

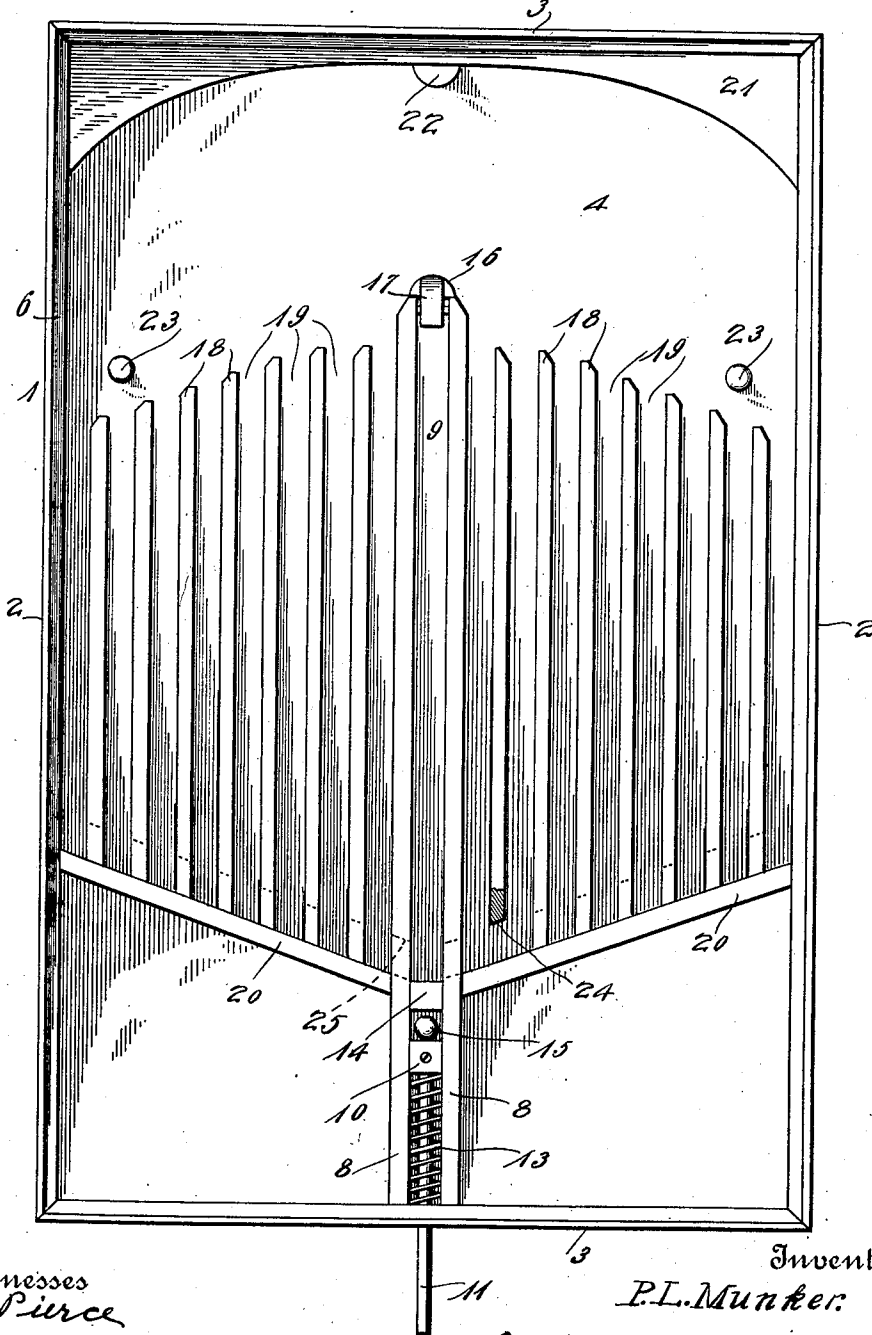
P. L. MUNKER.
 GAME APPARATUS.
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1,016,084.

Patented Jan. 30, 1912.

