May 5, 1925. 1,536,976

A. SAGL

GOLF APPARATUS

Filed April 7, 1924

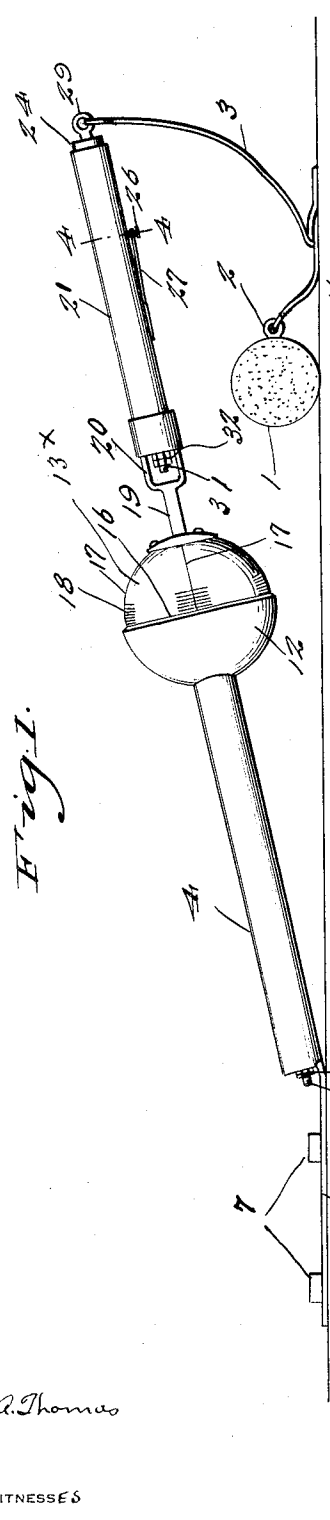

Fig. 1.

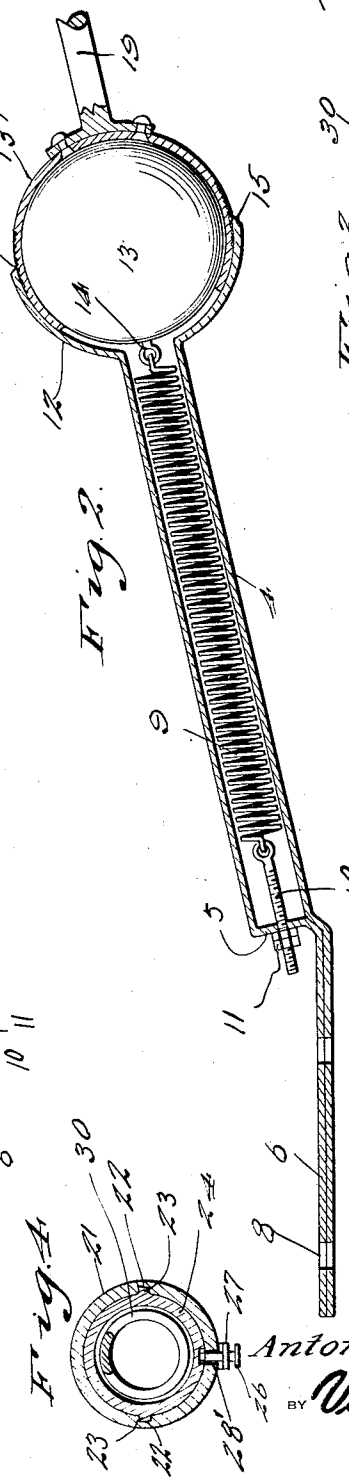

Fig. 2.

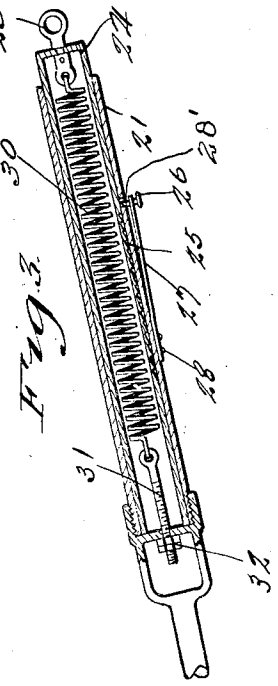

Fig. 3.

