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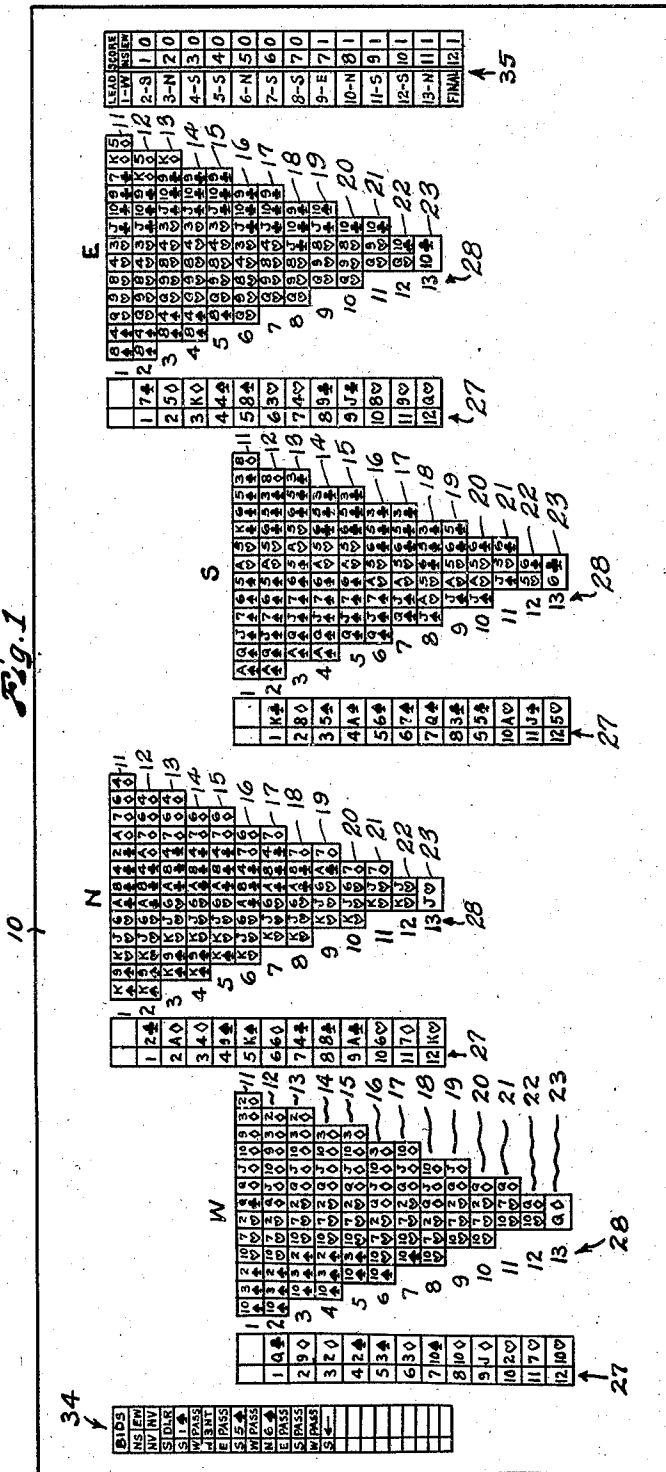
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CARD PLAYING DEVICE

