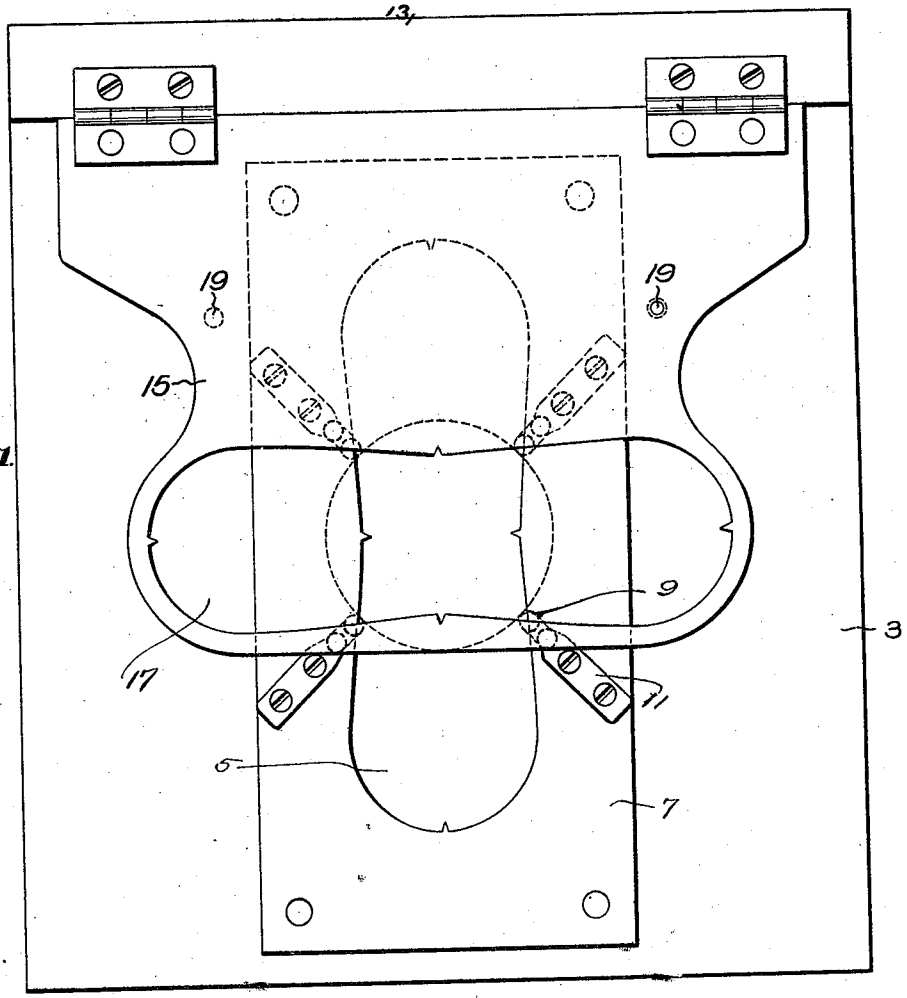
Feb. 27, 1923. 1,446,885

I. DE GOWIN

APPLIANCE FOR COVERING BALLS

Filed Feb. 26, 1920

Fig. 1.



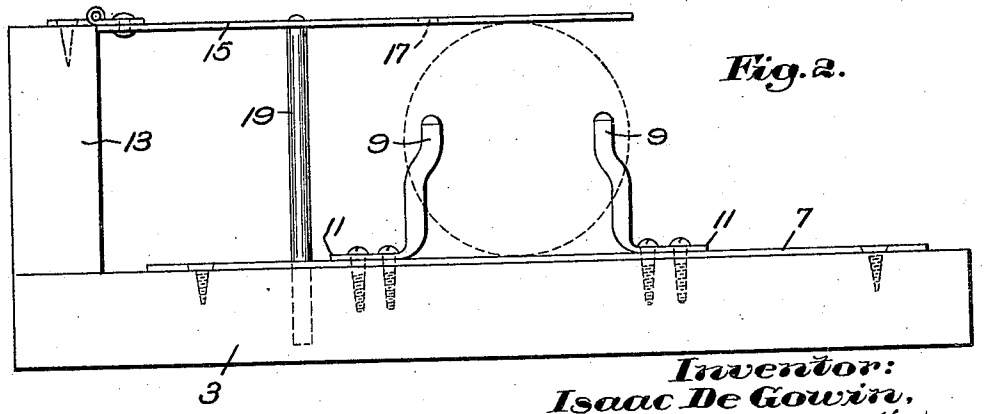


Fig. 2.

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Attys.

Patented Feb. 27, 1923. 1,446,885

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ISAAC DE GOWIN, OF NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT, ASSIGNOR TO THE SEAMLESS RUBBER COMPANY, INC., OF NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT, A CORPORATION OF MASSACHUSETTS.

APPLIANCE FOR COVERING BALLS.

