July 5, 1949. W. J. SONNETT ET AL 2,475,262

BASEBALL GLOVE

Filed Aug. 30, 1947

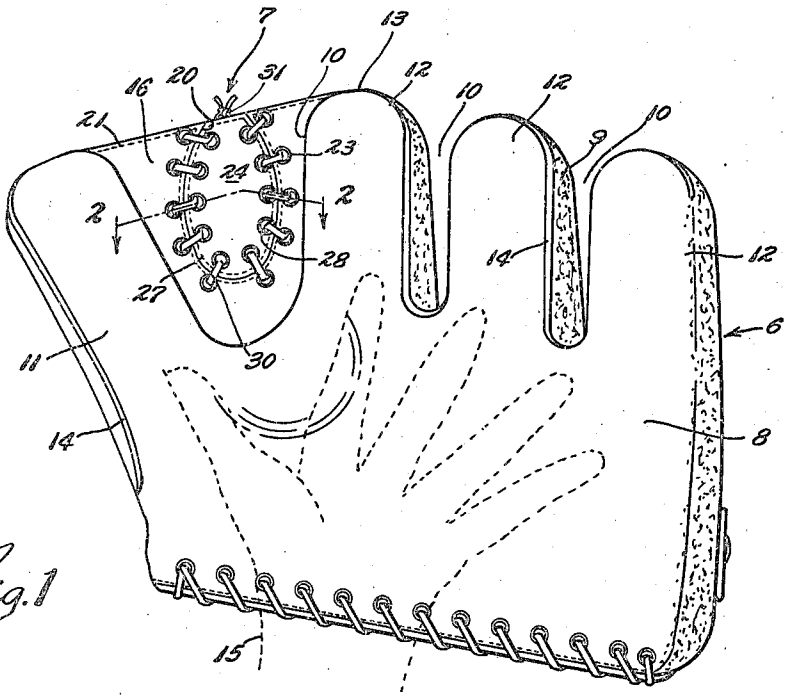


Fig. 1

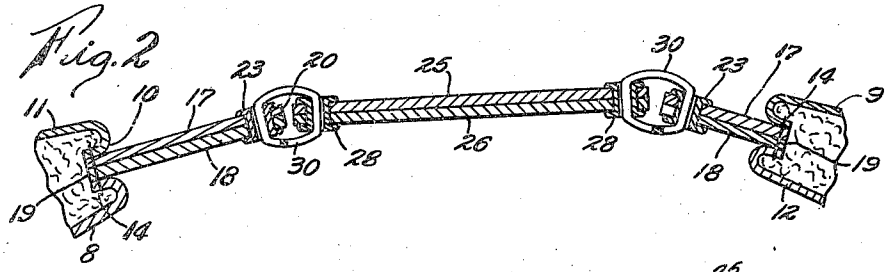


Fig. 2

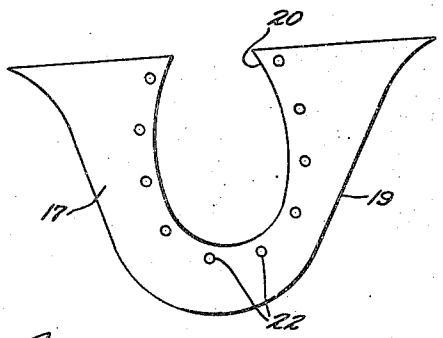


Fig. 3

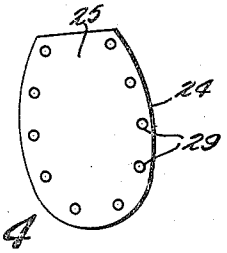


Fig. 4

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BASEBALL GLOVE

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2 Claims. (Cl. 2—19)

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This invention relates to baseball gloves and is specifically directed to improvements in fielders' gloves.

An object of the invention is to provide an improved ball contacting pocket member between the thumb part and adjacent finger part of a baseball glove; said means being of a solid, unbroken web secured along its edges to the adjacent edges of the thumb and finger parts and having an opening formed centrally thereof for the reception of an independent insert piece, adjustably held therein by lacing or the like.

