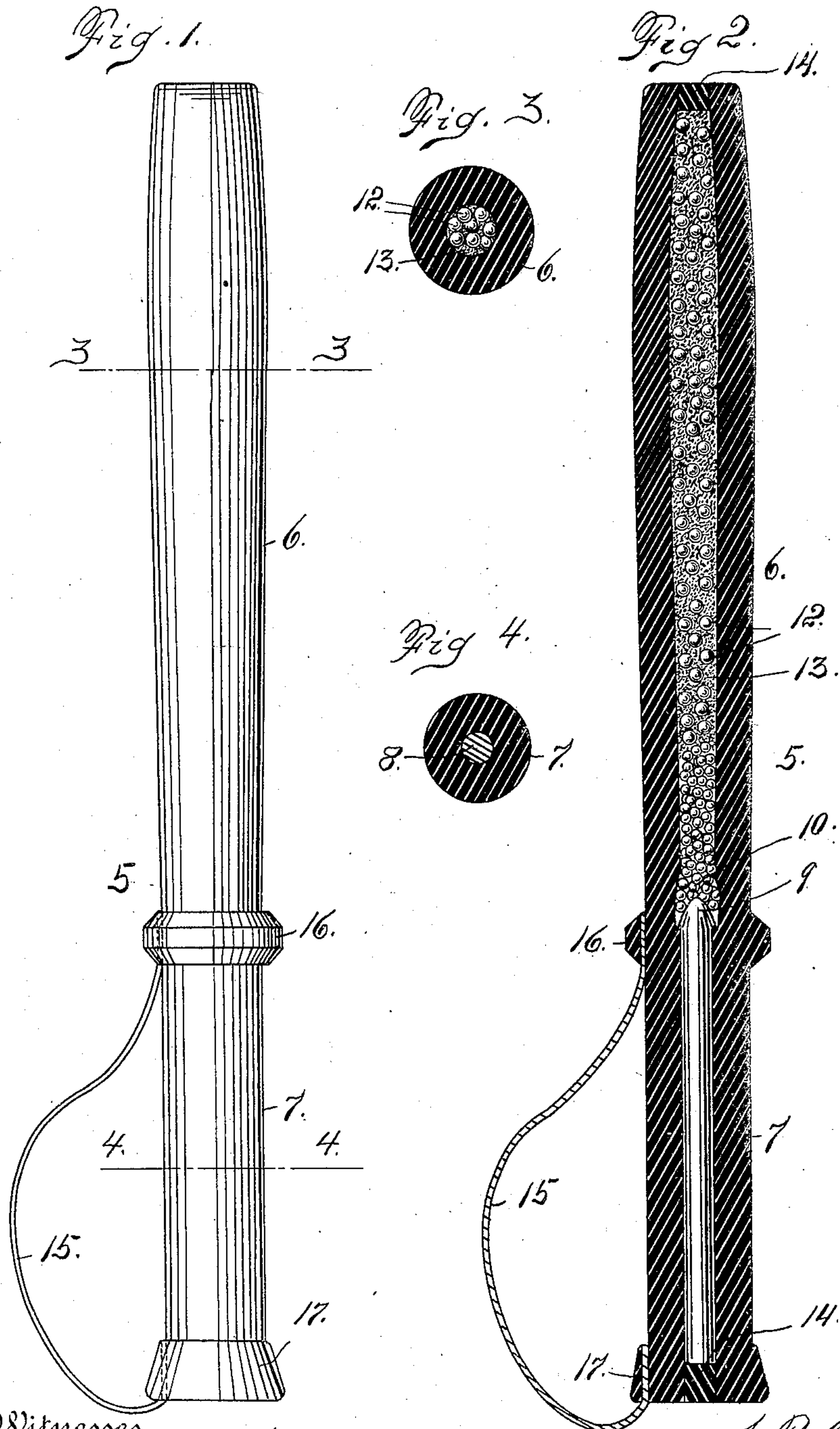


No. 897,201.

PATENTED AUG. 25, 1908.

J. T. GANNON.  
FLEXIBLE POLICEMAN'S CLUB.  
APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 28, 1907.



Witnesses  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES T. GANNON, OF DENVER, COLORADO.

## FLEXIBLE POLICEMAN'S CLUB.

No. 897,201.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Aug. 25, 1908.

