Dec. 21, 1926. 1,611,660

J. MANLY

PUTTING GREEN

Filed July 26, 1926 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

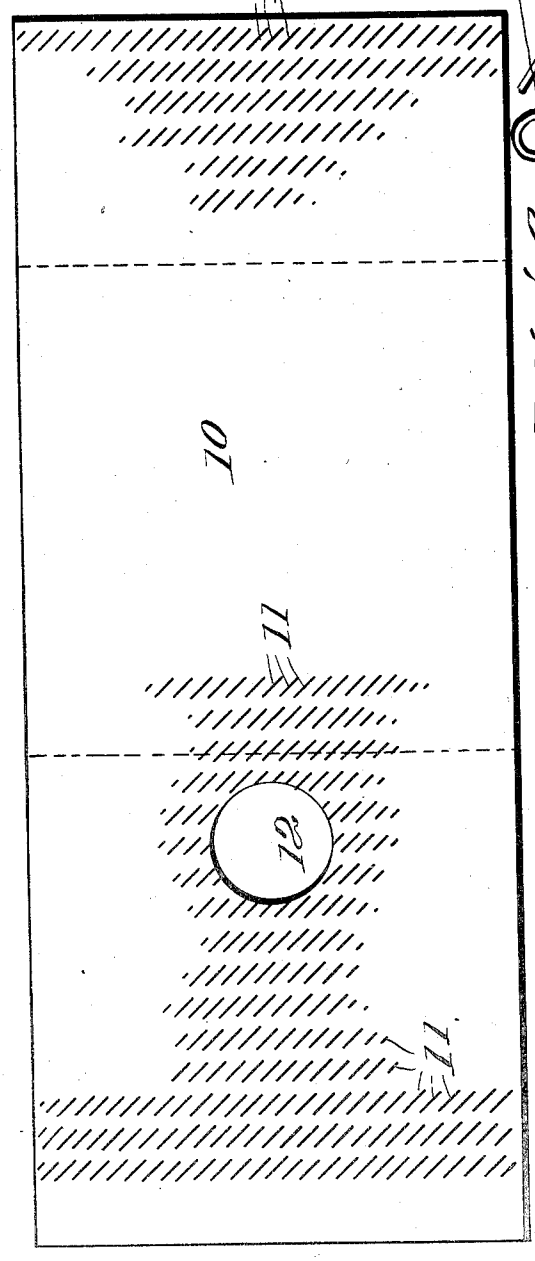


FIG. 1.

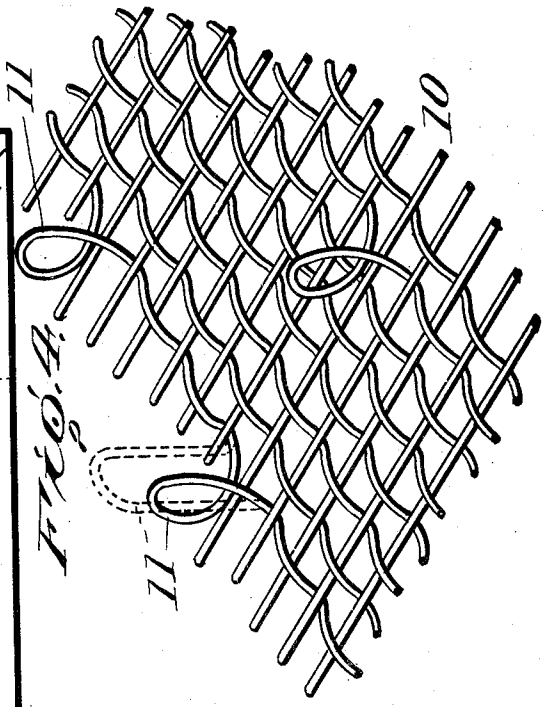


FIG. 4.

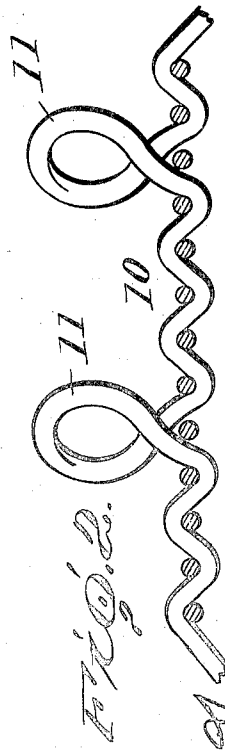


FIG. 2.

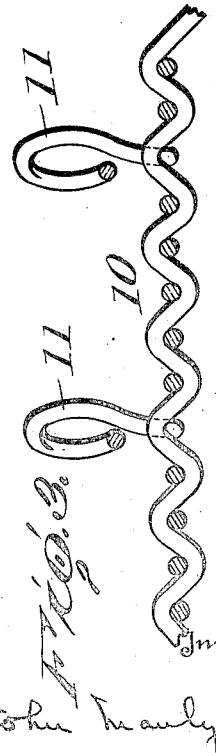


FIG. 3.

