

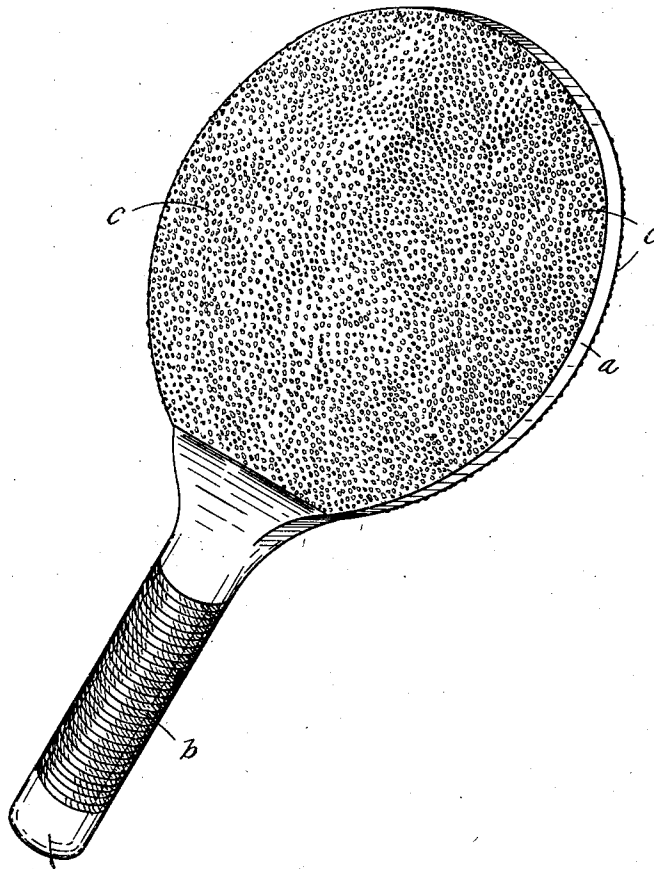
No. 703,519.

Patented July 1, 1902.

A. BECKER.
RACKET.

(Application filed Apr. 17, 1902.)

(No Model.)



WITNESSES:

John N. Perkins
R. W. Ruffin

INVENTOR

Arnold Becker

BY

Pierre Barnes
ATTORNEY

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ARNOLD BECKER, OF SEATTLE, WASHINGTON.

RACKET.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 703,519, dated July 1, 1902.

Application filed April 17, 1902. Serial No. 103,263. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ARNOLD BECKER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Seattle, in the county of King and State of Washington, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Rackets, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawing.

My invention relates to rackets or bats used in playing games such as table-tennis and "ping-pong." The rackets used for indoor games of this character have heretofore been made with smooth wood or vellum striking-surfaces, necessitating the ball being struck direct or nearly perpendicular to the surface of the bat in order to serve or return the same.

The object of my invention is to provide a cheap and effective covering to the racket-surface, whereby "plays" may be accomplished unattainable with any other rackets which have come to my notice. Such end I attain by the construction hereinafter described, and illustrated in the accompanying drawing.

Referring to the said drawing, which is a perspective view of a racket provided with my improvement, the letter *a* represents the blade, and *b* the handle, forming the racket-stock.

To the opposite faces of the blade I apply a granulated coating *c*, such as emery, sand, or sawdust. Any adhesive compound—such as shellac, cement, paste, or glue—may be used to put on the coating, and after being dried or set an outer coating of shellac or paint is preferably applied.

The coating *c* need not be formed upon the racket-blade itself, but may as well be ap-

plied to a sheet of paper, cloth, or other convenient material which can be pasted or otherwise secured thereto. My improvement accomplishes precisely the same results whether applied in one manner or the other.

The results produced by my improved coating or covering for rackets are obvious. It is apparent that rackets provided with either will, on account of their rough surfaces, enable the player to return the ball by a side cut of the racket and cause the ball to rotate rapidly in its flight, so that when it strikes the table it will rebound at an unexpected angle, to the confusion of his opponent. Further, the ball when struck by the racket does not easily slide upon the rough surface of the same, even when held at a considerable angle. Furthermore, in rapid playing with a racket having a rough surface it takes a better "hold," so to speak, of the ball, and consequently permits greater accuracy in delivering the ball.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A racket whereon is applied a granular substance whereby the blade-surface thereof is roughened, for the purpose described.

2. In a racket, the combination with the stock, of a sheet or sheets of paper, or the like, having a coating of granular substance applied thereto, and said coating, substantially as and for the purpose described.

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

ARNOLD BECKER.

Witnesses:

PIERRE BARNES,
JOHN N. PERKINS.