April 9, 1940. L. COLALUCA 2,196,549

GAME BALL SHOOTER

Filed Aug. 2, 1939

Fig. 1.

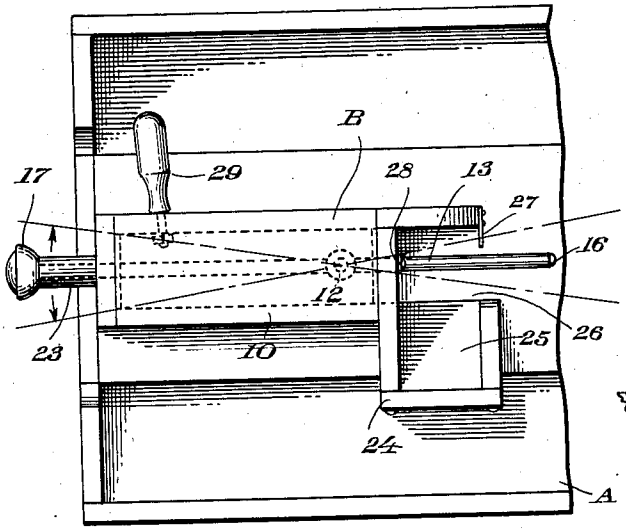


Fig. 2.

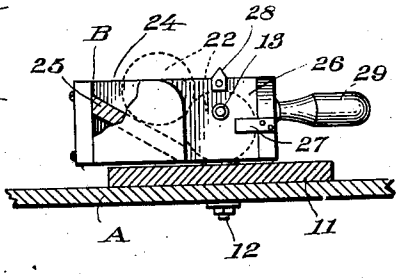


Fig. 3.

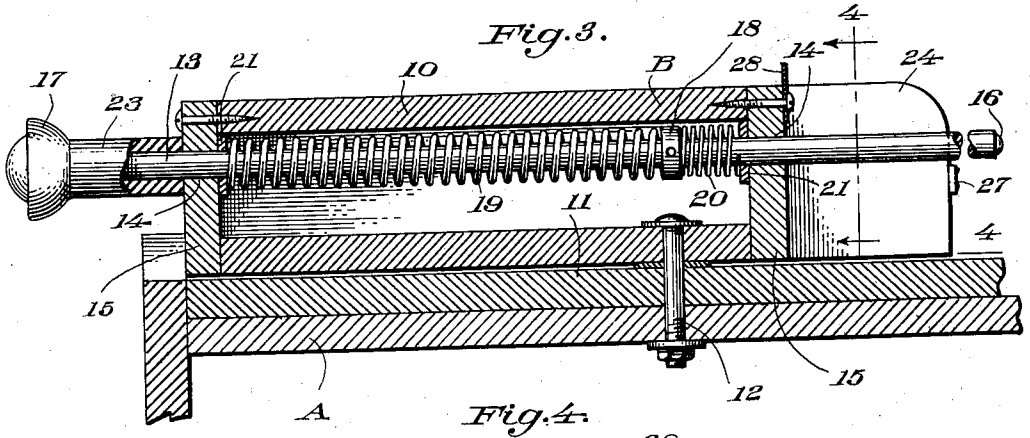
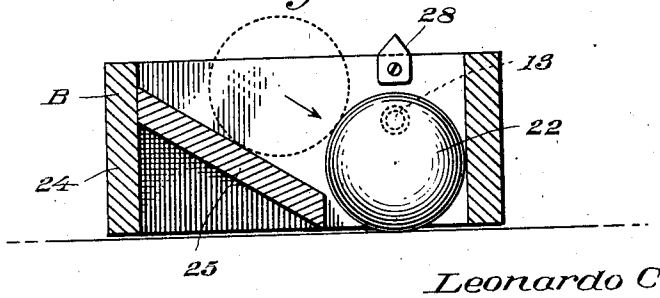


Fig. 4.



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Patented Apr. 9, 1940

2,196,549

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,196,549

GAME BALL SHOOTER

Leonardo Colaluca, Somerville, N. J.

Application August 2, 1939, Serial No. 288,048

3 Claims. (Cl. 273—129)

The invention relates to a game board shutter and more especially to a ball cue.

