Sept. 7, 1926. 1,598,865

C. V. LIMERICK

PROJECTILE FOR GAMES

Filed Sept. 2, 1924

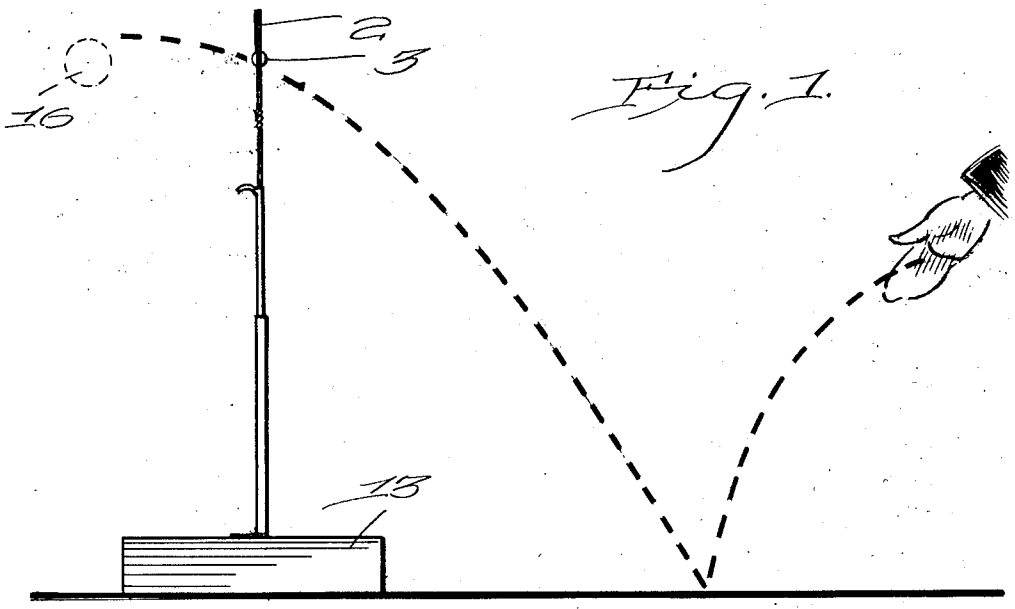


Fig. 1.

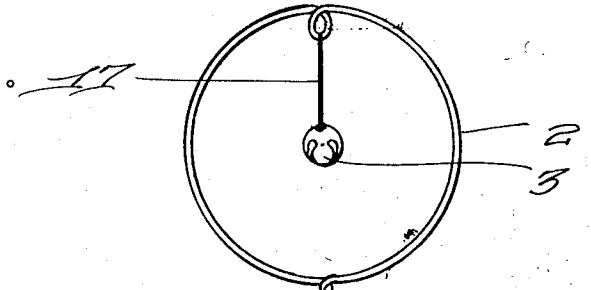


Fig. 2.

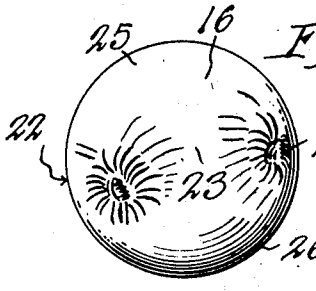


Fig. 3.

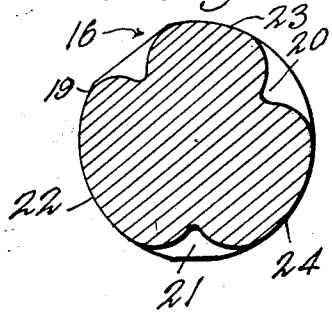


Fig. 4.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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PROJECTILE FOR GAMES.

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The invention has for its principal object to provide a novel game piece in the form of an elastic projectile of erratic performance, adapted for use in games resembling those heretofore played where it is endeavored to cause a ball to enter a pocket or engage an object, by first projecting it against a surface from which it shall carom to the objective point. It is likewise applicable where a double carom is involved and in hand ball games, modified tennis and other games. It is an especial object to so produce a ball element that it will be extremely difficult, if not impossible, for a player to cause it to rebound from a given surface—especially a platform surface—at the customary angle to be expected of an ordinary ball of similar size and elasticity. By so developing the projectile, it is possible to introduce into games of the character indicated an increased element of uncertainty, adding to the zest experienced by those who enjoy such games.

In the accompanying drawings,

Figure 1 illustrates one example of use of the projectile.

Figure 2 is a front elevation of the particular target used in this exemplification of use.

Figure 3 is an elevation of the projectile.

Figure 4 is a sectional view of the projectile.

The projectile, illustrated at 16 in Figures 3 and 4, comprises a ball-like body, which I sometimes call a ball, but as will appear, this is not an ordinary ball. It consists of a number of rounded or bellied parts, 22, 23, 24, 25 and 26, and concavities or indentations, irregularly spaced, three main indentations 19, 20 and 21 having been employed with good effect. These recesses or indentations are of quite substantial extent and depth, so as to materially deform the projectile from a spherical shape, and by the irregular spacing of the indentations mass portions are formed in the projectile at the parts 22, 23, 24, 25 and 26, of irregular size and capacity for reaction. A section taken in a plane through the three recesses shows an outline slightly resmbling a clover leaf, the lobe portions 22, 23, 24, however, being less petular and more like nodules. At the opposite side of this plane two large convexities 25 and 26 are formed.

It may appear from Figure 4 that on each lobe shown in the section there are points on the periphery which if engaged incidentally by a planiform surface on which the projectile is dropped vertically it will rebound at the same angle as the angle of incidence. But it is to be noted that masses capable of different elastic reaction will be located on opposite sides of the line of incidence which will develop "english" or rotative effects that will materially affect the direction of rebound. Even if there be points for engagement and directional movements which may be predetermined by an expert and which combined will result in a rebound in a desired direction from a planiform surface, it will be appreciated that the mental skill to estimate these, and the dexterity required to accomplish such effects will be much beyond those involved in the employment of an ordinary spherical ball.

The stock ball which I have used in making my projectile has in one form been about one and one-half inches in diameter, and the indentations in the finished projectile have had a depth of one quarter of an inch from the projected periphery of the ball thereover. The superficial area of the ball affected and permanently displaced inwardly from its original position at each indentation has been a little less than one square inch. It will be appreciated that larger and smaller balls may be employed to attain effects requiring such sizes.

In playing one game as indicated in Figures 1 and 2, it is the object to bounce the ball 16 upon a floor so that the ball will pass through the elevated ring 2, and sound the bell 3 suspended centrally within the ring.

I claim:

A projectile comprising a body of elastic material adapted to rebound from a surface against which it is projected, said body having a plurality of recesses therein of substantial size and irregularly spaced whereby to produce unequal masses capable of different reactions whereby the projectile will tend to be erratic in rebound, as compared to the rebound of an ordinary ball of like material.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

CHARLES V. LIMERICK.