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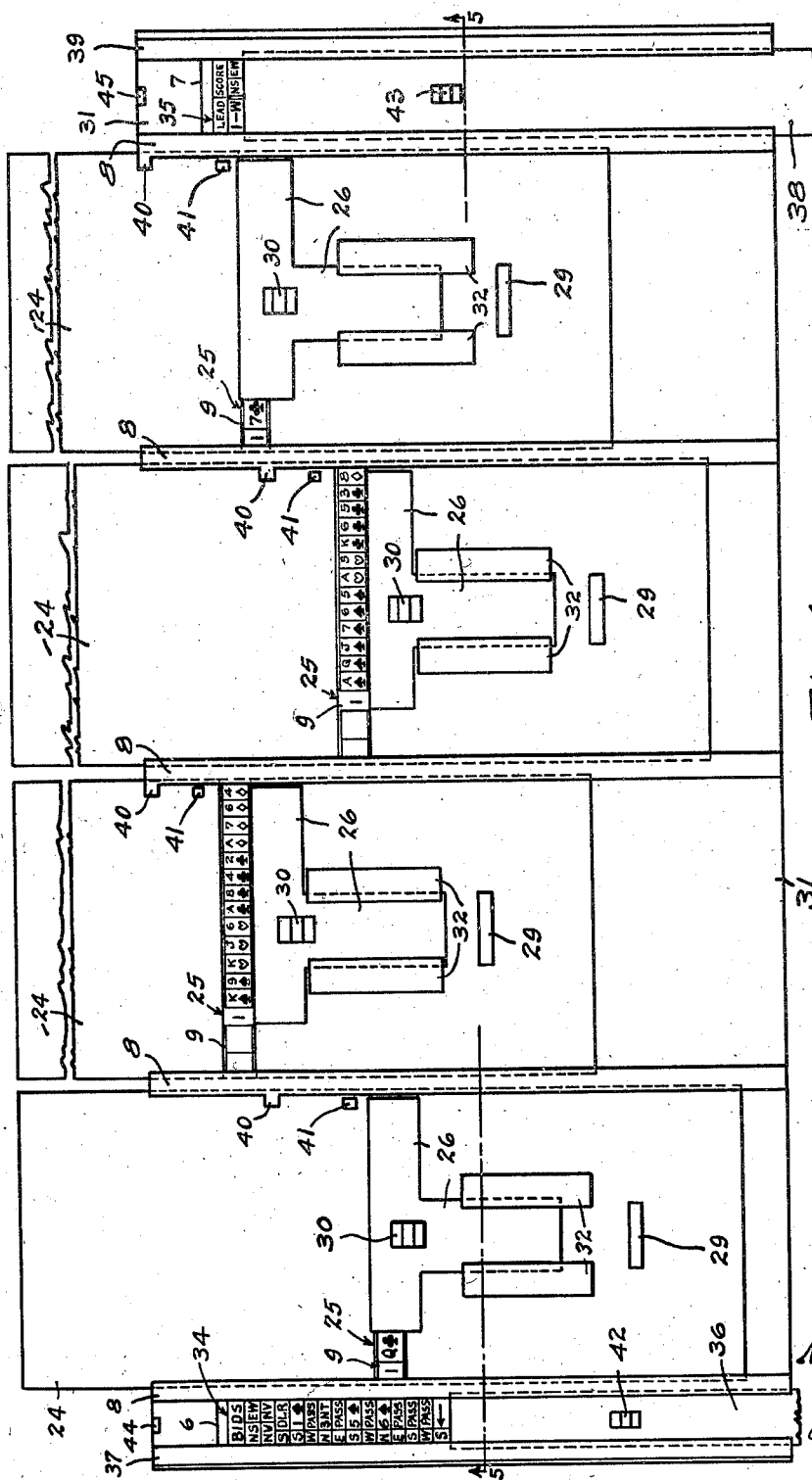
2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1



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2 Sheets-Sheet 2



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2,395,088

CARD PLAYING DEVICE

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3 Claims. (Cl. 35—8)

My invention relates to a bridge playing device for use by one to four persons, and is an improvement on my co-pending application, Serial No. 523,853, filed February 25, 1944, and issued on even date herewith.

This invention provides a simplified construction over said mentioned application and its general objects and results are similar.

More particularly, my invention relates to a device which will permit from one to four persons to play the cards of a preselected deal and to check after the mental selection of a card indicium as to whether or not the play so selected by an individual player checks with that preselected by the expert preparing the particular deal in question.

