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F. B. CARLAND

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GOLF PRACTICING DEVICE

Filed Sept. 10, 1928

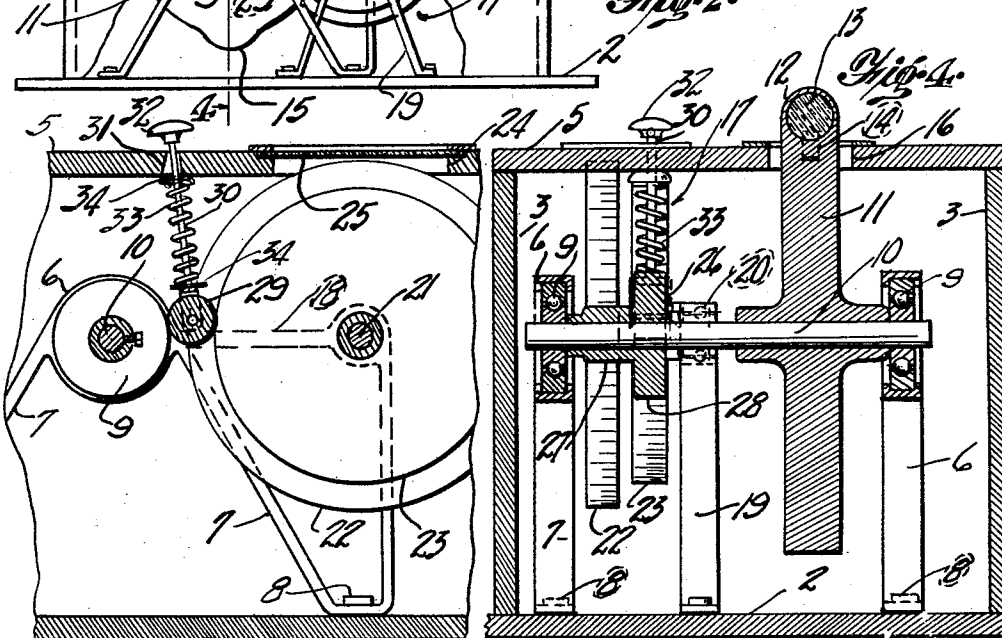
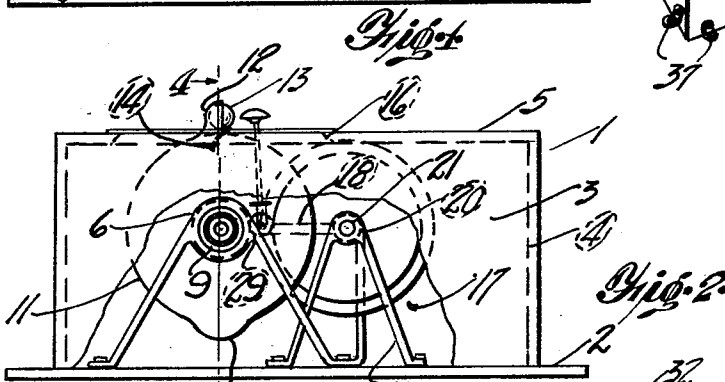
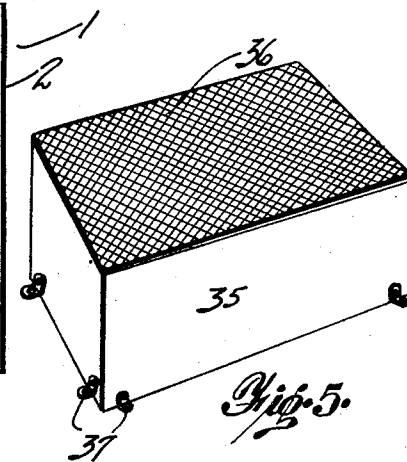
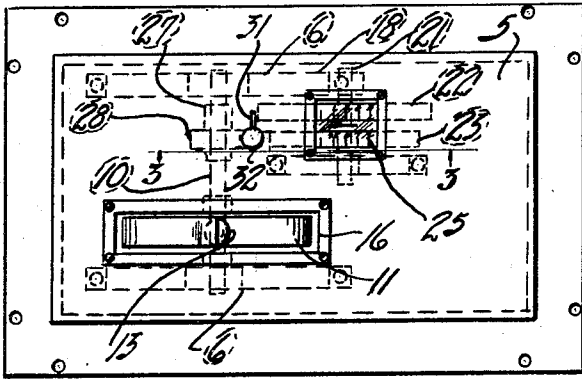


Fig. 3.

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GOLF-PRACTICING DEVICE

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My invention has general reference to a golf practicing device and more particularly to one in which the golf ball is supported upon a movable element in such manner that it normally assumes the usual position of rest preparatory to being struck.

The main object is to make possible the repeated driving of the ball without the necessity of the player moving to a different location.

Another object is to provide a means for indicating the force with which the ball is struck thus allowing the player to practice both driving and putting.

A further object is to provide such a device which is simple in structure and not liable to derangement of the operating elements.

The foregoing and other objects of the invention together with means whereby they may be carried into effect will best be understood from the following description taken in connection with the accompanying drawing in which:

Figure 1 is a plan view of the invention, the cover being removed.

