M. P. TOSSO, Jr.

BASEBALL GAME BOARD.

APPLICATION FILED DEC. 3, 1919.

1,380,440.

Patented June 7, 1921.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

FIG. 1.

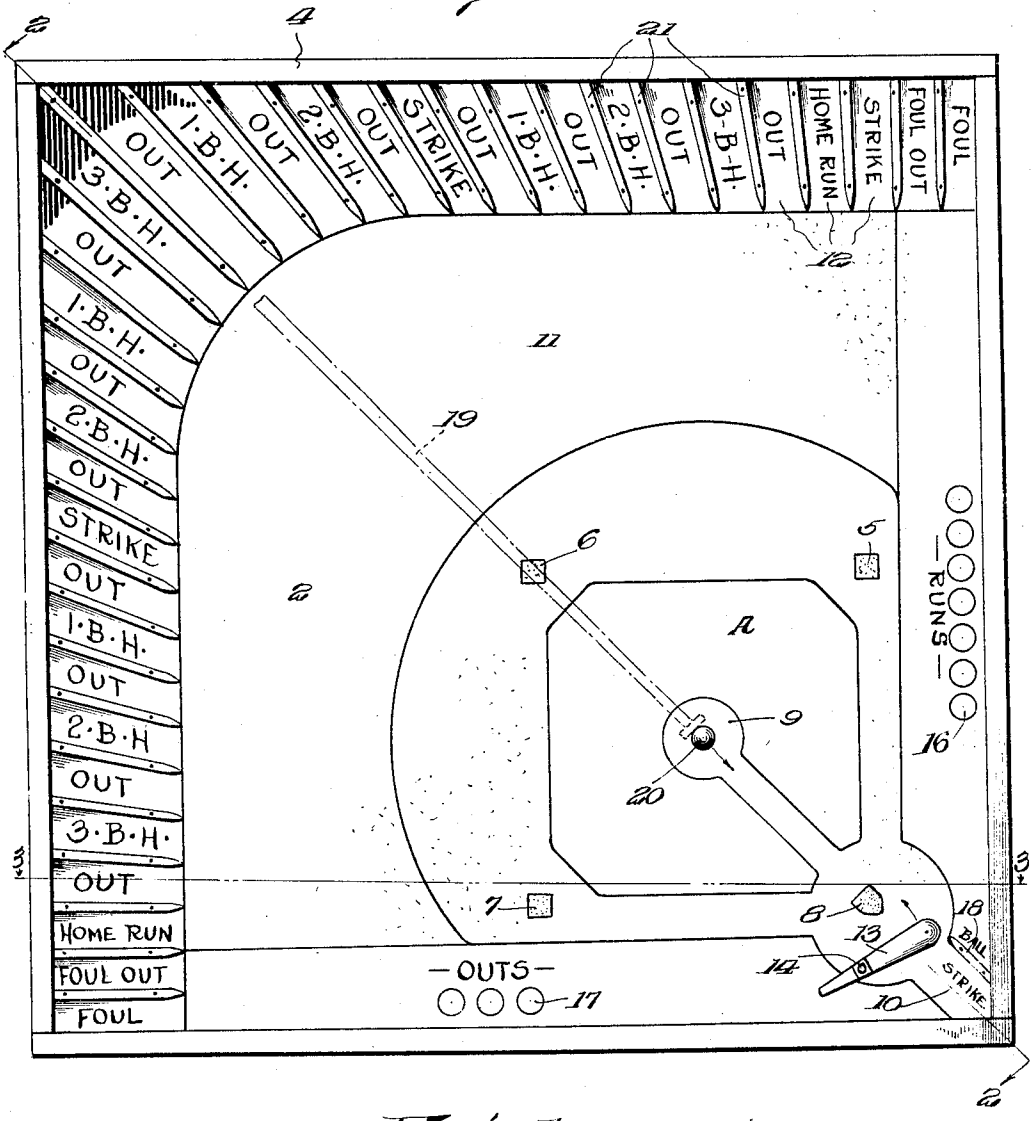
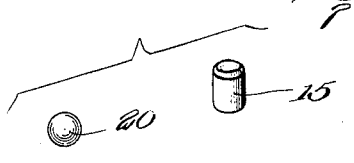


FIG. 4.



