Aug. 9, 1949. J. A. SINCLAIR 2,478,429

SIMULATED BASEBALL GAME

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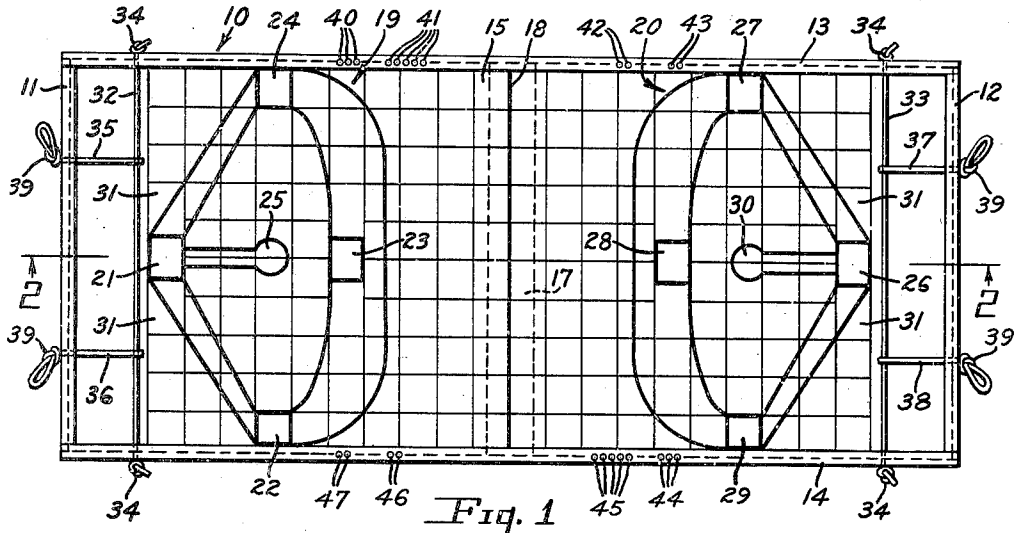


Fig. 1

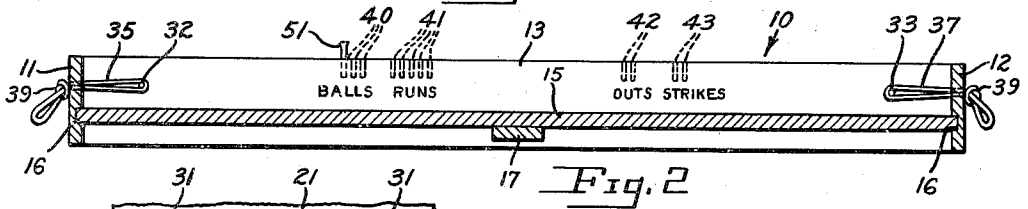


Fig. 2

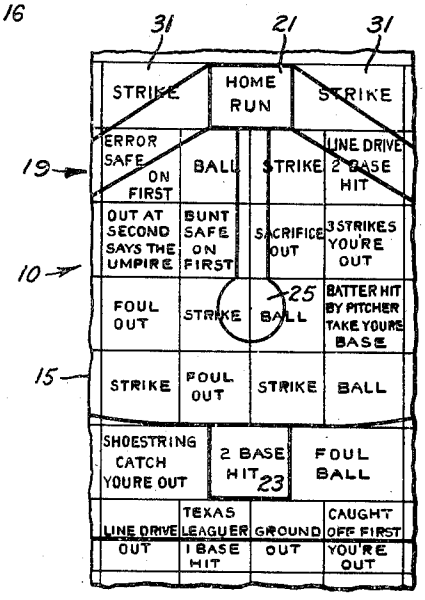


Fig. 3

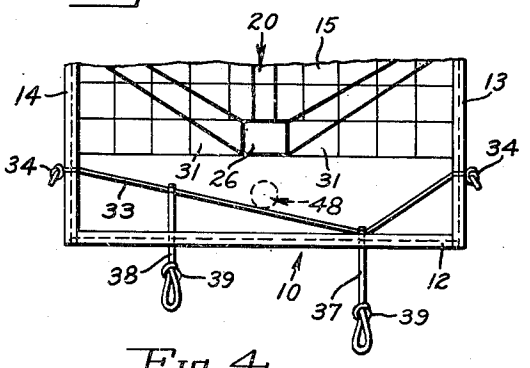


Fig. 4



Fig. 7



Fig. 8

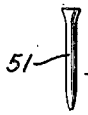


Fig. 9



Fig. 5



Fig. 6

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SIMULATED BASEBALL GAME

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1 Claim. (Cl. 273—89)

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This invention relates to new and useful improvements in games and has particular relation to a game apparatus which may be used to play a game in simulation of baseball.

