

April 22, 1924.

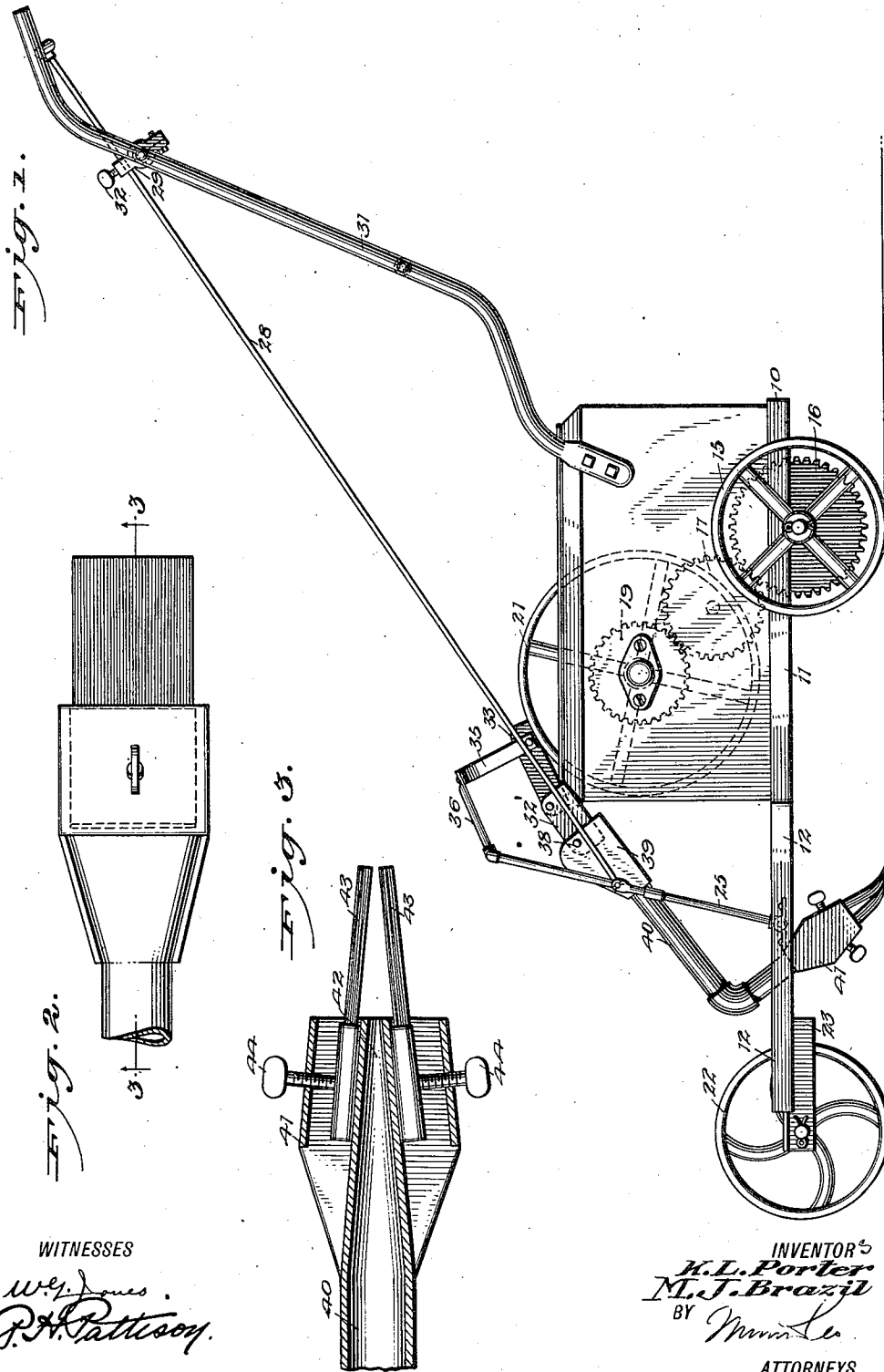
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K. L. PORTER ET AL

TENNIS COURT MARKER

Filed May 11, 1922

2 Sheets-Sheet 1



WITNESSES

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P. A. Patterson.

