May 26, 1925. 1,539,251

A. P. FINDLAY

DEVICE FOR PLAYING TABLE FOOTBALL

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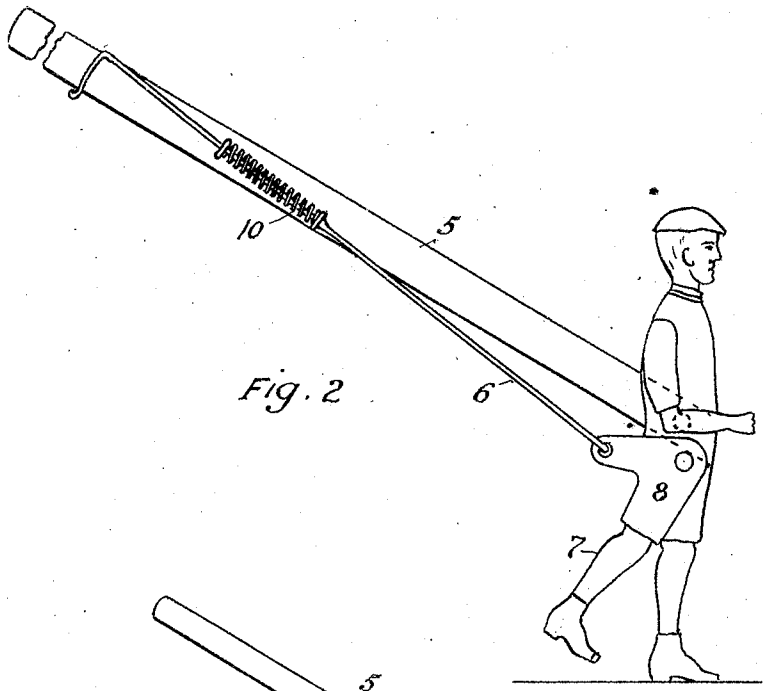

Fig. 2

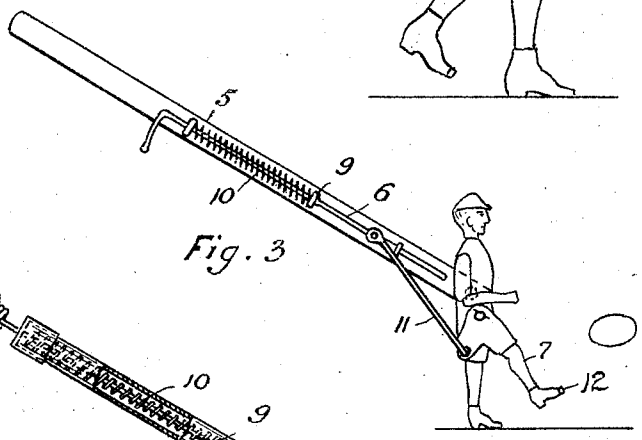

Fig. 3

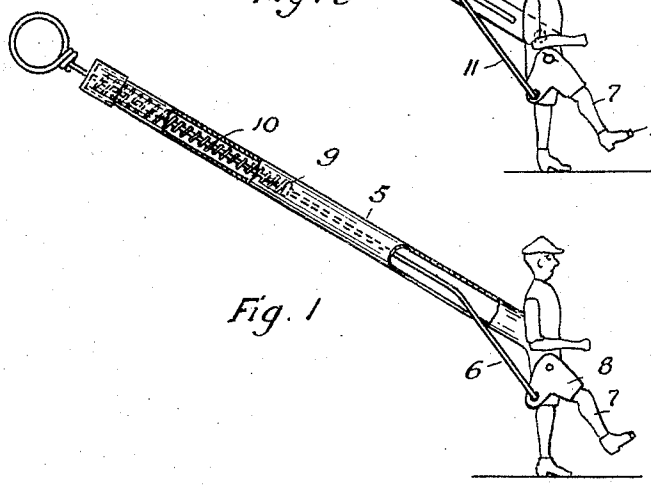

Fig. 1

Inventor
A. P. Findlay
by Langner, Parry, Card & Langner
Att'ys.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALGERNON PERCY FINDLAY, OF LAUNCESTON, TASMANIA, AUSTRALIA.

