June 30, 1925. 1,544,308

L. C. GELPI

GAME APPARATUS

Filed Nov. 9, 1922

Fig. 1.

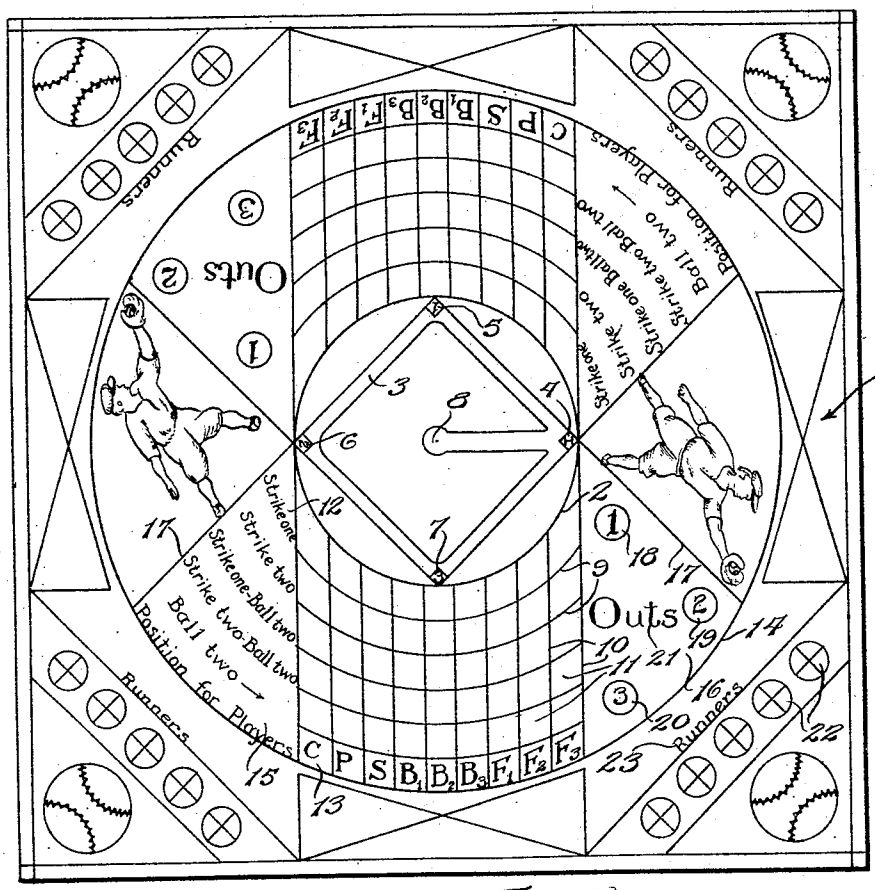


Fig. 2.

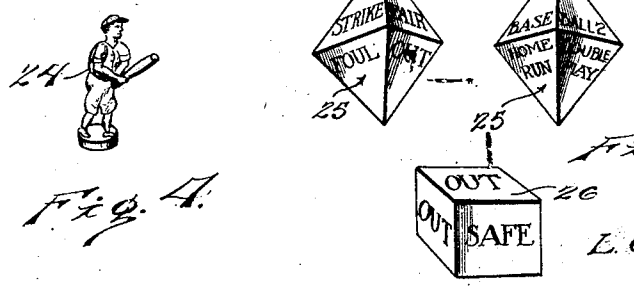


Fig. 3.

Fig. 4.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LEOPOLDO CASTRO GELPI, OF VIEQUES, PORTO RICO.

GAME APPARATUS.

Application filed November 9, 1922. Serial No. 599,890.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LEOPOLDO CASTRO GELPI, a citizen of the United States, residing at Vieques, in the county of Humacao, Porto Rico, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Game Apparatus, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to game apparatus, and more particularly to an apparatus for use in playing a game simulating the well-known game of base ball.

One of the primary objects of the invention is to provide a board embodying a novel arrangement of the playing surface.

Another object of the invention is to so arrange the playing surface of the board that permanent and temporary or inning scores may be most conveniently kept.

Another object of the invention is to provide a novel combination of dies whereby the various plays may be determined in a manner more accurately simulating the determination of plays in the actual game than is possible by the use of a rotary pointer or like devices.

In the accompanying drawings:

Figure 1 is a plan view of the game board embodying the invention;

Figure 2 is a perspective illustrating two views of one of the dies employed in determining the plays to be made;

Figure 3 is a similar view of the other die employed;

Figure 4 is a perspective view of one of the game pieces.

In the drawings the game board is indicated in general by the numeral 1 and may be of any material suitable for the purpose, and the board is preferably rectangular and its playing surface is laid out in the manner which will now be described, it being understood that the lines, images, legends, and the like, may be depicted upon the face of the board by printing, painting, or otherwise. Within a circle 2 at the center of the board there is depicted a base ball diamond 3 of which the home, first, second, and third bases are indicated, respectively, by the numerals 4, 5, 6 and 7, and are suitably designated, the pitcher's position being indicated by the numeral 8.

