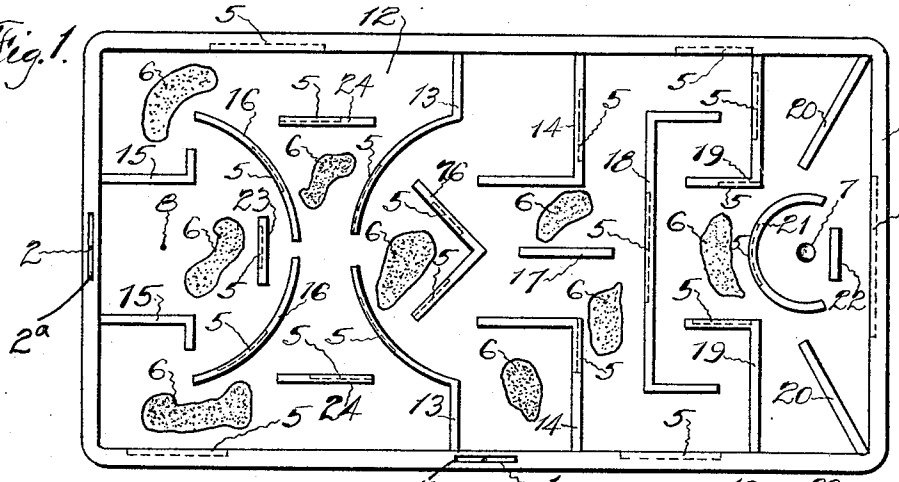
Aug. 30, 1932. T. NAGAI 1,875,198

GAME TABLE

Filed Aug. 25, 1930

Fig. 1.



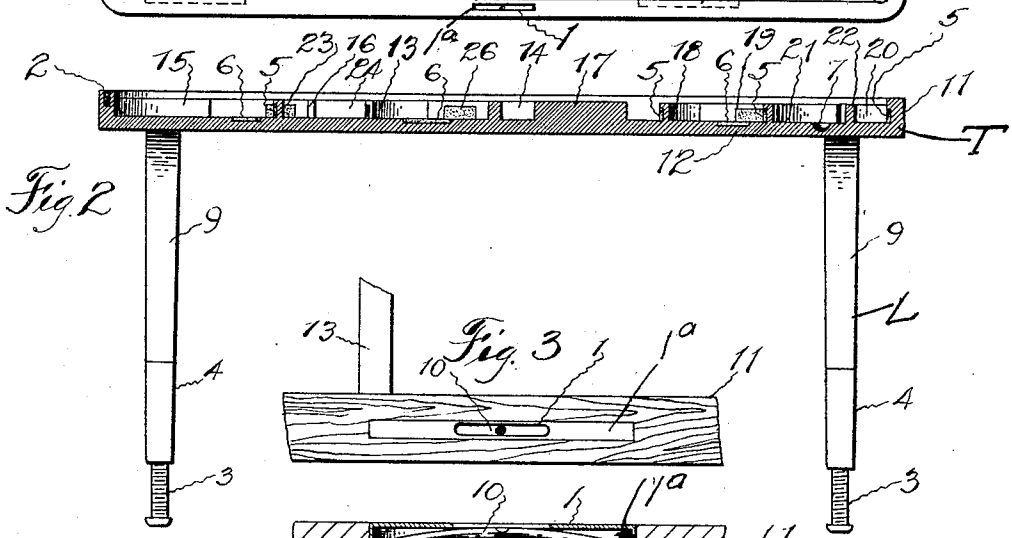


Fig. 2

Fig. 3

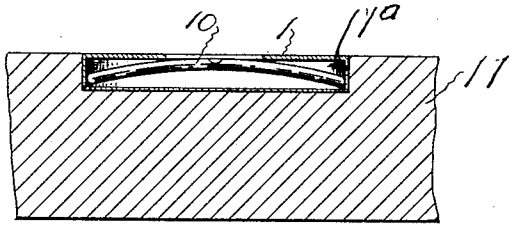


Fig. 4

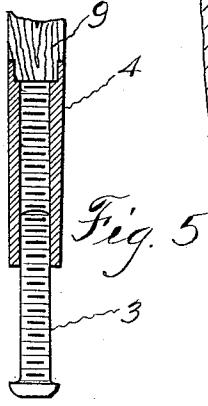


Fig. 5

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GAME TABLE

Application filed August 25, 1930. Serial No. 477,673.

