

F. DE ROCHER.
 BASE BALL GAME BOARD.
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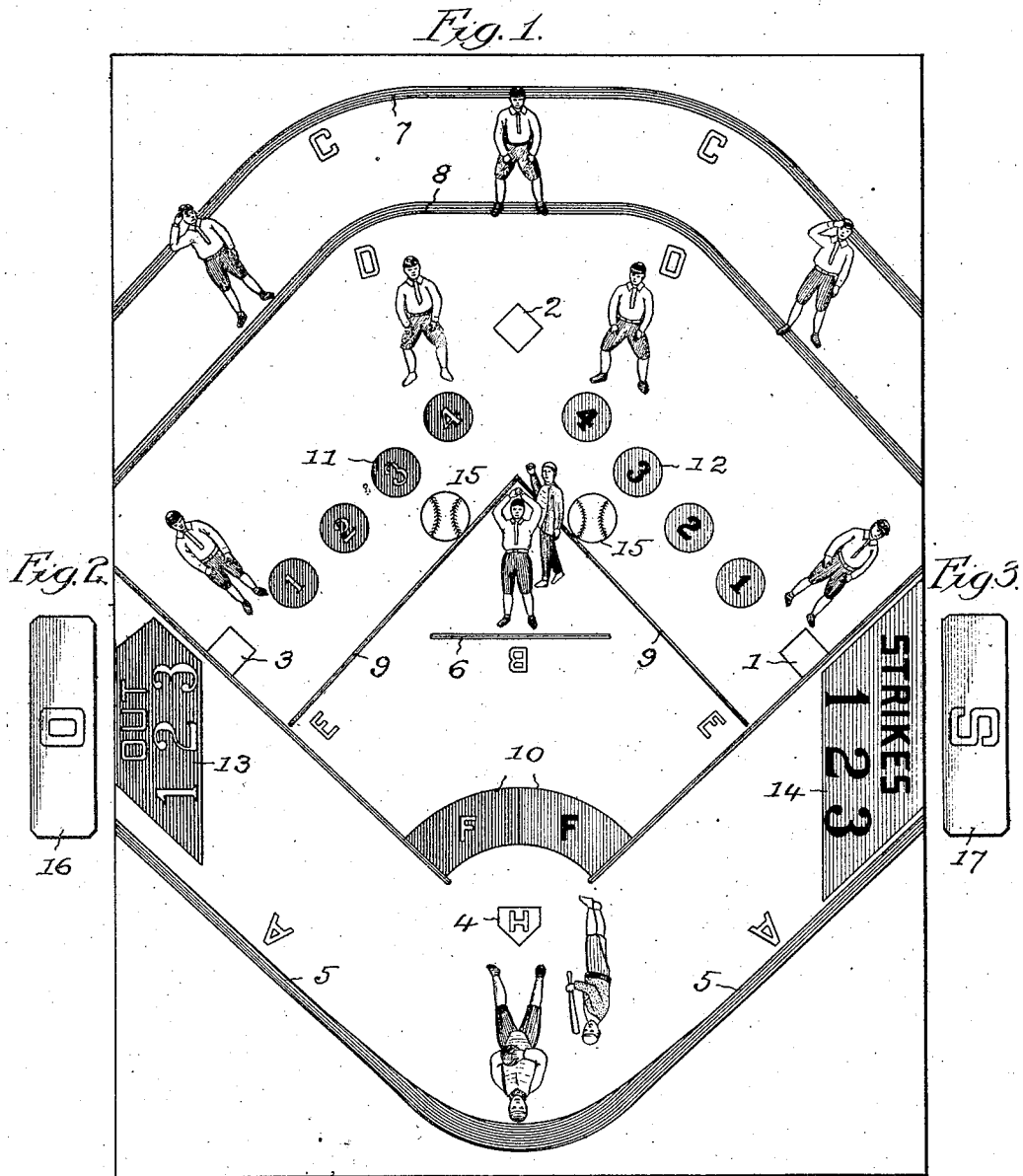


Fig. 4. Fig. 5. Fig. 6.

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BASE-BALL GAME-BOARD.

944,504.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FOSE DE ROCHER, a citizen of the United States of America, and a resident of Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Base-Ball Game-Boards, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to that class of game boards adapted for playing imitation games of base ball, and has for its object to provide a simple and efficient construction and arrangement of the game board and its accessories, with which the ordinary plays and points in the game of base ball have their counterparts, and for which the ordinary rules of base ball apply as far as required, all as will hereinafter more fully appear.

