

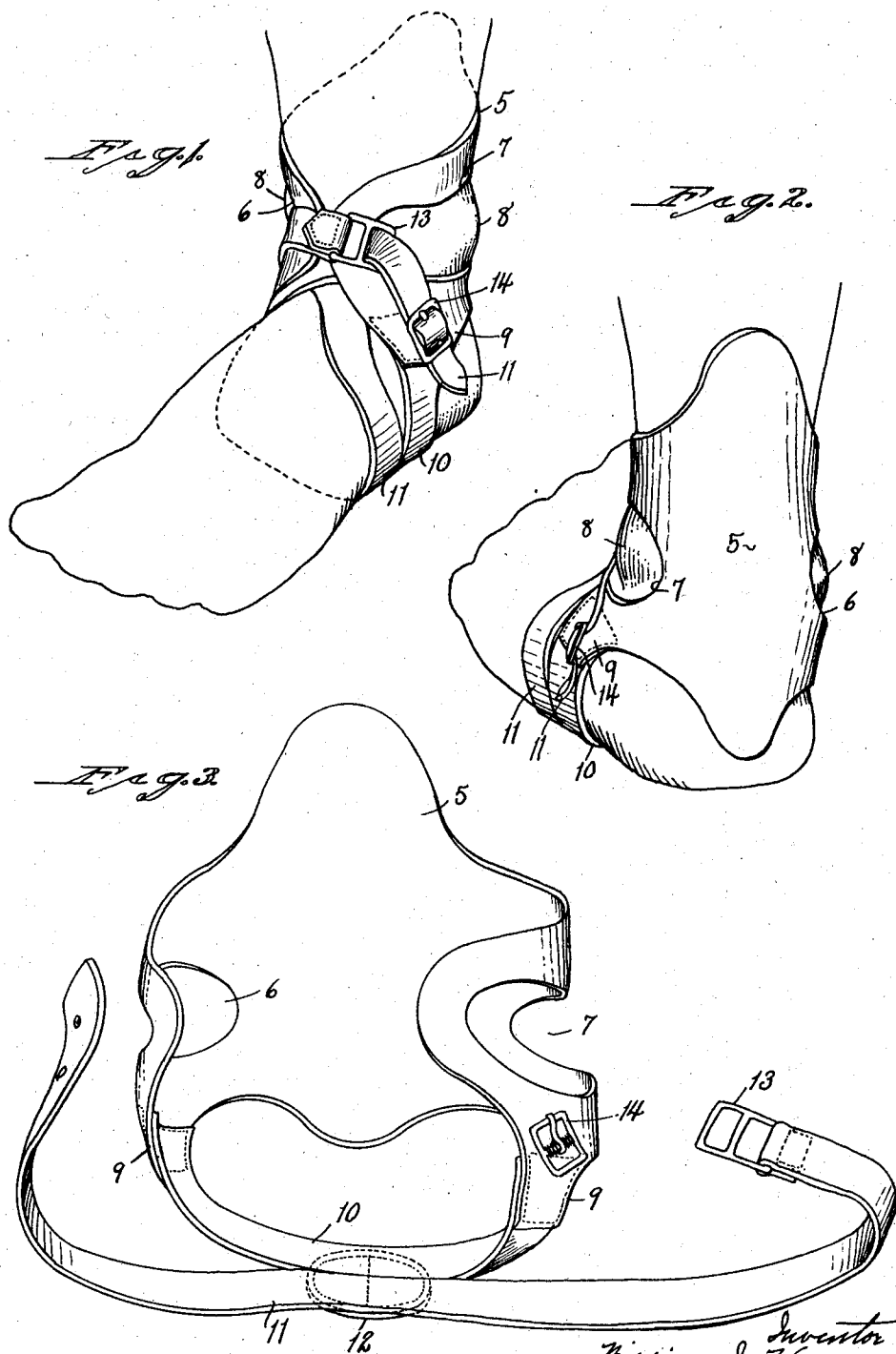
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COMBINED ANKLE BRACE AND ARCH SUPPORT

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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## COMBINED ANKLE-BRACE AND ARCH-SUPPORT

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This invention relates to an improvement in combined ankle-braces and arch-supports. The object of this invention is to provide a device which may be made so light as to be readily worn inside a stocking or worn outside of a stocking and which will not only support the ankle but also support the arch, so as to provide adjustment whereby the foot and ankle are supported, giving relief to pedestrians generally and especially in cases where there is a tendency of the arch to sag, and the invention consists in the construction as hereinafter described and particularly recited in the claim.

15 In the accompanying drawings:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of my combined ankle-brace and arch-support indicated as applied to a foot;

Fig. 2 is a rear view of the same; and

20 Fig. 3 is a front view of the device, detached.

In carrying out my invention, I employ an ankle-piece 5 formed on opposite sides with openings 6 and 7 located so as to clear the ankle-bones 8. The forward lower ends 9 are connected by a band 10 extending under the sole of the foot. Connected with this band 10 is a strap 11, and preferably the strap and band are connected side by side by a flat pad 12. One end of the strap is provided with a loop 13. The lower end of the strap, carrying the loop 13, is brought up over the foot and through the opening 6. The other end of the strap is brought up over the foot through the opening 7, thence through the loop 13 and downward, to be engaged by a buckle 14, or other suitable means, for adjustably connecting this end of the strap.

40 The parts of the device, aside from the loop and buckle, are all formed from leather or other suitable material, and it will be noted that the ankle-piece 5 extends above and below the ankle-bone so as to give a support thereto, and the ankle-bones act as stops to prevent the vertical movement of the ankle-piece.

The straps beneath the foot support the arch from the instep. In other words, the 50 device tends to hold the bones in their natural

position and not only tends to avoid displacement but will act to replace fallen arches, if such have occurred, but even with the bones in their natural position, the device will give great comfort to athletes, golfers, mountain climbers, policemen, soldiers, and any who are obliged to be upon their feet for long periods.

It is obvious without further illustration that the straps 10 and 11 might be made integral and also obvious that one strap might be attached to one of the ends 9 and another strap attached to the other end, these straps passing beneath the foot and over the instep into engagement with the openings in the ankle-piece.

I claim:

A combined ankle-brace and arch-support comprising an ankle-piece extending above and below the ankle at the rear, and formed with clearance-openings for the ankle-bones, a band connecting the lower forward ends of the ankle-piece, a strap connected with said band, one end of the strap being provided with a loop, and a fastening device secured to one side of the ankle-piece, the looped-end of the strap passed through one ankle-opening, the other end of the strap passed through the other ankle-opening and through the loop and into engagement with the said fastening device.

In testimony whereof, I have signed this specification.

WILLIAM J. HOGGSON.

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