The objects and advantages of the invention will become apparent from a consideration of the following detailed description taken in connection with the accompanying drawing wherein a satisfactory embodiment of the invention is shown. However, it is to be understood that the invention is not limited to the details disclosed but includes all such variations and modifications as fall within the spirit of the invention and the scope of the appended claim.

In the drawing:

Fig. 1 is a top plan view of the game board of the invention, certain identifying data on various surfaces of the board being omitted;

Fig. 2 is a longitudinal sectional view taken along the line 2—2 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is an enlarged plan view of a portion of the board suggesting some of the markings on the various squares or rectangles thereof;

Fig. 4 is a plan view of one end portion of the board with the elastic or ball projecting means in a cocked position;

Figs. 5 and 6 are plan and edge views, respectively, of the playing piece used as a ball;

Figs. 7 and 8 are similar views of one of the pieces used to represent a player; and

Fig. 9 is an enlarged view of one of the pins employed in keeping track of the game.

Referring in detail to the drawing, the game board 10 of the invention is shown as comprising a frame including end members 11 and 12, side members 13 and 14, and a bottom 15, the edges of which are enclosed by said frame and the upper surface of which comprises a playing field. As herein disclosed, the frame is made of wood, the side members being nailed or otherwise secured against the end members.

Bottom 15 may be of composition board, as "masonite" and to secure the same against excessive warping it has its edges received in grooves 16 formed in the frame members intermediate their upper and lower edges. In this way the bottom is secured in place without the necessity of driving nails into it and the bottom is further secured and held against warping by a brace or cross-strap 17 located against the mid portion of the underside of the bottom and having its ends anchored to the frame side members 13 and 14.

The upper surface of the bottom 15 is printed or otherwise marked off to provide a pair of similar playing fields separated by the heavy line

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18. This playing surface may be formed by printing on a sheet which is glued or otherwise secured to the bottom board, whether of wood or composition material, plastic or the like. Thus, at one end of the board is a baseball diamond 19 while at the other end is a similar diamond 20. The diamonds are arranged opposite one another or with their outfields in adjacent relation.

As shown, diamond 19 includes a home plate 21, first base 22, second base 23, and third base 24, with connecting paths and a pitcher's box 25. Similarly, diamond 20 includes a home plate 26, first base 27, second base 28, third base 29, and a pitcher's box 30.

The whole of each diamond is preferably outlined with relatively heavy lines, the entire upper surface, except at the extreme ends of the bottom 15, being printed or marked off into squares or rectangles each carrying (see Fig. 3) one or more printed words. Thus, the elongated rectangles 31 at each side of the home plate of each diamond carry the word "Strike" while other of the squares or rectangles carry designations such as "Ball," "Batter out," "Two-base hit," "Caught off first, you're out," "Safe on first," "Three strikes, you're out," etc.

Across each end portion of the game board and just beyond the printed playing field are resilient means 32 and 33 to be used for projecting a playing piece over a playing field. As here shown, such means 32 and 33 each comprise a strip of rubber extending transversely of the board passing through aligned openings in the side frame members 13 and 14 and knotted at the outer sides of such members as at 34. It will be understood that resilient means other than the rubber strips 32 and 33 may be employed, as small diameter coil springs or the like may be used. Further, it will be understood that whatever means is used for projecting a playing piece, the same may be anchored otherwise than through the employment of the knots 34.

Associated with the elastic or projecting means 32 are a pair of straps 35 and 36 while similar means 37 and 38 are associated with the elastic or projecting means 33. The means 35, 36, 37 and 38 are each shown as in the form of a rubber band or some looped device through one end portion of which the members 32 and 33 pass while the other ends of the straps are carried through openings in the end members 11 and 12 of the frame and at the outer sides of such members knotted as at 39. The knots 39 are merely to limit movement of the straps 35, 36, 37 and 38 through the openings in the end frame members 11 and 12,

In the upper edge of the frame member 13, three sockets 40 are provided in a group and then there are a series of sockets 41 and two groups 42 and 43 of such sockets, there being two sockets in each of the latter groups. A similar arrangement of sockets numbered 44, 45, 46 and 47 are provided in the upper edge of the frame member 14.

