

March 30, 1926.

1,579,172

J. W. WEAVER

BASKET BALL GAME APPARATUS

Filed August 8, 1925

3 Sheets-Sheet 1

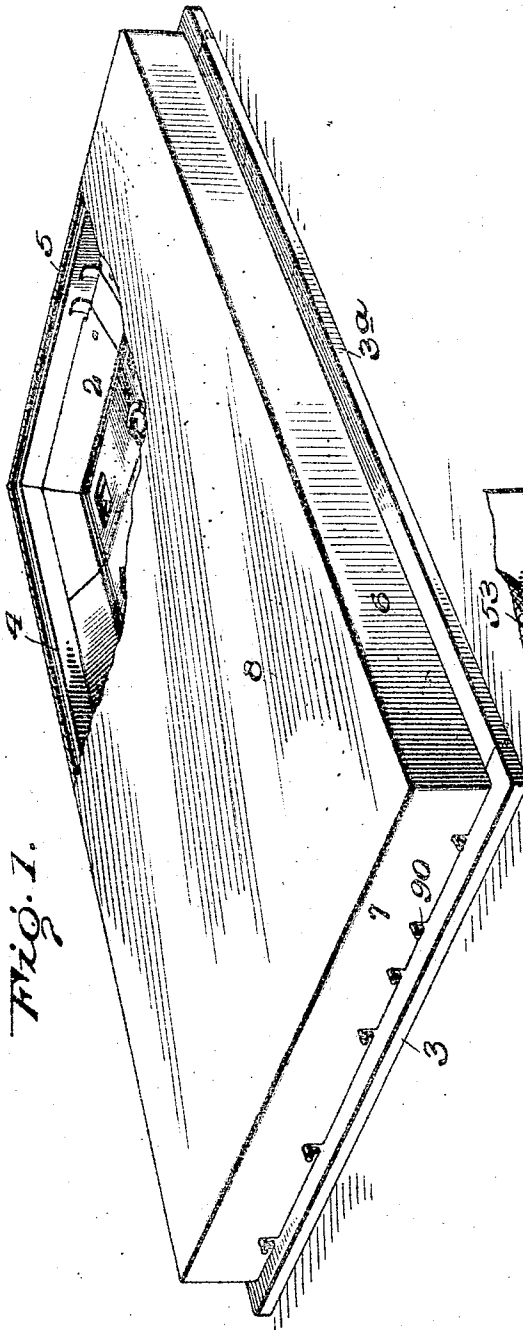
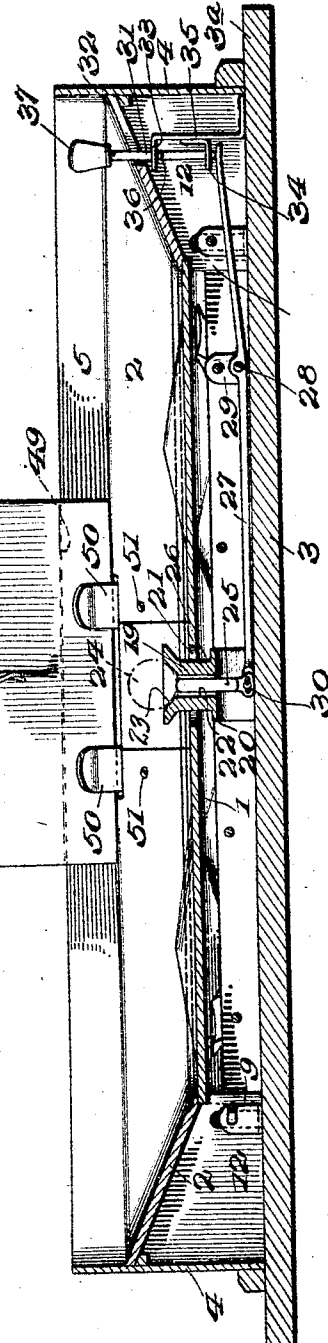


Fig. 4.



WITNESSES
W. A. Williams.

