Nov. 13, 1928. 1,691,440

H. E. HODGSON

FOOT CAP

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Fig. 1.

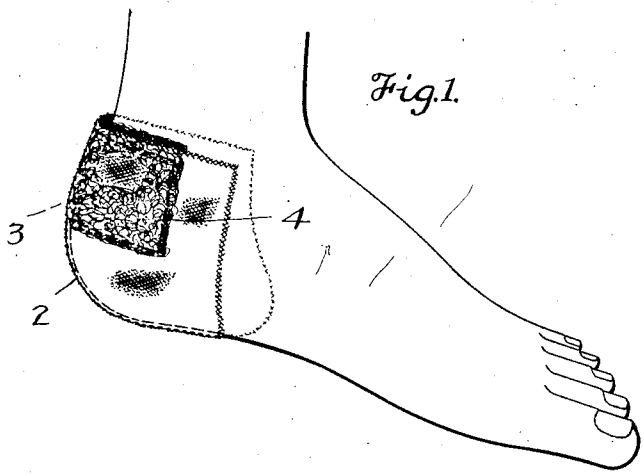


Fig. 2.

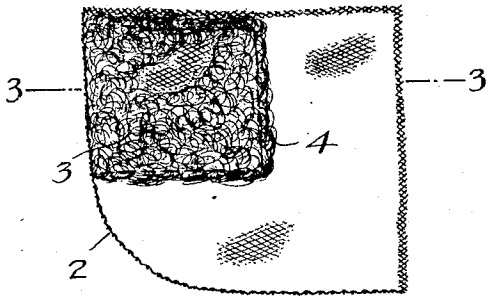


Fig. 3.

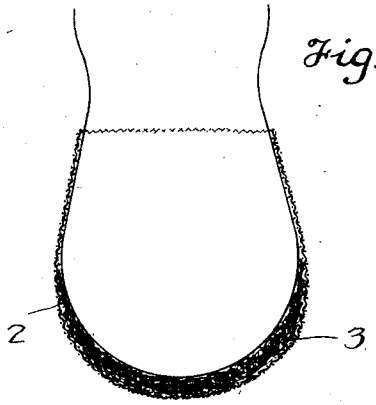


Fig. 4.

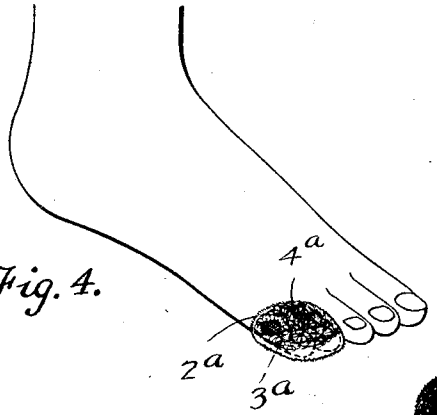


Fig. 6.

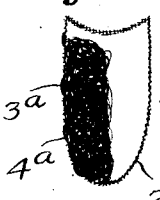


Fig. 5.

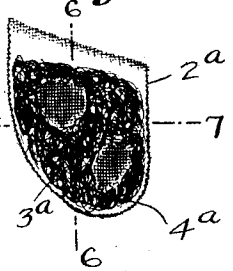
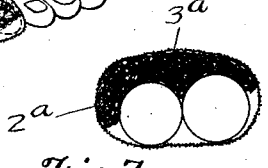


Fig. 7.



INVENTOR

Harriette E. Hodgson

BY

ATTORNEY

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Fig. 8.

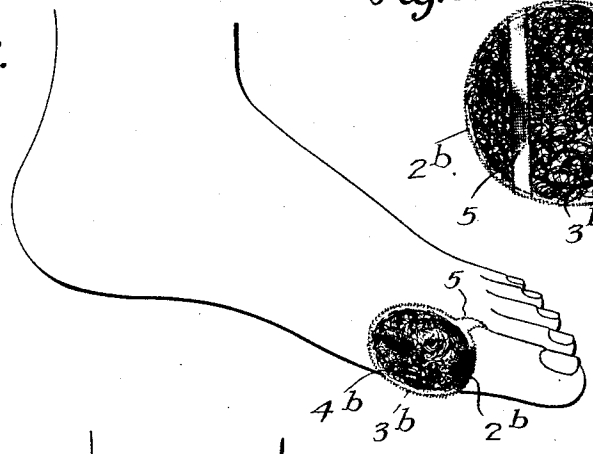


Fig. 9.

