

A. WEIL.
TOE SEPARATOR.
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1,163,490.

Patented Dec. 7, 1915.

Fig. 1.

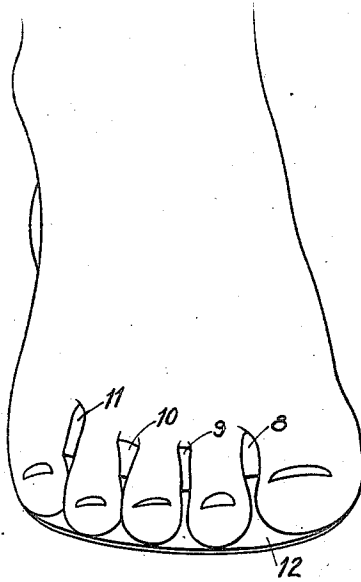


Fig. 2.

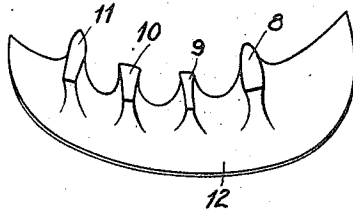
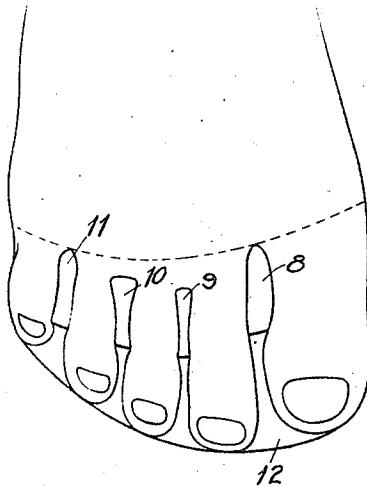


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES

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TOE-SEPARATOR.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALEXANDER WEIL, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the city of New York, borough of Manhattan, county and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Toe-Separator, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

Among the principal objects which the present invention has in view are: to provide a convenient and efficient filler for the spaces between the toes, to prevent crowding together of the same, and to provide a spreader of the character mentioned adapted to be worn inside a shoe.

Figure 1 is a view of the human foot having applied thereto a toe separator constructed and arranged in accordance with the present invention; Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the spreader; Fig. 3 is a top view of a portion of the foot shown in Fig. 1, showing in connection therewith the service relation of a toe separator constructed and arranged according to the present invention.

It has been found that many ailments of the foot, and especially of the toes, are incident to the crowding together of the toes, either when in the shoe or under other conditions, the toes having been caused to crowd or rest one under the other. It has also been found that in certain ailments the after results, such as the itching or prickling in chilblains, is directly or indirectly attributable to the want of proper circulation, or of separation between the toes. It is to overcome these objections, which is the principal object of the present invention, and to accomplish which I provide the standing separators 8, 9, 10 and 11.

As will be seen best in Fig. 2 of the drawings, the separators 8 to 11 differ in shape and size. These separators may differ to correspond with the idiosyncracies or characteristic shape of the toes or foot of each wearer. The shape is preferably ascertained by primarily making a cast of so much of the foot or of the spaces between the toes thereof as is necessary to the for-

mation of a die wherein the spreader is formed.

To facilitate the handling of the spreaders and to avoid the annoyance incident to the handling of a multiplicity of pieces, the spreaders are integrally connected with and erected above the toe palette 12. The toe palette 12 is shaped to fit the foot and to form pockets for the pads of the toes. When the cast is made to obtain the form for the separators 8 to 11, the shape and form of the pocket for the pads of the toes are also given.

The separators 8, 9, 10 and 11 and the palette 12 are constructed from moisture-absorbing material, preferably felt or cotton batting. The separators are given approximately the consistency of that which is used for orthopedic plasters of various kinds. Suitable dies are made to press the separators and palette to the required shape.

When the separators and palettes are formed, they are placed on the foot substantially as shown in Figs. 1 and 3 of the drawings, prior to the stocking being drawn thereover. In this position the toes serve to hold the article until the stocking and the shoe are both adjusted. Any pressure which may now be exerted upon the side of the foot, which without the separators 8 to 11 would crowd the toes together, is counteracted by the said separators, which, standing between the toes, prevents the crowding. In service the palette 12 forming natural and fitted pockets for the toes, serves to prevent unnatural formations thereon, and an uncomfortable disposition thereof.

Claims:

1. A device as characterized, comprising a palette shaped to conform to the shape of the ball of the human foot and to the under surfaces of the toes; and a series of four separators constructed of absorbent material and integrally formed with said palette, said separators being adapted to extend between the toes of the foot to the upper surface thereof.

2. A device as characterized, comprising a

palette shaped to conform to the shape of the under surfaces of the toes and the adjacent portion of the ball of the human foot; and a series of separators integrally
5 formed on said palette for extending between the toes of said human foot to the upper surface thereof, for completely separating the toes.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

ALEXANDER WEIL.

Witnesses:

GEO. L. BEELER,
PHILIP D. ROLLHAUS.