B. F. H. THORWARD.

GAME APPARATUS.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 31, 1919.

1,327,072.

Patented Jan. 6, 1920.

Fig. 1

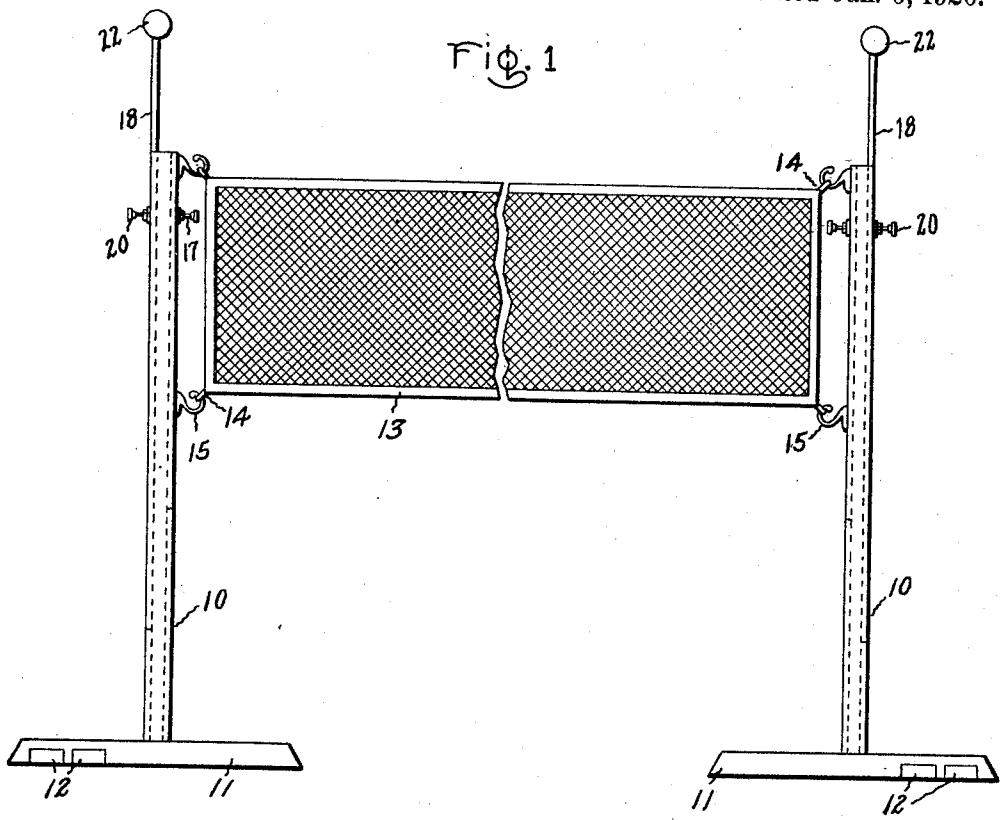


Fig. 2.

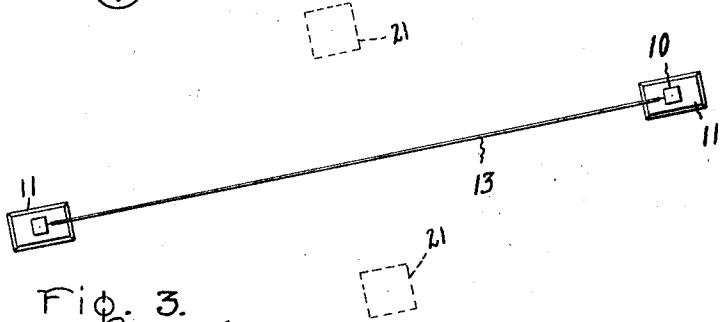
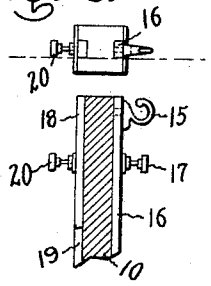


Fig. 3.



INVENTOR:
BENJAMIN F. H. THORWARD,
BY J. H. Anderson
HIS ATTORNEY.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BENJAMIN F. H. THORWARD, OF CLEVELAND, OHIO.

GAME APPARATUS.

1,327,072. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Jan. 6, 1920.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, BENJAMIN F. H. THORWARD, a citizen of the United States, residing at Cleveland, in the county of Cuyahoga and State of Ohio, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Game Apparatus, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to indoor games and more particularly consists of a novel apparatus by means of which a game which I have devised can be played. Stated broadly, the apparatus of my invention comprises a net supported between two standards with certain adjustments which allow the net to be properly disposed to take care of variations necessary to accommodate various players. The standards supporting the net are provided also with guide rods and these are preferably mounted so that the standards as a whole may be telescoped and thus be rendered conveniently transportable. Various other features and advantages of my invention will appear from the description which follows of a specific embodiment thereof and from the accompanying drawing.

In the drawing, Figure 1 is a front elevation of a net and supports therefor comprised by my invention. Fig. 2 is a diagrammatic view showing the relative disposition of the various elements of the apparatus. Fig. 3 is a top plan view and partial vertical section of one of the standards.

As shown in the drawing, the standards 10 are mounted on suitable bases 11 which are properly weighted as shown at 12 to balance the weight of the net 13 which is supported between the said standards and also to prevent the overturning of the standards by reason of the impact against the said net or standards of the ball which is used in the game. The net 13 is attached in any desired way to the standards 10 as for instance, by suspending the same through the loops 14 on hooks 15 carried by said standards. In order to permit the height of the net to be fixed to accommodate the various persons who may play the game, the net may be carried by a slide 16 into which the hooks 15 are inserted and any suitable clamping means such as 17 may be used to secure the said slide in a desired position. Suitable guide rods 18 are mounted on the standards to enable the players to determine whether the ball is hit out of bounds. These rods may be collapsible being slidable in grooves 19 formed in the standard. The clamping means 20 comprising a strap and thumb screw for securing the rods in a desired position may be also provided as shown.

The game may be played by any number of players, preferably an equal number on each side. The players occupy seats 21 as shown in Fig. 2. A ball is batted back and forth with the hand until one of the players fails to drive it back over the net in which case the point is scored in favor of the opposing side. Various penalties may be imposed. It may be desired to have a special penalty imposed when a player causes the ball to strike the standards or guides and it may be advisable to have arrangement so that an audible signal is given when this occurs. As shown in the drawing, bells 22 may be mounted on the top of the guide rods for this purpose.

What I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States is:—

1. In a game apparatus, the combination of a net, standards between which the said net is supported, slide rods comprised by said standards and to which the said net may be attached and means whereby the positions of said slide rods may be adjusted as desired.

2. In a game apparatus, the combination of a net, standards between which said net is supported, guide rods carried by said standards, and means whereby said guide rods may be adjusted to various heights.

BENJAMIN F. H. THORWARD.