Another object of the invention is to provide in a baseball glove having the foregoing characteristics a simple and effective ball contacting web which is simple to make, has a durable construction, and provides an effective ball catching pocket which is susceptible of lateral adjustment to adapt the glove for use with baseballs of varying diameters, or to suit the players' style of play with a particular sized ball.

Other and further objects of the invention will be apparent from the following description and the accompanying drawings which illustrate a preferred embodiment of our invention, it being understood that we are not to be limited to the particular structure except in so far as set forth in the appended claims.

In the drawing:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of the front of our glove.

Fig. 2 is an enlarged cross-sectional view taken on line 2—2 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a plan view of one section of our baseball glove web.

Fig. 4 is a plan view of the independent insert piece for the web illustrated in Fig. 3.

The reference numeral 6 generally indicates a baseball glove with our improved pocket member 7 associated therewith. The glove has the usual front or palm section 8 and a back section 9, each having a number of aligned, open-topped slots 10 formed in the outer edge to provide a spaced thumb portion 11 and finger sections 12. The glove may have two or more finger portions to provide a fielder's glove having desired characteristics, the finger portions including a first finger 13 which is next adjacent to the thumb portion 11. A continuous seam 14 joins together the adjacent edges of the front and back sections of the baseball glove along the thumb and finger sections and the two sides thereof; said glove also having a hand hole formed by the lower edge of the front and back sections, and individual finger stalls for receiving the digits of a player's

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hand formed in the lining at the positions approximated by the dotted lines 15 in Fig. 1.

Our improved ball contacting pocket member consists of a web 16 interposed between the thumb 11 and first finger portion 13 and is preferably constructed from two plies 17 and 18 of leather, or the like, cut in the manner illustrated in Fig. 3 and placed together with the finished sides facing outwardly. A continuous means is provided for securing the marginal edge 19 of the web to the adjacent edges of the thumb and first finger portions and as most clearly illustrated in Fig. 2 said means preferably consists of interposing said marginal edge 19 of the web between the edges of the front and back pieces and employing the continuous seams 14 as means for securing all of said edges together.

An open-topped, ovaloid opening 20 is formed centrally in the web 16, said opening being of substantial width and extending a substantial distance into the web portion. A line of stitches 21 secures together the adjacent marginal edges of the two plies 17 and 18 along the upper edge of the web and around the opening 20 made therein. As illustrated in Fig. 3 a row of holes 22 is formed in the plies around the edge of the opening 20 for receiving metal eyelet rivets 23.

An oval shaped independently constructed backstop member 24 is disposed in the opening 20 and may comprise two plies 25 and 26 of leather each having the general contour of the opening 20. The edges of the plies are secured together by a line of stitches 27 and a number of eyelet rivets 28 are passed through holes 29 pre-formed in the plies around the margin of the backstop member. A lacing 30 is looped through adjacent eyelets in the web and backstop member, and the ends thereof tied by a suitable knot 31 disposed behind the insert member. It will be readily understood that said lacing may be drawn up or let out to increase the transverse extent of the pocket 7 as desired by providing a smaller or a larger space between the adjacent edges of the backstop member and the web so that our glove may be readily adapted for use with play balls of varying diameters or the pocket 7 may be adjusted to suit the style of a player for a particular sized ball.

What is claimed is:

1. In a baseball glove the combination of a front section, a back section, a number of aligned, open-topped slots formed in the front and back sections to provide a thumb portion and finger portions for the glove, said finger portions including a first finger disposed adjacent the thumb

portion, finger stalls between the sections and having their predominant portions located in the area of the palm of the glove portion, and a ball contacting pocket member between the thumb portion and first finger portion, said member comprising an ovaloid backstop member disposed centrally between the thumb portion and first finger portion, a web filling the space between the said portions and the backstop member, said web having formed therein an ovaloid hole opening out upon the upper edge of the web and adapted to snugly receive the backstop member, means for joining together the adjacent marginal edges of the thumb and first finger portions and for joining said portions to the adjacent edge of the web, and a continuous lacing joining the adjacent edge of the backstop member to the edge of the web formed by the said hole.

2. A baseball glove as set forth in claim 1 wherein the continuous lacing is looped through adjacent eyes formed in the backstop member and web around their adjacent edges, and the ends of said lacing are secured together across the top of the backstop member.

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