May 5, 1931. V. L. TANNEHILL. 1,804,040

GOLF GAME

Filed March 11, 1929

Fig. 1

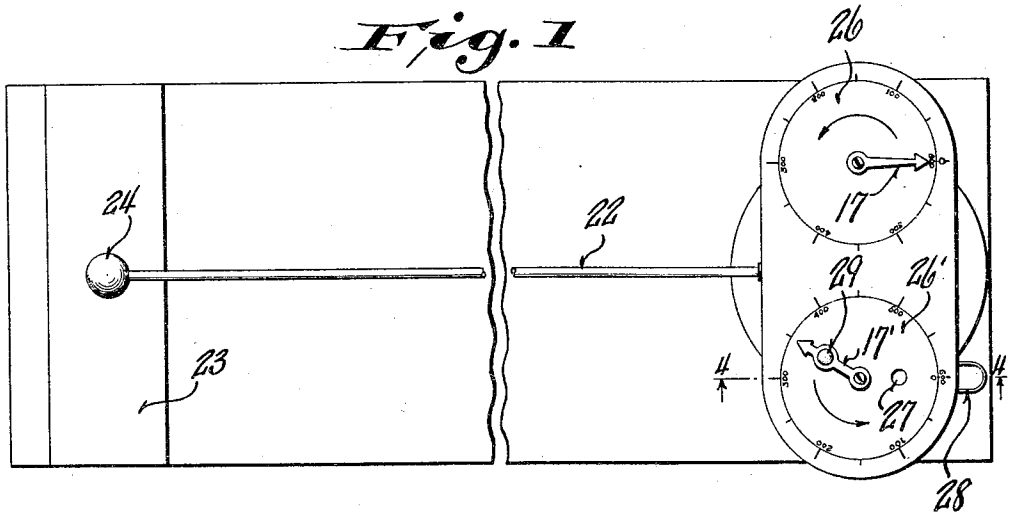


Fig. 2

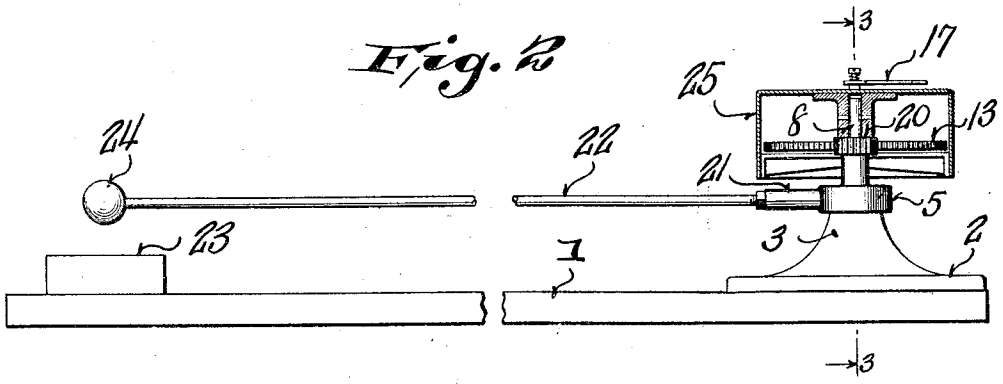


Fig. 3

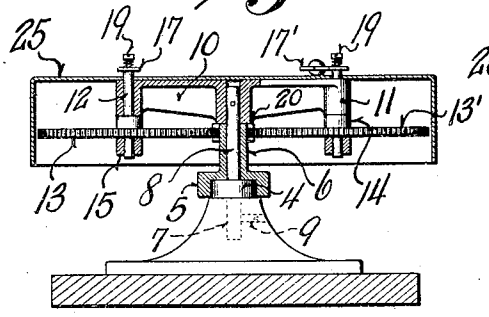
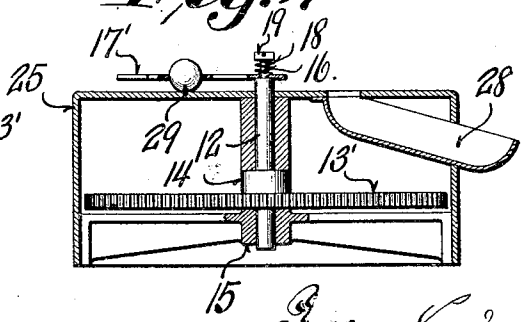


Fig. 4



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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GOLF GAME

Application filed March 11, 1929. Serial No. 346,076.

This invention relates to new and useful improvements in games and more particularly to a golf game and practice device.

One of the objects of my invention is the provision of a device which can be used either for the playing of the game of golf or used equally as well as a practice device, either for practicing driving strokes and registering the comparative distance of the stroke as well as practicing the number of strokes between the different holes of a course with a predetermined amount of yardage between the different holes of the course.

Another object of the invention is the provision of a game device wherein an imitative game of golf may be played with the automatic registering of the yardage for each individual stroke and setting forth the number of strokes utilized in carrying the ball between the different holes of the course.

A still further object of the invention is the provision of a golf game and practice device wherein two indicators are used, one for registering the amount of yardage for each individual stroke and the other indicating the yardage between the different holes of the course so that the number of strokes, used for moving the ball from one hole to the other may be easily counted and the game played in the same manner as the regular game or golf.

With the above and other objects in view, the invention consists in the novel features of construction, the combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter more fully set forth, pointed out in the claims and shown in the accompanying drawings wherein:

Figure 1 is a plan view of my improved game device;

Figure 2 is a side elevation with parts thereof broken away and illustrated in section;

Figure 3 is a vertical section on the line 3—3 of Figure 2; and

Figure 4 is a section on the line 4—4 of Figure 1.