It is a particular object of my invention to provide a chart member bearing indicia thereon to indicate a plurality of playing hands, as four, each of which displays the cards in a hand during the various rounds of play and also displays individually the cards played during the rounds of play. It is a further object of the invention to provide movable masking means so that, depending upon the position of said masking means, the cards present in any one hand during the various rounds of play may be all masked or consecutively exposed and at the same time with the cards played during the various rounds of play consecutively exposed and more particularly with the card played during a preceding round of play exposed with the cards then remaining in the hand.

A further object of my invention is to provide a chart indicating in consecutive rows the cards remaining in a hand during consecutive rounds of play, which rows also include the card played during the preceding round of play.

It is an object of my invention to provide movable masking means cooperating with said chart permitting revealing in consecutive order the cards played during the various rounds of play and which will permit selective exposure or masking of the cards remaining in a hand during the round of play subsequent to the round in which the revealed card was played.

It is a further object of the invention to provide a means whereby the cards played during the rounds of play may be consecutively revealed, and with the cards remaining in a hand during the rounds of play selectively masked or consecutively revealed so that any hand may contain the ultimate declarer's hand, either of the ultimate defenders' hands, or the dummy hand. This permits educational use of the apparatus

so that a hand prepared to illustrate bidding may bear any relation to the ultimate contract reached as best illustrates the educational point or principle involved in a preselected hand. This

- 5 is to be distinguished from many bridge playing devices now on the market where the construction thereof limits the possibility so that the station or hand indicated, as S, is normally the declarer. Obviously, if a player knows that he has been given a hand which will be ultimately the declarer he is prewarned to keep the bidding open until some contract is reached by his side. Obviously, in playing the bridge hand any tip or warning as to who is the final declarer spoils the
- 15 bidding routine and in turn spoils the playing routine as both bidding and playing must essentially be performed from the observation of only one hand plus such other legitimate information as the bids that have been made and seeing the dummy after the first card has been played.
- 20

It is a primary object of my invention to provide a mechanical bridge-playing device wherein the player obtains the same information that he obtains in the playing of an actual bridge game and the player can, after each play or after each bid, check his selection with that of the expert preparing the particular deal involved—all without giving the player any more information than he would obtain during the playing of a bridge hand and thus a truly educational device obtains.

It is a further object of my invention to provide a device so that if a hand of a preselected deal is chosen to illustrate a principle either in offensive or defensive bidding or in offensive or defensive playing, that a player can make his bid and conduct his play of the cards on the same information which he would get during the bidding or playing of an ordinary bridge hand and then he can immediately check his bid or play with that indicated as correct by the bridge expert preparing the hand.

It is a further object of my invention to provide a device so that one player may play the cards from the same hand or location, such as S position, and the cards may be located in the various hands so that the cards of an offensive player or a defensive player may be selected by the expert for the arbitrarily selected hand and the mechanical devices will permit play of all hands.

It is a further object of the invention to provide a device so that a player may select to play from any hand or location he desires and the mechanical devices will permit play of all hands.

The above mentioned general objects of my in-

vention, together with others inherent in the same, are attained by the mechanism illustrated in the following drawings, the same being a preferred exemplary form of embodiment of my invention, throughout which drawings like reference numerals indicate like parts:

Figure 1 is a plan view of a chart bearing indicia comprising card indicia of a selected deal which may be played by use of my apparatus;

Fig. 2 is a fragmentary plan view of a portion of one of the masking means shown in Fig. 4 of the drawings, and showing in full lines the position of the masking slide of the masking means to mask and in dotted lines the position to reveal the cards remaining in a hand during a round of play;

Fig. 3 is a fragmentary sectional view with parts in elevation taken substantially on broken line 3—3 of Fig. 2;

Fig. 4 is a plan view of the completed apparatus with portions broken away and with the masking means of Fig. 2 in one position as respects players N and S and in another position as respects the players E and W to better illustrate the invention; and

Fig. 5 is a sectional view with portions broken away taken substantially on broken line 5—5 of Fig. 4.

