March 14, 1944. K. L. BURGETT 2,344,080

WRIST SPRUNG GLOVE

Filed Oct. 23, 1940 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.

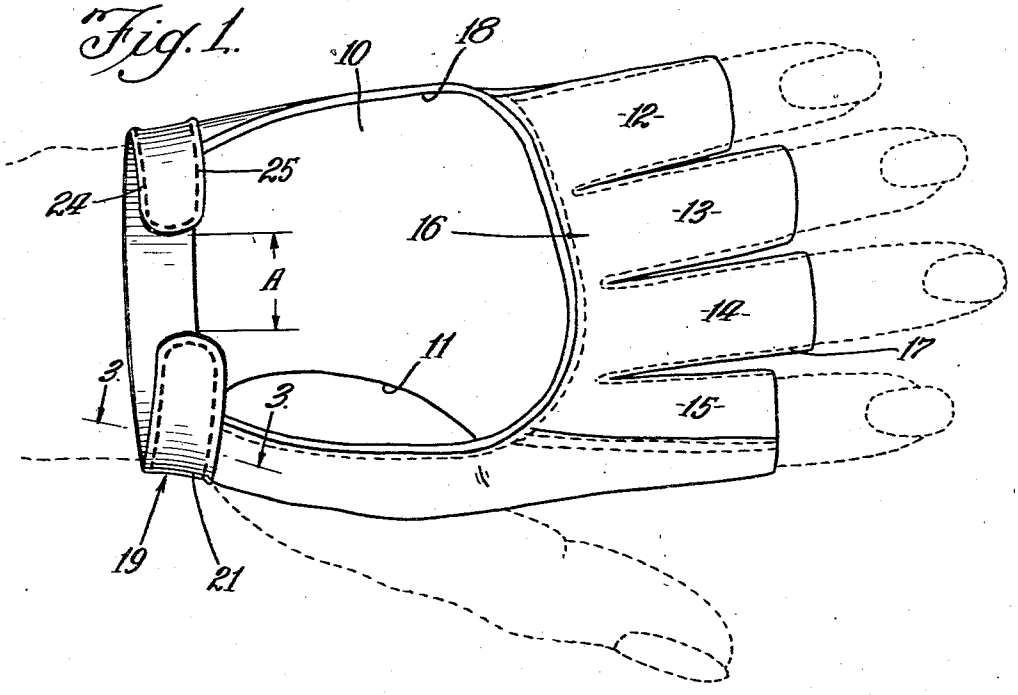
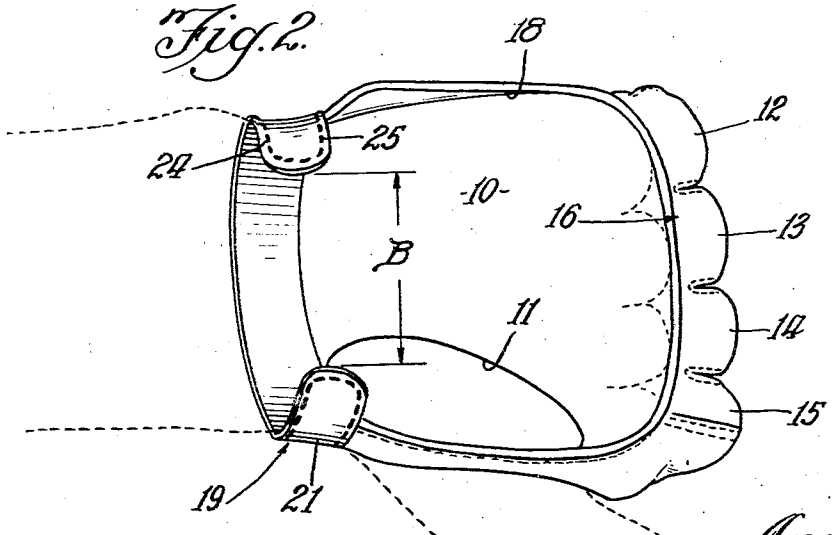


Fig. 2.



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Fig. 4.

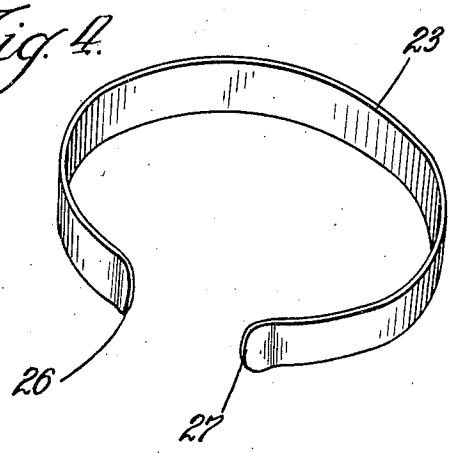


Fig. 3.

