May 1, 1951 W. A. CURTIS 2,550,675

GAME SCORING DEVICE

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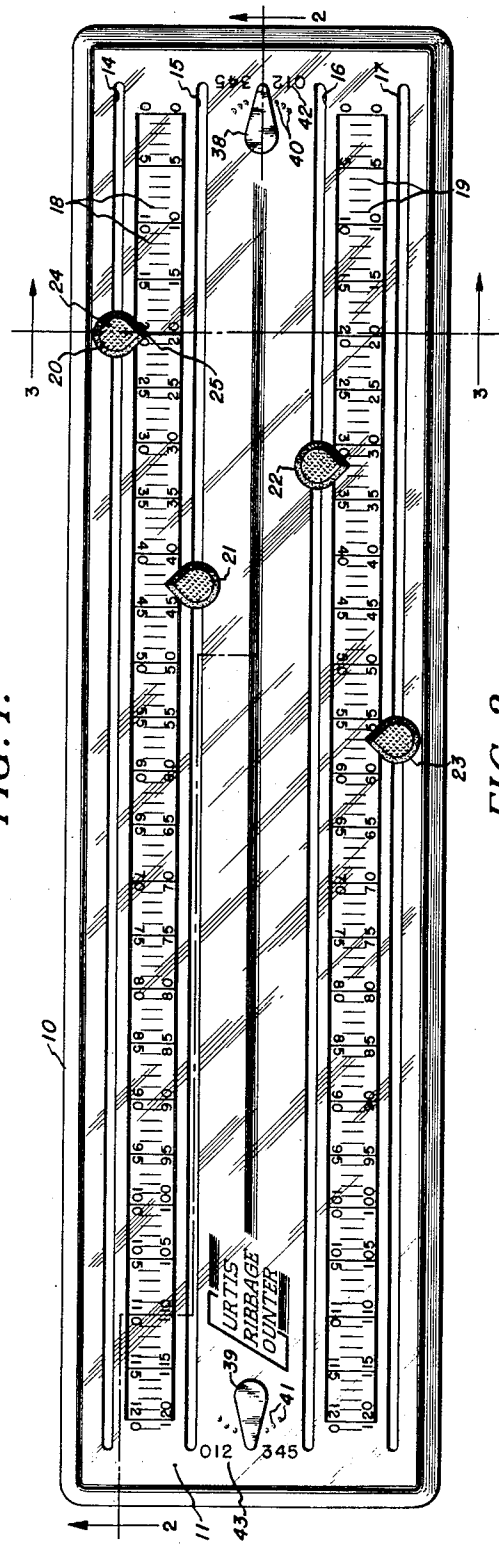


FIG. 1.

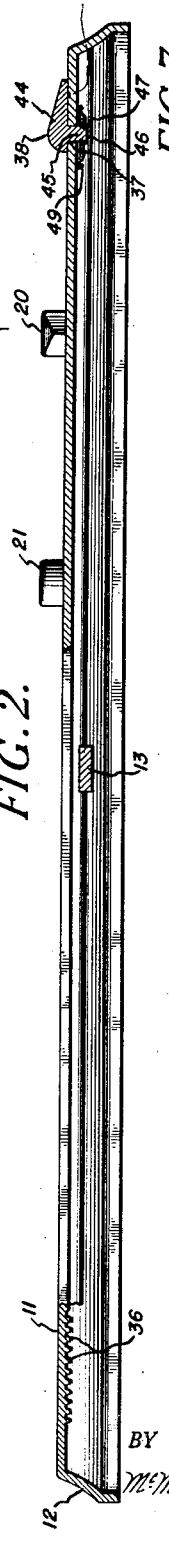


FIG. 2.

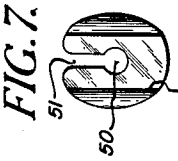


FIG. 7.



FIG. 8.



FIG. 6.



FIG. 5.

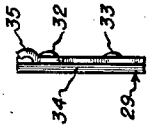


FIG. 4.

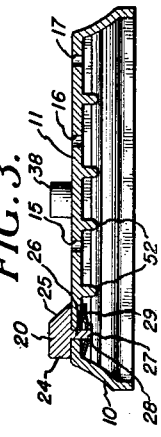


FIG. 3.

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GAME SCORING DEVICE

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1 Claim. (Cl. 235—124)

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This invention relates to game score registering devices, and more particularly to a scoreboard for registering the scores in cribbage and similar games.

It is among the objects of the invention to provide an improved game score registering device of simplified construction which can be economically manufactured from a readily moldable material, such as synthetic resin plastic, and provides two movable markers for each of two players for registering the score in the game being played, and a movable marker for each player for registering the games won in a particular series, which provides means for firmly holding the markers in place against accidental displacement while having them easily movable manually from place-to-place on the board, and which is of compact size and light weight, neat and attractive in appearance, and easy to use.

