Sept. 19, 1933. E. L. HERBERT 1,927,741

GAME

Filed July 17, 1930

Fig. 1.

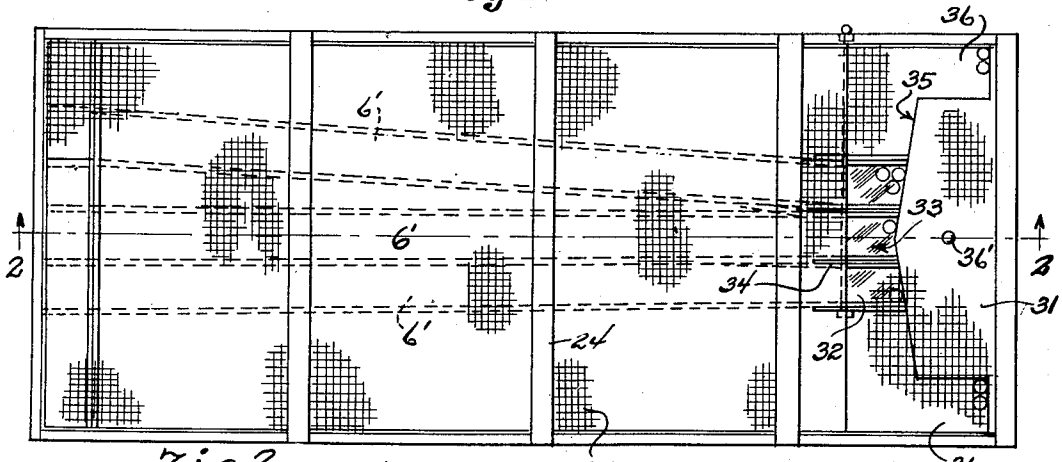
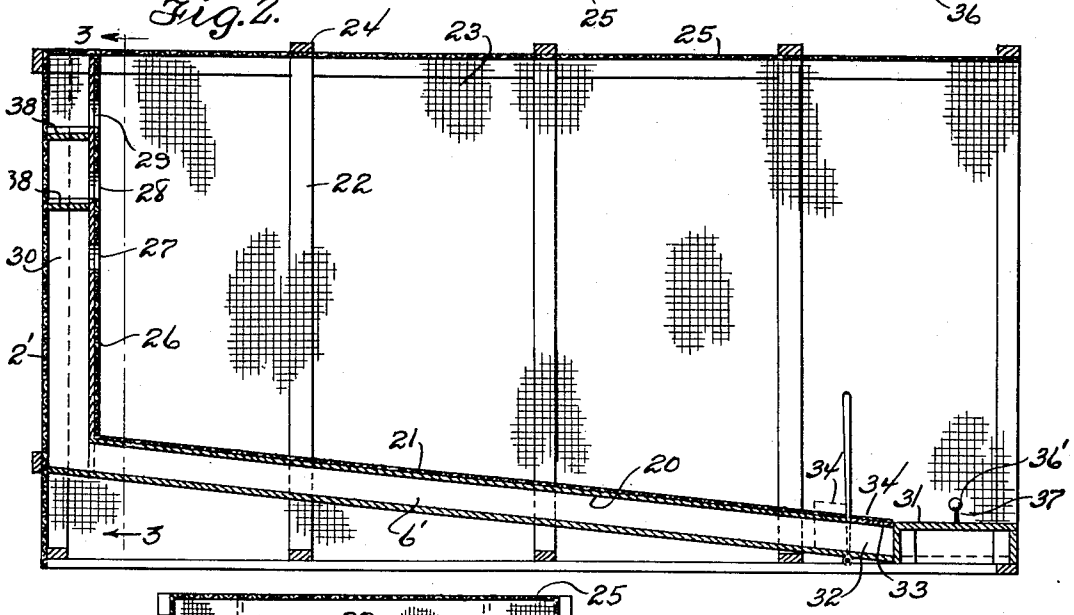


Fig. 2.



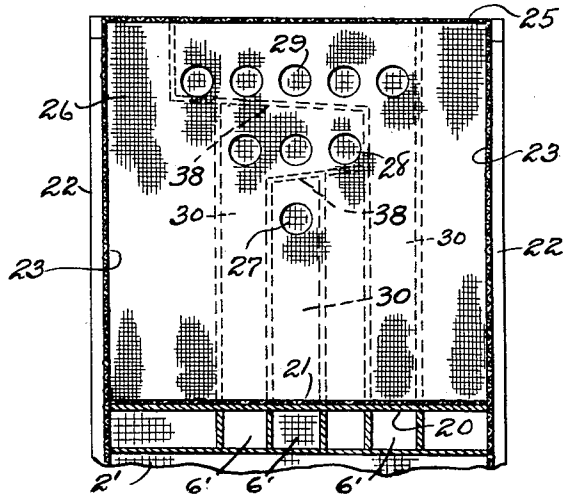


Fig. 3.

