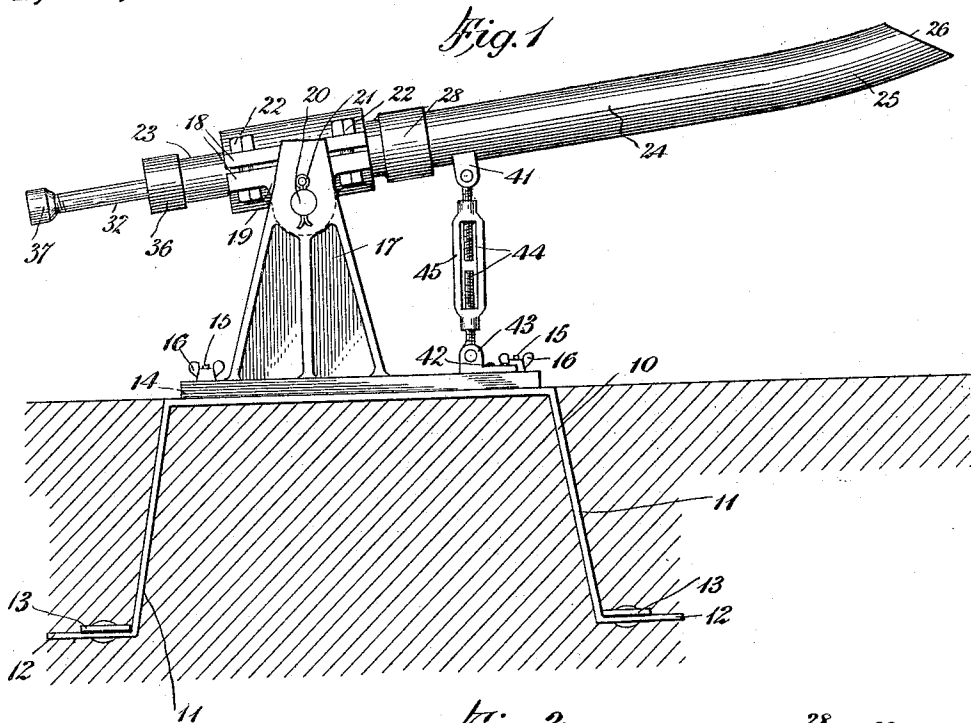
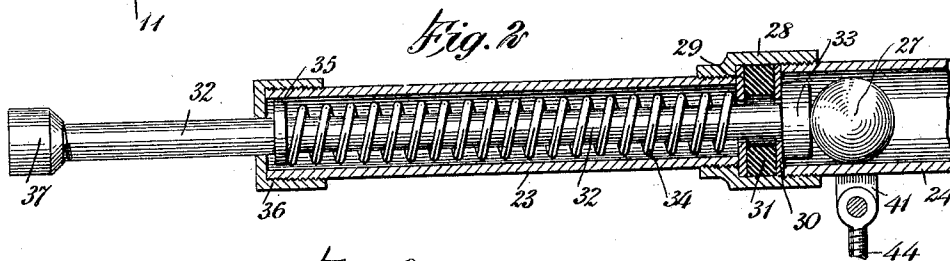
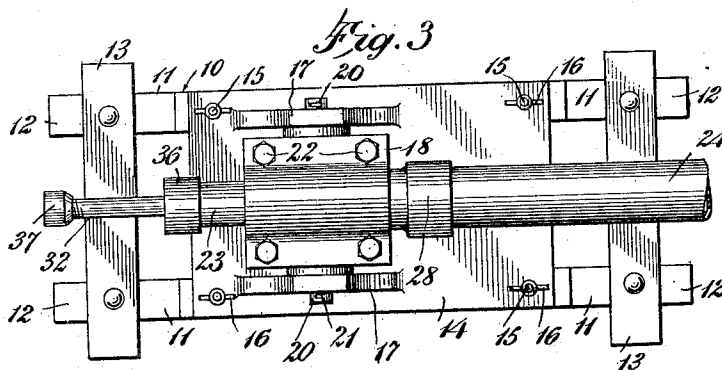
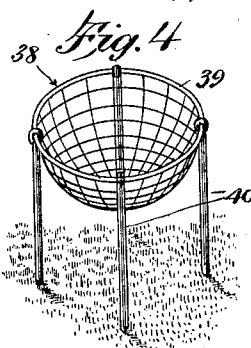


J. NORTON.
LAWN GAME.
APPLICATION FILED NOV. 14, 1913.

Patented July 7, 1914.

1,102,948.



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LAWN GAME.

1,102,948.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented July 7, 1914.

