June 22, 1926. 1,590,127

F. J. SPITZENBERGER

GAME

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Fig. 1.

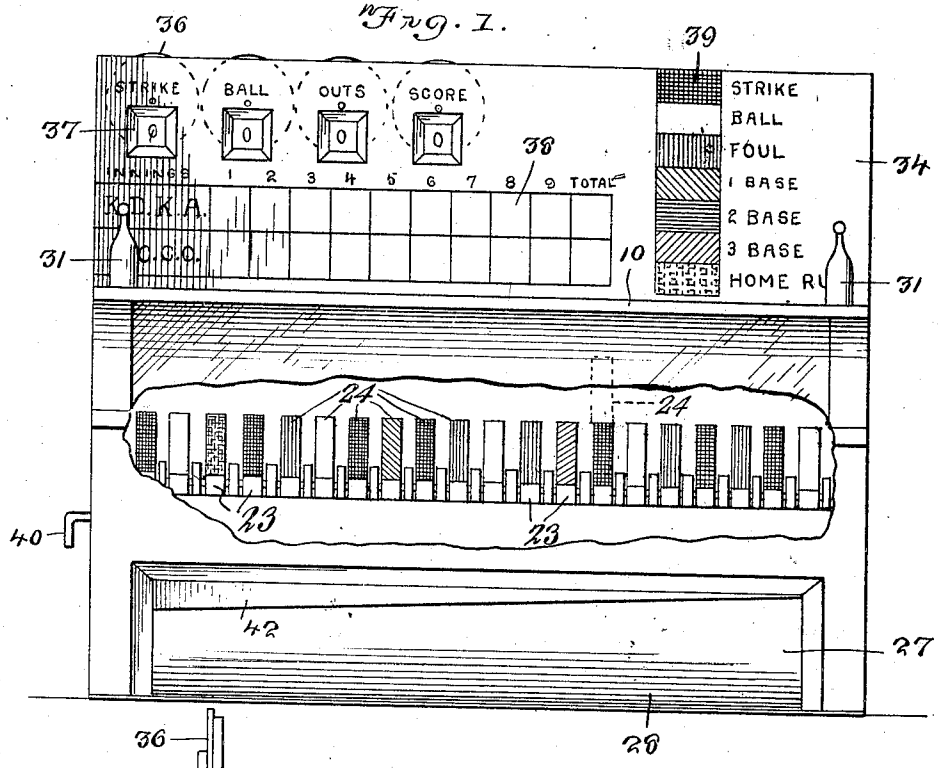
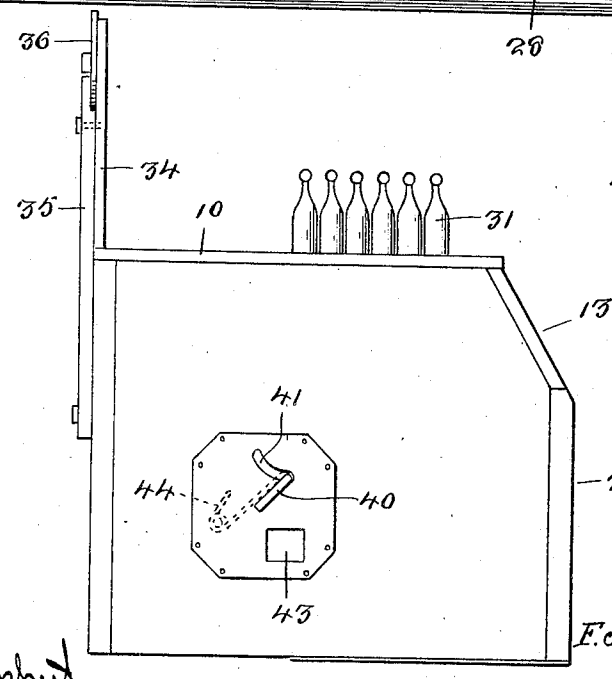


Fig. 2.



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GAME

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Fig. 3.

