

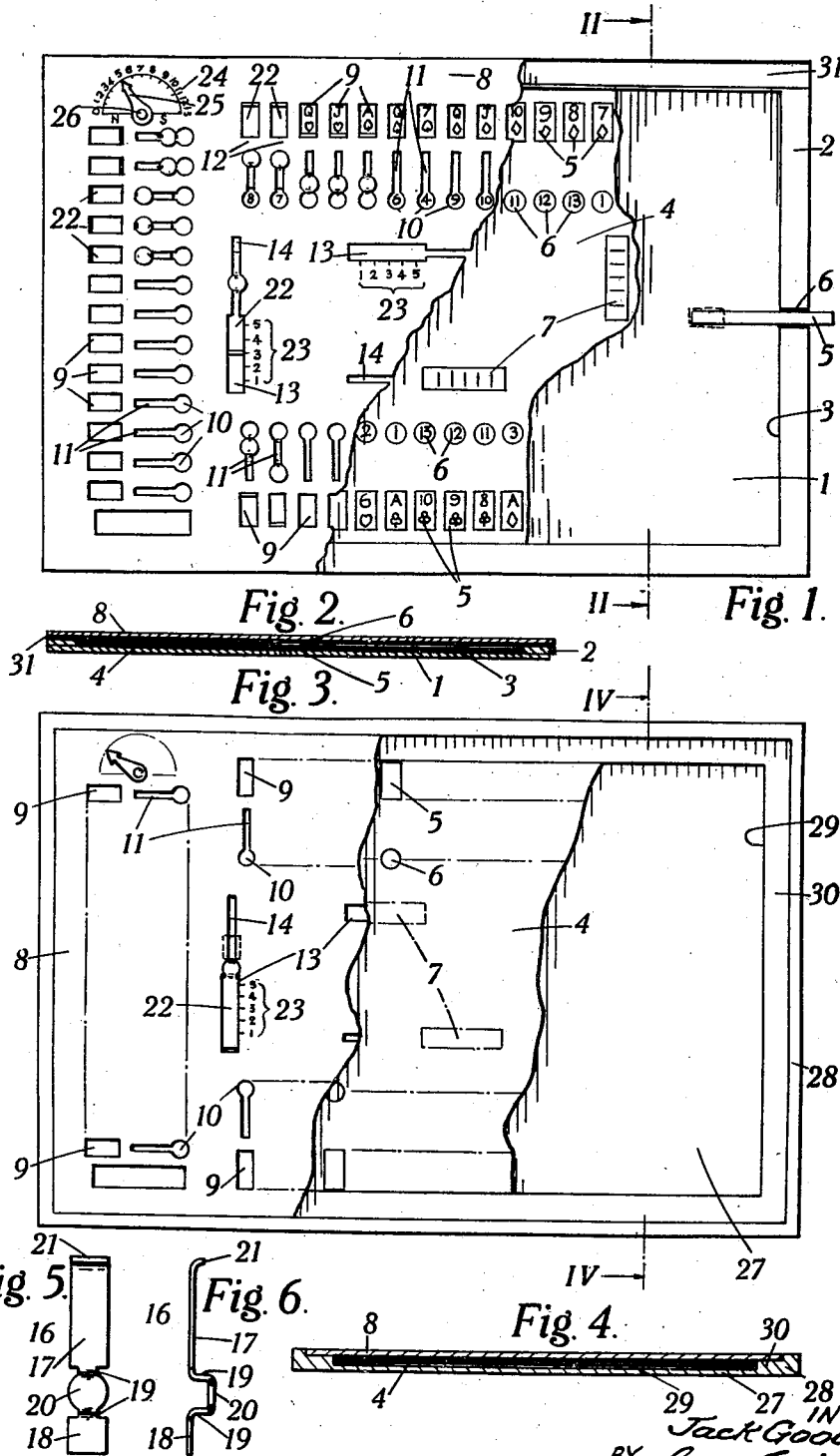
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J. GOODSON

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PRACTICE APPARATUS FOR CARD GAMES

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INVENTOR
Jack Goodson
BY
G. J. Smith
ATTORNEY

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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PRACTICE APPARATUS FOR CARD GAMES

Jack Goodson, London, England

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4 Claims. (Cl. 35-8)

This invention relates to apparatus which may be used in practising card games such as bridge or the like and in the solving of problems based on such games.

5 An object of the invention is to provide improved apparatus whereby a predetermined game may be played by the user of the apparatus and whereby the user's method of play may be compared with a predetermined method of play.

