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H. R. BELLGARDE

GAME AND APPARATUS FOR PLAYING THE SAME

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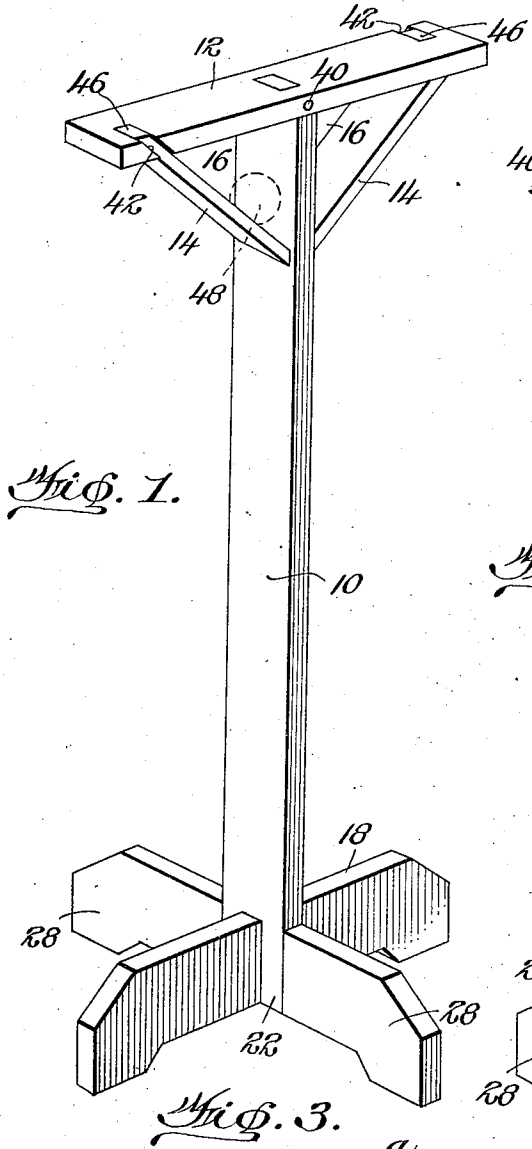



Fig. 1.

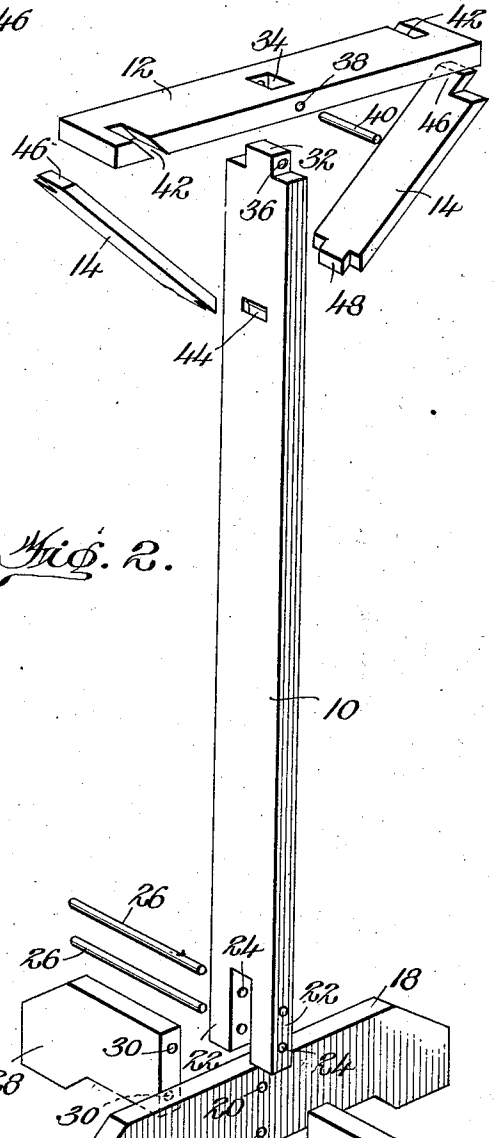
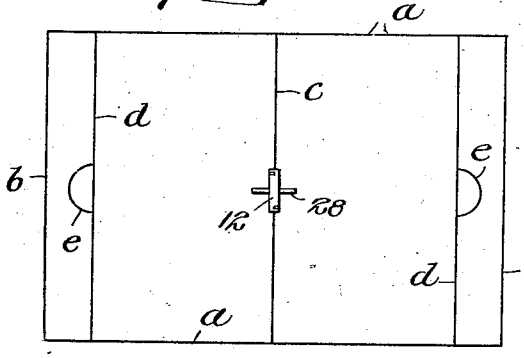



Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.




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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## GAME AND APPARATUS FOR PLAYING THE SAME.

