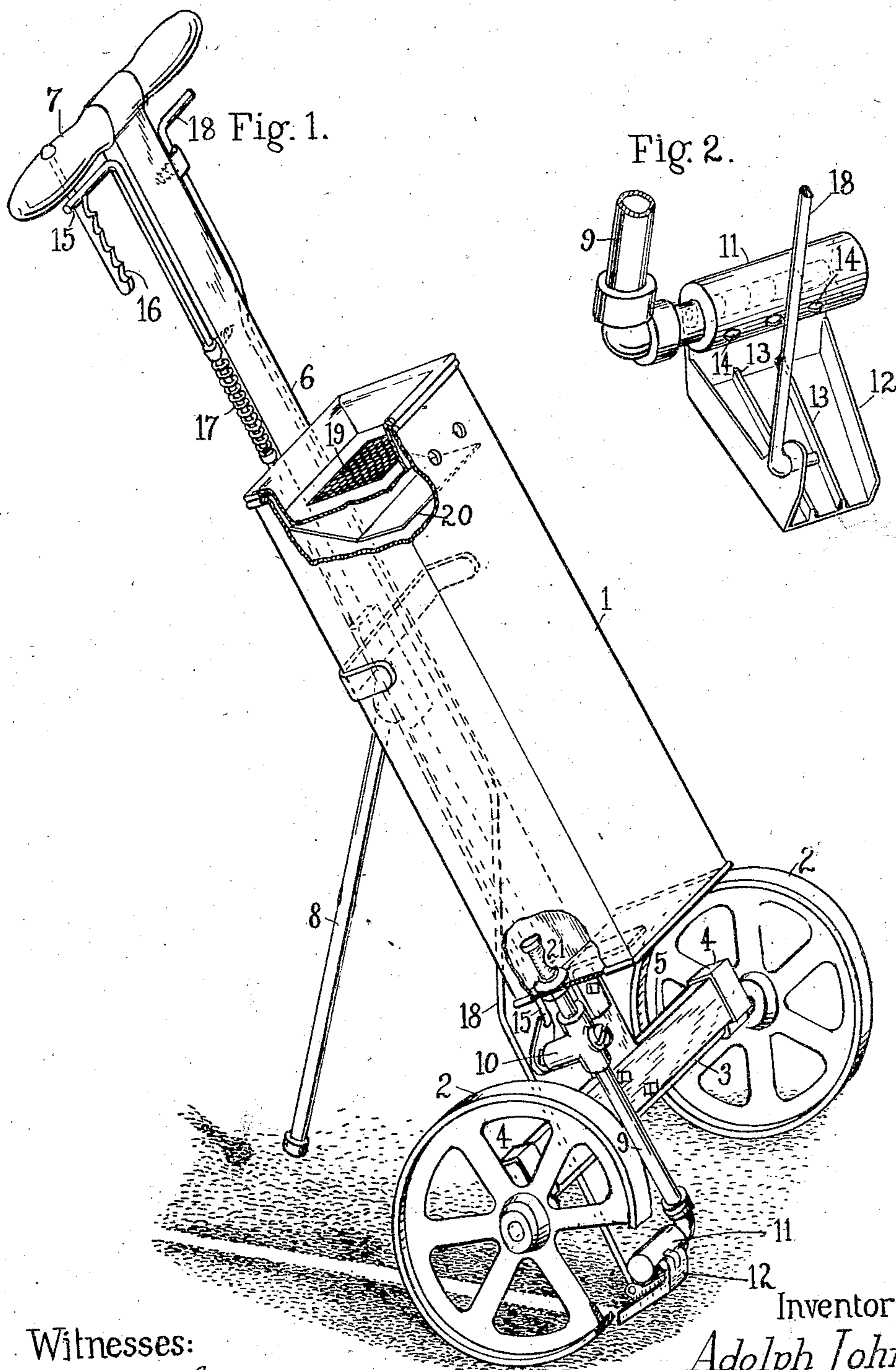


A. JOHNSON.  
TENNIS COURT MARKER.  
APPLICATION FILED FEB. 18, 1909.

929,597.

Patented July 27, 1909.



Witnesses:  
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*Noble D. Randel*

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ADOLPH JOHNSON, OF MONTCLAIR, NEW JERSEY.

TENNIS-COURT MARKER.

No. 929,597.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented July 27, 1909.

Application filed February 18, 1909. Serial No. 478,655.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ADOLPH JOHNSON, a citizen of the United States of America, and a resident of Montclair, county of Essex, and State of New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Tennis-Court Markers, of which the following is a specification.

The object of this invention is to provide a tennis-court marker of simple and durable construction which is easily operated, and which will deposit marking fluid in an even clean and clear cut line.

In the accompanying sheet of drawings which forms a part of this application—Figure 1 is a perspective of a tennis-court marker embodying my invention, parts being broken away. Fig. 2 is a perspective of the nozzle and trough drawn to a larger scale.

