Aug. 5, 1952 J. P. HORNIG 2,606,025

BALL GAME APPARATUS

Filed Aug. 18, 1949

Fig. 1

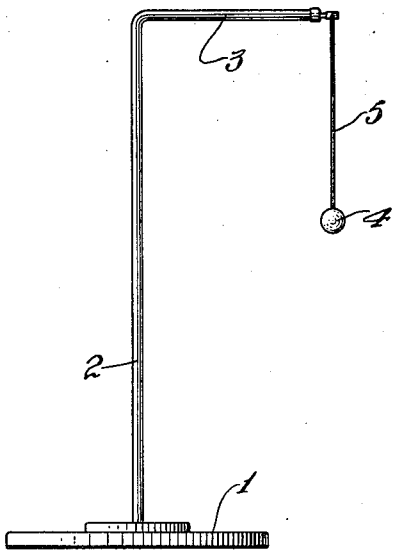


Fig. 2

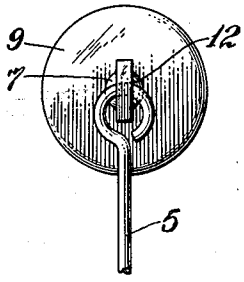


Fig. 3

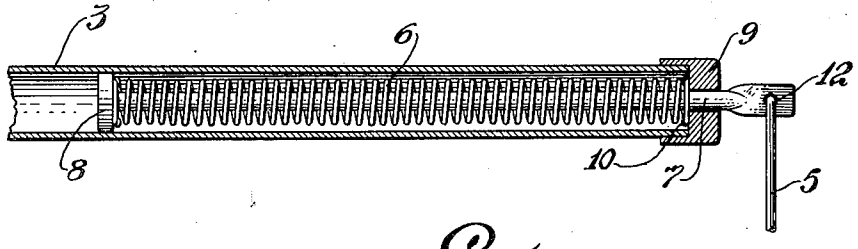
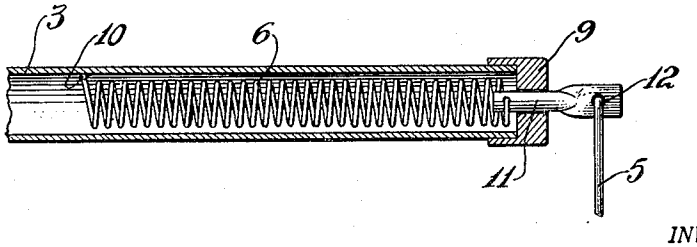


Fig. 4



INVENTOR.
John P. Hornig
BY
ATTORNEY

Patented Aug. 5, 1952 2,606,025

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,606,025

BALL GAME APPARATUS

John P. Hornig, Newark, N. J.

Application August 18, 1949, Serial No. 110,984

3 Claims. (Cl. 273—26)

1

This invention relates to a ball game apparatus wherein a captive ball may be struck by the hand or a bat or racquet to cause it to encircle its support in one direction and thereafter under spring urging to reverse direction and return to its original position at rest.

One object of this invention is to provide a device for practice in hitting a ball with a bat or racquet. Another object is to furnish a game apparatus in which skill is required to achieve a maximum number of complete circles travelled by a struck ball. Still another object is to provide such apparatus that may be economically made in a variety of sizes.

The invention is described in the accompanying drawings in which

Figure 1 is a side elevational view.

Figure 2 is an enlarged end view of the tubular arm from which the ball is suspended.

Figure 3 is a side cross sectional view of a portion of the tubular arm of Figure 1.

Figure 4 is a side cross sectional view of a portion of a modified tubular arm.

Referring to the drawings in which the same number refers to the same or a similar part the construction of one embodiment of this invention is as follows.

Base 1 is of such weight, size and material as will furnish a substantial support during the use of the apparatus. Mounted in such base is vertical post 2 from which at the top extends horizontally arm 3 which in this illustration is tubular in construction. Arm 3 is closed at its outer end by closure 9 which has an opening centrally located therein to permit axle 7 to extend therethrough. Axle 7 in the preferred form of this invention is best shown in Figure 3 which indicates that it bears in enclosure 9 at one end and is secured at the other end to rotatable disc 8 which is free to rotate within arm 3. Rigidly secured to the projecting portion 12 of the axle is a length of rigid wire 5 which carries at its other end ball 4. Within arm 3 and surrounding axle 7 is coil spring 6 which is secured at one end to rotatable disc 8 and at the other end is anchored at 10 to closure 9.

A modified form of arrangement internal of arm 3 is shown in Figure 4 wherein coil spring 6 is anchored at 10 directly to arm 3 with its other end attached to a short axle 11 which bears in and passes through closure 9. Externally the modified form appears just as the preferred form in that wire 5 is secured to end 12 of the short axle 11.

The game apparatus functions as follows. When ball 4 is struck it will revolve about the end of arm 3 carrying with it wire 5 and turning the axle to which the wire is secured, which in turn stores up energy in coil spring 6. When the ball ceases revolving in one direction the stored up energy in the spring will cause the axle 7 or 11, as the case may be, to reverse direction carrying with it wire 5 and ball 4. Thus, if the ball

2

is struck sufficiently hard to cause it to make five complete revolutions in one direction, the spring will thereafter cause it to make five complete revolutions in the opposite direction.

Many modifications may be made in the apparatus without departing from the scope of my invention. For example, the spring means may be placed outside of arm 3 or other means may be employed to store up energy sufficient to cause restoration of the parts after they have come to rest following the striking of the ball. Suitably disposed counterweights may also be employed to facilitate the restoration or reversal of direction of rotation. The apparatus may be made in various sizes from miniature to full scale baseball sized devices.

What I claim is:

1. A ball game apparatus comprising a base; a vertical post mounted thereon; a horizontal arm secured to the post; an axle within said arm projecting outward therefrom; a ball; a length of rigid wire fixed at one end at right angles to such axle and having the ball secured to its other end; and energy of rotation storing and releasing means operably connected with such axle.

2. A ball game apparatus comprising a base; a vertical post mounted thereon; a tubular horizontal arm secured at the top of such post; a coiled spring horizontally supported throughout its length within such arm with one of its ends fixedly secured thereto; an axle within such arm connected to the free end of the coiled spring and projecting outward of such arm; a ball; and a length of rigid wire connected at one extremity to the outward end of the axle and at the other extremity to the ball.

3. A ball game apparatus comprising a base; a vertical post mounted thereon; a tubular horizontal arm secured at one end at the top of such post; a closure for the extended end of the said arm; a coiled spring supported within such arm and fixedly secured at one end thereto; an axle connected to the free end of such coiled spring and projecting outward of the arm closure; a length of rigid wire fixed at one extremity to the outward end of said axle; and a ball attached to the other extremity of said wire.

JOHN P. HORNIG.

REFERENCES CITED

The following references are of record in the file of this patent:

UNITED STATES PATENTS

Number	Name	Date
1,023,125	Connable	Apr. 16, 1912
1,603,094	Owens	Oct. 12, 1926
1,881,384	Albera	Oct. 4, 1932
1,932,049	Ryan	Oct. 24, 1933
2,017,720	Lake	Oct. 15, 1935
2,305,187	Neiden	Dec. 15, 1942
2,496,795	Johnson	Feb. 7, 1950