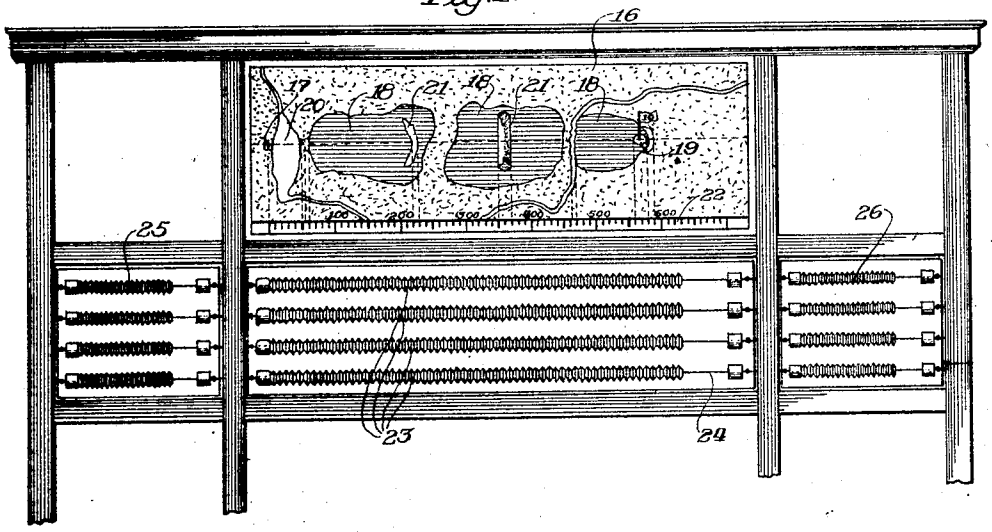
Sept. 1, 1925. 1,552,183

E. T. WRIGHT

INDOOR GOLF GAME

Filed Sept. 10, 1923

Fig. 1.



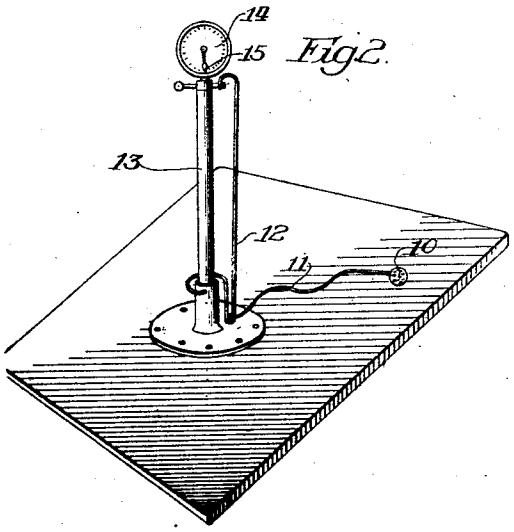
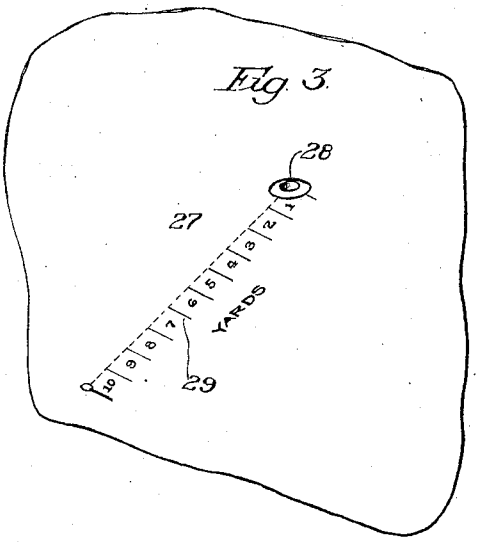


Fig 2.

Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWARD T. WRIGHT, OF RIVER FOREST, ILLINOIS.

INDOOR GOLF GAME.