In carrying out my improved game device, I provide a base member 1 which may be of wood or similar material, said base being somewhat longer than the width thereof and mounted upon one end is a metal support 2 having a centrally raised portion 3 formed with a substantially flat upper face and an annular reduced part 4 providing a bearing for the rotative cup member 5 on the lower end of the sleeve 6. The raised portion 3 is provided with a central bore 7 receiving a shaft 8 preferably forming a standard or an upright bearing for the sleeve 6 and extending downwardly into the bore 7 where it is retained against movement by means of the set screw 9.

Mounted upon the upper end of the standard 8 is a bracket 10 having laterally disposed arms arranged in alignment upon opposite sides of the standard 8, and having at their outer ends bearing sleeves 11 in which are mounted the rotatable shafts 12. The shafts 12 support the gears 13 and 13′ and arranged between the sleeves 11 and the gears are the collars 14, collars 15 also being positioned on the shafts 12 below the gears 13 and 13′ to retain them in position.

The upper ends of the shafts 12 are provided with reduced portions 16 upon which are rotatably mounted the indicators 17 and 17′. These indicators are normally maintained against movement by means of the coil springs 18, mounted upon the reduced portions 16 and disposed between the nuts 19 on the outer ends of the reduced portions and the shoulders formed on the shafts 12 by the reduced portions. The gears 13 and 13′ mesh with a pinion 20 on the sleeve 6, so that when the cup member 5 is rotated on the reduced part 4, the pinion will impart simultaneous movement to the gears. Extending laterally from the cup member 5 is a stud 21 to which is attached a flexible arm 22, extending lengthwise of the base 1 with its outer end disposed above a raised part or block 23 representing the tee. Upon the outer end of the flexible arm 22 is the ball 24, attached in any suitable manner to the arm.

This ball 24 may be of the usual golf ball type or of similar construction, containing the properties which are used in the construction of golf balls so that the action will be the same as if a regular golf ball was used.

Mounted upon the bracket 10 and covering

the operating parts is a cap member 25 and upon the top of this cap member, which is preferably provided with substantially semi-circular ends, there are indicated two dials 26 and 26'. These dials are divided throughout their circumference with indicating characters, the dial 26 being divided into yardage, indicated from 1 to 600 yards and the dial 26' is likewise divided in the same manner.

The dial 26' is provided within its circumference with an opening 27 which extends through the top of the cap 25 and opens into a chute or runway 28, leading out through one side wall of the cap. The indicator 17' is formed with an enlarged portion having an opening in which is arranged a small ball 29 which when the indicator is moved to the zero or 600 yard mark will drop through the opening 27 into the chute 28.

In using my improved device for the playing of an imitative game of golf, the indicator 17' is moved to the point indicating the number of yards for the first hole.

The ball 24 is then struck in the usual manner of playing golf, the force of the stroke causing rotation of the sleeve 6 which, through the pinion 20 and the gears 13 and 13' will rotate the shafts 12 and in turn move the indicators 17 and 17' in opposite directions, the indicator 17 registering the number of yards produced by the stroke while the indicator 17' will be moved toward zero or toward the opening 27. If the party using the device makes a drive of 200 yards, this will be readily indicated on the dial 26, while on 26' the indicator 27' will also indicate the 200 yard drive.

As the sleeve 6 and cap 5 will rotate a number of times to register a 200 yard drive, the stud 21 and arm 22 is moved back to normal position lengthwise of the base 1 after the drive has been completed. While this movement will return or advance the dial 17' a small distance, it will make comparatively little difference either way and not enough to produce any marked difference in the playing of the game. After the stud 21 and arm 22 have been placed at normal position, the indicator 17 is returned to the zero mark by moving the same upwardly against the spring 18 so that it may be rotated without turning the shaft 12. Consecutive strokes are then carried out until the indicator 17' has reached the zero mark and the ball 29 dropped through the opening 27.

The number of strokes used for moving the indicator 17' so as to permit the ball to drop through the opening 27 will disclose the number of strokes used for moving the ball from the first tee to the first hole. This operation is carried on throughout the number of holes to be played until a nine or eighteen hole course has been covered.

The same operation as described for playing an imitative game of golf can be carried on in using the device for practice as the yardage of each individual stroke will be indicated on the dial 26 and the indicator 17' can be set at different yardage whereby a number of strokes will move the indicator 17' back to the zero point to permit the ball 29 to drop through the opening 27.

It will be apparent from the foregoing that I have provided a simple and inexpensive device which can be used for practicing a game of golf or an imitative game may be played, either for nine holes or for any number of holes desired.

I claim:

1. An indicating device of the class described including a supporting base having a central raised portion and a reduced part at the upper end thereof, said reduced part and raised portion having a central bore, a sleeve having a cup at one end fitting over the reduced part, a shaft within the sleeve and having its lower end within the bore, a pinion on the upper end of the sleeve and rotatable gears supported upon opposite sides of the sleeve and cooperating with the pinion.

2. An indicating device of the character described including a base having a central raised portion provided with a central bore and a reduced portion at the upper end thereof, an upright shaft having its lower end fitted in the bore, means for retaining said shaft against rotation, a sleeve mounted on the shaft, a cup member on the sleeve and embracing the reduced part of the base, a pinion carried by the sleeve, a bracket on the upper end of the shaft having radial arms, bearing sleeves at the outer ends of the arms, shafts supported within said sleeves and gears on the shafts carried by the bracket and adapted to cooperate with said pinion.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand at Fort Wayne, in the county of Allen and State of Indiana.

VERNON L. TANNEHILL.