Feb. 12, 1935. E. F. WRIGHT 1,990,809

GAME

Filed Nov. 11, 1933

FIG. 1.

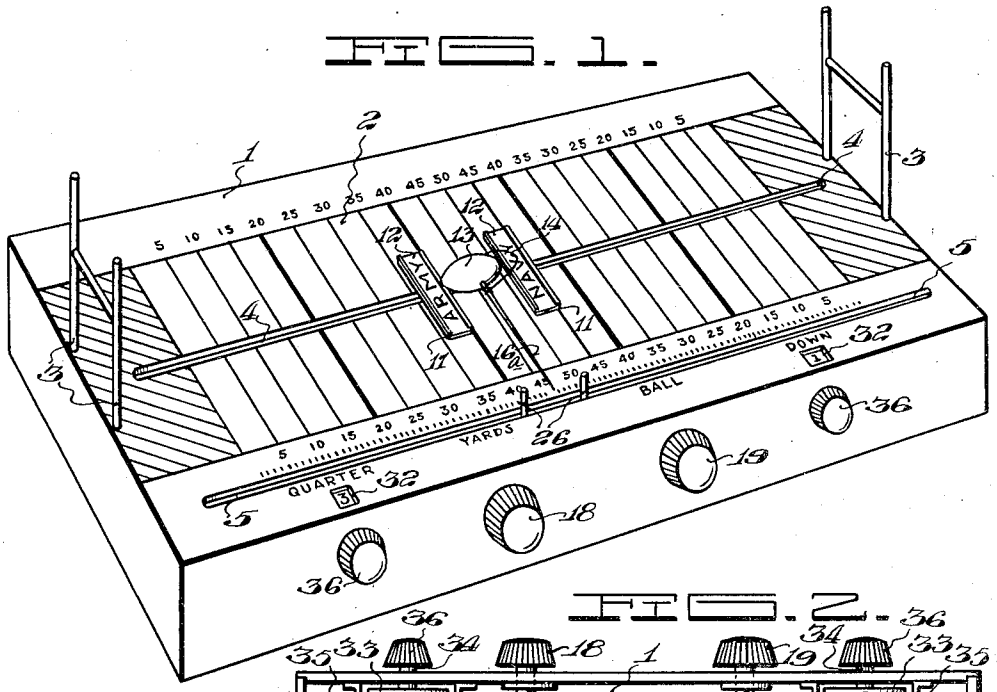


FIG. 2.

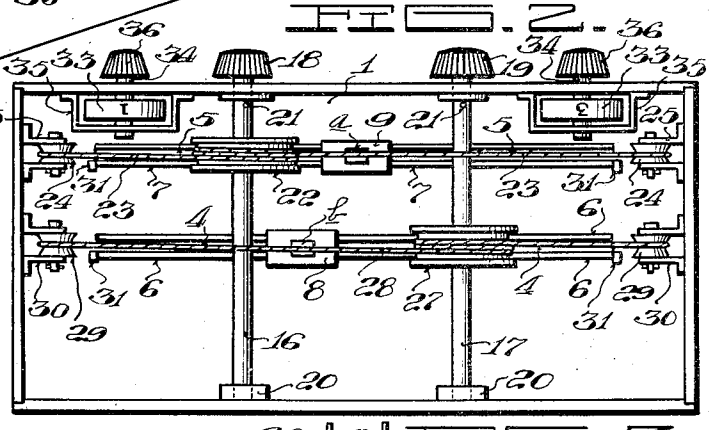


FIG. 4.

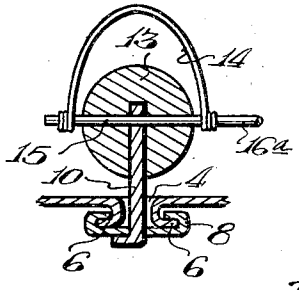


FIG. 3.

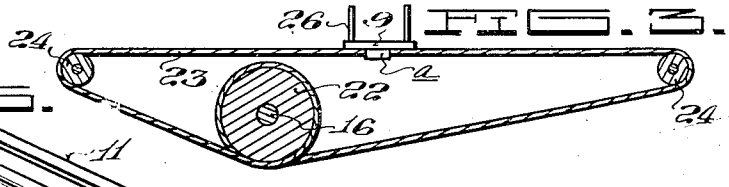


FIG. 5.