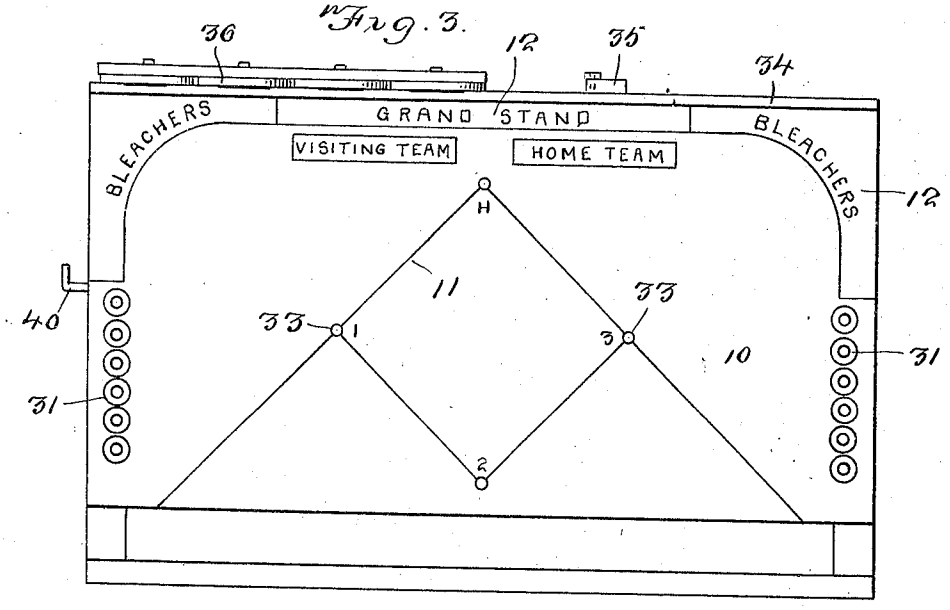
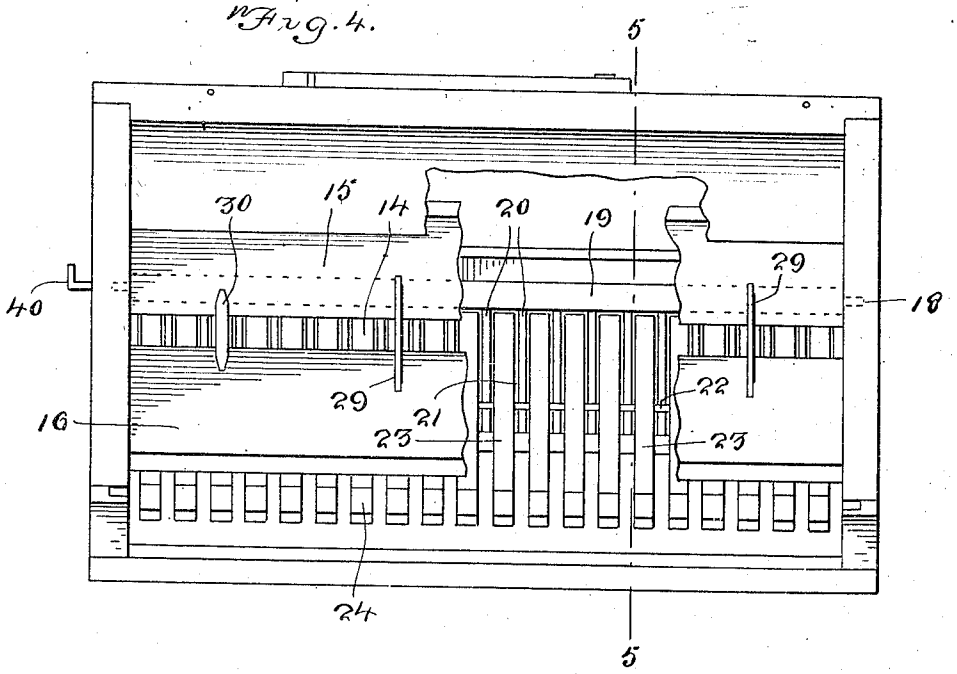


Fig. 4.



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Filed August 31, 1925 4 Sheets-Sheet 3

Fig. 5.