DEVICE FOR PLAYING TABLE FOOTBALL.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALGERNON PERCY FINDLAY, a subject of the King of Great Britain, residing at 63–65 George Street, Launceston, in the State of Tasmania, Commonwealth of Australia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in a Device for Playing Table Football, of which the following is a specification.

My invention has reference to the playing of table football in which there are provided on a table the usual goal posts and markings to indicate the boundaries of the field. Each player will be provided with the appliance, the subject matter of this invention, for the purpose of playing the ball in imitation of the real game of football.

According to the invention, therefore, I form the figure of a man out of a suitable material, such as wood or sheet metal and support it on the end of a handle or grip. One of the legs of the figure is pivotally mounted on the body and controlled in its movements by a spring cushioned rod in or upon the handle. Thus the pivoted leg may be operated to swing backwards and forwards to kick the ball from goal to goal.

But in order to fully understand the invention reference is made to the accompanying drawings, in which

Fig. 1 is a side elevation of the appliance with leg thrown forwards.

Fig. 2 is a like view but with the leg withdrawn and the spring compressed, and

Fig. 3 is the same view as Fig. 2 in which the released spring has pushed the leg forwards to kick the ball.

The representation of the player 4 is attached to the forward end of a handle 5, that may be tubular or flat as desired, and which mounts a rod 6 that is attached to the pivoted leg 7 of the player through the bell crank lever 8. On the rod 6, that is held by the handle, is a stop 9 against which a compression spring 10 bears at one end while seating at the other end on another stop. In Fig. 1 this stop is the cap of the tube containing the spring and rod 6. Means are upon the rear end of the rod for pulling it backwards when the spring will be compressed at the same time that the player's leg is withdrawn. On releasing the rod the spring will react to push it forwards to rock the bell crank 8 and to swing the leg 7 outwards to kick the ball.

In Fig. 2 the rod 6 is continuous between the spring and the bell crank in a straight or nearly straight line, while in Fig. 3 it is attached to a connecting rod 11, the rod being supported parallel with the handle. In Fig. 1, the forward end of the rod is bent to pass through a slot out of the tube to connect up to the bell crank. To assist in kicking the ball the pivoted leg 7 has the toe of the foot bent at right angles, as at 12. It will be evident that, while it is preferable to use the spring 10, the appliance may be operated without the spring.

When the goals have been placed in position each operator takes a player, that may be painted to resemble a member of a playing club, and the ball is set in motion. By pulling the rod backwards and then releasing it when the figure is in front of the ball, the latter is kicked and manipulated according to the proficiency of the operator and as there are two sides engaged in the game, it follows that considerable skill may be shown and much entertainment afforded both to those engaged in the game and to the lookers on.

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

1. In an appliance of the kind indicated, an effigy of a football player, a handle or grip to which the player is attached, a bell crank on the body of the player one of the legs of which is on the bell crank, a spring controlled rod on the handle attached at one end to the bell crank and having means on its other end for operating the rod to compress the spring.

2. In an appliance of the kind indicated, an effigy of a football player, a handle or grip to which the player is attached, a bell crank and a leg thereon attached to the player's body, a right-angularly turned out toe piece on the foot of the pivotally mounted leg, a spring controlled rod on the handle slidably mounted thereupon and attached to the bell crank and means on the rod for operating it to compress the spring.

3. In an appliance of the kind indicated, an effigy of a football player, a handle to which the player is attached, a bell crank

and a leg thereon attached to the player's body, a spring controlled rod parallelly and slidably mounted on the handle and a connecting rod attached to the rod at one end and at the other to the bell crank.

4. In an appliance of the kind indicated, an effigy of a football player, a tubular handle to which the player is attached, a bell crank and a leg thereon attached to the body, a slot in the tube, a slidably mounted rod on the handle bent to pass through the slot therein to connect with the bell crank, and a compression spring upon the slidably mounted rod.

In witness whereof I affix my signature.

ALGERNON PERCY FINDLAY.