shoe.

Having thus described my invention in its embodiment I am aware that further and extensive variations may be made therefrom without departing from the spirit and scope of my invention as limited only by the following claims.

I claim:

1. A device for measuring shoes or the like comprising stop means adapted to fit the interior of the heel of a shoe, tongue means fixed to said stop means, said stop means extending on both sides of said tongue means whereby the extension thereof on one side is usable to fit the heel of a foot on which the shoe is to be worn, slide means slidably connected to said tongue means, and clamp means engaged between said tongue means and said slide means to hold said slide means in any adjusted position relative to said slide means.

2. For comparatively measuring a foot and a shoe to be fitted onto said foot, said shoe having a closed toe and a heel, a device comprising stop means having a concave surface and a convex surface being adapted to fit against the interior of said heel, tongue means extending from said concave surface, said tongue means being formed to provide a slot therein, said stop means extending on both sides of said tongue means whereby the extension thereof on one side is usable to fit the heel of a foot on which the shoe is to be worn, slide means slidably connected to said tongue means and extending adjacent to said slot, clamping means extending through said slot and threadedly engaged with said slide means, said clamping means having shoulders engaged with said tongue means adjacent to said slot, said clamping means being thereby adapted to hold said slide means releasably in fixed adjusted position relative to said tongue means, said slide means being adapted to extend into said toe and to engage the extremity thereof.

3. For comparatively measuring a foot and a shoe to be fitted on said foot, said shoe having a closed toe and heel, a device comprising stop means having a concave surface and a convex surface, said convex surface being adpated to engage the interior surface of said heel, tongue means extending from said concave surface, said tongue means being formed with a slot therein, slide means slidably engaged with said tongue means and extending adjacent said slot, handle means threadably engaged with

said slide means and extending through said slot, said handle means being engageable with said tongue means adjacent said slot to provide a clamping arrangement whereby said handle can be clamped and released by turning in said threadable engagement and whereby said handle is attached to said slide means to move it relative to said tongue means, said stop means extending a substantial distance on both sides of said tongue means whereby a portion of said concave surface may be engaged with the rear of said foot for measuring the foot.

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