

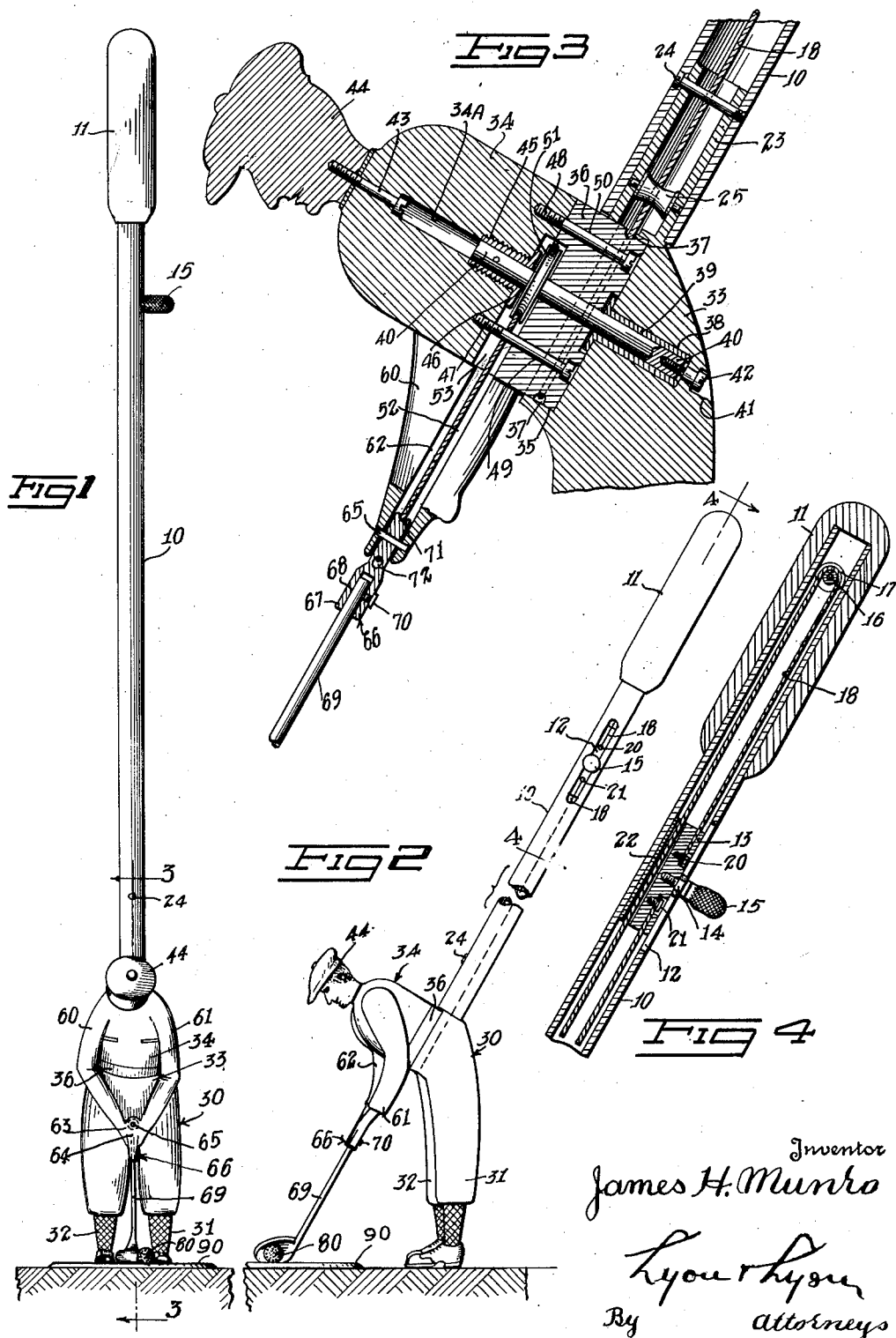
June 27, 1950

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2,513,198

GOLF PUPPET BALL PROJECTOR

Filed Feb. 11, 1949



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,513,198

GOLF PUPPET BALL PROJECTOR

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Application February 11, 1949, Serial No. 75,801

7 Claims. (Cl. 273-129)

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This invention relates to toys, and more particularly to a toy in the form of a mechanical puppet golf player by means of which playing a game of golf may be simulated as, for example, indoors; on a putting green, or other prepared outdoor area.

