

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HERBERT H. EVERARD, OF KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN, ASSIGNOR TO IHLING BROS. & EVERARD, OF SAME PLACE.

DUPLICATE-WHIST TRAY.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 536,198, dated March 26, 1895.

Application filed March 22, 1894. Serial No. 504,620. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HERBERT H. EVERARD, a citizen of the United States, residing at the city of Kalamazoo, in the county of Kalamazoo and State of Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Duplicate-Whist Trays, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in duplicate whist apparatus, and especially to improvements on the so called tray shown and described in Patent No. 462,448, dated November 3, 1891, issued to Cassius M. Paine, of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and James L. Sebring, of Kalamazoo, Michigan. The objections, developed by use, to this device described and shown in the Paine-Sebring patent are that the cards are liable to become injured and that the bands become soon worn and destroyed, and the band itself affords no material protection to the cards.

My invention consists principally in improvements in the card holders.

The objects of my invention are, first, to provide, in a duplicate whist tray, a more practical and lasting holder for the cards; second, to provide, in a duplicate whist tray, a holder under which the cards can be quickly and easily inserted; third, to provide a holder that shall hold cards securely; fourth, to provide a holder that shall be a protection to the cards when inserted under it. I accomplish these objects by the device shown in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a top plan view of the tray embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a sectional view on line 2—2 through the hand of cards and through the tray.

Similar letters of reference refer to similar parts throughout both views.

A represents the tar board tray or board in the usual form.

B, B', and B'', represent my improved holders.

C is a hand of cards inserted under one of the holders. At the center of the board, an index finger points to the hand that is to lead on the duplicate play. The stars indicate the north side of the board, and the board should be placed in this position. The duplicate set is made up of a series of boards or trays in the same manner as that described in the

Paine-Sebring patent above referred to and is used in the same way. The lead finger is printed upon the set pointing to various points of the compass to indicate the lead in succession and takes the place of the lead card shown in the Paine patent.

The springs, B, for holding the cards are attached at each end to the tray. Near the center of each side, one end of the spring is attached and the spring extends directly toward the center and is attached at its opposite end near the center. The ends of the spring project upwardly, and the middle portion is concave and comes down close to the board. Near the central portion, slight, lateral projections turn out and up leaving the part of the spring which presses against the cards (see Fig. 2) rounded, convex and smooth so that the cards will not be injured by the spring pressing against them. The spring holds the cards by pressing against the center of the backs of the cards, and the spring being highly polished or very smooth, will hold the cards securely and at the same time will not mark or soil them. The lateral projection being curved outwardly and upwardly makes it very convenient to raise the spring slightly when sliding the cards under, and as they are slipped under on the rounded, smooth portion of the center, they are not marred or marked in the least. The spring, B', is a modification of this spring, B, and is made of a flattened coiled spring. This accomplishes practically the same result on account of its being curved on the underside, but the spring, B, is the one preferred by me. It would be possible to use these springs B, without attaching them to the tray at both ends by securing them very strongly at one end, either at the center or outer end, and allowing the opposite end to curve up much in the manner that it would appear were the vertical part at one end cut off on dotted lines at D, so that the cards could be slipped under either at the end, or from the side, as desired.

The form of this tray is immaterial and can be greatly varied. I have indicated by dotted lines how the corners can be cut out for the purpose of economizing material, and the tray could be cut into any fanciful shape desired. As will be seen, my improved holders

and tray are capable of considerable variation without departing from the spirit of my invention.

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

1. In a duplicate whist apparatus, holders
for cards consisting of springs securely at-
tached at each end, the ends upwardly pro-
10 jecting and the middle concave coming close
to the boards, for the purpose specified.

2. In a duplicate whist apparatus, the com-
bination of a tray with holders of metallic

springs attached securely to the board and
curved both laterally and longitudinally so 15
that there is a convex, rounded portion next
to the board to press upon the cards to retain
them, for the purpose specified.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my
hand and seal in the presence of two wit- 20
nesses.

HEBRERT H. EVERARD. [L. S.]

Witnesses:

WALTER S. WOOD,

M. IRENE LONGYEAR.