Figure 2 is a side view thereof partially broken away.

Figure 3 is an enlarged section along the line 3—3 in Figure 1.

Figure 4 is an enlarged section along the line 4—4 in Figure 2.

Figure 5 is a perspective view of the cover.

In carrying out the invention I provide a frame 1 comprising the rectangular base 2, the vertical side members 3, the vertical ends 4 and the horizontal top 5 formed of any suitable material and secured together in any conventional manner. Bearing brackets 6 having the divergent legs 7 are secured by bolts 8 to the base 2 within the frame 1 and are provided with ball bearings 9 at their upper medial portions as shown. An axle 10 is mounted transversely across the frame through the ball bearings 9 and a wheel 11 is secured upon this axle adjacent one of the bearing brackets 6 as shown. A suitable socket 12 is radially extended from the periphery of the wheel 11 and is adapted to receive a conventional golf ball 13, the said ball being retained in place by a spring leaf

14, and the said wheel 11 is counter weighted as at 15 in such manner that the ball 13 will normally assume a position at the top of the wheel projecting upwardly through an elongated slot 16 in the top 5 so that it may be struck by the player. The arrangement is such that the ball 13 rests slightly above the plane of the top 5 simulating the position of the ball in actual play. It will be understood that the ball upon being struck will cause the wheel to rotate according to the force exerted by the player. In order to measure this force I provide an indicator mechanism indicated generally at 17. A bracket arm 18 is extended from one of the bearing brackets 6 and a bracket 19 similar in shape to the brackets 6 is secured to the base 2, and spaced from the said arm 18, ball bearings 20 being provided in the said arm and bracket in the usual manner. A dial shaft 21 is mounted through these bearings 20 and drum dials 22 and 23 are rigidly mounted upon the shaft 21 as shown, the said dials being graduated in a suitable manner upon their peripheral faces. An aperture 24 is provided in the top 5 above the dials 22 and 23 and a glass window 25 is provided therein through which the graduations on the said dials are visible. The dial 22 is larger in diameter than the dial 23 as shown and a pulley 26 is secured upon the axle 10 in alignment with these dials, the said pulley having a relatively small portion 27, and a relatively enlarged portion 28, the arrangement being such that the small portion 27 is in alignment with the large dial 22 and the large portion 28 is in alignment with the small dial 23 and the space between the dials and the pulley is the same. An intermediate roller 29 is supported on a rod 30 which passes outwardly through a transverse slot 31 in the top 5, a knob 32 being provided on the free end of the said rod. A coil spring 33 is braced between the collars 34 and serves to normally force the intermediate roller 29 downward between the dials 22 or 23 and the pulley 26, in frictional engagement therewith so that the rotation of the said roller 26 due to the player striking the ball 13 will cause the dials to rotate showing the force of the blow. By pulling the intermediate roller 29

upward by the knob 32 the rod 30 may be moved from side to side in the slot 31 so that the said roller 29 may be placed in contact with either of the dials. Preferably the smaller dial 23 is graduated in feet and the larger dial in yards to indicate the distance which the ball would travel in putting or driving respectively.

A rectangular box like cover 35 is provided for the frame 1, the said cover having its top covered with corrugated rubber as shown at 36. Small apertured lugs 37 are provided so that the cover may be fastened over the frame 1 by screws (not shown) passed through the said lugs into the base 2. When the device is in use the cover is placed beside the frame and the player may stand thereon so that the surface upon which he stands is level with that upon which the ball 13 lies. The corrugated rubber covering 36 prevents slipping.

In use the player first adjusts the intermediate roller 29 so that it engages either of the dials 22 or 23 according to whether he desires to practice driving or putting. Then by striking the ball 13 the dial upon which the said roller 29 rests will register the distance which the ball would travel. It will be understood that the device may be used either as a game or for practice in the art of playing golf, with equal facility.

While I have herein set forth a preferred embodiment of my invention it is understood that I may vary from the same in minor details, so as best to construct a practical device for the purpose intended, not departing from the spirit of the invention, and within the scope of the appended claims.

I claim

1. In a device of the character described, a frame, an axle journaled therein, a wheel upon the axle, a socket element upon the wheel adapted to receive a golf ball, the said socket element normally resting above the upper surface of the frame to present the ball in position for striking, a dial shaft journaled in the frame, graduated drum dials secured on the dial shaft, a pulley upon the axle and means for operatively and releasably connecting the said drum dials and pulley so that the dials will be rotated upon striking the ball.

2. In a device of the character described, a frame having a slot and a sight aperture in its upper surface, an axle journaled in the frame, a wheel upon the axle, a socket element upon the periphery of the wheel adapted to receive a golf ball and normally projecting upwardly through the said slot in the frame to present the ball in position for striking, a dial shaft journaled in the frame, large and small drum dials secured on the dial shaft below the said sight aperture in the frame, a pulley secured to the axle in spaced relationship with the said drum dials, the

said pulley comprising relatively small and large portions in a alignment with the large and small drum dials respectively, a rod adjustably mounted in the frame and spring set to normally extend downward between the said drum dials and the pulley and a roller journaled on the lower end of the rod and adapted to engage either of the said drum dials and the corresponding portions of the pulley.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.
FRANK B. CARLAND.

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