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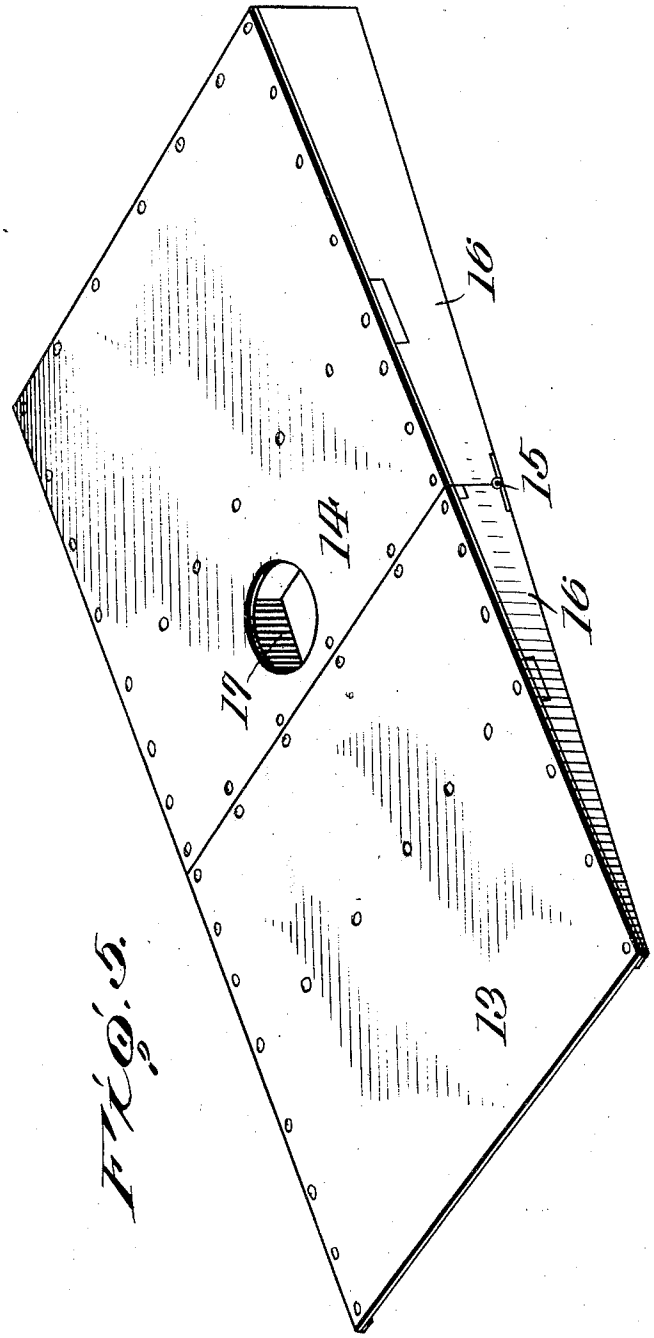


Fig. 5.

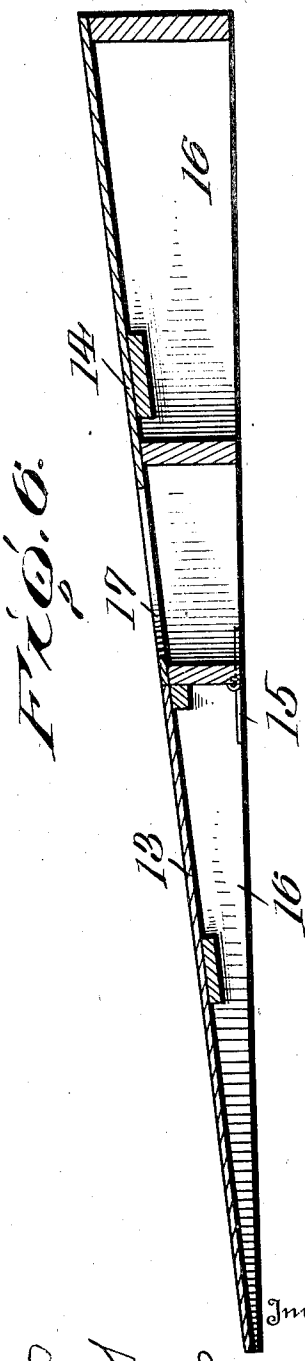


Fig. 6.

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Patented Dec. 21, 1926. 1,611,660

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN MANLY, OF LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY.

PUTTING GREEN.

Application filed July 26, 1926. Serial No. 124,982.

This invention relates to an improvement in indoor putting greens.

An object of the invention is to provide a putting surface which will have, or as nearly as possible, the same effect upon the ball in its travel, as the short grass of a natural green.

The invention consists of a fabric having a body which will insure its lying smoothly upon the floor or other surface, and provided with transverse rows of looped pile. The loops of each row are sufficiently large in size that the loop pile of each row will produce a retarding progress to the travel of the ball in a manner similar to that afforded by the short grass of a natural green.

