Jan. 9, 1940. A. J. JACKSON 2,186,337

GAME APPARATUS

Filed Dec. 17, 1938

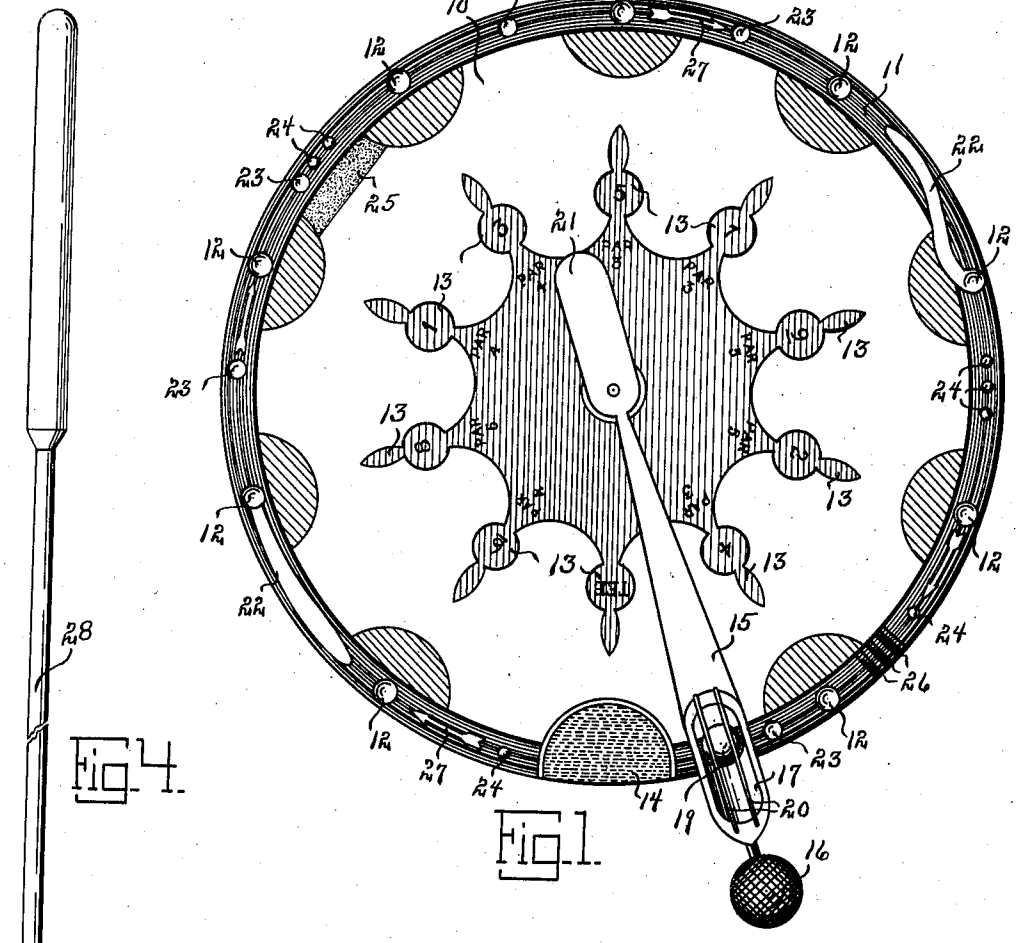

Fig. 1.

Fig. 4.

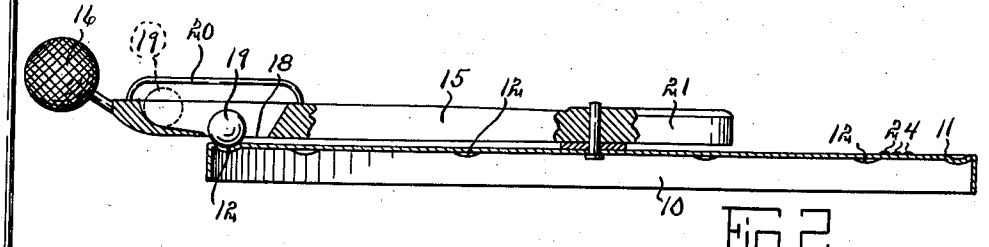

Fig. 2.

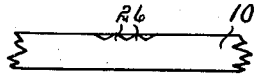

Fig. 3.

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GAME APPARATUS

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7 Claims. (Cl. 273—35)

The principal object of my invention is to provide a highly entertaining game apparatus that is played in a manner somewhat similar to a golf game.

A further object of my invention is to provide a game that is instructive and educational.

A still further object of my invention is to provide a device that employs a golf club and makes the players of my game more proficient in the playing of an actual game of golf on a golf course.

A still further object of my invention is to provide a game that is played similar to golf that may be played indoors and requires a minimum amount of space for its operation.

A still further object of my invention is to provide a game apparatus that is economical in manufacture and durable in use.

