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INDOOR GOLF COURSE.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 25, 1920.

1,371,820. Patented Mar. 15, 1921.

Fig. 1.

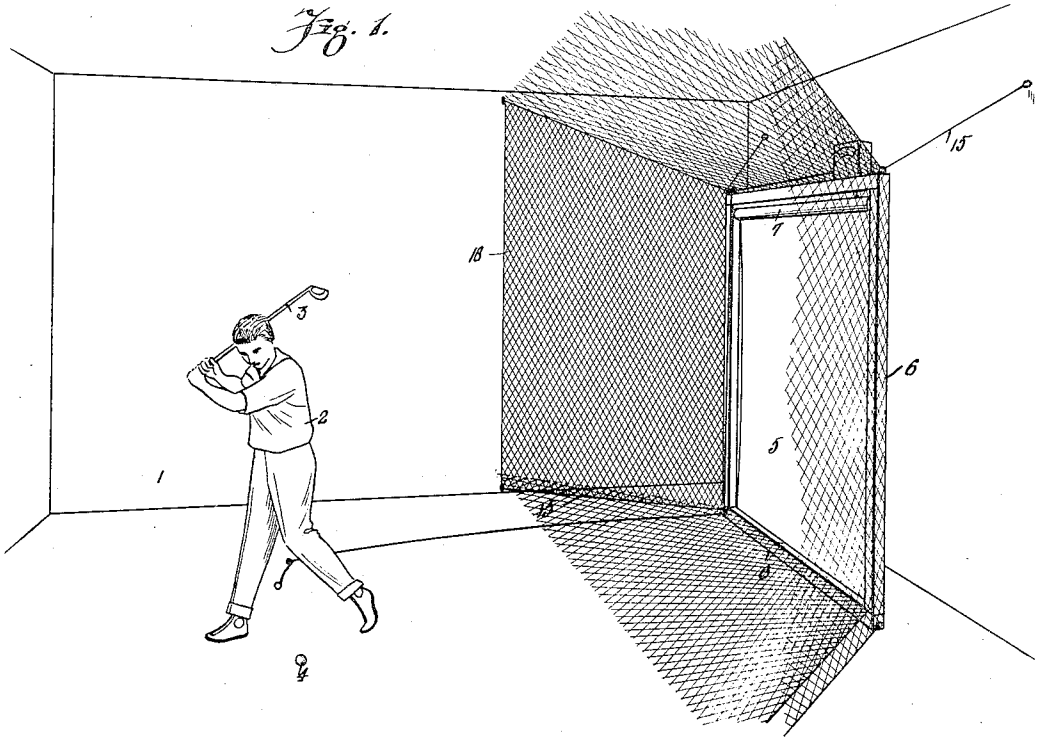


Fig. 2.

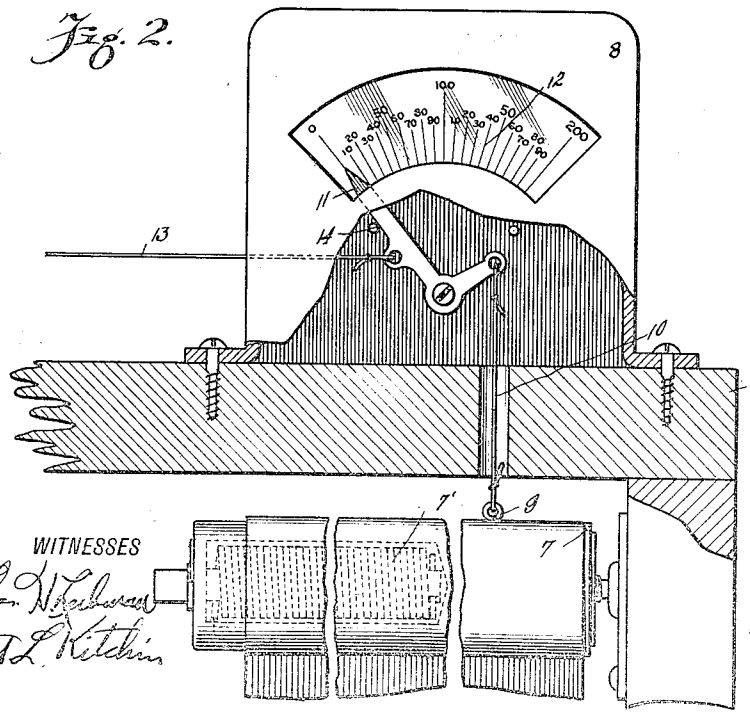
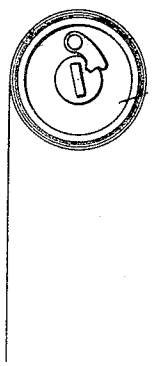


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES

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INDOOR-GOLF COURSE.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE SOCHUREK, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the city of New York, Astoria, borough of Queens, in the county of Queens and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Indoor-Golf Course, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to indoor games, and has for an object to provide an improved apparatus presenting an indoor golf course which is arranged to cause the players to act in substantially the same manner as when playing on a full sized outdoor course.

Another object of the invention is to provide an indoor golf course wherein driving may be practised with the same energy and skill as if the player was operating on a full sized course.

