March 11, 1947. J. H. WHITEHEAD 2,417,336

COVER FOR GOLF CLUB HEADS

Filed Oct. 11, 1945

Fig. 1.

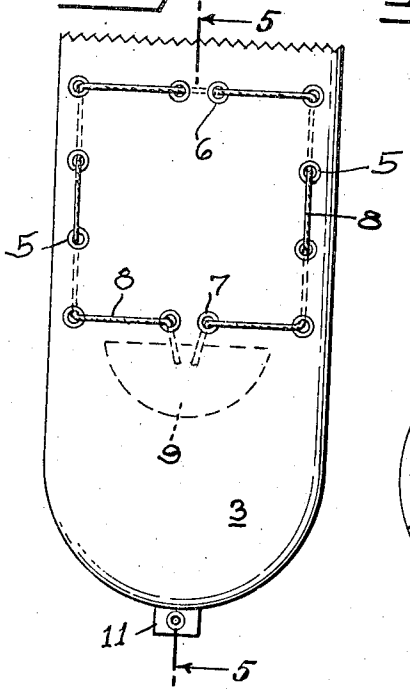


Fig. 2.

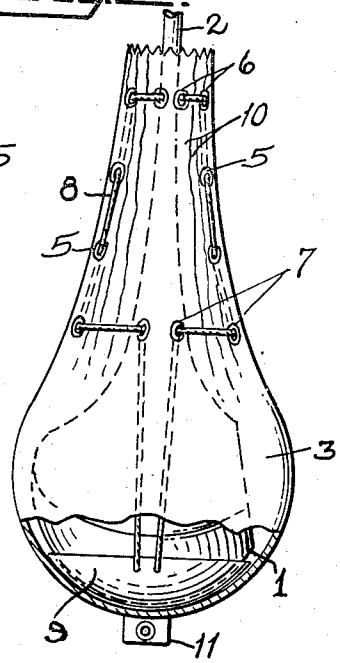


Fig. 3.

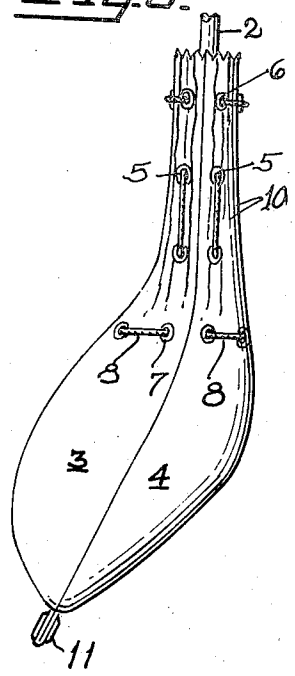


Fig. 4.

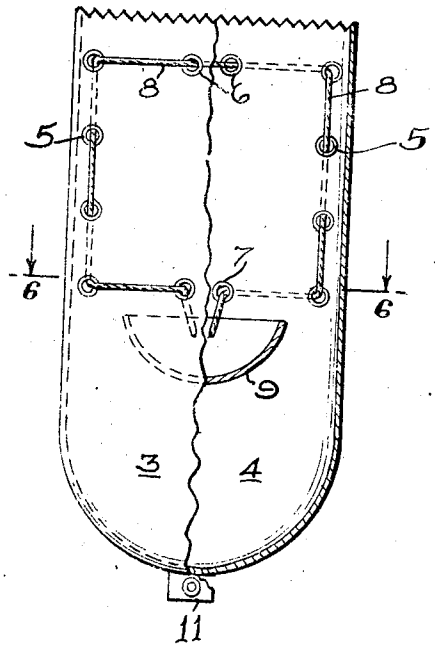


Fig. 5.

