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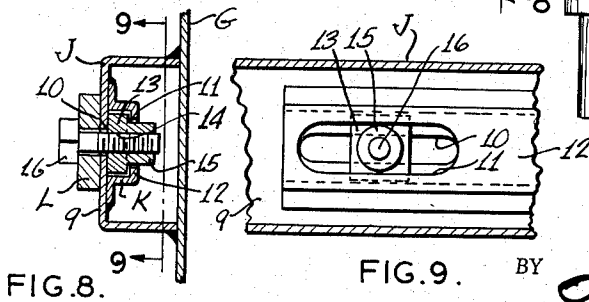
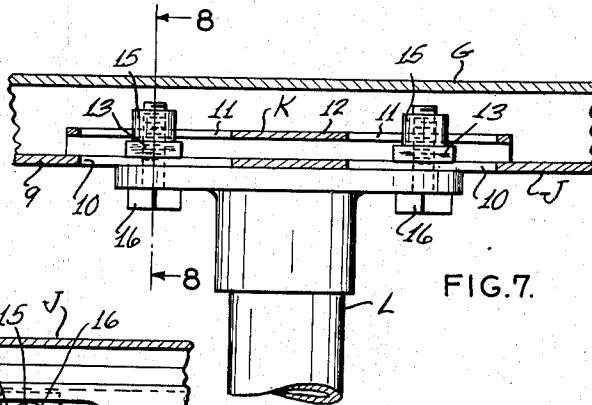
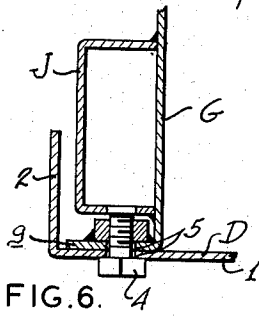
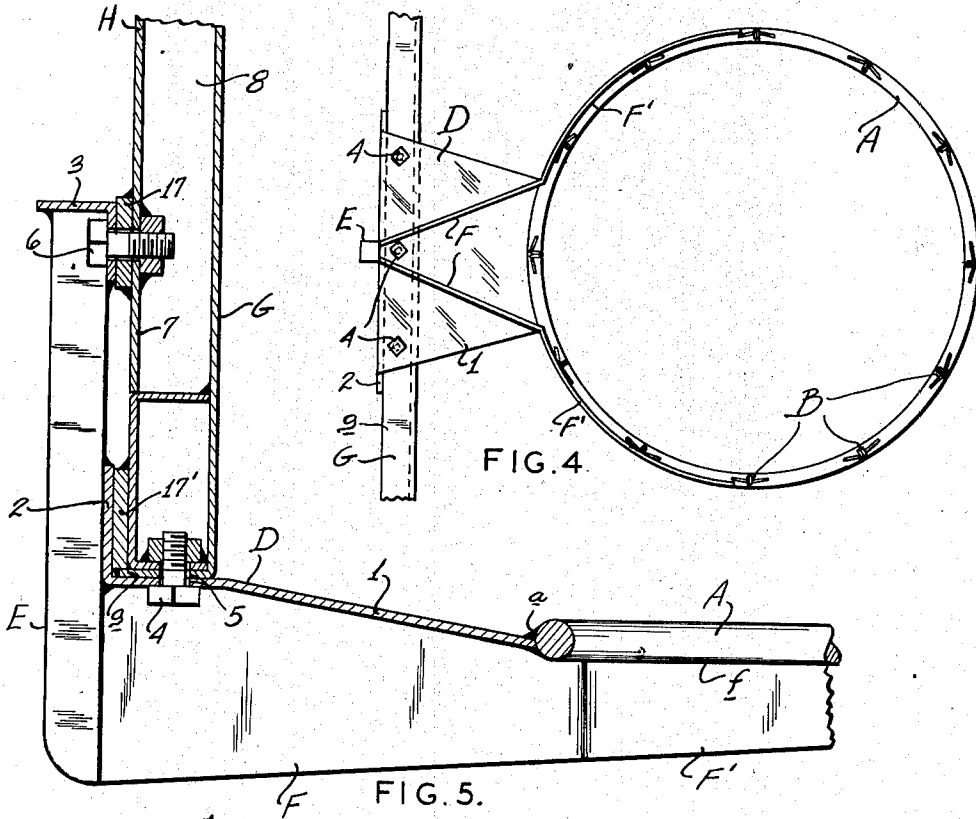
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BASKETBALL GOAL

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2 Sheets-Sheet 2



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2,363,634

BASKETBALL GOAL

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9 Claims. (Cl. 273—1.5)

This invention relates to a certain new and useful improvement in basket-ball goals.

Our invention has for its principal object the provision of a basket-ball goal comprising a net-supporting ring and an associated bank uniquely formed for connection and cooperation for augmenting net visibility and ball rebound.

Our invention has for another object the provision of a basket-ball goal which includes a bank fabricated of sheet metal joined for rigidity and durability to a unitary net-supporting ring and intermediate bracket, which may be readily and economically constructed, and which affords and presents a smooth flat surface for ball-rebound.

