

April 28, 1936.

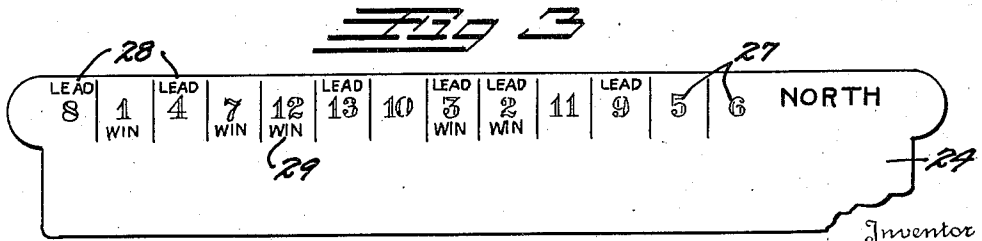
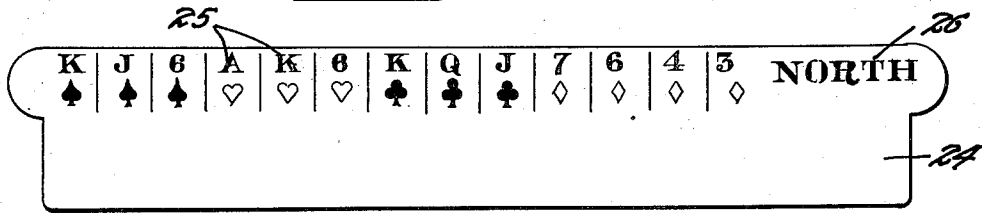
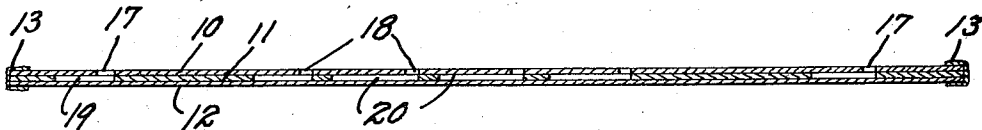
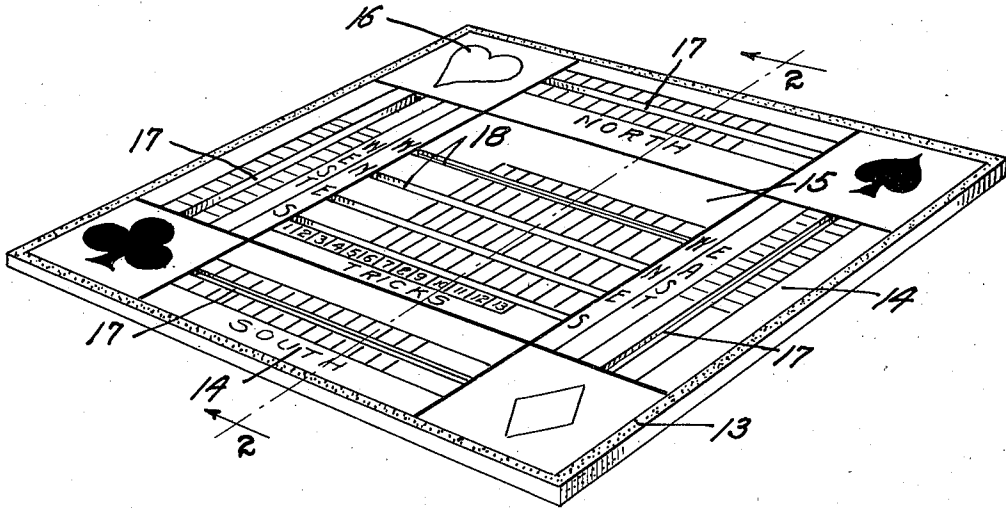
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2,038,734