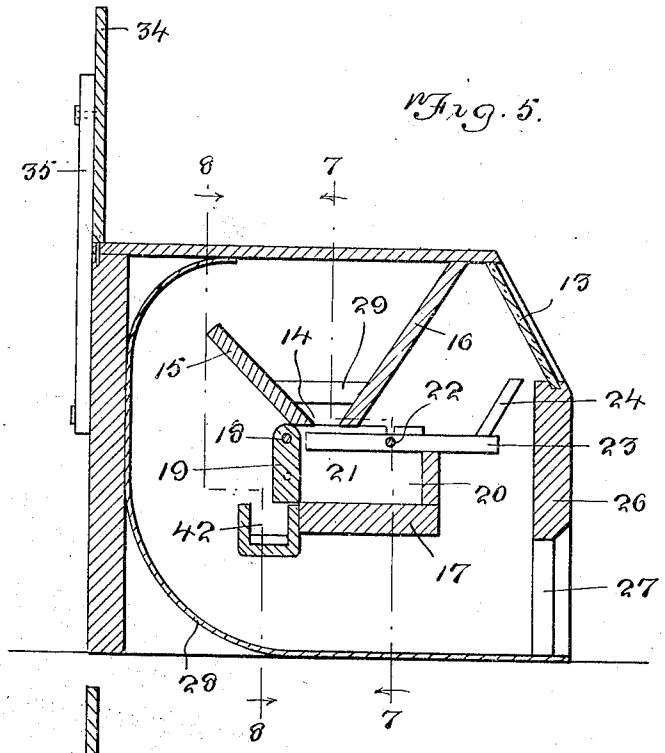
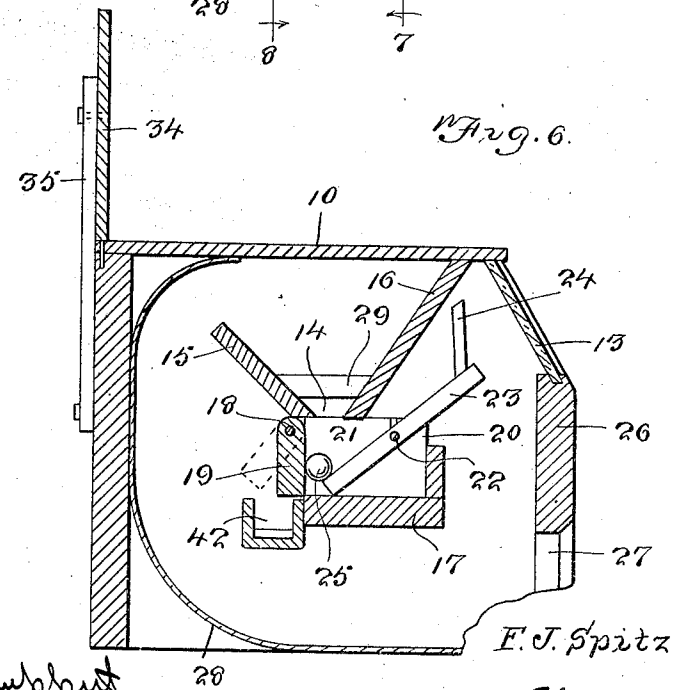


Fig. 6.



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Filed August 31, 1925 4 Sheets-Sheet 4

Fig. 7.