Referring to chart 10 (shown separately in Fig. 1 of the drawings), a pre-arranged bridge deal of an ordinary deck of fifty-two cards and for four players is illustrated. However, it is to be understood that this invention is not limited to the ordinary deck of fifty-two cards nor to four playing hands. The players are represented respectively by the common terminology E, S, N, and W. By way of illustration of a preselected deal, the hand or playing hand section, as W, displays the cards which, in accordance with the expert, should be in or remain in the hand of W during the rounds of play in consecutive and spaced apart rows 11 to 23 inclusive, such as rows one below the other on the chart 10. Also, the individual cards that are supposed to be played during the various rounds of play of the cards are displayed in said consecutive and spaced rows. Thus, by way of illustration the cards dealt to the player W will be in row 11. The cards remaining in the hand W during the second round of play will be displayed in the row 12, the cards remaining in the hand W during the third round of play will be displayed in the row 13, etc. The card to be played by W on the first round of play is found in row 12 and is the queen of clubs. The card to be played by W during the second round of play will be found in row 13 and is the 9 of diamonds. From the foregoing the cards remaining in a hand during any round of play and the card to be played during any round of play in the hand W will be apparent. Also, the construction is identical as to the other players E, N and S, and, in the interest of brevity, is not described in detail. Thus when the row 11 is exposed all that will appear is the cards that are dealt to a player, as W. When the row 12 is exposed in its entirety it will appear that the play W should have played the queen of clubs on the first round of play and that the cards remaining in the hand of the player W after playing the queen of clubs will be all cards dealt the player W except said queen of clubs. By the masking means 24, shown in plan in Fig. 2, all of the row 12 of each player, as W, may be exposed or only the portion thereof constituting the queen of clubs and the trick on which it is played may be exposed. Thus, if the

hand W is that of an opponent the player will move the slide means as will be hereinafter more fully described so that only the trick and the card played, as the queen of clubs, will appear.

While on the other hand if the hand W is either the hand being played or the dummy the player will permit the exposure of a complete row, such as row 12. The numerals 11 to 23 inclusive are used herein as reference numerals, and are only shown in connection with the player W. However, each of the players is provided with similar rows and such reference numerals will be applied to the obviously appropriate row in discussing the rows of the other players. Also, in a row, such as diagonal row 28, the numerals 1 to 13 appear for each player designating the tricks by number in which illustrated cards remain in the hands of the respective players. Likewise, a vertical row 27 of numerals 1 to 12 inclusive is provided for each player and the same indicates consecutively the trick in which certain cards are played by the respective players. Obviously, as the thirteenth play or trick will be the last card in a hand it need not be designated as such.

Referring to Figs. 2 to 5 inclusive, a masking means 24 is illustrated. This may be in the form of a rectangular flat member as a cardboard sheet provided with a sight opening 25 of a size to register with any one of the rows 11 to 23 inclusive of a player as shown in Fig. 1. The sight opening 25 of the masking means 24 is preferably covered by a piece of transparent material 9, as Cellophane, which holds together the parts of masking means 24 on opposite sides of opening 25, and is of a size to consecutively register with a row of the rows 11 to 23 inclusive. The masking means 24 is disposed on and mounted for relative movement as respects a playing hand section, as the section S, so that the masking means 24 will consecutively reveal through sight opening 25 one of the rows 11 to 23 inclusive. Each masking means 24 is provided with a masking slide 26 which is suitably supported for sliding movement on member 24 by guides 32 so that it may assume the full line position shown in Fig. 2 or the dotted line position shown in Fig. 2. When the slide 26 is in the full line position shown in Fig. 2 it will reveal only the cards played during the consecutive rounds of play, and when said slide 26 is in the dotted line position it will reveal both the cards remaining in a hand during a round of play and the card played during the preceding round of play. Thus, if the opening 25 is registered with a row, as 12 of player W, it will reveal that the queen of clubs was played on the first round of play and that the remaining cards in the second round of play are all the cards dealt the player W with the exception of said queen of clubs. In order to visibly indicate the above, a row of numbers 1 to 12 inclusive in a vertical column and indicated by reference numeral 27 is indicated to the left of the cards played in a playing hand section and the numbers 1 to 13 inclusive in a diagonal column are indicated by the reference numeral 28 to the left of the cards remaining in the hand during the various rounds of play.