Application filed September 10, 1923. Serial No. 661,871.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWARD T. WRIGHT, a citizen of the United States, and resident of River Forest, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in an Indoor Golf Game, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to games and more particularly to a golf game adapted to be played indoors and which includes the actual striking of a captive ball in the same manner as though the game were being played outdoors in the usual manner.

In order that the desired result may be secured in the most advantageous manner, I utilize a device known as a golf meter which, through the use of suitable mechanism and a captive ball, enables a player to exert actual striking force against a ball, the distance acquired as the result of such force being registered by the mechanism.

Correlated with a device such as described is a topographical chart by means of which a portion of a golf course, preferably one hole, is illustrated in detail, with the usual hazards positioned as in modern golf course construction. In certain uses to which the invention may be put, a series of such charts, each illustrating one hole of some well known golf course, are each associated with a golf meter, and these holes will be played successively in the usual manner. Such use of the invention is more particularly intended for golf schools or public places where the relatively large expenditure may be compensated for by income derived from players. For private use a single golf meter may be employed and a plurality of charts representing different holes of a golf course may successively be displayed in proper relation to the distance-acquiring machine.

In addition to the scoring device, means will be provided for actual putting of a ball into a hole on the green after the player's ball has reached the green, as indicated by the chart and scoring devices. A further development and amplification of the idea includes the provision of sand bunkers from which the ball is actually shot by the player when, as indicated by the chart, his ball has reached one of these hazards. The distance acquired as the result of the shot out of the trap or sand bunkers may be indicated by a calibrated screen adjacent to the bunkers.

The invention will be more readily understood by reference to the accompaying drawings, wherein,

Fig. 1 is an elevation of the scoring device and a pictorial representation of a portion of a golf course;

Fig. 2 is a perspective view of a golf meter, and,

Fig. 3 is a perspective view of a portion of a putting green.

The golf meter illustrated in Fig. 2, forming no part of my invention and being of well known form, will not be described in detail. It is sufficient to say, however, that it includes a captive golf ball 10, attached by a flexible wire 11, to an arm 12, adapted to rotate around a standard 13, the rotations following the travel of the ball after being struck being recorded or registered by means of the dial 14, and pointer 15. The dial 14, is suitably calibrated in order that approximately the exact distance which would be acquired under normal conditions on an outdoor course, is registered when the ball 10 is correspondingly struck.

The novel part of my invention includes a chart 16, which may be in the form of a pictorial representation of one hole of a golf course. This chart is superposed on the panel mounted in a suitable frame located adjacent to the golf meter. The chart will indicate a tee 17, fairways 18, a green 19, and hazards, such as water 20, traps 21, etc. The course thus outlined is graduated by a yardage scale, as indicated at 22, and located directly beneath said scale are a series of markers 23, four series being shown in order to accommodate four players, as is customary. Each of these markers is preferably of a thickness corresponding to a unit of measurement of the graduated scale, in this instance each marker corresponding to a ten yard distance. The markers are slidable on a wire 24, in the manner of billiard markers. In order to register the digits intervening between the ten yard markers, I provide supplemental markers 25, located at one side of and preferably in line with the markers 23. At another side I provide markers 26, by means of which the total number of strokes taken by a player may be recorded.

In laying out the topographical chart by

means of which the particular hole being played is illustrated, the different elements such as fairway, water hazards, sand traps, etc., will be differently colored and the markers corresponding to the position of such elements will be similarly colored. For instance, the water 20, indicated in Fig. 1, will be colored blue and the markers covering the space represented by said water will also be colored blue. Likewise the traps 21 will be colored yellow, representing sand, and the markers corresponding thereto will likewise be yellow.

In addition, in order to complete the simulation of an outdoor game, I provide a putting green 27, having a device 28, corresponding in size to a hole. This green which may be a carpet, will be calibrated in order to indicate yardage, as indicated by the scale 29, so that the distance necessary to be putted by the player to sink a ball may be actually played. This distance will be determined by the position of the ball as shown by the yardage markers.