Associated with such sockets are markings on the inner surface of the respective frame members and as shown, associated with each of the sockets 40 and 44 is the word "Balls," associated with each of the sockets 41 and 45 is the word "Runs," associated with each of the sets of sockets 42 and 46 is the word "Outs," and associated with each of the sets of sockets 43 and 47 is the word "Strikes."

The pieces used in playing the game include a relatively thick disc 48, the upper and lower surfaces of which may be marked to represent stitching, as at 49, and this piece comprises the "ball" in the playing of the game. A number of pieces 50 (Figs. 7 and 8) also in the form of smaller discs are provided and such pieces represent "men" in the playing of the game. A number of pins 51 (Fig. 9) are provided for use in connection with the various sockets 40—47 for keeping track of the various developments of the game.

Preferably, two of the balls are provided for each game and preferably, the balls are of different colors so that, for example, one team (a team may be one or more individuals) may play with a ball colored red while the other team plays with a ball colored blue. Similarly, men 50 are provided in sets colored in accordance with the coloring of the balls, and the same is true of the pins 51.

When playing the game, two teams (each comprising one or more players as above stated) play, one team taking each end of the board. For example, the red team may use the diamond 19 while the blue team uses the diamond 20. In such instance, the red team will have the discs 50 which are red, the pins 51 which are red, as well as the red ball 48, and the blue team will have the corresponding pieces which are colored blue.

The first team begins to play and the ball 48 may be played from the home plate 21, or from any position directly in back of such plate. The elastic element may be snapped from a straight across position to hit the ball and send it down the field. The block on which the ball lands will have printed information as to whether it is a strike, or what kind of a hit, foul ball, etc. The number of balls on the batter is kept track of by inserting pins 51 into the socket 40 or 44 (depending on which team is at bat) and the number of strikes by inserting pins in the sockets 43 and 47 (depending on which team is at bat). In like manner, the number of outs against the team will be recorded by inserting pins in the sockets 42 or 46 and the runs by inserting pins in the sockets 41 or 45.

Assuming that the blue team is at bat and using the diamond 20, the first player projects

the ball down the field by using the elastic 33. He may draw the elastic back and let it fly to hit the ball from the home plate, or, he may hold the ball and use it for a means to draw the elastic back and then release the ball to have it propelled down the field. Should the ball stop on a square marked "One base," "Two base," or "Three base" hit then one of the pieces 50, representing a man, will be placed on the proper base.

If the block in which the ball lands is a strike or a ball, that is recorded by using one of the pins 51, and if it is an out, that is similarly recorded. The men are advanced about the bases in accordance with the usual rules of baseball. For example, if there is a man or first and the next batter gets a one base hit or a walk, the man on first will be advanced to second, etc.

In order that the players may control the direction of the ball, the loops 35—38 are provided. In Fig. 4, assuming the ball to be in the dotted line position with the loop 37 drawn back and holding the elastic 31 in the position shown, when the elastic is released the ball will be projected on somewhat of a diagonal. However, it is the loop 38 which is held back and the elastic 33 which is released if the ball is to be projected on the opposite diagonal. Thus, by holding the elastic 33 cocked to one side or the other, the path along which the ball will move may be controlled.

Each side takes its turn at bat, as in the usual rules of baseball, and the number of innings to be played having been decided in advance, nine for a full length game, and less for a partial game, the team having the most runs in the previously agreed number of innings is, of course, the winner. With the players, men and pins 55 in color, progress of the game may very conveniently be scored. Score cards (not shown) may be provided for keeping track of the scores of the individual players, innings, runs, etc.

Having thus set forth the nature of my invention, what I claim is:

In a game, a board having upstanding side flanges and an end flange, the upper surface of said board being flat whereby a playing piece may be projected upon it, an elongated tensioned elastic member secured at its ends to said side flanges and disposed in parallel spaced relation to said end flange, and a pair of pull members connected to said elastic member at spaced points at each side of its center point, said end flange having guide holes through which said pull members are extended to provide gripping ends.

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