In the foregoing, I have shown the card played on a round, such as the first round, in the column with the cards remaining in the hand for the second round and have also shown sight opening 25 as a rectangular opening. However, if the card played during a preceding round is not in the same column as the cards remaining in a hand in a subsequent round, then the shape of the opening 25 or two openings may be provided to

register with cards remaining in a hand during a round of play and the card playing during the preceding round.

Runners 8 mount masking means 24 for sliding movement. For ready manipulation of the masking means 24 there is indicated a projecting means 29 to move the means 24 and thereby the opening 25 into consecutive registration with the rows 11 to 23 inclusive. Also, a projecting means 30 is provided for moving the slide 26 between the full and dotted line positions shown in Fig. 2 of the drawings.

In Fig. 4 by way of example, the masking slide 26 of the player W has been moved so that only the individual cards played during any round of play are visible through the sight opening 25. Also, the masking means 24 has been moved so that the sight opening 25 thereof is in registration with row 12 so that the card played during the first round of play or the queen of clubs is indicated. For purpose of illustration, the masking slide 26 of the player N has been moved so that the cards remaining in the hand after each play and the card played during the preceding round of play are visible through sight opening 25 of masking means 24 and also the masking means 24 has been moved so that sight opening 25 thereof is in registration with row 11 or the cards dealt to the player N. So far as the player S is concerned, as illustrated in Fig. 4, the slide 26 of said player is in a position where the cards remaining in a hand and the card played during the preceding round are uncovered by the sight opening 25 and the masking means 24 of the player S has been adjusted so that the sight opening 25 registers with the cards dealt the player S, or in other words the row 11. Also, in said Fig. 4 and as respects the player E the slide 26 has been moved to the position so that only individual cards played during the round of play will be visible through the sight opening 25 of the masking means 24. Also, the masking means 24 of the player E has been adjusted in registration with row 12 so that through the sight opening 25 the card played on the first round of play is visible therethrough, which, in the present example, is the 7 of clubs.

As an illustrative means for providing relative movement between each masking means 24 and each playing hand section W, N, S, and E, I have shown a flat cover member 31 (see Figs. 4 and 5) provided with openings registering with the various playing hand sections and having spaced runners 8 in which the masking means 24 may be slidably moved. In order to prevent movement between flat member 31 and chart 10 preferably underside edge portions 33 of the member 31 are folded as indicated best in Fig. 5 so that the edges of one or more charts 10 may be inserted therein and thus secured to the cover member 31. If more than one chart 10 is used then the top one may be played and after playing, it may be removed and then the next played, etc.

Also, the cover member 31 is provided with openings 6 and 7 in registration respectively with the bidding column or row 34 on the playing chart 10 and the scoring column or row 35 of the chart 10. In order to consecutively expose the bids of the bidding column 34, I provide a slide 36 slidably mounted by runner 37 and one of the runners 8 (see Figs. 4 and 5) carried by member 31. Also, I provide a slide member 38 to permit consecutive exposure of the information on the scoring column or row 35. Such slide 38 may be mounted for suitable sliding movement

as by runner 39 and one of the runners 8 (see Figs. 4 and 5).

The lengths of the four masking means 24 are such that the same may be moved relative to each playing hand section to provide the masking action hereinbefore described. Also, four of the runners 8 are each provided with a stop means 40 so that upward movement of each masking means 24 may be arrested by a projection 41 carried by each means 24 engaging means 40 and in such positions a correct start will be insured and the various information in the playing hand sections is not exposed to view through sight opening 25.