BRIDGE PRACTICE AND INSTRUCTION BOARD

Filed April 23, 1934

2 Sheets-Sheet 1



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2 Sheets-Sheet 2

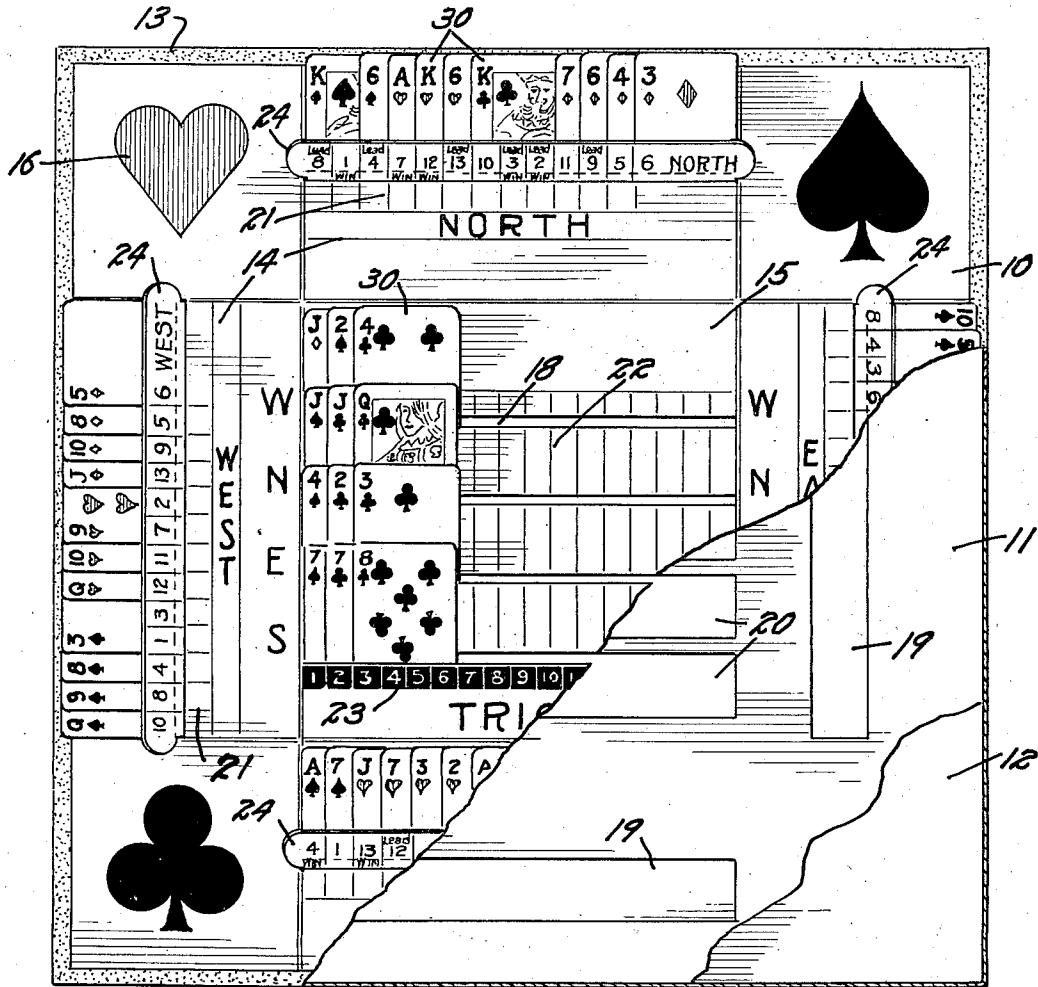


FIG 5

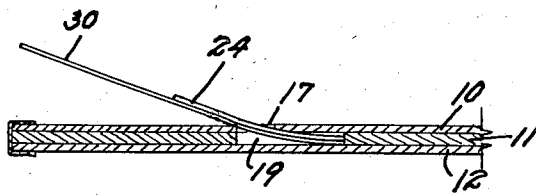


FIG 6

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,038,734

BRIDGE PRACTICE AND INSTRUCTION BOARD

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Application April 23, 1934, Serial No. 721,959

1 Claim. (Cl. 35—8)

This invention relates to a game board, more particularly designed for practice and instruction in the game of bridge. The principal object of the invention is to provide a simple, compact, board-like structure which will retain four complete bridge hands and provide retaining means for holding the tricks or plays from these hands so that the same may be repeated, studied and practiced.

Another object of the invention is to provide means for enabling the user to quickly and easily set up prearranged hands and for directing the user in the proper method of playing these hands.

Other objects and advantages reside in the detail construction of the invention, which is designed for simplicity, economy, and efficiency. These will become more apparent from the following description.

In the following detailed description of the invention reference is had to the accompanying drawings which form a part hereof. Like numerals refer to like parts in all views of the drawings and throughout the description.

