March 24, 1925. 1,531,172

B. A. BOWLES

GAME OF CHANCE

Filed Oct. 25, 1924

Fig. 1.

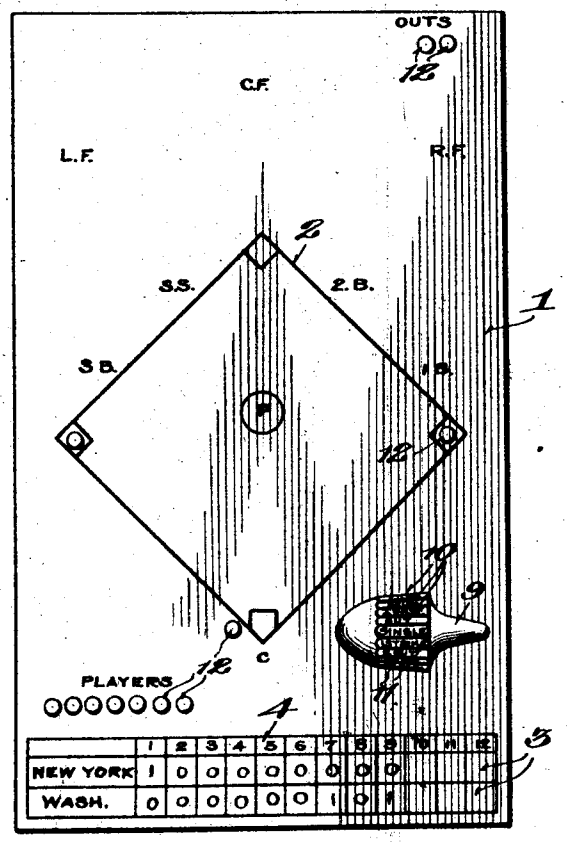


Fig. 2.

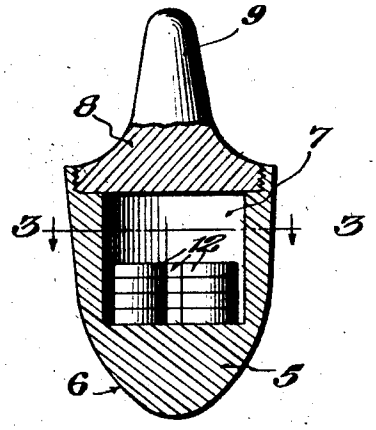


Fig. 3.

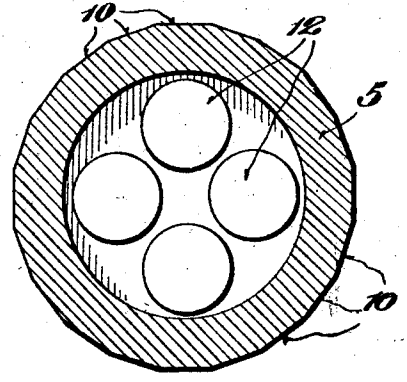
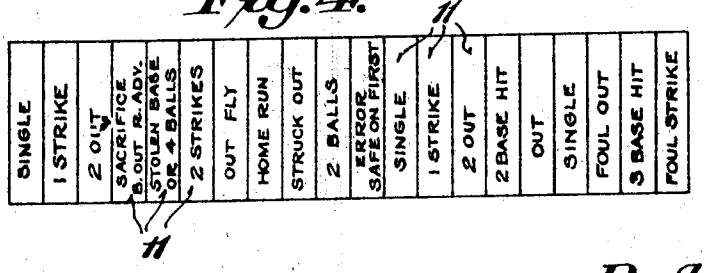


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BENJAMIN AGEE BOWLES, OF WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

GAME OF CHANCE.

Application filed October 25, 1924. Serial No. 745,906.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, BENJAMIN AGEE BOWLES, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Washington, in the District of Columbia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Games of Chance; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, concise, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to improvements in games of chance, having for an object to provide a novel and highly amusing game adapted, when in use, to simulate the playing of an actual game of base-ball, including the various plays of interest and moment in such a game as well as permitting the advancing of runners about the bases and the retiring of the opposite sides in realistic fashion.

It is also an equally important object of the invention to provide the game with a novel form of game-piece whereby the plays of the game will be indicated to persons participating therein, its operation and control being entirely of chance and hence, lending to the realism of the game.

Other objects of the invention will be in part obvious, and in part pointed out hereinafter.

In order that the invention and its mode of operation may be readily understood by persons skilled in the art, I have in the accompanying illustrative drawings, and in the detailed following description based thereupon, set out one possible embodiment of the same.

In these drawings:—

Figure 1 is an elevation of the complete game showing the game control piece arranged in one indicating position upon the game board;

Figure 2 is an enlarged vertical section through the control game piece;

Figure 3 is a fragmentary enlarged horizontal section taken on the line 3—3 of Figure 2 looking in the direction in which the arrows point; and,

Figure 4 is a plan view showing the arrangement of play indicating markings upon the flattened sides of the control game piece.

Having more particular reference to the drawings, in connection with which like characters of reference will designate corresponding parts throughout, the invention may be stated to comprise a suitable form of game board 1 formed of material possessing the desired stability and rigidity and having a base-ball diamond 2 delineated thereupon as is clearly shown in the Figure 1, while suitably designated transversely arranged columns 3 are presented upon one portion of the aforesaid surface of the game board 1 and permit the keeping of "box score"; these transverse columns being divided into score receiving boxes, the "innings" of which are indicated by numerals generally designated herein by the numeral 4.