A row 34 headed by "Bids" in Figs. 1 and 4 is provided on which are indicated in successive rows the vulnerability of the players (NS, NV, EW, NV), the dealer, the various bids made by the various players during the bidding, and the ultimate contract holder (S). Thus for the selected hand shown on chart 10 the player S is the dealer and his first bid is one in spades. The player W passes, the player N bids three no trump and the player E passes. The bidding continues until it is ascertained that the player S has obtained the contract of 6 in spades. Mounted on the member 31 is a slidably mounted masking member 36 as previously described. This slide 36 preferably has a readily engageable tab or projection 42 so that the mask 36 may be moved to individually and consecutively expose the various bids during the rounds of bidding. Also, the slide 38 for consecutively revealing conditions obtaining during the play is also preferably provided with a tab or projection 43. Also, the member 31 is preferably provided with stops 44 and 45 for arresting upward movement of slides 36 and 38 and which function similarly to stops 40 in indicating that in the up position appropriate indicia are masked.

In operation of the device herein described as illustrating my invention, a chart 10 containing preselected hands will be disposed below the member 31 and with the printed matter upward. The portions 33 of the member 31 will function to hold the chart 10 relatively non-movable as respects the member 31. Previously the masking means 24 over each of the playing hand sections have been moved upwardly until they have engaged stops 40 so that said masking means will cover the various playing hand sections. Also, the slides 36 and 38 have been moved upwardly against stops 44 and 45 to mask respectively the bidding information and the scoring information.

In disposing the cards in the various playing hand sections, E, S, N, and W, one hand such as S may be arbitrarily selected as the hand which should be bid and played in the event of a single player so as to best illustrate a principle involved in a preselected hand. In my device a single player need not play such hand as S and can play any hand. However, if the single player decides to play the hand S, he will move the masking slide 25 downwardly so that the complete sight opening 25 is available. Thereafter he will move the masking means 24 downwardly until the cards dealt such player S appear. This will be indicated by f in diagonal column 28. Then the player will move the bid masking member 36 downwardly until the notation "S DLR" appears which will indicate that the dealer's hand has been selected for the player S so that he will then, in accordance with the present standard rules of bridge, make his first bid. After

he has mentally or otherwise indicated his bid he can move the slide 36 downwardly and it will indicate that he did or should have bid one spade. Thus the player S can check his bid for accuracy with the bid indicated as accurate by the expert. Then the player S will move the slide 36 downwardly to indicate consecutively that W has passed, that N has bid 3 no trump, and that E has passed. Thereupon S will make the bid which he deems is correct and then check his bid with that of the expert by moving the slide 36 downwardly and he finds that he should or did bid 5 spades. At this stage it is important to recall that the player S is not necessarily the declarer, and the hand which may have been deposited at S may be either a defensive hand, a dummy hand, or a declarer's hand. Thus S has no more preknowledge of the situation than he would have in playing ordinary bridge and he bids on his cards and not on any information such as knowing that he will be the declarer. Next, S will ascertain consecutively that W has passed, that N has bid six spades and E has passed. Thereupon he will select his proper bid and check the same and will find that his bid is or should have been a passing bid. After uncovering the next bid which is that W has passed, the bidding is closed in accordance with the present rule of bridge regarding three consecutive pass bids and therefore S finds himself the declarer of a contract of six in spades. Thereupon preferably the slide 36 is moved upwardly to cover the bidding information from view.

