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GOLF ACCESSORY

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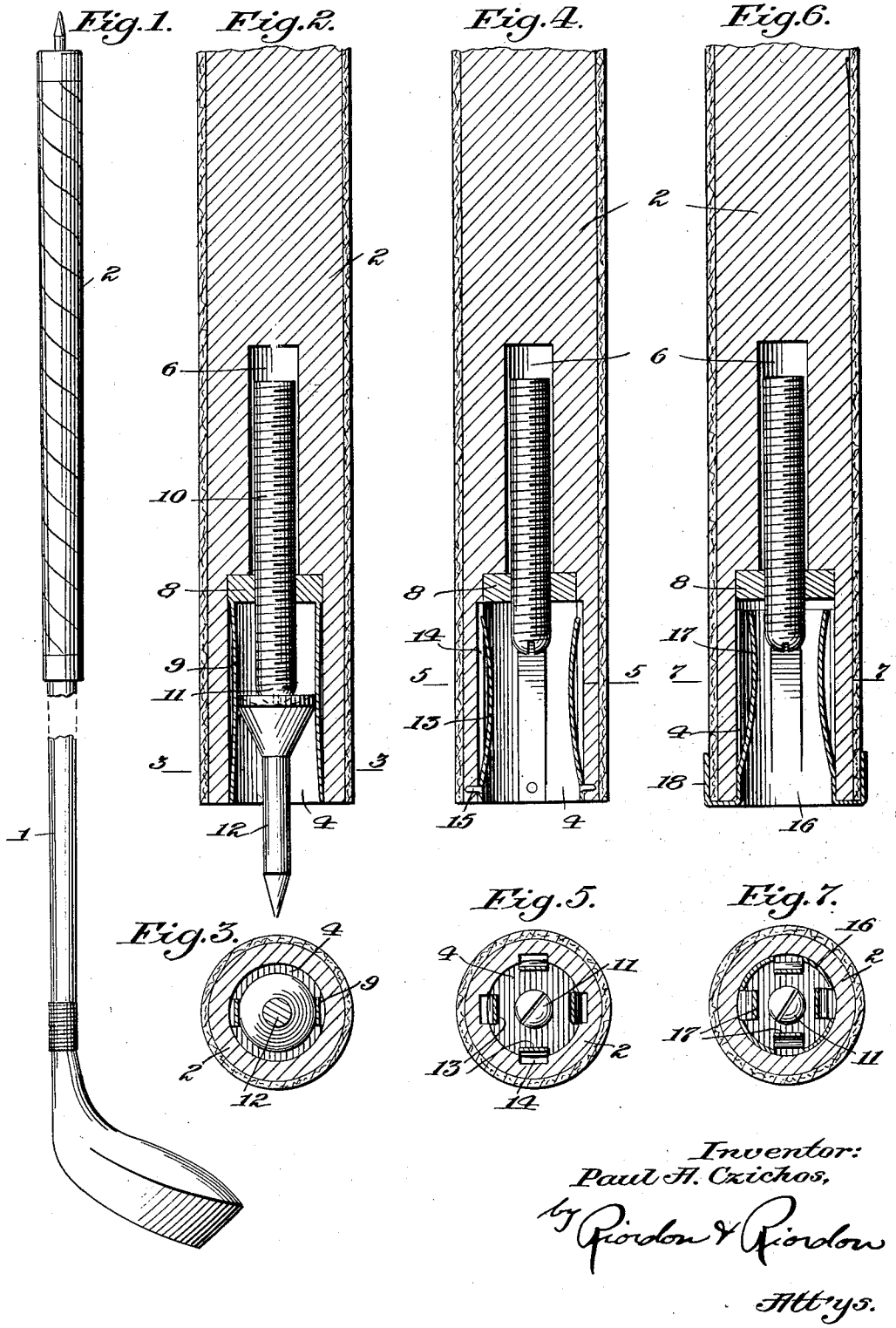

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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GOLF ACCESSORY.

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This invention relates to golf accessories, the principal object being to provide a device for placing tees in proper position in the ground, the device being especially adapted for use in connection with the small wooden tee now in general use.

It is well known that in the use of tees to which this invention is adapted that it is necessary for the player to stoop and push the tee into the ground by hand and that it is almost impossible to obtain a uniform height from time to time, inasmuch as conditions of the turf will vary and the tee is sometimes pushed further into the ground than is necessary or not far enough, with the result that a "topped shot" or extremely high drive will result.

