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1,459,705

APPLIANCE FOR TEACHING OR PRACTICING THE GAME OF GOLF

Filed Jan. 6, 1922

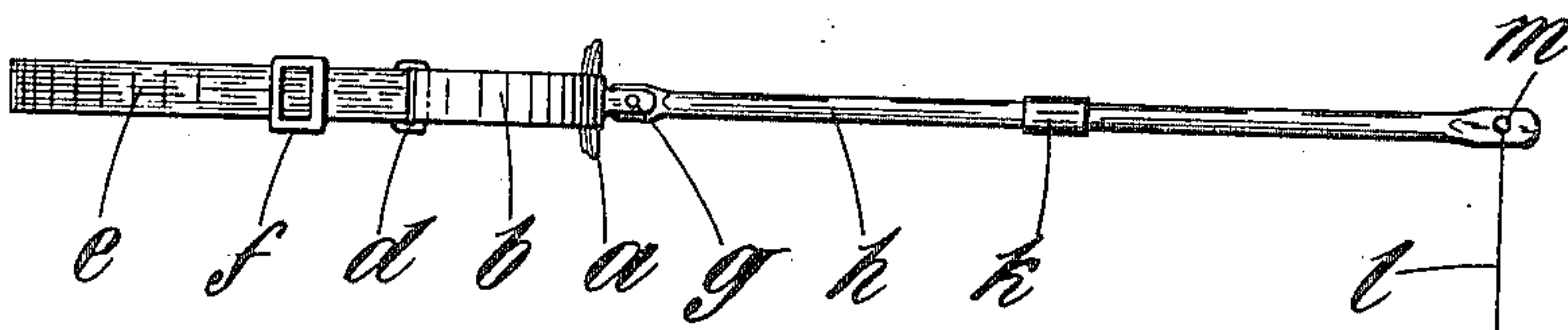
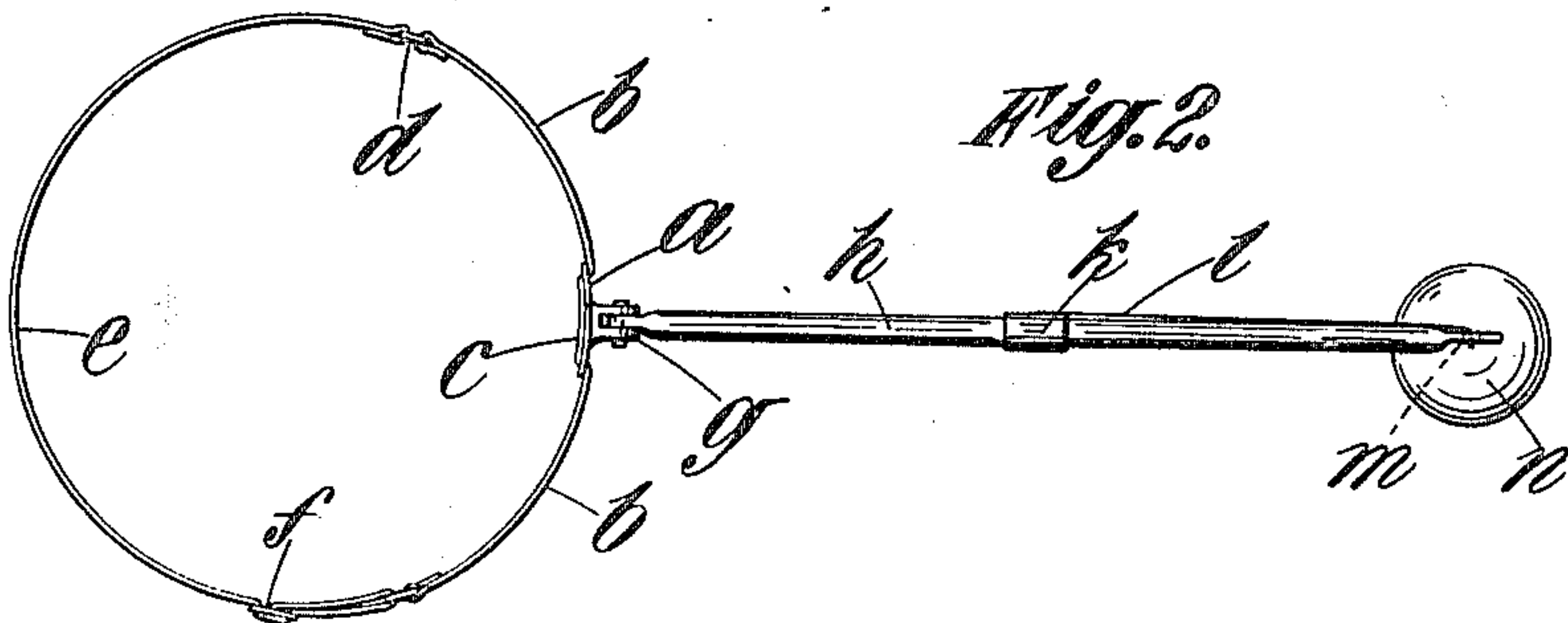
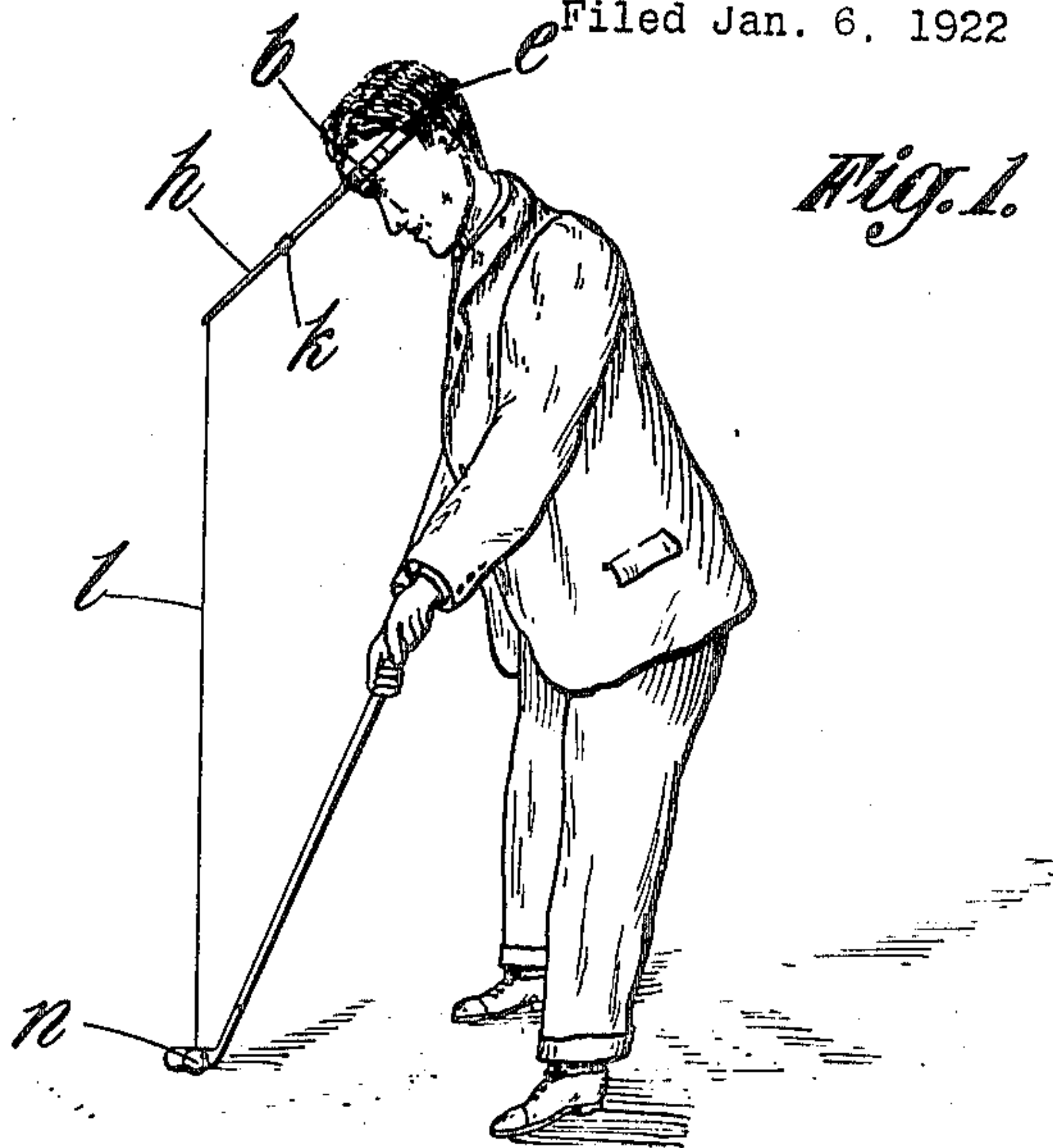


