W. H. SEAGRAVE.

INDOOR GOLF GAME.

APPLICATION FILED FEB. 6, 1919.

1,334,176.

Patented Mar. 16, 1920.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.

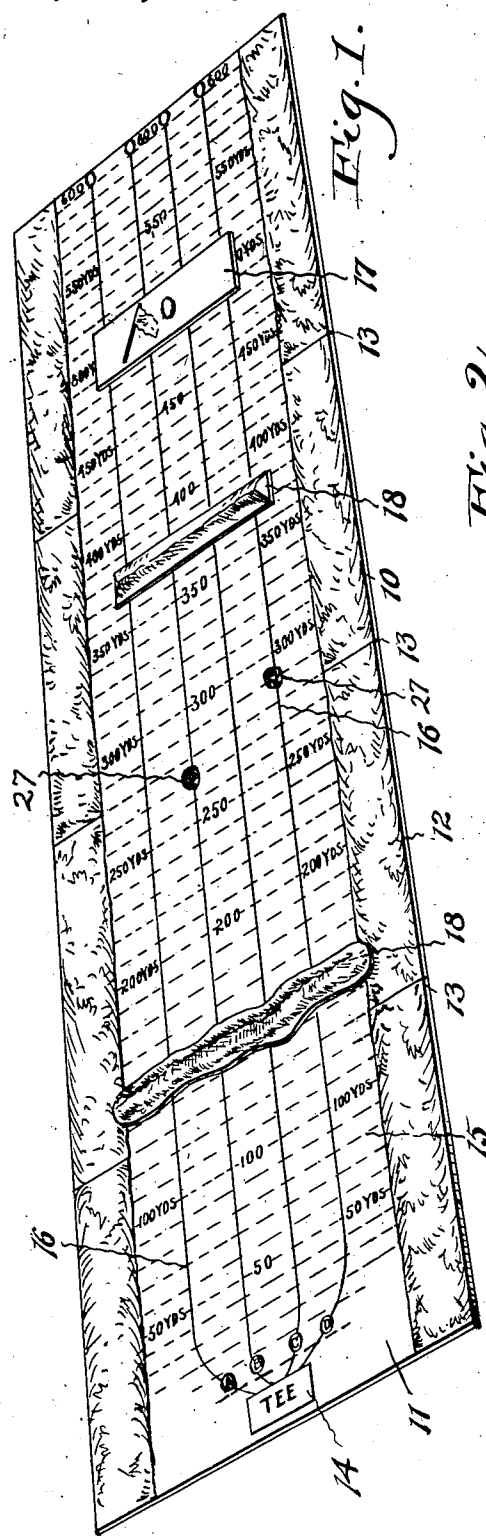
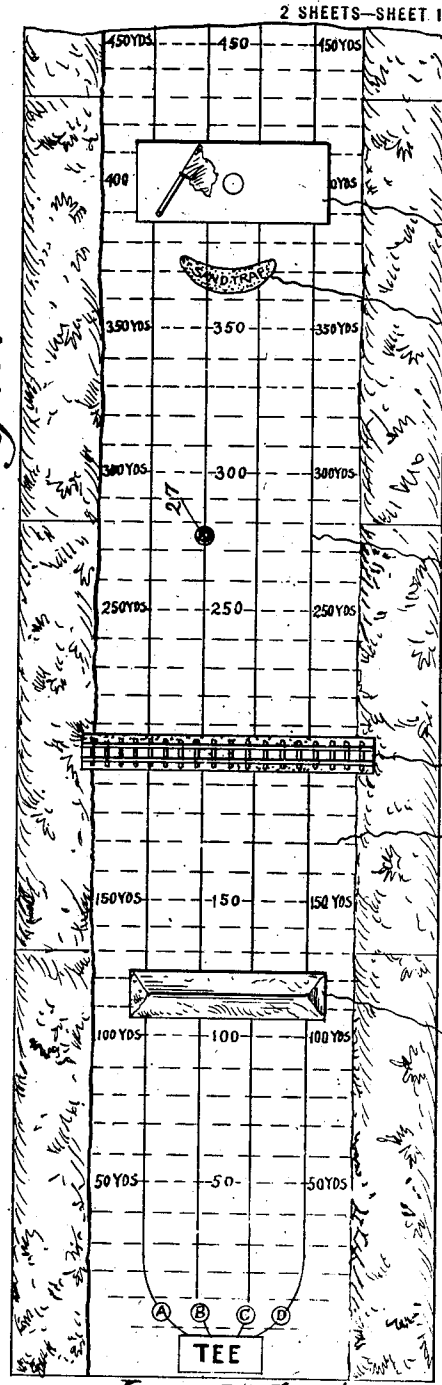


Fig. 2.