Accordingly, an object of this invention is to insure the tee being placed in position at the same elevation regardless of the condition of the ground.

Still another object of this invention is to provide a device adapted to accommodate any style of tee now on the market and specifically to accommodate the small type of wooden tee usually built in the form of a cone or a flat headed wooden pin.

A further object of this invention is to provide a device which may be conveniently built into or attached to the grip of a golf club, or which may be built into a special shaft for the purpose and accordingly which may be carried in the bag with other clubs and be always available.

A still further object of my invention is to provide a structure which will not mar the appearance of the club or affect the balance thereof.

With the foregoing and other objects in view which will appear as the description proceeds, the invention resides in the combination and arrangement of parts and in the details of construction hereinafter described and claimed, it being understood that changes in the precise embodiment of the invention herein disclosed may be made without departing from the scope of what is claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, the preferred form of the invention has been shown.

In the drawings:—

Fig. 1 is a view of a golf club having the present improvement combined therewith.

Fig. 2 is an enlarged central longitudinal section through an inverted portion of the grip or handle of the club showing a recess with the device inserted;

Fig. 3 is a cross sectional view on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2;

Fig. 4 is a view similar to Fig. 2, showing a modified form of the device;

Fig. 5 is a cross sectional view on the line 5—5 of Fig. 4;

Fig. 6 is a view similar to Fig. 2 showing still another form of the invention; and

Fig. 7 is a cross section on the line 7—7 of Fig. 6.

Referring to the figures by reference numerals, 1 designates a golf club of any type, preferably the driver, having a grip or handle portion 2 which is internally bored as at 4, as shown in Fig. 2, and this boring is continued with a reduced diameter at 6. A washer 8 having bow springs 9 attached thereto is inserted in the bore 4, the bore being of such a depth as to bring the ends of the springs flush with the end of the club shaft. Threaded into the washer is a screw 10 which extends into the reduced bore 6, said bore being of a depth to accommodate the screw substantially its full length.

In the use of the device the screw 10 is adjusted in the washer 8 to a position leaving a space from the head of the screw 11 to the end of the grip 2, which will be equal to the height of a tee 12 when same is inserted in the ground. The tee 12 is placed between the springs 9 and retained therein by a light frictional engagement, the screw serving to limit inward movement of the tee.

To place the tee in the ground all that is necessary is to invert the golf club and then press the point of the tee firmly into the ground, until the shaft touches the surface. The frictional engagement of the ground with the tee is sufficient to overcome the frictional engagement of the spring with the tee head and accordingly upon removal of the club the tee remains in the ground at the desired height. The end of the shaft will, of course, serve as a stop to limit the depth to which the tee is forced.

Normal adjustment of the screw in the washer will obviously serve to vary the height of the tee.

It will be noted that the head 11 of the screw engages the tee centrally thereof so that the push necessary to place the tee is transmitted directly through the stem of the

tee and danger of chipping or breaking is consequently obviated. This head 11 is furthermore rounded so that it is admirably adapted for any type of tee whether they be of the cone shaped type having a hollowed out end, or a rubber capped tee, or a tee of the type shown in the drawings.

Various modifications of the form of device may be had within the scope of this invention, one of such forms being shown in Figs. 4 and 5.

This form differs from the form of Fig. 2 in that the springs 13 which are used, are not attached to the washer 8 but are individually pinned to the internal face of the bore 4 which bore is recessed at 14 to accommodate the springs. Being recessed there is no possibility of the tee striking the pins 15 by means of which the springs 13 are held in place, as the club handle is withdrawn from the tee.

In this form four springs are utilized, rather than two, although obviously any suitable numbers of springs may be used.

The form of invention shown in Figs. 6 and 7 is well suited to that type of club having a metal grip at the upper extremity to hold the customary leather grip in place and comprises a bushing 16 having struck-out tongues 17 which function as springs. The bushing has a turned down flange 18 over the end of the club handle which serves to engage the leather grip and prevent same from unwrapping.

In this form also the washer 8 is separate from the tee engaging springs.

Various changes may, of course, be made in the device without affecting the scope of this invention, for example, the bore 6 might be internally threaded for engagement with the threads on the screw 10 in lieu of the washer 8, and various types of springs, such as leaf spring having a taper from the exterior of the club to the interior of the bore thereof might be used in place of the leaf or bow spring illustrated.

It will be noted that the weight of the device inserted in the golf club is substantially equal to the wood removed by boring or drilling and consequently the "balance" of the club will be in nowise affected.

