

May 12, 1925.

1,537,809

E. C. EASTON

GAME APPARATUS

Filed April 10, 1924

Fig. 1.

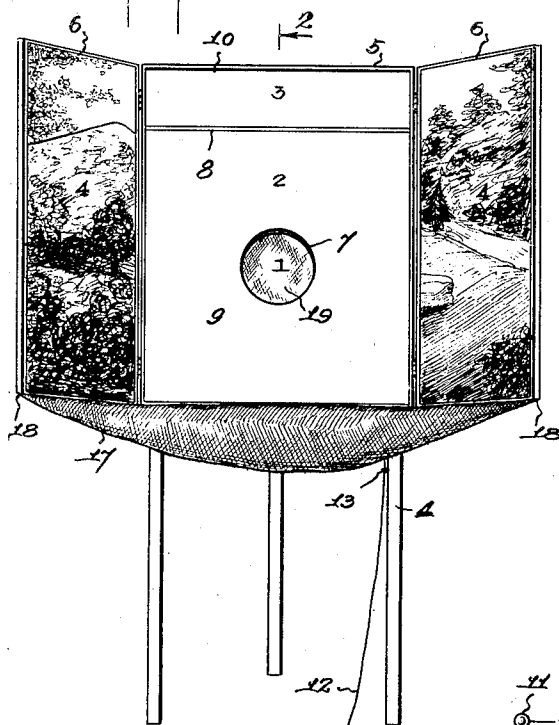


Fig. 2.

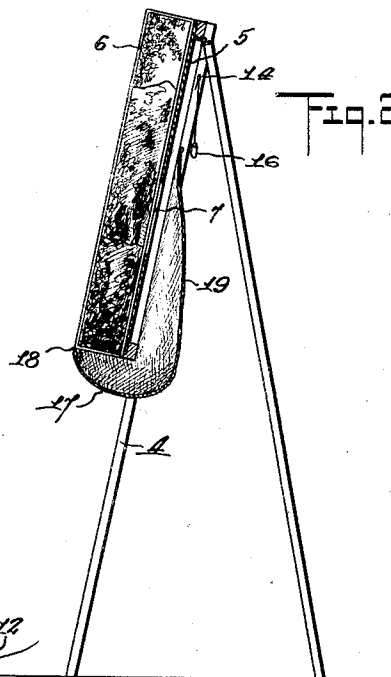
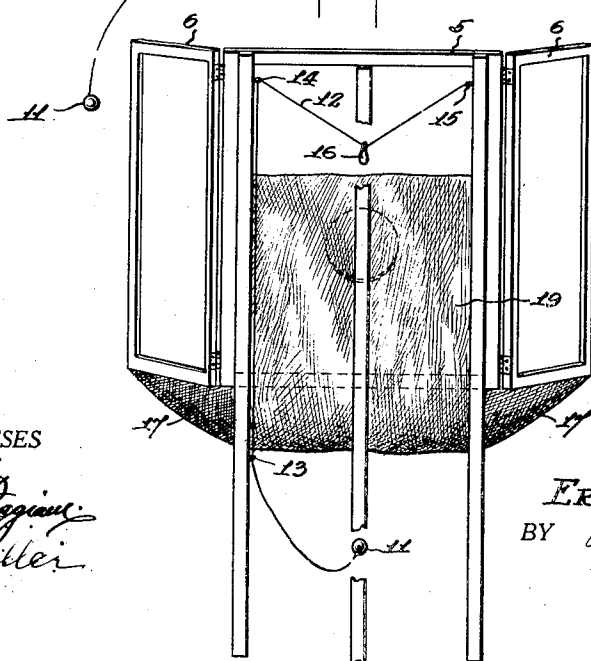


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ERNEST C. EASTON, OF MAPLEWOOD, NEW JERSEY.

GAME APPARATUS.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ERNEST C. EASTON, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Maplewood, in the county of Essex and State of New Jersey, have invented a new and Improved Game Apparatus, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to improvements in game apparatus, and has particular reference to an apparatus to be utilized in playing the game of golf.