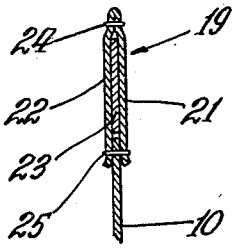
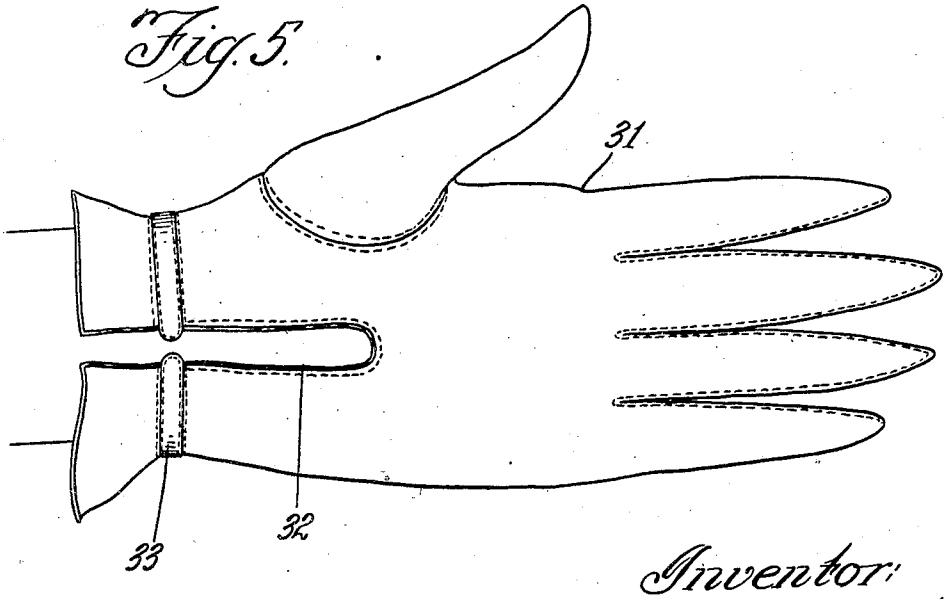


Fig. 5.



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WRIST SPRUNG GLOVE

Kenneth L. Burgett, Peoria, Ill.

Application October 23, 1940, Serial No. 362,352

1 Claim. (Cl. 2—162)

This invention relates to gloves and while not limited thereto, it is particularly applicable to a golfer's glove.

Before discussing the details of the structure of the glove disclosed herein, it should be explained that unusual problems are encountered in the design of a glove suitable for golfers by reason of the characteristics of the game. For example, it will be appreciated that while a glove must be securely held in position on the player's hand, yet the player must have absolute freedom of muscular action of the wrist so that the glove will not offer the slightest interference with the stroke of the club. In addition, it may be pointed out that golf gloves now offered on the market have a thumb orifice and fingers which are of short length and opened at the outer ends so that player's thumb and fingers of the glove-protected hand are not covered by the glove and may directly engage the hand grip of the club to enable the player to exercise full control over the swinging of the club, but yet protecting the palm of the hand and the base of the fingers.

Further, golf gloves are often provided with an open back, which adds to the comfort of the player, but which precludes the possibility of the glove securing itself to the hand and requires additional means to hold the glove in position. In the prior art it has been customary to provide a strap and buckle extending around the player's wrist, but this has been found to be highly unsatisfactory since when the wrist is flexed, as when the player raises the club to strike the ball, the strap has a tendency to tighten about the wrist and hinder the player in the execution of the stroke.

It is, therefore, an object of this invention to provide a golf glove including means to hold the glove securely to the player's hand and yet permit unrestricted muscular action of the wrist.

A further object of the invention is to provide a golf glove having an open, elliptical, resilient, expansible closure band adapted to fit the wrist of the wearer and secure the glove in position on the hand.

Another object of the invention is to provide a glove with a wristband comprising an inner layer and an outer layer superimposed thereon and stitched thereto to define a pocket of relatively narrow width extending the entire length of the wristband and having a thin metal strap secured in the pocket to urge the wristband of the glove into resilient engagement with the wrist of the wearer.

