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1,611,232

W. F. REACH

RACKET FRAME

Filed Oct. 22, 1925

Fig. 1.

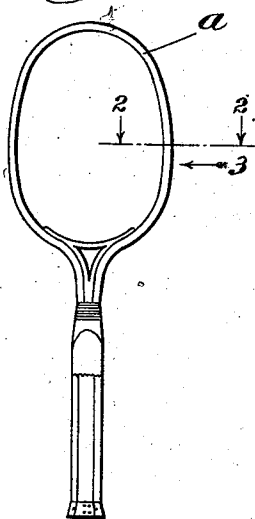


Fig. 2.

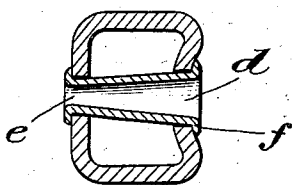
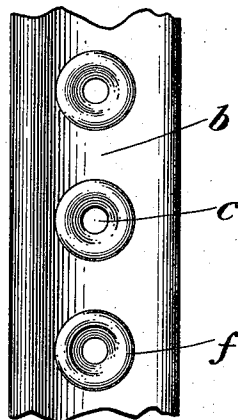


Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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RACKET FRAME.

Application filed October 22, 1925. Serial No. 64,127.

This invention relates to rackets having a hollow metal frame construction wherein, the frame ends form the base portion of the handle, the frame being bent to form a loop of suitable shape and provided with means for stringing the loop with a suitable material for providing a striking surface.

More particularly this invention has to do with the formation of the holes in the racket frame and for further description reference will now be had to the accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a plan view of the finished racket.

Figure 2 is a section on line 2—2 of Figure 1 and looking in the direction of the arrows.

Figure 3 is a side view of a portion of the frame looking in the direction of the arrow as in Figure 1.

In the drawings *a* represents the frame of a racket which is provided with a groove in its outer side as at *b*. Passing through the frame to the groove are holes *c* which are tapered inwardly from the groove. Opening *d* is seen to be larger than opening *e* of the hole and the degree of this taper conforms to that of the awl used when stringing the racket. Suitable eyelets *f* are provided which conform to the taper of the holes and provide a smooth seat for the string.

It will be seen that these tapered eyelets are flared over and crimped on either side of the frame to provide a smooth surface for the string to engage. The eyelets are not of symmetrical formation, being bell-shaped at their outer ends due to the taper.

This design of the eyelet has been devised after much experimentation, to meet the requirements in the use of the racket. At the

inner side of the frame and in the vicinity of the coordinate axes, the strings run straight out of the eyelet and the only bend they make, occurs in use when the ball is struck by the strings and a corresponding flexure thereof occurs. This is very slight and requires but small compensation therefor in the curvature of the inner end of the eyelet. The outer end, however, must compensate for the bend in the string it being wound through the racket frame and hence, the taper is provided to give this requirement.

This form of eyelet in which each end is formed so as to be best suited to the requirements of their respective positions, is new and is highly advantageous in the manufacture of the rackets.

The taper, in addition to providing a suitable seat for the string whereby the latter is less liable to be broken, also facilitates the operation of stringing the racket by reason of the fact that the awl can be inserted in the hole. Due to the taper of the hole, the string is not mashed at the corner when the awl is driven into place. This structure provides a new and valuable advance in the art and renders the manufacture of metal frames for rackets a commercial success.

What I claim is:

A racket frame comprising a hollow metallic member and means therethrough for stringing the frame comprising eyelets rounded over the sides of the frame member and tapered inwardly with a taper equal to that of the awl used when stringing the racket.

This specification signed this 15 day of October A. D. 1925.

WILLIAM F. REACH.