March 13, 1945. J. R. TRIMBLE 2,371,575

GAME BOARD

Filed Jan. 29, 1943

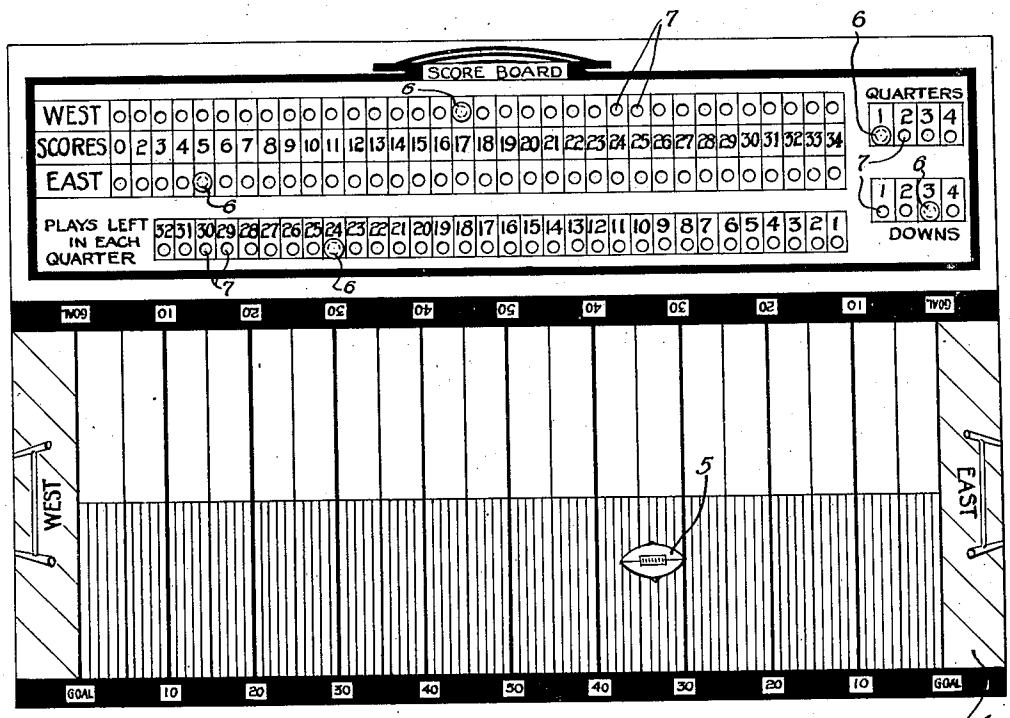


Fig. 1.

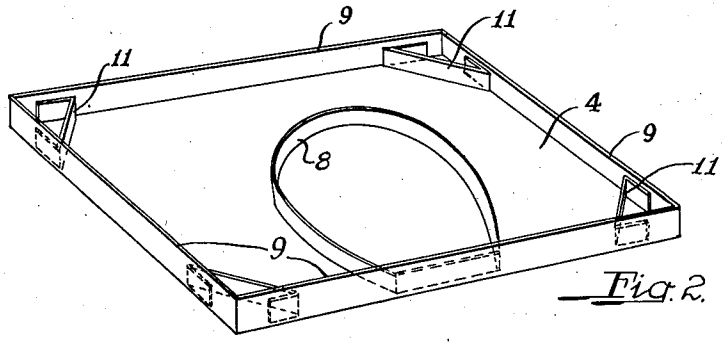


Fig. 2.

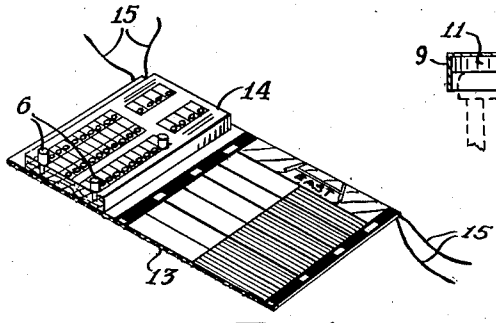


Fig. 4.

