

Oct. 13, 1925.

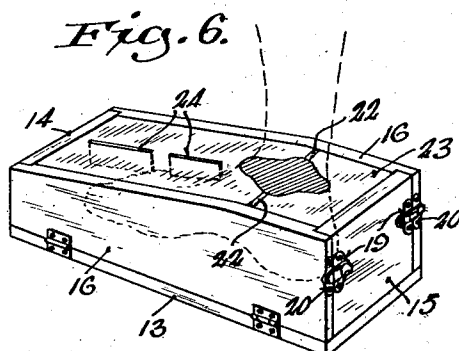
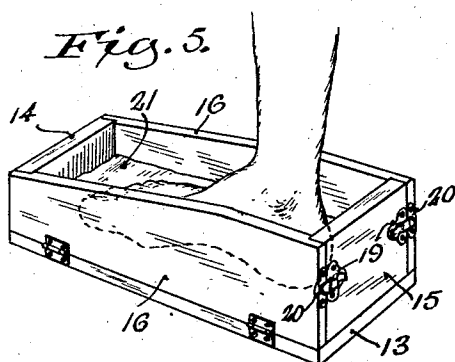
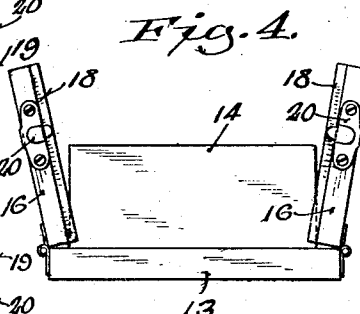
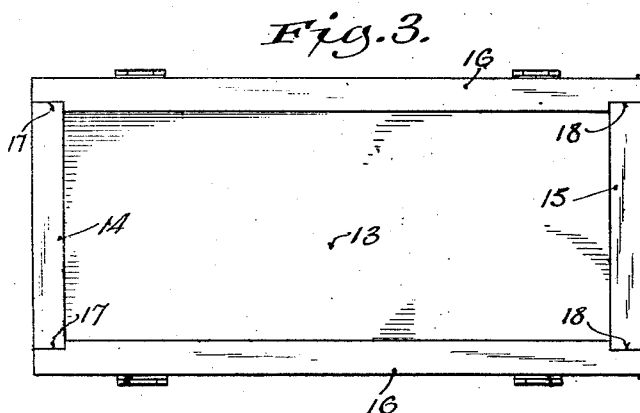
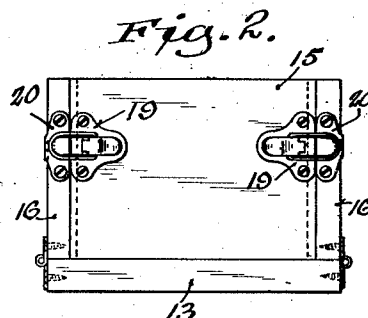
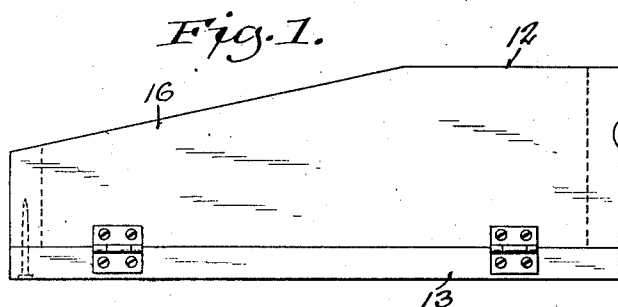
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A. A. PAGE

