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O. W. BISHOP

2,618,484

DART TARGET AND SUPPORT

Filed April 25, 1949

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1

Fig. 1.

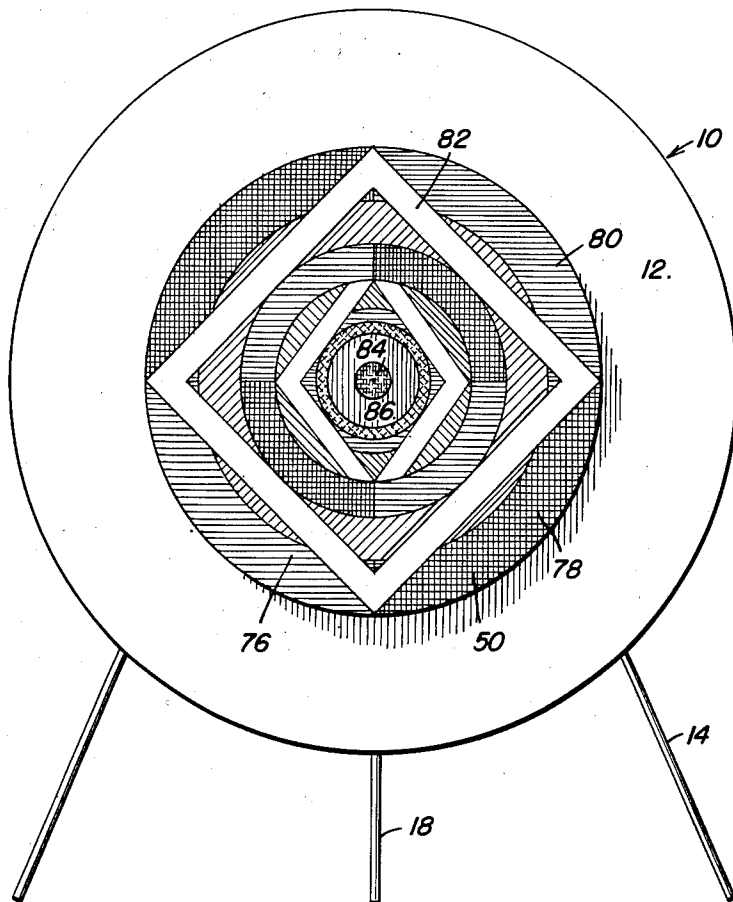


Fig. 2.

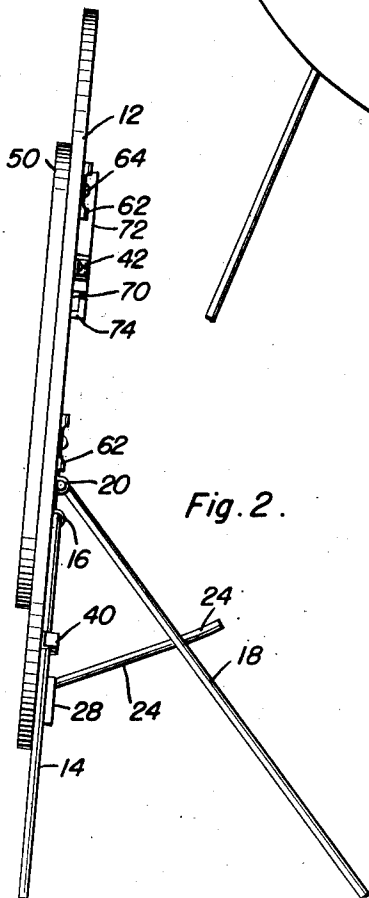
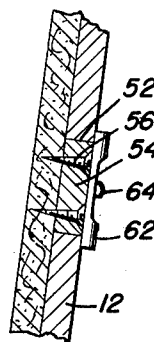


Fig. 6.