Other objects and advantages will become apparent from a consideration of the following description and the appended claim in conjunction with the accompanying drawing wherein:

Figure 1 is a top plan view of a game score registering device illustrative of the invention;

Figure 2 is a longitudinal cross section on the line 2—2 of Figure 1;

Figure 3 is a transverse cross section on the line 3—3 of Figure 1;

Figure 4 is a side view of a flat spring constituting an operative component of the device;

Figure 5 is a top plan view of the spring illustrated in Figure 4;

Figure 6 is an end view of the spring illustrated in Figure 5;

Figure 7 is a top plan view of another flat spring constituting an operative component of the device; and

Figure 8 is an end view of the spring illustrated in Figure 7.

With continued reference to the drawing, the game score registering device of the invention comprises an elongated rectangular structure 10 of thin walled construction having a flat top wall 11 and a flange 12 marginally surrounding the wall 11. The flange 12 has a molding shape to enhance the ornamental appearance of the device, and has its edge opposite the top wall 11 in a plane substantially parallel to the top wall. The entire structure 10 is preferably formed as a single molding or casting of readily moldable material, such as a suitable synthetic resin plastic and is simple and rigid in construction and of extremely light weight. Substantially at the mid-length location of the structure a rib 13

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extends transversely of the structure between the side portions of the flange 12 and at a location spaced below the top wall 11. The bottom side of the structure is preferably left open although it may be closed by a bottom wall, if desired.

The top wall has therein two pair of longitudinally extending slots 14, 15, 16 and 17 which extend for substantially the length of the top wall 11, and are arranged in spaced apart, substantially parallel relationship to each other. The slots 14 and 15 constitute one pair, and the space on the upper surface of the top wall between these slots is longitudinally divided at equally spaced intervals by game score indicating marks 18. The series of marks 18 extend substantially the full length of the slots 14 and 15 and, if the registering device is to be used for registering the score in cribbage games, there will be 120 marks in the series with an additional mark at one end of the series to indicate the total game score of 121 points. These marks are numbered in groups of five, and the numbers are duplicated so one series of numbers is disposed adjacent each of the grooves 14 and 15 to facilitate reading the indicating marks.

An entirely similar series 19 of indicating marks is disposed between the grooves 16 and 17 constituting the other pair of grooves.

Slides 20, 21, 22 and 23 are mounted respectively in the grooves 14, 15, 16 and 17 for movement longitudinally of the corresponding grooves and, as these slides are all identical in construction and operation, a detailed description of only one is considered sufficient for the purposes of the present disclosure, the slide 20 having been selected for this purpose and illustrated in cross section in Figure 3.

The slide 20 comprises a knob 24 which rests upon the upper surface of the top wall 11 of the structure 10 and has, at one side, a pointer formation 25 which cooperates with the adjacent side of the series of game score indicating marks 18 to indicate a game score by positioning the pointer formation 25 on or adjacent to any selected one of these marks. A stem 26 extends from the knob 24 through the slot 14 and this stem is elongated longitudinally of the slot to restrain the slide from rotation relative to the body 10. At its end opposite the knob 24, the stem 26 is provided with a head 27 and adjacent this head with a lateral restriction providing a neck 28. The head 27 is of same diameter as the stem 26 and the stem 26 is insertible through one of the slots.

A flat spring 29 of rectangular shape has a slot

or recess therein including a portion 30 disposed substantially symmetrically of the center of the spring and shaped and dimensioned to closely fit the stem 26 of the slide, and a narrower portion 31 which extends from the portion 30 to one edge of the spring and has a width sufficient for the passage therethrough of the neck 28 of the stem. This spring is assembled with the slide 20 in an obvious manner by forcing the neck 28 of the stem through the narrow portion 31 of the recess in the spring until the stem is entirely received in the portion 30 of the recess. The spring is longitudinally bowed, as is clearly illustrated in Figure 6, and is mounted on the stem 26 with its concave side adjacent the under surface of the top wall 11 of the body 10. At one side of the recess therein, the spring is provided with two rounded protuberances 32 and 33 which extend upwardly from the concave side of the spring and contact the under surface of the top wall 11 at one side of the slot 14. The protuberances 32 and 33 act to hold the leaf spring 29 in a position for smoother sliding movement on the adjacent face of the top wall 11. At its opposite side the spring is provided with a partly severed wing 34 having at one end a rounded detent 35 extending transversely of the wing at the free end thereof, and the top wall 11 is provided on its under surface and along one side of the groove 14 with a series of small serrations 36.