Our invention has for a further object the provision of a basket-ball goal in which the net-supporting ring is joined to a bank-engaging bracket re-inforced and strengthened by brace-strips so uniquely formed and disposed with relation to the bracket as to eliminate openings therebetween, thereby removing and obviating a source of danger or liability of injury to the hands and fingers of the players in goal-throwing.

Our invention has for a still further object the provision of a basket-ball goal comprising a bank equipped with means of unique formation for facile, convenient mounting of the goal upon a wall or other support.

And with the above and other objects in view, our invention resides in the novel features of form, construction, arrangement, and combination of parts presently described and pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings (2 sheets),—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a basket-ball goal embodying our invention;

Figure 2 is an enlarged side elevational view of the goal in installed position upon a wall or support;

Figure 3 is a sectional elevational view of the installed goal, taken approximately on the line 3—3, Figure 2;

Figure 4 is an inverted plan view of the basket-ball goal, the net being removed;

Figures 5, 6, and 7 are fragmental sectional views taken approximately on the lines 5—5, 6—6, and 7—7, Figure 3, respectively;

Figure 8 is a sectional view taken approximately on the line 8—8, Figure 7; and

Figure 9 is a sectional elevation taken approximately on the line 9—9, Figure 8, looking in the direction of the arrows.

Referring now more in detail and by reference characters to the accompanying drawings, which

illustrate a practical embodiment of our invention, the goal includes a ring A of suitable or standard structure and diameter, equipped upon the under face of its periphery with an annular series of suitably spaced hooks B, preferably, but not essentially, of the type and structure described in Letters Patent No. 2,254,507, issued to us on September 2, 1941, on our application filed June 8, 1940, for dependently supporting the usual net C.

D designates what we will now term a bracket, which comprises a base I in the form of a plate suitably elongated to meet the requirements of the regulations prescribed for the game of basket-ball, the plate I being transversely preferably of arcuate contour, as shown, and being welded or otherwise preferably permanently attached at its one or inner end, as at a, to the ring A. The plate I also preferably flares outwardly from its inner end to its outer end, as best seen in Figures 1, 3, and 4, and at its outer end is preferably for strength and rigidity laterally extended in the provision of an upwardly presented flange 2.

Welded or otherwise permanently fixed intermediate its ends to, and upon the outer or rear face of, the flange 2 of bracket D, is preferably a bar or post E of suitable length and preferably of rectangular section, suitably fixed to and upon the upper end of which is a relatively short transversely disposed angle-section 3, for purposes presently appearing.

Welded or otherwise fixed at their rear end to the lower end-portion, and upon opposite sides of the bar or post E, are brace-members in the form of flat strips F, which divergently project forwardly and obliquely outwardly under the plate I and at their respective forward ends are formed with oppositely disposed lengthwise tapering extensions F' having an arcuate contour conformable with, and along their upper margin are smoothly and tangentially welded or otherwise joined or fixed, as at f, to, and at substantially diametrically opposite sides of, the ring A, as best seen in Figures 1, 2, 4, and 5.

As also best seen in Figures 1 and 5, the brace-members or strips F taper in width from the post or bar E to their, in turn, tapering extensions F' and throughout their length are disposed under, and along their upper margin are preferably welded or otherwise fixed to, the plate I. Thus openings in the bracket D between the brace-members F and the ring A are wholly eliminated, and thereby not only is the bracket D and its plate I uniquely strengthened and re-inforced, but also there is removed from the goal a source of

frequent injury to players through accidental projection of their fingers or hands during the playing of the game.

Co-operable with and substantially forming a part of the goal proper, is a bank or backboard G, which is constructed or fabricated preferably of sheet steel or other suitable material, which is formed or provided preferably throughout its margin or perimeter with a rearwardly presented lateral flange *g*, and which, in elevation, has preferably the form and outline best seen in Figures 1 and 3. As there shown, the bank G, centrally of and upon its lower margin, is arcuately recessed or contoured, as at *o*, to seat smoothly and snugly at the proper or selected location upon the plate I, and suitable bolts 4 are readily passed through suitable registering openings 5, 5, provided for the purpose in the plate I and the bank-flange *g* for securing the bank G and bracket D together, such connection being supplemented by additional bolts 6, which are passed through the angle-member 3 into the web 7 of a channel-shaped brace-member H extending vertically or laterally, as it may be said, in approximately the longitudinal center of, and welded or otherwise fixed at the margins of its legs 8 to, and upon the rear face of, the bank G, as best seen in Figure 5, spacer-plates 17, 17', being interposed between the channel-brace H and the angle-member 3 and between a lower channel-brace J and the plate-flange 2, respectively.

Thus the bracket D, ring A, and bank G are firmly and rigidly secured together in permanent relation, it being observed that the transverse arcuate contour or formation of plate I is conformable with the degree of curvature of the bank marginal recess *o*. Thus the visibility of the net C to spectators seated rearwardly of the goal is greatly augmented or increased and, at the same time, the bank G and bracket D are rigidly joined with the elimination of obstructions to basket-ball scoring, the arched-plate I of the bracket D permitting quick return to the field, and eliminating any lodging thereupon, of the ball when in play.