This fabric is preferably applied or laid over a support having an inclined surface so that the ball will travel up an incline over the fabric. The fabric and support are each provided with an opening which are brought into registry and forms a pocket or cup for the ball to enter as it is putted across the looped pile surface of the fabric.

The invention consists of certain other novel features of construction and combination of parts which will be hereinafter described and pointed out in the claims:

In the accompanying drawings:

Figure 1 is a plan view of the putting green;

Figures 2 and 3 are detailed vertical sectional views illustrating the loops formed in the fabric putting green;

Figure 4 is a perspective view of the same;

Figure 5 is a perspective view of the support; and

Figure 6 is a vertical longitudinal sectional view.

The artificial putting green is made of fabric having a sufficiently heavy body portion 10 and formed in this body portion are transverse rows of loop pile 11. These loops are made of flexible fibrous material and are formed in the body during the weaving operation by a number of strands of threads woven into the body lengthwise thereof, and these threads having loops formed therein at suitable intervals, which loops project above the surface of the woven body, producing transverse rows of loops. The loops are made of sufficient height to offer or afford resistance to the travel of a golf ball over the surface of the fabric body.

The loops of a row are equally spaced from the adjacent rows and the number of rows, and the number of loops in a row is governed by the quality of the material employed in making the loop piling. In instances where the loop piling is made of coarse or stiff fibre the rows of loops may be less in number and the distance between the rows may be greater, than when the loops are made of softer fibre such as cotton.

The size of the loops varies according to the material employed and may range from one-fourth of an inch to one inch in size. However, it is not my intention to be limited to any particular size of loop, except that the loops must be of sufficient size to offer resistance to the travel of a ball across the fabric.

In the finished product the rows of loops project above the body or base of the fabric and will afford such a resistance to a golf ball in its travel over the fabric that the ball will be retarded in its progress toward the opening or hole, similar to and characteristic to the resistance met by a ball in traveling over a natural grass putting green.

The fabric putting green may be made in various lengths and widths but it has been found that a putting green made about fifteen feet long and sixteen inches wide provides a very good surface for the purpose of practicing putting. However I do not care to be limited to any specific size or dimensions in the manufacture of this article.

Located near one end and preferably centrally of the fabric is an opening or hole 12, into which the ball enters. This opening represents a pocket or cup as provided in the natural putting green.

The support or inclined way is preferably provided in connection with the fabric putting green and may be variously constructed. In the present instance this support is made in two sections 13 and 14, hinged together as at 15, so that the lower section 13 may be swung upon the upper section 14 for the purpose of packing and storing. Each section is provided with side strips or flanges 16 for supporting the sections above the floor. These flanges 16 are inclined along their upper surfaces or edges to conform to the inclination of the sections 13 and 14, that is, the outer end of the upper section 14 might be supported at an elevation of four inches and the lower edge of the lower section 13 would lie practically flush with the

floor or other surface upon which the support is mounted.

The upper section 14 is provided with an opening 17 which is adapted to register with the opening in the fabric 12 so that the ball as it travels across the putting green may enter this opening in the support.

In using this device the sections of the support will be placed upon the floor or other surface and then the fabric will be placed or spread upon the support and along the floor and the opening or hole 12, in the fabric will be brought into registry with the opening 17 in the support.

The device is now ready for use and the operator or player will endeavor to put the golf ball along the fabric putting green toward the openings 12 and 17. It is to be noted that the loop pile produces a surface which is practically characteristic of the short grass of a natural putting green in retarding the progress of the ball across the green and to the cup, and the effect upon the action of the golf ball by these loops is practically identical to the action obtained by the short grass of a natural putting green.

Having described my invention what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. An artificial putting green consisting of a body having loops of flexible material projecting from the surface thereof.

2. An artificial putting green comprising a flexible body having a number of strands of flexible material formed therein, said strands being provided with loops throughout their length for producing a looped surface above the surface of the flexible body.

3. An artificial putting green comprising a flexible body having a number of strands of fibrous material formed therein, said strands having loops therein at suitable intervals for producing rows of loops throughout the length of the flexible body and projecting above the surface of the flexible body.

4. An artificial putting green comprising a flexible woven body having a number of strands of flexible material woven into the body thereof, said strands being provided with loops throughout their length for producing a looped surface above the surface of the flexible body.

5. An artificial putting green comprising a flexible body having loops of flexible material projecting from the surface thereof, said body having an opening formed therein near one end thereof, an inclined support located beneath said flexible body and having an opening therein adapted to register with the opening of the flexible body.

6. An artificial putting green comprising a flexible body having loops of flexible material projecting from the surface thereof, said body having an opening formed therein near one end thereof, an inclined support consisting of two sections hinged together located beneath said flexible body and having an opening therein adapted to register with the opening of the flexible body.

JOHN MANLY.