Now that S has discovered that he is the declarer of a contract of six in spades and that N is therefore the dummy and that E and W are the opponents, he moves the slide 26 of both E and W upwardly so that all that can be exposed through the sight opening 25 of such hands E and W is the cards played during the various rounds of play. As to the dummy hand N, he moves the masking slide 26 downwardly so that the cards remaining in the hand during the various rounds of play as well as the card played during the previous round may be visible through the sight opening 25 of the masking means 24 of N. Thereupon the masking means 24 of the player W is moved downwardly so sight opening 25 registers with row 12 and it appears that W has made an opening leads of the queen of clubs. Thereupon the player moves the masking means 24 of the player N downwardly until the player can see the row 11 of N or the hand dealt the dummy. Thereupon the player selects the card to be played from the dummy hand N and moves downwardly the masking means 24 of the player N and it will appear in row 12 that the card the player N should have played on the first round is the two of clubs. It is important to note that as far as the information is available to the player S as he views the row 11 is concerned, it does not appear what card the player N should play on the first trick and it is necessary to move the masking means 24 of the player N downwardly so it may be checked as to what card should have been played on the first round. As to the player E the masking means 24 is moved downwardly into registration with row 12 and it appears that the player E has played the seven of clubs on the first trick. As to player E, the slide 26 is upward so that all that the player S is able to see so far as the hand of E is concerned is the card that E played on the trick. This of course follows the information commonly available in playing cards. To complete the first trick the player selects a

card from S while row 11 is visible and then reveals row 12 and checks and finds that the card preselected to be played on the first trick is the king of clubs. After the completion of the first trick the slide 38 may be moved downwardly and it will indicate that S has the lead on the second trick and that N and S have taken one trick and that E and W have taken no tricks.

As S has taken the first trick he leads the second trick and determines the card he desires to play. After his own determination thereof he moves the masking means 24 downwardly so that the row 13 appears and he finds that he should have and may have played the eight of diamonds as the lead for the second trick. Thereafter the plays may be made for the various individual players following the routine previously described.

In the event that a single player should decide to play some hand other than S, such as W, he will start with the masking means 24 of each player up so that all information regarding playing hand sections is masked. Also, the slides 36 and 38 will be upward so that the information regarding bidding and tricks taken will be masked. He will then move the masking slide 26 and the masking means 24 over the hand W downwardly until he determines from row 11 the hand that is present for him to play. As he is playing the hand W and of course must see all of the cards of such hand he will move the masking slide 26 downwardly so that all of the cards dealt the player W may be exposed through the sight opening 25 of the masking means 24 over the hand W. After examining the hand which he has been dealt, he will move the bidding slide 36 downwardly and it will appear that the dealer is S for the particular hand involved. Thereupon he will move the bidding slide 36 downwardly and find that the player S has bid one spade and he will thereupon make his bid. After making his bid he can check with the bidding column and ascertain that he should have passed. Then the bidding slide 36 is moved downwardly to indicate consecutively that N has bid 3 no trump, the partner E of W has passed, and S has bid five spades. Thereupon W will make his bid and check and find that he should have passed.

After the completion of the bidding and it is ascertained that S in the particular hand in question has obtained a contract for six spades, then the party playing the hand W will select a lead and then move the masking means 24 downwardly to expose the row 12 of the player of such hand and the player will ascertain that he should have played the queen of clubs. Then the slide 26 of the player N is moved downwardly to expose all of the cards in the hand of the dummy in accordance with usual practice. Immediately thereafter the masking means 24 of the player N is moved downwardly and it is determined from row 12 that the dummy played the deuce of clubs on the first trick. As to the players E and S the slides 26 of each of said players are moved upwardly so only the cards that have been played will be visible. Then the masking means 24 of the players E and S are moved downwardly to determine in the respective rows 12 of said players the plays which they have made on the first trick. Thereafter the routine of playing will be obvious in view of the discussion heretofore made.

In the event that two or more players should each desire to play a hand by the use of my apparatus, such as a player at the station S and a player at the station W, then the players can move their masking slides 26 downwardly so

that the sight opening 25 will expose the entire hand dealt to the stations S and W. At the same time, they can by other masking means, such as shields or their arms or the like, hide the cards dealt the stations from the other player. After each player has selected a card to be played on any individual trick, he can then move his slide 26 upwardly and then move the masking means 24 downwardly and the card that should have been played by the player on any particular trick will appear through the sight opening 25. This will permit a player at a station to select a play and then expose the play of the expert preparing the hand.