Fig. 3.

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APPLIANCE FOR TEACHING OR PRACTICING THE GAME OF GOLF.

Application filed January 6, 1922. Serial No. 527,325.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES ASHTON HENRY BULLOCK, a subject of the King of Great Britain, and residing at 11 Ludgate Square, London, E. C. 4, England, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Appliances for Teaching or Practicing the Game of Golf (for which I have made an application in England dated 10 March 23rd, 1921), of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to appliances for teaching or practicing the game of golf. It is the object of the invention to provide 15 a device which can be attached to the head of a person, this device including a plate with a support thereon for a rod adjustable in angular position. The use of this rod alone is valuable in indicating to the person practicing with the device whether or 20 not his head is kept stationary while making a swing of the arms and body. A further object of the invention however is to combine with this appliance a captive ball suspended preferably in an adjustable manner from the rod in such a way that the ball may rest on a floor or other surface with the thread or cord just slack so long as the head of the person using the appliance is 25 not raised during the swing, the ball, however, being displaced by the thread or cord if at any point in the backward or forward swing the head is lifted. The ball in question may be a soft and light ball, for example a soft woolen ball such as is commonly designated a pom-pon, in order that when struck it shall have no considerable momentum imparted to it owing to its softness and lightness, and shall easily be stopped 30 and brought back by the thread or cord.

The invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawing, in which:—

Figure 1 indicates the device in use by a player;

45 Figure 2 is a detail view in plan of the device itself in one form of construction;

Figure 3 is a side view corresponding to Figure 2.

Referring first to Figure 1, it will be seen 50 at once how the device is intended to be used. In Figure 2 *a* is a plate of metal for example to which a band or strip *b* is attached, or through slots in which such a strip is threaded so as to form a pad at *c*

at the back of the plate *a*. The band *b* 55 may also be of spring steel for example, or any other suitable material. At the ends of the band *b* eyelets *d* are provided, and an elastic band *e* is engaged with such eyelets, the length of such band being adjustable 60 by means of a slide *f*. The plate *a* is formed with lugs between which is pivoted a rod *h*. The rod *h* should work stiffly in the lugs so that it can be set frictionally to any angular position upwards or downwards in rela- 65 tion to the plate *a*, but will tend to retain its position unless forcibly moved therefrom. The rod *h* may conveniently be formed as a pencil or tube of aluminium for the sake of lightness. In the example 70 of construction shown, a sleeve *k* works frictionally upon the rod, such sleeve for example being a piece of leather sewn around the rod, and to this sleeve is attached a rod forming an extension to the 75 rod *h*, to which is attached a thread or cord *l* which passes through an eyelet at *m* in the end of the rod, and hangs down for a suitable length so as to carry at its end the ball or pom-pon *n*. By adjusting the slide 80 *k* on the rod *h* the distance from the eyelet *m* to the ball *n* can be adjusted as required according to the height of the person using the device.

The device is applied to the head of the 85 person using the same as indicated in Figure 1, and the rod *h* can be adjusted in angular position so as to extend outwards away from the head to the required extent for positioning the ball hanging from 90 the end of the rod *h* as at *n* in Figure 1. This enables the distance of the ball from the feet to be adjusted while the movement of the slide *k* adjusts the length 95 of the cord *l* according to the height of the person. When a swing of the club is made, unless the head is held still with the eyes fixed on the ball, the ball will move and will indicate to the person using the device that the swing is not being made cor- 100 rectly. Even if the backward swing is correct, if the head is moved appreciably before the ball is struck, the ball will not be in position when the club head passes, and this again will indicate the defect in ques- 105 tion.

It will be obvious that there is an advantage in attaching a cotton or other light

ball to a string and suspending it from the end of the rod, in that a slight movement of the head moves the suspended ball away from its proper position, which demonstrates in an impressive way to the player the importance of holding the head fixed during the address and stroke. The hinged and adjustable rod has an advantage over a fixed rod on account of the different stance taken by players. Some stand more erect than others and some further away from the ball than others. Even the same player stands further away from the ball in making some shots than he does in making others. This difference can be taken care of by means of the adjustable rod, which can be easily and quickly adjusted to bring the ball into the proper position under these different conditions.

Having thus described my invention what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:—

1. A device of the class described, comprising a support adapted to be attached to the head of the player, a rod attached at one end to said support, a flexible string at-

tached to the outer end of said rod, and a relatively light ball suspended by and attached to said string.

2. A device of the class described, comprising a support adapted to be attached to the head of the player, a longitudinally adjustable rod attached at one end to said support, a flexible string attached to the outer end of said rod, and a relatively light ball suspended by and attached to said string.

3. A device of the class described, comprising a support adapted to be attached to the head of the player, a rod adjustably attached at one end to said support, a flexible string attached to the outer end of said rod, and a relatively light ball suspended by and attached to said string.

4. A device of the class described, comprising a support adapted to be attached to the head of the player, a longitudinally adjustable rod hinged at one end to said support, a flexible string attached at the outer end of said rod, and a relatively light ball suspended by and attached to said string.

CHARLES ASHTON HENRY BULLOCK.