To permit the playing of the game, a novel form of control game piece 5 is utilized. This game piece consists of a metal body or a body formed of other suitable material having the desired weight, stability, and rigidity, the lower portion of which is reduced and rounded, as indicated at 6, while a pocket 7 is formed in the upper portion thereof and opens onto the upper side of said body 5 whereat it is provided with internal screw threads adapted to be engaged by corresponding screw threads formed on the peripheral portion of a particular top 8. This top 8, in turn, is provided with a concentrically arranged upstanding finger engaging spindle 9 adapted to be engaged between the fingers of a player of the game and twisted in such a manner as to impart rotary or spinning motion to the control game piece body portion 5. In this connection, it is of course to be understood that the circular top 8 is positively turned into full engagement with the screw threaded upper portion of the pocket 7 in the body portion 5 and is thus held against rotary movement with respect to such body portion during the spinning of the latter.

The upper portion of the peripheral surface of the game piece 5, which as will be noted, is substantially circular in cross section, is formed with a series of flattened sides generally indicated herein by the numeral 10 and upon which there is suitably inscribed or otherwise presented, various legends or play indicating matter or mark-

ings 11, such as are clearly shown in the Figure 4. These markings 11 indicate different plays of an actual game of base-ball.

Playing pieces 12, preferably twelve in number, are also provided the game, consisting of complementally formed and sized disks as shown in the Figures 1, 2 and 3. When not in use, the playing pieces 12 are adapted to be received and retained within the pocket 7 of the body portion 5, their displacement from such pocket being, of course, prevented by engagement of the top 8 in the same, as hereinbefore described.

In playing my improved game, a certain number of the playing pieces 12 are removed from the pocket 7 of the control game piece 5 and are arranged upon the board 1 as is shown in the Figure 1. The control game piece 5 is now spun by one of the participants of the game and with discontinuance of its top-like rotary motion, it will fall onto its side, resting upon one of the flattened faces 10 thereof. When in this position upon the game board or other supporting surface, the marking 11 upon that flattened side or face 10 directly opposite to the side 10 engaging or contacting with the game board or supporting surface is read and such marking indicates a certain play to the person who has spun the game piece. In this particular embodiment of the invention, the control game piece is shown as indicating a "single," thus showing that the participant of the game who has spun the piece is entitled to move one of the playing pieces 12, indicating players, onto the first base of the base-ball diamond 2. The control game piece 5 is again spun and the reading of the upper or outermost marking 11 upon the flattened side 10 is again made and in this way, the playing of the game is advanced until the particular side represented by the player aforesaid is retired by the usual three outs. At this time, the opposite player receives the game control piece 5 and spins the same in a fashion corresponding to that described in connection with the first player endeavoring to advance his game pieces 12 about the various bases of the base-ball diamond 2 to secure runs until his particular side is retired by "outs."

Score or runs made by the opposing players of the game may, of course, be entered into the various score receiving boxes provided by the transversely arranged columns 3 and if the score is tied at the time of reaching of the ninth inning of the game, such game may be continued in its playing until one or the other side breaks the tie and wins, as is usual in the playing of an actual game of base-ball.

If desired, the exposed surface of the game board 1 receiving the box score markings thereupon may be formed of celluloid or other similar material, such as rubberized coating matter, et cetera, in order that the scores entered in the different score boxes may be readily erased therefrom subsequently to the playing of a game.

It is to be also noted that when the game is not being played, the game pieces 12 are received in the pocket 7 of the game control piece 5, which, in turn, may be placed in the pocket of the apparel of a person or in other suitable convenient places, as may be desired, the playing pieces thus being prevented from becoming lost, broken, or misplaced.

It is to be furthermore understood that the playing of the game may be effected without the game board 1 should it be so desired, it being practical to merely sketch out upon a piece of paper or other surface, a base-ball diamond or field simulating the actual base-ball field and over the bases of which the game pieces of the opposing players may be advanced in accordance with the plays of the game following.

Manifestly, the construction shown is capable of considerable modification, and such modification as is within the scope of my claims, I consider within the spirit of my invention.

I claim:—

1. In a base-ball game comprising in combination an appropriately delineated playing field, and playing pieces therefor, of a game controlled piece adapted to indicate plays upon said playing field, comprising a body portion having a reduced and rounded lower portion and upwardly opening pocket formed therein, said pocket adapted to retain said playing pieces when the latter are not in use, a top for closing said pocket, and a spindle formed with said top.

2. In a base-ball game comprising in combination an appropriately delineated playing field, and playing pieces therefor, of a game controlled piece comprising a body portion having a reduced and rounded lower portion and an upwardly opening pocket formed therein, said pocket adapted to retain said playing pieces when the latter are not in use, a series of flattened faces formed upon the upper portion of the peripheral surface of said game controlled piece, play indicating matter on said flattened faces adapted to designate the position of said playing pieces upon the playing field, a top for closing said pocket, and a spindle formed with said top.

3. In a base-ball game comprising in combination an appropriately delineated playing field and playing pieces therefor, of a game controlled piece comprising a body portion having a reduced and rounded lower portion and an upwardly opening pocket formed therein, said pocket adapted to retain said playing pieces when the lat-

ter are not in use, a series of flattened faces formed upon the upper portion of the peripheral surface of said game control piece, playing indicating matter on said flattened faces adapted to designate the position of said playing pieces upon the playing field, a top for normally closing said pocket, a threaded connection between said top and body portion, and a spindle formed with and arranged concentrically of said top.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand.

BENJAMIN AGEE BOWLES.