These and other objects will be apparent to those skilled in the art.

My invention consists in the construction, arrangement and combination of the various parts of the device, whereby the objects contemplated are attained as hereinafter more fully set forth, pointed out in my claims and illustrated in the accompanying drawing, in which:

Fig. 1 is a top plan view of my device ready for use.

Fig. 2 is a side sectional view of my device and more fully illustrates its construction.

Fig. 3 is a side view of a portion of the device showing one of the hazards.

Fig. 4 is a side view of a golf club used in the playing of the device.

One of the most popular games is golf. Obviously, however, golf cannot be played indoors nor during the hours of darkness. I have overcome these objections by providing a game that may be played indoors at any time and is particularly enjoyed by those that like and play golf on a golf course.

Referring to the drawing, I have used the numeral 10 to generally designate the base portion of my device. This base portion may be made of any suitable material such as wood, metal, or like and is preferably of circular plate structure such as shown in Fig. 1. The numeral 11 designates a track portion painted or otherwise placed on the upper surface of the base 10 and preferably near the outer edge portion of the base 10. This track 11 is concentric with the dead center of the base 10 and has spaced apart cup depressions designated by the numeral 12. These cup depressions 12 represent the holes or cups of an ordinary golf game and correspond in number to the number of holes of a golf course. In the drawing, I show nine of these cup holes which make the device similar to that of a nine hole golf course. The numeral 13 designates pointer indicia painted or otherwise imprinted on the top of the base 10. There are ten of these painted points 13 evenly spaced apart from each other and pointing toward the marginal edge of the base 10 as shown in Fig. 1. Nine of these points 13 point directly toward the nine cup holes 12 and are designated by the numerals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9. The numerals on these points 13 do not run consecutively but they do designate which are the first, second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth, and ninth holes of the game. The remaining tenth hole is designated as the tee and extends the same as the other points outwardly and radially from the center of the base 10. This tee pointer 13 points directly toward a painted portion 14 which extends over the track 11 and represents the area from which the player tees off for each hole. Adjacent each of the members 13 that are numbered, may be indicia designating the par for each hole. The cup holes 12 and the tee area 14 make a total of ten holes evenly spaced apart from each other on the track 11. The numeral 15 designates an arm member having its inner end rotatably secured to the dead center portion of the base 10 and is capable of horizontal rotation over the top base 10. The numeral 16 designates a ball made of rubber, wood or like suitably secured on the outer end of the arm 15 as shown in Fig. 2. The numeral 17 designates an elongated depression in the upper portion of the outer end portion of the arm 15. The numeral 18 designates a passageway through the bottom of the outer end portions of the arm 15 and communicating with the inner end portion of the cavity depression 17. When the arm 15 is spun above the base 10, this passageway 18 cuts a path directly above the track 11. The numeral 19 designates a ball loosely positioned in the cavity depression 17 and capable of having its lower end portion extend through the cut away portion or passageway 18 and roll on the track 11 when the arm 15 is slowly moving. The depression 17 extends outwardly from the cut away portion 18 outwardly and upwardly in a curved path and when the arm 15 is rigidly rotated on the base 10, the ball 19 will by centrifugal force run upwardly and outwardly within the cavity depression 17 by centrifugal force and assume a position as shown by dotted lines in Fig. 2. The numeral 20 designates bars on

the arm 15 and extending above the cavity depression 17 for preventing the escape of a ball 19 upwardly from the cavity depression 17. The numeral 21 designates a counterbalance weight on the inner end portion of the arm 15 and which extends beyond the pivot point of the arm 15, from the cavity portion 17 of the arm. The numeral 22 designates elongated depression hazards along the track 11 and in the base 10. The numeral 23 designates relatively small hazard cup depressions on the track 11 and in the base 10. The numeral 24 designates raised hazard projections in the track 11 and on the base 10. The numeral 25 designates a seriated or sand hazard on the base 10 and adjacent the track 11. The numeral 26 designates a plurality of ridge hazards on the track 11 and on the base 10. These hazards are arranged along the outer marginal edge portion of the base 10 as shown in Fig. 1. The numeral 27 designates arrows imprinted on the base 10 to show the direction of rotation of the arm 15 relative to the base 10. The numeral 28 designates a golf club or like used for manually striking the ball 16.