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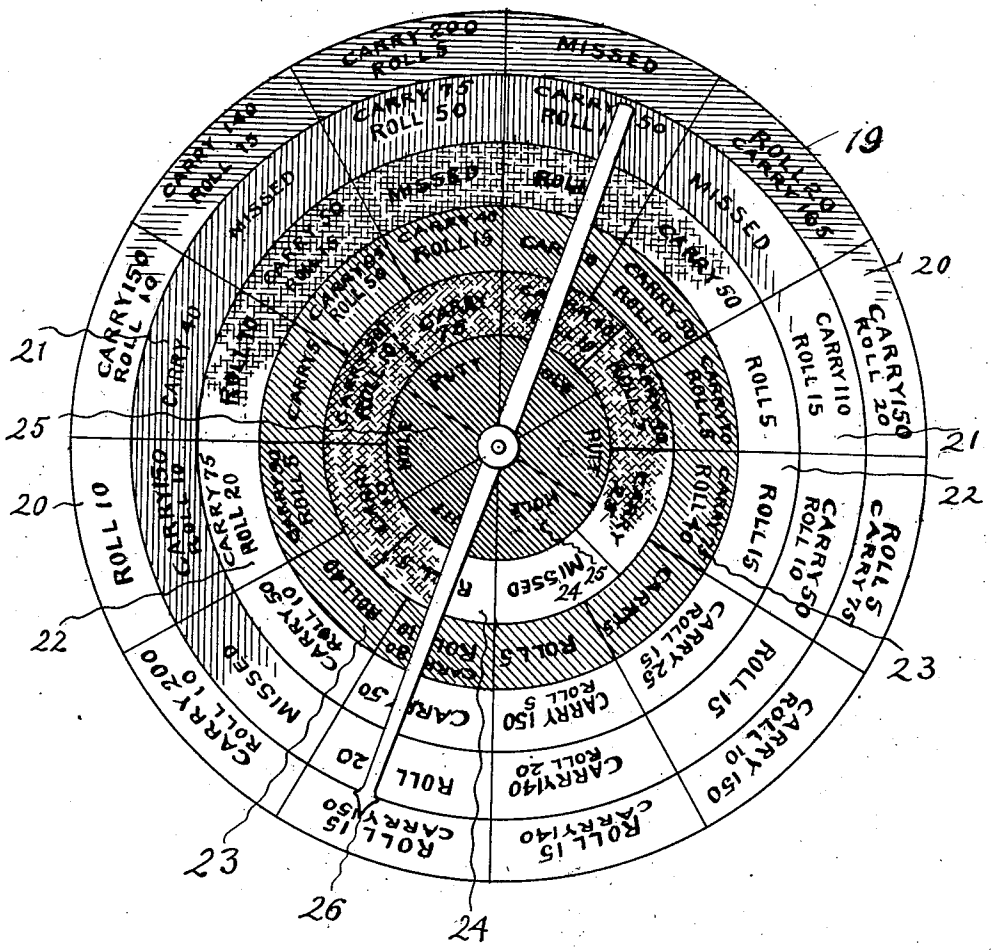


Fig. 3.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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INDOOR-GOLF GAME.

1,334,176. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Mar. 16, 1920.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WALTER H. SEAGRAVE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Cleveland, in the county of Cuyahoga and State of Ohio, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Indoor-Golf Games, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to an indoor golf game, and has for its principal object to provide a game by which an entire golf course, either real or imaginary, can be played with simple apparatus or devices including a part suitably made to represent a fraction of the course out of which the different holes of the course can be made or reproduced as to the length of the hole and the various hazards and bunkers which occur on a given course.

A still further object is to provide an indoor golf game which can be played under conditions very nearly the same as those governing the playing of an actual golf course.

A still further object is to provide an indoor golf game wherein the number of strokes required to make a given hole or a particular hole of a given course, or the number of strokes required to play the entire course will depend not altogether on the element of chance, but to a considerable extent on the judgment of the player, based on actual playing experience gained on a regular outdoor golf course.

These objects are attained very effectively by an indoor golf game apparatus including a board representing a portion of a course and including an adjustable or movable putting green and adjustable or movable hazards and bunkers so that all the different holes of the course can be reproduced, together with a device for determining the distance per stroke, this device being preferably formed of a spinner including a disk divided with reference to the center thereof both radially and circumferentially, forming concentric annular spaces each for a different golf club, and each divided circumferentially into distance spaces whereby the number of yards made at a given stroke will be determined by the stopping of the indicator, and the particular club which the player has selected having in mind the distance from the hole and the particular physical conditions of the space between his ball and the hole.

