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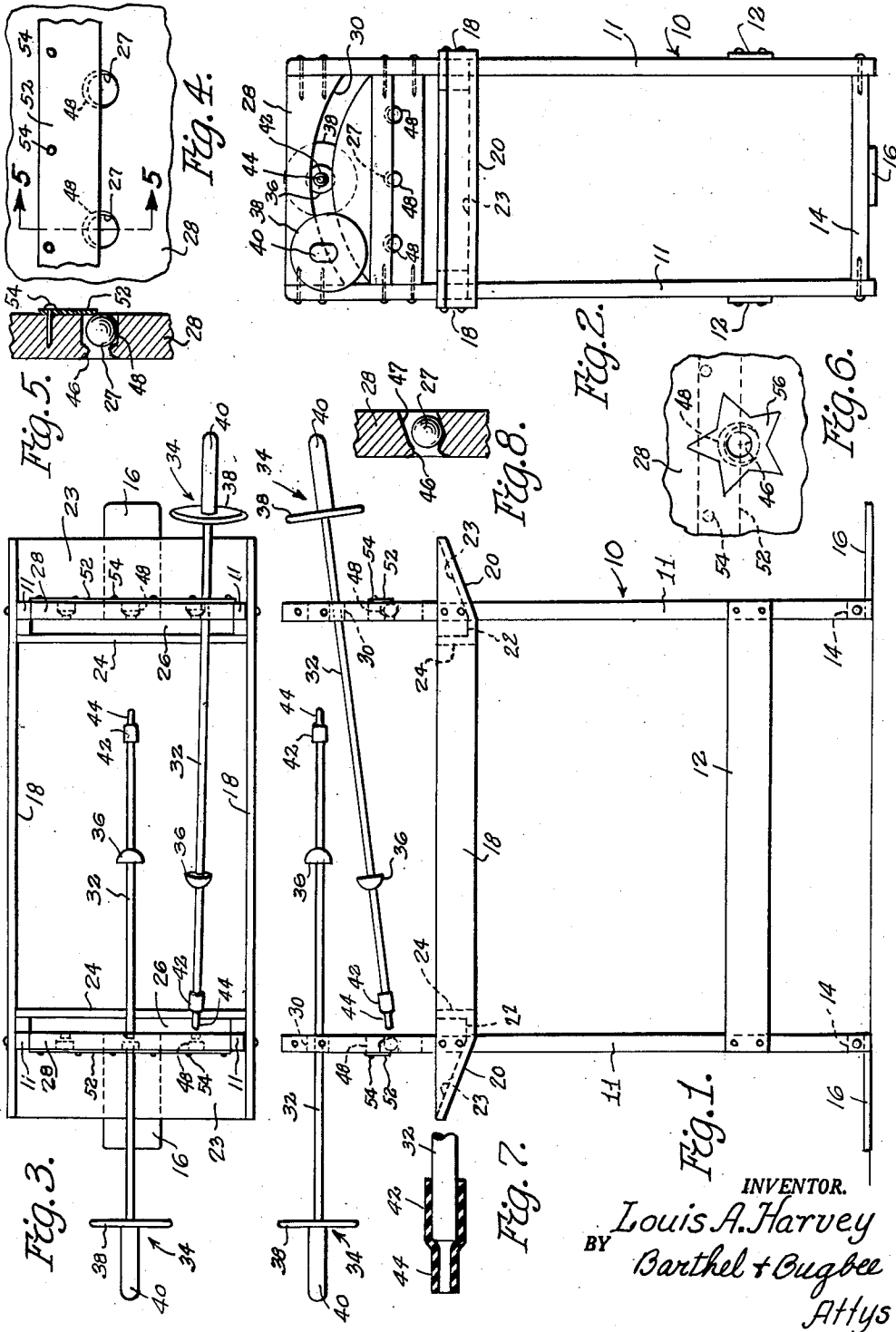
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FENCING GAME