INVENTOR
John W. Weaver.
BY *Mum & Co.*
ATTORNEYS

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3 Sheets-Sheet 2

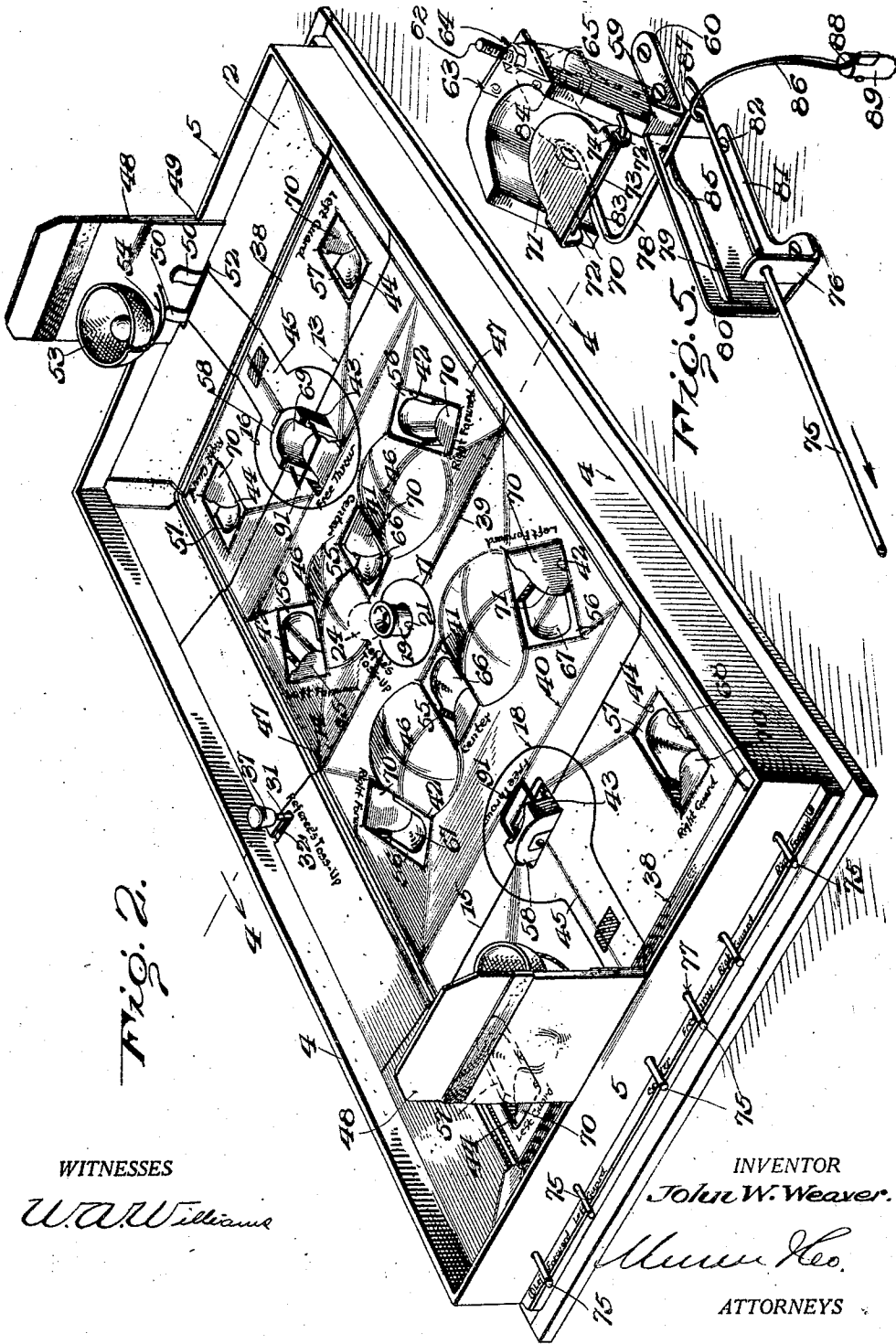


Fig. 2.

Fig. 5.

WITNESSES

W. A. Williams

INVENTOR

John W. Weaver.

Wm. H. Co.

ATTORNEYS

March 30, 1926.

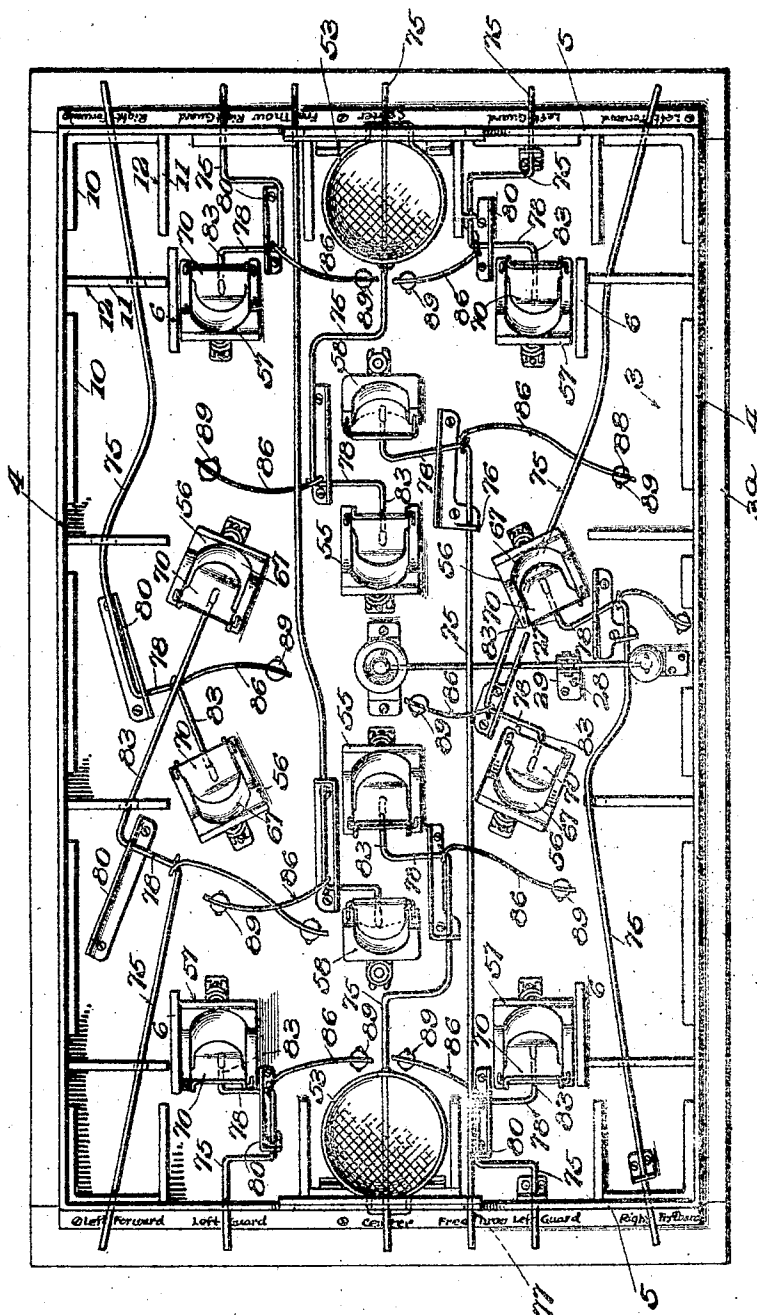
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3 Sheets-Sheet 3



