

May 29, 1934.

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1,961,014

GAME APPARATUS

Filed Feb. 6, 1933

2 Sheets-Sheet 1

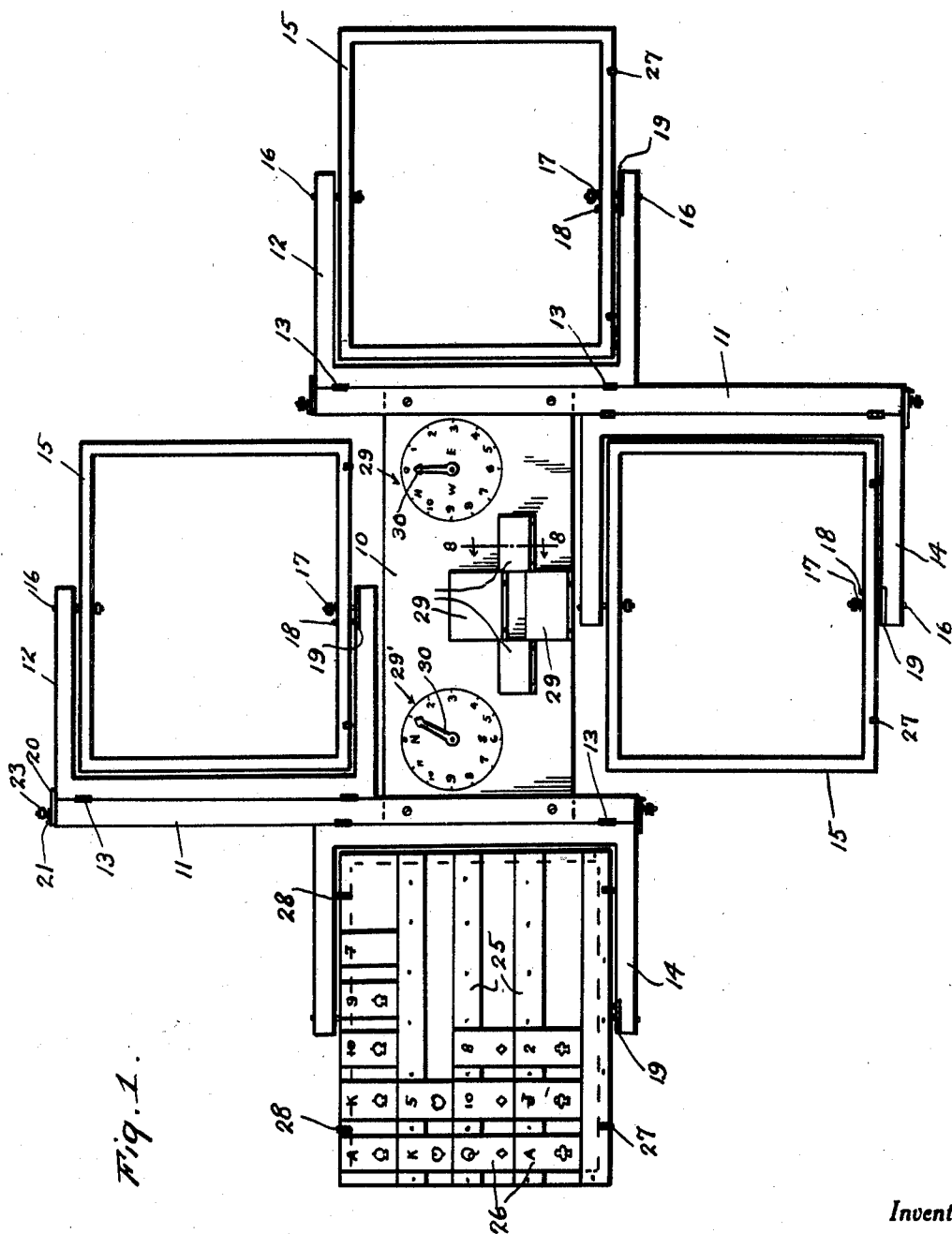


Fig. 1.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

1,961,014

GAME APPARATUS

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Application February 6, 1933, Serial No. 655,527

5 Claims. (Cl. 35—12)

This invention relates to game apparatus, having particular reference to a device adapted to be utilized in connection with the game of bridge.

