

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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ATTACHMENT FOR BOWLING ALLEYS.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES A. WENDT, a citizen of the United States, and resident of Milwaukee, in the county of Milwaukee and State of Wisconsin, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Attachments for Bowling Alleys; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof.

My invention relates to an attachment for bowling alleys which has for its primary object to retard the balls as they are returned and at the same time remove any dust or dirt which may adhere to them.

A more specific object of the invention is to provide a means of this kind which may be adjusted so as to exert the proper retarding effect in comparison with the speed at which the balls roll back in the trough, and also to compensate for wear of the cleaning element.

In the accompanying drawing,

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a return trough with my invention applied thereto, and

Figure 2 is a cross sectional view on the line 2—2 of Figure 1.

The return trough is designated by the numeral 5 and within the same is the usual track 6 on which the balls are returned. The invention comprises a wide band or hood 7 which is for the most part cylindrical in shape, the lower part being directed downwardly and secured to the sides of the trough by means of the slots 8 which permit vertical adjustment. The inside of the band is provided with a plurality of arcuate blocks 9, which are secured thereto by means of the screws 10 or the like and collectively extend throughout the entire cylindrical portion of the hood. These blocks are provided with bristles 11 which extend radially inwardly towards the line which the center of the ball traverses as it is returned.

The bristles extend inwardly far enough to exert a wiping action on the surface of the balls as they pass through the hood and

they are made comparatively stiff so as to exert a retarding effect on the balls. The slots 8 allow the hood to be adjusted vertically so as to have the proper retarding effect, the amount of retardation necessary being determined by the nature of the incline of the trough down which they roll. The construction of the lining block in sections 9 permits the same to be cheaply manufactured and also permits ready removal for the purpose of replacement of the worn out brushes.

It is to be noted that each of the brushes is composed of a block from which radially extending bristles project. These blocks are independently secured within the hood and may thereafter be separately removed and replaced as desired. By this construction it is not necessary to completely renew the entire brush whenever a portion thereof has become worn.

I claim as my invention:

1. The combination of a bowling alley return trough, of a hood mounted upon said trough, a series of independent brushes each comprising a block and outwardly projecting bristles, and means for independently securing the blocks within said hood whereby radially extending bristles are provided adapted to bear upon the returned balls and retard the motion thereof.

2. The combination with a bowling alley return trough of a hood extending transversely thereover and comprising a band having vertical slots adjustably secured to the sides of the trough, blocks removably secured to the inside of the band and bristles secured in said blocks and extending radially inwardly toward the line traversed by the center of the ball upon its return for the purpose set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand at Milwaukee, in the county of Milwaukee and State of Wisconsin.

CHARLES A. WENDT.