WITNESSES

W.A. Williams.

INVENTOR

John W. Weaver.

BY

M. L. Co.

ATTORNEYS

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN W. WEAVER, OF RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA.

BASKET-BALL GAME APPARATUS.

Application filed August 8, 1925. Serial No. 49,040.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN W. WEAVER, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Raleigh, in the county of Wake and State of North Carolina, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Basket-Ball Game Apparatus, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in basketball game apparatus, and it consists in the combinations, constructions and arrangements herein described and claimed.

An object of the invention is the provision of a game apparatus having means whereby a game which closely resembles in all important phases and aspects the usual game of basketball can be played.

A further object of the invention is to provide a game apparatus of the character described having mechanical means operable to perform plays closely resembling practically all the plays which will take place during the playing of the actual game of basketball, with results which will vary according to the skill of the operator in substantially the same manner as the results of corresponding plays in the actual game of basketball will vary according to the skill of the performer of the plays.

A still further object of the invention is the provision of a game apparatus of the character described which will be compact in form and may be transported from place to place or stored readily with practically all the parts of the apparatus assembled ready for the playing of the game.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will be apparent from the following description, considered in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the improved game apparatus with a portion of the cover of the case of the apparatus broken away to disclose parts which are located within the case,

Figure 2 is a perspective view of the game apparatus with the cover of the case omitted and with the remaining elements of the game apparatus assembled ready for use,

Figure 3 is a plan view of the body of the case of the device with the game board omitted to show the underlying operating mechanism of the device,

Figure 4 is a relatively enlarged trans-

verse vertical section through the body of the apparatus, taken substantially along the line 4—4 of Figure 2,

Figure 5 is a still further enlarged fragmentary perspective view showing certain associated elements of the operating mechanism of the device.

In carrying out the invention, I provide a game board which comprises a relatively large central portion designated generally 1 and a continuous marginal portion 2 which extends completely around the central portion 1. The game board may be made of any suitable material, such as a light gauge metal, cardboard, fiber or the like. The marginal portion 2 slopes from its outer edge toward the central portion 1.

A case in which the game board and associated elements may be housed comprises a body consisting of a base 3 and pairs of upstanding side walls 4 and end walls 5 which are secured on the base 3 and to each other in any suitable known manner so as to produce a box-like body which is open at its upper end. The bottom 3 extends at the sides and ends outwardly beyond the sides 4 and the ends 5 of the body of the case, thus producing a base flange, indicated at 3^a on which the lower edges of the sides 6 and the ends 7 of a cover for the body of the case rest when the cover is in position on the body of the case as shown in Figure 1, the top or head 8 of the cover being supported on or close to the upper edges of the sides 4 and the ends 5 of the body of the case. The cover can be secured in position on the body of the case in any suitable known manner, no means therefor being shown, so that the case and the contents thereof can be readily transported from place to place or stored and the contents of the case will be protected. The game board fits in the body of the case. The central portion 1 of the game board is supported in a substantially horizontal plane within the body of the case centrally of the body of the case and in spaced relation to the base 3 by means of supporting blocks or standards 9 which are secured on the base 3 and on which the cover section of the central portion of the game board rests. The marginal portion 1 of the game board overlaps the central portion 1 of the game board slightly and is supported in the body of the case on hori-

zontal cleats 10 which are attached to the vertical walls of the body of the case and on the inclined upper faces 11 of other supporting members 12 which are secured to the base 3 of the body of the case. The top surface of the game board constitutes the playing field which may be divided by lines which are produced thereon as indicated at 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 and 18 respectively, into sections in the same manner as a field on which the actual game of basketball may be played is divided.