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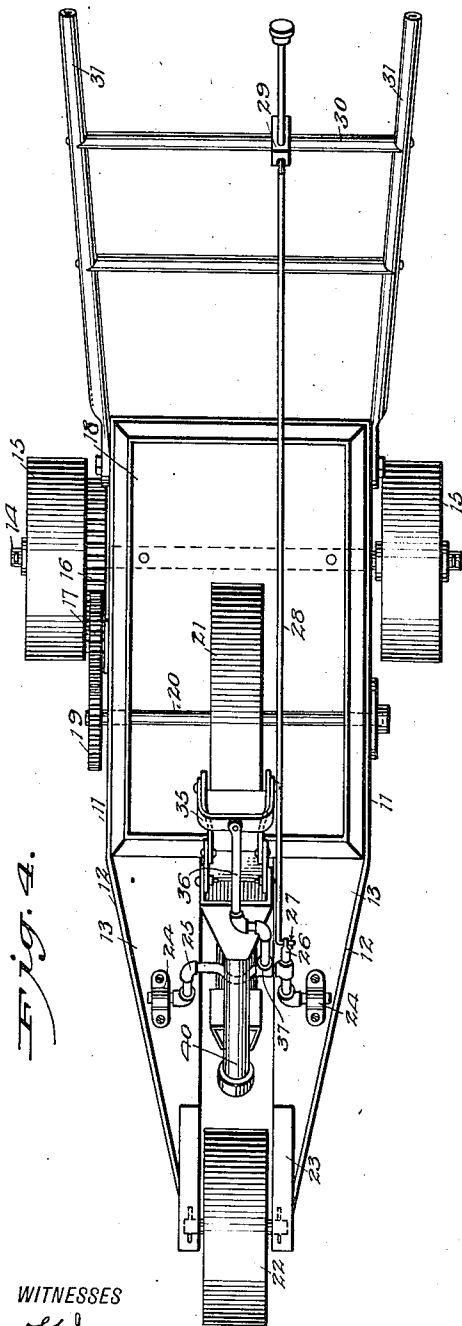


Fig. 4.

WITNESSES

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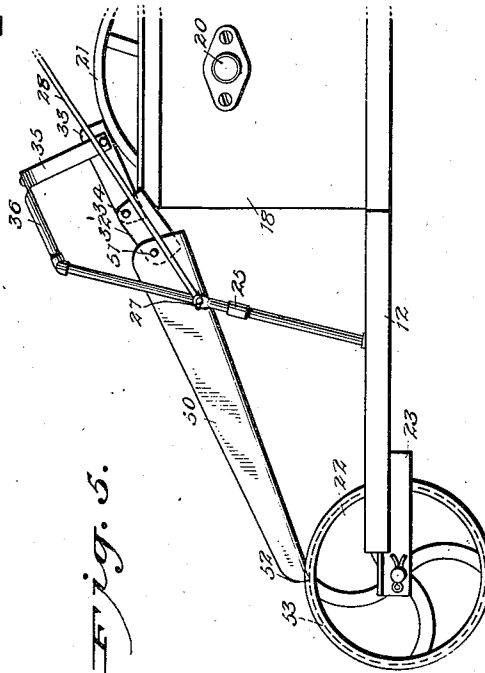


Fig. 5.



Fig. 6.

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## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

KENNETH LEGGETT PORTER, OF NEW ROCHELLE, AND MICHAEL J. BRAZIL, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., ASSIGNORS TO ALEX. TAYLOR & CO., INC., OF NEW YORK, N. Y., A CORPORATION OF NEW YORK.

## TENNIS-COURT MARKER.

Application filed May 11, 1922. Serial No. 560,302.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, KENNETH L. PORTER and MICHAEL J. BRAZIL, both citizens of the United States, and residents, respectively, of New Rochelle, in the county of Westchester and State of New York, and of the city of New York, Elmhurst Hilltop, borough of Queens, in the county of Queens and State of New York, have invented a new and improved Tennis-Court Marker, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The present invention relates to new and useful improvements in markers and it pertains particularly to markers for tennis courts or other flat surfaces.

It is one of the objects of the invention to provide a new and improved marker which is adapted for use in marking either hard or grass tennis courts.

It is a further object of the invention to provide a marker in which one of the wheels forms the marking element when used for marking grass courts.

It is a further object of the invention to provide new and improved means for supplying the marking fluid to the marking wheel.

It is a further object of the invention to provide a new and improved mechanism for marking grass courts.

It is a still further object of the invention to provide new and improved means for supplying the marking fluid to the means employed in marking hard courts.

With the above and other objects in view, reference is had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a view in side elevation of a tennis court marker constructed in accordance with the present invention and equipped for the purpose of marking hard surfaces;

Fig. 2 is a detail plan view of the marking mechanism used when marking hard surfaces;

Fig. 3 is a longitudinal sectional view of the marking mechanism for hard surfaces;

Fig. 4 is a top plan view of the mechanism equipped as shown in Fig. 1;

Fig. 5 is a detailed view in elevation of the mechanism employed for marking grass courts or other similar surfaces;

Fig. 6 is a top plan view of a portion of the mechanism illustrated in Fig. 5.

Referring more particularly to the drawings, the reference character 10 designates a frame and said frame consists of side members 11, the forward ends of which are bent to angular shape as indicated by the reference character 12, and carried by the side members 11 is a platform 13.