Filed Oct. 27, 1955

2 Sheets-Sheet 1



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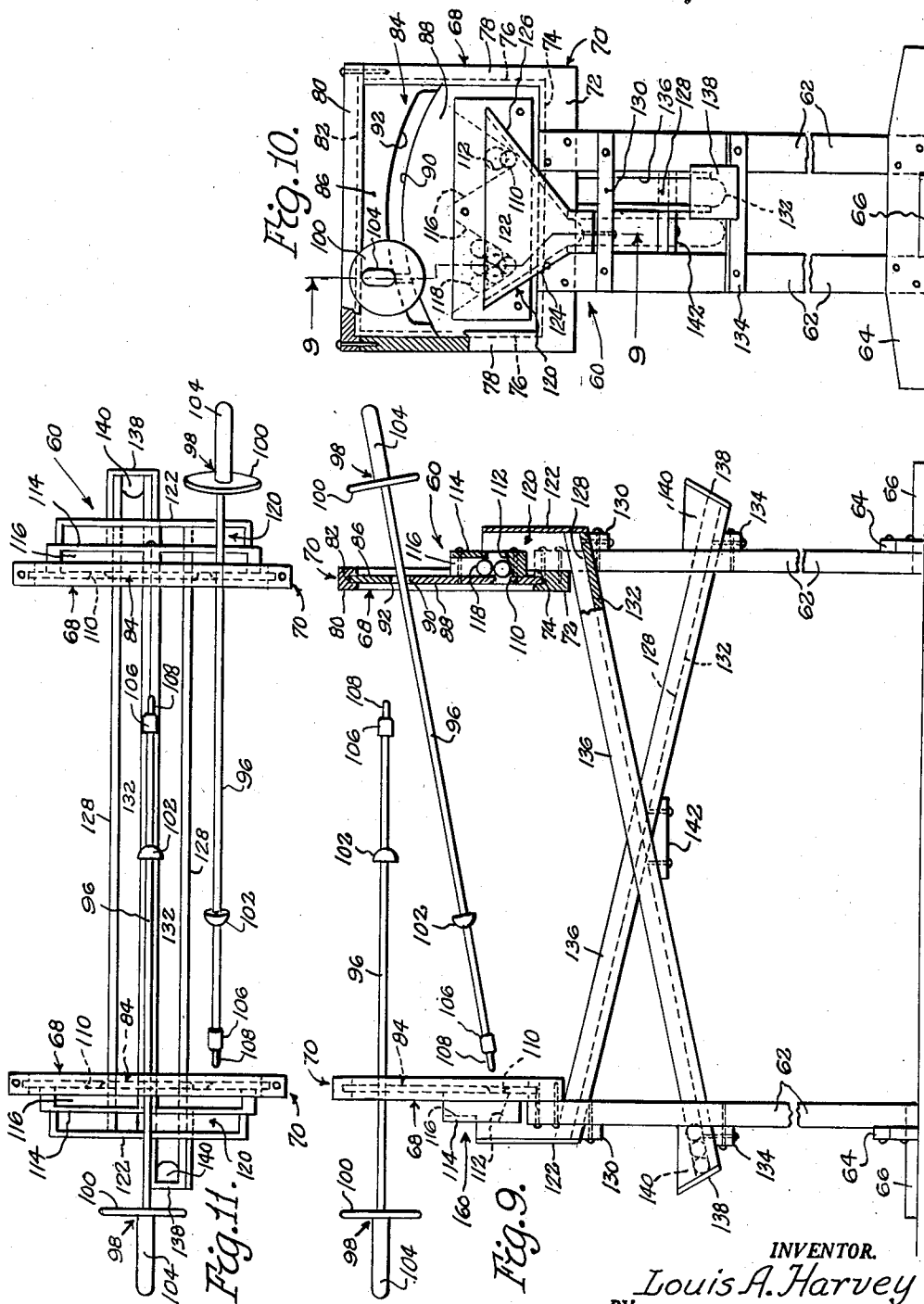
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FENCING GAME

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13 Claims. (Cl. 273—85)

This invention relates to games and, in particular, to sports-simulating games.

One object of this invention is to provide a fencing game wherein two opposing players may parry and thrust with captive fencing foils of a special pattern which are prevented from being withdrawn or advanced beyond predetermined distances in order to protect the players from injury.

Another object is to provide a fencing game of the foregoing character wherein targets are provided and adapted to be engaged by an accurate thrust of one of the fencing foils, with the result that the success of a player may be judged by the number of targets he is able to engage with the tip of his foil during a given period or for a given length of game.

Another object is to provide a fencing game, as set forth in the preceding object, wherein the targets consist of displaceable target objects, such as small balls, for example marbles, yieldably mounted in target holes into which the forward end of the fencing foil may penetrate, the score being determined by the number of target objects which a player may displace from the target holes of his opponent.

Another object is to provide a fencing game, as set forth above, wherein the foils are movably mounted in slots in a retaining member so as to be movable to and fro and back and forth in order to obtain the greatest permissible freedom in thrusting and parrying without exceeding the safe limits thereof, as established by the retaining elements on the fencing foils.