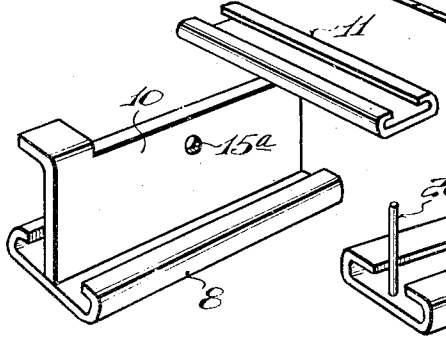
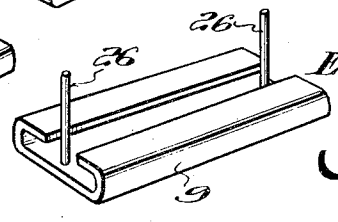


FIG. 6.



Eugene F. Wright
INVENTOR

ATTORNEY

Patented Feb. 12, 1935 1,990,809

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

1,990,809

GAME

Eugene F. Wright, Dallas, Tex.

Application November 11, 1933, Serial No. 697,579

3 Claims. (Cl. 116—120)

This invention relates to games and it has particular reference to a device by which the various plays of games such as football and the like may be followed during the period the game is in progress.

The principal object of the invention resides in a device of the character specified, designed to lend to the enjoyment of radio listeners during the broadcast of football or other games and through the medium of the invention, the operator is enabled to manipulate the same to accord with the various plays and other developments of the actual game in progress as the same is broadcast, thus making the same more realistic.

Another object of the invention is to provide a novel means of indicating the various plays made by the opponents and the position of the ball on the gridiron, making it possible at all times to determine the exact position of the actual ball on the field as the radio announcer's remarks are followed.

With the foregoing objects as paramount, the invention has particular reference to its salient features of construction and arrangement of parts which will become manifest as the description proceeds, taken in connection with the accompanying drawing, wherein:—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a game constructed according to the present invention.

Figure 2 is an underside view of Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a detail view of the preferred form of mechanism for changing the position of the ball on the field as well as the position of the yardage marker.

Figure 4 is a transverse section of the ball, fragmentarily showing the manner in which it is mounted for movement over the field and further shows the device by which the operator may be advised as to which team has the ball.

Figure 5 is a perspective view of the ball mounting, and

Figure 6 is a perspective view of the mounting for the yardage marker.

Continuing more in detail with the drawing, 1 designates a substantially rectangular box or housing on which is printed or otherwise affixed a parallelogram 2, suggestive of a football field of play and at either end is provided the goal posts 3 which are capable of being detached. Through the middle of the parallelogram and penetrating the top of the housing 1, there is provided a slot 4, parallel with which and in one side of the parallelogram is a slot 5 of equal length. As apparent in Figure 4, each of the slots 4 and 5 is provided with outwardly turned, longitudinal flanges 6 and 7 respectively. A sliding clip 8 embraces the flanges 6 of the slot 4 while a similar clip 9 slidingly embraces the flanges 7 of the companion slot 5.

Secured to the clip 8 is an upright member 10, shown in Figures 4 and 5 which passes through the slot 4 and is capable of being moved lengthwise thereof. On either end of the member 10 is secured devices 11, each being intended to retain strips of paper or other material 12 bearing the names of the opposing teams engaged in the game. Mounted upon the member 10, between the two identifying plates or devices 11 is a ball 13. A substantially U-shaped piece of wire 14, mounted for pivotal movement on the pin 15 functions to identify the particular team in possession of the ball. It will be noted that the operator may simply flip the bail 14 from one side to the other as the possession of the ball changes from one team to the other during the course of the game.

Referring to Figures 2 and 3, it will be observed that a pair of parallel shafts extend transversely through the housing 1 and are identified by the characters 16 and 17. To the exterior extremities of these shafts are affixed knobs 18 and 19 respectively. The inner ends of the shafts are journaled in bearings 20 and held against endwise displacement by pins 21. A spool or pulley 22 is fixed upon the shaft 16 and about the same is wound a cord or cable 23. The cord or cable 23 is endless and extends over grooved rollers 24 journaled in brackets 25 mounted on either end of the housing 1. About two turns of the cable around the spool 22 is considered sufficient to prevent slippage of the cable thereon.

To the straight lead of the cable 23, which lies directly under the slot 5 near one side of the housing 1 is secured the sliding clip 9 by clamping, winding, soldering or by any other suitable means at *a*. The clip 9 is provided with a pair of upwardly directed pins 26 which, as apparent in Figure 1, extend through the slot 5. The purpose of these pins is to represent to the operator of the game the yardage required for each team to make the necessary four downs in play.

