April 3, 1928.

1,664,971

C. C. DEAN

BILLIARD CUE

Filed Sept. 1, 1927

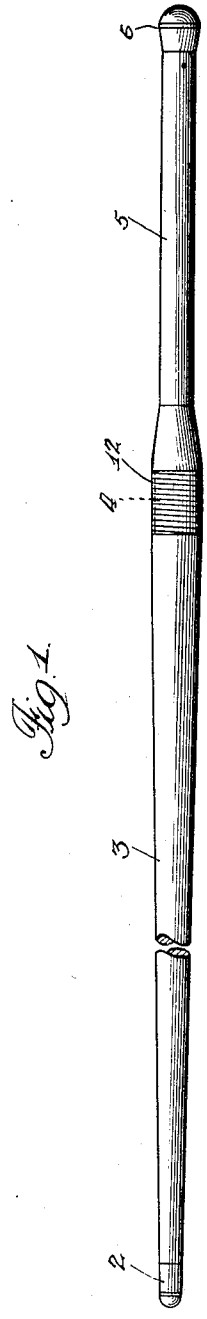


Fig. 1.

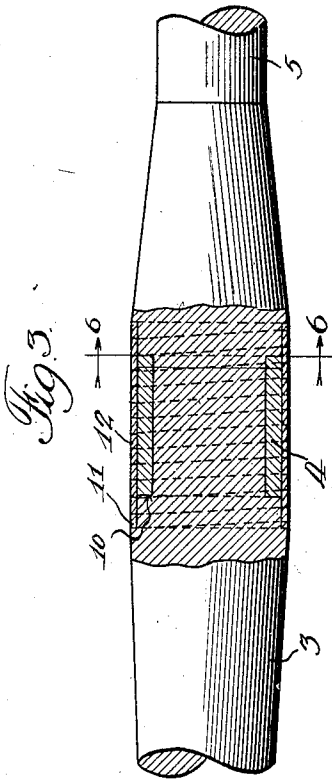


Fig. 3.

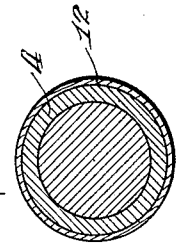


Fig. 6.

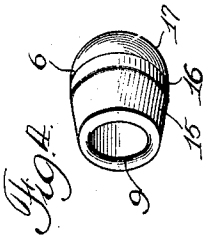


Fig. 4.

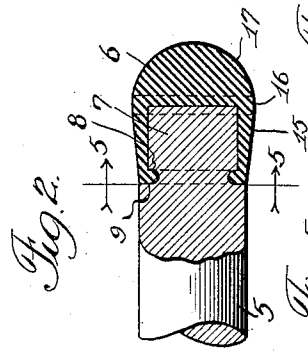


Fig. 2.

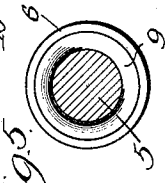


Fig. 5.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CLAYTON C. DEAN, OF MUNDELEIN, ILLINOIS.

BILLIARD CUE.

Application filed September 1, 1927. Serial No. 216,798.

My invention relates to billiard cues.

More particularly, my invention relates to certain improvements in cue construction which will provide an efficient, durable, light and cheap structure.

It has been difficult heretofore to obtain an accurate massé play with the type of cue provided. To sight a shot accurately, it is necessary to align the cue ball and eye and this can only be accomplished where the cue rod is properly designed to permit the eye to align the rod at the proper point with the ball. It is common to use the tip end of the cue rod for such a play, but this renders the manipulation of the cue rod rather difficult, due to the weighted handle projecting a distance in the air. A billiard cue should be gripped at this weighted end, but massé plays, as heretofore made, allowed the weighted end to project in the air uncontrolled, with the result that the cue rod would be unbalanced and the tip would invariably fail to strike the ball at the intended point.

An object of my invention resides in the provision of an improved billiard cue capable of being employed at both ends, the handle end in the present instance being made of uniform diameter to allow the massé play to be made at this handle end, the balancing weight of the billiard cue being distributed at a point along the rod which allows the cue to be gripped in a manner whereby to obtain the proper balancing action when a play is made from either end of the billiard cue.

Further objects and advantages of my invention will be apparent from the following detailed description when taken in connection with the accompanying drawings which form a part hereof.

Figure 1 is an elevational view of a billiard cue embodying my invention;

Fig. 2 is an enlarged view, partly in section and partly in elevation, of the handle end intended to be used for a massé play;

Fig. 3 is a view partly in section, illustrating the manner of embedding the balancing weight in the cue;

Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the cushion tip adapted to be employed at the handle end;

Fig. 5 is a vertical sectional view taken along 5—5 of Fig. 2; and

Fig. 6 is a vertical sectional view taken along line 6—6 of Fig. 3.