Another object is to provide a fencing game, as set forth in the objects above, wherein means is provided for causing the target balls, when displaced by thrusts of an opponent's foil, to roll downward into receiving pockets or troughs where they are visible for scoring purposes and accessible for removal purposes.

Another object is to provide a fencing game of the foregoing character which is mounted in a frame structure having foot rests secured to the lower portion thereof, these foot rests being adapted to receive one foot of each player so as to hold down the frame structure and prevent its undesired displacement during progress of the game.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will become apparent during the course of the following description of the drawings, wherein:

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a fencing game according to one form of the present invention;

Figure 2 is a right-hand end elevation of the fencing game shown in Figure 1;

Figure 3 is a top plan view of the fencing game shown in Figures 1 and 2;

Figure 4 is an enlarged fragmentary elevation of the target portion shown in the upper part of Figure 2;

Figure 5 is a vertical section taken along the line 5—5 in Figure 4;

Figure 6 is an enlarged fragmentary front elevation of one of the target holes, surrounded by a target indicator or background;

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Figure 7 is an enlarged fragmentary longitudinal section through the tip of a fencing foil shown in Figures 1 and 3, showing the construction thereof;

Figure 8 is a vertical cross-section similar to Figure 5, but showing a modification with an upwardly-inclined target hole used in place of the resilient detent flap of Figure 5;

Figure 9 is a side elevation of a modified fencing game according to another form of the present invention, with the upper right-hand corner in approximately vertical section taken along the line 9—9 in Figure 10;

Figure 10 is a right-hand end elevation, partly in section, of the fencing game shown in Figure 9; and

Figure 11 is a top plan view of the fencing game shown in Figures 9 and 10.

Referring to the drawings in detail, Figure 1 shows a fencing game, generally designated 10, consisting of a framework of four uprights 11 interconnected by longitudinal and cross members 12 and 14 with step plates 16 secured to the latter for receiving the weight of the players in order to hold the framework from slipping along the floor. The upper parts of the uprights are interconnected by longitudinal members 18 and cross members 20, each with a bottom wall 22, inclined back wall 23 and front wall 24 forming ball pockets 26 for receiving marbles 27 used in playing the game. The upper ends of each pair of uprights 11 are interconnected by boards 28 which are the main elements of the game.

Each board 28 near its upper end is provided with an arcuate slot 30 (Figure 2) through which the blade in the form of a rod 32 of a fencing foil 34 passes, held in place by retaining collars 36 and 38 so as to permit lunging when the foil is held by the handle 40 but to prevent complete withdrawal. The forward end of each rod 32 carries a rubber tip 42 which has a reduced diameter end 44 adapted to enter any one of a series of target holes 46 in the opposing board 28. The rearward sides of the holes 46 are counterbored as at 48 (Figure 5) to receive balls 27, such as marbles, which are yieldably held in place by resilient flaps 52 of rubber or the like nailed to the board as at 54. The flaps 52 extend only partway across the counterbores 48 so as to permit easy ejection of the marbles 27 when they are pushed out by the entry of the reduced diameter portion 44 of the foil tip 42 through the particular hole 46. The target holes 46 may be emphasized by a target background 56 (Figure 6) or may be inclined, as at 47 (Figure 8) to provide gravity detention of the balls 27.

In playing the game, each player grasps the handle 40 of his foil 34 with one hand and puts his forward foot on the foot plate 16 in order to hold down his end of the framework. Each player then thrusts and parries with the object of defending the target holes 46 in his particular board 28 while at the same time attempting to thrust the reduced diameter tip 44 of his foil blade 32 into one of the target holes 46 in his opponent's board 48, pushing the ball 27 out of the hole 46 so that it drops downward into the pocket 26. The number of the marbles in the pockets 26 measures the score for the players. Since the fencing foils 34 are held captive by the retaining collars 36 and 38, neither of the players can thrust far enough to injure the other players, yet the slots 30 provide freedom for manipulating the foil 34 to parry the opponent's thrusts.

The modified fencing game, generally designated 60, shown in Figures 9, 10 and 11, is similar in principle to the fencing game 10 shown in Figures 1 to 6 inclusive, and differs in certain details. The fencing game 60 consists of four uprights 62 which at their lower ends are interconnected by cross members 64 to which foot rests 66 are attached and adapted to receive one foot of each player in order to prevent displacement of the game 60

during play. Mounted on the upper ends of the uprights 62 are foil and target holders, generally designated 68. Each holder 68 consists of a rectangular border frame 70 having a bottom member 72 secured to the upper ends of the uprights 62 and horizontally-grooved as at 74 along its upper edge. The groove 74 connects at its opposite ends with vertical grooves 76 in side members 78 (Figure 10) and the top of the border frame is closed by a removable cross bar 80 containing a horizontal groove 82 on its lower side.

