Aug. 2, 1960 H. W. HENRY 2,947,540

BASE SACK ANCHORING MEANS

Filed March 9, 1959 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

FIG. 1

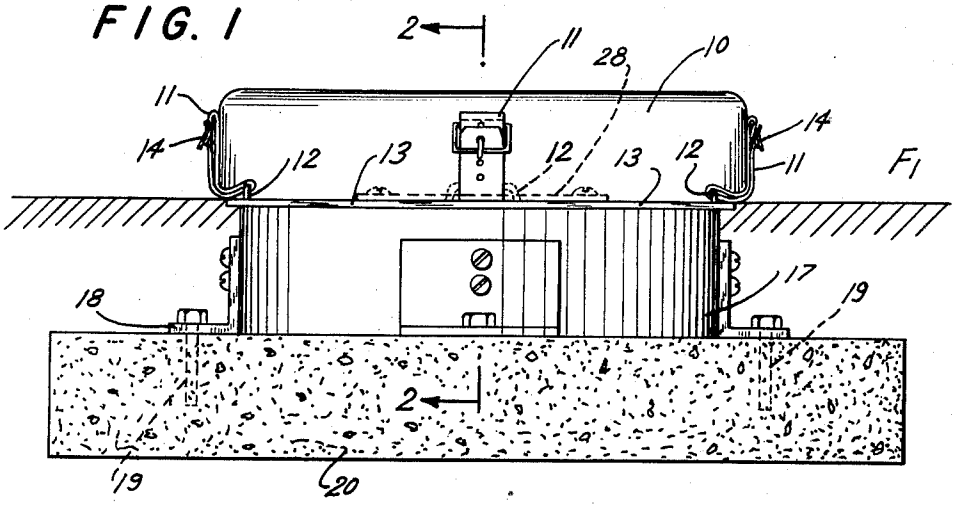
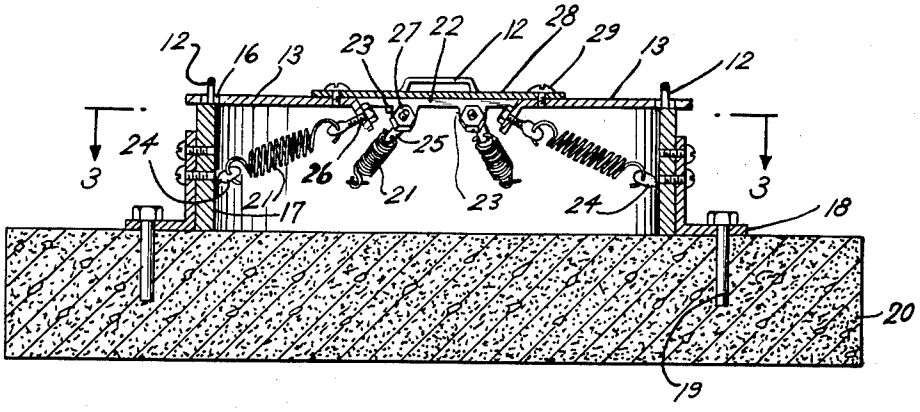


