May 3, 1960 R. T. CUMMINGS 2,935,323

GAME APPARATUS

Filed Dec. 30, 1957

FIG 2.

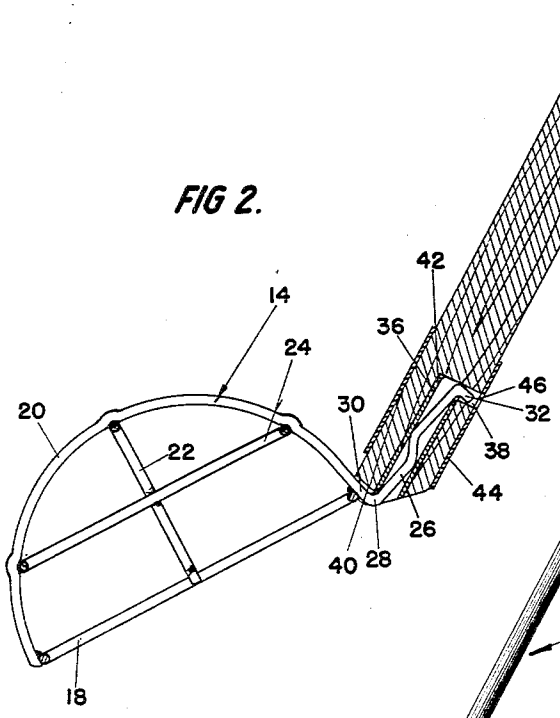


FIG 1.

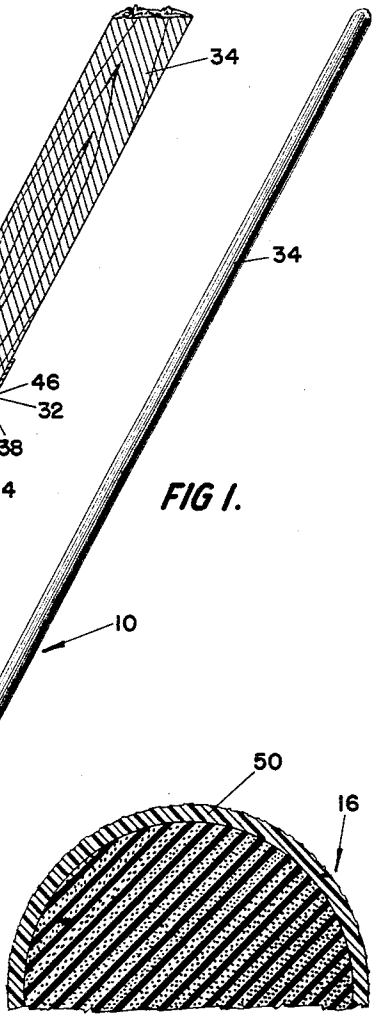
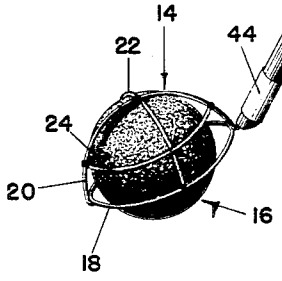


FIG 3.



INVENTOR.

BY Robert T. Cummings

Norman A. Bleiff

United States Patent Office

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GAME APPARATUS

Robert T. Cummings, Santa Monica, Calif.

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1 Claim. (Cl. 273—129)

The present invention relates to active games and more particularly to the apparatus enabling one to participate in such games.

The games which may be played with the apparatus constituting the subject matter of this present disclosure are many and varied, but only sufficient description relative to a particular game is herein disclosed to render the use of the apparatus understandable.

Briefly, the apparatus consists of a ball having an anti-friction covering which is adapted to enter and be removed from a cup supported on the end of a manually manipulated handle. By this means the ball may be caused to roll across a surface by being guided by the cup or may be propelled to roll freely by the manually manipulated handle and cup, or the ball may be picked up in the cup by placing the cup over the ball and by quick, semi-circular rotation of the handle cause the cup to be disposed under the ball and permit its being lifted thereby.