Referring more particularly to the drawings, it will be observed that the billiard cue embodying my invention, comprises the tip 2, a tapered portion 3, the balancing weight 4, a handle portion 5 and a tip 6 at the end of this handle portion. The tapered portion 3 and the tip 2 are of substantially the same construction as heretofore provided. Portion 3 is of a gradual taper and has the tip 2 suitably secured thereto in any well known fashion. However, the handle end 5, instead of being tapered and a continuation of tapered portion 3, is slightly reduced in diameter and made substantially uniform from end to end, having a cushion tip 6 fastened thereto so as to allow the player to use the same for massé plays.

Cushion tip 6 may be secured in a suitable way to the end of handle portion 5, but as I have illustrated in Fig. 2, it is preferable to reduce the extreme end of the handle portion 5, as indicated at 7, and to furnish an annular groove 8 therein in order to receive an annular bead 9 formed on the inner end of tip 6. It will be observed that this arrangement permits cushion tip 6 to be readily mounted on reduced end 7 of the cue. Cushion tip 6 has a two-fold function, namely, that of permitting the proper massé plays, by means of the handle portion 5 and also as a cushion to protect the billiard cue against blows, to which it is subjected when the average player taps the billiard cue against the floor during playing billiards. For a short distance from bead 8, tip 6 is tapered along its outer surface at 15 where it continues as a straight line at 16 to increase the mass of the top without increasing the diameter; and finally terminates into a spherical surface 17, thereby imparting strength and durability to the tip.

Handle portion 5 may be of any desirable length, but I have found that it is only necessary to provide it of a length enabling proper sighting of the ball at tip 6, during massé plays. It is preferable, if not essential, to provide portion 5 of uniform diame-

ter so as to allow the eye of the player to sight the ball therealong. The difficulty heretofore experienced and what prevented obtaining massé plays by means of the handle end of the cue was that this handle end constituted a continuation of the taper of portion 3. The eye of the player therefore could not sight along this handle end in order to get proper location of the cue and against the billiard ball.

My invention contemplates using the billiard cue, therefore, at both ends, the tip 2 being used in the normal playing of billiards, while the handle end and tip 6 being used for massé plays.

One of the advantages to be obtained in the billiard cue herein illustrated and described is that notwithstanding which end is employed in a billiard play, the hand guiding the billiard cue will always rest substantially at the portion denoted by the numeral 4, where the balancing weight is disposed. Such balancing weight may be provided in the rod in any suitable manner such, for instance, as I have illustrated in Fig. 3. Here the rod is cut away at 10 to allow a balancing weight 4 to be embedded solidly in the rod. The rod is further cut away at 11 to permit the weight to be covered with cord leather 12, or any other soft or fibrous material, which does not hinder the proper gripping of the billiard cue.

The handle portion 5 need not be of a length which will deter the free action of the hand of the player gripping the billiard cue at the weight 4. On the other hand, this weight 4 is disposed in the billard cue at a distance from the tip 6 to permit the hand to grip the same, and, at the same time, secure a proper balancing action of the billiard cue for massé plays.

Without further elaboration, the foregoing will so fully explain the gist of my invention, that others may, by applying current knowledge, readily adopt the same for use under varying conditions of service, without eliminating certain features, which may properly be said to constitute the essential items of novelty involved, which items are intended to be defined and secured to me by the following claims.

I claim:

1. A billiard cue comprising a cue rod tapering alternately from a point near the center, and of substantially uniform diameter along the handle end.

2. A billiard cue comprising a cue rod tapering alternately from a point near the center and of substantially uniform diameter at the handle end, said handle end being cut away to provide means for attaching a cue tip.

3. A billiard cue comprising a cue rod tapering alternately from a point near the center, having balancing means embedded therein, and a handle portion of said rod of substantially uniform diameter, the end of said handle being cut out and provided with annular grooves to afford gripping means for a cue tip member.

4. A billiard cue comprising a cue rod tapering alternately from a point near the center, balancing means embedded in said cue rod, and a handle portion of substantially uniform diameter, said handle portion having its end portion cut away and having attaching means thereon for a tip member.

5. A billiard cue, comprising a cue rod tapering alternately from a point near the center, a cue tip secured on the pointed end of said cue, and a handle portion of substantially uniform diameter, having its end portion cut away to provide means for fastening a cue tip.

6. A billiard cue adapted to be used at either end and tapering alternately from a point near the center, balancing means embedded in said cue, and a handle portion of substantially uniform diameter having its end portion cut away and provided with suitable means for attaching a cue tip.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto subscribed my name.

CLAYTON C. DEAN.