Mounted in each border frame 70 and held in position by the grooves 74, 76 and 82 is a foil mounting board 84 consisting of lower and upper parts 86 and 88 respectively. The lower part 86 is provided with an arcuate upper edge 90 and the upper part 88 with an arcuate-edged cutaway portion 92, these in cooperation forming an arcuate slot 94. Mounted in the slot 94 is the rod-shaped blade 96 of a fencing foil 98 held in place by retaining collars 100 and 102 respectively and provided with a handle 104. The forward end of the blade 96 carries a rubber tip 106 having a reduced diameter forward end 108 which is adapted to enter any one of a series of target holes 110 in the opposing board 84. The target holes 110 are provided rearwardly with upwardly and rearwardly-inclined counterbores 112 in magazine blocks 114, which have funnel-shaped receivers 116 opening at their lower ends into the counterbore 112. Accordingly, when a supply of marbles or other target balls 118 is provided in the receiver 116, the lowermost ball 118 will drop downwardly into the inclined counterbore 112 and come to rest against the rim of the target hole 110, which has a diameter slightly smaller than the ball 118 in order to prevent its passing through.

The rearward end of each counterbore 112 opens into a funnel-shaped chute 120 having a rear wall 122 and downwardly-converging side walls 124 and 126 and wide enough to extend beneath the outlets of the counterbores 112. At its lower end, the chute 120 opens into the upper end of a trough 128 which rests upon a cross member 130 secured to the uprights 62 and extends downwardly toward the opposite side of the game. Each trough 128 has a bottom wall 132 adapted to rest upon and be secured to a cross member 134 secured to and extending between the uprights 62. The troughs 128 have side walls 136 and are arranged side by side so as to pass one another, the chutes 120 being laterally-offset (Figure 10) to permit this. The lower end of each trough 128 terminates in an inclined end wall 138 forming a ball pocket 140. The midportions of the oppositely-inclined troughs 128 are interconnected beneath their bottom walls 132 by a cross brace 142.

In playing the modified fencing game 60, a supply of marbles or other target balls 118 is placed in each magazine 116 so that a target ball 118 drops into each inclined counterbore 112 behind each target hole 110. Each player then grasps the handle 104 of his foil 98 with one hand and puts his forward foot on his foot plate 66 in order to hold down his end of the framework, while he thrusts and parries against his opponent's foil 98 with the object simultaneously of defending the target holes 110 in his particular foil mounting board 84 and thrusting the reduced diameter tip 108 of his foil blade 96 into one of the target holes 110 in his opponent's foil mounting board 84. When this is accomplished, the marble or other ball 118 so engaged is pushed upward along the upwardly-inclined counterbore 112 by the foil tip 108 so that it drops into the chute 120, whence it rolls downward along the trough 128 into the receiving pocket 140. As before, the number of the marbles displaced by each player in this manner indicates the score achieved by him.

What I claim is:

1. A fencing game comprising an elongated frame including a pair of upright structures disposed in longitudinally-spaced relationship, a thrust-limiting device

anchorage mounted on each structure, a pair of fencing foil thrust-limiting devices connected one to each anchorage, a pair of fencing foils pointed toward one another in overlapping relationship and connected one to each thrust-limiting device, each thrust-limiting device being constructed and arranged to limit the thrust of its respective foil to a predetermined thrust distance away from its respective anchorage toward the opposing anchorage, and a target device mounted on each structure within the thrusting range of the tip of the opposing foil and responsive to scoring contact therewith of said opposing foil tip for automatically indicating such scoring contact.

2. A fencing game comprising an elongated frame including a pair of upright structures disposed in longitudinally-spaced relationship, a thrust-limiting device anchorage mounted on each structure, a pair of fencing foil thrust-limiting devices connected one to each anchorage, a pair of fencing foils pointed toward one another in overlapping relationship and connected one to each thrust-limiting device, each thrust-limiting device being constructed and arranged to limit the thrust of its respective foil to a predetermined thrust distance away from its respective anchorage toward the opposing anchorage, and a target device mounted on each structure within the thrusting range of the tip of the opposing foil and responsive to scoring contact therewith of said opposing foil tip for automatically indicating such scoring contact, said target device including a target object and a target object holder secured to one of said structures and yieldingly and detachably holding said target object.