Application filed September 28, 1907. Serial No. 394,965.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JAMES T. GANNON, a citizen of the United States, residing in the city and county of Denver and State of Colorado, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Flexible Policemen's Clubs; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

My invention relates to improvements in policemen's clubs.

My improved device consists of a flexible club composed mainly of rubber or other elastic or flexible material.

My improved club is provided with a central opening adapted to be filled with some material as sand and shot or both to increase its weight. The opening in the handle portion of the club is filled with a cylindrical rod composed of wood or other suitable material and whose inner extremity is cone-shaped and surrounded by small balls or spherical bodies which engage the conical extremity of the rod and give a sort of ball bearing effect at the point where the club bends when used, whereby the portion of the club forward of the handle automatically returns to its normal position. This ball bearing feature is important in a flexible club, in order to insure the automatic return of its body portion or member after it is bent as is necessary when in use. The central opening at the opposite ends of the club, is closed by rubber plugs which are vulcanized thereto thus making the plugs practically integral with the rubber portion.

Having briefly outlined my improved construction, I will proceed to describe the same in detail reference being made to the accompanying drawing in which is illustrated an embodiment thereof.

In this drawing, Figure 1 is an elevation of my improved policeman's club. Fig. 2 is a vertical longitudinal section of the same. Figs. 3 and 4 are cross sections taken on the lines 3—3 and 4—4 respectively, of Fig. 1.

The same reference characters indicate the same parts in all the views.

Let the numeral 5 designate my improved club considered in its entirety. This club consists of a body member 6 and a handle

member 7. The club is composed mainly of flexible material preferably rubber and is provided with a central longitudinal opening. The handle member 7 is provided with a rod 8 which may be composed of wood or other suitable material, whereby the handle member is made stiff or rigid. The forward or inner extremity of this rod is cone-shaped as shown at 9. Immediately forward and in contact with the cone-shaped extremity of the rod, the central opening in the club is filled with small balls or spherical bodies 10 while above these balls 10, the opening is filled with shot 12 and sand 13 suitably mingled for the purpose. This filling increases the weight of the flexible body member of the club. The opposite ends of the club are filled with rubber plugs 14 which are vulcanized in place thus entirely concealing the rod 8 at one extremity and the filling of the club at the opposite extremity.

The handle portion of the club is provided with a flexible handpiece or loop 15 whose opposite extremities are held in place by rubber collars 16 and 17 which may be secured in place by vulcanization. By virtue of the cone-shaped extremity of the rod 8 and the bearing balls 10 in contact therewith, the automatic return of the body member 6 of the club when bent as in the act of striking, is assured.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is:

1. A policeman's club composed of flexible material and having a central longitudinal opening, a rod in the opening through the handle portion for stiffening purposes, said rod having a coned inner extremity for the purpose set forth, the opening in the body portion forward of the handle being filled with suitable material to increase the weight, substantially as described.

2. A club of the class described composed of flexible material provided with a longitudinal opening, a stiffening rod in the opening through the handle portion, the said rod having a substantially cone-shaped inner extremity, bearing balls filling the portion of the opening forward and in contact with the cone-shaped extremity of the rod, the opening forward of these balls being filled with some material to increase the weight of the body member of the club, substantially as described.

3. A club of the class described, composed mainly of rubber or similar elastic mate-

rial, having a central longitudinal opening, a  
stiffening rod in the portion of the rubber  
forming the handle portion, the inner ex-  
tremity of the said rod being substantially  
5 cone-shaped, the opening forward of the rod  
and in immediate contact with its cone-  
shaped extremity, being filled with small  
spherical bodies while the opening forward of  
these bodies contains sand and shot for the  
10 purpose of increasing the weight of the body  
member of the club, the opposite extremities  
of the central opening being filled with rub-  
ber plugs secured by vulcanization, substan-  
tially as described.

15 4. A club of the class described, composed

mainly of rubber and having a central longi-  
tudinal opening, a stiffening rod inserted in  
the opening through the handle portion only  
of the club, the opening forward of the rod  
being filled with some material adapted to 20  
increase the weight of the body member of  
the club, and a handpiece or loop secured to  
the club at the extremities of its handle por-  
tion, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature 25  
in presence of two witnesses.

JAMES T. GANNON.

Witnesses:

DENA NELSON,

OTTO E. HODDICK.