Extending longitudinally across preferably the entire rear face of the bank G within the boundaries of its marginal flange *g* above and below the opposite ends of the lateral channel H, and suitably welded or otherwise fixed to the bank G and preferably also to the channel H, are additional brace-channels J, J, having their respective webs 9 presented outwardly, as best seen in Figure 3, the brace-channels H, J, assuring absolute rigidity and providing an equal degree of bracing to the entire banking surface.

The web 9 of each channel J, in turn, is formed or provided adjacent its opposite ends with closed-end slots 10 of selected or suitable dimensions, and housed within the respective channels J and welded or otherwise fixed at their legs to and upon the inner face of the webs 9 in co-operative relation to the slots 10, are channel-shaped strips K slotted, as at 11, in their respective webs 12 in registration with the slots 10, as seen in Figure 7, and providing retaining ways for suitable nuts 13, the parts being so constructed and relatively dimensioned that the nuts 13 are freely shiftable within, while prevented from turning by the way-providing strips K with their tapped openings 14 in registration with the slots 10, for purposes presently appearing, and each nut 13 having a lug or extension 15 tapped in communication with the openings 14 and fitting for movement in a slot 11 for limiting the shiftable move-

ment of the particular nut 13 in its respective strip K.

Preferably each bank G has four sets of two so-called floating attachment members or nuts 13 for accommodating and connecting with suitable bolts 16 for mounting the goal upon suitable rods or supports L, in turn, engaged with a wall or other surface M, the bars or supports L being preferably suitably braced by cross links N, as best seen in Figures 3 and 2. Thus the goal may with great convenience and facility be mounted for play, the automatic adjusting lugs or nuts 13, in moving from left to right or from right to left, providing a relatively wide latitude greatly reducing the time and work required in an installation, particularly when attaching a new bank or back-board G to old braces L.

The goal may be readily constructed, built, and installed, is rigid and durable, meets all requirements, and efficiently performs its intended functions. And it is to be understood that changes and modifications in the form, construction, arrangement, and combination of the several parts of the goal may be made and substituted for those herein shown and described without departing from the nature and principle of our invention.

Having thus described our invention, what we claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. In a basket-ball goal, a net-supporting ring, a sheet-metal bank centrally arcuately recessed in its lower margin and at said recess having a lateral flange, a bracket comprising a plate fixed to the ring and transversely arched conformable with, and underlying the bank at, said recess, and bolts engaging the bank-flange and plate for securing the plate and bank together in approximate right-angular relation.

2. A basket-ball goal including a net-supporting ring and a ring-supporting bracket, the bracket comprising a plate fixed to the ring and projecting from the ring for supportingly underlying, and engagement with, a co-operable bank, a bar-member angularly disposed and fixed to said plate, and brace-strips having connection at their ends to the bar-member and to the ring and intermediate their ends marginally adjoining the plate.

3. A basket-ball goal including a net-supporting ring, and a bracket for securing the ring to an operatively associated bank, the bracket comprising a plate secured to the ring, a bar fixed to and lengthwise depending from the plate, and brace-strips having connection at their ends to the bar and to the ring and intermediate their ends underlying and marginally fixed to the plate.

4. A basket-ball goal including a net-supporting ring, and a bracket for securing the ring to an operatively associated bank, the bracket comprising a plate secured to the ring, a bar fixed to and lengthwise depending from the plate, brace-strips having connection at an end with the bar, and arcuate extensions on the strips having connection with the ring, the strips intermediate said bar and extensions underlying and being marginally fixed to the plate.

5. A basket-ball goal including a bank, and means comprising a slotted channel fixed on the rear face of the bank and a nut-member shiftable retained in the channel with its threaded opening in registration with said slot for receiving a companion bolt for mounting the bank on a support.

6. A basket-ball goal including a bank, means comprising a slotted channel fixed on the rear face of the bank and a nut-member shiftable retained in the channel with its threaded opening

in registration with said slot for receiving a companion bolt for mounting the bank on a support, and means including a slotted strip fixed on said channel and a lug on the nut-member fitting for movement in, and limited in movement by, the slot of the strip.

7. A basket-ball goal including a bank constructed of sheet-metal and having a rearwardly presented marginal flange, and a brace of H type in elevation and constructed of members of channel-shape in cross-section fixed to and upon the rear face of the bank within the confines of said flange.

8. A basket-ball goal comprising a net-supporting ring and a ring-supporting bracket, the

bracket including a plate fixed to the ring and projecting from, and disposed approximately in the plane of, the ring for supportingly underlying a margin of, and attachment to, a co-operable bank.

9. A basket-ball goal comprising a net-supporting ring and a ring-supporting bracket, the bracket including a transversely arched plate fixed to, and projecting lengthwise from, the ring for supportingly underlying at a conforming marginal recess in, and engagement with, a co-operable bank.

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