Nov. 29, 1927. 1,651,271

W. H. HANN

TENNIS COURT MARKER

Filed May 25, 1926

Fig. 1.

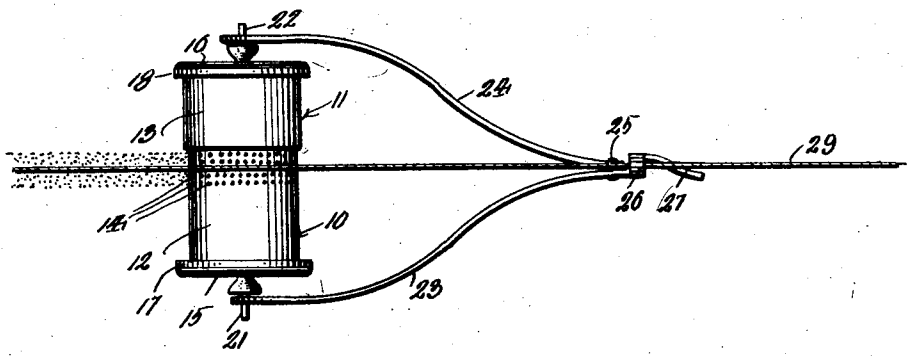


Fig. 2.

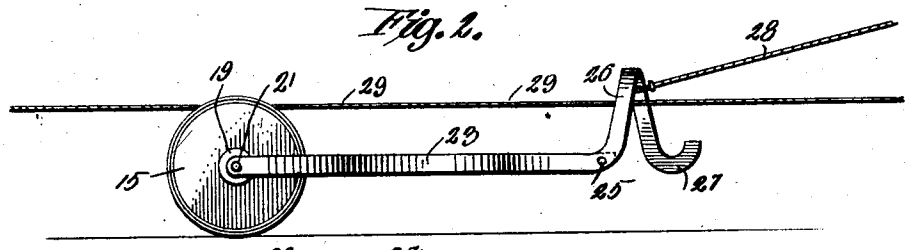


Fig. 3.

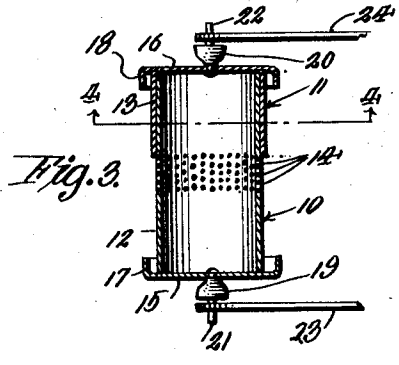
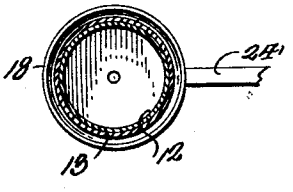


Fig. 4.



WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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TENNIS-COURT MARKER.

Application filed May 25, 1926. Serial No. 111,606.

This invention appertains generally to new and useful improvements in markers and has more specific reference to a novel and simplified device for marking off tennis courts and the like.

An important object of the present invention is to provide such an improved device of the character stated so constructed that it will save both time and labor in the marking off of tennis courts and the like.

Another object of the invention is to provide such a marker which is easy to fill and assemble and which is extremely efficient in its operation.

Another object of the present invention is the provision of such a marker including a plurality of hollow cylindrical sections together with new and novel means for securing said sections together.

Another object of the invention is to provide such a marker having incorporated therewith new and novel means for retaining the sections out of contact with the ground whereby to effectively prevent the clogging of the openings through which is sifted the lime or the like used for marking the court.

A further object of the present invention is the provision of improved means for guiding the marker which will result in the making of perfectly straight marking lines.

A still further object of the present invention is to provide such a marker which is simple in construction, strong, sturdy and durable, one which is efficient and effective in its operation, one which can be manufactured at a small cost and placed on the market at a reasonable figure.

With these and numerous other objects in view, the invention resides in the novel construction, combination and arrangement of parts to be more fully hereinafter described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings and particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

In the drawings forming a part of this application and wherein like characters of reference denote corresponding parts throughout the several views:

Figure 1 is a top plan view of a marker constructed in accordance with the present invention.

Figure 2 is a side view thereof.

Figure 3 is a central longitudinal sectional view through the marker sections.

Figure 4 is a transverse sectional view taken on line 4—4 of Figure 3 looking in the direction of the arrows.