The invention may be briefly summarized as consisting in certain novel combinations and arrangements of parts which will be described in the specification and set forth in the accompanying claims.

In the accompanying sheets of drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of the board marked and designated to represent a portion of a course capable of being adapted as to the length of the hole, hazards and bunkers, etc., to all the different holes of the course, this view showing also the movable putting green on the five hundred yard line, and showing between the tee and the green a bunker and also a hazard in representation of a stream; Fig. 2 is a plan view of a portion of the same illustrating how different hazards and bunkers may be utilized, and the putting green here being given a different position than in Fig. 1 to illustrate the manner in which by the selection of the bunkers and hazards and the variable positioning of the putting green, all the different holes along any course may be reproduced; and Fig. 3 is a face view of the spinner or indicator used in playing the game.

Referring now to the drawings, 10 represents a board constituting the playing course, and preferably having produced thereon the pictorial representation of a fairway which extends lengthwise through the middle of the board and the so-called rough along the margins. The fairway is indicated at 11 and the rough at 12. This board representing the course, will be of suitable length so that there can be reproduced one hole of generally the maximum length encountered in a golf course, that shown in the drawing being six hundred yards. This board is preferably in sections, hinged together at 13, four sections being here shown, so that it can be conveniently and compactly folded up when not in use.

At one end of the course represented on the board is a fixed tee 14, and from this tee to the opposite end of the board the course is marked off in parallel distance lines 15, the distance between the lines representing five or ten yards as may be desired, with certain regularly occurring lines, in this case, fifty yards apart, marked with distance figures. Extending forwardly from the tee to the opposite end of the board, through the fairway 11, are parallel lines 16, four of which are preferably employed,

these lines indicating the course of the balls along the board from the tee to the putting green, wherever it may be located.

17 represents the movable putting green which may be, and preferably is, printed in a different color than the fairway, and is preferably in the form of a pad or plate which can be positioned at any point along the course, or at any distance from the tee, thus enabling the different holes of the course to be reproduced, as far as distance from the tee is concerned. In Fig. 1 the putting green is shown on the five hundred-yard line, and in Fig. 2 it is shown on the four hundred-yard line, Fig. 1 therefore representing a five hundred-yard hole, and Fig. 2 a four hundred-yard hole. It will be understood that in playing a known or regular course the green will be changed after each hole is played in accordance with the length of the next hole occurring on the course.

In order that the physical conditions, or substantially the physical conditions formed or presented by bunkers and hazards may be reproduced on the board, for all the different holes in a course, I provide a series of plates or strips 18, which can be placed across the fairway, or on the fairway, at any point thereon, and these pieces will be marked or printed in representation of the usual well-known hazards and bunkers actually found in practice. For example, in Fig. 1 there is shown at approximately one hundred and fifty yards from the tee a hazard representing a stream, and at approximately three hundred and seventy yards from the tee a bunker. In Fig. 2 there is a bunker at approximately one hundred and ten yards from the tee, a hazard in representation of a railroad track at approximately two hundred yards from the tee, and a sand trap adjacent the putting green approximately three hundred and seventy yards from the tee. This game will include a sufficiently large series of these bunkers and hazards from which the player will select those required in playing the different holes of a course, and he will place them on the course as they are actually found in practice, assuming that a known course is being played.

Additionally there is utilized a so-called spinner which includes a disk 19. This disk is divided by concentric circles into a series of different spaces 20, 21, 22, 23, 24 and 25, and these concentric spaces which are preferably reproduced in different or contrasting colors, each pertaining to a given club. There may be any number of these spaces depending on the number of clubs used, six being here shown. For example, the outer annular space 20 between the edge of the disk and the first circle pertains to, or is to be used when the player selects a driver for a given stroke, the next circle to be used say for the brassy; the next circle for the mid iron; the next circle for the mashy; the next circle for the mashy-niblick or niblick; and the innermost space pertaining to the use of the putter, that is, to indicate whether or not the ball is holed or another putt is required. Of course, it will be understood that the disk of the spinner may be marked off for other clubs than those mentioned, those referred to, being the ones most commonly employed.