INVENTOR.

Manuel P. Tosso, Jr.

by Lacey & Lacey,

Attys.

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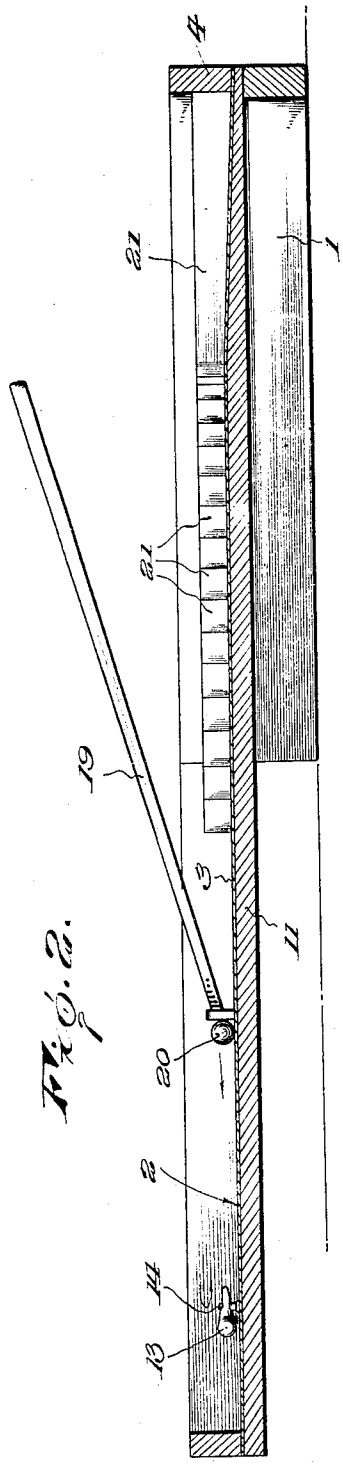


Fig. 2.

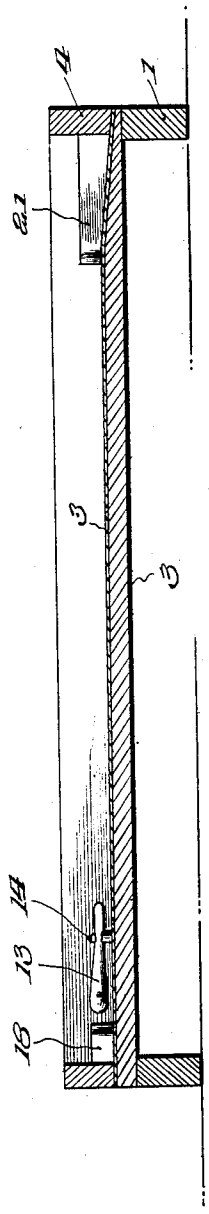


Fig. 3.

INVENTOR.

Manuel P. Tosso, Jr.

by. Lacy & Lacy,

Attys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MANUEL P. TOSSO, JR., OF NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA.

BASEBALL GAME-BOARD.

1,380,440. Specification of Letters Patent. **Patented June 7, 1921.**

Application filed December 3, 1919. Serial No. 342,064.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MANUEL P. TOSSO, JR., citizen of the United States, residing at New Orleans, in the parish of Orleans and State of Louisiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Baseball Game-Boards, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a base ball game board adapted to be used in playing parlor base ball.

The board is constructed along lines similar to the manner of laying out a base ball field, that is to say, it incorporates the usual base ball diamond and the outfield with means for performing and indicating different plays occurring in a base ball game. The rules attendant on the use of the board provide for certain scores tallying in the same manner as the regulation base ball game.

The invention provides a game requiring skill in the playing of the same and affording amusement to persons interested in base ball.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a top plan view of the board;

Fig. 2 is a diagonal section on line 2—2 of Fig. 1, and

Fig. 3 is a transverse section on line 3—3 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 4 is a perspective view showing some of the implements employed in connection with the board.