10 Another object of the invention is to provide improved apparatus comprising a recessed base member in which one or more sheets having predetermined games printed thereon may be stored and a cover member having a series of
15 apertures therein through which the indicia on the top printed sheet may be read and provided with slide members movable to cover or uncover these apertures at will.

Various objects of the invention will appear
20 from the following description of particular embodiments of the invention in which reference is made to the accompanying drawing, the novel features being pointed out in the appended claims.

25 In the drawing

Figure 1 represents in plan view, one form of the improved apparatus, certain parts being broken away to show the construction more clearly.

30 Figure 2 represents a cross-section on the line II—II of Figure 1.

Figure 3 represents in plan view a modified form of the apparatus.

35 Figure 4 represents a cross-section on the line IV—IV of Figure 3.

Figure 5 represents a plan view of a slider and Figure 6 represents a side elevation of the slides shown in Figure 5.

Referring to Figures 1 and 2, the apparatus comprises a base member 1 provided with an upstanding rim 2 which may be integral with the base member or rigidly attached thereto. A recess 3 is thus provided in which may be stored
40 a number of game sheets 4.

45 The base member 1 may be constructed of any suitable material and with a thickness which gives it rigidity and enables it to be used as the strength member of the apparatus.

The rim 2 is of such a height that the recess
50 3 will accommodate a number of the sheets 4 in stacked relationship.

The sheets 4 are of such dimensions that the rim 2 serves to position them centrally in the recess 3.

55 To facilitate the removal of the sheets 4 a tab 5 of fabric or the like is secured to the base 1 near one end and extends to the outside of the base. The tab 5 rests in a recess 6 cut in the rim 2. When the sheets 4 are in position in the
60 recess they rest on the tab 5 and may be raised

by lifting the tab thereby facilitating their removal.

The sheets 4 have indicia printed or otherwise marked thereon in accordance with a predetermined problem or card game. For example, the sheet may be marked in accordance with a predetermined bridge hand as shown in the drawing. Indicia 5 indicating the cards held by each player are arranged parallel to the four edges of the sheet and further indicia 6 in alignment with the indicia 5 are provided to indicate the correct or predetermined order in which the cards should be played.

Further indicia 7 for each player are provided showing the correct bid at each round of bidding.

A cover plate 8, formed of cardboard, fibreboard or similar material is hinged by a hinge 31 at one edge to the base 1 and rests on the top of the rim. This plate 8 is formed with a number of sets of apertures through which the indicia
20 on the sheet 4 may be read.

Parallel to each edge of the cover plate 8 are arranged a set of apertures 9 through which the card indications 5 can be read, and a set of apertures 10 in alignment with the apertures 9 through which the indicia 6 showing the order of playing the cards may be read. The apertures 10 have a slot portion 11 extending towards the apertures 9 but separated therefrom by the division 12.

30 Apertures 13 having a slot portion 14 are provided through which the indicia 7 showing the correct bidding may be read. Further apertures 15 may also be provided through which other printed matter on the sheet 4 may be read. Such matter may include advertisements or an indication of a problem to be solved or the like.

The apertures may be economically produced by a stamping operation or may be otherwise formed.

40 The cover plate 8 carries sliders 16 each of which may be moved to obturate at will either one of the apertures 9 or the corresponding aperture 10. The slider 16, as shown in Figures 5 and 6 is formed from a single blank of cardboard, fibreboard, metal or the like and comprises obturating portions 17, 18, guide portions 19 and a handle portion 20. The guide portions 19 are bent up at right angles to the obturating portions 17, 18 and support the handle portion 20 offset
50 from these portions 17, 18.

The sliders 16 are mounted in the cover plate 8 with the guide portions 19 in the slot 11 and the handle portions 20 above the plane of the cover plate. The portion 17 is slidable beneath the cover plate to obturate an aperture 9 and the portion 18 is slidable beneath the cover plate to obturate an aperture 10, the length of the slider being such that when the aperture 9 is obturated, the aperture 10 is open and vice versa.

The handle portion 20 of the slider 16 is of such dimensions that it may pass through aperture 19 when the slider is to be mounted in the cover plate, the slider being sufficiently flexible to permit of it being sprung into position.

The slider 16 is formed with an upstanding ridge 21 at the end of the obturating portion 17, the ridge 21 abutting against one or other end of the aperture 9 to limit the movement of the slider.

