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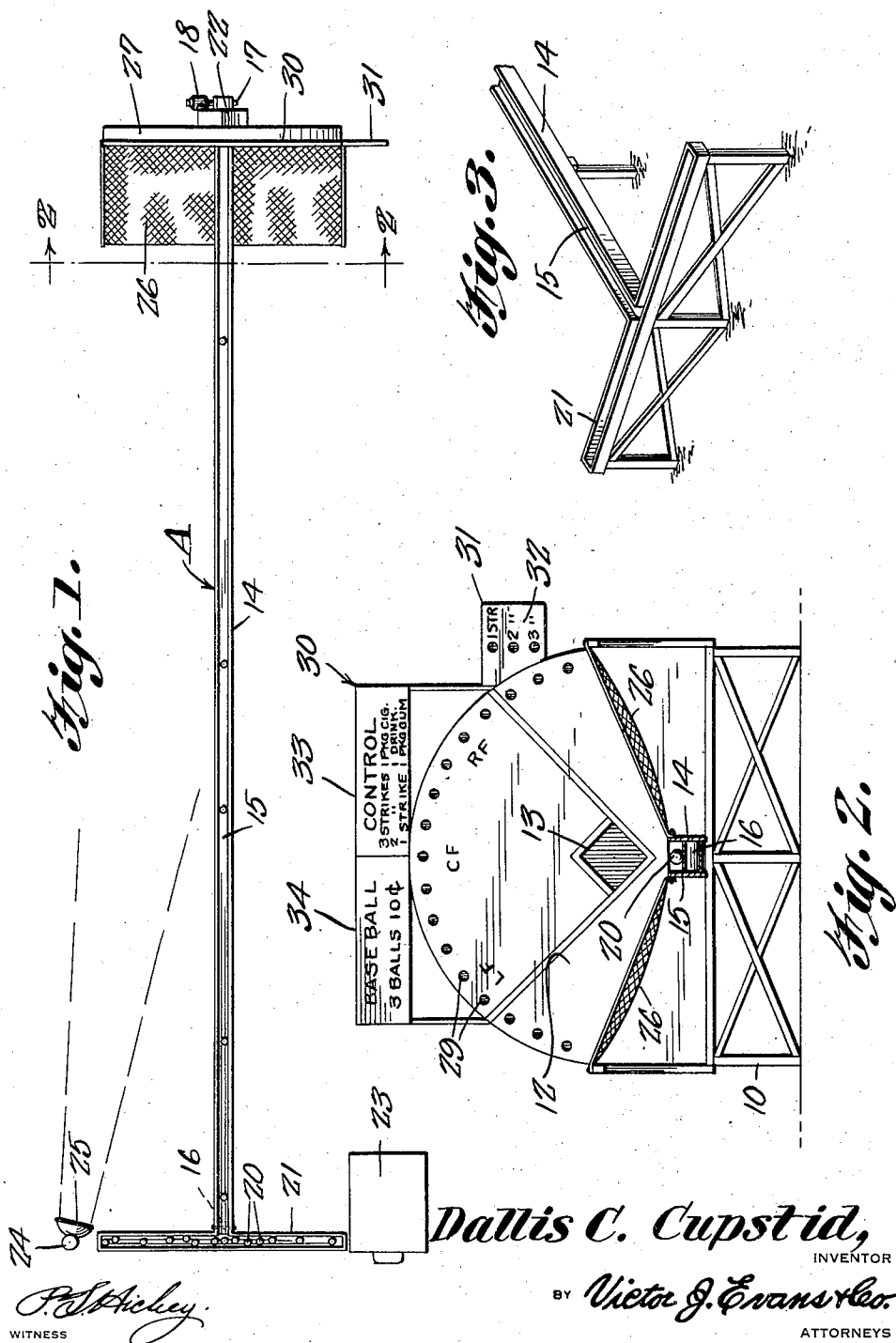
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GAME APPARATUS

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GAME APPARATUS

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1 Claim. (Cl. 273—103)

The invention relates to a game apparatus and more especially to a baseball game appliance.

The primary object of the invention is the provision of an apparatus of this character, wherein through the use of balls a game imitative of baseball can be played, the balls being thrown at a target for scoring purposes particularly that in pitching for the scoring of strikes, these being indicative of an award or prize winning according to the highest number had, the apparatus being of novel construction.

Another object of the invention is the provision of an apparatus of this character, wherein the thrown balls will be retrieved for the purposes of their return to a player, the apparatus in the playing of a game imitative of baseball being entertaining and attractive as it lends interest to a player.

A further object of the invention is the provision of an apparatus of this character, which is simple in construction, reliable and efficient in operation, enables the training in the throwing of a ball or balls in the playing of a game of imitative baseball, strong, durable, and inexpensive to manufacture.

With these and other objects in view, the invention consists in the features of construction, combination and arrangement of parts as will be hereinafter more fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings, which disclose the preferred embodiment of the invention and pointed out in the claim hereunto appended.

In the accompanying drawings:

Figure 1 is a plan view of the apparatus constructed in accordance with the invention.