Each of these annular spaces determined by two adjacent concentric circles, and each pertaining as above stated, to a certain club, is divided circumferentially by radial lines into what may be termed distance spaces, in each of which will be printed a distance secured by the particular club. I prefer that the space or distance covered in the different strokes and with the different clubs, except the putter, be divided into two portions, namely, the flight through the air and the roll in simulation as nearly as possible of the flight and roll of a ball actually driven by a club, or it may provide for the flight or roll alone. For example, in one of the substantially rectangular spaces devoted to the driver, there may appear the words "Carry 140" and "Roll 15", indicating that the ball has been struck by the driver so that it flies through the air for one hundred and forty yards before touching the ground, and thereafter is rolled fifteen yards, the distance given for each club varying from substantially the maximum distance to an actual miss, which in ordinary play may be secured by the use of that club. By thus dividing the distance obtained at a stroke into flight or carry and roll, the bunkers and hazards are made nearly as effective as in actual practice or playing.

There may also be spaces in which will be indicated whether or not the ball has been completely missed by the player, and also whether the ball has been driven off the fairway into the rough, for which there will be a given penalty prescribed by the rules of the game. Also there may be spaces marked to indicate that the player has holed his ball in one stroke, though I prefer that the game be so played that the player may avail himself of holing his ball in one stroke only when the ball is at a less distance from the hole than the maximum distance given by the use of the club.

Pivoted at the center of the disk, and arranged so that it may be spun or revolved over the disk, is a spinner or indicator shown at 26. As will be apparent, the player in order to advance his ball, first must declare which club he intends to use, having due consideration to the distance that his ball lies from the hole, and the lay of his ball with

reference to the bunkers or hazards if such there may be, between his ball and the hole. The player then spins or whirls the spinner, and where the spinner stops, the space under it will represent the distance secured by the player.

In playing the game there will also be used in connection with the parts above described, a simple papier-mâché golf ball 27, flat on one side, or some other object which will represent the ball itself, and which is to be moved by the player along the course chosen by him, the player moving the ball at each stroke the distance to which he is entitled by the use of the spinner. It will be understood that each player has his own ball, and will advance it along one of the lines 16, which lines are indicated just beyond the tee by the letters A, B, C and D, the particular course illustrated, being particularly adapted to be played by one to four players at the same time.

The above described game is played in the following manner by one or more players: Assuming that a known course is being played, and assuming that the first hole of the course is, for example, four hundred and forty yards in length, the putting green 17 will first be placed on the four hundred and forty yard line of the board 10, and there will be placed across, or in the fairway, such bunkers and hazards which in the actual course exists in the first hole of the course being played, the appropriate bunkers and hazards being selected from the series with which the game is provided, and these will be placed between the tee and the green, where, or approximately where they occur along the first hole of the course being played.

The player will then elect to use the driver, which would, of course, be the first club used in actually playing a hole four hundred and forty yards in length, and upon whirling the spinner the distance secured in the first stroke is determined by the stopping of the spinner with reference to the outer circle or distance spaces adjacent the outer edge of the spinner disk 19. Let it be assumed that he secured a drive of two hundred and twenty yards including the flight and roll. He will then advance his ball along one of the lines A, B, C or D as the case may be, to the two hundred and twenty ward line. An experienced player would then select a brassy, and upon whirling the spinner, the distance secured with this club will be determined by the stopping of the spinner with reference to the second circle 21. Let it be assumed that on this stroke he has secured a distance of one hundred and eighty-five yards, including the flight and roll, he will then advance his ball to the four hundred and five yard line.

Let it be assumed that the player next elects to use a mashy, and on again whirling the spinner, let it be assumed that the stopping of the needle or indicator with reference to the circle 23, was such that he secured a distance of thirty-five yards. This stroke would then advance the ball onto the putting green. On again whirling the spinner, if it stops upon the word "Hole" in one of the spaces of the innermost circle, or in the putting space, he has made the hole in four strokes. If, however, it stops on the word "Putt" he must keep on whirling until he holes out, counting a stroke for each time he whirls the spinner.

When the game is being played by more than one player, the players will alternately work the spinner and advance their respective balls in accordance with the distances secured, that player whose ball is farthest from the hole first spinning, as in actual practice.

In the above description, in describing the course of the ball for the first hole, wherein the player holed out in four strokes, it has been assumed that the ball in its flight and roll encountered neither a bunker nor a hazard. The rules and penalty governing a ball which strikes or rolls into a bunker or hazard as near as possible will be similar to those covering the playing of an actual course. Should the ball strike or roll into a water hazard, it should be carried back to the next five yard line, with a penalty of one stroke. Should the ball strike or roll into a bunker or sand trap, the ball is stopped there, the player playing out by using either a niblick or mashy-niblick, the requirement that he use such club under the circumstances, being the penalty for playing into the bunker or sand trap as the case may be. Provision may also be made for playing into the rough or out of bounds, in which case a suitable penalty will be provided.