While there has been proposed hitherto mechanical miniature golf players having some of the characteristics of this invention, these prior devices have been subject to definite limitations and imperfections which have prevented the same from obtaining any wide popularity. In the mechanical puppet golf player of this invention, means are provided for bringing about a substantially correct backswing stroke and followthrough of the club under the control of the player. Further, means are provided by which the force of the stroke is completely under the control of the player and, in addition, means are provided in the mechanical puppet golf player for the interchange of clubs being used by the player so that every stroke in a normal game of golf may be simulated with the proper clubs. Accordingly, in using the device of this invention, if desired, the players may lay out a course with obstacles, sand traps, greens and the like as, for example, upon the living room rug or on a putting green or other suitable outdoor area and play the game to completion.

It is, therefore, one object of this invention to provide a mechanical puppet golf player in which the stroke of the club is essentially similar to the theoretically correct stroke.

It is another object of this invention to provide such a device in which the force of the stroke is under the full control of the player.

It is another object of this invention to provide such a device providing for interchangeable golf clubs.

These and other objects and advantages of the present invention will be apparent from the attached specification in which Figure 1 is a front view of the device.

Figure 2 is a side view of the device.

Figure 3 is an enlarged fragmentary section along the line 3-3 of Figure 1.

Figure 4 is an enlarged fragmentary section taken on the line 4-4 of Figure 2.

Referring now more particularly to the drawings, the device of this invention is shown as including a tubular rod 10 having a grip 11 upon the upper end thereof. The rod 10 is slotted as at 12 and a mandrel 13 is positioned within the tube 10 and carries a pin 14 having a handle 15, which pin 14 operates in the slot 12 as clearly

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shown in Figure 4. Adjacent the upper end of the tube 10 there is provided a pin 16 carrying a wheel or pulley 17 and a wire or cable 18 is reeved upon the pulley 17. One end of the cable 18 is affixed to the mandrel by a screw as at 20 and the other is similarly affixed as at 21. The mandrel 13 has a bore 22 therein for the reception of one strand of the cable 18.

The tube 10 at its lower end encloses a tubular extension 23 of the body member and is releasably attached thereto by a screw 24 and I prefer to mount a pair of guide rollers (one only of which is shown numbered 25) at the lower end of the tube for guiding the cables. The golf player proper is indicated generally by the numeral 30 and is in the form of the figure of a man having a pair of legs 31 and 32, a hip portion 33, and a torso portion 34. The hip portion 33 is provided with a circular seat 35 in which is positioned a cylindrical member 36. The cylindrical member 36 is grooved as at 37 to receive the cable 18. The hip portion 33 is bored as at 38 to receive a bushing 39 for a rod 40. The hip portion 33 is counterbored as at 41 to receive a screw 42 adapted to thread into the end of the rod 40 as shown. The torso portion 34 is bored as at 34A and a screw 43 is provided in a reduced portion of the bore adapted to threadedly receive the head portion 44. The bore 34A is enlarged and tapped as at 45 to receive a hollow stud 46 which is keyed or otherwise attached to the rod 40. A pair of studs 47 and 48 are provided in bores 49 and 50 in the cylindrical portion 36 and screwed into threads tapped in the torso portion 34 as shown, thus similarly uniting the cylindrical portion 36 to the torso portion 34.

Mounted upon the rod 40 is a wheel or sheave 51 and a cable or wire 52 is reeved thereon. The cylindrical portion 36 is provided with a relieved portion 53 to accommodate the sheave 51 and the cable 52.

The torso portion 34 is provided with a pair of arms 60 and 61 preferably formed integrally therewith. Each of the arms 60 and 61 on the inner side thereof is provided with an open slot 62. Each open slot 62 is adapted to receive one line of the cable 52. The arms 60 and 61 converge as at 63 in the shape of hands 64. A pin 65 is provided at the extremities of the arms and a club-carrying member 66 is pivoted thereon. The member 66 is provided with an enlarged head 67 bored as at 68 to receive the club 69 and retain the same therein with a set screw 70. The other end of the member 66 is curved

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as at 71 and bored as at 72 to form the channels of a sheave and the cable 52 is reeved there-through.