It is apparent therefore that by rotating the knob 18 carried by the shaft 16, the spool 22 is rotated to operate the cord or cable 23 to thus move the yardage markers or pins 26 along the slot 5. The spool 22 is purposely made large in comparison to the length of the slot 5 in order that with but one revolution of the knob 18, the yardage marker will traverse a considerable distance in the slot, thereby enabling the operator

to follow plays in rapid succession as they develop.

Affixed to the shaft 17 is a spool 27 about which is wound a cable 28 similar to the cable 23. This cable encircles the grooved rollers 29 journaled in brackets 30 at either end of the housing 1 and as in the preceding instance, the straight or upper lead of the cable lies directly under the slot 4 in the top of the housing 1 and to the straight lead of the cable is affixed the sliding clip 8 by soldering or otherwise securing at *b* as in Figure 2. Suitable stops 31 are provided at either end of each of the slots 4 and 5 to prevent the clips 8 and 9 from being advanced too far and perhaps interfering with the operation of the rollers 25 and 29. By rotating the knob 19, the operator may observe the position of the ball 13 on the field as the actual game progresses and as determined by the remarks of the radio announcer.

Windows 32 are provided adjacent the slot 5 in the top of the housing 1, through which is disclosed the numerals on the peripheries of the cylinders 33. These cylinders are mounted on a stub shaft 34, passing through the side wall of the housing 1 and journaled in brackets 35. Knobs 36 are affixed to the external extremities of the stub shafts 34 and by means of these knobs, the operator may change the position of the cylinders 33. Through the window 32 at the left in Figure 1 marked "Quarter" the particular stage of the game is always in view of the operator while the companion window 32 shows the "Downs".

With further reference to Figures 1 and 4, it will be noted that the pin 15 which affords a mounting for the ball 14 likewise functions to hold the ball 13 in position on its mounting 10 by virtue of the fact that it passes not only through the ball 13 but also through an aperture 15*a* near the upper edge of the mounting 10 as in Figure 5. The pin 15 is extended to one side of the ball 13 and overlies the yard line, terminating just short of the slot 5 in a point 16*a*. See Figure 1. This arrangement enables the operator to instantly determine the exact position of the ball on the field or makes it possible for him to place the ball instantly in the actual position announced.

Manifestly, the construction shown is capable of considerable modification and such modification as is considered within the scope and meaning of the appended claims is also considered within the spirit and intent of the invention.

I claim:

1. A game including a housing having imprinted thereon a parallelogram suggestive of a football field of play and having a slot through its longitudinal axis and a second spaced therefrom and in parallel relationship therewith, said parallelogram further having indicia along its sides suggestive of the yardage line, a miniature football, a mounting for said football arranged within said first slot and capable of endwise movement therein, a pair of relatively parallel channel members, one being disposed on either end of said miniature football and carrying means indicative of opponents of the game, a looped member hinged at right angles relative to the axis of said mounting and movable to overlie one or the other of said channel members, a yardage marker mounted for movement in said second slot, means connected to and extending at right angles from said ball mounting to overlie said yardage line, and independent means for actuating said ball mounting and said yardage marker.

2. A game including a housing having indicia thereon representative of a football gridiron and provided with two slots in parallel relationship, one of which extends through the longitudinal axis of said gridiron, the other extending along one side thereof and having indicia suggestive of yardage lines, means mounted for sliding movement in said first slot for supporting a miniature football, a pair of relatively parallel channel members carried by said latter means on opposite sides of the miniature football supported thereby and containing removable strips bearing the names of opponents of the game, means arranged to be moved to overlie one or the other of said strips to indicate the opponent in possession of the ball, means mounted for sliding movement in said second slot for supporting a yardage indicator, means carried by said miniature football to extend to and overlie said yardage lines, and means disposed at the side of said housing operative to transmit sliding motion to the means in said slots.

3. A game including a housing having represented thereon a football field of play and provided with detachable goal posts, said housing further having parallel slots substantially throughout its length and in parallel relationship and a pair of windows at one side thereof, means mounted in one of said slots for sliding movement to denote the position of a ball on a field of play, means mounted in the other of said slots to denote the position of yardage markers in relation to the ball denoting means, a pair of parallel channel members, one of which is disposed on either side of said ball denoting means, interchangeable strips in said channels bearing means identifying the opponents in said game, a hinged member arranged to be moved to overlie one of said strips to denote the opponent in possession of the ball, means carried by said ball denoting means extending at right angles with respect to said ball toward the side line of said field of play, means mounted to be visible through said windows for denoting the various stages and status of the game as the same progresses and means for actuating each of said means.

EUGENE F. WRIGHT.