A further object is to provide an indoor golf course wherein an indicator is provided and means for operating the indicator in proportion to the blow of the ball in order to indicate the distance of the respective drives.

In the accompanying drawing:

Figure 1 is a perspective view showing part of a room and an embodiment of the invention arranged therein.

Fig. 2 is an enlarged fragmentary view partially in section showing part of a roller and indicator and associated parts embodying features of the invention.

Fig. 3 is an end view of the roller shown in Fig. 2.

Referring to the accompanying drawing by numerals, 1 indicates an ordinary room in a dwelling, or in any other form of building, while 2 indicates the figure of a player having a driver 3 in his hand positioned to drive the ball 4. It will, of course, be evident that the ball 4 could be arranged directly on the floor of room 1 or could be supported by any form of tee so that the player 2 may correctly drive the ball so as to strike forcibly the sheet 5. This sheet is fastened at the lower end rigidly to a frame 6 and fastened also rigidly at the upper end to a roller 7. The roller 7 is constructed identical with an ordinary shade roller except that one of the locking pawls have been removed so that it will always have a tendency to roll up and keep the sheet 5 taut. When the ball 4 strikes the sheet 5 at any point it will cause the roller 7 to unroll a short distance according to the blow given, and said unrolling action will be indicated on the register 8. As soon as the force of the impact has ceased the spring will rewind the roller 7 ready for the next ball.

As shown in Fig. 2 an eyelet or other suitable member 9 is connected with roller 7 to which a ligament or other connecting member 10 is secured so that when the roller 7 unwinds the ligament 10 will be pulled and will swing the pointer 11 over the dial 12 for the correct distance. As soon as the force of the impact of the ball has ceased the roller 7 will immediately rewind, but the pointer 11 will remain in its new position so that the player may observe the position thereof and thereby ascertain the number of yards the ball would have traveled on a full sized course. Before the next ball is driven against the sheet 5 the cord or cable 13 connected with the pointer 11 is pulled so as to move the pointer back against the stop 14. This operation is repeated whenever the ball 4 has caused the pointer 11 to move away from zero. It will be evident that the string or cable 13 may be guided by pulleys or other guiding means to a point near the player 2 so that the player may easily reset the indicator 8 after each drive.

The frame 6 may be formed in any suitable manner, but is preferably formed so as to be readily knocked down and folded into a compact package for storage. When the frame has been set up ready for use in a room a suitable number of guy lines 15 are connected therewith and with nails or other fastening means in the room so as to brace the frame rigidly in place. In addition to these guy ropes a netting 16 is arranged on each side of the frame and across the top, said netting extending toward the player 2, though flaring outwardly and preferably upwardly at the top. This will prevent a wild ball from hitting the sides of the room. The sheet 5 may be of any size, as for instance approximately as tall as the player 2 and nearly as wide, though if desired it could be otherwise proportioned as occasion may demand. Regardless of the size, however, of the sheet 5 the construction is such that a person may practise driving in a comparatively small room and may drive in the usual manner so that when playing a regular game on a full sized course the driving will

be of the same type, for instance as shown in Fig. 1 the player 2 can strike the ball as hard as he desires and can cause the ball to pass through the air to the right or left, or in a forward direction according to the place where he expects to drive the ball. If desired, on the sheet 5 is painted or otherwise arranged blocks or pictures indicating the different characteristics of a regular course, as for instance a rough patch of ground, bunkers, water, and other features commonly found in full sized courses.

In constructing the roller 7 preferably only one pawl is used, as shown in Fig. 3, whereby the tension of the spring may be varied as occasion may demand. For instance, if the device is to be used in a comparatively large room and the ball must travel an appreciable distance through the air before striking the sheet 5 the tension of the spring 7′ connected with roller 7 will be reduced. If the room is comparatively small and the distance of travel of the ball is short the spring 7′ is brought more under tension so that the indicator will represent the proper distance of the respective drives. In order that the ball will not bounce on the floor after leaving the sheet 5 and thereby produce an undesirable noise, a bottom screen is provided at the lower part of the frame 6 which is preferably spaced several inches from the floor whereby when the ball bounces back from the sheet 5 it will strike the screen. As the apparatus is to be used indoors and usually in some room of a dwelling this is very important as it will not disturb any one on the floor below.

What I claim is:

1. An indoor golf game, comprising a frame, a spring roller at one end of the frame, a flexible sheet having one end secured to the frame and its other end to the spring roller and by which it is kept taut, an indicator including a dial and a pivoted pointer, and a flexible member secured to the pointer and roller, whereby when a ball is projected against the sheet the roller will be unwound and the pointer moved over the dial in proportion to the unwinding of the roller and retained in the position to which it has been moved.

2. An indoor golf game, comprising a frame, a spring roller at the upper end of the frame, a flexible sheet having one end secured to the lower end of the frame and its other end to the spring roller and by which it is kept taut, an indicator consisting of a dial and a pointer having an angular arm, a flexible member connecting the roller with the angular arm of the pointer, and a member secured to the pointer for returning it to its normal position.

GEORGE SOCHUREK.