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2,450,862

ANKLE SUPPORT

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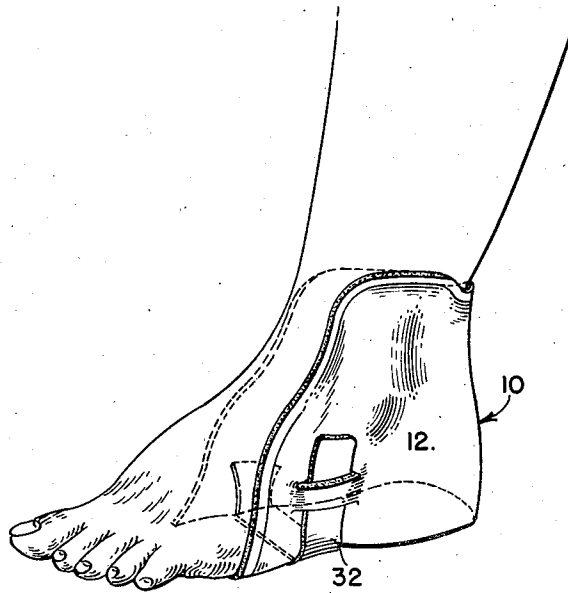


Fig. 1.

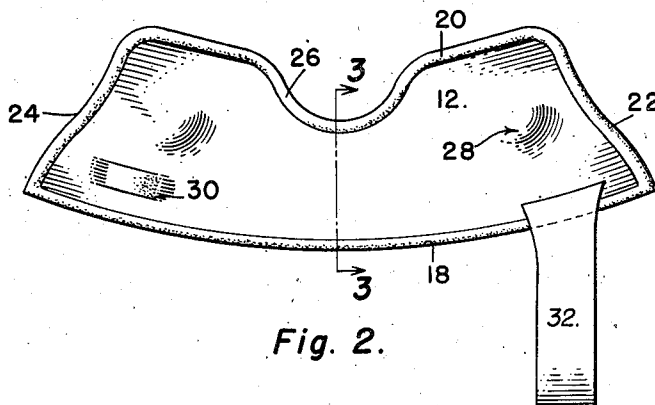


Fig. 2.

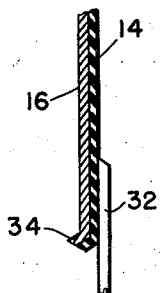


Fig. 3

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,450,862

ANKLE SUPPORT

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1 Claim. (Cl. 128—80)

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This invention relates to improvements in ankle supports of the type in general use and most popularly used by athletes while engaged in sport.

The general and prime object of this invention is to supply certain refinements and improvements in the parent invention Patent Number 2,165,879 of July 11, 1939.

A specific object of this invention is to provide a single securing means which serves the dual function of fastening the support to the foot and forming a foundation or arch lifter.

Another object of this invention is to provide a device which facilitates application and removal thereof and is of inexpensive construction.

Other objects and features of novelty of this invention will become apparent in the following description taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawing, wherein:

Figure 1 is a prospective view of the improved ankle support as viewed while in operative position;

Figure 2 is a plan view of the form of the instant invention showing the device in the open position, and

Figure 3 is a sectional view of the device taken on the line 3—3 of Figure 2, showing the material components thereof.

Referring now in detail to the appended drawing, which illustrates a preferred embodiment of the instant invention, the reference numeral 10 is used to designate in a general way the present invention.

A semi-molded, somewhat flat member 12 preferably composed of a resilient material such as natural or synthetic rubber or the like, as indicated at 14, is faced with a material 16, which has more body therein such as certain canvases, light leather or the like. The member 12 is not dissimilar to a projected portion of a frustrum of a cone. The bottom portion 18 thereof has an end of up-turning arcuate configuration while the top portion has a similar configuration 20 somewhat smaller, however, due to the cone-like sides 22 and 24. In the top portion or edge is an arcuate cut-out 26 adapted to provide for freedom of movement of the leg tendons adjacent the heel. As noted, a slight out-curving portion 28, of the body member 12, is supplied in more-or-less semi-pressed form to accommodate the protruding cuboid bone which is present in substantially all ankles.

As seen clearly in the drawing, a pair of slits 30 are provided through the member 12 in the

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appropriate place to receive the dual purpose strap 32 and retain the same therein. The said strap 32 is fixedly secured to the body member 12 by suitable means such as glueing, sewing and the like or may be formed as a continuation of the body member. The method of securing the device to the foot is quite clear from the drawing. It is simply curved around the heel of the foot leaving the front end open thereby leaving the instep exposed. As is also obvious from the drawing, the strap 32 falls under the arch supporting the same.

It is here noted that the instant invention also contemplates the use of a specially shaped center portion of the strap 32 for more support of the arch or more proper support of the arch. It is seen here that the strap 32 is held in position by the weight thereon and accordingly, a slightly tight fit of the strap within the slits 30 will retain the strap securely therein.

In passing, it might be noted that no portion of the device is placed under the foot other than the strap and it is also noted that the shoe insole abutting portion 34 of the invention has a slight in-curved edge to more satisfactorily fit around the bottom edge of the foot.

While there is herein disclosed a preferred embodiment of the instant inventive concept, it is obvious that slight modifications may be made therein without departing from the spirit and scope of the instant invention and therefore limitation is desired only as to the scope of the following claim.

I claim:

In an ankle support adapted to be worn on a foot and associated ankle portion of the anatomy, a body member comprising a pair of sides and a back, the front of said body member being open and terminating in the rear of the toes, said member being composed of layers of resilient and pliable material and a strap secured to one end of said body member, a pair of slits in the other end of said body for receiving said strap thereby clamping the device to a foot and said strap supporting the arch of a foot.

GEORGE HENRY WILKINSON.

REFERENCES CITED

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

UNITED STATES PATENTS

Number	Name	Date
2,165,879	Wilkinson	July 11, 1939