A tubular support 19 is secured on a bracket 20 on the base 3 and extends through a central opening 21 in the central portion 1 of the game board above the level of the latter. The bore 22 of the tubular supporting member 19 is enlarged at its upper end and is fashioned to provide a concaved seat 23 which is adapted to receive a portion of a ball 24 which is used in playing the game. A plunger rod 25 is movable vertically through an opening 26 in the supporting portion of the bracket 20 and through the bore 22 of the supporting member 19. The plunger rod 25 may be moved vertically to the position shown in Figure 4 against the ball 24 to displace the latter from the upper end of the supporting member 19 so that the ball will fall by gravity onto the playing field when it is desired to put the ball in play, as will be hereinafter pointed out. The lever 27 for operating the plunger rod 25 is fulcrumed intermediate its length on a horizontal pivot element 28 which is carried by a bracket 29 adapted to be secured on the base 3 in the space between the base and the game board. The lever 27 is pivotally attached at its inner end, as at 30, to the lower end of the plunger rod 25 and is of sufficient length to terminate at its outer end close to one of the side walls 4 of the body of the case, the outer end portion of the lever being inclined slightly in an upward direction from the axis of the pivot 28 to the outer end of the lever as shown in Figure 4. A vertical push rod 31 depends through a slot or aperture 32 in the inclined marginal portion 2 of the game board and is vertically slidable in aligned openings in vertically spaced arms 33 and 34 respectively of a bracket 35 which is secured on the base 3. The push rod 31 rests at its lower end on the outer end portion of the lever 27. A lateral stop projection on the push rod 31 between the arms 33 and 34 of the bracket 35 is adapted to engage with the upper arm 33, to limit the upward movement of the push rod. The weight of the plunger rod 25 and the inner end portion of the lever 27 is greater than that of the outer end portion of the lever 27 and the push rod 31 so that the push rod normally will be held by gravity at the upper limit of its possible movement, as shown in Fig. 4. A knob 37 or other han-

dle may be placed on the upper end of the push rod 31 so that it can be operated conveniently.

The central portion 1 of the game board is formed to produce relatively raised transversely extending narrow portions or ridges at each end of the central portion of the game board, as indicated at 38. The central portion 1 of the game board also is formed with a transversely extending ridge or narrow relatively raised portion 39 midway between the ridges 38 and with two other transversely extending ridges 40, each of which is located approximately midway between the middle ridge 39 and an end ridge 38. The central portion 1 of the game board also is formed so that the portions of the playing field which are located between adjacent transversely extending ridges will be inclined downwardly or slope longitudinally of the playing field from the respective adjacent ridges to a line which extends transversely of the playing field approximately midway between said adjacent ridges. However, these general slopes of the upper surface of the central portion 1 of the game board are interrupted between adjacent transverse ridges by other relatively raised portions or protuberances which will be hereinafter described.

The central portion 1 of the game board is formed with a pair of openings 41 which are located in the game board along the longitudinal median line thereof and respectively are located between the central opening 21 and the respective transverse ridges 40 at equal distances from the central opening 21, each opening 41 being located approximately midway between the middle ridge 39 and the adjacent transverse ridge 40 at the juncture of the two slopes between the middle ridge 39 and the adjacent transverse ridge 40.

The game board is formed with a pair of vertical openings 42 between the middle ridge 39 and each of the adjacent transverse ridges 40, the respective openings 42 of each pair being located adjacent to opposite side edges of the central portion of the game board and equi-distant from the longitudinal median line of the central portion of the game board, as best seen in Figure 2. In addition, the game board is formed with a vertical opening 43 at the intersection of each of the ridges 40 with the longitudinal median line of the central portion of the game board. A pair of other vertical openings 44 is formed in the game board adjacent to each of the opposite ends of the central portion of the game board, the respective openings 44 of each pair being located adjacent to the corners at one end of the central portion of the game board equi-distant from the longitudinal median line of the central portion of the game board. The

openings 41, 42, 43 and 44 are shown as being substantially rectangular. Longitudinal ridges 45 are provided on the central portion of the game board to extend along the longitudinal median line of the central portion of the game board from the openings 43 to the adjacent ends of the central portion of the game board and the playing field has slopes extending oppositely from each of these ridges 45 toward the adjacent openings 44. The game board also is formed with protuberances as indicated at 46, each of which is located between an opening 41 and the adjacent opening 42. The central portion of the game board has the longitudinal edges thereof raised slightly above the level of the adjacent openings 42 and 44 as indicated at 47. It therefore will be obvious that the playing field has slopes inclined upwardly in all directions from each of the openings 41, 42, and 44 and that a ball which falls on the playing field at any point will roll into one of these openings.

The game board carries a pair of back stops 48, each of which is shown as being a plate having a horizontal shoulder 49 on its outer face at a distance from the lower end of the plate approximately equal to the height of the end walls 5 above the adjacent ends of the inclined marginal portion of the game board. Each plate 48 is placed in the position shown in Figure 2 with the shoulder 49 resting on the upper edge of one of the end walls 5 and with the lower edge of the plate resting upon the adjacent end portion of the game board and being retained against accidental displacement by means of a pair of spring clamping fingers 50 which are secured at their lower ends to the adjacent end wall 5, as by means of screws 51, and which extend through a cut-out or slot 52 in the adjacent edge of the game board to position above the game board to clamp the lower end portion of the adjacent back stop against the upper end portion of the adjacent end wall of the case of the device. A basket or objective 53 which preferably is formed in the similitude of a basket such as used in playing the actual game of basket ball, is supported on the inner face of each of the back stops 48, as by means of a bracket 54. The back stops 48 are arranged on the game board and the baskets 53 are supported on the back stops in such positions that the center of each basket will lie directly above the longitudinal median line of the game board.

