

Aug. 11, 1931.

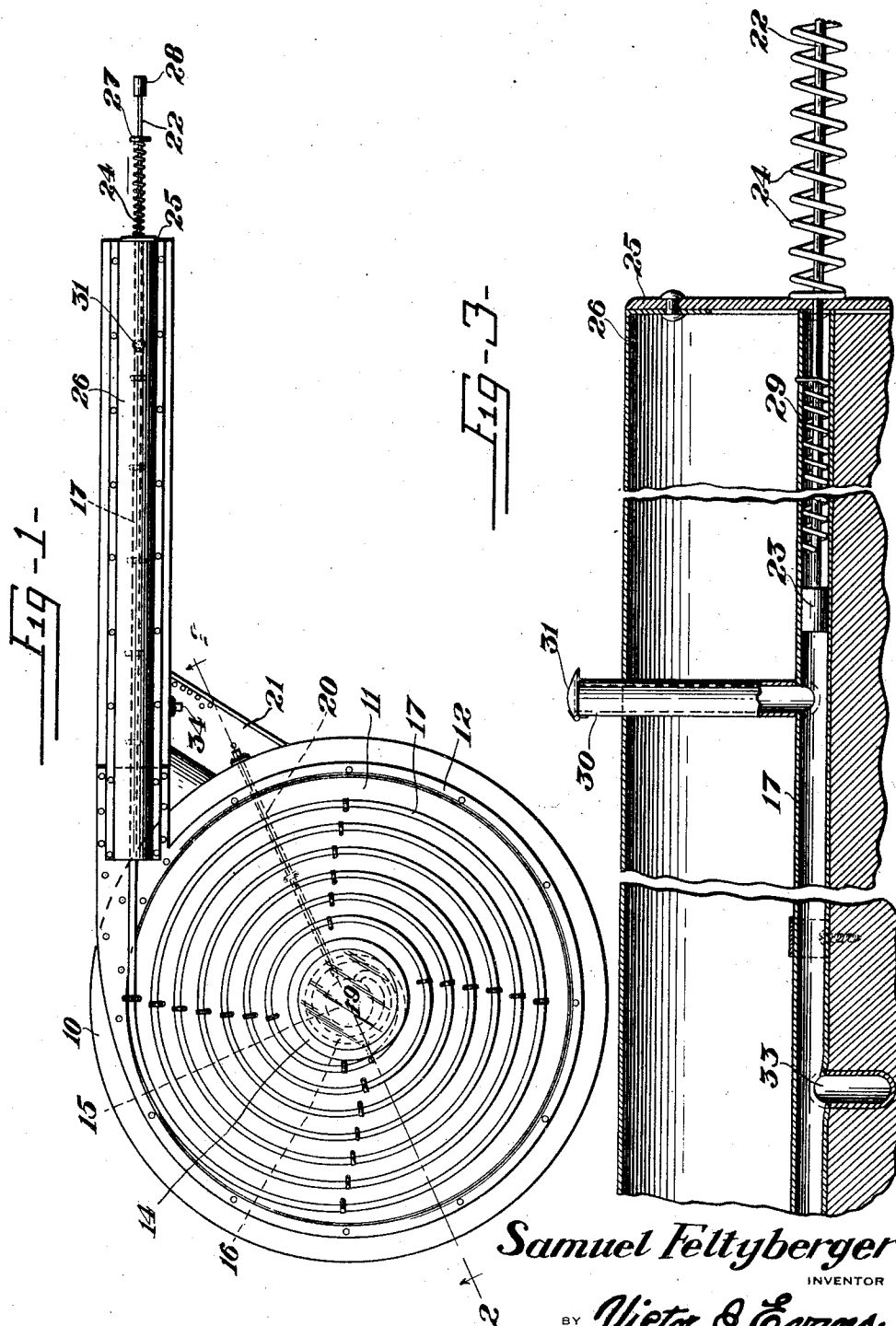
S. FELTYBERGER

1,818,700

GOLF UNIT

Filed Nov. 7, 1930

2 Sheets-Sheet 1



Aug. 11, 1931.