Application filed November 14, 1913. Serial No. 800,984.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN NORTON, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the city of New York, borough of the Bronx, in the county of the Bronx and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Lawn Game, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The present invention comprehends a novel and simple fascinating lawn game.

The primary object of the invention is accomplished in the provision of a lawn game which will be commonly known as "Lawn-ette", and the same consists of a projecting apparatus having improved means for anchoring the same in the ground, such projecting apparatus being pivotally mounted so as to be adjusted at different inclinations whereby balls designed for use with the apparatus may be projected at different elevations and distances therefrom.

A further object of the invention is to provide an improved projecting apparatus which embodies a barrel having a plunger movable therein, the plunger being held resiliently extended from the inner end of the barrel whereby, when a quick forcive action is exerted against the inner end of the plunger as by means of a mallet, a ball positioned in front of the plunger will be projected from the outer or discharge end of the barrel and, due to the particular shaping of the latter, will be deflected upwardly, the object being to deposit the balls into pockets suitably spaced from the projecting apparatus, preferably in longitudinal alinement so as to prove a test for skill and endurance as well as providing an exercising device.

With the above and other objects in view, the invention resides more particularly in the peculiar combination and arrangement of the parts which will be illustrated as a preferred embodiment in the accompanying drawings and described in the specification.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification in which like characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the views, and in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of the projecting apparatus of the improved lawn game; Fig. 2 is an enlarged sectional view through the barrel portion of the apparatus, the plunger being normally retracted or projected from the inner end of the barrel with

a ball in position to be projected therefrom; Fig. 3 is a plan view of the projecting apparatus, part of the barrel being broken away; and Fig. 4 is a perspective view of one of the pockets into which balls are to be deposited.

In the illustrated embodiment of the invention the improved game apparatus is to be embedded in the ground and consists of a pair of spaced parallel metallic strips disposed in horizontal alinement with the ground surface and having depending extremities or leg portions inclined slightly outwardly with their lower ends bent horizontally outwardly as shown at 12 to provide removal restraining feet. These portions 12 are connected by a transverse anchoring strip 13, the whole operating to prevent displacement of the anchor. The anchor is designed for securing the projecting apparatus thereto and to hold the latter rigid during the projecting operation.

The projecting apparatus embodies the base 14 removably secured to each strip of the anchor as by means of bolts 15 fixed to the anchor strips adjacent each end of the horizontal portions thereof in line with the ground surface, the base having apertures through which the bolts engage, while winged nuts 16 are engaged on the bolts to secure the base to the anchor and permit the convenient removal thereof for the purpose of storing the projecting apparatus after use or overnight as will be apparent. The base 14 is provided with a pair of spaced vertical bearings 17 in which a two-piece clamp or carriage 18 is pivotally supported by means of a depending extension 19 having a pivot 20 engaged through apertures of the bearings and held from displacement as by means of keys 21. The sections of the clamp are removably secured together as by means of bolts 22 engaged through opposed extensions thereof, and this clamp is adapted to removably and rigidly secure a barrel section 23 to the bearing portions of the base against longitudinal movement independent of the clamp or carriage.

The projecting apparatus further comprises a section 24, both of the sections 23 and 24 being of tubular construction, and the section 24 at its outer end being curved upwardly as shown at 25 and being beveled at its top as shown at 26, so that as a ball forming one of a series to be used in the game is projected therefrom, such ball will

be deflected upwardly. The sections 23 and 24 are coupled together as by means of a threaded ring 28, such ring having interiorly threaded portions of different diameters to engage the threaded ends of the barrel sections 23 and 24 respectively. A washer 29 is disposed in contact with a shoulder produced by the adjacent section 23 and by reducing the inner portion of the bore of the ring, and between this washer and the washer 30 disposed in contact with the inner end of the barrel section 24 is a cushioning ring 31, all of these parts being apertured to movably receive a plunger 32 there-through.

The plunger 32 is passed through the inner end of the barrel section 23 and has a plunger head 33 removably secured at its outer end, while also mounted on the plunger is an expansible coil spring 34, the same being mounted between the washer 29 and a collar 35 removably fixed to the plunger adjacent the inner end of the barrel section 23. When the parts are thus assembled, an apertured cap 36 is removably secured on the inner end of the section 23 so that the spring will at all times normally hold the plunger head inwardly displaced in the barrel section 24 and the rubber or cushion 31 will take up the impact due to its quick return and disengagement from the ball projected. A head 37 is removably secured to the inner end of the plunger and is enlarged relative to the plunger so as not to mutilate a suitable mallet which may be used for striking the plunger to cause a quick outward movement of the latter against the action of the coil spring to project the ball. The force exerted against the spring being absorbed in its coils to some extent and the final impact being directed against the cushioning ring through the medium of the washer 29 will prevent mutilation thereof. The return impact of the plunger head 33 against the cushioning ring 31 is exerted by contact of the plunger head with the washer 30 so that a greater portion of the jar tending to displace the supporting frame of the projecting apparatus will be obviated.

