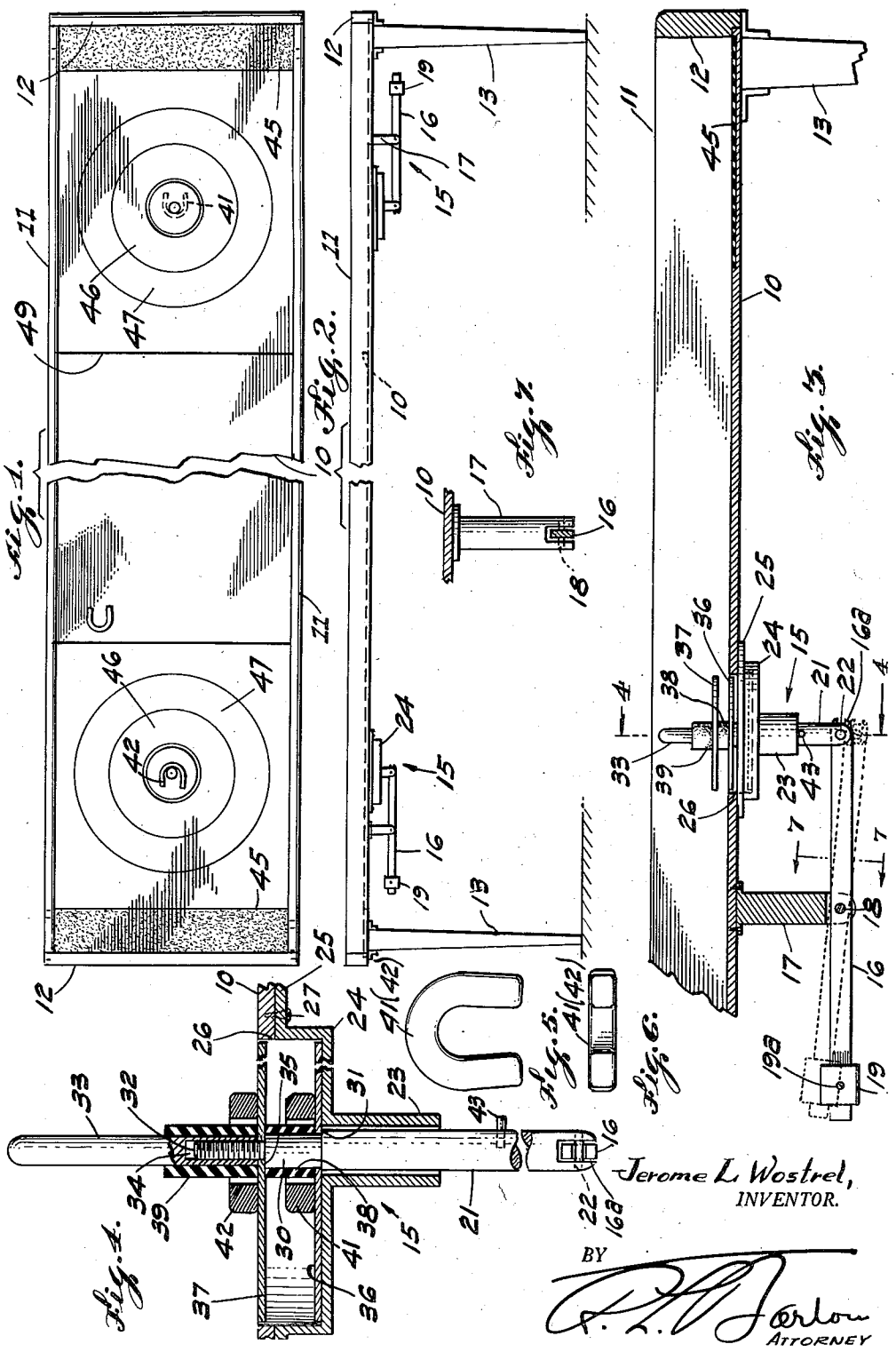
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TABLE TARGET GAME APPARATUS

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TABLE TARGET GAME APPARATUS

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This invention relates to a game of skill played with quoits of the open-sided or horseshoe shaped type.

An important object of the game is to provide a mechanical means which, when a quoit has been projected into a position wherein it encircles a target forming post or pin, automatically lowers such quoit to a position wherein it will not obstruct the path of another, skillfully projected quoit so that the latter also may readily be caused to occupy an encircling relation to the target.