FIG. 2



INVENTOR.
HERBERT W. HENRY
BY Clark & Utt
ATTORNEYS

Aug. 2, 1960 H. W. HENRY 2,947,540

BASE SACK ANCHORING MEANS

Filed March 9, 1959 2 Sheets-Sheet 2

FIG. 3

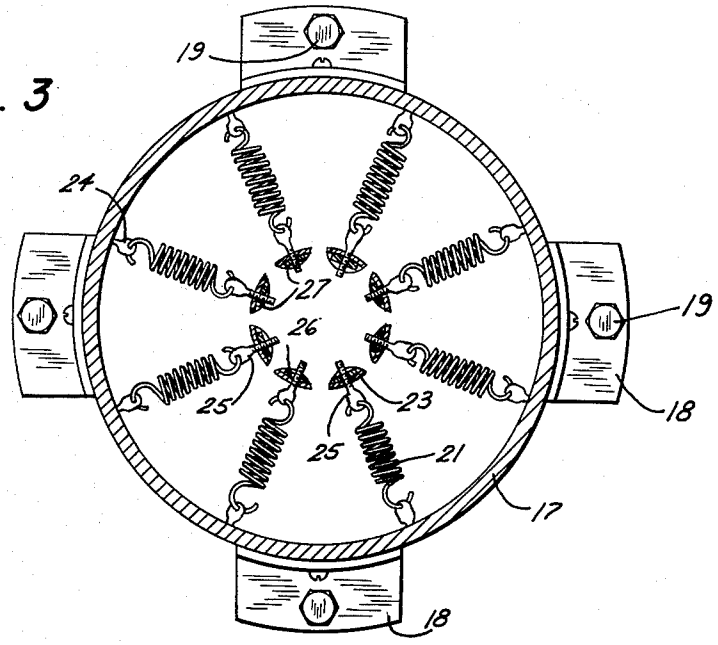
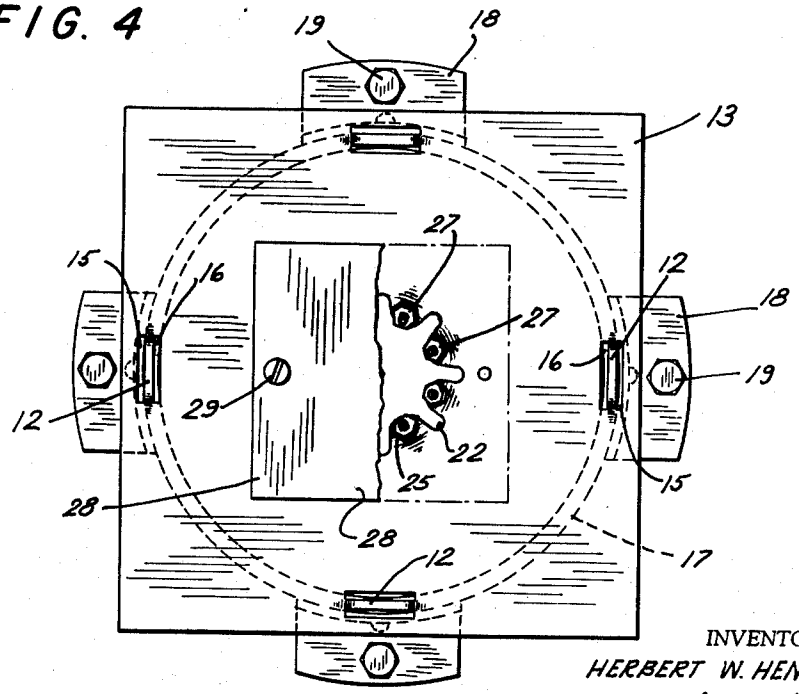


FIG. 4



INVENTOR.
HERBERT W. HENRY
BY Clark & Att
ATTORNEYS

United States Patent Office 2,947,540
Patented Aug. 2, 1960

2,947,540

BASE SACK ANCHORING MEANS

Herbert W. Henry, 881 Stebbins Ave., New York, N.Y.

Filed Mar. 9, 1959, Ser. No. 798,127

6 Claims. (Cl. 273—25)

This invention relates to anchoring means for securing a base sack in position such as a baseball sack and the like.

Baseball sacks are secured in position at the several bases by means of straps which tie the sacks down to elements secured in the ground. These elements retain the sack against movement in the plane of the base whereby players sliding into base frequently contact the sack with such force that they receive sprained ankles or broken ankle bones. The present invention seeks to overcome this hazard by providing anchoring means which permits of the movement of the sack in any direction throughout the plane of the base and for turning movement arcuately about the center thereof and which normally retains the sack centrally of the base whereby the sack will have limited movement with the impact of the player thereagainst.

A further object of the invention is to provide sack anchoring means which permits of the convenient tying down and release thereof and the adjustment of the elements which tension the sack against movement.

Another object of the invention is to provide anchoring means which may be readily cleaned of sand, dirt or other foreign matter accumulating therein.

With the foregoing and other objects in view, reference is now made to the following specification and accompanying drawings in which the preferred embodiment of the invention is illustrated.

In the drawings:

Fig. 1 is a view in elevation of a sack anchoring means constructed in accordance with the invention.

Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view taken approximately on line 2—2 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a plan view taken approximately on line 3—3 of Fig. 2.

Fig. 4 is a plan view of the anchoring means shown in Fig. 1 with the top plate partly broken away.

Referring to the drawings, the invention is illustrated in its application to a base sack for the game of baseball, such as employed at first, second and third bases. However, the anchoring means may be employed for anchoring a base sack for any game in which parts of the body of the player may engage during the usual course of playing the game. The anchoring means provides a support for the sack centrally of the base, and normally retains the sack at the proper location while permitting of movement thereof in a horizontal plane when the same is engaged by a player.

The sack **10** is tied down by means of straps **11** which are affixed to the side walls of the sack and extend about loops **12** projecting upwardly from a top plate **13** and located adjacent the periphery thereof and under the sack. The free ends of the straps **11** are attached to the upper portions thereof by buckles **14** which permit of disconnecting the sack from the plate. The loops **12** are preferably formed from the body of the plate by cutting slits **15** and **16** therein and bending the portions

of the plate between the slits upwardly to thereby provide the loops **12**.

The upper surface of the plate **13** is located substantially flush with the surface of the playing field F and may be of rectangular formation corresponding to that of the sack. The plate is slidably disposed upon the upper edge of an annular metal frame **17** to which circumferentially spaced angle brackets **18** are secured to the sides thereof and through which extend bolts **19** with the lower ends of the bolts anchored in a concrete supporting base **20** embedded in the ground centrally below the sack **10**.