In accordance with the present invention a game set or board is provided which will facilitate the convenient and rapid assembly, play and replay of hands of bridge of every description and which will prove useful for teaching and lecturing with reference to the game of bridge, for individual study of the game; for discussing interesting hands that may have arisen during the course of an evening's play or tournament, or for reproducing, before an audience, hands as they are being played in a championship match and in this connection, will the device be particularly useful in giving a visual play by play description of a match as it is being received over a telephone or broadcasting station.

The invention together with its numerous objects and advantages will be best understood from a study of the following description taken in connection with the accompanying drawings wherein:

Figure 1 is an elevational view of the apparatus.

Figure 2 is an edge elevational view thereof.

Figure 3 is a fragmentary sectional elevational view showing the means provided for securing a revoluble card holder at the desired adjustment.

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

Figure 5 is a fragmentary sectional elevational view taken substantially on the line 5—5 of Figure 2.

Figure 6 is a rear elevational view of a portion of the center board for showing the manner of securing the hands of a counting clock in position for recording or indicating the number of tricks scored by one set of partners.

Figure 7 is a sectional view taken substantially on the line 7—7 of Figure 6, and

Figure 8 is a sectional view taken substantially on the line 8—8 of Figure 1.

Referring to the drawings by reference numerals it will be seen that the game apparatus or set comprises a center board 10 to the ends of which are secured bars or supports 11. These bars or supports 11 are secured adjacent one end to the board 10 and project laterally therefrom in reverse direction. Each bar 11 has hinged to that end thereof secured to the board 10 a carrier 12 which is in the nature of a U-shaped frame hinged at the closed end of the U to one side of the bar or support 11 as at 13. Each bar 11 has also hinged to the free end thereof a second carrier 14 which carrier also consists of a U-shaped frame hinged

at the closed end of the U to the side of the bar or support 11 opposite to the first named carrier 12. It will thus be seen that the carriers 12, 14 are arranged respectively at the four points of the compass relative to the board 10.

Each carrier also has revolubly mounted therein a card holder. Each card holder includes a rectangular frame 15 and pivot bolts 16 extend through the sides of the frame 15 and the sides of the carrier frame at the free ends of such sides. One of the bolts 16 has a spring tension device 17 associated therewith for normally urging the stop pin 18 carried by the frame 15 into engagement with a plate 19 countersunk in one of the sides of the carrier and provided with a circular series of ratchet teeth over which the pin 18 is movable, and with which the pin is engageable for securing the frame 15 at the desired angular adjustment.

Means is also provided for holding each carrier at the desired angular adjustment relative to its supporting bar 11. As shown in Figure 5 such means consists of a spring plate 20 that is loosely connected at one end to one end of the bar 11 as at 21 and at its free end is provided on one face with a recess to engage a pin 22 projecting laterally from the proximate side of the hinged carrier associated with the bar 11. A suitable spring device designated by the reference character 23 is provided for yieldably urging the plate 20 into frictional engagement with the bar 11 at the adjacent side of the proximate carrier 12 or 14.

Each card holder also includes a substantially rectangular plate 24 provided on one face thereof with spaced longitudinal strips 25 nailed or otherwise secured to the plate and forming pockets for the reception of game pieces, in the present instance, playing cards 26.

To secure in a releasable manner a plate 24 on its frame 15 I provide on the frame permanent clips 27 to engage the lower edge of the plate while removable substantially U-shaped clips 28 are provided to straddle the upper edge of the plate and the upper frame member of the frame 15 and thereby cooperate with the clips 27 to secure the plate 24 in position.

On the board 10 there are provided game piece receiving pockets 29, and these pockets 29 are four in number and are arranged respectively at the four points of the compass on the board as shown in Figure 1. The pockets 29 are adapted to receive the cards used in the playing of each trick.

There is also provided on the board 10 two trick-counting devices or clocks 29', there be-

ing one clock for "north" and "south"; and the other clock being for counting the number of tricks won by "west" and "east" during the course of a hand.

5 Each of the clocks or counting devices 29' comprises a suitably graduated dial over which is movable a hand 30 provided on one end of the stub shaft 31 that extends through the board and is equipped on its other end, rearwardly of
10 the board with a ratchet wheel 32 with which is engageable a dog 33 pivoted on the rear face of the board 10 and cooperable with the teeth of the ratchet wheel to hold the pointer or index 30 in proper position with reference to the particular
15 graduation on the dial.

