

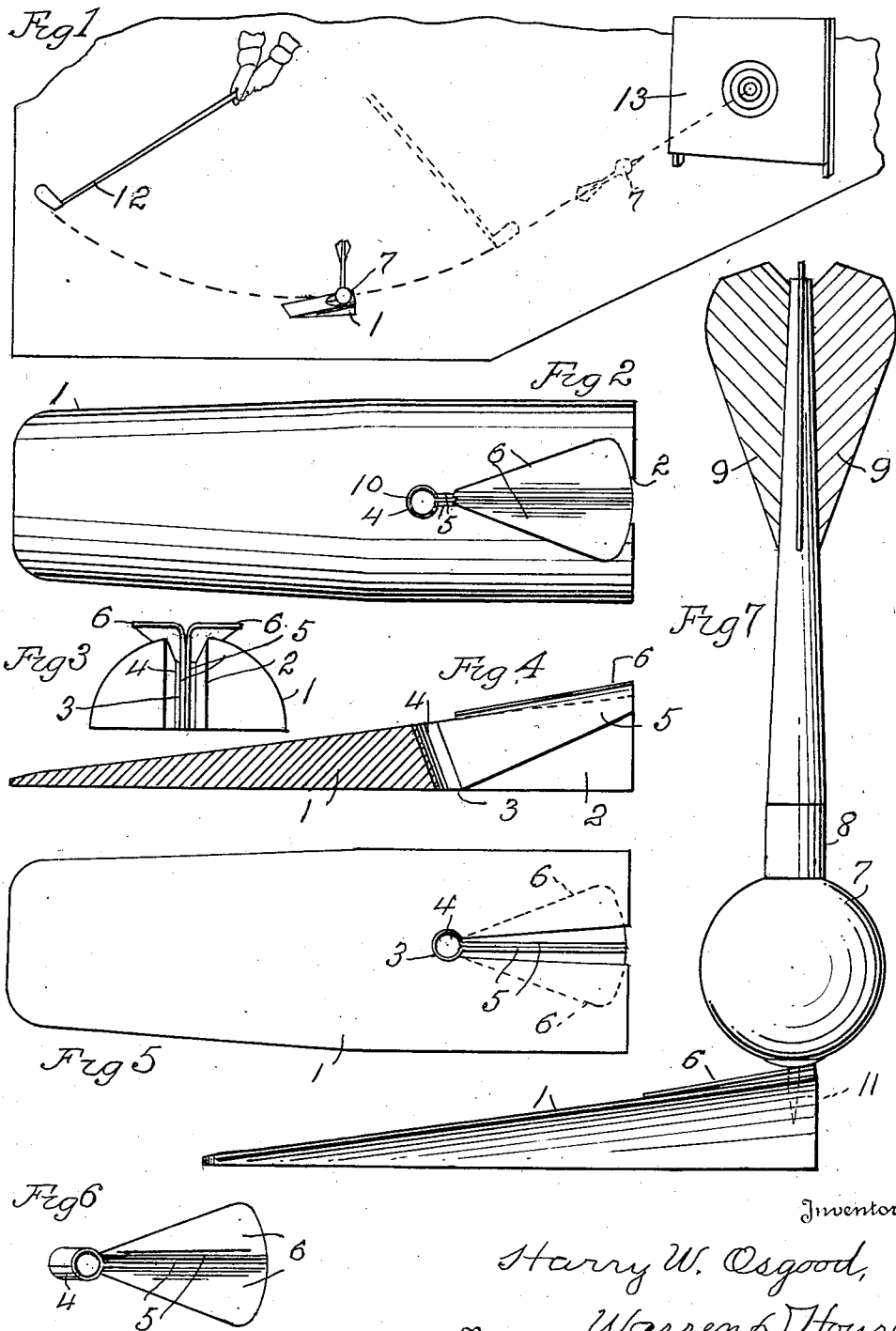
Dec. 9, 1947.

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2,432,209

DRIVING TEE FOR PROJECTILES

Filed Oct. 20, 1945



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,432,209

## DRIVING TEE FOR PROJECTILES

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Application October 20, 1945, Serial No. 623,488

3 Claims. (Cl. 273-87)

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My invention relates to improvements in driving tees for projectiles.

It relates particularly to a driving tee adapted to tightly and securely grip an impaling prong of a dart, of the type having in an end thereof a slot in which is secured a doubled sheet metal spring clip which clasps by its tension the prong of the dart.

One of the objects of my invention is the provision of a novel tee of the kind described having two oppositely laterally extending wings which cover the side edges of the prong receiving slot and prevent the prong from entering the slot at the side edges thereof.