3 SHEETS—SHEET 3.

FIG. 2



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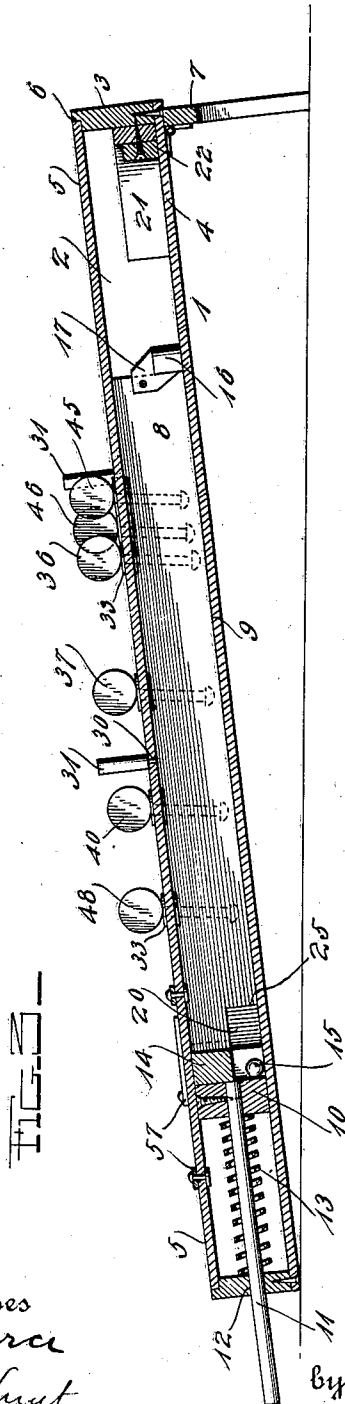


FIG. 2



FIG. 3

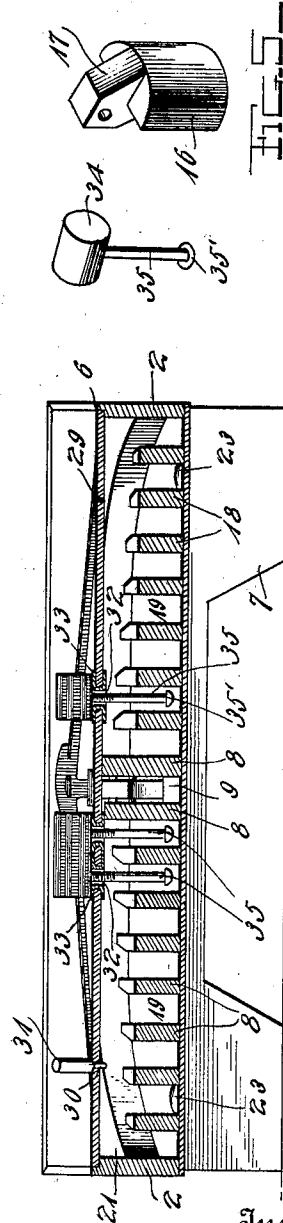


FIG. 4

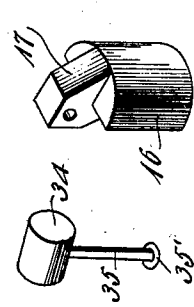


FIG. 5

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GAME APPARATUS.

1,016,084.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, PHILIP L. MUNKER, a citizen of the United States, residing at 429 West Twenty-ninth street, New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Game Apparatus; 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.

This invention relates to an improved game apparatus.

One object of the invention is to provide an apparatus by means of which a game having the semblance of a base ball game may be played thereby affording an interesting pastime.

Another object is to provide a game apparatus of this character which will be simple and inexpensive in construction and may be readily operated by any one to play the game.

With these and other objects in view the invention consists of certain novel features of construction, and the combination and arrangement of parts as will be more fully described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings; Figure 1 is a plan view of my improved game apparatus; Fig. 2 is a similar view with the top part of the apparatus removed; Fig. 3 is a central vertical sectional view of the apparatus; Fig. 4 is a vertical cross sectional view on the line 4—4 of Fig. 1. Fig. 5 is a detail perspective view of the pivoted deflecting member for preventing the return of the operating elements through their delivery chute or passage; Fig. 6 is a detail perspective view of one of the game pieces.