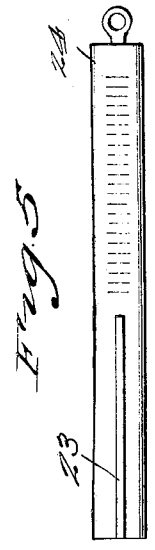

Fig. 5.

Fig. 4.

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WITNESSES

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Patented May 5, 1925. 1,536,976

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ANTON SAGL, OF ADAMS, NEBRASKA.

GOLF APPARATUS.

Application filed April 7, 1924. Serial No. 704,846.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ANTON SAGL, a citizen of the United States, residing at Adams, in the county of Gage and State of Nebraska, have invented new and useful Improvements in Golf Apparatus, of which the following is a specification.

My present invention pertains to the game of golf and contemplates the provision of an apparatus calculated to enable a person or persons to play a game of golf on a small lawn or in a yard of a small area, the apparatus being so characterized as to gauge or indicate the distance to which the golf ball is presumably driven, and being also so characterized as to indicate the correctness of the drive in respect to the height at which the golf ball is presumably driven above the surface of the ground.

Other practical advantages of the invention will be fully understood from the following description and claims when the same are read in connection with the drawings, accompanying and forming part of this specification, in which:—

Figure 1 is a side elevation illustrative of the apparatus constituting the preferred embodiment of my invention.

Figure 2 is an enlarged longitudinal section of the rear portion of the apparatus.

Figure 3 is a similar view taken through the forward portion of the apparatus.

Figure 4 is an enlarged transverse section taken in the plane indicated by the line 4—4 of Figure 1 and showing the relative arrangement of the telescopically disposed members, the coiled spring and the detent.

Figure 5 is a side elevation of the inner portion of the said telescopically arranged members.

Similar numerals of reference designate corresponding parts in all of the views of the drawings.

Among other elements my novel apparatus comprises a golf ball 1 equipped with an eye 2 for the connection of a slight cable 3 which is preferably about three feet in length.

The apparatus also comprises a tubular body 4 adapted to be arranged at about the angle of inclination shown in Figure 1 to the ground and closed at its rear end 5 and provided with an apertured tail member 6 adapted to be arranged flat on the ground as illustrated in Figure 1 and to be affixed to the ground through the medium of stakes 7 driven through the apertures which are designated by 8 in Figure 2.

In the tubular body 4 is arranged a coiled retractile spring 9 the heel end of which is connected to a threaded rod 10, passed through the closed end 5 of the tubular body and equipped with nuts 11 for adjustably fixing the rod 10 in position.

Manifestly by adjusting and adjustably fixing the rod 10 relative to the tubular body 4 the tension of the spring 9 may be regulated as occasion demands.

The forward end of the tubular body 4 merges into a cup 12 shaped to hold exactly one-half of a steel ball 13 which may be hollow or solid in the discretion of the manufacturer, the said ball 13 being provided with an eye 14 for the connection of the forward end of the spring 9. As illustrated the edge 15 of the cup 12 is of a dull knife edge type. While, I show the eye 14 on the ball 13 as directly connected to the forward end of the spring 9 it is manifestly within the purview of my invention to interpose a short base of stout cord between the eye 14 and the forward end of the spring 9.

In accordance with my invention the ball 13 is arranged in a spherical cup 13^{x} which is snugly arranged between the ball 13 and the cap 12, and has a distinct circumference line, and also has other lines intersecting the first-named line at right angles, the said lines being designated by 16 and 17, respectively, and adapted to bear the same relation to the cup 13^{x} as the equator and meridian lines bear to the earth. It will also be noticed that the juncture of the meridian lines 17 and the equator line 16 will represent zero. Along the meridian lines 17 and at each side of the equator line 16 are scale lines 18 which may be appropriately marked in the discretion of the manufacturer. The said scale lines are designed to indicate any deviation of the golf ball 1 to either side from a straight line.