It is contemplated that with the device as above described, there will be provided a plurality of golf clubs 69 each having a separate pitch so that, in effect, a full set of golf clubs will be available to the players. A ball 80 which may be a small piece of balsa wood or hard rubber or the like is also utilized.

The operation of the device is as follows: The device is taken by the player by the handle 11 and placed on its feet adjacent the ball 80 in a proper position to address the ball. The operating handle 15 is held in one hand and the main handle 11 in the other. By sliding pin 14 back and forth in the slot 13 the cable 18 can be made to reciprocate, thus turning the cylinder portion 36. With the cylinder portion 36 there will turn the torso 34, the head 44 and the arms 60 and 61. The turning of the cylinder portion 36 will also cause the turning of the rod 40 and, consequently, of the sheave 51 which is keyed or otherwise affixed thereto. The turning of the sheave 51 in turn operates the cable 52 and the gripping or wrist member 66. The relationship between the sheave 51 and the sheavelike portion of the member 66 is such that their operative diameters are in a ratio of approximately 2 to 1, thus assuring that while the torso member 34 rotates throughout a small arc, the wrist member 66 will rotate throughout a larger arc. From this description it will be apparent that on operation of the operating handle 15 the upper body, shoulders and arms of the player rotate, for example in the back swing, through a minor arc while the club is rotated through a larger arc, thus simulating a full back swing, while the timing is such that when the arms, torso and head are directly forward so is the wrist member 66, thus assuring the proper alinement of the body on the addressing of the ball. Similarly, on the followthrough, the torso, arms and head of the player will travel through a lesser arc than the wrist member 66.

In making a shot the player may address the ball as shown in Figures 1 and 2, swing the club through a small arc a few times by means of the handle 15 to make sure that the device is operating freely and then stroke the ball applying as much force as is desired by means of the operating handle 15.

It has been found that with a device of this invention all sorts of shots may be made. Given a lofted club, such as is comparable to a six-iron, one can pitch, or given an unlofted club, such as a putter, one can simply putt or roll the ball. Thus, one can play over obstacles and eventually into whatever receptacle is provided for the hole. Indeed, one can start out from a simulated tee 90 with a club built to resemble a driver and from there on play the ball through all sorts of obstacles and on all sorts of lies, with all of the necessary shots to eventually hole out the ball merely by changing clubs by releasing the set screw 70.

While there has been described what is at present considered a preferred embodiment of the invention, it will be observed by those skilled in the art that various changes and alterations

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can be made without departing from the essence of the invention and it is intended to cover herein all such changes and modifications as come within the true spirit and scope of the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A device of the character described comprising a body member; a handle member attached to said body member; said body member including a torso portion; means mounting said torso portion for rotation on said body member; means in said handle member for rotating said torso portion; a wrist member on said torso portion; means mounting said wrist member for rotation on said torso portion coincident with the rotation of said torso portion.

2. A device as set forth in claim 1 in which said wrist member is mounted to rotate through substantially twice the arc of said torso portion upon said coincident rotation.

3. A device as set forth in claim 2 in which the arcs of rotation of said torso portion and said wrist portion are controllable by the operator.

4. A device as set forth in claim 2 in which said means in said handle member for rotating said torso portion comprises a cable provided with a handle for operating the cable to control the degree of rotation of said torso portion and said wrist portion and the force of said rotation.

5. A device as set forth in claim 2 in which said means mounting said wrist portion for rotation comprises a pulley in said torso portion; pulley-like means in said wrist portion and a cable attached to said pulley and said pulley-like means.

6. A device as set forth in claim 2 in which said means mounting said wrist portion for rotation comprises a pulley in said torso portion; pulley-like means in said wrist portion and a cable attached to said pulley and said pulley-like means; said pulley having substantially twice the operating diameter of said pulley-like means.

7. A device as set forth in claim 2 in which said means in said handle member for rotating said torso portion comprises a cable provided with a handle for operating said cable to control the degree of rotation of said torso portion and said wrist portion and the force of said rotation and in which said means mounting said wrist portion for rotation comprises a pulley in said torso portion; pulley-like means in said wrist portion and a cable attached to said pulley and said pulley-like means; said pulley having substantially twice the operating diameter of said pulley-like means; arms extending from said torso portion to said wrist portion and slots in said arms to accommodate said second cable.

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