As previously stated, each of the openings 41, 42, 43 and 44 is substantially rectangular, and these openings are formed in the game board so that the longitudinal axis of the game board will pass directly through the centers of the respective openings 41 and 43 and parallel to the major axes of the openings 44. The openings 42 have the major

axes thereof oblique to the longitudinal axis of the game board and the major axes of the two openings 42 which are located at each side of the transverse median line of the game board lie in vertical planes which, if extended, will intersect along a line extending vertically through the center of the adjacent basket or objective 53.

A rest block 55 is associated with each of the openings 41. A rest block 56 is associated with each of the openings 42. A rest block 57 is associated with each of the openings 44 and a rest block 58 is associated with each of the openings 43. Each of these rest blocks is adjustably supported on the bottom 3 of the case of the device by means of a bracket 59 having an attaching arm 60 at its lower end formed with apertures for the reception of screws for attaching the bracket to the bottom 3 and having a screw threaded rod-like upstanding arm 62 which extends through an opening in an attaching ear or lug 63 that is carried by the associated rest block, the portion 62 of the bracket being adjustably engaged above the ear 63 by a nut 64 and adjustably engaged also below the ear 63 by a nut 65. These nuts can be adjusted on the bracket arm 62 to support the associated rest block in any one of a plurality of vertically adjusted positions.

Each rest block 55 is supported on the bottom of the case directly beneath one of the openings 41, and is formed with an inclined run-way 66 in the portion thereof which is located directly beneath the associated opening 41. Each run-way 66 is arcuate in cross section so that a ball will roll freely therealong. The run-way in each rest block 55 is inclined toward its upper end in the direction of the remote basket or objective 53. Each rest block 56 likewise is formed with an inclined channel run-way 67 in the portion thereof which is directly beneath the associated opening 42. Each run-way 67 is inclined toward its upper end in the direction of the proximate basket 53. Each rest block 57 has an inclined channel run-way 68 in the portion thereof which is directly underneath the associated opening 44, and each channel run-way 68 is inclined toward its upper end in a direction which extends substantially parallel to the direction of length of the central portion of the game board. Each rest block 58 protrudes from the associated opening 43 above the level of the game board, and is formed with an inclined channel run-way 69 in the portion thereof which is opposite to the adjacent basket 53, such channel run-way being inclined toward its upper end in the direction of the adjacent basket 53.

Movement of a ball by gravity along the run-way of each of the rest blocks from the upper end of that run-way toward the bot-

tom 3 of the case is limited by a pivoted throw-plate or "flipper" 70, one of which is provided for the run-way of each of the blocks. Each throw plate 70 is mounted at the end of the run-way for swinging movement about a horizontal axis at the outer end of the throw plate so that the inner end portion of the throw plate, which extends into the run-way as indicated at 71 and has the edge thereof curved to conform to the cross section of the run-way, can swing in the lower part of the run-way as the throw plate swings about the axis of its horizontal support. In Figure 5, I show one of the throw plates as having a pair of down-turned ears 72 at its outer end formed with horizontally aligned openings through which a horizontal supporting rod 73 extends, the ends of the supporting rod then being turned inward as indicated at 74, and secured in the material of which the associated rest block is formed. Each of the remaining throw plates may be pivotally supported on its associated rest block in the same manner as the particular throw plate which, as shown in Figure 5, is supported on the rest block shown in that figure.

The invention provides manually operable means for actuating the throw plates selectively to cause each throw plate so actuated to flip or project a ball which is resting on that throw plate along the associated run-way and into the air above the playing field, the trajectory of the ball varying both according to the particular location of the rest block from which the ball was projected and because of the manner in which the particular throw plate was actuated. The actuating mechanism for the respective throw plates is alike for each throw plate in essential respects, although individual elements of the actuating mechanism units for the different throw plates may vary slightly so far as length thereof or other immaterial details are concerned. I therefore shall confine my description to the operating mechanism for one of the throw plates, (that which is illustrated in Figure 5,) and have designated corresponding elements of the actuating mechanisms for the respective throw plates by the same reference characters.