The cup 13^{x} is frictionally held under yielding pressure between the ball 13 and the cup 12 and fixed to and extending forwardly from the cup 13^{x} is a stem 19 the forward portion of which is bifurcated as designated by 20 and is fixedly connected to a tubular member 21 that is open at its forward end. It will also be noticed that the said member 21 is provided with interior longitudinal grooves 22 to receive longitudinal fins 23 on a tubular member 24 that is

telescopically arranged in the member 21 and is closed at its forward end and open at its rear end, Figure 3. As clearly shown in Figures 3 and 4 the member 24 is provided with a longitudinal series of beveled teeth 25 which constitute a rack for cooperation with a detent 26 carried by a spring strip 27, connected at 28 to the outer side of the tubular member 21. The tendency of the spring trip 27 is to force the detent 26 inwardly through an aperture 28' in the outer member 21 so that the said detent 26 by cooperation with the teeth 25 can detachably hold the member 24 in the extended position to which it is moved by movement of the golf ball 1, the before mentioned cord or cable 3 being connected to an eye 29 appropriately connected to the forward end of the member 24. The tubular member 24 is moved forwardly against the action of a retractile spring 30, and it will be readily understood that when desired an appropriate scale may be associated with the rack 25 and detent 26 so that the whole will constitute a distance gauge—i. e., a gauge indicating the distance to which the golf ball 1 is presumably driven by a blow of a golf club against the same. At its rear end the spring 30 is connected to a threaded rod 31 that extends loosely through the rear end of the tubular member 21 and is equipped with nuts 32 for the regulation of the tension of the coiled spring 30 as occasion demands.

In the practical use of my novel apparatus as described it will be understood that it is the province of a player practicing or playing in a contest with an opponent to strike the ball 1 with the golf club in the same manner that a golf ball is struck incident to the conventional playing of a game of golf. When the ball is struck as stated, the distance to which the ball is presumably driven will be indicated by the graduations on the member 24, Figure 5, in cooperation with the forward end of the body 21, while the correctness of the blow against the golf ball 1 so far as the height to which the golf ball is driven is concerned will be indicated by the cup 13^x in cooperation with the cup 12, it being understood in this connection that because of the frictional contact before referred to, the cup 13^x will retain the position to which it is moved relative to the cup 12 until stress is applied to the stem 19 to restore the cup 13^x to the zero position illustrated in Figure 1.

Manifestly it is within the purview of my invention to make the parts of my improvement of any metal or alloy that is best suited to the purpose of the particular part, and notwithstanding the recreation that the apparatus is manifestly adapted to afford the apparatus is simple and inexpensive in construction and is well adapted to withstand considerable rough usage.

I have entered into a detailed description of the construction and relative arrangement of the parts embraced in the present and preferred embodiment of my invention in order to impart a full, clear and exact understanding of the said embodiment. I do not desire, however, to be understood as confining myself to the specific construction and relative arrangement of parts inasmuch as in the future practice of the invention various changes and modifications may be made such as fall within the scope of my invention as defined in my appended claims.

Having described my invention, what I claim and desire to secure by Letters-Patent, is:—

1. In a golf apparatus, means including a cup and adapted to be anchored to the ground or to an appropriate surface, a ball in said cup, a retractile spring connected with said ball and said means, a cup receiving the ball and interposed between the ball and the first-named cup, and a captive golf ball connected with the second-named cup.

2. In a golf apparatus, means including a cup and adapted to be anchored to the ground or to an appropriate surface, a ball in said cup, a retractile spring connected with said ball and said means, a cup receiving the ball and interposed between the ball and the first-named cup, and a captive golf ball connected with the second-named cup; the said second-named cup having an equator line and meridian lines and also having lines of graduation adjacent to the meridian lines and extending at opposite sides of the equator line.

3. In a golf apparatus, means including a cup and adapted to be anchored to the ground or to an appropriate surface, a ball in said cup, a retractile spring connected with said ball and said means, a cup receiving the ball and interposed between the ball and the first-named cup, and a captive golf ball connected with the second-named cup; there being on the said second-named cup an equator line and meridian lines and also having lines of graduation adjacent to the meridian lines and extending at opposite sides of the equator line, and the connection between the second named cup and the captive golf ball including yielding means for resisting the movement of the golf ball, and means cooperating therewith for indicating the distance of a presumable drive of the golf ball.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

ANTON SAGL.