These and other objects are accomplished by a glove constructed in accordance with the principles of this invention and illustrated in the drawings attached hereto in which:

Fig. 1 is a rear view of a preferred embodiment of the invention illustrating the glove in position on the wearer's hand with the wrist straight and fingers extended;

Figure 2 is a rear view of the glove illustrated in Fig. 1, and showing the action of the closure band when the hand of the wearer is closed and the wrist flexed;

Figure 3 is a detail sectional view of the resilient wristband of the glove illustrated in Fig. 1, and is taken substantially on the plane of the line 3—3 in Fig. 1;

Fig. 4 is a perspective view of a flexible metal spring as it appears when removed from the wristband of the glove; and

Fig. 5 is a front view of a modified embodiment of the invention as applied to a conventional lady's glove.

The golf glove illustrated in Figs. 1, 2 and 3 comprises a palm section 10, which is preferably provided with an orifice 11 to accommodate the thumb of the wearer. The palm section 10 is preferably formed of an unbroken seamless piece of leather or fabric divided into four sections adjacent the base of the fingers to provide finger portions 12, 13, 14 and 15. It will be understood that the finger portions 12, 13, 14 and 15 are completed by the back section 16 of the glove, which is also divided adjacent the base of the fingers and joined to the portions 12, 13, 14 and 15 by side finger surfaces (not shown) and by the stitching 17. The back section 16 of the glove may cover the entire back of the hand if desired, but in a golf glove it is preferable to terminate this section 16 adjacent the knuckles of the fingers to provide a glove having a completely opened back preferably bound by a rolled edge 18 extending across the back of the glove adjacent the knuckles of the wearer and extending back on each side of the wristband 19.

In the present invention the wrist band 19 includes an outer layer 21 superimposed over an inner layer 22 to form a pocket in which a flat leaf spring 23 may be inserted. It will be understood, of course, that the layers 21 and 22 are joined at the rear edge by the stitching 24 and at the forward edge by the stitching 25. The stitching 25 also penetrates the marginal edge of the bottom section 10 of the glove in order to secure the wrist band 19 to the body of the glove.

From an examination of Fig. 1, it will be seen

that the lines of stitching **24** and **25** are joined at each end of the wrist band to close the ends of the pocket and retain the spring **23** in position.

From an examination of Fig. 4, it will be seen that the spring **23** comprises a relatively thin metal strip of flat cross-section and of more or less elliptical configuration adapted to fit snugly around the wrist of the wearer and secure the glove in position on the hand. If desired, the ends **26** and **27** of the spring **23** may be rounded or bent slightly outwardly to prevent the extreme ends of the spring from coming into contacting engagement with the back of the player's wrist.

From the foregoing it should be apparent that the closure spring **23** positioned in the pocket of the wrist band **19** provides a resilient expandible closure band which is open at the rear of the glove and which may expand and contract in accordance with the muscular action of the wrist. In this connection it will be noted that when the wrist is straight and fingers extended, as illustrated in Fig. 1, the natural resiliency of the spring **23** will draw the ends of the wrist band **19** together until they are separated by the distance represented at A in Fig. 1. When the hand is closed and the wrist flexed, however, the muscular action will cause the wrist of the wearer to expand, as illustrated in Fig. 2, and the resilient properties of the spring **23** will then permit the wrist band **19** to follow this expansion until the ends of the wrist band are separated the distance B indicated in Fig. 2 of the drawings. This yieldable expansion of the wrist band will permit absolute freedom of muscular action of the player's wrist and will, of course, permit easy and instantaneous removal of the glove, since the spring **23** is sufficiently flexible to allow the wrist band to be removed from the wrist of the wearer.

In the modification of the invention illustrated in Fig. 5, a conventional glove **31** having an elongated opening **32** in the bottom is provided with a resilient wrist band **33** identical with the wrist band **19**, with the single exception that the band **33** is open on the front instead of the rear face of the glove. The action of the band is identical, however, since the resilient properties of the band **33** permit this band to expand and contract as the wrist muscles of the wearer are flexed.

Having thus described my invention, I claim:

A golfer's glove comprised of an unbroken palm section having finger extensions at one end and side portions extended upwardly toward the back of the hand, a back portion having an opening extended substantially from the wearer's knuckles to the wrist and across the back of the hand, and an open flat metal band attached at the wrist end of the palm section, with the ends of the metal band being substantially spaced apart at the back of the wearer's hand, the length of said palm section being such that said metal band is positioned to provide for a free movement of the wrist, said band on closing of the wearer's hand being spread open to stretch said palm section across the wearer's palm and prevent wrinkling thereof within the closed hand.

KENNETH L. BURGETT.