MEANS FOR AND METHOD OF MAKING PLASTER CASTS OF FEET

Filed Dec. 29, 1924

2 Sheets-Sheet 1



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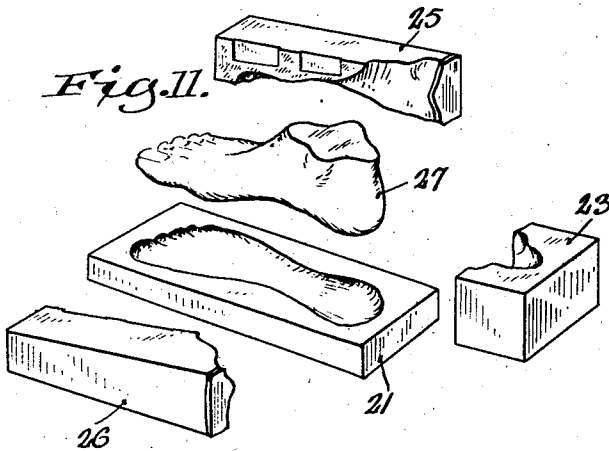
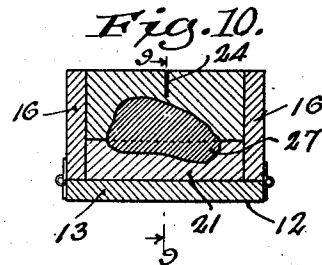
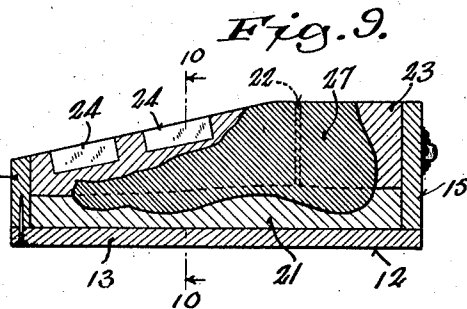
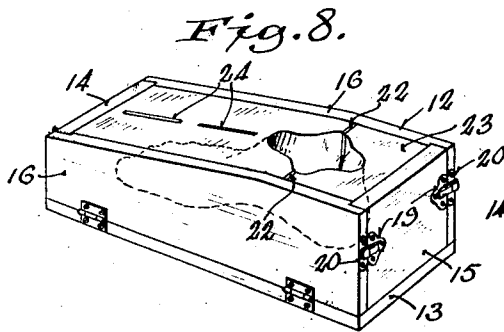
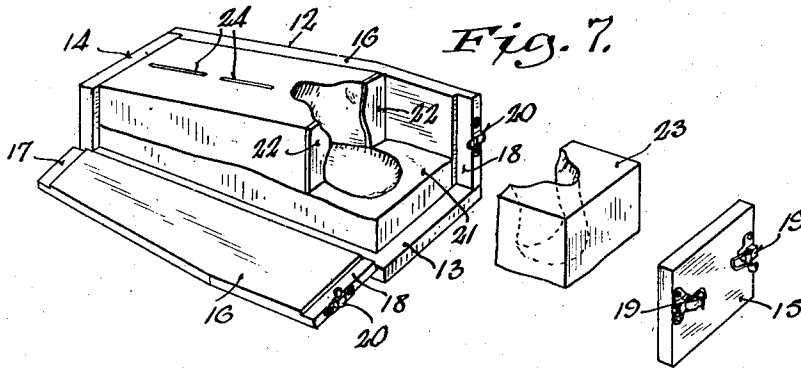
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A. A. PAGE

MEANS FOR AND METHOD OF MAKING PLASTER CASTS OF FEET

Filed Dec. 29, 1924

2 Sheets-Sheet 2



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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MEANS FOR AND METHOD OF MAKING PLASTER CASTS OF FEET.

Application filed December 29, 1924. Serial No. 758,656.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ARTHUR A. PAGE, a citizen of the United States, and resident of Racine, in the county of Racine and State of Wisconsin, have invented new and useful Improvements in Means for and Methods of Making Plaster Casts of Feet, of which the following is a description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which are a part of this specification.

This invention relates to improvements in the means for and method of making plaster casts of feet.

People with peculiarly shaped feet or persons having foot ailments often find it necessary to have shoes made to order to secure a perfect fit and a comfortable shoe; and shoe-makers who cater to a trade of this character and make shoes to order, find it very desirable to take an impression of the person's foot and make a cast therefrom in order that they may take measurements directly from the cast when making up the shoes.

It is, therefore, the principal object of the present invention to provide a very simple and effective device for and method of making plaster casts as above mentioned.

A further object of the invention is to provide a device for making casts of feet which permits the removal of a person's foot therefrom without disturbing the impression taken.

A further object of the invention is to provide a device of the class described in which the mold can be immediately removed after an impression has been taken, in order to take another impression.

A further object of the invention is to provide a device of the class described having a flat base, thereby making it very accessible for operating.

A further object of the invention is to provide a device and method of the class described in which the material forming the mold can be easily broken or separated without injury to the foot cast to remove the same intact, the mold being preferably formed in three sections and one section thereof being removable for lacquering.

A further object of the invention is to provide a means for and method of making plaster casts which is very simple, efficient and inexpensive.

With the above and other objects in view, the invention consists of the improved means for and method of making plaster casts of feet and its parts and combinations as set forth in the claims, and all equivalents thereof.

In the accompanying drawings in which the same reference characters indicate the same parts in all of the views:

Fig. 1 is a side view of the box wherein the impressions are made and casts formed;

Fig. 2 is a rear end view thereof;

Fig. 3 is a plan view thereof;

Fig. 4 is a view similar to Fig. 2 with the back removed and the sides partially lowered.

Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the device showing the first step in the process of taking an impression of a foot;

Fig. 6 is a perspective view showing the mold formed over a foot;

Fig. 7 is a perspective view showing the rear of the box removed, a side lowered, and the rear section of the mold removed in order that the foot can be withdrawn from the device;

Fig. 8 is a view similar to Fig. 7 only showing the parts replaced ready to have material poured thereinto to form a foot cast.