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GAME

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1 Claim. (Cl. 273—32)

The object of this, my present invention, is the provision of an indoor golf apparatus designed to afford the players amusement and healthy exercise and which also requires skill in the successful playing of the game.

A further object is the provision of an apparatus for this purpose which may be employed either for putting golf balls or for driving the balls.

A still further object is the provision of an apparatus whereby the balls will be returned into suitable trays that are covered by transparent plates, preferably of non-breakable glass and which trays are disposed in close proximity to the tee stand from which the player drives the ball so that the individual scores of the several players may be accurately kept, the said trays being normally closed by a swingable door which when released directs the balls into a trough so that they may be again employed by the players.

The invention will be fully and comprehensively understood from a consideration of the following detailed description when read in connection with the accompanying drawing which forms part of the application, with the understanding, however, that the improvement is capable of extended application and is not confined to the exact showing of the drawing nor to the precise construction described and, therefore, such changes and modifications may be made therefrom as do not affect the spirit of the invention nor exceed the scope thereof as expressed in the appended claim.

In the drawing:

Figure 1 is a plan view of the invention.

Figure 2 is a longitudinal sectional view therethrough approximately on the line 2—2 of Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a detail sectional view approximately on the line 3—3 of Figure 2.

The improvement is designed for playing indoor golf and is, of course, of suitable dimensions.

In the showing of the drawing the improvement is in the nature of a substantially rectangular member being made up of uprights 22 and upper and lower transverse connecting strips or beams 24. The frame thus provided has secured thereon a fabric cover 23 which encloses the top, sides and back 2 of the device, leaving the front open.

The open front, at the bottom thereof, has arranged therein a stand 31 that carries a tee 37 for a golf ball 36'. The inner wall of the stand 31, from the center thereof is inclined to its sides, as indicated by the characters 35, and there are spaces 36 between the ends of the apparatus and the stand 31. At a suitable distance from the opposite inclined inner face of the stand 31 there is secured in the frame a floor 20 which is arranged at a gradual upward inclination toward the back 2', and below the floor there is a desired number of runways 6', three of which being shown by the drawing. Each of the runways communicates with a counting trap 32 disposed between the oppositely inclined portions 35 of the stand 31, and these traps are covered by non-breakable transparent glass plates 33. Each of the counting traps 32 is normally closed by a lever operated door 34. The stand does not extend the entire width of the apparatus, so that the space between the ends of the stand and the sides of the apparatus provide troughs 36 into which the balls from the counting traps will enter when the doors are opened.

The floor 20 is preferably provided with a fabric cover such as a strip of carpet 21. The rear vertical closed wall 2' is hollow, and the inner element thereof is preferably covered by a mat 26. The mat, as well as the inner element of the hollow rear wall 2' is provided with a series of superimposed transversely arranged spaced round openings 27, 28 and 29, respectively. The openings gradually decrease in number from the upper series 29 to the lower and single opening 27.

In the hollow wall 2' there is a plurality of chutes 30 and the upper walls 38 for the chutes are arranged at angles so that balls directed through any one of the upper series of openings 29 will gravitate from the upper angle wall 38 into one of the chutes 30 and will be thus directed into the runway 6' that communicates with this chute. In a like manner balls directed through the central series of openings 28 will gravitate on the inclined wall for the central chute 30 and will be permitted to drop through the second end chute 30 to roll through the runway 6' communicating therewith. Also should a ball be directed through the single opening 27 it will be delivered directly into the central chute and after contacting with the rear element of the hollow wall 2' will fall by gravity into the central chute 30 and will from thence be permitted to roll downwardly through the central runway 6' and obviously all of the balls rolling through the respective runways will be delivered into the respective counting traps and

the players, observing the number of balls through the respective traps through the non-breakable glass tops therefor will have accurate knowledge of his playing score. After the balls are counted the doors are opened so that the balls from the respective counting traps will roll into the troughs 36 and either collectively or singly removed therefrom and placed on the tee 37 from which they are driven by the playing stick of the successive player.

Having described the invention, I claim:

An indoor golf game apparatus, comprising an inclined floor and a series of runways arranged below the floor, traps for the runways, a transparent top for the traps, a stand disposed outward of the traps, troughs at the ends of said stand and communicating with said traps, swingable doors providing divisions between the traps, said doors when opened permitting the balls to roll from the traps into the troughs, said apparatus at its second end having a vertically directed hollow wall, the inner member of the wall being formed with a vertically spaced transverse series of spaced openings, the number of said openings per series gradually decreasing from the upper to the lower series, chutes in the hollow wall for the respective series of openings, inclined top walls for the chutes for diverting balls projected through any one of the series of openings, to the chute for said opening to allow such ball to drop through the chute into the runway for such chute and to further permit such ball rolling through the runway communicating with such chute into the trap for such runway.

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