Sept. 7, 1926. 1,598,971

E. H. KENYON

GOLF TEEING MACHINE

Filed Dec. 11, 1924

Fig. 1.

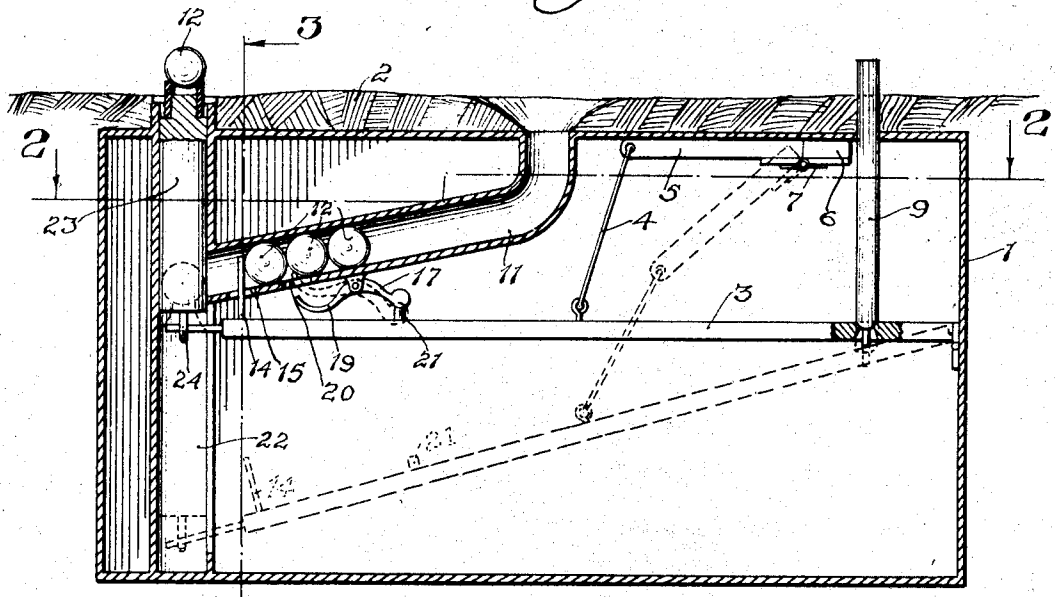


Fig. 2.

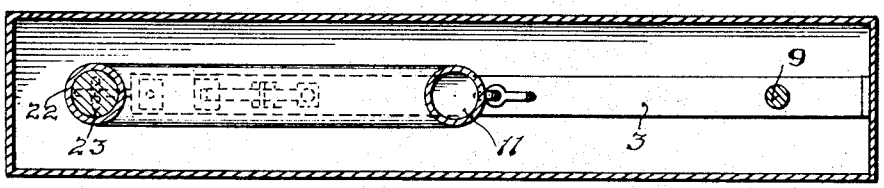
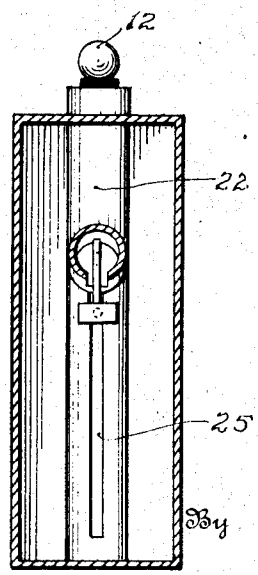


Fig. 3.



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1,598,971

Patented Sept. 7, 1926.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWARD H. KENYON, OF MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA.

GOLF-TEEING MACHINE.

Application filed December 11, 1924. Serial No. 755,333.

This invention relates to an automatic teeing machine for golf balls and has for its object to retain the balls in a certain predetermined order and to automatically tee the balls in their order one after the other.

Another object of the invention is to so tee the ball as to present it in the most advantageous position to be driven from the teed position.

Another object of the invention is to present the balls to be teed in exactly the order in which they were introduced into the machine.

With these and other objects in view which will become apparent as the description proceeds we will describe our invention in connection with the attached drawings in which:

Figure 1 is a vertical sectional view of our teeing machine;

Fig. 2 is a plan view partly in section; and,

Fig. 3 is a view on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1.

The casing of the machine 1 is intended to be placed below the surface of the ground 2 and pivoted at one side of the casing is a lever 3. This lever may be hinged by an ordinary hinge at the side of the casing and has attached to it by a link 4, an arm 5 pivoted to a block 6, which may conveniently be attached to the top of the casing, by an ordinary hinge. A spring 7 at the hinge normally tends to retain the arm 5 in its upmost position as shown in full lines in Fig. 1.