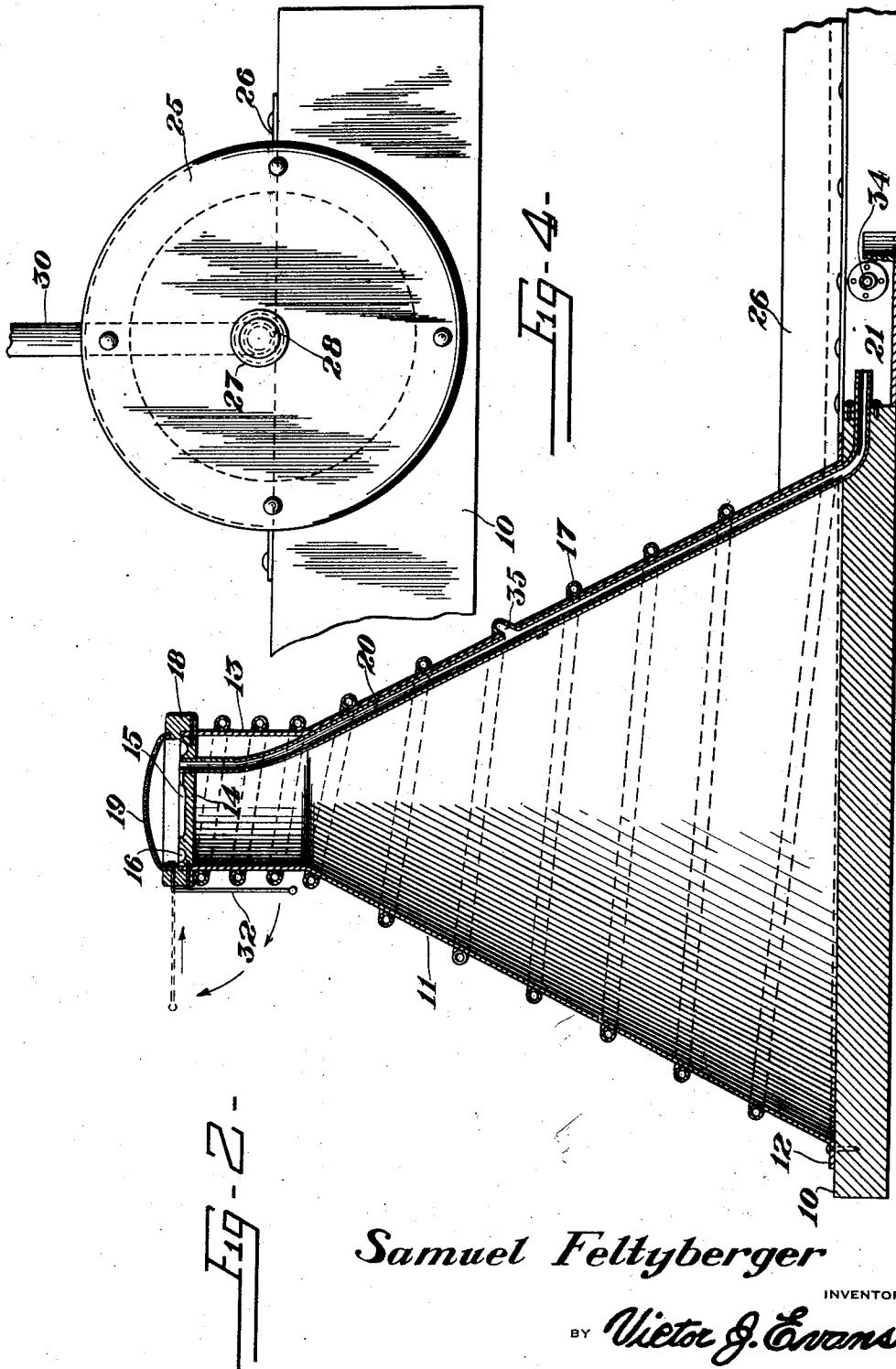
S. FELTYBERGER

1,818,700

GOLF UNIT

Filed Nov. 7, 1930

2 Sheets-Sheet 2



Samuel Feltyberger

INVENTOR

BY Victor J. Evans

ATTORNEY

## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

SAMUEL FELTYBERGER, OF PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

## GOLF UNIT

Application filed November 7, 1930. Serial No. 494,106.

This invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in game apparatus and more particularly to miniature golf games and which embodies among other characteristics a game piece conduit for directing same toward a known point.

Another object of the invention consists of an elevated support upon which the conduit is progressively spiraled.

10 An additional object of the invention consists of an operating mechanism for directing the game pieces through the conduit.

Another of the objects of the invention contemplates a separate return conduit for 15 the game pieces whereby recordation of scores may be expedited.

More specifically stated the destination of the game pieces is also disposed upon the support in full view of the players.

20 One of the principal objects of the invention resides in the provision of auxiliary ports for the conduits whereby game pieces failing to reach the desired destinations will be directed out of the path of subsequent 25 game pieces.

With the above and other objects in view, the invention further consists of the following novel features and details of construction, to be hereinafter more fully described, 30 illustrated in the accompanying drawings and pointed out in the appended claims.

In the drawings:—

Figure 1 is a top plan view of the present invention.

35 Figure 2 is a sectional view taken on line 2—2 of Figure 1.

Figure 3 is an enlarged longitudinal sectional view taken through the operating mechanism.

40 Figure 4 is an end elevation of the operating mechanism.

Referring to the drawings in detail wherein like characters of reference denote corresponding parts, the reference character 10 indicates generally a base upon which a frusto-conically shaped support 11 is arranged, the latter having an annular flange 12 outstanding from the larger periphery thereof and secured against accidental displacement 50 upon the base. A tubular portion 13, car-

ried by and extended from the other periphery of the support, has supported within the uppermost end thereof a disk member 14 disposed within the upper end thereof and provided with a centrally located pocket 15 for the accommodation of a game piece. 55 Said pocket is in communication with a spirally arranged groove 16 formed as a continuation of a conduit 17 spirally arranged upon the outer sides of the support 11 and tubular member 13. An annular member 18, carried upon the tubular member 13 and disposed for seating engagement with the upper periphery thereof, has supported thereon a transparent lens 19 through which the participants in the game may view the action and disposition of the ball or other game piece 60 within the spirally arranged groove 16 or pocket 15. A return conduit, such as indicated at 20, arranged within the support and tubular member, establishes communication at the extremities thereof between the upper side of the disk 14 and game piece rack 21 conveniently located adjacent the base 10.