Fig. 10.



Fig. 11.

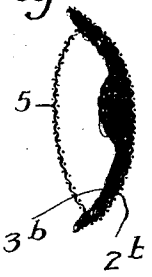


Fig. 12.

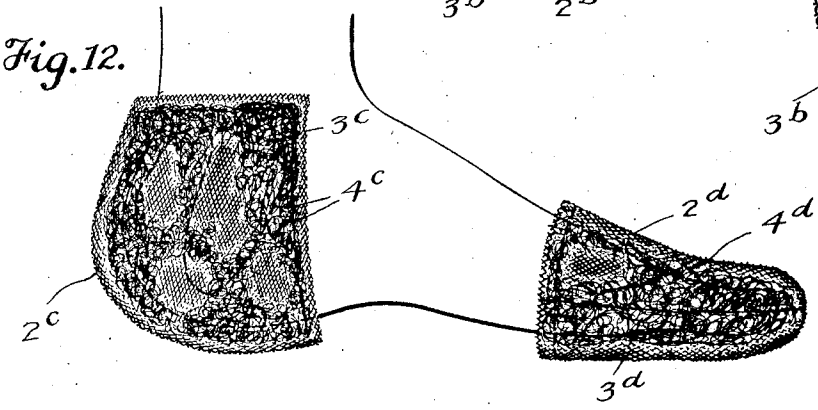


Fig. 13.

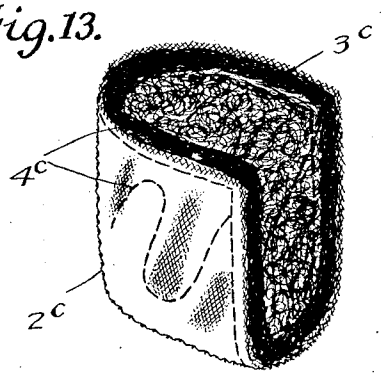
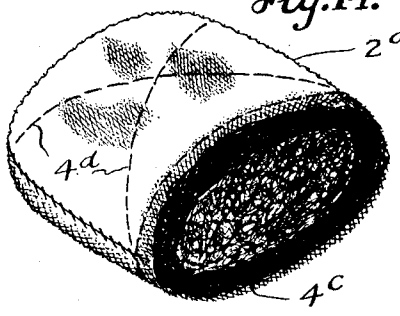


Fig. 14.



INVENTOR
Harriette E. Hodgson
BY
ATTORNEY

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HARRIETTE ENSLEY HODGSON, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

FOOT CAP.

Application filed June 2, 1925 Serial No. 34,291.

The object of this invention is to provide an effective, inexpensive and readily washable type of device, to be worn beneath the stocking, for the relief, treatment and prevention of foot troubles. Some of the particular purposes of the foot caps herein described and claimed are to save the suffering which is caused by such ills, to safeguard the feet from blemishes, as can easily be done with children if their feet are protected in time, to assist in breaking in new shoes, to prevent or correct peculiarities in one's walk caused by foot discomfort, to relieve pressure upon sore places, and to assist materially in the treatment of such complaints as gout, sciatica, chilblains, ingrowing nails, bunions, corns and callouses. The foot caps of my invention embody a loose, plastic pad of fine, soft, elastic lamb's wool fibres, light in weight and delicate to the skin, yet an active protection and having a peculiarly soothing property in cases of pain and inflammation. The pad is loosely stitched to a thin back of sheer or fine net material suitably formed for the particular application for which the cap is designed; the whole can be washed; and the pad is not only preferably plastic so as to be self-conforming to the foot, but is so constituted as to be manipulatable so as to thin or thicken the pad at a given point, or to shift or distribute the fibres, in order to secure the best effect.