Attached to the lever 3 is a stem 9 projecting through the top of the casing and slightly above the ground. The stem 9 is attached to the lever by a loose joint connection and when the stem is pushed down, say by the foot of the player, the lever 3 will be forced to the dotted line position shown in Fig. 1 and when the stem is released the spring 7 will bring the lever to the full line position.

Depending from the top of the casing is an inclined tube or chute 11 into which the balls 12 may be deposited in the order in which they are to be driven from the tee and on the lever 3 may be attached a post 14, there being provided a hole 15 in the tube or chute through which the post projects when the lever is in the full line position shown in Fig. 1 to prevent the balls from moving to the bottom of the chute until the post is removed.

To prevent more than one ball at a time passing over the hole 15, I provide a latch 17 pivoted at 18 to the under side of the chute. This latch 17 may be provided with a tail 19 capable of passing through a hole 20 in the lower side of the chute. I may provide a post 21 on the lever 3 and it is apparent that when the lever 3 is raised and the knob or post 21 strikes the lever 17, the tail of the lever 19 will be withdrawn and allow all the balls to roll downwardly until they strike the post 14. When the lever 3 is depressed the tail 19 will pass up through the hole 20 and prevent more than one ball from rolling down the chute over the hole 15.

The chute 11 opens into a second chute 22 in which I provide a piston 23 having a staple 24 attached to its bottom end and through which the end of the lever 3 projects. The piston 23 may fit snugly in the chute 22 and may have a rubber tube at its upper end, thus producing a concaved seat thereat, so as to hold a ball as shown in Fig. 1 slightly above the level of the ground above the teeing machine in position to be driven from the tee.

The chute 22 has a slot 25 therein as shown in Fig. 3 through which the end of the lever 3 projects and when the lever 3 is raised and lowered the end of it works in the slot 25.

When the players arrive at the driving off position, they deposit their golf balls in the order in which they are to drive off, in the chute 11 and the first player steps on the post 9 and depresses the lever 3 which carries with it the upright post 14. This allows the ball farthest to the left of Fig. 1, to descend into the chute 22 above the piston 23. The pivoted lever 17 weighted as shown at one end will, through its tail 19, prevent more than one ball from falling into the chute 22. As the player removes his foot from the post 9, the spring 7 will cause the lever 3 to raise and carry with it the piston 23 having on its concaved upper end a ball 12 to the teed position from which the ball may be driven. A repetition of this operation will successively elevate the other balls one at a time in the order in which they were deposited in the chute 11.

Having described my invention and its operation, what I claim as new is:

1. A teeing machine comprising a casing, a ball chute therein, and means in the casing for elevating the balls one at a time and holding a ball in position to be driven from a golf tee.

2. A teeing machine comprising a casing,

a ball chute therein, a lever, a ball lifting and holding device in the chute connected with the lever and operable by the lever to elevate and hold a golf ball in position to be driven from the tee.

3. A teeing machine comprising a casing, an inclined chute therein, a vertical chute communicating with the inclined chute, a piston in the vertical chute, and means for depressing the piston below the mouth of the inclined chute and raising it sufficiently high to present the ball above the casing in position to be driven from the tee.

4. A teeing machine comprising a lever, a spring controlled arm connected thereto for elevating and holding the lever in an elevated position, a ball chute and means operated by the lever for preventing more than one ball passing out of the chute at a time and ball holding and elevating means attached to the lever for raising a ball and holding it in a position from which it may be driven.

5. A teeing machine comprising a depressible lever, a ball carrying piston attached to the lever at one end, a vertical chute in which the piston operates, an inclined chute communicating with said vertical chute and means to prevent more than one ball at a time from passing from the inclined chute into the vertical chute, and a spring operated arm for elevating and holding an end of the lever and ball carrying piston in an elevated position.

6. A golf ball teeing device comprising a reservoir for a number of balls, and means for segregating and raising a ball to striking position.

7. A golf ball teeing device comprising an inclined runway, and means for receiving the balls therefrom one at a time and raising them to striking position.

8. In a golf ball teeing device the combination comprising a cylinder, a piston therein, means for admitting a golf ball to the cylinder above the piston, and means for raising the piston to lift the golf ball to striking position.

9. A golf ball teeing device comprising a vertical cylinder, a piston therein, an inclined runway for balls terminating in an entrance to the cylinder, and means for lifting a ball in said cylinder as received from said runway to striking position.

10. A golf ball teeing device comprising a ball reservoir, a cylinder adapted to receive balls from said reservoir, a piston within said cylinder having on the top thereof a tee, a lever for raising said piston, and a pedal for actuating said lever.

11. A golf ball teeing device comprising a housing including a ball reservoir, a cylinder adapted to receive balls from said reservoir, a suitable impact material on the upper surface of said housing, and an opening through said upper surface in alignment with said cylinder to permit of a ball being raised therethrough to striking position.

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my signature.

EDWARD H. KENYON.