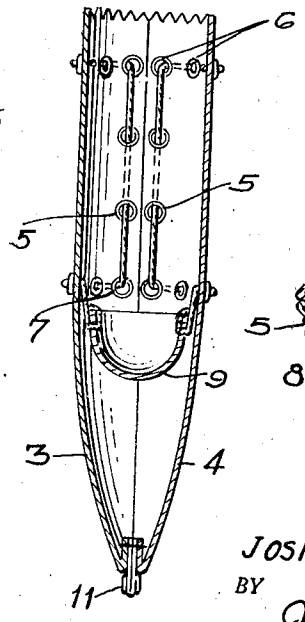
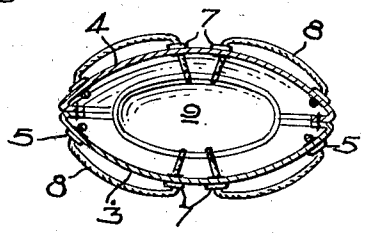


Fig. 6.



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COVER FOR GOLF CLUB HEADS

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5 Claims. (Cl. 150—52)

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This invention relates to improvements in covers for golf club heads.

An object of my invention is to provide an improved cover for wooden golf club heads which may be readily applied in a protective position over a golf club head, and when so applied fully protects the finish and thread wrappings on said head against damaging scratches, cuts or other defacing marks from other clubs normally carried in the golf bag.

Another object of my invention is to provide an improved protective cover of the kind characterized, having novel means which automatically gathers and holds the sides of the cover about the neck or upper shaft portion of the club as the cover is applied over the head, thereby securing the cover in a protecting position over the head and around the thread wrappings which secure the head to the shaft.

A further object of my invention is to provide an improved protective cover for golf club heads of the kind characterized, embodying novel releasable means which permits the automatic securing of the cover in a protective position on the head, and which permits the convenient detachment of the cover from the head when the club is about to be used.

Other and further objects of my invention will be pointed out hereinafter, or will be indicated in the appended claims, or will be obvious to one skilled in the art upon an understanding of the present disclosure. For the purpose of this application, I have elected to show herein certain forms and details of a cover for a golf club head representative of my invention; it is to be understood, however, that the embodiment of my invention herein shown and described is for the purpose of illustration only, and that therefore it is not to be regarded as exhaustive of the variations of the invention, nor is it to be given an interpretation such as might have the effect of limiting the claims, short of the true and most comprehensive scope of the invention in the art.

In the accompanying drawings:

Fig. 1 is a plan view of a cover for a golf club head, embodying my invention;

Fig. 2 is a similar view showing the cover applied in a protective position on a head of a golf club;

Fig. 3 is a side view of the cover in an applied position on the head of a golf club;

Fig. 4 is a plan view, partly in section, of the cover;

Fig. 5 is a longitudinal sectional view taken on the line 5—5 of Fig. 1; and

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Fig. 6 is a sectional view taken on the line 6—6 of Fig. 4.

Referring to the drawings, the numeral 1 designates a golf club head, preferably of the wooden type, having a shaft 2 secured in the usual manner thereto.

The cover for the head comprises an elongated substantially flat open bag, shaped to loosely fit over the head and neck portions of a golf club. The bag has similarly shaped opposed side members or walls 3 and 4 which are joined together at their side and end edges as by stitching. The bag is closed at one end, and at its opposite end an opening is provided for the insertion of the head 1 of a golf club. The bag is of sufficient length to extend around the neck portion of the club when in an operative position on the head, thereby also protecting the thread wrappings which provide part of the securing means connecting the head and the shaft.

The opposed side members 3 and 4 are each provided with correspondingly positioned openings, eyelets or grummets which are arranged in substantially rectangular formation. Each of the opposed side members 3 and 4 is provided at points adjacent its lateral edges with substantially parallel rows of spaced openings, eyelets or grummets 5, while at points adjacent the bag's opening and also at points near its central portion, each side member is provided with substantially parallel rows of openings, eyelets or grummets 6 and 7. There may be any suitable number of spaced openings, eyelets or grummets in each row, but for all practical purposes it has been found that four of such openings, eyelets or grummets in each row are sufficient for the purpose intended, as will be later explained.