3. A fencing game comprising an elongated frame including a pair of upright structures disposed in longitudinally-spaced relationship, a thrust-limiting device anchorage mounted on each structure, a pair of fencing foil thrust-limiting devices connected one to each anchorage, a pair of fencing foils pointed toward one another in overlapping relationship and connected one to each thrust-limiting device, each thrust-limiting device being constructed and arranged to limit the thrust of its respective foil to a predetermined thrust distance away from its respective anchorage toward the opposing anchorage, and a target device mounted on each structure within the thrusting range of the tip of the opposing foil and responsive to scoring contact therewith of said opposing foil tip for automatically indicating such scoring contact, said target device including a ball and a ball holder secured to one of said structures and yieldingly and detachably holding said ball.

4. A fencing game comprising an elongated frame including a pair of upright structures disposed in longitudinally-spaced relationship, a thrust-limiting device anchorage mounted on each structure, a pair of fencing foil thrust-limiting devices connected one to each anchorage, a pair of fencing foils pointed toward one another in overlapping relationship and connected one to each thrust-limiting device, each thrust-limiting device being constructed and arranged to limit the thrust of its respective anchorage toward the opposing anchorage, and a target device mounted on each structure within the thrusting range of the tip of the opposing foil, said target device including a ball and a ball holder secured to one of said structures and yieldingly and detachably holding said ball, each ball holder comprising a member having a rearwardly-extending ball passageway therein with a restricted entrance sufficiently large for the passage of the foil tip but insufficiently large for the passage of the ball forwardly.

5. A fencing game comprising an elongated frame including a pair of upright structures disposed in longitudinally-spaced relationship, a thrust-limiting device anchorage mounted on each structure, a pair of fencing foil thrust-limiting devices connected one to each anchorage, a pair of fencing foils pointed toward one another in overlapping relationship and connected one to each thrust-

8. A fencing game comprising an elongated frame including a pair of upright structures disposed in longitudinally-spaced relationship, a thrust-limiting device anchorage mounted on each structure, a pair of fencing foil thrust-limiting devices connected one to each anchorage, a pair of fencing foils pointed toward one another in overlapping relationship and connected one to each thrust-limiting device, each thrust-limiting device being constructed and arranged to limit the thrust of its respective foil to a predetermined thrust distance away from its respective anchorage toward the opposing anchorage, and a target device mounted on each structure within the thrusting range of the tip of the opposing foil, said target device including a ball and a ball holder secured to one of said structures and yieldingly and detachably holding said ball, each ball holder comprising a member having a rearwardly extending ball passageway therein with a restricted entrance sufficiently large for the passage of the foil tip but insufficiently large for the passage of the ball forwardly, said ball passageway being inclined upwardly and rearwardly away from said entrance, and a ball maga-

12. A fencing game comprising an elongated frame including a pair of upright structures disposed in longitudinally-spaced relationship, a thrust-limiting device anchored mounted on each structure, a pair of fencing foil thrust-limiting devices connected one to each anchorage, a pair of fencing foils pointed toward one another in overlapping relationship and connected one to each thrust-limiting device, each thrust-limiting device being constructed and arranged to limit the thrust of its respective foil to a predetermined thrust distance away

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from its respective anchorage toward the opposing anchorage, and a target device mounted on each structure within the thrusting range of the tip of the opposing foil, said target device including a ball and a ball holder secured to one of said structures and yieldingly and detachably holding said ball, each ball holder comprising a member having a rearwardly-extending ball passageway therein with a restricted entrance sufficiently large for the passage of the foil tip but insufficiently large for the passage of the ball forwardly, said ball passageway being inclined upwardly and rearwardly away from said entrance, and a ball receiver disposed below and in line with the rearward end of said passageway.

13. A fencing game comprising an elongated frame including a pair of upright structures disposed in longitudinally-spaced relationship, a thrust-limiting device anchorage mounted on each structure, a pair of fencing foil thrust-limiting devices connected one to each anchorage, a pair of fencing foils pointed toward one another in overlapping relationship and connected one to each

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thrust-limiting device, each thrust-limiting device being constructed and arranged to limit the thrust of its respective foil to a predetermined thrust distance away from its respective anchorage toward the opposing anchorage, and a target device mounted on each structure within the thrusting range of the tip of the opposing foil, said frame including an outwardly-projecting hold-down foot rest member mounted on each end of said frame substantially at floor level near the lower end of each of said upright structures.

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