I have provided all stations E, N, S and W with similar structures so that the greatest use of the apparatus may be had. Obviously, if a fixed position for player at S is employed, or a fixed dummy, as N, or other such limitations, then the structures of the various stations N, S, E and W would not need to be the same and some of the parts could be obviously eliminated. For example, the masking slides 26 of a hand which is always to be the player or the dummy could be eliminated or the masking slides 26 of a hand which is always to be a non-player opponent could have the sliding feature eliminated.

It thus appears that I have provided a plurality of playing hand sections N, E, S, and W and that each section displays the cards in a hand during the various rounds of play in the rows 11 to 23 inclusive. Also, it appears that the cards played during the various rounds of play are individually displayed in a column, as a vertical column, and that the cards remaining in a hand are aligned with the card played during the preceding round. When this alignment is provided by a column, I provide a rectangular sight opening 25 in the masking means 24. When the cards in a hand during a round of play and the card played during the preceding round are not in a column, the portion of the opening 25 which registers with a card played during the preceding round and the portion which registers with the cards remaining in the hand may be offset as respects each other, or I may provide two openings. Thus in either way a sight opening may be caused to register with the cards in a hand during a round of play and with the card played during the preceding round of play.

Further, I have provided the masking slide 26 so that the cards remaining in a hand during the various rounds of play may be selectively masked by operation of the masking slide 26.

I have shown the masking means 24 with a sight opening 25 therein relatively movable as respects the chart 10 and by way of example thereof I have provided the cover member 31 which carries and supports the chart 10 by means of the edges 33 and then have provided runners 8 to mount the masking means 24 for sliding movement on the cover member 31. As a means for providing a masking member for a portion of

the opening 25, I have illustrated a masking slide 26 slidably mounted on masking means 24.

Obviously, changes may be made in the form, dimensions, and arrangement of the parts of my invention, without departing from the principle thereof, the above setting forth only a preferred form of embodiment.

I claim:

1. A game educational apparatus comprising a chart member bearing indicia constituting a plurality of playing hand sections, each section displaying the cards in a hand during the rounds of play of the cards in consecutive and spaced apart rows and individually displaying the cards played during the rounds of play of the cards in consecutive and spaced apart other rows; masking means relatively movably mounted as respects said chart and with sight opening means registerable with the cards in a hand during a round of play and with the card played during the preceding round of play; and a second masking means movably mounted on said first mentioned masking means and movable into and out of masking relation as respects the cards in a hand during a round of play registering with said sight opening means.

2. A game educational apparatus comprising a chart member bearing indicia constituting a plurality of playing hand sections, each section displaying the cards in a hand during the rounds of play of the cards in consecutive and spaced apart rows and individually displaying the cards played during the rounds of play of the cards in consecutive and spaced apart other rows; cover means provided with chart engaging and retaining means, said cover means having sight openings registering with said sections, whereby said cover means and said chart member are relatively immovable; and masking means relatively movably mounted as respects the sight openings in said cover means, said masking means being provided with sight opening means registerable with the cards in a hand during a round of play and with the card played during the preceding round of play.

3. A game educational apparatus comprising a chart member bearing indicia constituting a plurality of playing hand sections, each section displaying the cards in a hand during the rounds of play of the cards in consecutive and spaced apart rows and individually displaying the cards played during the rounds of play of the cards in consecutive and spaced apart other rows; masking means relatively movably mounted as respects said chart and with sight opening means registerable with the cards in a hand during a round of play and with the card played during the preceding round of play; and a second masking means movable into and out of masking relation as respects the sight opening of the first masking means disposed over the cards in a hand during a round of play.

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