The operating mechanism, alluded to in the foregoing consists of a plunger rod 22 having a piston or plunger head 23 upon one end slidably mounted for longitudinal shifting motion within the lowermost straight section of the conduit, has a compression spring 24 80 encircling the outermost extended portion thereof between the end wall 25 of a housing or closure 26 and a fixedly mounted horizontally disposed disk member 27. The plunger rod 22 has provided a head or mallet engaging end 28 upon its outermost projecting end. A second spring 29 of the compression type encircling an appreciable portion of the plunger rod 22 disposed within the straight end of the conduit 17, has fixed connection at its ends with the plunger rod and conduit respectively whereby a sharp rap or smartly directed hit may be delivered to the game piece rather than a shoving motion. A sleeve member 30 upstanding within the 85 housing or closure 26 and projecting upwardly and outwardly through the upper wall thereof has communication at its opposite end with the conduit 17 in advance of the plunger or piston 23 when disposed in the 100

normally inactive position, as suggested in Figure 3. In order that the course or track within the conduit may be maintained in proper condition, that is, free from the accumulation of extraneous matter which may impair the movement of the game piece or pieces, I employ a closure cap 31 hingedly mounted upon the uppermost extended end of the sleeve 30.

The object of the game is to strike the ball or other game piece sufficiently hard in order that same may be disposed within the pocket 15. If struck too lightly, the game piece will not travel to the height of the disk 14 but will retract or roll backwardly through the conduit and repose against the piston or plunger head 23. In the event the ball or other game piece were struck too hard, the same would whirl around upon the upper surface of the disk 14, jump out of the spirally arranged groove 16 and pocket 15 and fall within the uppermost end of the return conduit 20.

Provision is also made for the dislodging of balls finding their way within the pocket 15. This is accomplished through the provision and arrangement of a lever 32 of L-shape formation projecting within a slot in the annular member 18 and operable to dispose the full length of the shorter end thereof toward the adjacent surface of the ball whereby the latter may be pushed out of the pocket 15 and within the entrance end of the discharge conduit 20.

It is manifest from the foregoing description and accompanying drawings that a mallet or other suitable means may be employed for hitting the head 28 to simulate the game of croquet, or a driver, brassie or mid-iron may be employed in the event the device is employed to improve ones stroke in golf while teeing off.

As shown in Figures 2 and 3 of the drawings, the conduit 17 has openings at intervals to permit passage of game pieces which have failed to reach the prescribed destination, and in such events same are returned to the rack 21. The opening or aperture 33 in the underside of the lowermost straight portion of the conduit 17 is in communication with the rack 21 through a pipe section 34. As understood from the Figure 3 illustration, the opposed median edges of the opening 33 are upturned and deflected respectively whereby the game piece when starting will be lifted above the opening 33 and when returning will be lowered to fall within said opening.

The other opening alluded to is situated at an appropriate point in the spiraled portion of the conduit 17, and as indicated at 35, has communication with the bore of the return conduit through the support 11 as best illustrated in Figure 2 of the drawings. These auxiliary openings will expedite the returning of non-scoring game pieces to the rack 21

whereby the game may proceed without undue interruption.

The invention is susceptible of various changes in its form, proportions and minor details of construction and the right is herein reserved to make such changes as properly fall within the scope of the appended claims.

Having described the invention, what is claimed is:—

1. A game apparatus comprising a base having a frusto-conically shaped support disposed upon the upper side thereof, a tubular member carried by and upstanding from the upper portion of the support, a disk arranged within the tubular member having a centrally disposed pocket in communication with a spirally arranged groove, a conduit spirally arranged upon the support and tubular member, having communication at one end with the spirally arranged groove, and manually operated means at the opposite end thereof for directing a game piece through the conduit.

2. A game apparatus comprising a base having a frusto-conically shaped support disposed upon the upper side thereof, a tubular member carried by and upstanding from the upper portion of the support, a disk arranged within the tubular member having a centrally disposed pocket in communication with a spirally arranged groove, a conduit spirally arranged upon the support and tubular member having communication at one end with the spirally arranged groove, a return conduit for the game pieces, and an operating mechanism disposed within the other end of the spirally arranged conduit for the directing of game pieces therethrough.

3. A game apparatus comprising a base having a frusto-conically shaped support disposed upon the upper side thereof, a tubular member carried by and upstanding from the upper portion of the support, a disk arranged within the tubular member having a centrally disposed pocket in communication with a spirally arranged groove, a conduit spirally arranged upon the support and tubular member having communication at one end with the spirally arranged groove, a return conduit for the game pieces, a rack, and said spirally arranged conduit having auxiliary openings for returning non-scoring game pieces to the rack.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature:  
SAMUEL FELTYBERGER.