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My invention relates to a game and apparatus for playing the same, my purpose being to provide a game which may be played either outdoors or indoors, which requires, in addition to a ball, only a single piece of inexpensive apparatus for playing the same, and which, in addition to being amusing, is highly beneficial in that it affords excellent exercise and training for the players without risking them to injury.

The single piece of apparatus used in playing my game is known as a goal and it consists essentially of a standard carrying a cross member at the upper end thereof connected with the standard by a pair of diagonal brace members which cooperate with the standard and the cross member to form a pair of openings, one to either side of the standard, used in playing the game, my further purpose being to provide a knock-down goal of the type mentioned which is simple in construction, cheap and easy to produce, which may be readily and easily assembled and disassembled without the use of nails, screws or similar fasteners, and which is strong, durable and unlikely to become broken or disordered during its use.

With the foregoing and other purposes in view, my invention consists in the features of novelty to be hereinafter more fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings and defined in the appended claims.

In the drawings, wherein like characters of reference denote corresponding parts in the different views:

Fig. 1 is a perspective of the goal used in playing my game;

Fig. 2, a view similar to Fig. 1 showing the parts of the goal separated from one another; and

Fig. 3, a diagram of the field used in playing my game, showing the position of the goal with respect to the field.

The goal illustrated in the drawings is, in practice, approximately seven feet high and it consists essentially of an upright or standard 10 approximately one inch thick and four inches wide, provided at its lower end with a base to support it in upright position, and carrying at its upper end a horizontally disposed cross member 12 connected at its ends with the standard by a pair of downwardly and inwardly extending diagonal brace members 14, 14 cooperating with the standard and cross member 12 to provide a pair of openings 16, 16, one to either side of the standard, through or into which a resilient ball is adapted to be tossed or lodged in playing the game.

As shown in Fig. 2 of the drawings, the lower end of the standard is bifurcated to receive the intermediate portion of a foot piece 18 which is adapted to extend equal distances to either side of the standard, said foot piece being provided with a pair of openings 20, 20, and the two arms 22, 22 at the lower end of the standard, produced by bifurcating the latter, each being provided with a pair of openings 24, 24, adapted to be alined with the openings 20, 20 of the foot piece 18 when the foot piece is arranged between the arms, 22, 22 whereby a pair of pins 26, 26 may be passed through said alined openings to secure said foot piece to the standard.

The pins 26 are of greater length than the width of the standard 10, so as to project beyond each side of the latter and provide means for attaching additional foot pieces 28, 28 to the lower end of the standard for cooperation with the foot piece 18 to support the goal against tilting movement in all directions, the inner end of each of said foot pieces 28, 28 being provided with openings 30, 30 to receive the projecting ends of the pins 22. The foot pieces 28, 28 extend at right angles to the foot piece 18 and are disposed, respectively, upon opposite sides of the standard 10 and foot piece 18.

The upper end of the standard 10 is reduced to provide a tenon 32 and the cross member 12 is centrally mortised as at 34 to receive said tenon, openings 36, 38 being formed, respectively, in the standard 10 and cross member 12 and adapted for alinement with one another, when the tenon 32 is disposed within the mortise 34, to receive a pin 40 for locking the cross piece to the standard.

In opposite edges of the cross piece 18, near the ends thereof, respectively, is formed a pair of diagonally extending slots 42, 42, while in opposite side faces of the standard, a suitable distance below the upper end thereof, is formed a pair of depressions 44. Each of the brace members 14 is cut to provide a tongue 46 at its upper end for engagement with one of the slots 42, and a tongue 48 at its lower end for engagement with one of the depressions 44, these braces serving as aforementioned to secure the cross piece 12 rigidly

to the upper end of the standard and cooperating with said standard and said cross piece to provide the pair of triangularly-shaped openings 16, 16, one to either side of the standard, through which a ball is adapted to be tossed in playing the game, the brace members, due to their angular relation with respect to the standard, cooperating with the latter to provide a pair of V-shaped pockets, one to each side of the standard, at the juncture of the brace members therewith, into which the ball is adapted to be lodged as indicated at 48 by dotted lines in Fig. 1 of the drawings.

A goal device of the type described manifestly is cheap and easy to produce, capable of being readily assembled and disassembled, and, in its assembled position, is strong, durable and unlikely to become broken or disordered during its use.

My game known as "set", is adapted to be played on a rectangular field or court, either indoors or outdoors, measuring twenty feet in width and thirty feet in length, marked by suitable lines to indicate its boundary and different sections thereof used in scoring points when playing the game.