The plate **13** is tensioned for limited sliding movement on the annular frame **17** by means of a plurality of radially arranged contractile springs **21** connecting the plate with the frame **17**. For this purpose the plate **13** is formed with a central opening **22** and is provided with a plurality of radially arranged downwardly bent lugs **23** located about the periphery of the opening. The springs are attached at their outer ends to metal eyes **24** extending inwardly from the inner face of the frame **17** and at their inner ends the said springs are attached to studs **25** which project through apertures **26** in the lugs **23** and with nuts **27** threadedly engaged on the outer ends of the studs for varying the tension of the springs. The opening **22** is closed by a cover plate **28** which is removably secured on the plate **13** by screws **29**. This permits of the removal of the cover plate so as to tighten or loosen the nuts **27** for varying the tension on the springs **21**. In the event that sand or other foreign matter accumulates in the frame due to the plate **13** being lifted from time to time when adjusting the sack **10**, the same may be removed through the opening **22**.

While the preferred form of the invention is shown and described herein, it is to be understood that the same is not so limited but shall cover and include any and all modifications thereof which fall within the purview of the invention.

What is claimed is:

1. In a base sack anchoring means, a plate arranged substantially flush with the playing area and having a plurality of spaced loops adapted for receiving means for connecting a base sack thereto adjacent the periphery thereof, a frame located centrally below said plate and on which the same is slidably supported, a supporting base embedded in the ground below said frame, means securing said frame in fixed relation on said supporting base, and a plurality of spaced radially arranged springs affixed at their outer ends to the inner face of said frame and connected at their inner ends with said plate for securing the plate on said frame and normally retaining the plate and the base sack centrally thereof and permitting of limited movement of the sack and plate throughout the plane of the top of the frame.

2. In a base sack anchoring means, a plate arranged substantially flush with the playing area and having a plurality of spaced loops adapted for receiving means for connecting a base sack thereto adjacent the periphery thereof, a frame anchored in the ground and located centrally below said plate and on which the same is slidably supported, and a plurality of spaced radially arranged springs affixed at their outer ends to the inner face of said frame and connected at their inner ends with said plate for securing the plate on said frame and normally retaining the plate and the base sack centrally thereof and permitting of limited movement of the sack and plate throughout the plane of the top of the frame.

3. In a base sack anchoring means, a plate arranged substantially flush with the playing area and having a central opening provided with a plurality of spaced lugs extending inwardly about the periphery thereof and said plate having means for connecting a base sack thereto,

a frame anchored in the ground and located centrally below said plate and on which the same is slidably supported, a plurality of radially arranged springs affixed at their outer ends in spaced relation about the inner periphery of said frame and connected at their inner ends with studs attached to said lugs for securing the plate on said frame and normally retaining the plate and the base sack centrally thereof and permitting of limited movement of the sack and plate throughout the plane of the top of the frame.

4. In a base sack anchoring means, a plate arranged substantially flush with the playing area and having a central opening provided with a plurality of spaced lugs extending inwardly about the periphery thereof and said plate having means for connecting a base sack thereto, a frame anchored in the ground and located centrally below said plate and on which the same is slidably supported, a plurality of radially arranged springs affixed at their outer ends in spaced relation about the inner periphery of said frame and connected at their inner ends with studs extending through openings in said lugs with the ends of the studs threadedly engaged by nuts for adjusting the tension on said springs and for securing the plate on said frame and permitting of limited movement of the sack and plate by the tension of said springs throughout the plane of the top of the frame.

5. In a base sack anchoring means, a plate arranged substantially flush with the playing area and having means for connecting a base sack thereto, a peripheral

frame anchored in the ground and having a peripheral upper rim on which said plate is slidably supported, and a plurality of radially arranged springs affixed at their inner ends to the under side of said plate in substantially equally spaced relation and at their outer ends to the inner face of said frame slidably securing the said plate on said frame and normally retaining the plate and the base sack centrally thereof and permitting of limited movement of the plate throughout the plane of the rim of said frame.

6. In a base sack anchoring means, a plate arranged substantially flush with the playing area and having means for connecting a base sack thereto, a peripheral frame anchored in the ground and having a peripheral upper rim on which said plate is slidably supported, and a plurality of radially arranged coil springs secured at their inner ends to the under side of said plate in substantially equally spaced relation and extending angularly outwardly and downwardly toward their outer ends and with their outer ends secured to the inner face of said frame slidably securing the said plate on said frame and normally retaining the plate and the base sack centrally thereof and permitting of limited movement of the plate throughout the plane of the rim of said frame.

References Cited in the file of this patent

UNITED STATES PATENTS

1,244,044	Falconer	Oct. 23, 1917
2,298,689	Ferris	Oct. 13, 1942