An object of the invention is to provide an improved apparatus by means of which the golf player or players may practice and perfect the making of pitch shots and in which the captive ball utilized is so attached to a part of the apparatus that the ball, when hit, will travel a true course and not be deflected from its directional flight.

Another object is the provision of an apparatus of simple and economical construction principally adapted for indoor use and capable of not only forming a practical and effective means for practicing certain shots in the game of golf, but also providing a medium which will permit of competition between two or more players.

The above and other objects will appear more clearly from the following detailed description, when taken in connection with the accompanying drawing, which illustrates a preferred embodiment of the inventive idea.

In the drawing—

Figure 1 is a front elevation of the apparatus constructed in accordance with the invention;

Figure 2 is a vertical longitudinal section on the line 2—2 of Figure 1; and

Figure 3 is a rear elevation of the apparatus.

The invention is shown as consisting of an easel 4 which supports a frame including a central section 5 and two end sections 6 preferably hingedly connected to the end section 5 so that the sections 6 may be adjusted to various angles with respect to the central section if desired. The central section 5 is provided with an opening 7 while the front faces of the sections 6 are preferably painted or otherwise provided with scenic illustrations to impart an attractive appearance to the device. The front area of the section 5 is divided by the lines 8 into two zones 9 and 10 the former of which surrounds the opening 7, said opening, zones

and the end sections 6 being utilized for scoring purposes and being marked with numerals to indicate the score a player should have when he hits the ball into the opening or strikes in any one of the various zones.

The ball 11 employed is attached to a cord 12 or other flexible element which is extended through an eye 13 on one of the supports of the easel and also through a similar eye 14 adjacent the top of said support. From thence the cord is extended across the rear of the central section and permanently attached at 15 to the opposite support. At a point intermediate the eye 14 and point of attachment 15 a counterbalancing weight 16 is secured to the cord 12 so that when the ball 11 is placed a considerable distance in front of the apparatus and then struck the weight 16 will take up the slack in the cord as the ball approaches the apparatus and in so doing will effectively prevent any deflection in the flight of the ball as is generally customary with known devices in which a captive ball is employed.

In order that the ball 11 may be trapped after striking either of the sections 5 or 6, or passing through the opening 7, a net 17 made of any suitable material is attached to the lower free extremities of the sections 6, as indicated at 18, so that when the sections 6 are in their operative positions, as shown in the drawing, a portion of the net will be suspended beneath said sections and also the section 5. Another portion 19 of the net is extended upwardly in back of the section 5 to a point above the opening 7 therein and attached to said section so as to form a stop for the ball if it passes through said opening, thus causing the ball to drop into the bottom of the net 17 from which it may be readily withdrawn and retracted through the opening 7.

What is claimed is:

1. In a game apparatus, a frame, a flexible element having one end secured to said frame, a ball secured to the other end of said element, and a counter weight carried by said flexible element and capable of taking up slack in said flexible element when said ball is hit toward said frame.

2. In a game apparatus, a frame, a flexible element having one end secured to said frame, a ball secured to the other end of said element, a counter weight carried by said flexible element and capable of taking

up slack in said flexible element when said ball is hit toward said frame, and a net suspended from said frame and into which said ball will fall after striking said frame.

5 3. In a game apparatus, a frame including angularly arranged sections one of which is provided with an opening therein, a flexible element having one end connected to said frame, a ball secured to the other
10 end of said flexible element, a counterbalancing weight attached to said flexible element to take up slack in said element when said ball is hit in the direction of the frame, and a net having a portion suspended below
15 the central section of said frame and another portion extending rearwardly thereof to a point above the opening in said section.

4. In a game apparatus, a frame includ-

ing a central section having an opening therein, end sections pivotally connected to
20 said central section and capable of being positioned angularly with respect thereto, a flexible element having one end secured to said frame, and a portion adjacent said end extended transversely of the central section,
25 guides for the intermediate portion of said flexible element, a ball secured to the opposite end of said flexible element, a counterweight secured to the portion of said flexible element extending transversely of said
30 central section, and a net secured to said end sections and suspended below the same and said central section and having a portion secured to said central section at a point above the opening therein.

ERNEST C. EASTON.