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2,408,617

FOOT APPLIANCE

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Fig. 1.

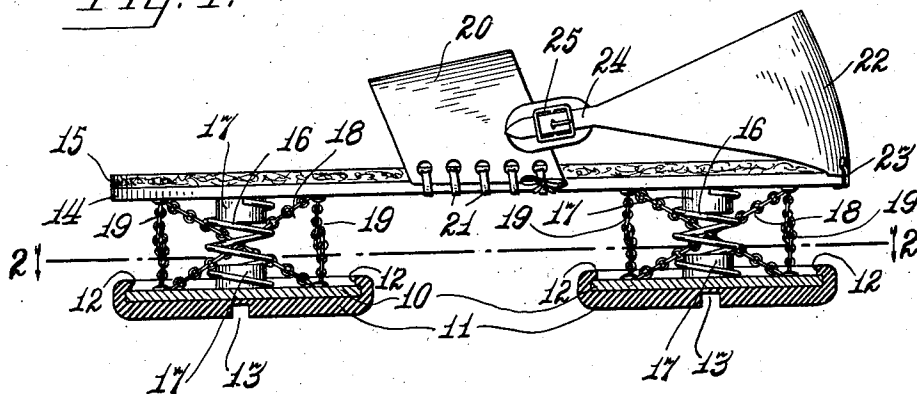


Fig. 2.

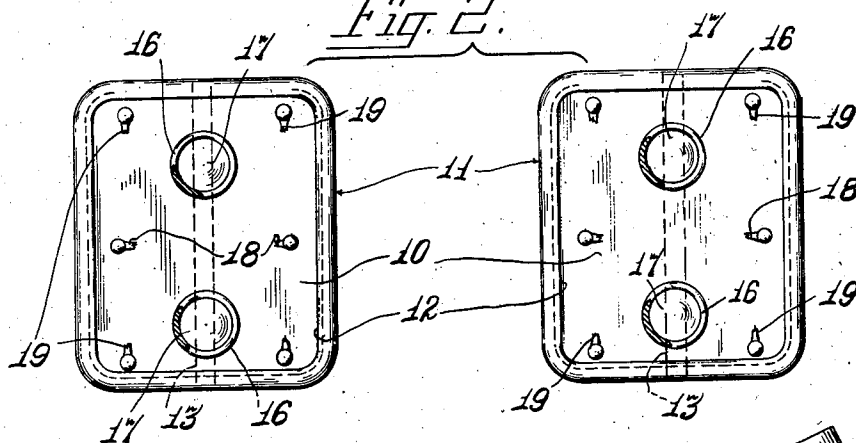


Fig. 3.

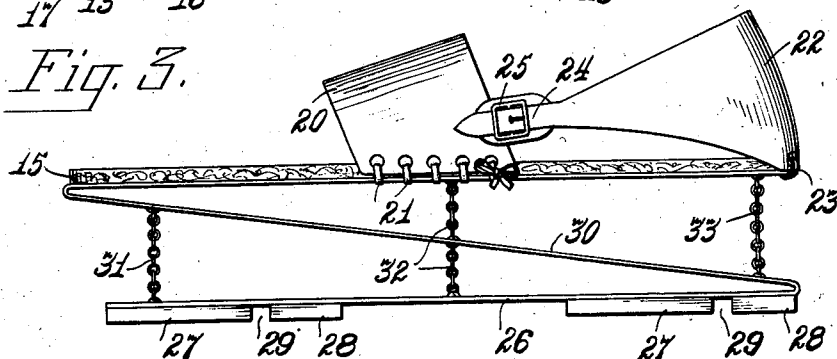
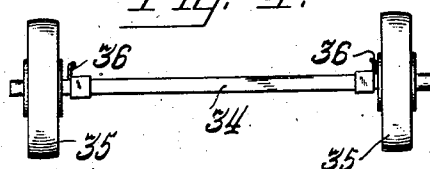


Fig. 4.



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FOOT APPLIANCE

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3 Claims. (Cl. 36—7.8)

1

The invention relates to improvements in foot appliances and has for its primary object an improved foot appliance adapted to serve as a substitute for shoes, which is of simple construction and highly efficient in use.

Another object of the invention is the provision of an improved appliance of the character indicated which is equipped with special means for ready attachment or detachment of rollers.

