April 14, 1936. H. K. HULL 2,037,416

PROJECTOR

Filed Nov. 22, 1933 3 Sheets-Sheet 1

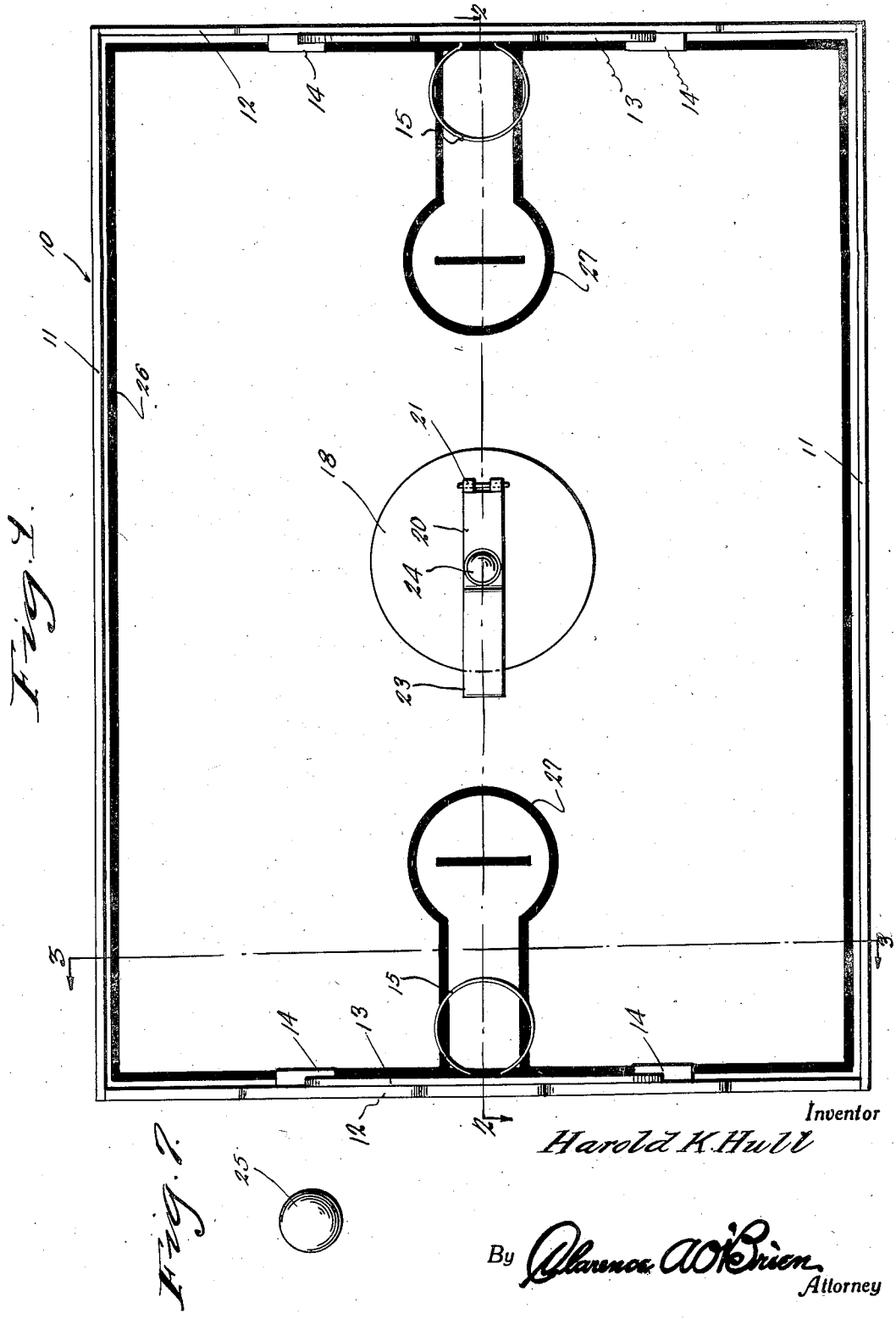


Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

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PROJECTOR