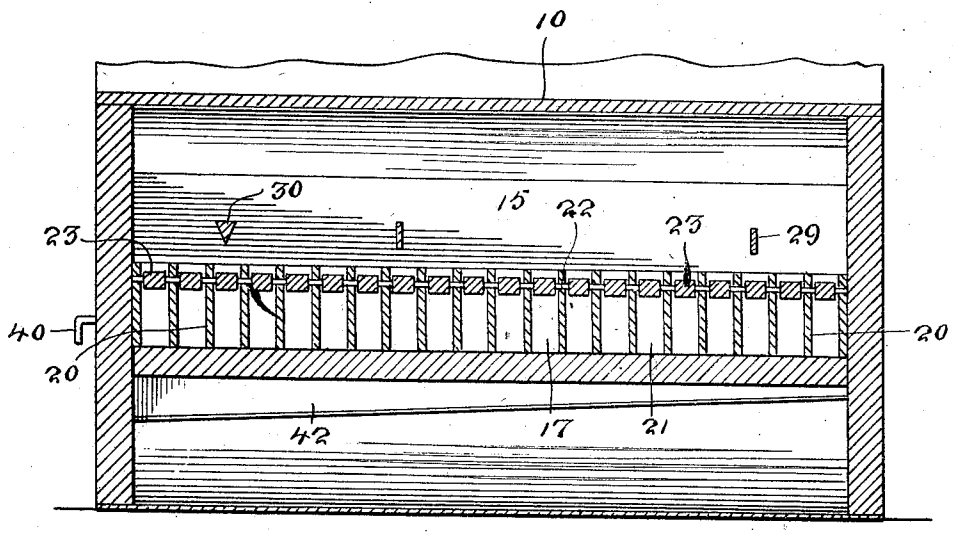
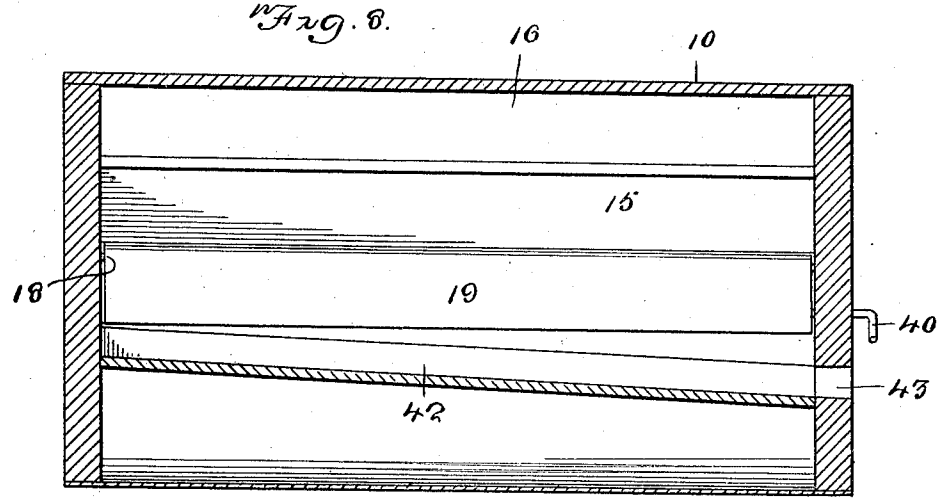


Fig. 8.



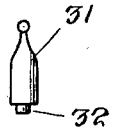


Fig. 9.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANK JOSEPH SPITZENBERGER, OF DULUTH, MINNESOTA.

GAME.

Application filed August 31, 1925. Serial No. 53,602.

This invention relates to improvements in games and has for an object the provision of a novel device by means of which one or more persons may play a game of baseball in accordance with the rules of the regular game, provision being made for executing various kinds of plays occurring throughout an ordinary game with the result of the play being in doubt until after its execution.

Another object of the invention is the provision of a game apparatus which is simple, compact and attractive in appearance and which includes means for indicating the plays during the progress of the game.

With the above and other objects in view, the invention further includes the following novel features and details of construction, to be hereinafter more fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings and pointed out in the appended claims.

In the drawings:—

Figure 1 is a front elevation of a game apparatus constructed in accordance with the invention.

Figure 2 is an end view of the same.

Figure 3 is a top plan view.

Figure 4 is a plan view with parts removed and others broken away to more clearly illustrate the interior mechanism.

Figure 5 is a section on the line 5—5 of Figure 4 with the parts in normal position.

Figure 6 is a similar view showing one of the indicators in active position as the result of a play.

Figure 7 is a section taken substantially on the line 7—7 of Figure 5.

Figure 8 is a similar view on the line 8—8 of Figure 5.

Fig. 9 is a view of one of the men.

Referring to the drawings in detail wherein like characters of reference denote corresponding parts, the apparatus as shown comprises a casing or cabinet whose top 10 is arranged to indicate a baseball field or park and includes a diamond 11 while the grandstand and bleachers are indicated at 12. The upper front edge of the cabinet is beveled and provided with a glass covered sight opening 13 through which the result of the various plays may be seen, as will be later explained.

