G. HUCKSTRA.

GAME APPARATUS.

APPLICATION FILED DEC. 21, 1909.

960,930.

Patented June 7, 1910.

Fig. 2.

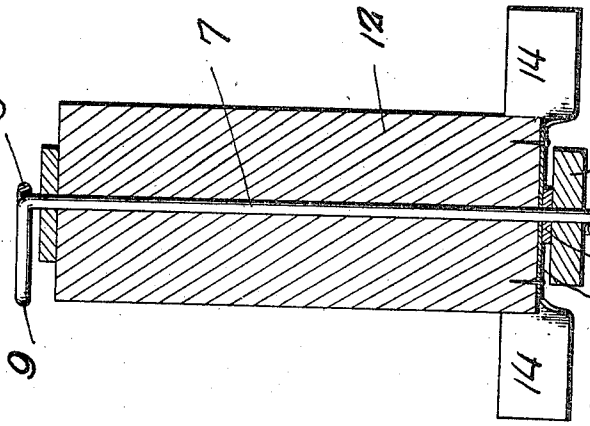


Fig. 3.

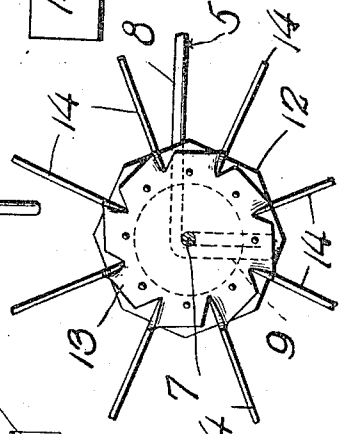
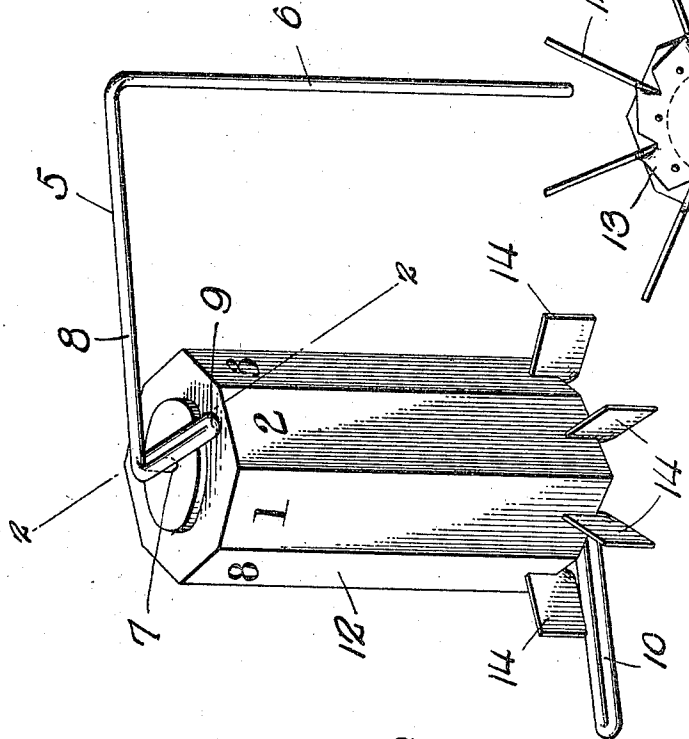


Fig. 1.



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE HUCKSTRA, OF SHADELAND, INDIANA.

GAME APPARATUS.

960,930. Specification of Letters Patent. **Patented June 7, 1910.**

Application filed December 21, 1909. Serial No. 534,331.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE HUCKSTRA, a citizen of the United States, residing at Shadeland, in the county of Tippecanoe and State of Indiana, have invented new and useful Improvements in Game Apparatus, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in game apparatus and the kind more particularly adapted to outdoor games. The game played with the improved device is analogous to croquet, in-as-much-as a plurality of wickets are employed through which spheres must be passed from a starting point to a home. The wickets, however, are provided with rotatable members, the said rotatable members being provided with suitable indicia thereon to indicate how far the player may advance or how far back he must recede each time his ball passes through a wicket.