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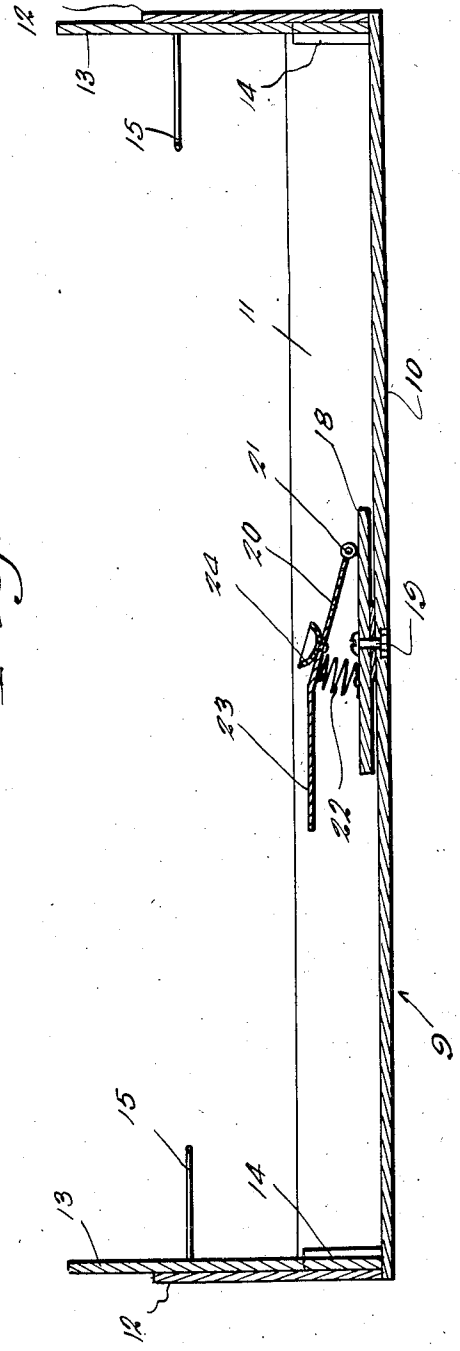


Fig. 2.

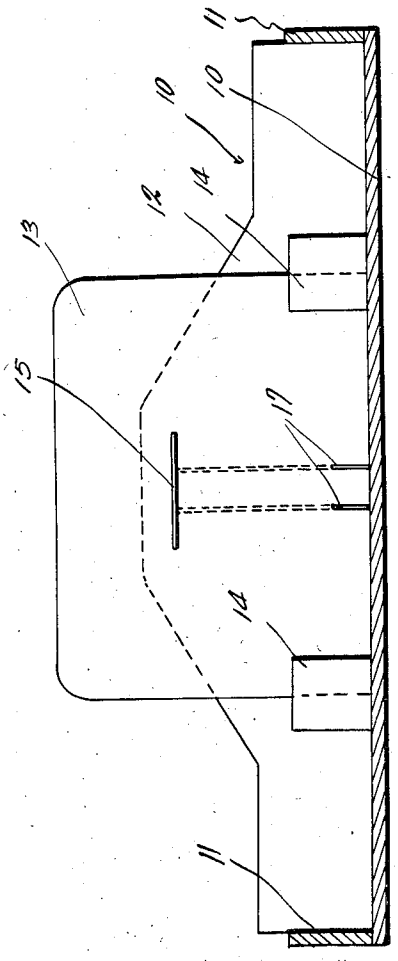


Fig. 3.

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Fig. 5.

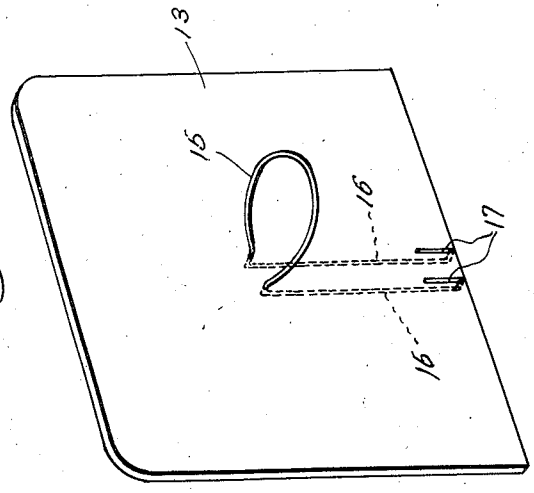


Fig. 6.