With this arrangement, the spring 29 bears on the under surface of the top wall 11 and on the head 27 of the slide stem 26 to impose frictional resistance to movement of the slide 20 longitudinally of the slot 14. The engagement of the detent 35 with the serrations 36 additionally resiliently resists movement of the slide longitudinally of the slot so that the slide is firmly held in adjusted position along the slot against accidental displacement, but is easily movable manually from place-to-place longitudinally of the slot and along the corresponding series 18 of indicating marks.

Each of the remaining slides 21, 22, and 23 is substantially identical to the slide 20, and is provided with a flat spring similar to the flat spring 29 secured to the slide 20, and the top wall 11 of the body 10 is provided on its under surface with a row of serrations, similar to the serrations 36 extending longitudinally along each of the slots 15, 16 and 17.

The top wall 11 is provided near each end thereof, and substantially at its mid-width location with a circular aperture, as indicated at 37 in Figure 2, and two game indicators 38 and 39 are rotatably mounted respectively in these apertures.

An arcuately arranged series of small recesses, as indicated at 40 and 41, is disposed adjacent each of the apertures and concentric therewith, and a series 42 of numbers from zero to five is provided on the upper surface of the top wall 11 adjacent the series of uniformly spaced apart recesses 40 to indicate the number of games scored. A similar series 43 of numbers is provided adjacent the series 41 of detents for use by the other player for the same purpose.

As the two game indicators are substantially identical in construction and operation, a detailed description of only one is considered necessary for the purposes of the present disclosure, and the indicator 38 has been selected for this purpose.

This indicator 38 comprises a knob 44 which rests upon the upper surface of the top wall 11,

and has at one side a pointer formation 44 the surface of which, adjacent the top wall, is provided with a small detent selectively engageable in the detents of the series 40 to hold the knob 38 with its pointer formation in opposition to any selected one of the numbers in the series 42. A stem 45 extends from the knob 44 through the aperture 37 and is journaled in this aperture. The stem has on its end opposite the knob 44 a head 46 of the same diameter as the stem, and adjacent the head a lateral restriction providing a neck 47.

A flat spring 49 which is preferably of oval or elliptical shape and transversely bowed, has therein a recess including a substantially circular portion 50 generally symmetrical with the center of the spring and of a size to receive the stem 45 of the game indicator 38, and a narrow portion 51 which extends from the portion 50 to one end of the spring and is of a width to receive the neck 47 of the stem.

The spring 49 is disposed with its concave side adjacent the under surface of the top wall 11, and is assembled with the stem 45 in an obvious manner by sliding the neck of the stem through the narrow portion 51 of the recess in the spring until the stem is disposed in the portion 50 with the head 46 marginally underlying this portion of the spring. The spring then bears upon the head 46 and the under surface of the top wall 11 to impose a frictional resistance to rotational movements of the indicator 38 relative to the top wall of the body 10 and to also resiliently engage the detent on the pointer formation of the knob 44 with the recesses 40 to impose an additional resilient resistance to rotation of the indicator. The indicator 39, as explained above, is similar in construction and operation to the indicator 38, and includes a flat spring similar to the spring 49.

The top wall 11 is reinforced by depending ribs 52 which extend longitudinally of the top wall between the slots 14, 15, 16 and 17, and the bottom edges of these ribs are connected to the upper surface of the transverse rib or batten 13 to further increase the rigidity of the structure.

The upper surface of the top wall 11 may be suitably ornamented, if desired, or may carry on the space between the inner slots 15 and 16 advertising matter or information, as may be desired.

The invention may be embodied in other specific forms without departing from the spirit or essential characteristics thereof. The present embodiment is, therefore, to be considered in all respects as illustrative and not restrictive, the scope of the invention being indicated by the appended claim rather than by the foregoing description, and all changes which come within the meaning and range of equivalency of the claim are, therefore, intended to be embraced therein.

What is claimed is:

A game score registering device comprising an elongated rectangular body of thin walled construction having a flat top wall provided with two pair of longitudinally extending slots and a marginal flange, score indicating marks on the upper surface of said top wall between the two slots of each pair, a slide movable along each of said slots, each slide having a knob resting on the upper surface of said top wall and provided at one side with a pointer formation, a stem extending through the corresponding slot and elongated longitudinally of said slot to restrain said knob against rotation, said stem having a head at its

end opposite said knob and a neck adjacent said head, and a flat spring having a recess therein receiving the stem of said slide and bearing against said head and the under surface of said top wall to impose frictional resistance to movement of said slide longitudinally of said corresponding groove, said top wall having on its under side rows of small serrations disposed one row adjacent each of said slots, and each of said flat springs having on one side a partly severed wing having at its free end a rounded detent engageable with the serrations of the corresponding row of serrations to resiliently resist movement of the associated slide longitudinally of the corresponding slot.

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