A further object of my invention is the provision of a novel tee of the kind described which is simple, cheap to make, strong, durable, not likely to get out of order, which easily and securely holds the prong, and which is efficient in its operation.

The novel features of my invention are herein-after fully described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawing, which illustrates the preferred embodiment of my invention,

Fig. 1 is a plan showing my improved tee being used to support in a teed position a golf ball dart that is being struck by a golf club toward a target.

Fig. 2 is a top plan view of my improved tee.

Fig. 3 is an end elevation of the tee.

Fig. 4 is a longitudinal central vertical sectional view of the tee.

Fig. 5 is a bottom view of the tee.

Fig. 6 is a top view of the spring clip which grips the prong of the dart.

Fig. 7 is a side elevation of the tee, showing a golf ball pronged dart operatively teed on my improved tee.

Similar characters of reference designate similar parts in the different views.

The base member 1 of my improved tee is, preferably, of substantially rectangular form, having a flat bottom adapted to rest upon the ground, and an upper side which inclines upwardly and forwardly and has rounded longitudinal side edges. In its front end is a rearwardly converging vertical slot 2 which terminates at its rear end in an upwardly and rearwardly inclined hole 3 cylindrical in cross section. The base member may be composed of any suitable material, as wood, metal or plastic substance.

In the slot 2 is mounted a resilient gripping member composed of sheet spring metal doubled at the middle of its length into the form of a cylindrical barrel 4, which is inclined and tightly fitted in the hole 3. From the barrel 4 forwardly

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extend in the slot 2, two parallel flat edge up portions 5 which are held by their tension tightly against each other side by side, so as to be able to tightly grip between them the prong of a golf ball dart.

From the upper edges of the portions 5 respectively laterally extend in opposite directions over the side edges of the slot 2, two flat wing-like portions 6, which prevent the prong of the dart from entering the slot 2 excepting between the portions 5, thus assuring that the impaling prong of the dart will be gripped.

The golf ball dart shown, and which is teed on my improved tee, comprises a golf ball 7 mounted on a shank 8 from which forwardly extends the usual impaling prong. The shank is provided with the usual longitudinal radial feather vanes 9.

For closing and tightly holding the barrel 4 in the hole 3, a cylindrical piece of wood 10 is tightly fitted in the barrel, as shown in Fig. 2.

In operation, the prong 11 of the dart is inserted vertically between the portions 5 near the front end thereof, as shown in Fig. 7. The prong is tightly gripped. A golf club 12 may then be used, as shown in Fig. 1, for striking the golf ball 7 of the dart, thus impelling the dart, prong first toward the target 13, as indicated in dotted lines.

Many modifications of my invention, within the scope of the appended claims, may be made without departing from the spirit of my invention.

What I claim is:

1. In a driving tee of the kind described, the combination with a base having a flat supporting underside, a forwardly and upwardly inclined upper side, and a longitudinal vertical slot in its front end, of means including two elements of resilient sheet material having two portions disposed edge up flatwise side by side longitudinally in said slot and adapted to grip and hold upright the impaling prong of a dart inserted downwardly between them, said elements having respectively two flat wing-like portions extending laterally in opposite directions from the upper edges of said edge up portions above and across the side edges of said slot.

2. In a driving tee of the kind described, the combination with a base having a flat supporting under side, a forwardly and upwardly inclined upper side, and a longitudinal vertical slot in its front end, of a prong gripping member comprising a strip of resilient sheet material doubled on itself with its doubled end fixed in the rear end of said slot and having extending forwardly therefrom two edge up portions disposed flatwise side by side and yieldingly held under tension against

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each other and adapted to grip and hold upright the impaling prong of a dart inserted downwardly between them, said strip having two flat wing-like portions extending laterally in opposite directions respectively from the upper edges of said two edge up portions above and across the side edges of said slot.

3. In a driving tee of the kind described, the combination with a base supporting member having an upwardly and forwardly inclined upper side and a longitudinal vertical slot in its front end, of a prong gripping member comprising a strip of resilient sheet material doubled on itself to form a tubular rear end fixed in the rear end of said slot and having extending forwardly therefrom in said slot two edge up portions disposed flatwise side by side and yieldingly held under tension against each other by said tubular portion

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and adapted to grip and hold upright the impaling prong of a dart inserted downwardly between them, said strip having two wing-like portions extending laterally in opposite directions respectively from the upper edges of said two edge up portions above and across the side edges of said slot.

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## REFERENCES CITED

The following references are of record in the file of this patent:

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