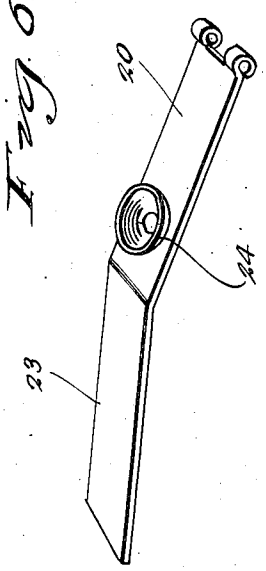
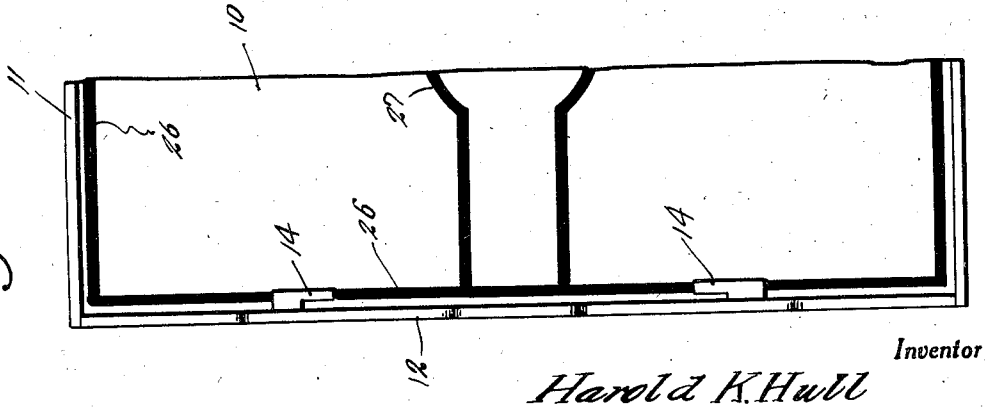


Fig. 4.



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2,037,416

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,037,416

PROJECTOR

Harold K. Hull, Columbus, Ohio

Application November 22, 1933, Serial No. 699,253

1 Claim. (Cl. 273—107)

This invention relates to the broad class of games and toys and has more particular reference to a portable, knock-down basketball game of a miniature type adapted for indoor and parlor use, the preferred embodiment of the invention embodying a charted or marked playing field and appropriately coordinated mechanical features adapted to provide a structurally novel and ingenious arrangement.

It is admittedly old in this particular line of endeavor and the art to which the invention relates to provide miniature game boards and ball projecting and tossing devices and means. Some of the prior art devices use playing cards or the like for systematically directing the play of the participants, and others use spinners and other directional means.

The present invention has to do with a similar type of game which employs a deck of cards wherein the cards are variously marked and printed with indicia to permit the participants to easily follow the rules and regulations for play. No novelty, however, is predicated upon the deck of cards. Instead, the principal novelty resides in the construction of the game board and its coordinated mechanical features such as the unique ball tossing or projecting device, the back stop, and wire baskets, and other complemental details.

It follows, therefore, that my primary aim is to generally improve upon known prior art devices by providing a portable game device or structure whose features of accommodation and adaptation transcend those of similar games and are aptly fitted for the purposes intended, whereby to provide an arrangement which is realistic in character, instructive, amusing, and susceptible of requiring skillful play on the part of the participants in order to attain winning results.

In the accompanying drawings wherein like numerals are employed to designate like parts throughout the views:

Figure 1 is a top plan view of the game device and its complementary appurtenances or accessories.

Figure 2 is a longitudinal sectional view, the section being taken approximately on the plane of the line 2—2 of Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a cross sectional view taken transversely on the line 3—3 of Figure 1.

Figure 4 is a fragmentary end view showing one end of the box or base forming a salient part of the assemblage.

Figure 5 is a perspective view of a detachable and renewable back-stop or ball-rebounding board.

Figure 6 is a perspective view of the player-actuated ball-projecting or tossing arm.

Figure 7 is a detail elevational view of the miniature basketball.