The game as described is played as follows: The markers 23, 25, 26 are all shifted to the extreme right, as viewed in Fig. 1. The first player then positions the captive ball 10, selects a desired club, such as a driver, and strikes the ball. The distance acquired, as indicated by the pointer 15, say 195 yards, is indicated by moving nineteen of the markers 23, of the first string to the left. In addition five of the markers 25 of the first string will be moved to the left. The player's one stroke will also be indicated by moving one of the markers 26 of the first string to the left. The player's ball is therefore positioned on the fairway 18, short of the trap 21, the position on the fairway being indicated by the position of the marker directly beneath the same. The successive players follow, recording their yardage in a similar manner. This is continued until the chart indicates the arrival of the player's ball on the green 19, the distance from the pin being indicated by the markers. Thereafter the player plays his ball on the putting green a corresponding distance from the pin and putts toward the hole 28. It will be understood that the digit counters 25 are used only for the purpose of accounting for the yardage intervening between the tens indicated by the markers 23 and that when ten markers 25 are accumulated, one will be added to the markers 23.

In the preferred embodiment of the invention a different chart and series of markers will be provided for each hole to be played and the delineation will accurately follow well known or actual golf courses. This involves in an eighteen hole course a corresponding number of the devices illustrated in the drawings. For private use, however, a single golf meter and a scoring device may be provided, the different holes being represented by charts which may be changed as successive holes are played.

Obviously the construction is of such a nature that it is capable of quite wide variations and elaboration, and modifications will readily suggest themselves to players. I do not wish to be limited other than as indicated in the appended claims.

I claim:

1. In combination, means including a captive golf ball for registering the actual distance-acquiring force applied to the ball, a topographical chart of a golf hole with which the aforesaid distances may be correlated, and counters by means of which the accumulated distances and strokes may be recorded.

2. In combination, means including a captive golf ball for registering the actual distance-acquiring force applied to the ball, a plurality of different topographical charts each showing one hole of a golf course and with which charts in succession the aforesaid distances may be correlated, and counters by means of which the accumulated distances and strokes may be registered.

3. In combination, means including a captive golf ball for registering the actual distance-acquiring force applied to the ball, a topographical chart of a golf hole with which the aforesaid distances may be correlated, counters by means of which the accumulated distances and strokes may be recorded, and a putting green over which a ball is projected toward the flag after reaching the green as indicated by said chart.

4. In combination of means for registering the actual distance-acquiring force applied to a golf ball, a topographical chart of a golf hole graduated to indicate distances, and counters positioned adjacent to said chart, a unit of measurement on the graduated distance scale of said chart corresponding to the space occupied by one of said markers whereby the position of a player's ball is indicated by the accumulated markers.

5. In combination of means for registering the actual distance-acquiring force applied to a golf ball, a topographical chart of a golf hole graduated to indicate distances, and counters positioned adjacent to said chart, a unit of measurement on the graduated distance scale of said chart corresponding to the space occupied by one of said markers whereby the position of a player's ball is indicated by the accumulated markers, and a putting green over which a ball is projected after reaching the green, as indicated by said chart.

6. In means of the class described, the combination of a device including a captive golf ball for registering the distance ac-

quired by the striking of said ball with a golf club, a chart on which a portion of a golf course is visually delineated, the distance being indicated by graduations on said chart, and a series of markers arranged adjacent and parallel to said chart, said markers indicating actual yardage acquired on said device and also indicating the corresponding position of the ball on said chart.

7. In an indoor golf playing device, the combination of means including a captive golf ball for registering the actual distance-acquiring force applied to said ball, a topographical outline of a portion of a golf course, a series of markers located adjacent to said chart, said markers indicating the accumulated distance acquired as indicated by said distance-acquiring device, showing also the position of the ball on the course relative to said chart, and means for putting an actual ball on a green after the player has reached the green, as indicated by the scoring device and said chart.

Signed at Chicago, Illinois, this 29th day of August, 1923.

EDWARD T. WRIGHT.