At diametrically opposite sides of the circle 2 there are depicted upon the face of the board a plurality of arcuate lines 9 concentric to the said circle 2 and intersected by straight lines 10 chordal to the circle and parallel to one another, the lines 9 and 10 defining spaces 11. As a matter of fact the lines 9 and 10 are so arranged that the spaces 11 will be located in a plurality of arcuate series at opposite sides of the field defined by the circle 2, and upon the face of the board and at one side of each group of space series 11 there are printed or otherwise indicated legends 12 each located opposite one end of a respective series of the spaces 11 and reading, for example:—"Strike one," "Strike two," "Strike one—ball two," "Strike two—ball two," "Ball two." Within the spaces of one series, preferably the series of each group the more remote from the field defined by the circle 2, there are printed letters or other abbreviations 13 representing the individual players of the team, these letters in the present instance being:—"C, P, S, B1, B2, B3, F1, F2, and F3," and representing respectively the catcher, pitcher, short stop, first baseman, second baseman, third baseman, right fielder, center fielder, and left fielder.

Preferably the legends 12 are arranged in segmental spaces at one side of each respective group of space series 11 and within the bounds of a circle 14 concentric to the circle 2. These segmental spaces which are indicated by the numeral 15 and other segmental spaces which are indicated by the numeral 16, are bounded by the circle 14, the endmost ones of the straight lines 10, and other lines 17 which are chordal to the circles 2 and 14. The segmental spaces 16 are located at the sides of the groups of space series 11 opposite to the respective spaces 15, and within each of the spaces 16 there are depicted three stations indicated by the numerals 18, 19 and 20 and defined preferably by circles within which respectively appear the ordinals "1," "2," and "3." Also within each space 16 there is printed the legend "Out" as indicated by the numeral 21.

Within each corner of the board and exterior to the circle 14 there is arrenged a diagonal series of positions or spots 22 which are identified by the legend "Runners" located in juxtaposition thereto.

Figure 4 of the drawings illustrates one of eighteen game pieces which are to be arranged over the surface of the board 1 in accordance with indicated plays as will presently be explained, and this game piece is indicated by the numeral 24.

In connection with the board and in order

to determine the plays to be made there are provided two dies, one indicated by the numeral 25, two views of which are shown in Figure 2 of the drawings, and the other indicated in general by the numeral 26 and shown in Fig. 3. The die 25 is in the form of an octahedron and has indicated upon its eight faces the following legends:—"Strike," "Foul," 'Fair," "Out," "Base," "Home-run," "Double-play," and "Ball two." The die 26 has indicated on three of its six faces the legend "Out," and upon the remaining three of its faces the legend "Safe."

In playing the game the die 25 is employed first and is thrown, and one of the game pieces 24 is placed upon the playing surface of the board in accordance with the play indicated by the die. That is to say the said game piece is placed in one or another of the spaces 11 or upon one or another of the spaces 18, 19 and 20 or the spaces 22, depending upon the play indicated by the die. Should the die indicate "Fair" the die 26 is then employed to determine whether the player assumed to be at the bat is safe or out. Of course, by placing the game pieces upon the surface of the board in the various spaces in accordance with the indicated plays, the players are enabled to determine the score by merely glancing at the board and noting the positions of the game pieces thereon.

To start a game, the game pieces 24 are placed on the spaces 13 provided on both sides of the board and designated with the positions of the players. The choice of starting the play may be determined by tossing a coin or any other convenient method and the player winning the choice will usually take the first turn at batting, placing the game piece representing the first batter on the station 4 representing the home plate of the base ball diamond. The other player then throws the die 25 upon the game board and the legend which appears uppermost when the die comes to rest will denote the play or action affecting the batter, the game piece representing the batter being moved accordingly. The die is then again thrown until three outs are shown, a game piece being moved to the home plate after each throw of the die and the preceding game piece representing the batter being properly disposed according to the indicated play. Should the die come to rest with the legend "Base" uppermost, the game piece representing the batter is moved to the first base position or the station 5 upon the game board. Should the die display "Home run," the game piece representing the batter will be moved to one of the spaces 22 and if an "Out" should appear uppermost upon the die, the game piece will be moved to the station 18, the play continuing until each of the stations 18, 19 and 20 is occupied by a game piece, when the inning will be completed and the number of runs scored will be indicated by the number of game pieces occupying stations 22. The total number of scores may be placed upon any convenient portion of the board or may be placed upon a separate score card. In the spaces 11, and alined with that space 13 representing any particular player, may be placed suitable marks indicating whether the respective player scored or was put out.

Should the die 25 display the legend "Strike" three times before displaying a legend which calls for movement of the player, the batter is considered out, fouls being treated as strikes. If the die displays a legend calling for a double play, it should be executed by removing the batter and the player nearest the home and, if the double play is displayed when there are no players on the bases, it is a nullity and the die is thrown again until some definite play is indicated. A home run moves all players on the bases including the batter, while an out affects the batter when there are no players on the bases but when any of the bases are occupied it is applied to the one nearest home. When the batter is moved to first base, a player already occupying the first base is moved forward and this play is applied to all occupied bases when forced as in the actual game of base ball.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new is:

Game apparatus comprising a game board having a base ball diamond depicted thereon at its center, series of score-recording stations depicted at opposite sides of the diamond, stations representing "outs" at one side of each series of scoring stations, and "runners" stations located radially beyond the "outs" stations, game pieces to be initially placed adjacent the score-receiving spaces and subsequently moved about the diamond to "outs" or "runners" stations, a die for determining by chance the movements of the game pieces, and a second die for interpreting a certain indication of the first die.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

LEOPOLDO CASTRO GELPI. [L. S.]