A receptacle 1, adapted to contain marking fluid, such as finely powdered lime in suspension in water, is carried by a running or bearing gear and handle. The running gear comprises running wheels 2 2 carried on an axle rod 3, the rod being secured by straps 4 4 to a cross bar 5. Upwardly extending from the cross bar is a handle 6. Surmounting the handle is a hand-piece 7. A leg 8 depends from the handle and reaches within a short distance of the ground when the handle is held at the angle at which the marker is operated, so that with but slight additional tilting of the handle the leg will rest on the ground. Depending from the receptacle is a rigid pipe 9 containing a controlling valve 10 and supporting at its lower end a nozzle 11. A trough 12 is hinged to the forward side of the nozzle and extends rearwardly and downwardly under the nozzle so that the rear end trails on the ground. A series of partitions 13 13 divide the trough into a plurality of channels, and the nozzle is provided with separate orifices 14 14 so located with respect to the channels that each delivers the marking fluid into a different channel. From the controlling valve a rod 15 connected therewith is carried upwardly along the right side of the handle and the upper end is bent laterally where it will be within reach of the right hand of the operator while his hands are in place on the hand-piece for propelling the apparatus. The rod engages with a gage 16 which is carried by the hand-piece and is provided with notches constituting a plurality of gage points. The con-

nection to the valve is such that it will be opened more or less accordingly as the rod is engaged with a higher or lower notch. A spring 17 retracts the rod when it is released from the gage notches and closes the valve. A second rod 18 is carried along the left side of the handle from a point near the rear end of the trough to which it is attached, and at its upper end is bent laterally where it will be within reach of the left hand of the operator at the hand-piece of the handle. This serves to lift the trough off the ground when the rod is drawn against the hand-piece. A strainer 19 is fitted to the top of the receptacle and prevents any lime which is not finely divided from being put into the receptacle. A splash board 20 prevents any fluid from being thrown out at the top in case the machine is jolted. The outlet pipe projects through the bottom into the receptacle and is capped at the top but is notched at 21 at the side thereby providing a side entrance only so that lime in settling will not accumulate in the pipe.

In the operation of marking a tennis-court the apparatus is held at about the angle illustrated and propelled over the line to be marked with the valve open and its controlling rod latched in the gage notch which is found to give the proper flow for the desired strength of mark. In marking where the ground is not level but is lower at one side than the other the partitions between the channels in the trough prevent any flow on the downhill side in excess of the flow on the other side. The trough also serves as a shoe to smooth the ground ahead of the deposit and the fluid does not touch the ground until the trough has entirely passed so that wet loose earth under the fresh mark will not be stirred up and the clearness of the mark impaired. When it becomes necessary to back the apparatus, as in bringing it into place to mark a second line, the valve is closed and the trough is lifted clear of the ground without removing either hand from the hand-piece.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

1. In a tennis-court marker, in combination a receptacle adapted to contain marking fluid, a supporting running gear and handle, a trough with an impervious bottom adapted to trail on the ground, and a nozzle through which marking fluid is delivered from the receptacle into the trough.

2. In a tennis-court marker, in combination a receptacle adapted to contain marking fluid, a supporting running gear and handle, a trough adapted to trail on the ground, a nozzle through which marking fluid is delivered from the receptacle into the trough, and a rod connected with the trough and lying along the side of the handle whereby the trough may be lifted from the ground.

3. In a tennis-court marker, in combination a receptacle adapted to contain marking fluid, a supporting running gear and handle, a nozzle through which marking fluid is delivered, a controlling valve between the nozzle and receptacle, and a rod connected with the valve and lying along the side of the handle, and a gage with a plurality of gage points by which the valve may be set.

4. In a tennis-court marker, in combination a receptacle adapted to contain marking fluid, a supporting running gear and handle, a trough with an impervious bottom adapted to trail on the ground, a nozzle through which marking fluid is delivered from the receptacle into the trough, a controlling valve between the nozzle and receptacle, a rod connected with the trough and lying along the side of

the handle whereby the trough may be lifted from the ground, and a rod connected with the valve and lying along the side of the handle, and a gage with a plurality of gage points by which the valve may be set.

5. In a tennis-court marker, in combination a receptacle adapted to contain marking fluid, a supporting running gear and handle, a trough having a plurality of channels and adapted to trail on the ground, and a nozzle with separate orifices through which marking fluid is delivered from the receptacle into each channel.

6. In a tennis-court marker, in combination a receptacle adapted to contain marking fluid, a supporting running gear and handle, a nozzle through which marking fluid is delivered, a rigid pipe connection between the nozzle and receptacle, and a trough hinged to the nozzle and adapted to trail on the ground.

Signed by me at Montclair, New Jersey this 3rd day of February, 1909.

ADOLPH JOHNSON.

Witnesses:

FRANK F. GRAY,  
NOBLE P. RANDEL.