In playing the game a plurality of baskets or pockets 38 will be employed, such pockets being preferably four in number and positioned at suitable distances in longitudinal alinement with the barrel of the projecting apparatus, preferably at twenty five, fifty, seventy five and one hundred feet from the apparatus. Each pocket consists of a circular ring 39 from which the interwoven pocket is suspended, while at four points the ring is provided with depending legs 40 pivotally secured thereto to permit them to be independently projected into the ground for the purpose of supporting the pockets at spaced distances from the latter and to permit them to be conveniently stored with the

rest of the apparatus. The barrel is normally supported in an inclined position as shown in Fig. 1 of the drawings, and in order to so support it and permit it to be adjusted at various inclinations for projecting the balls at different heights and distances, the barrel section 24 is provided with a pair of depending apertured ears 41, and the base has a foot plate 42 secured thereto. The foot plate is in turn provided with upwardly extending spaced apertured ears 43, and said ears 41 and 43 each pivotally carry threaded shanks 44 which are oppositely threaded, and engaged by a turn buckle 45 whereby when the turn buckle is rotated the threaded shanks are oppositely shifted relative to the same to cause the barrel to be raised or lowered. As the pockets may be disposed in any relative position, though preferably as described, but a slight adjustment or inclination of the barrel will be necessary to deposit the balls in the respective pockets, and by giving a harder or lighter blow to the plunger the balls may be projected a greater or lesser distance.

As before mentioned, four pockets are employed and twelve of the balls 27, the latter being constructed of rubber so as to be projected from the barrel with less impact than would be required with a non-resilient member. With one of the balls in position in the barrel section 24 and in contact with the plunger head 23, the plunger is struck with a mallet which is of suitable weight and size, the object being to deposit the balls into the pockets. When twelve balls are used by each player, if a player deposit the first four balls, one in each of the respective pockets, the highest score possible is made, and one method of counting would be to count the balls remaining so that the person first retaining a number of balls making a total sum of twenty five or fifty, would win the game. Another method of scoring would be to number each pocket according to its distance from the projecting apparatus and count the numbers to obtain a sum total for the twelve balls or otherwise, or the highest score for the least number of balls. It will thus be seen that a game apparatus has been produced which will not only prove a test for the skill of the player, but which will also prove interesting and beneficial as an exercising device.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent:

1. In a lawn game apparatus, the combination with an anchor embedded in the ground, of a projecting apparatus mounted therein, said projecting apparatus including a base removably secured to the anchor and having spaced vertical bearings, a carriage pivoted in the bearings, a barrel supported

by the carriage and having a spring plunger therein adapted to project an object by forcive action thereagainst, and means within the barrel to cushion the movements of the plunger.

2. In a lawn game apparatus, the combination with an anchor embedded in the ground, of a projecting apparatus mounted therein, said projecting apparatus including a base removably secured to the anchor and having spaced vertical bearings, a carriage pivoted in the bearings, a barrel supported by the carriage and having a spring plunger therein adapted to project an object by forcive action thereagainst, and means connecting the base and barrel to adjust the latter at various inclinations.

3. A lawn game comprising a ground anchor, a pivotally supported carriage secured thereto against displacement, a barrel embodying a pair of sections coupled together, an apertured cushioning member between the sections, a plunger movable through said cushioning member, a coil spring on the plunger between the cushioning member and the inner end of the inner section of the barrel, the spring being held from movement inwardly of the plunger and the plunger being normally projected from said end, the outer end of the barrel being directed up-

wardly and beveled at its top portion, and an adjustable connection between the outer barrel section and the support.

4. A lawn game comprising a ground anchor, a pivotally supported carriage secured thereto against displacement, a barrel embodying a pair of sections coupled together, an apertured cushioning member between the sections, a plunger movable through said cushioning member, a coil spring on the plunger between the cushioning member and the inner end of the inner section of the barrel, the spring being held from movement inwardly of the plunger and the plunger being normally projected from said end, a plunger head on the free end of the plunger, said plunger head and the outer end of the spring being designed to contact with the cushioning member at the opposite limits of the movements of the plunger in moving outward against the action of the spring and in retracting and balls designed to be positioned in the barrel to be projected.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JOHN NORTON.

Witnesses:

CHAS. W. SPIKINS,
ANDREW J. FLYNN.