A more specific object is to provide, in combination with a table top which affords an elevated, horizontal platform with an opening through it, a plurality of horizontal vertically spaced apart plates the lower-most plate of which normally occupies said opening in a flush relation to the upper surface of said platform, an upstanding target forming pin which passes through the space or spaces between said plates and upstands above the uppermost plate, and yielding means supporting said plates in such a manner that whenever a quoit is caused to occupy said opening its weight will depress the plate which it engages to a sufficient extent to lower the next higher plate to the level of said platform, so that a flat, unobstructed surface will be maintained around the target forming post.

Additional objects of the invention relate to the provision of a simplified means for arresting the upward movement of a mechanically raised, depressible quoit receiving plate when it reaches a flush, position around a target pin, in relation to the surface of a platform across which the quoits are thrown with a sliding movement; and also to provide superior elastic protectors for those parts of the device against which the thrown quoits are likely to strike.

Other objects, advantages and features of invention will hereinafter appear.

Referring to the accompanying drawing, which illustrates a preferred embodiment of the invention,

Fig. 1 is a top plan view of the complete apparatus, a midlength portion of the structure shown being broken out in order to contract the length of the view.

Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the complete apparatus, supported by ground or floor indicated in section thereunder, a midlength portion of the structure shown being broken away to contract the length of the view.

Fig. 3 is an enlarged, fragmental, longitudinal midsection, of the apparatus one end portion

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thereof being broken off to contract the length of the view, and only a fragment of one pair of legs being shown. In this view the automatic gravity controlled member is shown in normal position in full lines and in an operated position in broken lines.

Fig. 4 is an enlarged section on line 4—4 of Fig. 3, illustrating the quoit supporting plate in a normal, playing position, parts being broken out to contract the view and some central parts being shown in elevation.

Fig. 5 is a plan view, and Fig. 6 is an end elevation of one of the horseshoe shaped quoits.

Fig. 7 is a fragmentary vertical section on line 7—7 of Fig. 3.

Referring in detail to the drawing, therein is shown an elongated table comprising a rectangular substantially horizontal platform 10 having guard rails 11 upstanding from its sides, and guard rails 12 at its ends, said platform being supported by conventional legs 13.

The invention resides more particularly in the two weighted, quoit supporting devices 15 each of which comprises a normally horizontal lever 16 supported between its ends by a bifurcated bracket 17 which carries the fulcrum pin 18. Upon one end portion of said lever is adjustably mounted a weight 19 which tends to rock the lever in such a manner as to maintain at the upper limit of its movement an upstanding arm 21 the lower end of which is operatively connected with the bifurcated end 16a of the lever by means of a pivot pin 22. A set screw 19a holds said weight in its adjusted position.

Said arm 21 operates in a guide sleeve 23 projecting integrally from the horizontal bottom of a broadly cup shaped member 24 having around its upper end a horizontal flange 25 attached to the platform 10 in a surrounding relation to a circular opening 26 through said platform, the attaching means being shown as screws 27.

Returning to the arm 21, said arm has a diametrically reduced portion 30 which produces an upwardly facing annular shoulder 31 around the arm. Said diametrically reduced part 30 has a terminal upward extension 32 which forms an externally screwthreaded stem upon which is screwed the target forming post or pin 33, said pin having a threaded socket 34 in its lower end to cooperate with said stem 32.

It is to be noted that said stem 33 cooperates with the part 30 of the arm 21 to form a second or upper annular shoulder 35. A lower quoit supporting plate 36 is provided having an apertured

central portion which surrounds the arm portion 30 and rests upon the lower annular shoulder 31, and an upper quoit supporting plate 37 having an apertured central portion which underlies the lower part of the screwed on pin 33 and rests upon the upper annular shoulder 35. When said pin is screwed into place it clamps said plate 37 between itself and said shoulder 35. However, before the upper plate 37 is applied a lower protecting rubber sleeve 38 is slipped down over the arm section 30, and after the upper plate 37 has been applied an upper rubber sleeve 39 should be applied around the lower end portion of the pin 33. In Fig. 4 a lower horseshoe shaped quoit 41 is shown which has been projected by a player into an embracing relation to the sleeve 38, and an upper quoit 42 is shown embracing the sleeve 39.

After the other parts have been assembled a stop pin 43 may be wedged into a diametrical bore provided for it in the stem 21 so that an end portion of said pin cooperates with the end of the sleeve 23 to arrest the upward movement of the lower plate 36 when the latter is flush with the platform 10.

The aforesaid lower sleeve 38 not only protects the arm section 30 but firmly holds the lower plate 36 down against the lower annular shoulder 31.