Obviously, the various hazards and features and arrangement of the features on the base 10 may be changed differently from that shown in the drawing and the ball 16 may be placed differently on the arm 15 as shown in the drawing. The game may be played in various ways but I recommend that in playing the apparatus that the rules used in playing an ordinary game of golf be complied with as near as possible. One excellent way of playing the game is for each player to play each hole in rotation. Each player tees off for each hole from the teeing section 14. The first stroke with the golf club 28 on the ball 16 is a driving stroke and the arm 15 should rotate several times. In any event, the arm 15 must pass at least once by the cup hole for that particular hole being played. As an illustration, if teeing off for hole 1, it is necessary for the ball 16 to be struck with such force that the arm 15 will pass by the pointer 12 having the numeral 1. The ball 16 can only be struck in one direction, i. e., to move the arm 15 in the direction of the arrows 27. At least in the tee-off stroke, the ball 19 will move upwardly and outwardly within the cavity 17 and assume a position as shown by dotted lines in Fig. 2. This action is caused by centrifugal force and once the arm 15 stops spinning rapidly, gravity will overcome the centrifugal action on the ball 19 and the ball 19 will roll downwardly and engage either the track 11 or base 10 through the passageway 18. The player keeps striking or "putting" the ball 16 until the ball 19 rolls into the cup depression for that hole. If the ball 19 goes slightly beyond the cup depression for which the player intended it to, the arm must be moved all the way around the track 11 to the right inasmuch as in "putting," the ball 16 cannot be struck so as to move the arm 15 in a direction counter to the arrows. After all of the players have made the hole depression which they were teeing for, they proceed to play for the next hole. As an illustration, if they have all completed playing hole #3, their next hole to be played will be hole #4. Obviously the player having the lowest number of strokes for the nine holes wins the game. In playing the game, the base 10 is placed on a sound foundation such as the center of the floor of a room. The various hazards arranged along the track 11 makes the "putting" most difficult for the simple reason that when the ball 16 is struck only lightly by the club 28 for "putting" purposes, the ball 19 will roll on the track 11 and engage and be disturbed by the various hazards along the track 11.

Some changes may be made in the construction and arrangement of my improved game apparatus without departing from the real spirit and purpose of my invention, and it is my intention to cover by my claims any modified forms of structure or use of mechanical equivalents which may be reasonably included within their scope.

I claim:

1. In a game, a base member having a circular track, ball receiving depressions in said track, an arm rotatably mounted on said base member having a passageway communicating with said track, a ball element in said passageway and capable of engaging said track and said ball receiving depressions at times, and a ball element rigidly secured to said arm designed to be struck by the player for moving said arm relative to said base member.

2. In a game, a base member having a circular track, ball receiving depressions in said track, an arm rotatably mounted on said base member having a passageway communicating with said track, a ball element in said passageway and capable of engaging said track and said ball receiving depressions at times, a ball element rigidly secured to said arm designed to be struck by the player for moving said arm relative to said base member, and hazard elements on said track for interfering with the normal rolling of said first mentioned ball along said track.

3. In a game, a base member having a circular track, ball receiving depressions in said track, an arm rotatably mounted on said base member having a passageway therein communicating with said track, a chamber in the outer end of said arm beyond said passageway, a ball element in said passageway capable of engaging said track and said ball receiving depressions at times and capable of being received in said chamber while said arm is rotating, and a ball element rigidly secured to said arm designed to be struck by the player for moving said arm relative to said base member.

4. In a game, a base member, having a circular track and ball receiving depressions in said circular track, an arm rotatably mounted on said base member having a recess in its upper surface and adjacent to its outer end portion and having an opening extending therefrom over said circular track, a ball element resting loosely in said recess and capable of engaging said track and said bill receiving depressions at times and bars extending over said recess for preventing the accidental displacement of said ball element from said recess.

5. In a game, a base member having a circular track and ball receiving depressions in said circular track, an arm rotatably mounted on said base member having a recess in its upper surface and adjacent to its outer end portion and having an opening extending therefrom over said circular track, a ball element resting loosely in said recess and capable of engaging said track and said ball receiving depressions at times, bars extending over said recess and preventing the accidental displacement of said ball element from said recess, and hazard elements on said track for interfering with the normal rolling of said ball element along said track.

6. In a device of the class described, a base

member, a plurality of ball receiving depressions in said base member spaced apart from each other and forming a circular row, an arm rotatably mounted on said base member and describing an arc when rotated above said ball receiving depressions, a chamber in the outer portion of said arm, a passageway in said arm having one end communicating with said chamber and its other end terminating above the circular row of said ball receiving depressions, a ball resting freely in said chamber capable of having its lower portion selectively engage any one of said ball receiving depressions through said passageway at times, and a second ball rigidly secured to the outer end of said arm.

7. In a device of the class described, a base member, a plurality of ball receiving depressions in said base member spaced apart from each other and forming a circular row, an arm rotatably mounted on said base member and describing an arc when rotated above said ball receiving depressions, a chamber in the outer portion of said arm, a passageway in said arm having one end communicating with said chamber and its other end terminating above the circular row of said ball receiving depressions, a ball in said chamber capable of having its lower portion selectively engage any one of said ball receiving depressions through said passageway, a second ball rigidly secured to the outer end of said arm, and raised portions on said base member and positioned between some of said ball receiving depressions.

ADELBERT J. JACKSON.