The reference character 14 designates a shaft or axle secured to the frame in any suitable manner, and mounted on said shaft or axle 14 are wheels 15. Secured to one of the wheels 15 is a gear 16, and said gear meshes with a gear 17. This gear 17 is mounted on one of the side walls of a tank 18 and meshes with a gear 19 carried by a shaft 20, which extends through the tank, as more clearly shown in Fig. 4. Mounted upon the shaft 20 and within the tank 18, is a wheel 21, the purpose of which will be hereinafter described.

Mounted in the front end of the angular portions 12 of the side members 11, is a wheel 22, and said wheel 22 forms the support for the forward end of the device. As more clearly shown in Fig. 1, this front wheel 22 is mounted in members 23, which are secured as shown, to the angular portions 12 of the side members 11.

Secured to the platform 13 are brackets 24, and mounted in said brackets 24 is a substantially U-shaped member 25. One leg of the U-shaped member 25 is extended as at 26, and pivotally connected thereto as at 27, is an operating rod 28, the opposite end of which passes through a guide block 29 carried by a cross bar 30 of the handle 31. A suitable set screw 32 is employed to maintain the operating rod 28 in adjusted position.

Rigidly secured to the forward top edge of the tank 18 is a trough member 32', and pivotally secured thereto is a scraping member 33, the rear edge of which engages the peripheral face of the wheel 21 heretofore mentioned. This member 33 is pivotally connected as at 34 to the member 32 and connected adjacent the rear end of the member 33 is a yoke 35. Extending forwardly from the yoke 35, is a bar 36, and said bar is rigidly connected as at 37 to the U-shaped member 25. By this construction it is ap-

parent that as the operating rod 28 is reciprocated, the trough-shaped scraper 33 will be moved into or out of contact with the peripheral edge of the wheel 21, depending upon the direction in which the operating rod 28 is moved.

Pivotally connected as at 38 to the trough-like member 32 is a substantially funnel-shaped member 39, and leading from said funnel-shaped member 39 is a substantially right-angular pipe 40. The lower end of this pipe 40 is provided with a hood 41 adapted to surround the end of said pipe, said end being reduced as indicated by the reference character 42. The reference character 43 designates two brushes carried by this hood member 41 and secured therein by means of set screws 44 or the like. These two brushes are so positioned that the reduced end 42 of the pipe discharges between the brushes 43.

The mechanism as described is adapted for use in marking hard surfaces, and in operation the tank 18 is filled with suitable marking fluid. As the device is pushed along the ground, the wheel 21 rotating through the marking fluid picks up the same and the trough-shaped scraping element 33 removes the marking liquid from the periphery of the wheel 21. From this member 33 the marking fluid passes through the trough 32 into the funnel-shaped member 39 and through the pipe 40 to the hood 41 and the brushes 43, by means of which it is deposited on the surface to be marked.

In that form of the invention used for marking grass courts the trough-like member 50 is pivotally connected as at 51 to the trough-like member 32, and said trough-like member 50 has its forward end 52 resting upon the top of the wheel 22, it being understood that in this form of the invention the periphery of the wheel 22 is grooved, as indicated by the reference character 53. In this embodiment of the invention the marking fluid is picked up by the wheel 21 and is delivered to the trough-like members 33, 32 and 50 and is deposited upon the periphery of the wheel 22 to be transferred to the surface to be marked by the wheel.

When the marking operation has been completed, it is only necessary to operate the bar 28 to lift the trough-like member 33 to a point where it disengages the periphery of the wheel 21, and due to the fact that said trough-like member 23 does not touch the periphery of the wheel 21, marking fluid will not be delivered to the marking mechanism.

From the foregoing it is apparent that the present invention provides a new and improved form of surface marker which is capable of use in connection with either hard courts, grass courts, or similar flat surfaces, and, furthermore, the construction and mechanism employed provides new and improved means whereby the marking operation may be controlled by the operator.

What is claimed is:

1. A surface marking device comprising a tank, means for supporting said tank in a manner to permit of its being rolled along the surface to be marked, a wheel mounted in said tank, a marking mechanism, and means for engagement with the periphery of the wheel in the tank for collecting marking fluid therefrom and delivering the same to the marking mechanism, said means comprising a stationary trough member and a hinged trough member hingedly connected to said stationary trough member.

2. A surface marking device comprising a tank, means for supporting said tank in a manner to permit of its being rolled along the surface to be marked, a wheel revolvably mounted in said tank, a marking mechanism, means for engagement with the periphery of the wheel in the tank for collecting marking fluid therefrom and delivering the same to the marking mechanism, said means comprising a stationary trough member and a hinged trough member hingedly connected to said stationary trough member, and means for moving the hinged trough member about its hinged point and into and out of engagement with the wheel in said tank.

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