Fig. 9 is a longitudinal sectional view taken on line 9—9 of Fig. 10;

Fig. 10 is a cross sectional view taken on line 10—10 of Fig. 9; and

Fig. 11 is a view showing all of the mold sections removed and the completed cast of a foot.

Referring now more particularly to the drawings, it will be seen that the numeral 12 indicates a box-like structure formed with a flat base 13, a front 14, a removable back 15, and hingedly connected sides 16. The inner end portions of the sides are recessed as at 17 and 18 to receive the front and back and the sides are arranged to fold outwardly and downwardly as shown in Figs.

4 and 7. The back is provided with locking devices 19 to engage complementary locking members 20 formed on the rear ends of the sides to normally hold the back 15 in position, as shown in Figs. 1, 2 and 3. However, when the locking members are disengaged, the back may be entirely removed, as shown in Fig. 7.

When it is desired to take the impression of a person's foot, the box is closed up and the bottom of the box is filled with a layer of plastic material, preferably plaster of Paris, as indicated by the numeral 21. The foot is then greased or covered with a coating to prevent adhesion and pressed into the base layer 21, as shown in Fig. 5. A coating of some material to prevent the adhesion of the upper layer is spread upon the base layer. Divisions 22 of putty, clay or a similar material are then built up between the sides of the foot and the sides 16 of the box and when plastic material is again poured into the box to fill the same and cover the foot, said divisions 22 separate the rear portion 23 of the mold from the rest thereof. Metal plates 24 are pushed into the forward part of the mold to facilitate separation of the same when desired.

The next step in the preparation of a cast is shown in Fig. 7, and the back of the box 15 is removed and one side lowered. After this is done, the putty divisions 22 permit the separation of the back portion 23 of the mold and said back portion is removed entirely to permit the withdrawal of the person's foot.

At this stage, the interior of the mold can be readily lacquered and otherwise prepared for the formation of the foot cast and then the parts are re-assembled, as shown in Fig. 8. Plaster of Paris or a suitable plastic material is then poured into the lacquered mold and allowed to form therein, the shape of the mold being shown in Figs. 9 and 10. After the cast has hardened the back of the box is removed and the sides lowered as previously described. Then, the rear portion 23 of the mold is removed and the front portion of the mold can be separated into sections 25 and 26 and removed, the metal plates 24 permitting easy separation thereof. The completed cast of the foot, designated 27, can be then removed, and it will be found to be a true and accurate reproduction of the person's foot.

Obviously all of the sections forming the mold can be quickly removed from the box and the box can be prepared for taking another impression. Also, if several persons are waiting, an impression of one foot can be taken and the mold removed from the box and other impressions taken, the molds then being filled and cast at a subsequent time.

From the foregoing description it will be

seen that the improved means for and method of forming casts of feet is both simple and novel and is well adapted for the purpose set forth.

What I claim as my invention is:

1. A device for making a cast of a foot, consisting of a box arranged to receive plastic material, said box having a removable back, locking members for removably securing said back, and hinged sides whereby formed plastic material within the box may be entirely removed or in part removed, and means insertable vertically and transversely in and between said plastic material to permit easy separation of the same when formed into sections.

2. In a device for forming casts of feet, a box having a flat base, sides hinged thereto, a front and a removable rear, locking members for removably securing said rear portion, a layer of unformed plastic material covering said base and adapted to have a foot pressed thereinto, parting material vertically and transversely disposed between portions of the box and a foot positioned therein, and unformed plastic material filling said box above said lower layer and covering a foot, said last mentioned plastic material being separably divided by said parting material, and plates in the forward part of the mold to facilitate the separation of said mold.

3. The method of forming casts of feet which consists of providing a box-like device having a removable portion, filling the bottom of the device with a layer of plastic material, pressing a foot into said plastic material, separating portions of the last mentioned plastic material by vertically and transversely disposed dividing means, covering the foot with plastic material and then allowing the same to form, removing the removable portion of the device and a portion of the formed mold thereadjacent, withdrawing the foot from the box and mold through the opening thus provided, replacing the removed portions of the mold and box, pouring plastic material into the mold, and then permitting the last-mentioned material to form.

4. The method of forming casts of feet which consists of providing a box-like device having a detachable rear, filling the bottom of the device with a layer of plastic material, pressing a foot into said plastic material, covering the foot with plastic material, separating portions of the last-mentioned plastic material by vertically and transversely disposed dividing means, inserting plates in the forward part of said plastic material, allowing all of the plastic material to form, removing the detachable rear of the box-like structure, removing a portion of the mold thereadjacent and from the dividing means, withdrawing the foot

rearwardly from the box and mold through the opening thus provided, applying an adhesive preventative to the interior of the mold, replacing the removed portions of the mold and box, pouring plastic material into the mold and permitting the same to set, and then separating the mold at the divisions formed by the dividing means and by the aforementioned plates and removing the completed cast of a foot. 10

In testimony whereof, I affix my signature.

ARTHUR A. PAGE.