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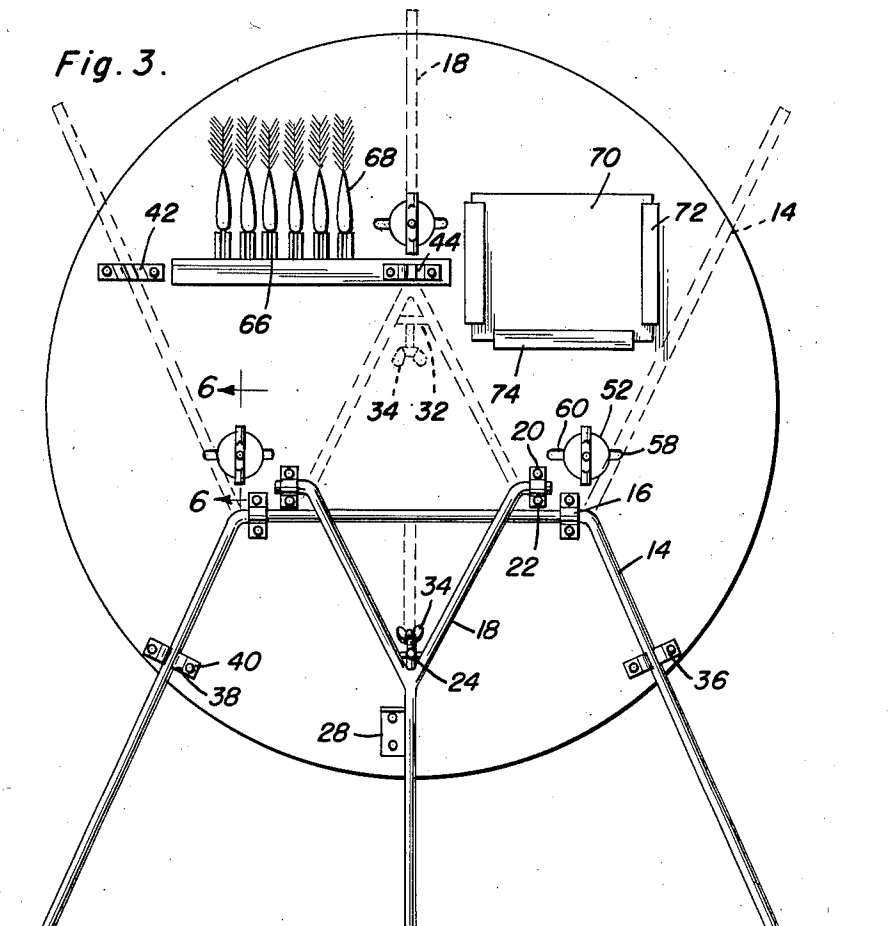
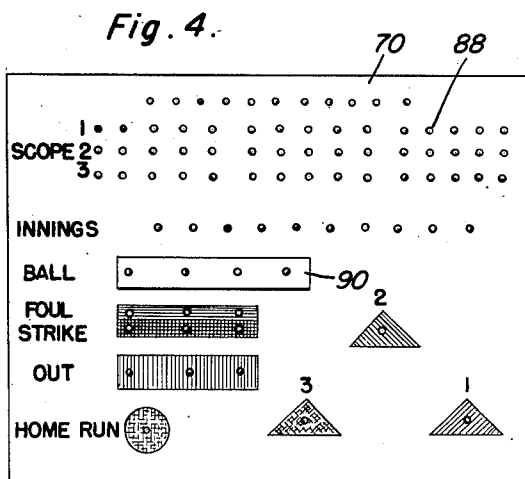
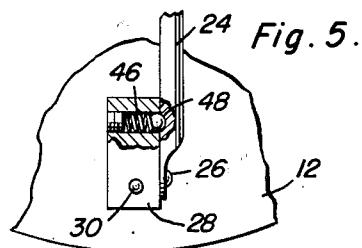
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DART TARGET AND SUPPORT

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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DART TARGET AND SUPPORT

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2 Claims. (Cl. 273—102)

1

This invention relates to a target structure for dart or similar thrown missiles and has for its primary object to provide means for adjustably and detachably supporting in a vertical position a target or gameboard.

A further object of this invention is to provide a target board which is adapted to be detachably mounted on the base of a supporting backboard and which is formed with a multicolored field against which darts or the like are adapted to be thrown, the supporting backboard detachably supporting a scoring board which identifies the various sections in the field on the target board.

Another object of this invention is to provide a backboard which is adapted to detachably support a target board and which is provided with supporting standards pivotally carried thereby, for supporting the backboard in a raised vertical position and in various inclined planes.

A further object of this invention is to provide a supporting structure for a target or backboard and to provide locking means carried by the backboard for retaining the supporting structure in a raised or collapsed position and in a lowered or operative position.

These and ancillary objects and structural features of merit are attained by this invention, a preferred embodiment of which is set forth in the following description and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, wherein:

Figure 1 is a front elevational view of a target structure and target board mounted thereon;

Figure 2 is a side elevational view thereof;

Figure 3 is a rear elevational view thereof;

Figure 4 is a plan view of the scoring board, which is slidably mounted on the back surface of the backboard;

Figure 5 is an enlarged detail view of the locking means provided for retaining the adjusting member for the central standard in a raised position locked to the supporting backboard; and

Figure 6 is a detail sectional view of the means provided for locking the target board on the base of the backboard.

The target structure generally indicated by the reference numeral 10 includes a backboard 12 which may be formed from any suitable material, such as wood or the like, and which may be constructed in a circular or rectangular shape. A formed bar member or U-shaped rod 14 is pivotally secured on the back surface of the backboard by means of U-shaped bearing brackets 16. A centrally disposed Y-shaped supporting standard 18 is pivotally secured intermediate of and above the brackets 16 by similar brackets 20, which are

2

secured to the backboard by screws 22 or similar fastening members. An adjusting member 24 is pivotally secured as at 26 to a block 28, which is mounted on the backboard by a fastening member 30. The member 24 is adapted to be slidably disposed within the connected end of the diverging legs of the Y-shaped supporting standard 18, the member 24 being held therein by a transverse bar 32. A locking bolt or set screw 34 is threadedly disposed in the bar 32 and is adapted to frictionally bear against the member 24 to lock the same in adjusted positions, as illustrated in Figure 2. In this respect, spring clips 36 and 38 are secured by fastening members 40 onto the rear surface of the backboard and are adapted to retain the opposing legs of the U-shaped bar 14, when the bar is disposed in a lowered or operative position. The central standard 18 is extended from the backboard 12 and supports the backboard in adjustably inclined positions with respect to its vertical plane, by means of the adjusting member 24 and the set screw 34.