When it is desired to use the apparatus or set either to play a solitaire hand, or to work out a problem or to reproduce a play as it is being described over a radio or telephone, the game pieces, assuming in this instance, that it is desired to
20 play a hand for the purpose of teaching an audience, are first placed in the pockets of the plates 24 and the various hands arranged in their proper suit and sequences. This placing of the game
25 pieces on the plates 24 and the arrangement of the hand may be done prior to or after the plates have been properly positioned on the frames 15.

With the plates having the cards properly arranged thereon positioned on the frames 15 let it be assumed that "south" is declarer. West leads. A card is taken from the west card holder and placed in the west pocket 29 of the board 10. This is followed by a card from the north card
35 holder and placed in the north pocket, etc. When the four cards to the first trick are played, the proper clock 29' is suitably manipulated to register the trick for the winning side.

The above is repeated until the last trick has
40 been played and when play is over the total number of tricks won by each side will be indicated on the clocks.

It will be evident that the game apparatus or set of the character described can be used for the
45 purpose of giving an illustrated lecture on the playing of numerous card games and especially the game of bridge, permits the working out of bridge problems by individuals, and that the card holders can be readily positioned so as to
50 enable the teacher or lecturer to conceal a particular hand from his pupils as it would be concealed in an actual game, but at the same time to have the hand so concealed from the pupils in position for the teacher or lecturer to clearly view
55 the same, and further that the entire apparatus may be readily placed flatly upon a table or vertically disposed on any suitable support.

In connection with the above it will be apparent that the provision of the hingedly mounted carriers 12 and 14 with the holders 15 rotatably
60 mounted therein will permit of a wide range of adjustment with the result that the device can be used with facility in auditoriums and the like, and in a manner to insure a clear view of each
65 "hand" to a group or part of the audience regardless of where such groups may be located. Thus for example, let it be assumed that it is desired to display the "north hand" to the audience seated at the left of the auditorium. Obviously the holder 15 for the "north hand" must
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be rotated in a clockwise direction or toward the right in Figure 1. If this is done with the carrier 12 remaining in the position shown in Figure 1 obviously a full view of the hand cannot
80 be obtained because the upper portion of the bar 11 as well as the hinged part of the carrier 12 will be in the line of vision. To offset this the carrier 12 of "north hand" is first swung outwardly to a position at right angles to the bar 11 after
85 which the holder 12 may then be swung about its pivot 16 to the proper angle to insure a full view to that part of the audience desired. Other examples of the utility of the hingedly mounted carriers 12, 14 and the pivotally mounted holders 15 will readily present themselves to the reader and
90 in the course of actual use of the device.

Even though I have herein shown and described the preferred embodiment of the invention, it is to be understood that the same is susceptible of further changes, modifications and improvements
95 coming within the scope of the appended claims.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new is:

1. A game set comprising a board, supports extending in reverse directions from the board at the ends thereof, carriers hinged to the supports, means for securing the carriers at the desired angular adjustment, holders for game pieces revolvably mounted on the carriers, and means for securing the holders in angularly adjusted positions relative to the carriers.

2. A game set comprising a board, supports extending in reverse directions from the board at the ends thereof, carriers hinged to the supports, means for securing the carriers at the desired angular adjustments, frames revolvably mounted on the carriers, means for securing the frames in angularly adjusted positions relative to the carriers, and pocket equipped plates mounted on said frames.

3. A game set comprising a center board, card holders arranged respectively at the four points of the compass of the board, and each of said card holders including a frame, a pocket equipped plate mounted on the frame, and clips engaged with said plate and the frame for securing the plate on the latter.

4. A game set comprising a board, bars projecting from the ends of the board, carrier frames hinged to the bars at opposite sides of the bars, card holders revolvably mounted in the carrier frames and each of the card holders including a substantially rectangular frame, a pocket equipped plate, and clips engaged with said frame and the pocket equipped plate for securing the latter on said frame.

5. A game set comprising a board, bars extending laterally from the ends of the board in reverse directions, a frame hinged to each bar, in substantial alinement with the board, a second frame hinged to each bar at the side thereof opposite to the first frame, and card holders revolvably mounted in each frame including a frame and a plate removably mounted therein and provided with pockets for receiving game pieces; and game piece receiving pockets corresponding in number and arrangement respectively to the card holders mounted on said board.

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