Extending longitudinally within the cabinet is a trough 14 which includes oppositely inclined side walls 15 and 16, the latter extending upward to the under face of the top 10 while the wall 15 terminates short of the top. The lower edges of the walls 15 and 16 are spaced apart and extending longitudinally of the cabinet below the trough is a channel shaped trough 17. This last mentioned trough has one of its side walls pivotally mounted upon a rod 18 so as to provide a gate 19. Spaced longitudinally of the trough 17 are transversely extending partition walls 20 which provide between them pockets 21. Pivotally mounted within each of these pockets upon a pivot bar 22 are arms 23 which carry at their outer ends indicator panels 24, the latter being of various colors. The colors may be of any desired character and arranged in any suitable manner and may include black, white, red, green, blue, brown and yellow and are designed to indicate respectively, strike, ball, foul, 1, 2 and 3 base hits and home run. It is preferred to provide the apparatus with twenty indicator panels divided as follows: eight panels to indicate strikes, five to indicate balls, three to indicate fouls, and one each to indicate 1, 2 and 3 base hits and home run. It will therefore be seen that the panels which indicate strikes, balls and fouls exceed in number the remaining panels and will therefore be operated oftener, as will later appear.

The game is designed to be played with a ball or marble indicated at 25, the weight of which will move the engaged arm 23 pivotally as shown in Figure 6 of the drawings and raise the panel of this arm so as to be plainly seen through the sight opening 13.

The front wall 26 of the cabinet is provided with an opening 27 and extending from the lower edge of this opening rearward and upward within the cabinet is a deflector wall 28 which terminates above the trough 14 and is designed to guide the ball 25 into the trough. Certain of the arms 23, for example, the arms which carry the panels for indicating 1, 2 and 3 base hits, have positioned above them obstructions 29. These obstructions are in the form of rods which extend transversely of the trough 14 above the base hit panel arms and while they permit the balls to engage these arms, they render engagement more difficult. The arm which carries the home run indicating panel is likewise provided with an obstruction 30 which is wider than the obstructions 29 and proportionately increases the difficulty of having the ball engage this arm.

The players or men are preferably in the form of pegs indicated at 31 and the lower ends of these pegs carry reduced portions 32 which are receivable in spaced openings provided in the top 10 preferably at each end of the latter, while the diamond 11 is provided with similar openings 33 so that the men may occupy positions at first, second and third base and home plate.

The cabinet is further provided with a panel 34 which may be removably secured along the rear edge of the top 10 and held in place by an arm 35. This panel is provided with a plurality of rotatable markers or disks 36 having numbers thereon which are visible through openings 37 in the panel and are designed to indicate strike, ball, outs and score as shown in Figure 1. The panel is further arranged to provide a box score 38 so that the runs and plays may be indicated and this portion of the panel is of a character to permit of the ready erasure of these indications. At one end of the panel there is provided a key 39 by means of which the character of the play indicated by the particular panel operated may be determined.

The game is preferably played by two or more persons representing two teams or "sides". The player or players representing the team at bat will roll a ball inward through the opening 27 with sufficient force to cause the ball to travel up the deflecting wall 28 and enter the trough 14, the wall 16 preventing the ball from passing entirely over the trough. The panels 24 indicating the various plays are scattered and when the ball passes downward out of the trough it will engage one of the arms 23 so as to cause its panel 24 to move upward as previously described. Should a black panel be actuated, one strike will be indicated within the strike opening 37. The play is continued after the manner of the ordinary ball game, the ball being again put into play until the player either strikes out, receives a base on balls or makes a hit. In the latter event, one man 31 is positioned upon the diamond in accordance with the play. Should the player make a home run one run is indicated upon the panel. The play is continued until three men are put out, whereupon the other side or team "goes to bat". The men 31 are differently colored for each team.