The primary object of the invention is the provision of a device of this character wherein the same can be mounted upon a game board particularly of that type shown in an application for U. S. patent filed August 2, 1939, and serially numbered 288,049, so that a ball can be sent for the striking of ten pins when set up, the device being such that an operator can take aim with a reasonable amount of accuracy so as to upset the pins in the playing of the game of ten pins.

Another object of the invention is the provision of a device of this character wherein the striker is in the form of a plunger and is similar to a ball cue being subjected to tension so that when operated it will exert impact upon a ball for the sending of the same on its way and the ball can be sent in a straight course or at an angle deviating therefrom, the device being readily adjustable for the setting thereof according to the requirements of an operator to have the ball take a course determined by such operator when traveling a runway.

A further object of the invention is the provision of a device of this character wherein a ball to be sent in a course will be delivered into proper position for the shooting thereof and an accurate aim can be obtained in the use of the device for the sending of said ball in a determined course.

A still further object of the invention is the provision of a device of this character which is simple in its construction, thoroughly reliable and efficient in operation, readily and easily handled, susceptible of adjustment and inexpensive to manufacture and install.

With these and other objects in view, the invention consists in the features of construction, combination and arrangement of parts as will be hereinafter more fully described in detail, illustrated in the accompanying drawing, which discloses the preferred embodiment of the invention and pointed out in the claims hereunto appended.

In the accompanying drawing:

Figure 1 is a fragmentary top plan view of a game board forming the subject matter of an application for U. S. patent filed August 2, 1939, and serially numbered 288,049, showing the shooter constructed in accordance with the invention.

Figure 2 is a fragmentary vertical transverse sectional view through the board showing the device in end elevation and partly broken away.

Figure 3 is an enlarged fragmentary longitudinal sectional view through the device.

Figure 4 is a sectional view taken on the line 4—4 of Figure 3 looking in the direction of the arrows.

Similar reference characters indicate corresponding parts throughout the several views in the drawing.

Referring to the drawing in detail, A designates generally a portion of a game apparatus which forms the subject matter of an application for U. S. patent filed August 2, 1939, and serially numbered 288,049, while B denotes generally the shooter constituting the present invention and particularly adaptable for the said apparatus. This shooter B comprises an elongated substantially rectangular shaped box body 10 being closed at its bottom, sides, ends and top, respectively, the bottom 11 being fitted with a pivot bolt 12 which is separably engaged in a clearance therefor in the board of the game apparatus B hereinbefore stated so that the body 10 can swing on a vertical axis in a horizontal path for a purpose presently described.

Slidably fitting the body 10 is a striking plunger 13 being similar to a ball cue and loosely fits in guide openings 14 provided in opposite ends 15 of the said body 10. This plunger 13 at its inner end is fitted with a striking tip 16 of any desirable construction while the outer end terminates in a pull knob and hand grip 17 for the convenient operation of the said plunger 13 in the use of the shooter. Surrounding the plunger 13 on opposite sides of an adjustable collar 18 thereon are the tensioning coils and buffer springs 19 and 20, respectively, these being seated against washers 21 fixed by abutment against the end walls 15 of the body 10. The spring 19 is for tensioning of the plunger 13 when the latter is pulled in a direction against the resistance of said spring and when this plunger is free from hand grip it impacts against a ball 22 for the sending thereof in a course upon the board of the apparatus A for game playing purposes. The spring 20 functions to absorb impact and eliminate rebound of the plunger 13 when the stroke under the tension of the spring 19 has been completed.

The plunger 13 between the grip 17 and the outer end wall 15 next thereto has fitted therewith a resilient bumper sleeve 23 adapted to make contact with said end wall 15 on the completion of the ball sending stroke of the said plunger 13 and in this way the activity of the

operation of the plunger is silenced to minimize hammer blow noises in the working thereof. This sleeve 23 cooperates with the spring 20 for the purposes specified.

