

B. H. BLOCKSOM,
 GAME BALL AND METHOD OF MAKING SAME.
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1,277,368.

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Fig. 2

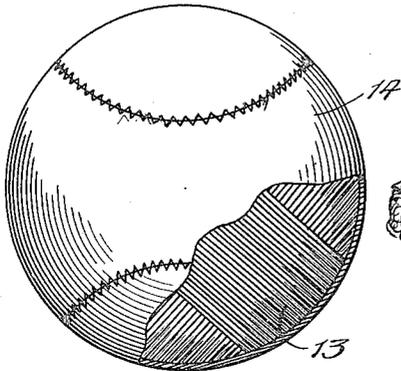


Fig. 1

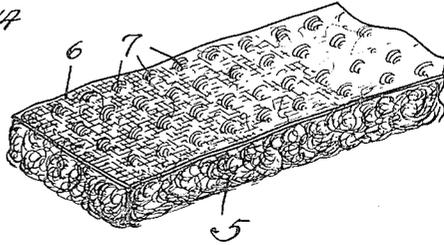


Fig. 3

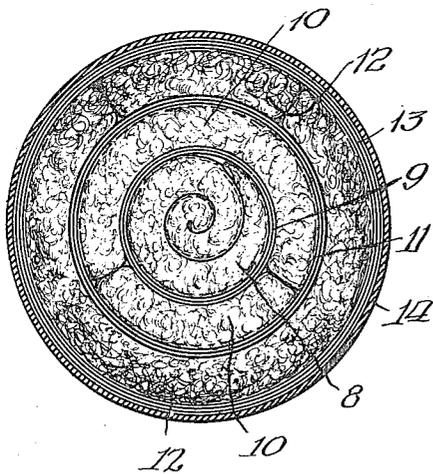


Fig. 4

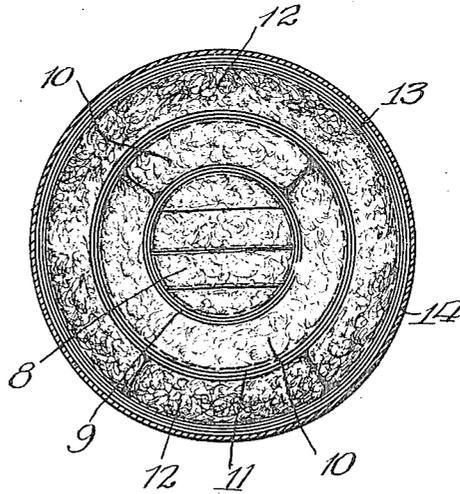
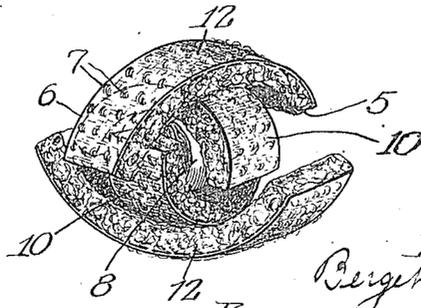


Fig. 5



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GAME-BALL AND METHOD OF MAKING SAME.

1,277,368.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, BERGET H. BLOCKSOM, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Game-Balls and Methods of Making Same, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to indoor base-balls and the like and the method of making same and it has for its object the inexpensive production of a ball which embodies the desirable features of softness, resiliency and retention of shape in use.

Further objects and advantages of my invention will be apparent as it is better understood by reference to the following specification when read in connection with the accompanying drawing, illustrating the preferred embodiment thereof, in which—

Figure 1 is a view in perspective of the material from which the ball is constructed;

Fig. 2 is an elevation of the ball with a portion of the cover broken away;

Fig. 3 is a transverse section through the ball;

Fig. 4 is a similar view in a plane at right angles to the plane of Fig. 3, and

Fig. 5 is a view in perspective illustrating the method of constructing the ball.

In carrying out my invention I employ strips of material cut from reinforced curled hair bats. These bats are formed by arranging a layer 5 of hair with a reinforcing fabric 6, such for example as burlap, on one side thereof and forcing portions 7 of the hair through the interstices of the burlap as indicated in Fig. 1, so that the burlap is firmly secured to one face of the bat and serves to reinforce it and maintain it in its finished form.

As indicated in Fig. 3 the innermost strip 8 is folded upon itself until it is generally cylindrical in shape. It is then wound with string or twine 9 by which it is drawn into a generally spherical form. This constitutes the core of the ball.

Two strips 10 of material cut from similar hair bats are then wrapped about the core in opposite directions, the direction of one of the strips being at right angles to the direction of winding of the strip 8. A layer 11 of string or twine is then wound about the strips 10 giving the ball a somewhat more spherical form than was possible in

shaping the core. Two additional strips 12 of material cut from hair bats are then disposed about the ball in directions corresponding to the direction of winding of the strips 10 after which a winding 13 of string or twine is disposed about the ball to bring it to its final spherical form. The ball is now complete except for the cover 14 which is disposed about the ball and stitched in the manner well known in the art.

A ball constructed in the manner described will be found to be extremely resilient, yet sufficiently soft for the desired purpose and will retain its shape in use for a considerable period. The ball may be constructed in the manner described at a relatively small expense as compared to methods heretofore in use.

It will be readily understood, therefore, that I have perfected improvements in indoor base-balls and the like and in a method of making the same whereby I am enabled to produce a superior ball having numerous desirable features at a comparatively slight cost.

It will be apparent that various changes may be made in the form, construction and arrangement of the parts without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention or sacrificing any of its material advantages, the form hereinbefore disclosed being merely a preferred embodiment thereof.

I claim:

1. In a game ball, a body constructed of strips of reinforced curled hair shaped and confined to substantially spherical form.

2. In a game ball, a body comprising a core, and strips of curled hair arranged about said core angularly with relation to each other and shaped and maintained in substantially spherical form.

3. In a game ball, a body comprising a core, and strips of curled hair arranged about said core in directions substantially at right angles to each other so that the ends of each strip abut the sides of the contiguous strip, said strips being confined and maintained in substantially spherical form.

4. In a game ball, a body comprising a plurality of layers of reinforced curled hair and a winding of twine overlying each layer to compress the hair and retain the substantially spherical shape of the ball.

5. In a game ball, a body comprising a core of reinforced curled hair, alternate lay-

ers of twine and reinforced curled hair arranged about said core and a cover inclosing said body.

5 6. In a game ball, a body comprising a core of reinforced curled hair, alternate layers of twine and reinforced curled hair strips arranged about said core, the strips comprising the alternate layers being wound in directions at right angles to each other
10 and shaped to substantially spherical form by said layers of twine.

15 7. In a game ball, a body comprising a core of reinforced curled hair, alternate layers of twine and reinforced curled hair strips arranged about said core, the strips comprising the alternate layers being wound in directions at right angles to each other and shaped to substantially spherical form
20 by said layers of twine, and a cover inclosing said body.

8. A method of making game balls which comprises forming a core, winding strips of reinforced curled hair thereabout in directions at right angles to each other, so that the ends of each strip about the sides of the contiguous strip and confining said strips by winding with twine. 25

9. A method of making game balls which comprises forming a core, by rolling a strip of reinforced curled hair and winding said core with twine, winding strips of reinforced curled hair about said core in directions at right angles so that the ends of each strip about the sides of the contiguous strip and confining said strips by winding with twine. 30 35

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Witnesses:

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