The actuating mechanism which is shown in Figure 5 includes an operating rod 75 having a handle portion slidably and rotatably supported in horizontally aligned openings in a bracket, such as indicated at 76 in Figures 3 and 5, and as indicated at 77 in an end wall 4 of the case of the device. The handle portion 75 of the operating rod is merged into a laterally turned guide portion 78 which extends through a guiding and retaining slot 79 in an associated cam plate 80 which is shown as being disposed vertically edgewise and as having an attach-

ing portion 81 secured by a screw 82 to the bottom 3 of the case of the device, and as being integral with the bracket 76, although this is not essential. The guiding portion 78 of the operating rod is merged into a striker portion 83 which extends substantially parallel to the handle portion of the operating rod and is formed at its extremity with a head 84 which bears against the underface of the associated throw plate. The guiding 75 and retaining slot 79 comprises two vertically spaced end portions connected by an inclined portion 85, the higher of the two end portions of the guiding and retaining slot being nearest to the associated throw plate. A spring arm 86 is attached at one end, as at 87, to the operating rod at the juncture of the handle portion and the guide portion of the operating rod, and is supported at its other end in a vertical slot 88 in the upper end portion of a post 89 which is secured on the bottom 3 of the case of the device. The spring arm 86 acts continuously to urge the guide portion 78 of the operating rod to position at the end of the guiding and retaining slot which is nearest to the associated throw plate.

Each of the remaining throw plates has an operating mechanism practically identical in essential respects with that just described, and the handle portion of the operating rod of the actuating mechanism for each of the throw plates extends through an opening in an end wall of the body of the case. The cover of the case may have notches in its edge, as indicated at 90 for the reception of the outer end portions of the operating handles of the throw plate actuating mechanisms when the cover is in position on the body of the case, as shown in Figure 1.

From the foregoing description of the various parts of the device, the operation thereof may be readily understood. The openings 41 are located in the game board in substantially the positions which the centers of two opposing teams occupy at the beginning of play in the actual game of basketball. The openings 42 at one side of the transverse median line of the game board respectively are located in the positions which the right forward and the left forward of one of two opposing teams assume at the beginning of play in the actual game of basketball, while the openings 42 at the opposite side of the transverse median line of the game board respectively occupy the positions which the right and left forwards of the opposing team assume in the playing of the actual game of basketball. The openings 44 which are adjacent to one end of the central portion of the game board are located in the positions which the right and left guards of one basketball team assume on a playing field at the beginning of

the actual game of basketball and the openings 44 which are adjacent to the opposite end of the central portion of the playing field are located in the positions of the right and left guards of the opposing team. The openings 43 are in the positions which players take in the actual game of basketball in trying to throw the basketball into the adjacent basket by means of a "free throw".

The rest blocks associated with the openings 42, 44 and 43 which respectively represent the right and left forwards, the right and left guards, and a player having a free throw, all of one team, are colored to distinguish such rest blocks from the remaining rest blocks which of course represent corresponding positions of players on the opposing team. The operating handles of the actuating mechanisms for the throw plates which are associated with rest blocks representing the positions of players of one of two opposing basketball teams and a player who has a free throw at the adjacent basket, extend through openings in one of the end walls 4 of the body of the case while the operating handles of the actuating mechanisms for the throw plates which are associated with the rest blocks representing the corresponding positions of players on the opposing team, and a player on the opposing team who is entitled to a free throw for the adjacent basket, extend through openings in the opposite end wall of the body of the case. The rules for the playing of the game with the use of the improved apparatus of course may vary by agreement between the persons playing, but preferably conform substantially to the rules which are used in connection with the actual game of basketball. The game may be played by two persons or by two or more groups of persons. The opposing players having taken their positions at opposite ends of the body of the case and the cover of the case of course having been removed, the ball 24 is placed in position in the seat 23 at the upper end of the tubular support 19. The referee or any other person forces the rod 31 downwardly sharply as by striking the knob or handle 37, thus causing motion to be transmitted through the lever 27 to the plunger rod 25 which is projected quickly upward through the tubular support 19, thus ejecting the ball 24 from the seat 23 and causing the ball to rise a slight distance in the air and then to fall onto the playing field, thus representing the toss-up of a basketball by the referee between the two centers of the opposing teams in the actual game of basketball. The ball will roll by gravity on the playing field into one of the openings 42, 41 or 44. The player or team represented by the throw plate which is associated with the particular opening in-

to which the ball rolls is entitled to operate the actuating mechanism for that throw plate to cause the ball to be flipped or projected from the run-way of the rest block onto which the ball is rolled. The throw plates representing the forwards and the center of each team can be actuated if the operating handle of the actuating mechanism is manipulated with the requisite skill to cause the ball to be projected from any one of the positions representing that of a forward or a center into the basket of the opposing team, thus counting one point. Should the ball roll into the run-way of the rest block which is associated with one of the openings 44, which positions are those of the guards of the opposing basketball teams, the operating handle of the actuating mechanism for the throw plate which is associated with that rest block, cannot be actuated to project the ball into the basket of the opposing team direct, but can be actuated to cause the ball to roll into the run-way of a rest block with which a throw plate representing a forward or the center of the same team is associated, and the ball then can be projected by reason of actuation of the last named throw plate into the basket of the opposing team. It thus will be apparent that the game apparatus affords facilities for playing a game, which in practically all aspects and phases closely resembles the actual game of basketball and that the results of the individual plays and the final result of the game which is played by means of the apparatus, will be determined according to the skill of the respective players. The rules which are adopted for the playing of the game may require actuation of the actuating mechanism for each throw plate within a certain time after the ball has rolled into the run-way of the rest block with which that throw plate is associated. Other rules may be provided, as desired.