In the embodiment of the invention, I provide a shallow box 1 which is preferably of rectangular oblong shape and comprises side and end pieces 2 and 3 which are preferably formed of wood, a bottom 4 preferably formed of pasteboard secured to the lower edges of the side and end pieces and a top 5 which is also preferably formed of pasteboard and which is engaged with or set into a recess 6 formed in the upper edges of the side and end pieces as shown whereby the upper surface of the top 5 will be flush with the upper edges of the side and end pieces of the box. When playing the game the box is supported in an inclined position by a supporting plate 7 hingedly connected

to the bottom of the box near its outer end as shown.

Arranged in the center of the box between the top and bottom thereof is a pair of longitudinally extending parallel partition strips 8 which form between themselves a passage or alley 9 the purpose of which will be hereinafter described. The strips 8 terminate some distance from the upper or outer end of the box as shown in Figs. 2 and 3 of the drawing. Slidably mounted between the lower or inner ends of the strips 8 is a plunger 10 said plunger being secured to the inner end of an operating rod 11 which is slidably engaged with a guide passage 12 formed through the inner end of the box as shown. On the rod 11 between the end of the box and the plunger 10 is arranged a coiled plunger projecting spring 13 which is adapted to be compressed by the plunger when retracted by its operating rod 11 so that when said rod is released the plunger will be forcibly projected in the passage 9 between the strips 8. The plunger when thus projected will come into engagement with a stop block 14 arranged and secured between the partition 8 a short distance from the lower end of the box as shown. The plunger when thus projected is adapted to forcibly drive a ball or spherical operating element 15 up through the passage 9 and into the upper portion of the box from whence the ball will roll back through the box, thus coming into contact with the game pieces of the apparatus as will be hereinafter more fully described. Arranged across the upper end of the space 9 between the strips 8 is a ball deflecting block 16, said block having a curved or rounded outer surface and having formed on its upper end and inner side an attaching lug 17 which is pivotally secured between the strips 8 said lug being arranged at an angle to provide an inclined lower edge which is disposed in the path of the balls or operating elements 15 when shot up the passage 9 by the plunger 10, said balls when coming into engagement with the inclined lower edge of the lug 17 swinging the latter and the block 16 upwardly to permit the ball to pass whereupon as soon as the ball has passed, said block will drop back by gravity thus closing the upper end of the space or alley 9 and preventing the return of the ball through said space.

Arranged in the opposite sides of the

box between the strips 8 and the sides of the box are a series of parallel longitudinally disposed partition strips 18 which are spaced apart to form a plurality of channels or
 5 alleys 19 through the box, said strips having their inner ends engaged with diagonally disposed stop strips 20 arranged in the lower portion of the box between the strips 8 and the sides 2 as clearly shown in Fig. 2
 10 of the drawing. The outer ends of the strips terminate on an oblique line from the central strips 8 to the sides of the box, said ends being beveled on their outer corners as shown. By thus arranging the strips 18 to
 15 form the channels or alleys 19 the balls 15 when driven through the alley 19 into the space above the outer ends of the partition strips will roll back through said space and down through one of the alleys 19 thus
 20 tripping the game member over this particular alley as will be hereinafter more fully described.

In the space at the upper end of the box is arranged a filling block 21 having a
 25 curved segmental inner edge, said block having secured to the curved inner edge a centrally disposed semi-circular deflecting block 22. The blocks 21 and 22 are struck by the balls when shot through the space, causing
 30 said balls to rebound and roll back into the alleys 19 as hereinbefore described. On the bottom of the box adjacent to the upper ends of the next to the last alleys are arranged ball deflecting studs 23 which interfere with
 35 the movement of the balls and make their entrance to the last two alleys on either side of the box more difficult. The inner ends of the partition strips 18 have formed in their under sides passages 24 and in the
 40 adjacent portions of the strips 8 are also formed passages 25, said passages 24 and 25 permitting the balls when reaching the lower ends of the alleys 19 to roll down the strips 20 and into the main alley 9 and into
 45 position to be again engaged by the plunger and shot or forcibly projected up the alley in the manner described.