Other objects will appear hereinafter.

The invention consists of the combinations and arrangements of parts hereinafter described and claimed.

The invention will be best understood by reference to the accompanying drawing forming a part of this specification and in which:

Fig. 1 is a side view of an appliance embodying the invention;

Fig. 2, a horizontal section thereof taken substantially on line 2—2 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3, a side view of a modified form of construction; and

Fig. 4, a view of a set of rollers equipped with means for attaching them to the appliances shown in Figs. 1 and 3.

The embodiment of the invention illustrated in Figs. 1 and 2 of the drawing comprises a lower tread member formed of two identical plates 10, each equipped with rubber tread members 11 provided at their tops with flexible resilient lips 12, by means of which said tread members may be readily reversed or interchanged on plates 10 to equalize wear. Each of said tread members is provided at its bottom with a transverse square slot 13 for a purpose to be presently described.

A foot rest 14 is resiliently supported above the tread members 10, said foot rest being provided with a top pad 15 of felt or the like. The foot rest 14 is resiliently supported by means of two coiled compression springs 16 fitting at their ends over short posts or projections 17 on each of the plates 10.

As indicated, each tread member 10—11 is laterally extended at its outer side beyond the corresponding spring 16 to prevent turning of the ankles of the wearer. Crossed chains 18 and 19 are arranged respectively, longitudinally in the center of and at each end of each of the plates 10, having their ends secured to said plates and foot rest as shown. The springs 16 are placed under initial compression substantially equal to that of the person intended to wear the appliance, and held under said tension by the chains 18 and 19. In this way a resilient mounting is provided for the foot rest member which readily

2

yields under shocks and strains to cushion the walking, running, jumping or skating operations of the wearer, but will hold the foot rest member in proper relation with the corresponding tread members during all conditions and will prevent upward movement of the rest member beyond the point of initial compression of the springs 16. Each rest member 14 is equipped with a foot instep band 20 adjustably connected by lacing 21 with the sides thereof. A heel-embracing member 22 is connected at 23, as shown, with the rear of the rest member 14 and the forward ends of the member 22 are formed into securing straps 24 adapted and arranged to adjustably engage buckles 25 on the rear edges of the instep band 20. By this arrangement a secure and adjustable attachment for the foot is provided and one which may be readily applied to or removed from the foot by merely loosening or securing one of the side straps 24, as will be readily understood.

In the modification illustrated in Fig. 3, I have shown an arrangement in which the tread member 26 constitutes part of a flat spring and is equipped on its bottom with rubber blocks 27 and 28 having spaces 29 between them. A resilient support for the foot rest consists of another part 30 of the flat spring and flexible tie members or chains 31, 32 and 33 are connected as shown to limit the upward movement of the foot rest 14 and further tie the members together.

In Fig. 4 I have illustrated a roller attachment for the appliance comprising a square axle 34 for rollers 35 at its ends and spring clips 36, adapted and arranged to fit over the edges of the tread members 10—11 and 26 with the square axle 34 fitting into the notches or spaces 13 or 29, as the case may be.

While I have illustrated and described the preferred forms of construction for carrying the invention into effect, these are capable of variation and modification without departing from the spirit of the invention. However, I do not wish to be limited to the precise details disclosed, but desire to avail myself of such variations and modifications as fall within the scope of the appended claims.

I claim:

1. A foot appliance comprising a tread member; a foot rest arranged above and resiliently supported on said tread member; and crossed flexible tie members arranged longitudinally and laterally with their ends secured to said tread and rest members placing said resilient support

3

under tension limiting the upward movement of said foot rest.

2. A foot appliance having a tread member comprising two identical supporting plates and flexibly resilient reversible interchangeable tread bodies having lips fitting over the edges of said plates; a foot rest arranged above and resiliently supported on said tread member; and flexible tie members placing said resilient support under tension and limiting the upward movement of said foot rest.

4

3. A foot appliance having a tread member comprising two identical supporting plates; flexible interchangeable tread bodies having lips fitting over said plates; a foot rest arranged above and resiliently supported on said tread members; and crossed flexible tie members arranged longitudinally and laterally with their ends secured to said tread and rest members placing said resilient support under tension limiting the upward movement of said foot rest.

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