In the event that such rules are not followed by the player of a team, the opposing player or team may be entitled to a "free throw" at the basket of the opposing player or team as is the case when a "foul" has been committed in the playing of the actual game of basketball. In that event the ball is placed by the referee in the run-way 69 of the rest block 58 which is proximate to the basket of the player or team by whom the foul was committed, and the opposing player is entitled to actuate the throw plate associated with that particular rest block 58 in an endeavor to project the ball into the basket of the player or team by whom the foul is committed. A guard rail or bar such as indicated at 91 may be associated with the upper end portion of each of the rest blocks 58 to prevent the ball from being displaced accidentally from position in the run-way 69 of that rest block.

Obviously, the invention is susceptible of embodiment in forms other than that which is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, and I therefore consider as my own all such modifications and adaptations thereof as fairly fall within the scope of the appended claims.

I claim:—

1. In a game apparatus, a game board having an opening and formed with the upper surface thereof sloping toward said opening, a rest block associated with said opening and having a run-way for the reception of a ball entering said opening, and means carried by said rest block adapted to be actuated to project said ball from said run-way into the space above the game board.

2. In a game apparatus, a game board having openings corresponding substantially in position to the positions of the players of two opposing teams when playing the actual game of basketball, said game board having the upper surface thereof formed to slope toward said openings from all sides of said openings, baskets supported at opposite ends of the game board, and means associated with the respective openings operable selectively to project a ball from said openings above said game board, and toward one of said baskets.

3. In a game apparatus of the character described, a game board having a continuous marginal portion and a relatively large central portion, said marginal portion being inclined downwardly from its outer edge, said central portion having a ridge on its upper face extending transversely of said central portion of the game board intermediate the length of the latter, said central portion having transverse ridges at the opposite ends thereof and at the sides thereof and having transverse ridges intermediate said middle transverse ridge and said end transverse ridges, series of openings in said game board between said middle transverse ridge and the adjacent transverse ridges, other series of openings in said game board between said end transverse ridges and the adjacent transverse ridges, baskets supported at opposite ends of said game board above the level of the game board, and means associated with the respective openings for projecting a ball from any one of said openings into the space above the game board and in the direction of one of said baskets.

4. In a game apparatus, a game board having openings corresponding in location substantially to the positions of rest of the respective players of two opposing teams in the actual game of basketball, said game board being formed to slope upwardly in all directions from the edge of each of said openings, a basket at each of the opposite ends of said game board, and means as-

sociated with each of said openings for projecting a ball from that opening into the space above said game board.

5. In a game apparatus, a game board having openings corresponding in location substantially to the positions of rest of the respective players of two opposing teams in the actual game of basketball, said game board being formed to slope upwardly in all directions from the edge of each of said openings, a basket at each of the opposite ends of said game board, means associated with each of said openings for projecting a ball from that opening into the space above said game board, and means located at the center of said game board for supporting a ball, said ball supporting means being operable to project said ball into the air above said game board.

6. In a game apparatus of the character described, a game board having a central opening, a tubular supporting member extending through said central opening above the level of the game board, said tubular supporting member being enlarged at its upper end internally and formed to partially receive a ball, a plunger reciprocable in the bore of said tubular member, a lever fulcrumed intermediate its length for movement about a horizontal axis, said lever being pivotally attached at one end to the lower end of said plunger, and a vertically shiftable actuating rod extending above said game board and resting at its lower end on the free end of said lever, as and for the purpose described.

7. In a game apparatus of the character described, a game board having openings located in positions corresponding substantially to the positions of the forwards, centers, and guards of two opposing teams engaged in the actual game of basketball, baskets supported at opposite ends of the game board, means associated with the openings which represent the centers and forwards of the opposing teams for projecting a ball from said openings into a basket, and other means associated with the openings which represent the guards for projecting a ball therefrom in the direction of the openings which represent the associated forwards.

8. In a game apparatus of the character described, a game board, means at the opposite ends of said game boards for supporting baskets above the game board, said game board having openings adjacent to each of its opposite ends and directly in front of the adjacent basket, a rest block for each of said openings, said rest block extending through the associated opening above the level of the game board, said rest block having an inclined run-away in the side thereof which is remote from the adjacent basket, said runway being inclined toward its upper end in the direction of the adjacent

basket, a pivoted throw plate extending into said run-way below the level of said opening and operable to project a ball from said run-way into the adjacent basket.

5 9. In a game apparatus of the character described, a game board, means at the opposite ends of said game board for supporting baskets above the game board, said game board having openings adjacent to each of
10 its opposite ends and directly in front of the adjacent basket, a rest block for each of said openings, said rest block extending through the associated opening above the level of the game board, said rest block having
15 an inclined run-way in the side thereof which is remote from the adjacent basket, said run-way being inclined toward its upper end in the direction of the adjacent basket, a pivoted throw plate extending into
20 said run-way below the level of said opening and operable to project a ball from said run-way into the adjacent basket, and a guard bar at the edge of the run-way above the level of said game board for preventing
25 accidental displacement of the ball from the associated run-way.