The upper surface of the top of the box has its upper portion laid off to represent
 50 a base ball field on which is depicted a diamond. On the diamond are indicated the position of the first base 26, a second base 27 and a third base 28. In the top of the box at the points indicating the first,
 55 second and third bases are formed small holes 29 which are adapted to receive the supporting pins 30 of cylindrical game pieces 31 indicating the base runners, one of said game pieces or base runners 31 being
 60 shown in the drawings on the first and second bases. At suitable positions in the top of the box are formed apertures 32 the edges of said openings being protected by metal eyelets 33. The openings 32 are each
 65 disposed above one of the alleys 19 between

the partition strips 18 in the bottom of the box and over each of said apertures is arranged a game piece certain of which are intended to represent players while certain others are employed for indicating the plays.
 70 Each of the game pieces comprises a cylindrical block 34 to one side of which is secured a depending member 35 which is preferably in the form of a screw having on its lower end a head 35' and threads on its
 75 other end, said screws or headed shanks extending through the apertures in the top of the box and projecting down into the alleys formed by the partition strips 18. The game pieces representing the players are
 80 differently colored from the game pieces indicating the plays and the game pieces indicating the different kinds of plays are also differently colored. One of the player game pieces 36 represents the first baseman and is
 85 engaged with an aperture 32 arranged in the top of the box in the position usually occupied by the first baseman. Another game piece 37 is in like manner disposed in the position usually occupied by the second
 90 baseman. Another game piece 38 is disposed in the position usually occupied by the shortstop while still another piece 39 is disposed in the position occupied by the third baseman. Similar game pieces 40, 41
 95 and 42 are engaged with apertures arranged in the positions usually occupied by the right fielder, center fielder and left fielder. In the diamond adjacent to one side of the pitcher's box 43 is arranged an aperture
 100 with which is engaged a game piece 44 which is intended to indicate the strikes. On the opposite side of the pitcher's box are formed two apertures 32 over which is arranged a game piece 45 the block or upper
 105 member of which is preferably double the length of the other game piece 34, said game piece 45 being provided with two shanks which project through the apertures 32 and are engaged with the adjoining
 110 alleys 19 below said aperture. By providing the game piece 45 with two shanks, said piece is more frequently tripped by the operating elements or balls rolling back through the box. The game piece 45 is intended to represent the balls and for this
 115 reason is constructed so that the same will probably be more frequently tripped as there are always more balls than strikes recorded in a baseball game. The game
 120 pieces 44 and 45 which indicate the strikes and balls are differently colored from the other game pieces.

At points near the first and third bases are arranged game pieces 46 the shanks of which project down into the two outer alleys, said pieces being provided to indicate the foul lines of the field. At the lower end of the field are arranged a series of game
 130 pieces 47, 48, 49 and 50 which are intended

to indicate respectively a three base hit, a two base hit, a one base hit and a home run. These game pieces as well as the game pieces indicating the foul lines are differently colored as indicated. It will be understood that the shank of each of the game pieces projects through an aperture 32 in the top of the box and engages a separate alley and that when the ball or operating element rolls down through any of the alleys the game piece whose shank is disposed therein will be rocked by the passage of the ball, so that the count or play represented by this time piece may be recorded.

On the top of the box below the base ball field and the lower row of game pieces are arranged a series of registering or recording dials, the dial 51 being arranged to indicate the number of strikes, the dial 52 being arranged to indicate the number of balls, the dial 53 being arranged to indicate the number of outs. Below these dials are arranged dials 54 and 55 which are provided to indicate the number of runs for each side or team, while between the dials 54 and 55 is arranged a dial 56 which is provided to indicate the number of innings played. Each of the dials is provided with an indicating finger 57 which is pivotally secured to the top of the box in any suitable manner and is adapted to be manually turned to co-act with the numerals of its respective dial.

The game is to be played by two persons and in being played the ball is put in motion by means of the spring plunger 10 in the manner described, said plunger shooting the ball up the alley 9 and into the upper portion of the box from which it rolls back down through one of the other alleys 19. As the ball rolls down these alleys it trips one of the game pieces located over the same which will indicate the play or score. If in thus rolling down the alleys the ball trips any of the game pieces representing the infielders or outfielders, this movement will indicate the batter is out. If the game piece 44 is tripped it will indicate a strike. If either of the game pieces 46 is tripped it will indicate a foul ball which is recorded as a strike but not after two strikes are recorded. If three strikes are recorded before a put-out or hit is made then the batter is out. The tripping of the large game piece 45 indicates the balls. If four balls are recorded before a put-out or a hit is made then one of the pegs 31 which represent base runners is placed on the first base.