Referring now more specifically to the accompanying drawings wherein for the purpose of illustration has been disclosed a preferred embodiment of the present invention, it will be seen that the present improved marker comprises in its construction a major section 10 and a minor section 11 associated therewith, the major section 10 including an elongated hollow cylinder 12 over which is telescopically received the cylinder 13 of the section 11. The cylinder 12 is provided intermediate its ends and immediately adjacent the inner end of the cylinder 13 with an annular series of openings 14.

The outer ends of the sections 10 and 11 are provided with the disc plates 15 and 16 respectively, it being noted that the said plates project beyond the cylinders and are provided with the inwardly directed annular ground engaging flanges 17 and 18. These flanges serve to prevent the cylinders from coming into contact with the ground, thereby preventing the clogging of the sifting openings 14 by dirt and the like.

Carried by the end plates 15 and 16 are the knobs 19 and 20 respectively provided with the trunnions 21 and 22 which receive the ends of the resilient supporting arms 23 and 24, the resiliency of these arms serving to secure the said sections together relative to one another. The supporting arms 23 and 24 are curved rearwardly and inwardly and the arm 24 is secured to the arm 23 as indicated at 25 while the said arm 23 is extended laterally to provide a guide loop 26 formed with the laterally directed terminal guide hook 27. Suitably secured to the guide loop 26 is a flexible element 28 by means of which the marker may be pulled over the tennis court or the like.

In the use of the present invention, a guide rope or the like 29 is first stretched across the tennis court where it is desired to mark the same. The marker is then positioned as shown in Figure 1 so that the guide loop 26 will engage the guide rope 29. As the marker is then pulled along by means of the flexible element 28, it will be guided by the said guide rope which will result in the making of a perfectly straight line. Should the supporting arms 23 and 24 be pulled upupwardly, the hook 27 will engage the guide rope 29 thereby preventing the loop 26 from becoming entirely disengaged from the guide

rope 29. As the marker is pulled along, the dry lime or the like contained therein will be sifted through the openings 14.

When it is desired to refill the marker with lime or the like, the resilient arms 23 and 24 are pulled outwardly and disengaged from the trunnions 21 and 22 after which the cylinders 12 and 13 can be readily separated and the lime can then be placed within the cylinder 12. The parts are then assembled by placing the cylinder 13 over the cylinder 12 and engaging the arms 23 and 24 with the trunnions 21 and 22. It will be noted upon reference to Figure 3 that when the sections are in assembled position, the inner end of the cylinder 12 abuts the inner surface of the disc plate 16.

From the foregoing, it will be readily appreciated that there has been provided a novel and simplified marker which will accomplish all of the objects and perform all of the functions enumerated as being desirable in the statement of the invention set forth above and it is to be understood that various changes in the details of construction may be resorted to without departing from or exceeding the spirit of the invention, so long as such changes fall within the scope of the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A marker of the character described, comprising a pair of telescoping sections, one of said sections being provided with an annular series of openings intermediate its ends, disc plates carried by the outer ends of said sections, each having an annular inturned ground engaging flange formed integrally therewith and resilient means carried by said disc plates for securing said sections together.

2. In a marking device wherein a perforated cylinder is designed to be rolled to sprinkle a marking powder therefrom, a guide means for said cylinder comprising a pair of elongated arms each adapted to have one end pivotally attached to one end of said cylinder upon the radial center thereof, means for securing the other ends of said arms together, one of the secured ends of said arms being extended and formed to set up an inverted substantially U-shaped member having one leg thereof positioned in advance of the other, said member being designed for engagement over a guide line for the purpose of maintaining the marker on a straight course when the same is drawn over the ground, the free leg of said U-shaped guide member having the terminus thereof turned back to form a skid for engaging the ground when the guide member is removed from a guide line, for the support of the same.

3. In a marking device wherein a perforated cylinder is designed to be rolled to sprinkle a marking powder therefrom, a guide means for said cylinder comprising a pair of elongated arms each adapted to have one end pivotally attached to one end of said cylinder upon the radial center thereof, means for securing the other ends of said arms together, one of the secured ends of said arms being extended and formed to set up an inverted substantially U-shaped member having one leg thereof positioned in advance of the other, said member being designed for engagement over a guide line for the purpose of maintaining the marker on a straight course when the same is drawn over the ground, the free leg of said U-shaped member being twisted and directed at an obtuse angle with respect to one side face of the leg body and further having the terminal portion thereof turned to provide a ground engaging member, said turned end further acting to prevent a guide line, passing through the member, from coming out of the same.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

WILLIAM H. HANN.