

B. F. SHIBE.  
BASE BALL.  
APPLICATION FILED AUG. 26, 1908.

924,696.

Patented June 15, 1909.

Fig. 1.

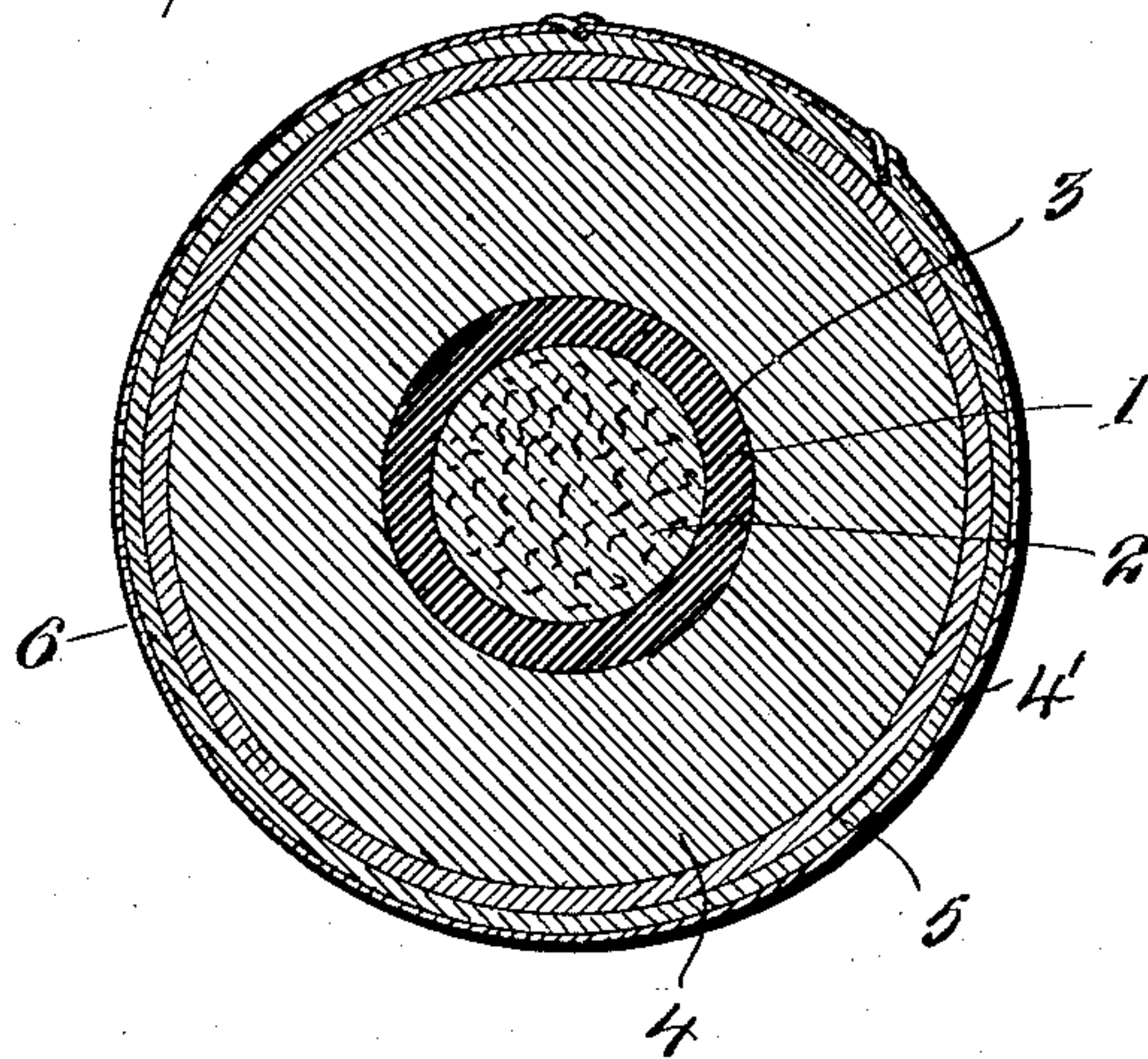
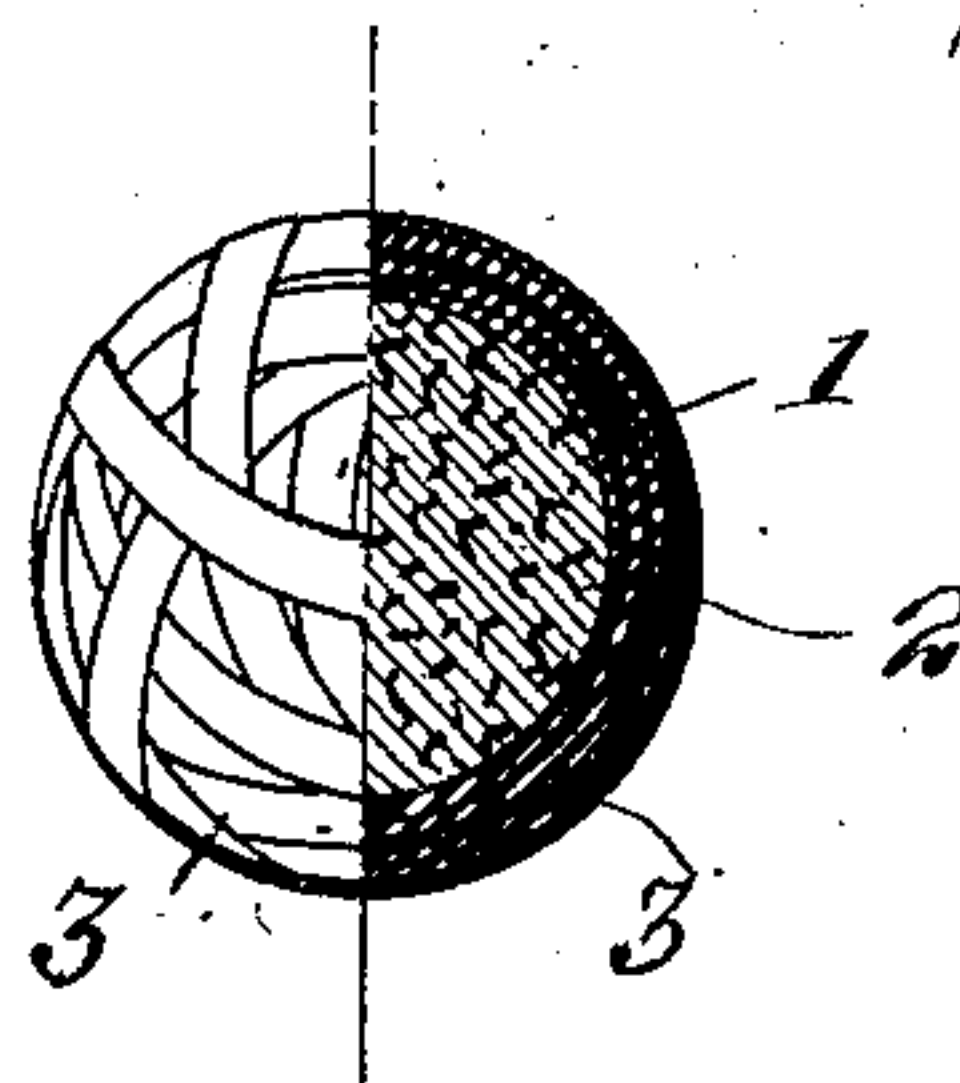