In the accompanying drawings illustrating several forms of the invention:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a form of the device applying the pad to the back of a foot, this embodiment of the invention being suitable for chilblain conditions or for any condition in which the back or heel portion of the foot is affected;

Fig. 2 is a side view of this form of the device;

Fig. 3 is a sectional view, taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2, illustrating the cap as if conformed to the foot;

Fig. 4 is a perspective view of another form of the invention upon the last two toes of the foot;

Fig. 5 is a plan view of this cap;

Fig. 6 is a section on the line 6—6 of Fig. 5;

Fig. 7 is a cross-sectional view taken on the line 7—7 of Fig. 5, indicating the relation of the cap to the toes;

Fig. 8 is a perspective view of another form of the invention applied to the first joint;

Fig. 9 is a view looking on the inside of this form;

Fig. 10 is a cross-section of the same form;

Fig. 11 is a similar view showing how the pad may be adjusted by pulling the fibres;

Fig. 12 is a side view of two other forms of the caps upon the heel and toe portions of a foot, these forms being suitable for gouty or sciatic conditions, among others;

Fig. 13 is a perspective view of the heel cap shown in Fig. 12; and

Fig. 14 is a perspective view of the toe cap of the same view.

The cap shown in Figs. 1–3 has a back 2, preferably of a material such as fine silk or cotton net, shaped to receive the back, sides and bottom of the heel portion of the foot, and to hold the pad 3, on its inner side, in contact with the upper rear and lateral portions of the foot. The pad 3 is composed of the lamb's-wool fibres, loosely matted, springy, and capable of being picked and pulled by the fingers, to open the pad in varying degree or to shift the thickness. The pad is preferably secured to the back by stitching 4 around the outer part of the padded area.

This form, as previously stated, is especially advantageous for cases of chilblain. It, or similar forms, may also be used for other conditions of chafing, inflammation or strain in the heel region.

The small cap of Figs. 4–7 is applicable to the little toe and the adjoining toe, which are particularly susceptible to corns and to malformations resulting from the wearing of shoes. The back 2^a in this instance may be of chiffon, or of sheer Japanese or China silk, and is in the form of a pocket, open at one end and of such size as to slip over the two toes. The pad 3^a is attached by a few stitches 4^a to the under side of the top of the pocket, coming down somewhat on the side as seen in Fig. 7.

The cap of Figs. 8 to 11 is designed for the top and outer side of the first joint, at the base of the great toe, and is of a more or less circular or elliptical shape. The pad 3^b of the loose lamb's-wool fibres is fastened to the under side of the back 2^b of the chiffon or like material, by circular stitching 4^b; and the manner in which the pad can be adjusted by pulling and shifting the fibres is illus-

trated in Figs. 10 and 11. This cap is conveniently held in place by a loop 5 sewed at its ends to the forward edges of the back 2^b, to encircle the toe.

Figs. 12, 13 and 14 show toe and heel caps for use in gouty or sciatic conditions, though their application is not necessarily limited to these. The heel cap of Figs. 12 and 13 is similar to that of Figs. 1–3, except that the pad 3^c, which is of the same character as those already described, covers the whole interior of the back 2^c. The stitching 4^c sufficiently secures the pad to the back while leaving the mass of the fibres free. The toe cap shown in Figs. 12 and 14 is similar, being shaped, however, as a flat pocket to receive all the toes; the back, pad and stitching are marked 2^d, 3^d and 4^d, respectively.

These forms sufficiently illustrate the invention, and still other forms having similar characteristics need not be described.

The thin fabric backs may be of single or double thickness, it being desirable to use a double thickness under the foot where the wear is greater.

What I claim as new is:

A bandage comprising a body portion of soft flexible material shaped to fit the outlines of portions of the human foot, and a pad affixed to the inner side of such material by edge stitching following the outline of the pad, said pad being formed of lamb's wool or the like with the fibers within the stitched line relatively free to permit such fibers to be bunched or thinned at different areas for bandage purposes.

HARRIETTE ENSLEY HODGSON.