It is to be understood that Fig. 3 shows the position assumed by one of the two devices 15 after two quoits have been projected into embracing relations to the target pin or post, but that, up to the time the first quoit is thus placed the weighted lever 16 will maintain the arm 21 in its upper position so that the plate 36 carried thereby will be flush with the upper face of the platform 10, the plates 36 and 37 being vertically spaced apart a sufficient distance freely to admit between them the first quoit that may be slid across the surface of the platform 10 in so skillful a manner as to encounter the sleeve 38 open side foremost. As soon as a quoit is played skillfully enough to land upon the plate 36, its weight will depress said plate in opposition to the weighted lever 16 and cause said plate to move down to the position shown in Fig. 4 wherein it rests upon the bottom of the cup 24 and does not cause a further depression of the arm 21, and in this position of the parts the upper plate 37 is flush with the upper surface of the platform 10, where it is in readiness to support the next quoit played.

Each of the quoit supporting devices 15 is shown spaced a considerable distance from the end rail 12 of the part of the table which it occupies so that there will be spaces beyond the targets to support quoits projected too forcibly across the platform 10, and a non-skid rubber sheet 45 is desirably placed upon the outer part of each of these spaces to lessen or prevent the impact of the quoits against the end rail 12. These spaces also afford room for marking off, by concentric circles an inner zone 46 and outer zone 47, around the target.

A transverse line 49, spaced inwardly from each of said outer zones marks off the inner limit of each space within which a quoit must land to afford the player any credit.

In playing the game indoors players grasp the quoits directly in the hand and skid them over the surface length of the platform 10 in a flatwise manner, but when the game is played out of doors (longer platforms are used and) each player furnishes himself with a suitable forked pusher rod which he uses to project the quoits or horseshoes toward the mark opposite to the end of the table at which he is stationed.

As the playing of the game proceeds, the credits given to each player are rated according to the nearness to the targets at which each quoit stops. A credit score as follows is deemed desirable:

A ringer around the target pin (illustrated in Fig. 1) counts 6 points.

A quoit not a ringer but deposited on the plate 36 or 37 within the zone 46 counts 4 points.

Quoit deposited upon zone 46 counts 3 points.

Quoit deposited upon zone 47 counts 2 points.

Quoit deposited upon area outside of zone 47 but between line 49 and inner edge of the facing 45 counts 1 point.

I claim:

1. In a game apparatus of the class described, in combination, a horizontal platform having an opening through it, a bracket supported by said platform and projecting downwardly therefrom, a horizontally extending, lever rockably supported between its ends by said bracket, a vertically extending arm having a lower end portion pivotally connected with one end portion of said lever and its opposite end portion projecting upwardly through the aforesaid opening through said platform, two horizontal, vertically spaced apart plates mounted upon said arm, the lower of said plates normally occupying the aforesaid opening through said platform with its upper face flush with the upper surface of the latter, said lever being weighted so as normally to support said lower plate in said position, and a stop means carried by said arm which cooperates with adjacent parts of the device and prevents said lower plate from being moved upwardly from its said normal position.

2. The subject matter of claim 1, and said plates each having a centrally apertured portion, said arm being progressively diametrically contracted from below upwardly thus providing a lower annular shoulder upon which the apertured part of the lower plate rests and an upper annular shoulder upon which the apertured part of the upper plate rests.

3. In a game apparatus of the class described wherein quoits are used by the players, in combination, a horizontal platform having an opening through it, a bracket supported by said platform and projecting downwardly therefrom, a horizontally extending lever rockably supported between its ends by said bracket, a vertically extending arm having its lower end portion pivotally connected to one end of said lever, the upper end portion of said arm projecting through the aforesaid opening through said platform, the latter end portion of said arm being diametrically reduced at two places thus providing two spaced apart annular shoulders the upper of which is of less diameter than the lower, a horizontal lower plate resting on said lower shoulder and a horizontal upper plate resting on said upper shoulder, said plates being small enough to be contained within said opening through said platform and being spaced far enough apart to receive thrown quoits between them, the lower of said plates normally being supported by the aforesaid lever in a position wherein it occupies the opening through said platform with its upper face flush with the surface of the latter, the quoits used in playing the game each being sufficiently heavy so that when a quoit is deposited on said lower plate while normally positioned it will lower said plate and the arm which carries

it to a position wherein the upper plate is flush with the upper surface of the platform.

4. The subject matter of claim 3, and the upper diametrically reduced part of said arm being screw-threaded, and a target forming pin having a socketed end portion screw-threaded onto said arm, said pin clamping the aforesaid upper plate between itself and the upper of said annular shoulders.

5. The subject matter of claim 4, and an elastic sleeve surrounding the part of said arm between said plates.

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