A pair of draw strings or cords 8 are threaded in and out through the openings, eyelets or grummets 5, 6 and 7 in the side members 3 and 4, and the ends thereof, after lastly passing through the two innermost of the openings, eyelets or grummets in the rows 7 are preferably secured to opposite sides of a flexible member 9 or other device by which the ends of the strings or cords may be joined one to another at points inside the bag. The flexible member 9 is positioned inside the bag, where it will be engaged by the extreme end of a golf club head when the latter is inserted inside the bag or when the bag is placed over the head. As the head is forced into the bag or the bag is drawn over the head, the strings 8 are pulled toward the closed end of the bag, thereby causing the side members 3 and 4 to become gathered into longitudinal plaits or

folds 10 as shown in Figs. 2 and 3. The gathering of the sides of the bag around the neck portion of the golf club causes the opening in the bag to be closed to an extent whereby the said bag cannot normally be detached from the head except by exerting an outward pull thereon. Since the head of the club engages with the flexible member 9 and maintains the draw strings 8 in drawn positions, the bag will be maintained on the head notwithstanding the usual jostling of the club during the carrying thereof while a golf game is being played.

A tab 11 secured to the closed end of the bag may be used as a finger-engaging means in removing the cover from the golf club head, or it may be used to secure identifying means to the bag or to hang the latter from a support.

The contracted opening in the bag will be automatically enlarged when the said bag is pulled outwardly from the head, thereby permitting the cover to be conveniently slipped from the head.

The cover may be made in one piece with the similarly shaped sides joined together by stitching along one side edge, or it may be moulded from rubber or plastic material. While the outer material of the cover is preferably leather, fabrics of various kinds may be used, either with or without linings.

Any suitable stiffening means may be used with the cover to make it somewhat rigid, if such a construction is desired.

What I claim is:

1. In a cover for a golf club head, an elongated bag adapted to fit loosely over a golf club head, having opposed side walls, and an opening at one end for the insertion of a golf club head, a plurality of spaced openings arranged in substantially corresponding rectangular formation in the side walls with some of them near the open end of the bag, a pair of draw strings threaded through the openings and connected together at their ends inside the bag, the said connected ends of the draw strings being connected to means to be engaged by a golf club head as it is inserted in the bag, whereby the draw strings may be pulled inwardly toward the closed end of the bag to cause the side walls to gather and contract the opening in the bag.

2. A cover for a golf club head comprising an elongated bag having opposed side walls and an opening at one end for the insertion of the head of a golf club, a plurality of spaced openings arranged in corresponding positions in the side walls with some of them being positioned near the open end of the bag, certain of the openings extending across the side members from one side edge to the other, a pair of draw strings threaded through the openings and connected to means inside the bag, whereby when the golf club head is inserted into the bag the said means will be engaged and moved toward the closed end of the bag and the draw strings will be drawn toward the closed end of the bag to gather the side walls around the neck of the golf club and contract the end opening in the bag.

3. A cover for a golf club head comprising an elongated bag having opposed side walls and an opening at one end for the insertion of the head of a golf club, a plurality of spaced openings arranged in the side walls, certain of the openings extending in corresponding positions transversely across the side walls near the open end of the bag, a pair of draw strings threaded through the openings in the side walls, and a substantially concave member positioned inside the bag to which the ends of the draw strings are secured, the said member being arranged to intercept a golf club head as it is inserted into the bag, whereby the draw strings may be drawn toward the closed end of the bag as the head is forced into the bag and cause the side walls to be gathered around the neck of the club and contract the opening in the bag.

4. In a cover for a golf club head, an elongated bag adapted to fit over the head and neck of a golf club, having an opening at one end, a plurality of draw strings threaded through holes in the bag and arranged to contract the opening in the bag when pulled toward the closed end of the bag, the said draw strings being connected to means located inside the bag which is arranged to be engaged by a golf club head as the head is inserted into the bag, whereby the strings may be drawn so as to gather the walls of the bag around the neck of the club and contract the opening in the bag.

5. In a cover for a golf club head, an elongated bag adapted to fit over the head and neck of a golf club head, having an opening at one end for the insertion of a golf club head, and means engaging with the sides of the bag and arranged to be actuated by a golf club head as the head is inserted in the bag, whereby the opening in the bag may be automatically contracted about the neck of the club.

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