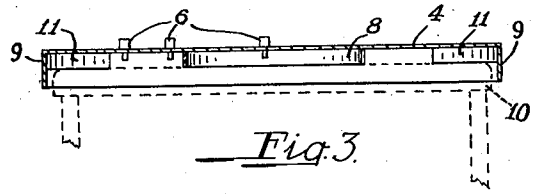


Fig. 3.

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Patented Mar. 13, 1945

2,371,575

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,371,575

GAME BOARD

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Application January 29, 1943, Serial No. 473,918

1 Claim. (Cl. 273—136)

My invention relates to game boards, and more particularly to those of the so-called "parlor game" type, wherein markers are employed to indicate the progress of a game and score-producing elements such as dice are employed.

One object of my invention is to provide a game board of the type referred to which is of such form that it can readily be used with a table or stand and will be held against sliding on a table top with which it is used.

Another object of my invention is to provide a game board which, although made of lightweight materials, will be adequately stiffened and strengthened against damage under the stress of use.

Still another object of my invention is to provide an improved manner of supporting pegs on the board to indicate the progress of a game.

In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 is a plan view of the game board; Fig. 2 is an inverted view thereof, on a reduced scale; Fig. 3 is a sectional view on a still further reduced scale, showing the manner in which the board will be supported upon a table or stand, and Fig. 4 is a fragmentary perspective view showing a modification.

As shown in the accompanying drawing, the board may be formed of cardboard, plywood, thin metal, or other suitable material. The board comprises a top sheet 4 which in this instance is imprinted or painted to represent a football playing field, and also containing the representation of a score board together with certain other indicia to represent the progress of a game. In playing the game, dice are rolled upon the score board and comparison or reference of the numbers or dots appearing on the dice is made with corresponding numbers that appear on a signal and play schedule chart (not here shown), for the purpose of indicating the direction and distance which a football piece 5 is to be moved, the member 5 simply constituting a loose piece which is moved on the playing field. As the game progresses, pegs 6 are shifted in the holes 7 in the score board.

A brace or stiffener 8 is mounted on the underside of the top sheet 4, it being of less vertical dimension than the edge strips 9 that are also secured to the top sheet 4, so that the brace or supporting element 8 will rest upon the table top 10 while the edge pieces 9 will extend down along the edges of the table top and thus serve as stop elements to hold the board from being slidably displaced from the table top. The member 8 serves to stiffen the top sheet and support it against sagging pressure exerted thereon during playing of the game.

Braces 11 are secured to the underside of the top sheet 4 and to the edge pieces 9. These members 11 may be of wood, metal or other suitable material, and are of a depth or vertical dimension corresponding to that of the element 8, to assist in supporting the top sheet 4 and to hold it in vertically-spaced relation to the table top 10. This spaced relationship is desirable so as to permit the use of pegs 6 with longer reduced shank portions than would be the case if the sheet 4 rested directly upon the table top. The length of the shanks at the lower end of the pegs 6 enables them to more conveniently be inserted in the holes 7 and give them greater stability than if they were of a length equal only to the thickness of the sheet 4.

The form of game board shown is particularly useful where the boards are to be made of several feet in length and width, for use by groups of players.

In Figure 4 I show a portion of a game board which is a modification of the structure shown in Figs. 1 to 3. A sheet 13 which may be of cloth or other flexible material that can be rolled or folded, has the playing field imprinted thereon. A block 14 is glued or otherwise secured to the sheet 13 and has imprinted thereon the scoring and progress-of-game data as in Fig. 1. Also, holes are provided therein for the pegs 6. Strings 15 are provided whereby the sheet 13 can be tied to the corners of a table.

I claim as my invention:

A game board comprising a top sheet that serves as a field of play, depending edge pieces at the edges of the sheet, in position to engage the edge of a table top upon which the board may be placed, diagonally-extending spacer elements engaging the under side of the sheet, at each corner thereof, and a spacer element engaging the under side of the sheet, adjacent to the mid area thereof, the said spacer elements being of lesser vertical dimension than the edge pieces, and positioned to support the top sheet in vertically spaced relation to a table top.

JAMES R. TRIMBLE.