My invention relates to and has for a purpose the provision of a game table similar in certain respects to a billiard table, in that it provides a surface over which a ball is adapted to be projected by means of a cue or similar instrument, but which is provided with a playing surface having hazards of various forms so arranged as to define a tortuous course on which the ball is adapted to be projected, the hazards necessitating the exercise of great skill in order to traverse the course in a minimum number of strokes.

It is also a purpose of my invention to provide a game table which is particularly designed, although not necessarily, for use outdoors and where uneven surfaces are encountered for supporting the table, and which table is provided with independently adjustable legs to compensate for ground irregularities to the end of supporting the table perfectly level and hence the playing surface of the table, and spirit levels for determining when the table is level.

I will describe only one form of game table embodying my invention, and will then point out the novel features thereof in claims.

In the accompanying drawing:

Figure 1 is a view showing in top plan one form of game table embodying my invention.

Figure 2 is a central vertical longitudinal sectional view of the table shown in Figure 1.

Figure 3 is an enlarged fragmentary plan view of the table showing one of the spirit levels.

Figure 4 is a vertical longitudinal sectional view taken on the line 4—4 of Figure 3.

Figure 5 is an enlarged fragmentary vertical sectional view of one of the legs of the table shown in Figure 2.

In carrying out my invention, I provide a table consisting of a top designated generally at T, and plurality of legs each designated at L, the table top in the present instance being of rectangular form in outline, and the legs being secured to the table top adjacent the four corners thereof.

The top T may be constructed of any suitable material to withstand the elements and yet provide a playing surface over which the ball can readily roll incident to playing of the game. The table top may be constructed of wood, metal, concrete, or the like, with its playing surface finished smooth or covered with felt to attain the ready and accurate rolling of the ball, as will be understood.

As shown in Figures 1 and 2, the table top provides a playing surface 12 bounded at its edges by a rail 11 of sufficient height to prevent the accidental projection of the playing ball from the surface. This rail 11 may be constructed integral with the table top or it may be attached thereto depending upon the material of which the table top is formed. The numeral 8 designates the starting point of a playing course defined on the playing surface 12 by the medium of a plurality of rails of various forms and arranged in various positions in order to necessitate the exercise of great skill in the projection of a ball from the starting point 8 to the finish point 7. This finish point 7 is defined by a cup in the playing surface and in which the playing ball is adapted to be received.

The precise form and arrangement of the several rails will now be described, although it will be understood that the invention is not limited to the precise form and arrangement illustrated in the drawing. Two L-shaped rails 15 extend inwardly from one end rail 11 of the table top, and at opposite sides of the starting point 8. Spaced from the rails 15 and from each other are a pair of arcuate rails 16, with a relatively short and linear rail 23 spanning the space between the confronting ends of the rail 16 so that such space is only accessible by causing the playing ball to roll around either end of the rail 23. Beyond the rail 16 are a second pair of rails 13 having arcuate portions spaced from each

other and linear portions extending into contact with the side rails 11. Between the two pairs of rails 13 and 16 are linear rails 24 which are provided for the purpose of rendering access to the space between the rails 13 more difficult should the playing ball pass between the rails 15 and 16 instead of between the rails 16.

