**J. M. Currin**

**Auction Bridge Score Indicator**

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### Table 1: Score Distribution

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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### Figure 1: Indicator Design

- **Inventor:** J. M. Currin
- **Patent No.:** 1,555,190
- **Application Date:** Sept. 29, 1925
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- **Application Date:** Sept. 29, 1925

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**Signature:**

[Signature Image]
To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, James M. Currin, a citizen of the United States, residing at Richmond, in the county of Henrico and State of Virginia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Auction-Bridge-Score Indicators; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification.

This invention relates to score indicators for computing and recording scores made in playing auction bridge.

As is understood, in auction bridge, any one of the four suits may be the trump or one of the players may secure the bid on "no trumps" and there are seven different values for tricks during each hand, depending upon the number of tricks taken. The values of the tricks also vary according to the trump on which the bid is secured, making a total of thirty-five different scores for tricks taken during a hand. There are also eight different values for the honors, or eight different combinations of honor cards, in each suit as well as several combinations of honors that may be held when the bid is on "no trumps". Thus, it will be seen, that one's memory can not be relied upon to ascertain the scores made but that the scoring of the various points made by the players on each hand is more or less complicated and much time is apt to be consumed in calculating the scores. This is especially true in cases of persons not entirely familiar with the game and it is the primary object of the present invention to devise a score indicator that will permit any one to quickly, easily and accurately determine the value of the tricks taken and honors held by the players.

A further object is to provide the indicator with a scoring sheet so located with respect to the places where the scores are indicated as to prevent any confusion in the entering up of the scores.

In the accompanying drawings—

Figure 1 is a top plan view of the indicator constructed according to the present invention;

Fig. 2 is a plan view of the card carrying the various indications of the values of the tricks and honors and the indications of the suits or trumps;

Fig. 3 is a sectional view on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1.

Referring to the drawings, the score indicator comprises a casing having a plurality of display openings 10, 11 and 12 and slidably mounted within the casing is a card 14 having all the necessary data thereon for indicating, at the several display openings in the casing, the various points scored. The operation of the indicator is very simple, a single operation or movement of card 14 relatively to the openings in casing top 13 being the only step necessary to indicate in one opening 11 the trump, in a second opening 10 the points to be scored for tricks taken and in a third opening 12 the score made for honors held. To obtain this simplicity of manipulation the display openings 10, 11 and 12 in casing top 13 are preferably arranged in alinement vertically of the casing, the lower opening 10 being for the trick values, the middle opening 11 for the trump indications and the upper opening 12 for the honor values. Printed, or otherwise marked, on the casing opposite the opening 10 are the numerals 1 to 7, arranged lengthwise of the opening, these numerals indicating the odd tricks that may be taken each hand, and similarly arranged on the casing, opposite opening 12, are the various combinations of honors to which scoring values are attached. As will be understood, opening 10 is of sufficient length to expose seven-value indications for the seven odd tricks and opening 12 is made long enough to display the values of the six combinations of honors together with the honor scores allowed for "little slams" and "grand slams".

The indications of the several trumps, i.e., clubs, diamonds, hearts, spades and "no trumps" are arranged on the top face of card 14 in alinement with each other and opening 11, as indicated at 15, the row of trump indications extending at right angles to the alined openings in the casing top. Above the trump indications 15, and adapted to register with opening 12, is a table 16 of the various values of the different combinations of honors, and below said trump indications is a table 17 of the values of the tricks. The values of the honors and tricks vary, depending upon what the trump is for each hand, clubs being of the lowest value, diamonds next, hearts next, spades next, and "no trumps" being the highest. To allow for these differences in values and to simplify the operation of the indicator, the
values of the honors and tricks of each suit are arranged on card 14 in alignment with the respective trumps, that is, the values of the honors and tricks when clubs are trumps are in a straight line with the club indication, those for diamonds in a straight line with the diamond indication, and so on with those for the hearts, spades and no trumps. These rows of trick and honor value indications and trump indications extend parallel to the openings 10, 11 and 12, in order that all the honor and trick values of any one trump will be exposed through openings 10 and 12, when that particular trump indication is exposed in opening 11.

With the trump indications 15, honor value indications 16 and trick value indications 17 arranged relatively to each other in this manner and relatively to the openings 10, 11 and 12, the scores made during a hand may be determined by a single movement of card 14 within the casing, as it is only necessary to slide the card transversely of the casing until the trump indication of the trump for the hand is exposed in opening 11.

All the trick and honor value indications for that trump will then be exposed in the openings 10 and 12, the values of the seven odd tricks appearing in alignment with the seven numerals on the casing and the values of the honors appearing opposite the honor combinations on the casing alongside of opening 12.

This particular arrangement of the display openings and the several sets of indications 15, 16 and 17 on card 14 is of particular importance in connection with the provision of a scoring pad on the casing. As is well understood, the points for honors are scored "above the line", as it is expressed, and the points for tricks are scored "below the line". The scoring pad 18 is, therefore, secured to the casing top 13 by suitable means, such as a spring clip 19, and is provided with a scoring space 20 opposite opening 12 for scoring honors and another scoring space 21 opposite opening 10 for scoring points made on tricks. With this arrangement of the display openings 10 and 12 and the scoring spaces on pad 20, it is an easy matter for the score keeper to first ascertain the scores on the scoring tables and then write down those scores in the spaces immediately opposite the openings. All confusion is eliminated and very little time is consumed.

The construction of the casing and the means for slidably securing the card therein as, of course, be varied, but in the preferred construction the casing consists essentially of the top 13 and a base 22 made of sheet metal. The sides 23 of the casing are formed by bending the edge portions of the base and top, the top being made slightly larger than the base, whereby the flange formed around the edge of the base may telescope in that formed on the top.

An elongated slot 24, extending parallel to the trump indications 15 on the card is formed in casing top 13 and a pin 25 on said card projects upwardly through the slot. By grasping pin 25 the card may be slid back and forth in the casing to bring any one of the five trump indications into registry with opening 11, the movement of the card being limited by the engagement of the pin with the ends of the slot. To prevent any movement of the card transversely of slot 24, a slot 26 extending parallel to slot 24, is formed in the card and a pin 27 mounted on the base 22 of the casing projects upwardly through said slot 26.

The card is prevented from sliding loosely back and forth in the casing by a spring 28 mounted on either the card or the interior of the casing, but preferably on the card as shown, the frictional engagement between the spring and the casing being sufficiently light to allow the card to be easily shifted to the various desired positions in the casing.

As the essential feature of the present invention is in arranging the several sets of indications with respect to the display openings so that all possible scores for one hand will be indicated by a single movement of the card 14, it will be apparent that the arrangement above described as the one preferred may be varied without departing from the spirit of the invention.

What is claimed is:

1. In an auction bridge score indicator, a casing having a series of three display openings therein, a slidably mounted card within the casing, a series of trump indications, a series of trick value indications and a series of honor value indications each arranged on said card relatively to the openings whereby a movement of the card in the casing to display a trump indication in one of the openings in the casing will simultaneously display all the trick value indications of said trump in the second opening and all of the honor value indications of said trump in the other opening in the casing.

2. In an auction bridge score indicator, a casing having a series of display openings therein, a movably mounted card within the casing, a series of trump indications, a series of trick value indications and a series of honor value indications, each arranged on said card relatively to the openings whereby a movement of the card in the casing to display a trump indication in one of the openings in the casing will simultaneously display all of the trick value indications of said trump in the second opening and all of the honor value indications of said trump in the other opening in the casing.

JAMES M. CURRIN.