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GOLF TRAINING, EXERCISING, AND PRACTICING APPARATUS.

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1,427,536. Patented Aug. 29, 1922.

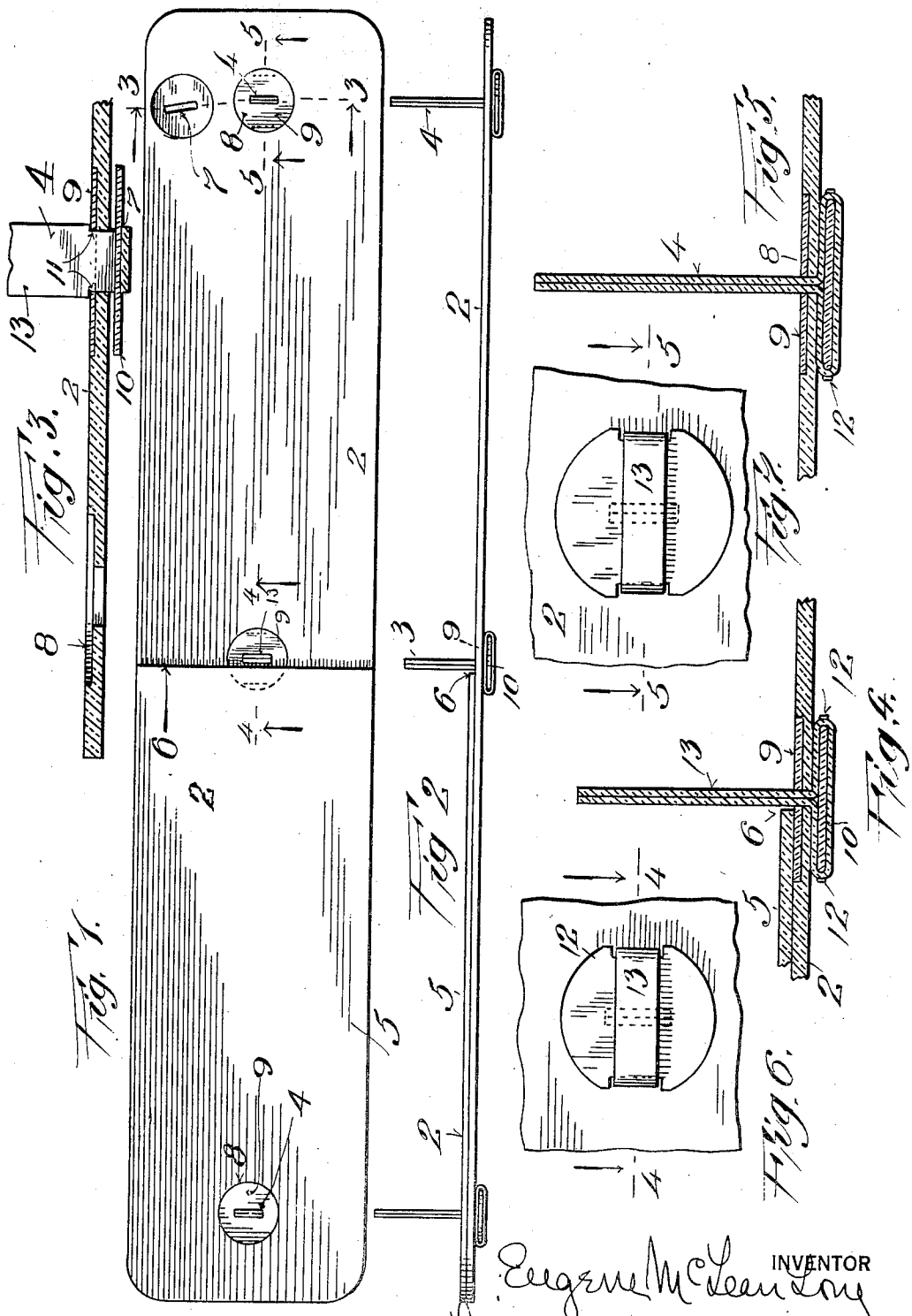

Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.

Fig. 4.

Fig. 5.

Fig. 6.

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GOLF TRAINING, EXERCISING, AND PRACTICING APPARATUS.

1,427,536. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Aug. 29, 1922.

Application filed December 18, 1920. Serial No. 431,538.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EUGENE McLEAN LONG, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Golf Training, Exercising, and Practicing Apparatus, of which the following is a specification.

