Oct. 27, 1936. L. J. MOLINARE 2,058,709

GOLF BALL RETRIEVER

Filed June 28, 1935

Fig. 1.

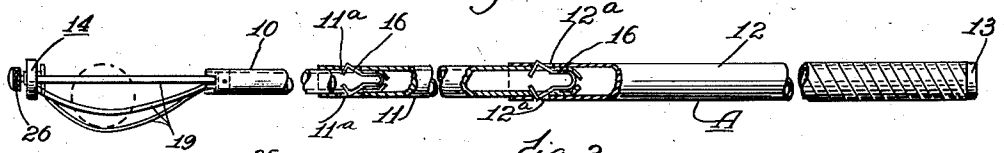


Fig. 2.

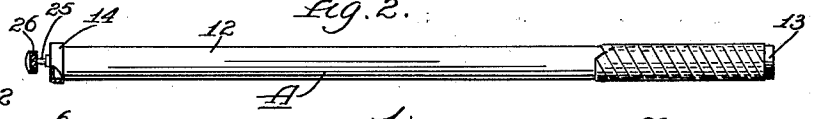


Fig. 3.

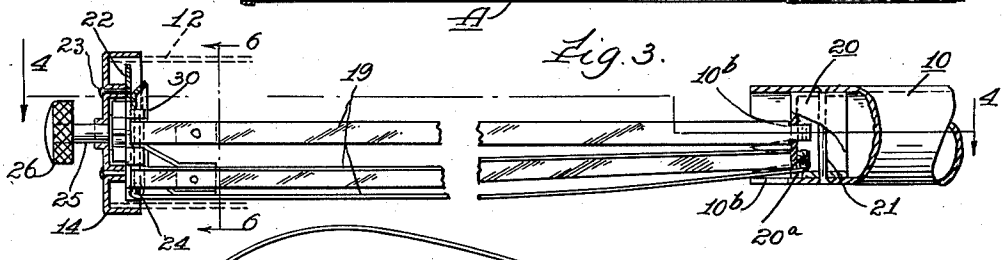


Fig. 4.

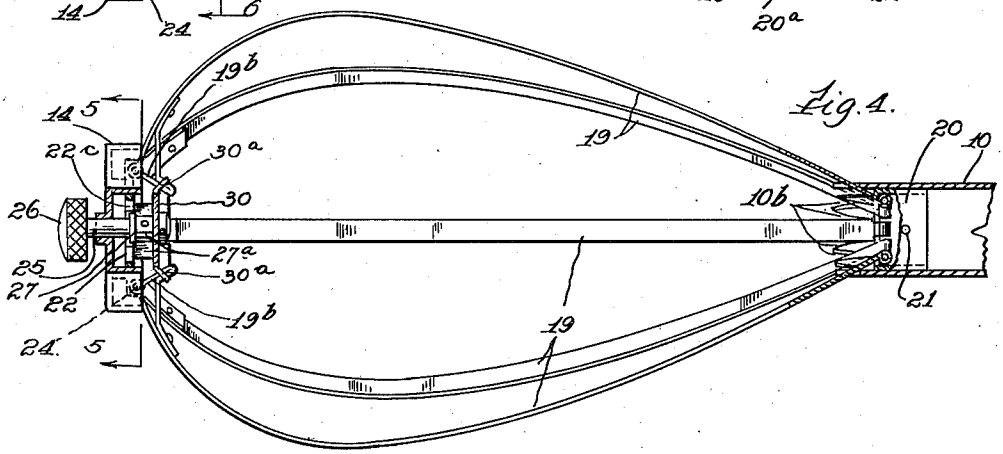


Fig. 5.

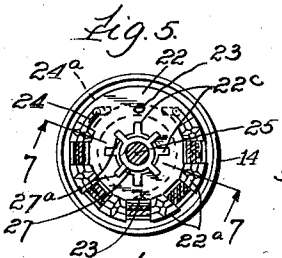


Fig. 6.

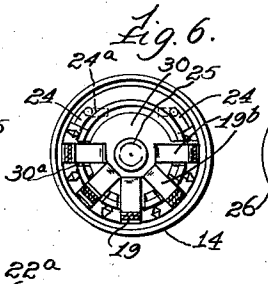


Fig. 8.

