June 9, 1925. 1,540,823

E. F. v. MAIRHOFEN

RACKET WITH BALL CATCHING DEVICE

Filed Feb. 16, 1925

Fig. 1.

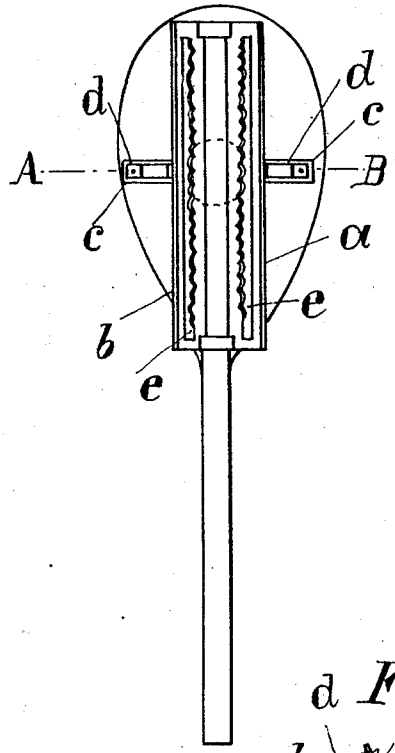


Fig. 2.

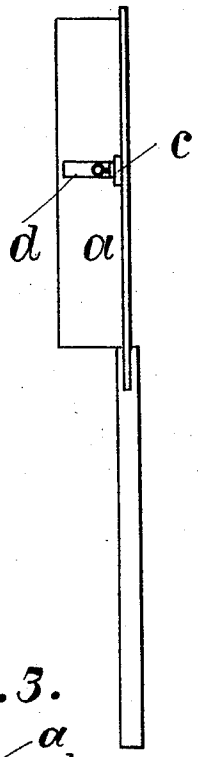
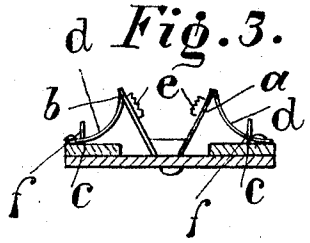


Fig. 3.



Inventor:
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by [illegible]
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDUARD FREIHERR v. MAIRHOFEN, OF CASSEL, GERMANY.

RACKET WITH BALL-CATCHING DEVICE.

Application filed February 16, 1925. Serial No. 9,659.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDUARD FREIHERR v. MAIRHOFEN, a citizen of the German Republic, residing at Cassel, Germany, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Rackets with Ball-Catching Devices, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a racket with ball-catching device designed to be used for a new game called "catch tennis".

According to the invention a catching device is arranged on the back of the racket designed to catch and retain a ball so that the racket can be used for throwing the ball and for catching the same.

An embodiment of the invention is illustrated by way of example on the accompanying drawing, in which:—

Fig. 1 is a front elevation,

Fig. 2 a side elevation, and

Fig. 3 a section on line A—B of Fig. 1.

The catching device consists of two plates *a* and *b* mounted on the back of the racket so that they are movable in lateral direction. These plates *a*, *b* are inclined at an angle of 45° the one with regard to the other. Blade springs *d* fixed on blocks *c* serve to press the plates the one towards the other. On the inner surface of each plate *a*, *b* toothed bar *e* is fixed which serve to securely hold the caught ball. When the ball is being caught between the plates *a*, *b* it is clamped between said plates and held by the two toothed bars. Eye screws *f* are provided to regulate the pressure of the blade springs *d* upon the plates *a*, *b*.

I claim:—

1. A racket with ball-catching device the front surface of the racket serving to throw the balls and the rear surface for catching the same, comprising in combination with the racket proper two longitudinal plates mounted on the rear surface of the racket at an angle of about 45° the one with regard to the other and movable in lateral direction designed to catch a ball between them.

2. A racket with ball-catching device the front surface of the racket serving to throw the balls and the rear surface for catching the same, comprising in combination with the racket proper two longitudinal plates mounted on the rear surface of the racket at an angle of about 45° the one with regard to the other, movable in lateral direction, designed to catch a ball between them, and a toothed longitudinal bar on the inner surface of each plate for securely holding the caught ball.

3. A racket with ball-catching device the front surface of the racket serving to throw the balls and the rear surface for catching the same, comprising in combination with the racket proper two longitudinal plates mounted on the rear surface of the racket at an angle of about 45° the one with regard to the other, movable in lateral direction, designed to catch a ball between them, and a blade spring acting upon the rear surface of each movable plate to press said plates the one towards the other.

4. A racket with ball-catching device the front surface of the racket serving to throw the balls and the rear surface for catching the same, comprising in combination with the racket proper two longitudinal plates mounted on the rear surface of the racket at an angle of about 45° the one with regard to the other and movable in lateral direction designed to catch a ball between them, a blade spring acting upon the rear surface of each movable plate to press said plates the one towards the other, and an eye screw on each blade spring for regulating the pressure exerted by said blade springs.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

EDUARD FREIHERR v. MAIRHOFEN.

Witnesses:

MAX SCHAEPS,

OTTO TREIBS.