E. L. FREELAND.

GAME APPARATUS.

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Fig. 1.

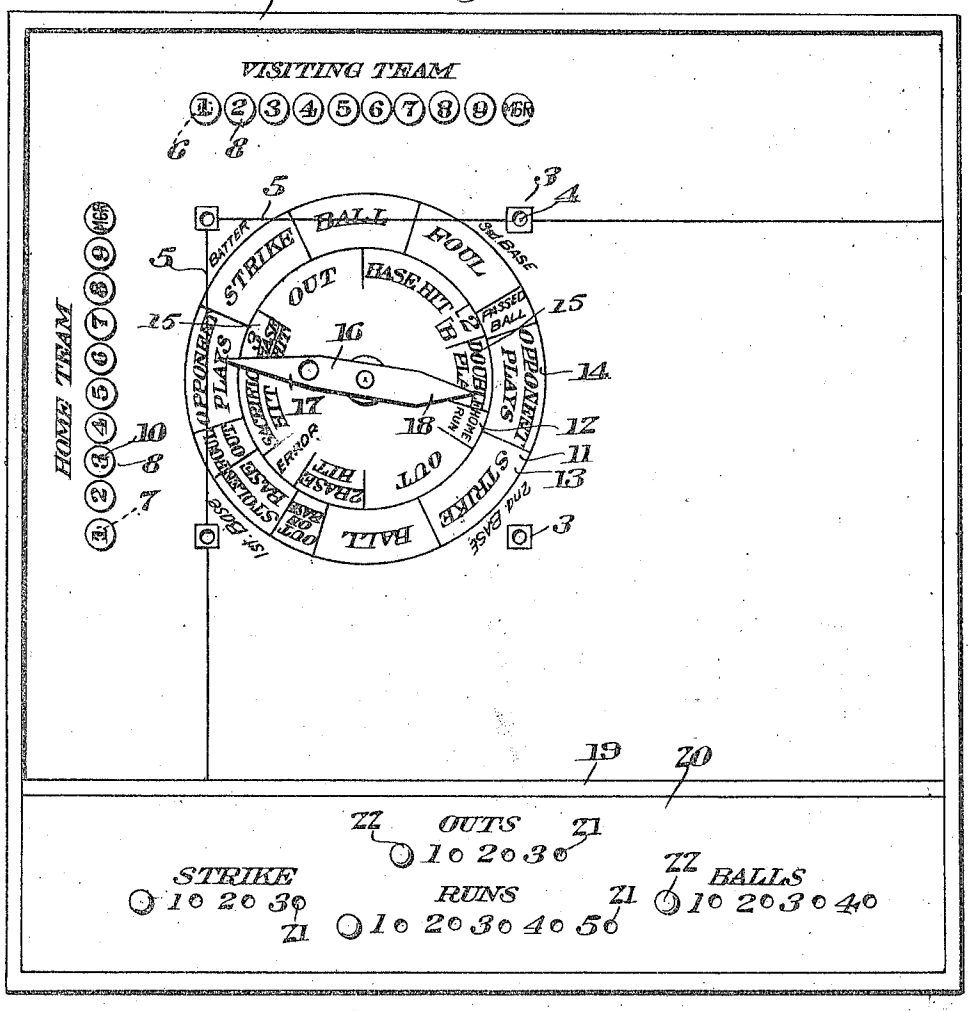
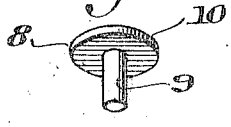


Fig. 2.



Inventor

Earle L. Freeland

Witnesses

M. W. Slifer

R. Bruderkamp

By James A. J. Koelz, Atty.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EARLE L. FREELAND, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

GAME APPARATUS.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EARLE L. FREELAND, a citizen of the United States, residing at New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Game Apparatus, of which the following is a specification.

The invention relates to an improvement in game boards constructed particularly with a view to providing for the playing of a base ball game, wherein the possible plays simulate as nearly as possible the actual plays of a field game.

The main object of the present invention is the provision of a game board in the use of which a spinning element is employed to determine the character of plays, the play indications with which said element coöperates including a designation to denote a particular play by the team at bat, the result of which play is determined by the succeeding designation indicated by the spinning element operated by the opposing or field team thereby more nearly simulating the actual field game than heretofore possible through the use of a game board of similar character.

In general structure the game board which is arranged to indicate a playing field is printed to include two concentric spaces and a spinning element having arms of different lengths, one to coöperate with the outer space and the other with the inner space, the outer space being for use by the batting team and the inner space for use by the fielding team, the fielding team, however, playing only when the pointer for the outer space has indicated a certain play, and the operation of the spinner by the fielding team being simply for the purpose of indicating the result of that particular play by the batting team.