Similar sliders 22 are provided whereby the apertures 13 may at will be obturated or opened to show the correct bid at any round of the bidding. Indications 23 may be marked on the cover plate to indicate the different extents to which the slider 22 should be moved to show the bidding at the first, second and succeeding rounds.

Scales 24 are marked on the cover plate 8 and a pointer 25 pivoted at 26 may be moved over these scales to indicate the tricks won by each player.

It will be apparent that the apparatus may be arranged with a sheet printed to represent a particular game positioned in the recess 3, and the sliders 16 arranged so as to cover three sets of the card indicia leaving one set exposed. The user may then bid on the exposed hand and compare his bid, with that indicated as the correct one, by moving the slider 22 corresponding to the exposed hand. Bids on the other hands may be made by moving sliders 22 to uncover the corresponding indicia.

When the bidding is completed, the hand representing dummy may be exposed by moving the sliders 16 and the game played through. At every stage in the game, the play of the user can be compared with that printed on the sheet 4. Various other methods of using the board can be devised.

A modified form of the apparatus is shown in Figures 3 and 4. The base 27 has an upstanding rim 28 of stepped formation which forms a recess 29 for the sheets 4. The step 30 in the rim 28 forms an annular shoulder on which the cover plate 8 rests, its top surface being flush with the top of the rim 28. The plate 8 is provided with sets of apertures and with sliders as described above with regard to Figures 1 and 2.

Whilst the invention has been described above with reference to specific preferred embodiments, it may have other embodiments within the spirit of the invention which is not therefore restricted to the forms described.

I claim:

1. A game educational apparatus including a case and a sheet to be placed within the case, the sheet being marked with card indicia of playing cards arranged in different hands, and further marked with a number for each card indicium of each hand, with the numbers indicating the predetermined sequence of playing of the cards as defined by the experts of the particular game, a portion of the case overlying the sheet and being formed with slots through which the card indicia and their corresponding numbers of each hand may be viewed, and manually operable cover plates for each slot to provide for the selective exposure of the number of that card of any hand, said cover plates preventing simultaneous exposure of both a card indicium and its number whereby when the card indicia of any one hand are exposed the numbers of such indicia are concealed, permitting a player to select a card for

play according to his own judgment and then by moving the cover plate to expose the number of the selected card, to determine by that number whether the selected card is the proper card for the particular play in accordance with the judgment of the expert.

2. A game apparatus for the educational study of the playing of bridge, including a case, a sheet to be removably placed within the case and marked with the cards of four hands and also with a number of each card indicating the proper sequence of the play of the cards of that hand according to expert determination, that portion of the case overlying the sheet having a series of slots of a size and arrangement to disclose each card and its corresponding number, and a cover plate for each slot mounted for movement to so restrict the exposure area of that slot as to render visible either a card or its number while preventing simultaneous visibility of both the card and its number, the numbers for the cards of each hand being in similar sequence and indicating the expert's selected card to be played in a particular round of hands.

3. A game apparatus for the study of the playing of the game of bridge, including a case and a sheet to be removably placed in the case, the sheet being marked with playing card indications of four hands in separate hand groups, and further marked with a number for each card of a hand to indicate the proper sequence of play of the cards of that hand in accordance with expert determination, the case including a cover portion to overlie the sheet formed with slots for the exposure of a particular card indication and its corresponding number, and a slide cooperating with each slot and manually movable to a position to expose the card indication aligned with that slot or to a position to expose the corresponding number of such card indication, the simultaneous exposure of a card indication and its corresponding number being impossible in any position of the slide.

4. A game apparatus for the study of the playing of the game of bridge, including a case having a base recessed to receive a sheet and a cover section fitted within said recess to overlie the sheet, the sheet being marked with playing card indications of four hands in separate hand groups, further marked with a number adjacent and peculiar to each card indication of each hand, and further marked with bid indications, the numbers indicating the sequence of play of each card of each hand and the bid indications indicating the proper bids in sequence for each hand as both are determined by expert knowledge of the game, the cover section being provided with slots each having an exposure area to include one card indication and its corresponding number and with slots having an exposure area to include each set of bidding indications, and a slide cooperating with each slot and manually movable to control the visible exposure area of that slot, the slides for the slots aligned with each card indication and its number being movable to cause visibility of either a card indication or its corresponding number but not both at the same time, the slides for the slots for the exposure of the bid indications being movable to a position to conceal all such bid indications or to expose such bid indications in sequence.

JACK GOODSON.