10. In a game apparatus, a game board having an opening, a rest block adjustably supported adjacent to said opening, said
30 rest block having a runway formed therein substantially in line with a portion of said opening, a throw plate supported to swing about a horizontal axis, a portion of said throw plate extending into the lower part
35 of said run-way and adapted to support a ball in said runway, and means for actuating said throw plate to project said ball from said run-way and through the opening in said game board.

40 11. In a game apparatus of the character described, a rest block having an inclined channel runway, means for supporting said block for adjustment vertically, a throw-plate pivotally supported at the edge of the
45 lower part of said run-way and having a portion extending into said run-way and adapted to cooperate with the run-way to support a ball therein, and spring impelled means in contact with the lower face of the
50 swingable portion of said throw plate and adapted to be actuated at will to swing said throw plate upward, whereby the ball in said run-way will be projected from said run-way.

55 12. In a game apparatus of the character described, a rest block having an inclined channel run-way, means for supporting said block for adjustment vertically, a throw-plate pivotally supported at the end of the
60 lower part of said run-way and having a portion extending into said run-way and adapted to cooperate with the run-way to support a ball therein, spring impelled means in contact with the lower face of the swingable
65 able portion of said throw plate and adapted

to be actuated at will to swing said throw plate upward, whereby the ball in said run-way will be projected from said run-way, and a cam for guiding said spring impelled means in contact with said throw member, 70 and in response to the actuation of the spring.

13. In a game apparatus of the character described, a rest block having an inclined channel run-way, means for supporting said 75 block for adjustment vertically, a throw plate pivotally supported at the end of the lower part of said run-way and having a portion extending into said run-way and adapted to cooperate with the run-way to support a ball 80 therein, a cam plate supported below the level of said throw plate and having a cam extending substantially at right angles to the axis of swinging movement of said throw plate, an axially movable operating rod having 85 a laterally turned portion extending through said cam slot and formed with a striker head in contact continuously with the underface of said throw plate, and a spring attached to said operating rod and adapted to be energized when said operating 90 rod is pulled in the direction opposite to said throw plate to cause said striker head to rebound forcibly when said operating rod is released, whereby said throw plate will 95 be swung upward in response to the actuation of said spring, and said ball will be projected from said run-way.

14. In a game apparatus of the character described, a rest block having an inclined 100 run-way, a bracket attached to a fixed support and having an upwardly extending arm, an attaching ear secured to said rest block and having an opening through which said upwardly extending arm of the bracket 105 loosely extends, and clamping means adjustably engageable with said upwardly extending arm of the bracket for releasably holding said rest block in adjusted position on said upwardly extending arm, and a pivoted 110 throw plate carried by said rest block, said throw plate having a portion swingable in the run-way to project a ball or the like from the run-way.

15. In a game apparatus, a game board 115 having a series of openings, pivoted throw plates associated with said openings and each operable to project a ball through the associated opening into the space above said game board, and a unitary actuating mechanism for each of said throw plates, each of 120 said actuating mechanisms including an operating rod, certain of said operating rods extending beyond one end of said game board and the remaining operating rods extending beyond the opposite ends of the 125 game boards.

16. A game apparatus of the character described, comprising a case, said case having a body portion comprising a base and up- 130

standing side and end walls, a game board fitting in said body of the case above the level of the bottom of the body of the case, back stops removably supported on the end walls of said body of the case, baskets carried by said back stops, pivoted throw plates each operable to project a ball from said game board into the space above said game board, certain of said throw plates being operable to project the ball into one of said baskets, and the remaining throw plates being operable to project the ball toward one of said first throw plates, and means extending beyond the opposite ends of the body of said case for operating said throw plates selectively.

17. A game apparatus of the character described, comprising a case, said case having a body portion comprising a base and up-standing side and end walls, a game board fitting in said body of the case above the level of the bottom of the body of the case, back stops removably supported on the end walls of said body of the case, baskets carried by said back stops, pivoted throw plates each operable to project a ball from said game board into the space above said game board, certain of said throw plates being operable to project the ball into one of said baskets, and the remaining throw plates being operable to project the ball to-

ward one of said first throw plates, means extending beyond the opposite ends of the body of said case for operating said throw plates selectively, and a cover for said body of the case.

18. In a game apparatus of the character described, a case including a body having a pair of spaced vertical walls, a pair of spring fingers extending close to the inner face of each of said vertical walls, a back stop for each of said vertical walls, each back stop having a shoulder adapted to rest on the upper edge of the associated vertical wall and having the lower end portion adapted to fit snugly between the adjacent spring fingers and said vertical wall.

19. In a game apparatus of the character described, a case including a body having a pair of spaced vertical walls, a pair of spring fingers extending close to the inner face of each of said vertical walls, a back stop for each of said vertical walls, each back stop having a shoulder adapted to rest on the upper edge of the associated vertical wall and having the lower end portion adapted to fit snugly between the adjacent spring fingers and said vertical wall, and a basket supported on the inner face of each of said back stops.

JOHN W. WEAVER.