In the drawings:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of the complete board ready to receive the playing cards.

Fig. 2 is a cross section therethrough, taken on the line 2—2, Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a face view of an indicating strip which may be employed with the board.

Fig. 4 illustrates the reverse face of the indicating strip.

Fig. 5 is a face view of the board, partially broken away to illustrate the internal structure. In this view, typical hands of playing cards are illustrated in the position they would occupy after three tricks have been played.

Fig. 6 is an enlarged section through one edge of the board, illustrating a playing card and indicating strip in place therein.

The invention comprises a board, preferably built up from three relatively thick sheets of material such as cardboard, fiber board, wood, or the like. In the drawing the three sheets forming the complete board are indicated by numeral as follows: face sheet 10, spacing sheet 11, and backing sheet 12. The three sheets are glued, cemented, or otherwise secured together. They are preferably bound with an ornamental binding strip 13.

The face sheet 10 is divided so as to form four player sections 14, preferably designated as "West", "North", "East", and "South". Within the player sections is a trick area 15. The cor-

ners of the board may be suitably ornamented such as by indications 16 of the various suits employed in playing cards.

In the face sheet 10, at each of the player sections, a slot is formed which will be herein designated as the hand slot 17. In the trick area 15 of the face sheet 10, four parallel lateral slots are formed which will be herein designated as the trick slots 18. Relatively wide slots 19 and 20 are formed in the spacing sheet 11 immediately below the slots 17 and 18, respectively. The slots 19 and 20 extend considerably to one side of the slots in the sheet 10 so as to provide a space into which the lower edge of the cards may be slid, as shown in Fig. 6.

Spacing markers 21 are printed on the face sheet 10 along each of the hand slots 17, and similar spacing markers 22 are formed along the trick slots 18. The latter slots are also designated by an initial corresponding to one of the player positions, as "W", "N", "E", and "S", respectively. Immediately below the lowermost trick slot 18 is an index 23 to designate the number of the tricks above.

The board as thus far described, may be employed for studying or practicing either accidental or preset hands. The hands are set up in each of the hand slots 17 with one edge of each card aligning with one of the spacing markers 21. The hands may be then played in rotation and, as each card is played, it is placed in its corresponding trick slot 18. After a game has been completed, the player can study the tricks as they are all exposed before him in the trick area 15. He can see instantly which hand played any given card, and can plan his future plays so as to improve his game.

The board can be employed to set up preset hands, and the plays can be indicated so that these hands will be played in a preplanned manner. This may be accomplished by employing indicating strips 24, such as illustrated in Figs. 3 and 4. These strips are of a length substantially equal to the length of the hand slots 17, and carry a designation 26 of one of the hands. The strips are marked off in spaces similar to the spacing of the indicating markers 21. On one face of each of the strips 24 are indications 25 for setting up a preset hand. On the reverse side of the strip 24, a series of numerals 27 may be placed to indicate the order in which the cards of that hand should be played. If a card in that hand is to be led, it is preferred to indicate this by the word "lead" as shown at 28. If the trick

is to be won by a card of that hand, this is also indicated by the word "win" as shown at 29.

In using the indicating strips 24, the player sets up these strips in the hand slots 17 at the proper player positions about the board. He then positions the cards from the deck according to the indications 25. The cards are slipped into the slots 17 below the indicating strips 24, as shown in Figs. 5 and 6. When all of the hands have been set up, the player may play them according to his own judgment, or he may reverse each of the indicating strips 24 and play the hands according to the directions thereon, thus receiving an expert example as to how the hands would be played by an expert.

A variety of different strips 24 can be furnished with each board and additional strips may be obtained from time to time so that a very broad knowledge as to the professional manner of handling different situations may be obtained by the user.

It will be noted that the cards are automatical-

ly aligned since their bottom edges are aligned by the sides of the slots 19 and 20, in the spacing strip 11.

While a specific form of the improvement has been described and illustrated herein, it is desired to be understood that the same may be varied, within the scope of the appended claim, without departing from the spirit of the invention.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed and desired secured by Letters Patent is:—

A bridge practice board comprising: a board-like member having rectangularly positioned slots in one of its faces for receiving hands of cards and having an additional series of slots for receiving the card tricks played from said hands; and a series of indicating strips formed to be received in said first slots and carrying designations for designating the proper card and position along said slots.

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