Beyond the rails 13 and between the arcuate portions thereof is a V-shaped rail 26 which forms an obstruction to the passage of the playing ball through a passage defined by the parallel portions of a pair of L-shaped rails 14. A relatively short and linear rail 17 is interposed between the rails 14 in order to separate the passage therebetween into two passages. Beyond the rails 14 and 17 is a U-shaped rail 18 the parallel portions of which extend in the direction away from the rails 14 and so as to coact with the parallel portions of a pair of L-shaped rails 19 to define a pair of U-shaped passages for the playing ball. The parallel portions of the rails 19 define a passage which is divided at the exit end into two passages by means of a substantially semi-circular rail 21 the center of which is defined by the cup 7. Diagonal and linear rails 20 extend from the adjacent corners of the table to form obstructions for the passage of the playing ball around the curved rail 21, while a short and linear rail 22 is interposed between the ends of the rail 21 to render more difficult the passage of the playing ball to the cup 7.

From the preceding description, it will be manifest that the course defined on the playing surface by means of the several rails is of an extremely tortuous nature and hence difficult of execution in a minimum number of strokes in order to finally deposit the ball in the cup 7. Where a rubber or other form of resilient playing ball is employed, the several rails do not require any cushioning means for causing the ball to rebound from the rails, and in practice it is proposed that the playing ball be of a resilient material in order to readily rebound when impinged against the rails.

For rendering the playing course more difficult of execution, certain of the rails, namely, rails 16, 23, 13, 24, 14, 18, 19, and 21 are provided with recesses in which strips 5 of soft sponge rubber or like material are received and secured. It will be understood that when the playing ball impinges against these strips they will serve to dampen the rebound and thus shorten the distance of projection of the ball. Further hazards are provided by forming the playing surface 12 of the table at various points with recesses in which sheets 6 of sponge rubber or the like are fitted, it being understood that the sponge rubber serves to impede movement of the playing ball to present further difficulties in the execution of the course in a minimum number of strokes.

As hereinbefore stated, my invention is particularly adapted for outdoor use, and hence provision is made for supporting the table top in truly horizontal position on uneven ground in order that the playing surface 12 may be disposed horizontally as that of the playing surface of a billiard table. This means, in the present instance, comprises the legs L which are constructed so as to be adjustable as to length and independently of each other. Each leg is made up of an upper section 9 secured to the under side of the table top T, a tubular section 4 secured to the lower end of the upper section 9, and a lower section 3. The lower section 3 is exteriorly threaded and the section 4 is interiorly threaded to receive the lower section and in such manner as to permit adjustment of the lower section lengthwise therein and to thereby increase or decrease the over all length of the leg.

It will be evident from the construction of the legs L that they may be varied as to length and in such manner as to compensate for irregularities in the ground upon which the table top is supported, so that the latter can be supported in a truly horizontal position.

For the purpose of visibly determining when the table top assumes a horizontal position, as a result of adjustment of the legs L, I provide a pair of spirit levels 1 and 2 disposed, respectively, in pockets 1^a and 2^a in the boundary rail 11. These spirit levels are of conventional construction as illustrated in Figures 3 and 4, and it will be understood that through the use of the two spirit levels the horizontal positioning of the table top can be readily determined.

Although I have herein shown and described only one form of game table embodying my invention, it is to be understood that various changes and modifications may be made therein without departing from the spirit of the invention and the spirit and scope of the appended claims.

I claim:

1. A game table having a top forming a playing surface over which a ball is adapted to be projected and provided with a ball receiving cup, and a plurality of elements projecting upwardly from said surface and relatively arranged thereon to define a tortuous course for the ball which leads to said cup, said playing surface having recesses therein and roughened and yieldable material in said recesses for impeding movement of the ball across the recesses.

2. A game table having a top forming a playing surface over which a ball is adapted to be projected and provided with a ball receiving cup, and a plurality of elements projecting upwardly from said surface and relatively arranged thereon to define a tortuous

course for the ball which leads to said cup, said playing surface having inserts of yieldable material and said elements having in their sides inserts of yieldable material.

3. A game table having a top forming a playing surface over which a ball is adapted to be projected and provided with a ball receiving cup, and a plurality of elements projecting upwardly from said surface and relatively arranged thereon to define a tortuous course for the ball which leads to said cup, said playing surface having inserts of sponge rubber and said elements having in their sides inserts of sponge rubber.

TORAZO NAGAI.