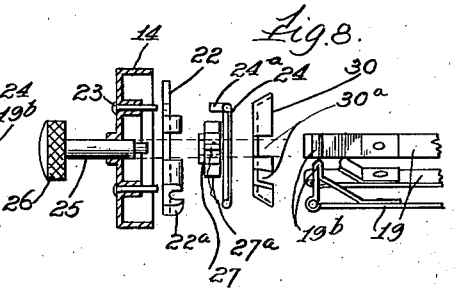
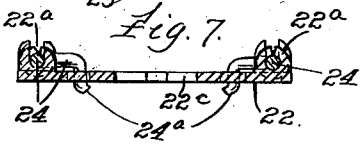


Fig. 7.



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2,058,709

GOLF BALL RETRIEVER

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Application June 28, 1935, Serial No. 28,899

10 Claims. (Cl. 273—66)

The present invention relates to a device especially adapted for retrieving golf balls from water hazards, ditches, etc. in an easy and expeditious manner.

Certain prior attempts to devise an accessory of this type have proven unsuccessful because the constructions were cumbersome, complicated, and too expensive to manufacture. Other prior devices have proven unsatisfactory because they do not lend themselves for conveniently carrying in a golf bag along with the clubs, such as in certain constructions which do not provide any suitable enclosure or protection for that portion of the device which is employed for grasping or scooping up the golf ball. Manifestly in such constructions the ball grasping means or cup portion may readily become damaged by the clubs in the golf bag, and likewise the golf clubs may be damaged by it.

The primary object of this invention is to provide a simple, efficient, compact, light-weight construction which may be conveniently carried in a golf bag along with the clubs, and may, when necessity arises, be quickly and simply brought into use from collapsed or distended condition to extended condition of substantial length, so as to permit the recovery of a ball, although it may have dropped or rolled some distance from the edge of the water hazard.

Another object is to provide a golf ball retrieving device with a collapsible cup member which is adapted to be extended and secured in a suitable cup form.

A further object of this invention is to provide a golf ball retrieving device having a plurality of telescoping tubular handle members, with a cup member at one end which is adapted to be collapsed and telescoped into one of said tubular handle members, so that when the device is not in use it may be conveniently carried in the golf bag along with the clubs without any possibility of it becoming damaged thereby.

It is also an object of this invention to provide a golf ball retrieving device with a collapsible cup member composed of a plurality of spaced apart yieldable members adapted to be flexed and secured in cup-shaped formation.

Other objects and advantages of my invention will appear in the following detailed description taken in connection with the accompanying drawing in which:—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a golf ball retrieving device, embodying the present invention, shown in an extended condition with parts broken away to show details of construction.

Figure 2 is a side elevation of the device in collapsed or distended condition.

Figure 3 is an enlarged longitudinal axial section through the cup member in distended condition, and withdrawn from the tubular handle section.

Figure 4 is an enlarged top view of the cup-shaped member in an extended condition, with parts broken away to show details of construction, and taken as indicated at line, 4—4, on Figure 3.

Figure 5 is a transverse sectional view taken at the inner edge of the closure cap as indicated at line, 5—5, on Figure 4.

Figure 6 is a transverse sectional view taken at line, 6—6, on Figure 3.

Figure 7 is a section through the retaining member for securing the outer ends of the flexible members which serve to form the cup, taken at line, 7—7, on Figure 5.

Figure 8 is a fragmentary axial disassembly of the parts for securing and locking the flexible members of the cup member in extended condition.

Referring now in detail to the drawing, A, indicates generally the handle member of the device, which is composed of a plurality of telescopic tubular members indicated at, 10, 11, and 12. The outermost member 12, has a cap or block, 13, at one end for enclosing same, and carried at the opposite end of the innermost tubular member, 10, is a closure cap, 14, which is dimensioned to snugly fit the adjacent end of the outermost tubular member, 12, as may be seen in Figure 2, of the drawing. The tubular members, 10 and 11, are provided with yieldable detent members, 16, which are adapted to register with and engage in apertures, 11a, and, 12a, of the respective handle members, 11, and, 12, for yieldably locking said handle members in extended condition as seen in Figure 1, of the drawing.