In the accompanying drawing, forming a part of the specification: Figure 1 is a perspective view of one of the wickets employed in carrying out my invention. Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a bottom plan view of the device.

Similar numerals of reference are employed to designate corresponding parts throughout.

The wicket is designated in general by the numeral 5 and is shown to consist of a single piece of wire bent into substantially a U-shape, the opposite limbs of which are designated by the numerals 6 and 7. The limb 7 is provided at its juncture with the horizontal portion 8 which connects both limbs with a lateral extension 9 which will subsequently be termed an indicator, and at a point adjacent its lower end is provided with a similar extension 10 which will subsequently be termed the stop by virtue of its function to prevent the entrance of the limbs 6 and 7 into the ground beyond a certain point.

Fixedly secured to the limbs 7 and bearing on the lower extension 10 is an annular bearing plate 11. This member is relatively thick and its function is to support the paddles on the rotating member about to be described, above the plane of the ground.

The rotatable member or barrel is designated in general by the numeral 12 and made of wood or metal, as desired, and is octagonal in cross section, and of a length corresponding approximately to the distance between the indicator 9 and lateral extension 10. The barrel 12 is provided with an axle bore which loosely receives that portion of the limb 7 located between the indicator 9 and the extension 10.

Fixedly secured to the lower end of the barrel 12 is a metallic plate 13 considerably greater in diameter than the diameter of the barrel. That portion of the plate 12 extending beyond the outer surface of the barrel is provided with a plurality of spaced incisions, the metal therebetween being bent perpendicular to the flat faces of the plate whereby a plurality of blades or paddles 14 are provided. The central portion of the plate 13 bears on a washer 15 having a central opening for the reception of the limb 7 and located between the plate 13 and bearing plate 12.

The sides of the barrel may be of different colors and provided with suitable numerals or other indicia to indicate how far a player may advance or must go back after his ball has passed through the wicket. By reference to Fig. 1, it will be seen that the paddles 14 are spaced from the opposite limb 6 of the wicket sufficiently far to barely permit an ordinary croquet ball to pass therethrough. During the play and when a player forces his ball between the barrel and limb 6, the ball will invariably contact with one of the paddles and during its passage will operate to rotate the barrel. When the barrel comes to rest, the side underlying the indicator 9 will show the position the player must then take.

From the foregoing, it will be understood that I have provided a device which is comparatively simple in structure and inexpensive to manufacture, embodying few parts and these so arranged that the danger of derangement will be reduced to a minimum.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed is:—

1. A game apparatus comprising a wicket, a bearing plate arranged adjacent the lower end of one limb of the wicket, a barrel rotatably mounted on said limb of the wicket and bearing on the plate and means combined with the barrel and coöperating with a ball when passing through the wicket to rotate the barrel.

2. A game apparatus comprising a wicket, a bearing plate arranged adjacent the lower end of one limb of the wicket, a

barrel rotatably mounted on said limb of the wicket and bearing on the plate and means combined with the barrel and coöperating with a ball when passing through the wicket to rotate the barrel, and an indicator located directly above the barrel.

3. A game apparatus comprising a wicket, a bearing plate arranged adjacent the lower end of one limb of the wicket, a barrel provided with a plurality of sides and rotatably mounted on the wicket and bearing on the plate, a plurality of lugs arranged at the lower end of the barrel and an indicator combined with one limb of the wicket and located above the barrel.

4. A game apparatus comprising a wicket, one limb of which is provided adjacent its lower end with a lateral extension constituting the stop, an indicator arranged at the upper end of the said arm and a barrel rotatably mounted on the said arm and arranged between the indicator and lateral extension and a plurality of radial laths extending from the lower end of said barrel.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

GEORGE HUCKSTRA.

Witnesses:

WILL R. WOOD,

SAM. E. HUCKSTRA.