Referring now to the drawings by distinguishing reference numerals, it will be observed that the numeral 9 refers to that unit which may be conveniently referred to as the portable base. This base is somewhat in the nature of a box including a playing board 10 having spaced parallel side walls 11 of relatively small vertical height, and duplicate transverse end walls 12 of somewhat greater height or vertical dimensions. It will be noticed that the central portions of the end walls 12 are elevated sufficiently to form stabilizing or backing means for the back-stop. The back-stop is denoted by the numeral 13. As shown in Figure 5, each back-stop comprises a rectangular panel, of wood or the like, the same being of suitable area or dimensions and detachably mounted in retention cleats or keeper elements 14 attached to the inner faces of the end walls as shown in the drawings. The keepers 14 are so fashioned as to permit the back-stop panels to be easily inserted and removed. Each back-stop is provided with a basket and this basket is formed from a single length of wire which is bent to form a loop or ring 15, the ends of the wire 16 being suitably secured in place and the extremities 17 clenched as shown in Figure 5 to securely fasten the "basket" to the back-stop. The basket-equipped back-stops are obviously secured to the opposite ends of the base in longitudinal alinement as depicted in Figure 1.

The ball-tossing or projecting device is ingenious and comprises a disk or turntable 18 which is located centrally of the playing field and pivotally attached in place as indicated at 19 in Figure 2. This permits the disk or turntable to be turned at any desired angle in relation to the basket for self-styled use by the individual participant. A yieldable metal strip or arm 20 of suitable shape and form is pivotally attached at one end, as indicated at 21, to the turntable. The intermediate portion of the arm is attached to the turntable through the instrumentality of an expansion spring 22. The free end portion of the arm is fashioned as indicated at 23 to provide a finger-piece. It will be noted that intermediate its ends the arm 20 is provided with a semi-spherical receptacle or cup 24 which is adapted to accommodate the basketball 25. The

ball may be of rubber and of appropriate dimensions and weight.

To add to the indispensable feature of reality, it is obvious that the playing board 10 must be charted or otherwise marked to represent the conventional playing field and the marginal foul lines of the field are indicated at 26 and the free throwing or tossing lanes or courts are denoted by the numerals 27. These are obviously mere features of embellishment such as add to the attractiveness and emotional appeal of the game.

The gist of the invention is in the provision of a portable base including a baseboard having a marginal rim to form what may be designated as a confining box. This retains the ball within a limited playing area. Equal novelty and emphasis is attached to the rotary turntable and ball-tossing or projecting device comprising the pivoted, spring-pressed arm with the ball-receiving and throwing cup. This makes it possible for the participants to place the pivoted, spring-pressed, finger-flipped arm in any desired angle or position with relation to the baskets at the ends of the playing field. It is an ingenious feature in the structure of this classification.

Additional novelty is predicated upon the detachable panels or backstops with the simple economical wire members carried thereby and fashioned to represent the ball receptive baskets, these being detachably held in place through the instrumentality of the aforesaid keeper cleats.

In playing the game, it is generally played by two opposing participants or players. I have found it satisfactory and convenient to provide a one hundred piece or card deck. All of the cards have different plays and indicia printed or diagrammatically indicated thereon and these are utilized according to the directions for playing the game so as to indicate the various plays drawn by the players according to chance.

The idea of the game is to try to get possession of the ball from the "tip-off" and to keep passing it among the players of one side until a shot at the basket is secured or a foul ball made. It is obvious, however, that the rules and regulations may be varied and as before stated, the novelty is not predicated upon the method of play or the deck of cards. Instead, it is based on the construction of the box-like base and ball tossing device and the back-stops, etc. The method of assembling and using these features is evident and a more elaborate description is, therefore, believed to be unessential.

It is thought that persons skilled in the art to which the invention relates will be able to obtain a clear understanding of the invention after considering the description in connection with the drawings. Therefore, a more lengthy description is regarded as unnecessary.

Minor changes in shape, size, and rearrangement of details coming within the field of invention claimed may be resorted to in actual practice, if desired.

In interpreting the claim, I desire to have it understood that the expression "playing field" is used broadly as the equivalent of the device 9, that is, the entire box-like unit.

What is claimed is:

A projector of the character described comprising a rotatably mounted base, an elongated arm, a hinged connection between one end of the arm and the base adjacent the edge portion thereof, the free end portion of the arm being bent obliquely with respect to the remaining portion of the arm, a spring interposed between the base and the last mentioned portion of the arm so as to sustain the last mentioned portion of the arm in an inclined position with the obliquely disposed free end portion substantially horizontally disposed, and a projectile receptor secured to the inclined portion of the arm.

HAROLD K. HULL.