Secured to the free end of the innermost tubular member, 10, and carrying the closure cup, 14, is a collapsible structure adapted to be flexed in cup-shaped formation. Said structure includes a plurality of parallel, spaced apart, longitudinally extending, yieldable members, 19, which are secured at one end to the tubular handle member, 10, by means of a cup-shape retaining member, 20, which is rigidly secured in said member, 10, adjacent the end, by a rivet, 21, as seen in Figures 3 and 4. Said member, 20, is formed with a plurality of apertures, 20a, through which the reduced ends of the yieldable members, 19, are extended and formed over for permanent securement to the said member, 20. The end of the

tubular handle member, 10, is provided with a plurality of slots, 10*b*, which are adapted to receive, guide and position the yieldable members, 19, when they have been flexed into cup-shape formation as seen in Figure 4, of the drawing. The opposite ends of said yieldable members are hingedly connected to a retainer plate, 22, which is rigidly secured by means of rivets, 23, to the cup-shape cap member, 14. Said retainer plate, 22, is formed with radially spaced apart, recessed lugs, 22*a*, forming a seat for a retaining wire, 24, which forms the hinge pin for the ends of said yieldable members, 19, which are interposed between the lugs, 22*a*, of the retainer plate, 22. When the wire, 24, with the members, 19, mounted thereon is seated in the lugs, 22*a*, said lugs are clinched over as seen in Figure 7, to secure the retaining wire, 24, to the plate, 22, and the ends, 24*a*, of said wire are projected through said plate, 22, and clinched on the oppposite side thereof as seen in Figures 5, 6, and 7, of the drawing.

The means for locking the members, 19, in flexed, cup-shape formation, include a stud, 25, slidably mounted for axial movement in the cap member, 14, and having its outer end provided with a knob, 26, for operating the locking means. Rigidly secured on said stud is a spider shape locking member, 27, having a plurality of radially extending fins or ribs, 27*a*, which normally extend into correspondingly formed slots, 22*c*, of the retaining member, 22, as seen in Figure 3, of the drawing. Loosely mounted on said stud, 25, beyond said locking spider, 27, is a cam-disk, 30, of dish formation, having a portion of its marginal edge provided with spaced apart slots, 30*a*, adapted to guide and engage with cooperatively formed abutments, 19*b*, of the respective yieldable members, 19, as seen in the drawing and particularly in Figure 8. The abutments, 19*b*, are herein shown as continuations of the respective members, 19, and each member is formed with a portion bent at substantially right angles to said member, with a terminal portion extending as a brace, and secured by a rivet or welded in position. It will be apparent that said cooperative abutments of the yieldable members may be made in various other forms, such as independent members, secured to the yieldable members.

When it is desired to utilize the device the three tubular handle members, 10, 11, 12, are first extended and locked in operative condition so as to produce a handle member of substantial length. When said parts are extended the cup member is normally disposed in collapsed form as seen in Figure 3; the knob, 26, is then grasped and shifted axially inward, and this pressure tends to bow out the members, 19, and the movement of the stud, 25, shifts the ribs, 27*a*, of the locking spider, 27, through and beyond the registered notches, 22*c*, of the member, 22. This movement simultaneously shifts the dish-shaped cam, 30, in axial direction so that the bottom edge of the slots, 30*a*, act camwise against the cooperating abutments, 19*b*, of the respective yieldable members, 19, also assisting to bow or flex them into cup-shape formation as seen in Figure 4, of the drawing. As the members, 19, are being flexed the portions adjacent the connection to the retainer member, 20, of the handle member, 10, move into the notches, 10*b*, formed in said handle member, 10, so as to insure proper positioning of said members, 19, in spaced apart relation. Then by rotating the knob, 26, and stud, 25, while the members, 19, are flexed, the ribs, 27*a*, of the locking spider are shifted out of registration with their cooperative notches, 22*c*, of the disk, 22, so that upon release of inward pressure on the knob, 26, the tension set up in the flexed yieldable members, 19, reacting through their abutments, 19*b*, against the dish cam, 30, will cause the spider ribs, 27*a*, to abut against the inner surface of the member, 22, for locking said members, 19, in flexed cup-shape formation.

To collapse the cup-shape structure merely requires a slight inward pressure on the knob, 26, and rotation thereof so as to shift the spider ribs 27*a*, into registered relation with the cooperating notches, 22*c*, of the member, 22, at which time the tension in the flexed members, 19, through the abutments, 19*b*, acting against the dish-shaped cam, 30, will shift said stud and spider to inoperative position, so as to permit said yieldable members to collapse as seen in Figure 3, of the drawing. As may be noted in Figure 3, of the drawing, the yieldable members, when in collapsed condition, are dimensioned so as to freely telescope into the outer tubular handle member, 12, so as to permit the closure cap, 14, to embrace and enclose the end of the outer tubular member, 12, when said handle members are telescoped together.