After all the players playing the game, (assuming that there are more than one) have holed their balls, the board will be prepared for the next hole, the putting green being placed an appropriate distance from the tee, and the proper hazards and bunkers, if any exist on the second hole, will be selected and placed at approximately their correct locations with reference to the tee and green. The game will then be played for the second hole in the manner above described for the first hole. Following this, all the different holes of the course will be played in order.

While I have shown the preferred form of my invention, I do not desire to be confined to the precise details shown, as modification may be made in configuration and minor details of construction, and I aim in

my claims to cover all modifications which do not involve a departure from the spirit and scope of my invention in its broad aspects.

Having described my invention, I claim:

1. An indoor golf game comprising a playing board marked in representation of a fraction of a golf course, and provided with a part representing a tee and a part representing a putting green, one of the latter being movable along the course with reference to the other so as to adapt the board for different holes varying in length of a golf course.

2. An indoor golf game comprising a board marked in representation of a fraction of a golf course with distance spaces along the same, and provided with a fixed tee, and a putting green movable along the course toward and from the tee, whereby the different holes of varying lengths of a golf course may be reproduced one after the other.

3. An indoor golf game comprising a playing board marked in representation of a fraction of a golf course, and provided with a part representing a tee and a part representing a putting green, one of the latter being movable along the course with reference to the other, and a plurality of movable devices in representation of bunkers and hazards adapted to be placed across the board at different locations with respect to the tee and putting green, whereby the different holes of a golf course as regards their length, and character and location of bunkers and hazards may be reproduced.

4. An indoor golf game comprising a playing board marked in representation of a fraction of a golf course, and provided with a part representing a tee and a part representing a putting green, one of the latter being movable along the course with reference to the other so as to adapt the board for different holes varying in length of a golf course, together with a device for determining distance for each stroke.

5. An indoor golf game comprising a board marked in representation of a fraction of a golf course with distance spaces along the same, and provided with a fixed tee, and a putting green movable along the course toward and from the tee, whereby the different holes of varying lengths of a golf course may be reproduced one after the other, in combination with means by which the distance secured per stroke is determined.

6. In an indoor golf game, a board appropriately marked in representation of a fraction of a golf course and provided at one end with a fixed tee and with a movable putting green which may be positioned at different distances from the tee, whereby the different holes varying in length of a golf course may be successively reproduced, and a plurality of movable devices in representation of bunkers and hazards adapted to be placed across the board between the tee and the putting green at predetermined distances therefrom, and an indicating device by which the distance per stroke is determined.

7. In an indoor golf game, a playing board representing a fraction of a golf course and provided with a fixed tee and a movable device representing a putting green adapted to be positioned at various distances from the tee, whereby the different holes of a golf course may be reproduced one after the other, and an indicator of the spinner type having a disk divided circumferentially and radially into spaces or divisions, the divisions in one direction pertaining to different golf clubs, and those in the other direction representing different distances secured by the different clubs.

8. In an indoor golf game, a playing board marked with a fixed tee and distance lines in representation of the fraction of a golf course and provided with a movable part representing a putting green adapted to be placed at selected points along the board and at different distances from the tee, whereby the different holes of a golf course may be reproduced one after the other, in combination with a spinner comprising a disk marked by concentric circles into spaces which pertain to given golf clubs, and each divided circumferentially into appropriately marked distance spaces.

9. In an indoor golf game, a playing board marked in representation of a fraction of a golf course and provided with a fixed tee, a part representing a movable putting green adapted to be positioned at various distances from the tee, and movable parts representing hazards and bunkers adapted to be placed at different locations with respect to the tee and putting green, whereby the different holes of a golf course as regards their length, and character and location of bunkers and hazards may be reproduced, together with a device including a part divided into spaces marked to indicate various distances, and an indicating device coöperating therewith to indicate the distance secured at each play or stroke.

10. In an indoor golf game, a playing board marked in representation of a fraction of a golf course and provided with a fixed tee, a part representing a movable putting green adapted to be positioned at various distances from the tee, and movable parts representing hazards and bunkers adapted to be placed at different locations with respect to the tee and putting green,

whereby the different holes of a golf course as regards their length, and character and location of bunkers and hazards may be reproduced, together with an indicating device comprising a disk divided into concentric circles, each pertaining to a different club, and each divided into distance spaces, and comprising a pivoted indicator for determining the distance per stroke for a selected club.

In testimony whereof, I hereunto affix my signature.

WALTER H. SEAGRAVE.