The tripping of any of the game pieces 47, 48, 49 or 50 entitles the batter to as many bases as is indicated by the game piece tripped and one of the pegs representing the base runners is placed on that base. If there are any base runners on the bases they are moved forward the same number

of bases and a base runner reaching the home plate scores a run. A base runner also scores a home run from a second or third base on a one base hit. Three outs constitute one half of an inning at which time the next player takes his turn until three outs are recorded on his plays which completes one inning, and there are preferably nine innings to a game. No runs can be scored in an inning after three put-outs are recorded. Suitable rules or regulations for governing the base runners are provided but a statement of these rules is not thought to be necessary.

From the foregoing description taken in connection with the accompanying drawings the construction and operation of the invention will be readily understood without requiring a more extended explanation.

Various changes in the form, proportion and the minor details of construction may be resorted to without departing from the principle or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention as claimed.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is;

1. A game apparatus comprising a box having a top on which is pictured a base ball field, a plurality of game pieces representing players and arranged in the positions usually occupied by the players in the field, a series of game pieces representing the plays and scores made by the players, pegs representing base runners and adapted to be placed on the bases, shanks arranged on said game pieces, a spherical operating element adapted to engage said shanks and trip said game pieces, and means whereby said spherical operating element is projected.

2. A game apparatus comprising a box having a top on which is pictured a base ball field, a plurality of game pieces representing players and arranged in the positions usually occupied by the players in the field, a series of game pieces representing the plays and scores made by the players, pegs representing base runners and adapted to be placed on the bases, shanks arranged on said game pieces, a spherical operating element adapted to engage said shanks and trip said game pieces, means whereby said spherical operating element is projected, and a series of dials adapted to register the plays and scores indicated by the game pieces.

3. In a game apparatus, a box having a top on which is pictured a base ball field, a series of partitions arranged in said box below the top to form a plurality of alleys, a spherical operating element adapted to be projected up the box and to roll back through said alleys, a plurality of game pieces representing the players, said pieces being disposed in the positions on the field usually occupied by the players, a strike

indicating game piece, a ball indicating game piece, a series of base hits, and home run indicating game pieces, means on said game pieces adapted to project through the cover of the box and into said alleys in position to be engaged by the ball rolling down the latter whereby the game pieces are tripped and the plays and scores thus indicated.

10 4. A game apparatus comprising a box having a cover on which is pictured a base ball field, a pair of longitudinally disposed partition strips arranged to form an alley, a spring ball projecting plunger arranged
15 in the inner end of said alley, a retracting stem secured to said plunger, a game piece tripping ball adapted to be projected through said alley and into the upper end of the box by said plunger, means to prevent the return of the ball through said
20 alley, stop strips arranged diagonally across the box between said partition strips and the sides of the box, a series of longitudinally disposed parallel partition strips arranged
25 on the opposite sides of said central pair of strips to form a plurality of alleys down which said ball is adapted to roll after being projected into the upper portion of the box, said strips having formed in their inner
30 ends alined passages through which and through the central pair of strips the return ball is adapted to roll back into the central alley, a plurality of game pieces arranged in the field pictured on the top of the box,
35 said game pieces representing the players

and the plays and scores made by said players, shanks formed on said game pieces and projecting through the top of the box and into the alleys formed by the partition in the box and adapted to be engaged by the ball rolling back through the alley whereby
40 said game pieces are tripped.

5. In a game apparatus, a box having a top on which is pictured a base ball field, a series of partitions arranged in said box
45 below the top to form a plurality of alleys, a spherical operating element adapted to be projected through said alleys, a filling block arranged in the upper end of the box, said block having a concaved outer edge adapted
50 to receive and return the ball, a ball deflecting block arranged in the center of said concaved edge, deflecting studs arranged in the box near the upper ends of the outer
55 alleys, a plurality of game pieces representing players and indicating plays and scores, said game pieces being arranged on the top of the box, shanks connected with said game pieces and projecting down into the box and
60 into position to be engaged by the ball rolling back down through said alley, and means whereby the scores indicated by said game pieces are recorded.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two subscribing witnesses.
65

PHILIP L. MUNKER.

Witnesses:

OSCAR A. FAULBORN,
G. H. DE GLINDT.