Oct. 6, 1925. 1,556,558

F. W. GOWER ET AL

METALLIC RACKET

Filed June 6, 1925

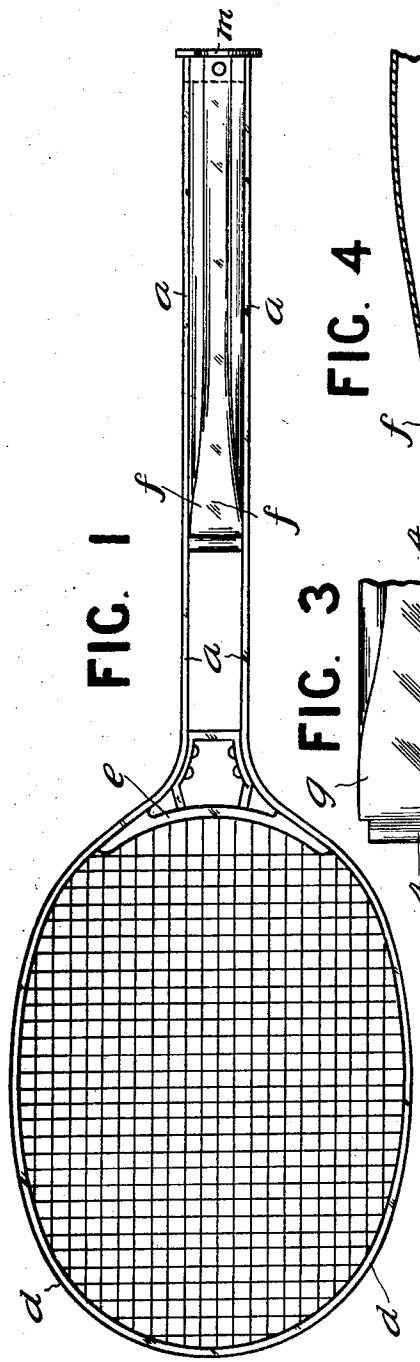


FIG. 1

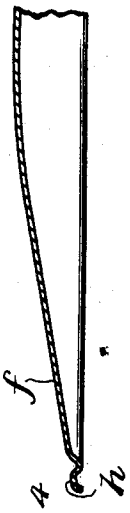


FIG. 4

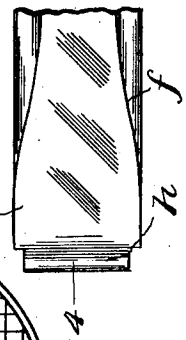


FIG. 3

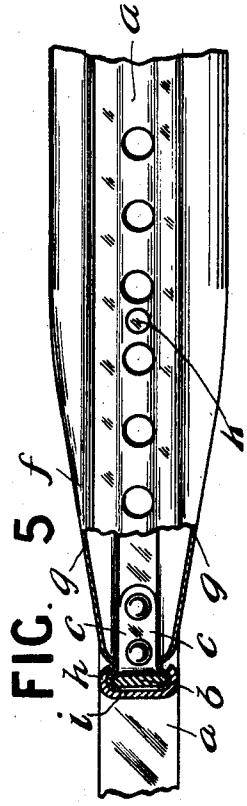


FIG. 5

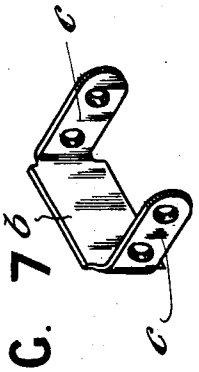


FIG. 7

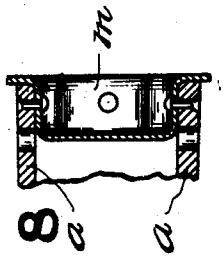


FIG. 8

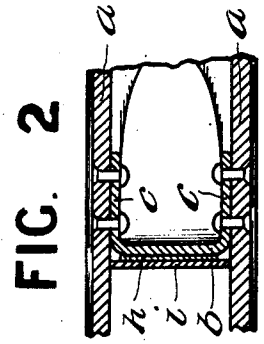


FIG. 2

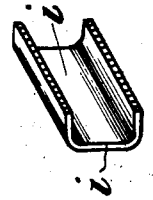


FIG. 6

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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METALLIC RACKET.