In the accompanying drawing forming a part of this specification and in which like numerals are employed to designate like parts, I have shown one physical embodiment of the invention according to the best mode of manufacture I have thus far devised. It will be understood, however, that it is not my intention to be limited to the disclosure shown in the accompanying drawings, but I desire to secure unto myself the invention as broadly recited in the appended claim.

Like numerals are employed to designate like parts in the several views of the accompanying drawing, in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my game apparatus;

Figure 2 is an enlarged fragmentary longitudinal elevation of the cup and handle portion; and

Figure 3 is a diametric fragmentary cross section of the ball.

Referring now in greater detail to the drawing as shown, it will be seen in Figure 1 that my game apparatus includes a manually manipulated instrument indicated in its entirety by the numeral **10** which has an elongated handle **12**, at the lower end of which is supported a reticulate substantially hemispherical cup **14** which, it will be seen, is obviously formed from wire. It will be understood that other forms of cups may be employed so long as they have an opening or mouth substantially at the diameter of the cup and having sufficient circumference to receive a ball **16** therethrough.

The mouth of the cup is defined at its diameter by an annular wire ring **18** to which is secured semi-circular frame or rib members **20** and **22**, disposed at right angles to each other, that is, extending crosswise of each other at 90°. Substantially midway the depth of the cup I provide a second annular ring **24** as seen in Figure 2. The ring **24** and the semi-circular rib member **22** are removably applied to frame member **20** and ring **18**. The semi-circular member **20** has an angular integral finger **26** extending from one end, and radiating from the cup **14**. At its inner end it is associated with frame member **20** by means of a right angle bend **28** which defines a right angle portion **30** and the finger **26**. It will be seen that the finger **26** is undulatory in configuration and is provided with a right angle lip **32** at its outer end, the purpose of which will be subsequently seen.

The hand implement **10** is provided with an elongated handle **34** which has an axial bore **36** at its lower end. The bore **36** at its upper or inner extremity is provided with a radial bore **38** communicating the axial bore with the periphery of the handle **34**.

At its lower or outer end, a radial groove **40** extends from the axial bore **36** to the periphery of the handle **34** radially opposed to the radial bore **38** and spaced axially of the handle **34**. As seen, the undulatory finger **26** extends into the bore and the right angle lip **32** is disposed in the axial bore **38**, thus securely fixing the cup **14** to the handle **34**, and yet permitting its removal by inserting a pin through the axial bore **38** to depress the lip **32** and remove it from the bore, thus permitting withdrawal of the finger **26** from said bore.

To prevent wear of the wooden handle **34**, I provide a bushing **42** within the bore **36**. The bushing **42** is relieved at opposed sides to communicate with the radial bore **32** and groove **40**. To strengthen the end of the handle **34** against splitting or cracking, I provide a metal ferrule **44** encircling the periphery of the handle **34**. The ferrule is drilled at **46** to communicate with the radial bore **38** as shown in Figure 2.

To function properly, it is desirable that the ball **16** be provided with an anti-friction coating **50** which is here shown to be a plastic material having a roughened surface. This material may be one of any number of things which present the least amount of friction on the members of the cup so that it may rotate freely thereon. I have successfully used a rubber ball having a plurality of very small glass beads adheringly secured thereto, and also a rubber ball having a plastic coating thereabout as shown in Figure 3, and in addition, a hollow plastic ball.

As previously stated, the ring **24** and rib **22** are releasably secured, and may be applied or removed as found desirable. When using the cup with a ball of small size which is apt to slip between the ring **18** and the member **20**, the additional members **22** and **24** are applied. To reduce friction, however, they may be removed when employed with a ball of the relative size seen in Figure 1 of the drawing.

Having thus described my invention, I claim:

Means for connecting a handle to a device having a projecting finger comprising said handle having an axial bore in one end thereof; a radial bore communicating the inner end of said axial bore externally of said handle; a radial groove in the end of said handle and extending from the outer end of said axial bore to the periphery of said handle; a metal bushing pressed into said axial bore; said bushing being relieved at said radial bore and groove; the finger of said device being undulatory and having a right angle lip at its outer end and a right angle member at its inner end; said right angle member being disposed in said radial groove and said right angle lip being disposed in said radial bore, whereby the device is releasably secured to said handle against axial and circumferential movements relative thereto.

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