Although I have shown and described a preferred embodiment of my invention, it is manifest that it is capable of modification and rearrangement of parts without departing from the spirit and scope thereof. I do not therefore wish to be understood as limiting my invention to the specific construction herein shown and described, except as indicated in the appended claims.

I claim:—

1. A golf ball retriever including a handle member, and a collapsible cup secured to one end of said handle member, the mouth of the cup opening in a direction transverse to the length of the handle.

2. A golf ball retriever including a handle member, a normally collapsed cup secured to one end of said handle member, said cup including a plurality of substantially straight yieldable members, means for flexing the members into cup-shape formation, and means for securing said yieldable members in such flexed condition.

3. A golf ball retriever including a handle member, a normally collapsed cup secured to one end of said handle member, said cup including a plurality of longitudinally extending, substantially straight, yieldable members adapted to be flexed into cup-shape formation, and means for securing said yieldable members in such flexed condition, each of said yieldable members, at the end remote from the handle member, being provided with an abutment, and said securing means including a cooperating abutment adapted to be moved into operative blocking engagement with the abutments of said yieldable members, when they have been flexed, for maintaining them in such condition.

4. A golf ball retriever including a handle member, a normally collapsed cup secured to one end of said handle member, said cup including a plurality of longitudinally extending, substantially straight, yieldable members adapted to be flexed into cup-shape formation, and means for securing said yieldable members in such flexed condition, each of said yieldable members, at the end remote from the handle member, being provided with an abutment, and said securing means including a cooperating abutment adapted to be moved into operative blocking engagement with

the abutments of said yieldable members, when they have been flexed, for maintaining them in such condition, and means for moving and securing said cooperating abutment in operative position.

5. A golf ball retriever including a handle member, a normally collapsed cup secured to one end of said handle member, said cup including a plurality of longitudinally extending, spaced apart, substantially straight, yieldable members adapted to be flexed into cup-shape formation, and means for securing said yieldable members in such flexed condition, each of said yieldable members, at the end remote from the handle member, being provided with an abutment, and said securing means including a cooperating abutment adapted to be moved into operative blocking engagement with the abutments of said yieldable members, when they have been flexed, for maintaining them in such condition, and means for moving and securing said cooperating abutment in operative position, said cooperating abutment being of dished-formation and having its periphery formed with spaced apart notches for cooperative engagement with the abutments of the yieldable members and for insuring proper spaced relation of said members when they have been flexed.

6. A golf ball retriever including a tubular handle member, a normally collapsed cup connected to one end of the handle member, said cup including a plurality of longitudinally extending, spaced apart, yieldable members adapted to be flexed into cup-shape formation, and means for securing said members in such flexed condition, said members having portions extending into the end of said tubular member and secured therein, the edge of the tubular member being formed with slots for receiving said yieldable members for insuring proper spaced apart relation thereof when they have been flexed.

7. A golf ball retriever including a handle composed of a plurality of telescoping tubular members, a collapsible cup secured to one end of the innermost tubular member and dimensioned to be telescoped into one of said tubular members, and a cap secured to the remote portion of the cup, and dimensioned to engage and close the adjacent end of the outermost tubular member, when said members are in telescoped condition.

8. A golf ball retriever including a handle composed of a plurality of telescoping tubular members, a normally collapsed cup secured to one end of the innermost tubular member and dimensioned to be telescoped into one of said tubular members, said cup including a plurality of longitudinally extending yieldable members adapted to be flexed into cup-shape formation, means associated with the remote ends of said yieldable members for securing them in such flexed condition, and a cup-shaped cap surrounding said securing means and dimensioned to engage and close the adjacent end of the outermost tubular member, when said tubular members are in telescoped condition.

9. A golf ball retriever including a handle member, a normally collapsed cup secured to one end of said handle member, said cup including a plurality of substantially straight yieldable members adapted to be flexed into cup-shape formation, means connecting the outer ends of said members together, and means for securing said yieldable members in flexed condition.

10. A golf ball retriever including a handle member, a normally collapsed cup secured to one end of said handle member, said cup including a plurality of substantially straight yieldable members adapted to be flexed into cup-shape formation, means connecting the outer ends of said members together, and providing separate pivot connections for said members, and means for securing said yieldable members in flexed condition.

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