In the accompanying drawings:—Figure 1, is a plan view of a game board or chart showing the preferred arrangement of the present improvement. Figs. 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6, are detail views of the different movable pieces or parts used in connection with the game board.

In the present improvement the game board or chart is preferably of the rectangular shape shown in Fig. 1, and is formed from a sheet of mill board, or the like, and with its face marked off in manner similar to the field of a base ball grounds, said markings comprising in detail as follows:—

1, 2, 3, and 4, are the first, second, third and home bases, arranged on the face of the board, and preferably connected together by the usual runner paths to constitute the diamond, which separates the inner from the outer field of the grounds.

5 are a pair of angular lines arranged to the rear of the home plate or base 4, and preferably in parallel and separated relation to the adjacent paths of the diamond as shown.

6 is a transverse line arranged intermediate of the second and home bases 2 and 4, to constitute a miss or balk line in the game.

7 and 8 are a pair of divisional lines arranged in separated relation, and preferably of the curved form shown, to divide the outer field of the game into double and triple play zones.

9 are a pair of angular lines within the diamond, with their meeting point at or adjacent to the usual pitcher's stand or box.

10 is a segmental goal arranged immediately forward of the home plate or base 4,

and extending between the diverging paths which extend from the home plate 4 to the first and third bases 1, and 3, respectively.

The lines 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10, are marked with the letters A, B, C, D, E, and F, respectively, for use in connection with the set of printed rules furnished with the game board and under which rules the game is played and decision reached. For a like purpose the home plate 4, will be marked with the letter H.

11 and 12 are counterpart rows of spots, pockets or goals arranged respectively between the first and second bases, and between the second and third bases as shown. Said spots are marked with the numerals 1, 2, 3 and 4, to assist in the ready selection of any particular spot in playing the game.

13 is a space at one side of the board, marked —Out 1, 2, 3—, and 14 is a corresponding space at the other side of the board, marked —Strikes, 1, 2, 3—; the respective spaces being employed in scoring different points as the game progresses.

Pictures of base ball players in different attitudes are preferably printed on different parts of the board, as shown, to assist in locating the different parts of the ball field.

15 is a projectile, preferably of a ball form, and formed with a flat side as shown, to adapt it to have a sliding movement upon the surface of the game board when projected along the same by the players. The projection or shooting of said projectile or ball 15 is preferably effected by a flip of a finger of the player with the hand resting upon the surface of the board. Any other usual means may be employed in such projecting operation, without departing from the spirit of this part of the present invention.

16 is a score piece or member carrying the mark "O," and adapted in connection with the space 13, and its numerals 1, 2, and 3, to score the "outs" during each inning of the game.

17 is a score piece or member carrying the mark "S," and adapted in connection with the space 14, and its numerals 1, 2 and 3, to score the strikes during each inning of the game.

18 is a score piece or member carrying the mark "B," and adapted in connection with one of the straight rows of spots 11 or 12, to score the balls as called during each inning of the game.

19 is a score piece or member carrying the representation of a ball player, and adapted in connection with the first, second and third bases, to indicate the bases occupied during each inning of the game.

The arrangement of parts above described, and as shown in the drawing is the preferred form of the present invention, in that the game can be played wholly upon one-half or the other of the game board, with the advantage that one-half of the board can be arranged for easy playing adapted for beginners, while the other half can be made more difficult to play, by any of the means usually employed in the present class of game boards. In accordance with such arrangement, the segmental goal 10, and other parts will be preferably divided by a longitudinal median line into two halves or sections.

In playing an imitation game of base ball with the present board, the same is placed between two persons facing each other, and representing the opposing batter and pitcher of the game to be played, and so denominated in the further description of the game. The pitcher places the ball 15, upon the pitcher's box or station, or to one side or the other thereof, as agreed upon, and by a flip of the finger projects or shoots the ball in the direction of the home plate and the batter. In such shooting operation the object is to shoot the ball onto the home base 4, or onto the segmental goal 10, and a failure to do so constitutes a called ball, and four such balls entitles the opponent to a base. The pitcher keeps tab of the number of such "called balls" by the score piece 18, on one of the rows of goals 11 or 12; while the other row is reserved for the use of the batter, as hereinafter set forth.