Built with the end wall 15 at the inner end of the body 10 is a ballrack 24 formed with a laterally extended gravity feeding chute 25 for the ball 22 to have it presented properly in the path of the movement of the plunger 13 to assure striking of this ball thereby in the working of the shooter. The rack 24 aligned with the path of movement of the plunger 13 in the body 10 is formed with an outlet or discharge opening 26 for the ball 22 to allow its passage in a driving course when moved by operation of the plunger 13. At this opening 26 and built with the rack 24 is an inherently springy guard 27 which prevents the ball when gravitating the chute 25 from passing through the said opening 26 and freeing itself from the rack. In other words, this guard 27 retains the ball in shooting position within the rack 24 to be within the path of movement of the plunger 13.

The rack carries a sight 28 enabling the user of the shooter to obtain accurate aim in the operation thereof for the shooting or sending of the ball 22 when playing a game. The pivot bolt 12 allows lateral swinging of the shooter to change it from a straight shooting aim to an angular aim thereto with respect to the straight aim.

The body 10 at one side is fitted with a handle 29 being convenient for the operator of the shooter to properly hold the latter at a selected aim and also to maintain the said shooter steady and in a set position under adjustment when the plunger 13 is operated.

The shooter in the use thereof enables an operator to reach accuracy in the aiming thereof for sending of the ball 22 when playing a game and for the arrival of a high scoring in the playing of such game as the shooter can be maintained steady and more so than when using an ordinary hand cue or where the plunger may be guided by hand control thereof.

What is claimed is:

1. A shooter of the kind described comprising an elongated substantially rectangular-shaped box body closed at its bottom, sides, ends and top, respectively, a pivot bolt fitted to the bottom of said body for the swinging thereof on a vertical axis in a horizontal path when the said bolt is engaged with a support, a striking plunger slidably fitted longitudinally of the body through openings in opposite ends thereof, a spring acting upon the plunger when pulled upon in one direction for tensioning the said plunger and effecting striking action thereof, a ball rack formed with the said body and laterally extended for disposition at substantially right angles to the path of movement of the plunger having a discharge opening in the path of said plunger, a gravity feeding chute within the rack at one side of the opening therein and inclined toward the said plunger, and an inherently springy guard on the rack and projected into the opening therein for eliminating the passage of a ball therethrough when gravitating the chute and freeing itself from the rack.

2. A shooter of the kind described comprising an elongated substantially rectangular-shaped box body closed at its bottom, sides, ends and top, respectively, a pivot bolt fitted to the bottom of said body for the swinging thereof on a vertical axis in a horizontal path when the said bolt is engaged with a support, a striking plunger slidably fitted longitudinally of the body through openings in opposite ends thereof, a spring acting upon the plunger when pulled upon in one direction for tensioning the said plunger and effecting a striking action thereof, a ball rack formed with the said body and laterally extended for disposition at substantially right angles to the path of movement of the plunger having a discharge opening in the path of said plunger, a gravity feeding chute within the rack at one side of the opening therein and inclined toward the said plunger, an inherently springy guard on the rack and projected into the opening therein for eliminating the passage of a ball therethrough when gravitating the chute and freeing itself from the rack, and a striking tip on the plunger for contact with the ball in the path of movement of said plunger and held by the rack.

3. A shooter of the kind described comprising an elongated substantially rectangular-shaped box body closed at its bottom, sides, ends and top, respectively, a pivot bolt fitted to the bottom of said body for the swinging thereof on a vertical axis in a horizontal path when the said bolt is engaged with a support, a striking plunger slidably fitted longitudinally of the body through openings in opposite ends thereof, a spring acting upon the plunger when pulled upon in one direction for tensioning the said plunger and effecting a striking action thereof, a ball rack formed with the said body and laterally extended for disposition at substantially right angles to the path of movement of the plunger having a discharge opening in the path of said plunger, a gravity feeding chute within the rack at one side of the opening therein and inclined toward the said plunger, an inherently springy guard on the rack and projected into the opening therein for eliminating the passage of a ball therethrough when gravitating the chute and freeing itself from the rack, a striking tip on the plunger for contact with the ball in the path of movement of said plunger and held by the rack, and grips on the body and plunger, respectively, the grip on the body being at one side thereof.

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