After the ball 25 has indicated the play by arranging one of the panels 24, the gate 19 is opened to release the ball from the pocket 21. This is effected by extending an arm 40 through an arcuate slot 41 in one end of the cabinet so that when this arm is moved within the slot, the gate 19 will be opened. The ball will then gravitate into an inclined runway 42 and passes out through an opening 43 in the end of the cabinet. A spring 44 returns the gate to closed position.

The invention is susceptible of various changes in its form, proportions and minor details of construction and the right is herein reserved to make such changes as properly fall within the scope of the appended claims.

Having described the invention what is claimed is:—

1. A game apparatus comprising a cabinet having a sight opening and an entrance opening therein, a plurality of normally inactive indicator elements within the cabinet, a ball adapted to be impelled through the entrance opening to engage and actuate the indicator elements and move one of the latter into position within the sight opening, means controlled by the particular indicator element actuated to indicate the character of a play and means to release the ball and return the same to the player.

2. A game apparatus comprising a cabinet having a sight opening and an entrance opening therein, a plurality of normally inactive indicator elements within the cabinet, a ball adapted to be impelled through the entrance opening to engage and actuate the indicator elements and move one of the latter into position within the sight opening, means controlled by the particular indicator element actuated to indicate the character of a play, means to release the ball and return the same to the player and obstructions for certain of the indicator elements to render their operation less frequent than certain of the remaining panels.

3. A game apparatus comprising a cabinet having a sight opening and an entrance opening therein, a plurality of normally horizontally disposed pivotally mounted arms within the cabinet below the sight opening, indicators carried by the arms, a ball adapted to be impelled through the entrance opening to engage and actuate the arms to move the indicators within the sight opening, means controlled by the particular indicator moved to indicate the character of a play and means to release the ball and return the same to the player.

4. A game apparatus comprising a cabinet having a sight opening and an entrance opening, a plurality of normally horizontally disposed pivotally mounted arms within the cabinet below the sight opening, indicators carried by the arms, a ball adapted to be impelled through the entrance opening to engage and actuate the arms to move the indicators within the sight opening, a trough to receive and guide ball to the pivoted arms, means controlled by the particular indicator moved to indicate the character of a play and means to release the ball and return the same to the player.

5. A game apparatus comprising a cabi-

net having a sight opening and an entrance opening, a plurality of normally horizontally disposed pivotally mounted arms within the cabinet below the sight opening, indicators carried by the arms, a ball adapted to be impelled through the entrance opening to engage and actuate the arm and move the indicators within the sight opening, a trough to receive and guide ball to the pivoted arms, means extending transversely of the trough in the path of the ball and in advance of certain of the arms to provide obstructions, means controlled by the particular indicator moved to indicate the character of a play and means to release the ball and return the same to the player.

6. A game apparatus comprising a cabinet having a sight opening and an entrance opening, a plurality of normally horizontally disposed pivotally mounted arms within the cabinet below the sight opening, indicators carried by the arms, a ball adapted to be impelled through the entrance opening to engage and actuate the arms and move the indicators within the sight opening, a bottomless trough above the arms and disposed transversely of the latter to receive and guide ball to the pivoted arms, means controlled by the particular indicator moved to indicate the character of a play and means to release the ball and return the same to the player.

7. A game apparatus comprising a cabinet having a sight opening and an entrance opening, a bottomless trough within the cabinet, a ball adapted to be impelled through the entrance opening into the trough, pockets beneath the trough to receive the ball, arms pivotally mounted within the pockets and adapted to be actuated by the weight of the ball, indicators carried by the arms for position within the sight opening when the arms are actuated, means controlled by the particular indicator moved to indicate the character of a play and means to release and return the ball to the player.

8. A game apparatus comprising a cabinet having a sight opening and an entrance opening, a plurality of normally horizontally disposed pivotally mounted arms within the cabinet below the sight opening, indicators carried by the arms, a ball adapted to be impelled through the entrance opening to engage and actuate the arms and move the indicators within the sight opening, means extending from the bottom of the sight opening and rearwardly and upwardly above the arms to guide the ball, means controlled by the particular indicator moved to indicate the character of a play and means to release the ball and return the latter to the player.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

FRANK JOSEPH SPITZENBERGER.