The pitcher will be governed by rules as follows: Every time the pitcher shoots the ball on or past the line 5, a batter's hit is called and a player is placed on first base. When the ball is touching any part of the home plate 4, a strike is called. When the ball does not go over the line 6, the shoot does not count, and is to be shot or pitched over.

The play of the batter is as follows: When the pitcher has shot the ball onto the segmental goal 10, the ball is taken by the batter and placed upon the home plate 4, and in manner similar to that above described in connection with the pitcher the ball, is flipped or projected outward into the ball field. The object is to shoot the ball in a serial manner onto the four goals constituting one or the other row of goals 11 or 12, reserved for the batter's use, and the attainment of which constitutes a home run. Shooting the ball onto the goal No. 1, constitutes a base hit, the next trial is made for goal No. 2, and if the same is missed, a base

hit is scored, except when the ball is shot over the line 8, as hereinafter explained. The attainment of goals Nos. 1 and 2, with a miss of goal No. 3, constitutes a two-base hit; and in like manner the attainment of goals Nos. 1, 2, 3, and a miss of goal No. 4, constitutes a three-base hit.

After each base hit above referred to, the ball is returned to the home base for the next succeeding shoot. The missing of goal No. 1, constitutes a strike, and after such strike, called ball, out, batter's hit, home run, and miss, the pitcher shoots again in the manner above described.

The batter keeps score of the strikes and outs by means of the score pieces 16 and 17 on the score spaces 13 and 14 at the sides of the game board, as well as the progress of the players upon the bases by means of the score pieces 19 placed upon or removed from said bases. The manipulation of the score pieces 19, may be effected by the pitcher, or by the pitcher and batter jointly, as may be mutually decided upon in advance.

The batter is governed by the following rules: Everytime the batter shoots the ball for goal No. 1, etc. and the ball touches or goes over line 9, the shoot constitutes a strike, but failure to reach such line constitutes a foul and is to be shot over. When the pitcher lands the ball on the portion of the segmental goal 10 in use, the batter must bat or shoot the ball. The shooting of the ball by the batter over the line 8 constitutes a double-play, and the farthest man on the bases is out along with the batter, while if no players are on the base, the batter alone is out, and any previous hits scored do not count. The shooting of the ball by the batter over line 7 constitutes a triple play, and if two players are on the bases, they are out along with the batter. With the occurrence of such last result the board is reversed between the players, and the batter becomes the pitcher, and vice-versa, to repeat the next inning in the manner and under rules above stated and under any additional rules which may be agreed upon to render the game more intricate or interesting.

Having thus fully described my said invention what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:—

1. A base ball game board adapted for use in connection with a slidable ball or projectile, and provided with a first base, a second base, a third base, a home base, a pitcher's station, a goal arranged in front of the home base, a base hit line to the rear of the home base, double and triple play lines in the outer ball field, and two series of goals between the first and second bases and second and third bases, respectively, substantially as set forth.

2. A base ball game board adapted for use in connection with a slidable ball or pro-

jectile, and provided with a first base, a second base, a third base, a home base, a pitcher's station, a goal arranged in front of the home base, a base hit line to the rear of the home base, double and triple play lines in the outer ball field, a transverse balk line intermediate of second and home bases, and two series of goals between the first and second and second and third bases, respectively, substantially as set forth.

3. A base ball game board adapted for use in connection with a slidable ball or projectile, and provided with a first base, a second base, a third base, a home base, a pitcher's station, a goal arranged in front of the home base, a base hit line to the rear of the home base, double and triple play lines in the outer ball field, a transverse balk line intermediate of second and home bases, diagonal lines intersecting at the pitcher's station, and two series of goals between the first and

second bases and second and third bases, respectively, substantially as set forth.

4. A base ball game board adapted for use in connection with a slidable ball or projectile, and provided with a first base, a second base, a third base, a home base, a pitcher's station, a goal arranged in front of the home base and having a segmental form and partitioned into sections, a base hit line to the rear of the home base, double and triple play lines in the outer ball field, and two series of goals between the first and second bases and second and third bases, respectively, substantially as set forth.

Signed at Chicago, Illinois, this 20th day of September 1909.

FOSE DE ROCHER.

Witnesses:

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