While in the preferred form, this device would be formed in the driver, it is obvious that it could be formed in a separate shaft having no club head at all but which would be used only for the purpose of placing tees in the ground.

In fact the device could readily take the form of an attachment which could be made and sold separately of any club, to be mounted externally, on the end of a shaft, for use when desired, any suitable means of attachment being utilized.

What I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States is:—

1. A golf tee positioning device, comprising a holder, a height adjuster and a pusher.

2. A golf tee positioning device comprising a carrier, and means attached thereto for locating the tee at a proper elevation in the ground.

3. A golf tee positioning device comprising a tee engaging member, and means coacting therewith for locating the tee at a desired elevation in the ground.

4. A golf tee positioning device comprising means for holding a tee, means for predetermining the elevation of the tee, and means for positioning the tee in the ground.

5. A device for placing tees in the ground at a predetermined elevation, comprising a tee holder, a ground engaging shoulder, and means to vary the position of the tee in the holder.

6. A golf tee positioning device comprising a carrier adapted to force the tee into the ground, and having a ground engaging portion, and means to removably hold a tee in said carrier.

7. A golf tee positioning device comprising a tee engaging member and adjustable means coacting therewith for properly locating the tee.

8. A golf tee positioning device comprising a carrier adapted to force the tee a predetermined depth into the ground and having a ground engaging portion, means to removably retain a tee in said carrier, and means to vary said predetermined depth.

9. An attachment for golf clubs comprising a member adapted to engage a tee, and means to position said tee a predetermined depth into the ground.

10. An attachment for golf clubs comprising a member adapted to engage and yieldingly hold a tee, and means to force said tee into the ground.

11. A golf tee positioning device comprising a shaft having an internal bore extending into one end thereof, spring means therein for yieldingly holding a tee in said bore, threaded means in said bore centrally thereof for adjustably locating the tee with respect to said spring means, said spring means being adapted to permit a projection of the tee from said bore, whereby the projecting portion thereof may be pushed into the ground, and means comprising a shoulder on the shaft to limit the amount of push.

12. A golf tee positioning device comprising a shaft having an internal bore extending into one end thereof and having a second bore of smaller diameter than said first bore, forming an internal continuation of said first bore, spring means in said first bore for yieldingly holding a tee, a threaded washer in said first bore, a member threaded

in said washer and extending from said first bore into said second bore for adjustably locating the tee with respect to said spring means, said member serving to determine the depth to which said tee may be pushed into the ground.

13. A golf tee positioning device comprising a shaft having an internal bore extending into one end thereof spring means attached to said shaft and extending into said bore and adapted to yieldingly retain a tee in said bore, and means in said bore for adjustably locating the tee with respect to said spring means.

14. A golf tee positioning device comprising a shaft having an internal bore extending into one end thereof, a bushing extending into said bore, said bushing having a flanged extension projecting outwardly and over the end of said shaft, and having springs formed thereon and extending inwardly of said bore for yieldingly engaging a tee and threaded means in said bore for adjustably locating the tee with respect to said spring means.

15. In a device for placing golf tees, the combination of a shaft having a bore in one end thereof and adapted to receive a tee, means in said bore adapted to engage and retain said tee, and means adapted to limit insertion of said tee in the bore.

16. The combination with a golf club having a bore extending into one end thereof and adapted to receive a tee, of means to yieldingly retain said tee in said bore.

17. The combination with a golf club having a bore extending into one end thereof and adapted to receive a tee, of means to yieldingly retain said tee in said bore, and means to limit the insertion of the tee in said bore.

18. The combination with a golf club having a bore extending into one end thereof and adapted to receive a tee, of means to yieldingly retain said tee in said bore and variable means to limit the insertion of the tee in said bore.

19. The combination with a golf club shaft having a protective grip, and a bore extending into one end of the shaft adapted to receive a tee, of a bushing engaging said grip to retain same in position, said bushing projecting inwardly of said bore and serving to yieldingly retain a tee in said bore, and means to limit the insertion of the tee in the bore.

20. In a golf tee positioning device, comprising a shaft having a protective grip therearound and a bore extending into one end thereof, the combination with a cap having a flange extending over said grip and a spring element extending into said bore, said spring element being adapted to receive and retain a tee, and adjustable screw threaded means in said bore serving to limit the insertion of said tee therein.

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my signature.

PAUL A. CZICHOS.