Figure 2 is a sectional view on the line 2—2 of Figure 1 looking in the direction of the arrows.

Figure 3 is a fragmentary perspective view of the ball retrieving set-up of the apparatus.

Figure 4 is a fragmentary vertical longitudinal sectional view through the apparatus.

Figure 5 is a sectional view on the line 5—5 of Figure 4 looking in the direction of the arrows.

Similar reference characters indicate corresponding parts throughout the several views in the drawings.

Referring to the drawings in detail, A designates generally the apparatus constructed in accordance with the invention and comprises a stand 10 which is of determined length and has rising therefrom a perpendicular target 11 in the form of an upwardly arched board or of partly circular formation having on its forward or its front face a striking field 12 imitative of a baseball diamond divided into an infield and an out-

field, respectively, the latter including center, left and right fields, the infield being constituted by an opening 13 formed in said board 11 and this opening is the scoring zone for the winning of the game played by the apparatus and imitative of the game of baseball.

Centrally of the stand 10 following the longitudinal axis thereof is a horizontally disposed ball retrieving trough 14 in which is arranged an endless conveyor 15 supported by rollers 16, one having its axle 17 connected with an electric power unit in the form of a motor 18 supported upon a bracket or shelf 19 fixedly held outside of the trough 14 and in this manner the conveyor 15 is operated for the travel of the upper stretch of the said conveyor in a forward direction. This forward travel of the upper stretch of the conveyor 15 carries balls 20 delivered onto the same after being thrown at the target 11 for the retrieving of the spent balls and their deposit into a collecting trough or receiver 21 arranged at the front end of the stand and communicative with the trough 14 at the medium of said trough 21, the latter being extended laterally beyond opposite sides of this trough 14 and the location of said trough 21 identifies the pitching station. At this point the balls 20 to be thrown by a player are acquired for such purpose.

Rearwardly of the board 11 is a housing 22 forming a trap leading into the trough 14 at its bottom for balls 20 when successfully thrown through the opening 13 and this effecting a scoring for a player. The balls received in the trap 22 gravitate onto the upper stretch of the conveyor 15 to be retrieved and deposited in the trough 21 at the front end of the apparatus for subsequent acquiring by a player of the game in the use of the apparatus.

Arranged at one end of the trough 21 is a box office 23 where players acquire a status as such for the playing of the game by the use of the apparatus while at the opposite end of the trough upon a pole or post 24 is supported an electric flare light 25 which illuminates the board 11 at the playing field side thereof at night for the use of the apparatus at such time.

On opposite sides of the trough 14 and arranged for a distance thereof starting at the front face of the board 11 are downwardly convergent nets 26 which serve to catch balls 20 on the rebound thereof after striking the playing field 12 of the target and missing entrance through the hole 13 therein whence these balls caught by the nets 26 will gravitate into the trough 14 onto the upper stretch of the conveyor

15 for the retrieving of the spent balls and their deposit in the collector trough 21.

Rearwardly of the target constituted by the board 11 and following the rounded edge thereof is a lamp casement or housing 27 in which are
5 arranged electric lamps 28, the same being illuminated on the closing of an electric circuit by a hand switch (not shown), the board 11 being provided with light emitting openings 29
10 confronting the lamps 28 so that light therefrom will be projected forwardly of the target, the color of the light being preferably red, and in this manner a border illumination of the target is had.

Supported by and rising from and also extending laterally therefrom are panels 30 and 31, respectively, the latter carrying a visible electrically lighted enunciator forming a scoring register 32 manually operated in any suitable manner
15 at the box office 23, this scoring being had by the balls 20 when thrown and passing through the opening 13 and indicative of one, two and three strikes, these scorings entitling a player to a prize or an award. The panel 30 carries indicia 33
20 indicative of prize awards on the scoring of a player when successful in the throwing of a strike or strikes. This indicia 33 is confined to a portion of the board while the other portion carries suitable indicia 34 identifying the name of the
25 game to be played by the apparatus and the cost to each player for the use of such apparatus.

30 In the use of the apparatus for the playing of

the game, should the balls 20 strike the target 11 at any point of the outfield, there is no scoring and on a thrown ball entering the opening 13 this effects a scoring and counts as a strike, entitling
5 a player to a prize or an award as indicated by the indicia 33 on the panel 30. The balls 20 are thrown by hand and are aimed at the target 11 for an entrance through the opening 13 therein for a successful scoring by a player.

What is claimed is:

10 A game apparatus comprising an elevating stand, a vertically disposed board extending upwardly from said stand and having a scoring opening therethrough and also provided with
15 playing field indicia about said opening effective as a striking area and imitative of a baseball diamond, a receiving housing rearwardly of the board for communication through the scoring opening and having a back in confronting relation
20 to the said opening, a net disposed next to the board and having a spread equal to the playing field for catching a ball on the rebound thereof after striking the playing field, a narrow trough protruded forwardly of said stand beneath the
25 housing and net and relatively narrow, and an endless movable ball retrieving means within said trough and common to the net and housing, the trough being for confining the said means to a narrow path and having lateral branches reversely extended therefrom at the foremost end
30 of said trough.

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