Fig. 2.



WITNESSES:

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BENJAMIN F. SHIBE, OF BALA, PENNSYLVANIA.

## BASE-BALL.

No. 924,696.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented June 15, 1909.

Application filed August 26, 1908. Serial No. 450,356.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, BENJAMIN F. SHIBE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Bala, in the county of Montgomery and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Base-Balls, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to playing balls, and pertains more particularly to base balls in which the center is formed of a resilient sphere, upon which the ball is constructed of yarn or other thread tightly wound thereon and secured by a binder of adhesive plastic composition upon its surface adjacent to the outer cover of horse-hide or similar material.

As heretofore constructed, the central resilient sphere or core of base balls has been formed of solid india rubber, having layers of yarn wound thereon.

The object of my invention is to produce a playing ball of said class having a resilient central core that is less yielding than has heretofore been made upon which the layers of yarn may be wound under greater tension, whereby greater compactness results, perfect concentric formation is attained, and a more durable and rigid structure secured and uniform resiliency acquired and maintained.

A further object of my invention is to provide a central spherical core of cork or similar material incased tightly in a layer of india rubber upon which strands of yarn may be wound.

To these ends my invention includes the combination and arrangement of component parts to be hereinafter described and more particularly pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, in which like characters designate similar parts, Figure 1 is a cross section of a base ball embodying my invention; Fig. 2 is a sectional view of the central core.

My invention includes, generally, a base ball comprising a central resilient spherical core composed of a cork center tightly incased in a layer of rubber, layers of yarn or similar thread tightly wound thereon, a layer of adhesive plastic composition upon the outer surface of the yarn, and a cover of horse-hide or similar material incasing the same.

Referring now to the drawings, 1 designates my central spherical core, which comprises a center of cork 2 or similar resilient

material that is less yielding than rubber tightly incased in a layer of india rubber 3. Upon said central sphere is tightly wound a layer of thread 4, preferably of woolen yarn. The said layer of thread is held in its spherical contour by a layer of adhesive plastic composition 5, which may be surrounded by a layer of thread 4' and the whole structure is incased in an outer cover 6, preferably of horse-hide stitched thereon.

As more clearly shown in Fig. 2 of the drawings, the layer of rubber 3 incasing the cork center 2 comprises rubber threads or rubber tape wound thereon. Said threads or tape may be of adhesive rubber, or strips of web fabric saturated or coated with an elastic and adhesive composition of rubber or similar material may be used, in the winding of either of which, the tension thereof may be regulated to modify the degree of resiliency of the ball.

From the foregoing description, it will be apparent that the structure of the central core will permit a greater tension and more compact winding of the adjacent layer of thread or yarn, thereby producing a more rigid construction of the entire ball, with resultant increased strength and durability and uniform concentric structure and resiliency, and furthermore permitting the making of balls of more uniform weight and size than has heretofore been possible when built upon a yielding core of irregular contour.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to be secured by Letters Patent, is—

1. A base ball comprising a spherical center of solid cork, layers of resilient rubber strands wound thereon, layers of thread wound upon said layers, and an outer cover incasing same, substantially as described.

2. A base ball comprising a spherical center of solid cork, layers of adhesive resilient rubber strands wound thereon, layers of thread wound upon said layers, and an outer cover incasing same, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

BENJAMIN F. SHIBE.

Witnesses:

THOS. S. SHIBE,

JOHN T. BYRNE.