A playing field is illustrated in Fig. 3 and, as shown, it includes boundary lines *a*, *a* and *b*, *b* at the sides and ends thereof, respectively. Midway between the end boundary lines *b*, *b* it is divided by a goal line *c* which extends parallel to the end boundary lines and connects the side boundary lines *a*, *a*. Three feet from each end boundary line is drawn a home line *d* parallel to the end boundary lines and connecting the side boundary lines. Midway between the side boundary lines, on the goal line *c* is placed the goal device previously described, while described from a point on each home line *d*, midway between the side boundary lines *a*, *a* is a semi-circular line *e* defining a base, the two bases thus formed extending into the spaces between the end boundary lines and the respective home lines.

Any even number of players may play the game; in the case of an uneven number, one of the players acts as scorekeeper until one of the other players misses, when they should exchange places.

In playing the game one player stands on his base at one end of the field and tosses the ball towards the other end of the field, first toss being decided in any desired manner, and the object is either to lodge the ball in one of the V-shaped pockets formed between the standard 10 and the brace members 14, 14 of the goal, to pass the ball through one of the openings 16, to bounce the ball on top of the cross piece 12 of the goal, to bounce the ball against any portion of the goal, so that it will return to the player making the toss, or to strike the goal and send the ball to the other players home line. The duty of the other player is to intercept any ball that passes the goal without overstepping the boundaries of the three foot space at his end of the field or court.

Points are scored as follows:

For lodging the ball in either V-shaped pocket—31 points, which is winning the game irrespective of scores previously made; for bouncing the ball on top of the cross piece 12 and sending the ball to opponent's home line—10 points; for tossing the ball through either opening 16 of the goal and sending ball to opponent's home line—5 points; for bouncing the ball against the goal and returning same to the tossers home line and catching the ball on its return—2 points; for touching the goal with the ball and sending it to opponent's home line—1 point.

Missing a ball, overstepping home line, failing to send ball to opponent's home line or missing a ball on "home" scores one point against the player so erring. Three misses of any type in succession loses a player five points.

An exact number of points scored is required to win, and scoring a greater number of points loses the game.

The foregoing rules of course may be modified by agreement between the players before starting a game to make the game more or less difficult according to the ability of the players.

I claim:

1. In a game, a goal device serving as a target for a ball, said goal device consisting of a standard and a member extending diagonally upward and outward therefrom defining a V-shaped pocket into which the ball is adapted to be lodged.

2. In a game, a goal device serving as a target for a ball, said goal device consisting of a standard and a pair of members extending diagonally upward and outward therefrom defining a pair of V-shaped pockets into either of which the ball is adapted to be lodged.

3. In a game, a goal device serving as a target for a ball, said goal device consisting of a standard and a pair of members extending diagonally upward and outward from opposite sides thereof defining a pair of V-shaped pockets at opposite sides of the standard into either of which the ball is adapted to be lodged.

4. In a game, a goal device serving as a target for a ball, said goal device consisting of a vertical standard, a horizontal member attached thereto, and a diagonal member extending between said standard and said horizontal member defining an opening through which the ball is adapted to be tossed.

5. In a game, a goal device serving as a target for a ball, said goal device consisting of a vertical standard, a horizontal cross

member extending to either side of the standard, and a pair of diagonal members connecting the standard with said cross member at opposite sides of the standard, respectively, defining a pair of openings at opposite sides of the standard through either of which the ball is adapted to be tossed.

6. In a game, a goal device serving as a target for a ball, said goal device consisting of a standard, a cross member attached thereto, a pair of brace members connecting said cross member with the standard and cooperating with said standard and cross member to define a pair of openings through which the ball is adapted to be tossed, and quick detachable connections between said standard and each of said members.

7. In a game, a goal device serving as a target for a ball, said goal device consisting of a standard, a cross member attached thereto, a pair of brace members connecting said cross member with the standard and cooperating with said standard and cross member to define a pair of openings through which the ball is adapted to be tossed, quick detachable connections of said members with one another, and a quick detachable connection between each member and said standard.

8. In a game, a goal device serving as a target for a ball, said goal device consisting of a standard, means carried by said standard defining an opening through which the ball is adapted to be tossed and a pocket in which the ball is adapted to be lodged, a base for supporting said standard in upright position, and quick detachable connections between said base and said standard.

9. In a game, a goal device serving as a target for a ball, said goal device consisting of a standard reduced to provide a tenon at its upper end, a cross member mortised intermediate its ends to receive said tenon and formed adjacent each end thereof with a diagonal slot, the standard being mortised below the upper end thereof, and a pair of brace members having their upper ends removably fitted in the slots in said cross member and their lower ends removably fitted in the mortises in said standard.

10. In a game, a goal device serving as a target for a ball, said goal device consisting of a standard bifurcated at its lower end, a foot piece removably engaged in the bifurcated lower end of said standard, a pair of pins passing through said standard and through said foot piece and projecting beyond opposite sides of the standard, and other foot pieces removably mounted on the projecting ends of said pins.

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my signature.

HARRY R. BELLGARDE.