The board comprises a supporting member 1 carrying a playing surface 2 covered with a layer of canvas 3 and surrounded by a stop wall 4 forming an inclosure for the playing surface.

Adjacent one corner of the playing surface is marked off a base ball diamond A, the first, second, third and home bases being designated as 5, 6, 7 and 8 respectively. The pitcher's box 9 and the catcher's position 10 are indicated in their usual locations on a full size base ball diamond. The infield and foul lines are distinctly marked and the outfield 11 is surrounded by a series of pockets 12 which are depressed slightly to receive and retain a ball. Each pocket has designated thereon a particular play, as for instance, strike, home run, second base, out, etc. Adjacent the home plate 8 is a bat 13 pivotally mounted as at 14. Behind the bat is a partition 18 on one side of which is the designation "Ball" and on the other side of which is the designation "Strike," the "strike" side being directly in line with the pitcher's box and the home plate. At one side of the playing surface the runs are marked by placing men 15 on spots 16 while on another side the out spots 17 are used in the same manner. A cue 19 is used to project the ball 20 from the pitcher's box toward the bat.

In playing the game the rules governing are the same as those for base ball, that is to say each person chooses a team designated with a proper name like New York, Boston, etc., and nine innings are played. Only two people can play at a time. If the game is a tie at the end of nine innings additional innings are played until one side or the other scores to win. In pitching the ball, the ball is placed in the pitcher's box and shoved gently with the cue stick toward the home plate and the player at the bat may strike at it or not as he chooses, but in any event the play is counted as a ball if it goes to the ball side of partition 18 or a strike if it goes to the strike side of the partition 18. If the ball is struck with the bat 13 and knocked toward the outfield and finally deposits itself in one of the pockets 12 the designation on that pocket is used in scoring. For instance, if the ball should stop in a pocket marked second base hit then a man would be placed on second base and if the next hit shoulde be a third base hit according to the designation on the pocket in which the ball eventually rested the man on second base would be moved home and the new man placed on third base and one run tallied for the player. If the player at the bat strikes out, the next man takes the bat, figuratively speaking, and when three men have been struck out the other player comes to the bat.

As soon as the ball is struck by the cue, the cue should be removed from the table so that no obstructions impede the movement of the ball. If, however, the ball stops on any line, as for instance the infield line, it is counted out, and any ball stopping on the outfield or on the outfield line is counted as a strike. If the ball stops on the foul line it is counted as a strike. If the batted ball hits any man on a base the man is considered out and removed from the base.

A further important rule of the game is that if the ball is batted off the board it counts as out, thus confining the batter to easy hitting. Also in batting the bat is

placed in a position parallel to the third base foul line prior to use so that the ball may have a chance to go anywhere on the board. In playing the game the cue, a ball and two sets of men of two different colors comprising nine men each are used. The game is played strictly according to regulations and no decisions as to the position of the ball are given until the ball has stopped rolling. It is to be noted that a particular feature of the construction resides in the stop wall 4 which prevents the ball from rolling off from the playing surface, and the pockets 12 which are formed by the wall 4 and ribs 21 extending out from the stop wall 4 at the proper angles to receive the ball batted from adjacent the home plate 8. Also the edges of the ribs 21 facing toward the infield are beveled to present a fine edge to the ball, thereby deflecting the ball into one or the other of the pockets on each side of the rib so that there is little possibility of the ball stopping between two pockets which would indicate an indecisive play. The outside line of the outfield is curved in the usual manner of a baseball field and the beveled edges of the pockets 12 terminate on this line.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new is:

A game apparatus comprising a board having a representation of a base ball field on its upper surface, said surface being beveled around the outer edges of the base ball field, a retaining wall around the board, vertical partitions secured on the beveled portion of the surface of the board on lines converging toward the home plate of the base ball field, the outer ends of the partitions abutting the retaining wall, a bat pivotally mounted on the board adjacent the home plate, a fixed partition in rear of the bat on a line parallel with the line connecting the pitcher's box and the home plate, a ball to be placed in the pitcher's box, and a cue to propel the ball from the pitcher's box toward the home plate and the bat.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

MANUEL P. TOSSO, JR. [L. S.]