M. B. REACH.

GOLF CLUB.

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1,433,150.

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Fig. 1.

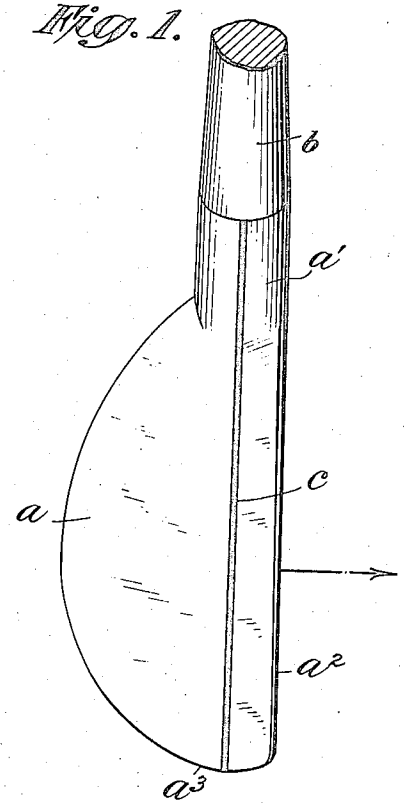
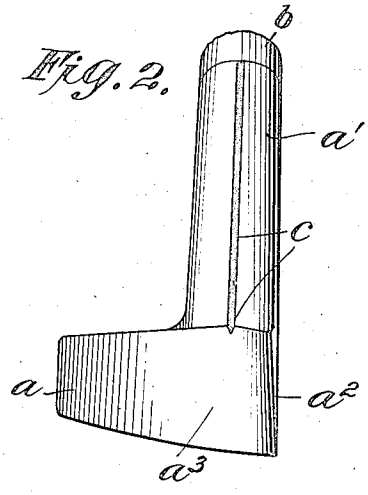


Fig. 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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GOLF CLUB.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MILTON B. REACH, a citizen of the United States, residing in the city of Springfield, in the State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Golf Clubs, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part hereof.

This invention relates to golf clubs and particularly to putters.

The appeal of a putter is made through its accuracy and its "feel." Accuracy is conduced in the inherent structure of the club by making the face as long as possible so that it may more readily be squared with the line of play. On the other hand, there is a well defined limitation imposed on this length by the necessity of giving a certain compactness to the head in order that the proper "feel" and balance may be insured. Efforts have been made in known putters to facilitate the sighting of the face with respect to the line of play by bringing the face line into bolder relief so that it might hold the eye more readily. This expedient does not actually better the conditions of playing since the line for squaring remains definitely limited by the size of the head. It is the principal object of the present invention to provide in the head of a golf club designed primarily for putting, a sight line which shall be of materially greater length than the face of the club and of materially greater length actually and as viewed by the player, than the head of the club, which sighting line shall not only improve the accuracy of play without disturbing the proper "feel" and balance but shall also, in the preferred embodiment, serve an important function in the manufacture of the club by serving as an index line with which the club face is later formed parallel. In accordance with the invention it is proposed to provide in the head of the club a well defined sight line, either as a groove, rib or insert extending from the toe of the head to the top of the hosel. In its most effective embodiment the sight line will extend down the center of the hosel (as viewed from above) and across the top of the head at a little distance to the rear of, but parallel to the club face. This line, as viewed from above, presents a very substantial length to the eye and thereby facilitates the squaring of the club face to the line of play.

Features of the invention which have to do with details found in the preferred embodiment will be pointed out more particularly hereinafter. In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a view in plan of the head of a club formed with a grooved sight line.

Figure 2 is a view in elevation of the head shown in Figure 1 looking from the toe towards the hosel.

The over-all length of the putter a is limited by considerations of balance and "feel", it being necessary to give this head a kind of compactness to insure these necessary characteristics. Extending up from the head a but inclined with respect thereto is a hosel a' in which is fastened the club shaft b. The face a^2 of the head is intended to be squared off with respect to the line of play but, ordinarily, is not of as great length as the head a. Since the accuracy of play depends upon the squaring of the face a^2 with the line of flight, as indicated by the arrow, efforts have been made to bring out the face line in bold relief so as to keep it well impressed on the consciousness of the player. But even this expediency does not actually make for greater accuracy since it makes it no easier to square the face with the line of play. This can be done only by increasing the length of the sighting line. The present invention provides a means for doing this by embodying in the club head the sighting line c which extends from the toe a^3 to the top of the hosel a'. Since the hosel a' is inclined backwardly from the club head the sighting line c is visible throughout its length and for a distance substantially longer than that which it traverses across the club head proper. The invention is not to be limited to the exact location of this sighting line c with respect to the circumference of the hosel a' but in the preferred form of the invention it will appear on the center line of the hosel as viewed from above. This location will bring the line a little distance to the rear of the face a^2. Further, the invention is not to be limited to the precise means forming this line c although in the preferred embodiment it will be cast as a groove. If desired, it might be cast as a rib or might be made up as an insert. In any event its effect is to present to the eye a sighting line of

relatively great length thereby facilitating the squaring of the face of the line of play. A second and important function performed by the sighting line, especially when cast in the head, is that it serves as an index line to which the face must be formed parallel. Such a guide for a workman is of importance in manufacture and insures accuracy in the finishing of the face.

I claim as my invention:

1. A club head having a hosel and a sighting line parallel to the face and extending lengthwise of the head and along the hosel.

2. A club head having a hosel and a sighting line parallel to the face and extending lengthwise of the head and along the hosel from the toe of the head to the top of the hosel.

3. A club head having a hosel and a sighting line parallel to the face, extending lengthwise of the club and along the center of the hosel and formed as a groove cast in the head and the hosel.

This specification signed this 8th day of February A. D. 1922.

MILTON B. REACH.