The invention will be described in the following specification, reference being had particularly to the accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a plan of the improved game board; Fig. 2 is a perspective view showing one of the elements representing the players.

In the accompanying drawings, the improved game board, designated generally by 1 involves a flat board of any appropriate material having an edge wall 2, thereby providing a simulation of the ball field and the usual fence surrounding the same. The usual diamond is marked out on the field, base indications 3 being formed by suitable apertures 4 which extend through or a suitable distance into the board. The usual foul lines 5 are provided, and beyond the foul line at the position usually occupied thereby I provide a series of alined apertures 6 representing the home bench and a similar position between the general locations of the home plate and third base, I arrange another alined series of apertures 7 representing the bench for the visiting players.

The players are represented by elements 8, which include stems 9 and flat disk heads 10, the stems being of a size to coöperate with the apertures described and the disks bearing upon their upper surface suitable distinguishing data, as numbers, names, positions, or the like, there being preferably included with each set of player pegs one which will be known as manager and so designated on the disk head.

The salient and important feature of the present invention is the provision of means whereby the respective plays are indicated. This consists in arranging two concentric parallel spaces 11 and 12 preferably, though not necessarily, within the space included by the bases, that is within the base lines. The outer space 11 is, as indicated on the present board, divided by a series of radial lines to provide differently sized spaces 13 hereinafter termed play indicating spaces. These spaces bear indicating data arbitrarily selected in accordance with the game, for example, such spaces will include strike, ball, stolen base, out on base, passed ball, foul, foul out. In addition to the play indicating spaces there is provided in the outer annular spaces two or more, if desired, spaces 14 labeled "opponent plays." These are the essence of the game in its use with this particular board and will be hereinafter more particularly referred to. The inner annular space 12 is also divided by a series of radial lines to provide play indicating spaces 15, these spaces being, however, labeled or marked to indicate plays resultant from a batted ball, for example, double-play, home-run, out, base-hit, sacrifice, error. Rotatably supported centrally of the concentric annular spaces 11—12 is an indicating pointer 16, which pointer is mounted to present ends 17 and 18 of un-

equal lengths, the shorter end coöperating with the play indicating spaces of the inner annular space 12 and the longer end coöperating with the play indicating spaces of the outer annular space 11. To balance the pointer in its rotative action, a portion of the material of the longer arm is cut therefrom as shown in order that the weight of the respective portions on opposite sides of the pivot will be approximately equal.

One end of the field is preferably inclosed by the provision of an inner wall 19 on which is secured a scoring or top section 20, the inner wall constituting in effect the fence effect for the field purpose. The section 20 is formed at appropriate points with apertures 21 to receive pegs 22, the apertures being arranged to indicate balls, outs, strikes and runs, so that an accurate score of the particular inning may be kept.

In outlining the board for playing purposes the respective teams are arranged on their benches, in batting order, and as the visiting team usually is first at bat, such order may be followed or any selected to determine which team shall be first at bat. Having determined, the first batter is placed in the aperture at home-plate and the player representing that side spins the pointer. He however, is governed only by the long arm, that is by the play indicating spaces in the outer annular space. The disposition of the particular batter is in accordance with such indicating plays, as for example, if three strikes or four balls are indicated in succession the batter is out, or takes his base in accordance with the usual rules. If during the plays or spinning of the pointer it should indicate "opponent plays," this in the particular feature of the present invention is intended to indicate that the ball has been hit by the batter. Now the fielding or opposing team has control of the pointer and the player representing that team spins the pointer to determine the result of such batted ball. In this use, however, the play is determined by the inner play indicating space and noted by the shorter end of the pointer. From the spaces in the inner annular space, it will be readily seen that practically all possible plays of a batted ball may be had. The game continues in accordance with the usual base ball rules, until each of the teams have had the usual or any predetermined number of innings.

The particular feature wherein the present game board differs from another of a previous nature, is the utilization of an indicated play by one side as a means for causing the other or opponent side to determine the result of that play.

If desired, an individual score board may be provided in which the names of the players, the names of the playing teams, and the usual score for the players and teams indicated by removable members constructed in any preferred or desired manner.

What is claimed is:

A game board arranged to simulate a ball-field, said board being marked with concentric annular sections divided by radial lines to indicate play controlling spaces, the spaces of the inner section indicating plays by the fielding team, the spaces of the outer section indicating plays for the batting team, and including one or more spaces which indicate a definite play by the batting team and also indicate that the next play is by the fielding team and a pivoted pointer having two sections of different lengths to coöperate with the respective annular sections, whereby when the longer section of the pointer indicates the particular spaces in the outer annular section referred to, the following play is by the fielding team through the shorter section of the pointer coöperating with the spaces of the inner annular section.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

EARLE L. FREELAND.

Witnesses:
JAMES L. FREELAND,
LEOPOLD RING.