The object of my invention is to provide a simple device of this class which may be used when teaching or practicing the correct posture and movements employed by a player when driving a golf ball, and a further object is to provide a device of this character which uses no ball or other detachable part which is liable to be lost or injure a person or thing at or near the place of its use. Yet a further object is to provide a device which may be used anywhere that there is sufficient room to swing a golf club.

These and other objects are accomplished by my invention, one embodiment of which is hereinafter more particularly set forth.

For a more detailed description of my invention, reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part hereof, in which—

Figure 1 is a plan view of my improved apparatus.

Figure 2 is a side elevation of the same.

Figure 3 is a sectional view, taken on the line 3—3 of Figure 1, looking in the direction of the arrows.

Figures 4 and 5 are enlarged sectional views of Figure 1, looking in the direction of the arrows. These sections are also shown on Figures 6 and 7, respectively.

Figures 6 and 7 are enlarged inverted plan views of the elastic uprights located where the sectional views 4—4 and 5—5 are taken.

Throughout the various views of the drawings, similar reference characters designate similar parts.

My improved apparatus 1 is composed of a mat 2 and flexible and elastic tabs 3 and 4, the former being a center tab and the latter end tabs.

The mat 2 is preferably made of a thick, strong mixture of canvas and rubber and is adapted to lie flat on a floor. In the preferred embodiment of my invention the end 5 is made twice as thick as the rest so as to give stiffness and body to the mat and to make it so that if a smart blow should be struck with a club on this part of the mat, the mat will prevent all injury to any rug or carpet or floor on which it may rest and also protect the club so that the same is not likely to be broken. The line 6 indicates where the double thickness of the mat ends and where the single thickness begins. The elastic tabs 3 and 4 extend upwardly from the mat 2 and are spaced substantially a foot apart, the tab 3 being something like an inch high and the tab 4 being substantially two inches high, although these dimensions may be variated if desired. Each of these tabs passes through a suitable slot 7 in a countersunk opening 8 and through a slot in a washer 9 and about a lower washer 10 beneath the surface of the mat 2, as indicated. Shoulders 11 (see Figure 3) take over the washer 9 and hold the same in the opening 8 with a snug and close fit.

In the preferred embodiment of this invention the washers 10 are recessed at 12 to receive the rubber bands 13 which form the uprights.

It will be noted that one elastic tab 4 may go through any of several slots 7 according to the volition of the player because it is necessary at times to shift this tab for a purpose which will be set forth below.

In view of the foregoing, the use of this apparatus will be readily understood. Assuming the parts to be as indicated and the mat flat on a floor with the tabs 3 and 4 properly placed and upwardly extending, when practicing a straight drive the player stands facing the mat with a club in hand raised and ready for a drive. He then makes his drive in the correct form or as near thereto as he can attain, and if he strikes first a tab 4, then the tab 3 and then the second tab 4 with the right swing and movement, he has made the correct stroke. If he does not attain to this he will strike the heavy part of the mat 2 or only one of the tabs or neither of the tabs, so that at all times he can tell whether or not he is driving in true form. Should he desire to practice a curve drive instead of a straight drive, he shifts the second tab 4 to one of the inward positions, there being as many of these as desired, and again resumes his practice facing the mat as before but bringing the bottom of the club, during the stroke and between the tabs, so as to cut a slicing blow on the second tab. This is more difficult than the straight drive, but the practice is much the same, the difference being the draw necessary to get the slicing movement.

When the practice is finished the mat may be removed from the floor and stored in any convenient manner, and as the tabs are elastic it may be rolled or otherwise disposed of.

While I have shown and described one embodiement of my invention, it is obvious that it is not restricted thereto, but that it is broad enough to cover all structures that come within the scope of the annexed claims.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is:

1. A mat with elastic, aligned tabs arising therefrom which are spaced to be struck successively by a golf club for the purpose of indicating the proper direction of a golf stroke and practicing this stroke.

2. In an apparatus of the class described, a mat having relatively thick and relatively thin portions with tabs extending upwardly and in positions suitable for practicing golf strokes.

3. A mat with tabs extending upwardly therefrom, each of said tabs consisting of a rubber band and washers, the tabs being so arranged and disposed that they pass about one washer and through another.

4. A slotted mat with a tab extending upwardly therefrom, the said tab consisting of a rubber band and washers, the tab being so arranged and disposed that it passes about one washer and through another.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand this 3d day of December, 1920.

EUGENE McLEAN LONG.