Application filed June 6, 1925. Serial No. 35,460.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, FRANCIS WILLIAM GOWER, of Dunoon, Russell Road, Moseley, Birmingham, HUGH JAMES OWEN, of 110 Trinity Road, Birchfields, Birmingham, and ROBERT JOHN NASH, of 94 Oakfield Road, Cannon Hill, Birmingham, all in the county of Warwick, England, and all subjects of the King of Great Britain, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Metallic Rackets, of which the following is a specification.

Rackets for lawn tennis and like games are in some cases made from metal, the frame including the main members of the handle being formed from a strip or tube bent to the desired shape. The striking face is frequently of wire interlaced in the frame, or in some cases a gut striking face is laced into a metal frame.

The present invention concerns the construction of the handles of such metallic rackets, more particularly those handles comprising two parallel or approximately parallel metal limbs extending from the frame.

The object of the invention is to improve the construction and method of assembling the hand grip portion of such rackets.

This and other features will be hereafter more particularly described with reference to the accompanying sheet of drawings.

Figure 1 is a general plan view of a tennis or like racket whose handle is made in accordance with the present invention.

Figure 2, is a horizontal longitudinal section of the inner end of the handle.

Figure 3, is a plan of the inner end of one of the fillets.

Figure 4, is a longitudinal section on the line 4—4 of Fig. 3.

Figure 5 is a side elevation in part section of the inner end of the assembled handle.

Figure 6, is a perspective view of the strut-enclosing channel member.

Figure 7 is a perspective view of the cross strut.

Figure 8 is a section of the end of the handle.

In the embodiment illustrated, the parallel side limbs *a* of the handle are substantially rectangular in section and are united by U-shaped cross struts *b*, the limbs *c* of which are riveted to the respective side limbs of the handle. These side limbs may be extended to constitute the frame *d* of the racket, as shown in Figure 1, a spacing piece *e* being included where the limbs merge into the bow or frame.

The handle is assembled with a fillet or sheet metal channel member *f* on either side thereof, the edges of which are adapted to fit between the side limbs *a*. At the end *g* of each fillet directed towards the inner end of the handle the channel section becomes shallower, the result being a tapering of the handle at this end as shown in Figure 5. This extremity of the fillet is provided with a small projecting tongue of metal *h* which is stamped into hook-section, the hooked part being adapted to engage the transverse fastening piece *b* uniting the limbs of the handle. A stout sheet metal clinching piece *i* of channel section is employed to enclose both the strut and the hook ends of the fillets, the walls of this member being pressed around and firmly locking together the said strut and fillet ends as shown in Figure 5. The edges of the fillets are adapted to rest upon a series of transverse struts which are riveted to the limbs at intervals throughout the length of the handle as shown at *k* in Figure 5. A cap is used to close the outer extremity of the handle and may conveniently be in the shape of a shallow flanged cup *m* (Figure 8) around which the fillets and side limbs are secured by riveting or other means.

We claim:—

1. A racket for games comprising in combination a metallic frame of the usual bow form with the extremities continued parallel to each other, but spaced apart to form a handle portion, distance pieces secured at intervals between said spaced extremities, a pair of hollow metal pressings secured opposite each other between said extremities, one end of each hollow pressing tapering toward and being engaged over one of said distance pieces, said tapering end having a lip for this purpose, means for embracing said distance piece and the lips on said pressings, and a suitable closure piece secured at the other ends of said pressings.

2. The combination in a metallic framed racket for games, of a handle portion hav-

ing two limbs spaced apart, a distance piece secured between said limbs, a pair of hollow metal fillets for seating between said limbs, each fillet having a lip at its inner end to engage one edge of said distance piece, a metal channel piece placed over said bridge piece with its flanges over said lips and being clinched thereon to secure said fillets, and a hollow flanged closure cap secured between the ends of the limbs to which the other ends of said fillets are secured.

3. A metallic racket having a bent metal frame with parallel limbs to form a handle, cross struts secured at intervals between the limbs, hollow flanged pressings inserted on opposite sides of the limbs with their flanges within the limbs and resting on the cross struts, extended hook-like lips on the inner ends of the pressings to engage one of the cross struts and to be secured thereon by a clinched-over strip and a suitable closure piece secured to the pressings and the limbs at the outer end of the handle.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures.

FRANCIS WILLIAM GOWER.
HUGH JAMES OWEN.
ROBERT JOHN NASH.