Means is provided for retaining the supporting standards 14 and 18 in a raised or collapsed position and includes a spring clip 42, which is mounted above the spring clip 38 and is adapted to support one of the unattached legs of the U-shaped bar 14. A similar clip 44 is mounted on a transversely disposed bar 46 and is adapted to retain the extending legs of the Y-shaped standard 18.

Means is provided for supporting the adjusting member 24 in a raised position and includes a spring-urged detent 46 which is carried by the block 28 and is adapted to engage in a recess 48 formed in the member 24, adjacent the pivot point 26. A target board 50, which may be composed of fiber or cork so as to form a penetrating surface for playing arrows, darts or similar missiles, is provided and is adapted to be detachably superimposed or secured on the base of the backboard 12. The backboard 12 is formed with enlarged circular openings 52, disposed in a triangular arrangement and circular blocks 54 are secured to the rear surface of the target board and adapted to be positioned or inserted within the openings 52. The blocks 54 are secured to the target board by screws 56 or similar fastening means. The openings 52 are formed with laterally extending slots 58 and 60, the latter being formed in alignment and extending in opposite directions from the opposing sides of the openings. An elongated locking bar 62 is centrally pivoted as at 64 to the blocks 54 and is adapted to be disposed through the openings with the

3

blocks 54, with the opposing ends of the bar 62 being received through the slots 58 and 60. After the bars and blocks are inserted through the openings, the bars are rotated into a vertical locking position, as illustrated in Figure 3. In this manner, the target board is detachably secured or locked on the base of the backboard.

The bar 66 functions as a support for holding the darts and scoring pegs, which are disposed in vertical openings in the bar 66, within which a plurality of darts 68 may be disposed.

A score board 70 is slidably supported on the back of the backboard 12 by means of opposing vertically disposed guideways 72 and a lower transversely disposed retaining bar 74. The score board 70 is provided to identify the various values of the field 76 of the target or gameboard 50 and pegs or pins may be provided to record the various positions of darts, which are anchored upon the target board after being thrown thereagainst. In this respect, it is to be noted that the target board is formed with a multi-colored field 76, the field being divided in a pre-arranged manner into many patterns which may be identified by colors, such as a blue section 78, a red section 80, a white section 82, a yellow section 84, and a black section 86. Thus, the playing face of the target board is formed with various contrasting colors into a multi-colored field, each of the colors having a particular value with respect to and in accordance with the rules and regulations of professional baseball. The score board 70 is formed with an apertured scoring zone 88 and a plurality of sections, which indicate the "out," the "bases" and the "base hits" in accordance with the face of the target board. Thus, the white section 82 on the target board is signified by the scoring board section 90 to represent a "ball," so that when a dart or similar missile is positioned within the white section 82, a peg or similar scoring device is positioned within the section 90 on the scoring board to represent thereon the position of the dart in the target board. In a similar manner, the positioning or anchoring of a dart in the target board is represented by a peg or scoring device on the scoring board 70, the peg being positioned in the various scoring sections of the score board in accordance with the identified values thereon of the particular section of the target board.

Having described the invention, what is claimed as new is:

1. A target apparatus comprising a target carrying backboard and foldable supporting means

4

for said backboard for positioning said backboard in raised position above a supporting surface, said supporting means including a U-shaped member pivoted to said backboard to provide a pair of legs, a central bar member pivoted to said backboard providing a third leg, and means on said backboard for selectively maintaining said supporting means in position for supporting said backboard and in a second position abutting the backboard, in which the means for maintaining the U-shaped member in each of its positions comprises spring clips secured to the back side of the backboard, and the means for maintaining said third leg in supporting position includes an adjusting bar pivotally mounted on said backboard and having a portion engageable with said third leg, and locking means on said third leg for engagement with said adjusting bar.

2. A target apparatus comprising a target carrying backboard and foldable supporting means for said backboard for positioning said backboard in raised position above a supporting surface, said supporting means including a U-shaped member pivoted to said backboard to provide a pair of legs, and a central bar member pivoted to said backboard providing a third leg, and means on said backboard for selectively maintaining said supporting means in position for supporting said backboard and in a second position abutting the backboard, in which the means for maintaining the U-shaped member in each of its positions comprises spring clips secured to the back side of the backboard, and the means for maintaining said third leg in supporting position includes an adjusting bar pivotally mounted on said backboard and having a portion engageable with said third leg, and locking means on said third leg for engagement with said adjusting bar, the means for maintaining the third leg in abutment with the backboard including a spring clip secured to said backboard, and a spring pressed ball detent for maintaining said adjusting arm in collapsed position.

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