Application filed February 26, 1920. Serial No. 361,463.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ISAAC DE GOWIN, a citizen of the United States, and resident of New Haven, in the county of New Haven and State of Connecticut, have invented an Improvement in Appliances for Covering Balls, of which the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a specification, like characters on the drawings representing like parts.

This invention relates to an appliance for facilitating the application of cover section to balls such, for example, as the two dumb-bell shaped sections of felt which are commonly used for covering a tennis ball center.

My invention will best be understood by reference to the following description of an illustrative embodiment thereof as shown in the accompanying drawings wherein:

Fig. 1 is a plan view; and

Fig. 2 is a side elevation.

In the form of my invention shown by way of example the appliance may embody a suitable base 3 conveniently of hard wood provided at its upper face with a recess 5 adapted to receive one of the cover sections of the ball and thus forming a templet therefor. Conveniently this recess may be provided for by attaching to the base a thin metal plate 7 having a hole cut therethrough of the size and shape of the cover section.

Suitable means are provided for positioning and centering the ball center with respect to the cover sections and I have herein shown four posts 9 having offset base portions 11 secured to the base member 3, the inner ends of the posts being adapted to contact with the ball center at diametrically opposed points, the diameters, as shown in Fig. 1, making angles of 45° with the longitudinal axes of the cover sections as positioned by the templet 7 and the corresponding templet for the other section hereafter to be referred to.

A suitable templet is provided for the second cover section to position the same relative to the ball center and in transversing relation to the first section as positioned in the recess 5. To permit of the successive positioning of the parts this second templet is movable and I have herein shown an upright 13 secured to the base 3 to which is hinged a thin metal plate 15 having an opening 17 of the size and shape of the cover section, the longitudinal axis of the opening 17 being perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the opening 5 and the centers aligning, as shown in Fig. 2, when the plate 15 is closed down. Suitable means are provided for positioning the foldable plate 15 and I have herein shown posts 19 secured in the base 3 and adapted to support the plate 15 in horizontal position substantially tangent to the ball center positioned by the posts 9, as shown in Fig. 2, but permitting the plate to be folded upwardly from the position of Fig. 2 when it is desired to insert or withdraw the ball center. In the closed down position of plate 15 the centers of the openings 5 and 17 are aligned.

In the use of the device the plate 15 is folded back and a cover section inserted in the recess 5. The ball center is then dropped in position between the posts 9 and is thereby properly centered relative to the first cover section. The movable templet 15 is then folded down and the second cover section inserted. This second section is properly centered with relation to the ball center and adjusted in proper position relative to the first section. If desired, the ends of the sections may be folded somewhat around the ball center before the parts are removed from the appliance, the positioning of the ball center by the diametrical posts permitting this. The through opening 17 permits the ends of the second cover section to be folded downwardly about the ball without lifting the plate 15. Either the cover sections or the ball center being coated with suitable cement they adhere together and the whole may be withdrawn upwardly from between the posts 9 and thereafter the sections may be smoothed out around the ball center by any known or suitable means.

Having thus described the particular embodiment of my invention shown by way of illustration in the accompanying drawings what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. An appliance for adjusting cover sections on balls comprising a templet for receiving one section, means for positioning the ball center relative thereto and a mov-

able templet for positioning the second section.

2. An appliance for adjusting cover sections on balls comprising a base having a recess to receive one section, posts on the base for positioning the ball center over the section and a cover foldable over the ball center having an opening to pass and position another section.

3. An appliance for adjusting cover sections on balls comprising opposed templets for positioning dumb-bell shaped sections in relatively traversing position, said templets having a position adapted to hold the sections in contact with a ball center, and diametrical positioning gages for the ball center between the templets providing for holding of the ends of the sections between them over the ball center.

4. An appliance for adjusting cover sections on balls comprising a templet to receive one section, means for centering a ball center thereon, a second movable templet for receiving the second section and means for positioning it to hold the section in traversing position to the first.

5. An appliance for the purpose set forth comprising means for positioning simultaneously a plurality of individual cover sections and means for centering the ball center relatively thereto.

6. An appliance for the purpose set forth comprising means for positioning simultaneously a plurality of individual cover sections and means for centering the ball center relatively thereto, said means permitting the withdrawal therefrom of the center with the sections adhering to it.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification.

ISAAC DE GOWIN.

Certificate of Correction.

It is hereby certified that in Letters Patent No. 1,446,885, granted February 27, 1923, upon the application of Isaac De Gowin, of New Haven, Connecticut, for an improvement in "Appliances for Covering Balls," an error appears in the printed specification requiring correction as follows: Page 2, line 18, claim 3, for the word "holding" read *folding;* and that the said Letters Patent should be read with this correction therein that the same may conform to the record of the case in the Patent Office.

Signed and sealed this 1st day of May, A. D., 1923.

[SEAL.]

KARL FENNING,
Acting Commissioner of Patents.