C. J. H. MILLER.

GAME APPARATUS.

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1,406,473. **Patented Feb. 14, 1922.**

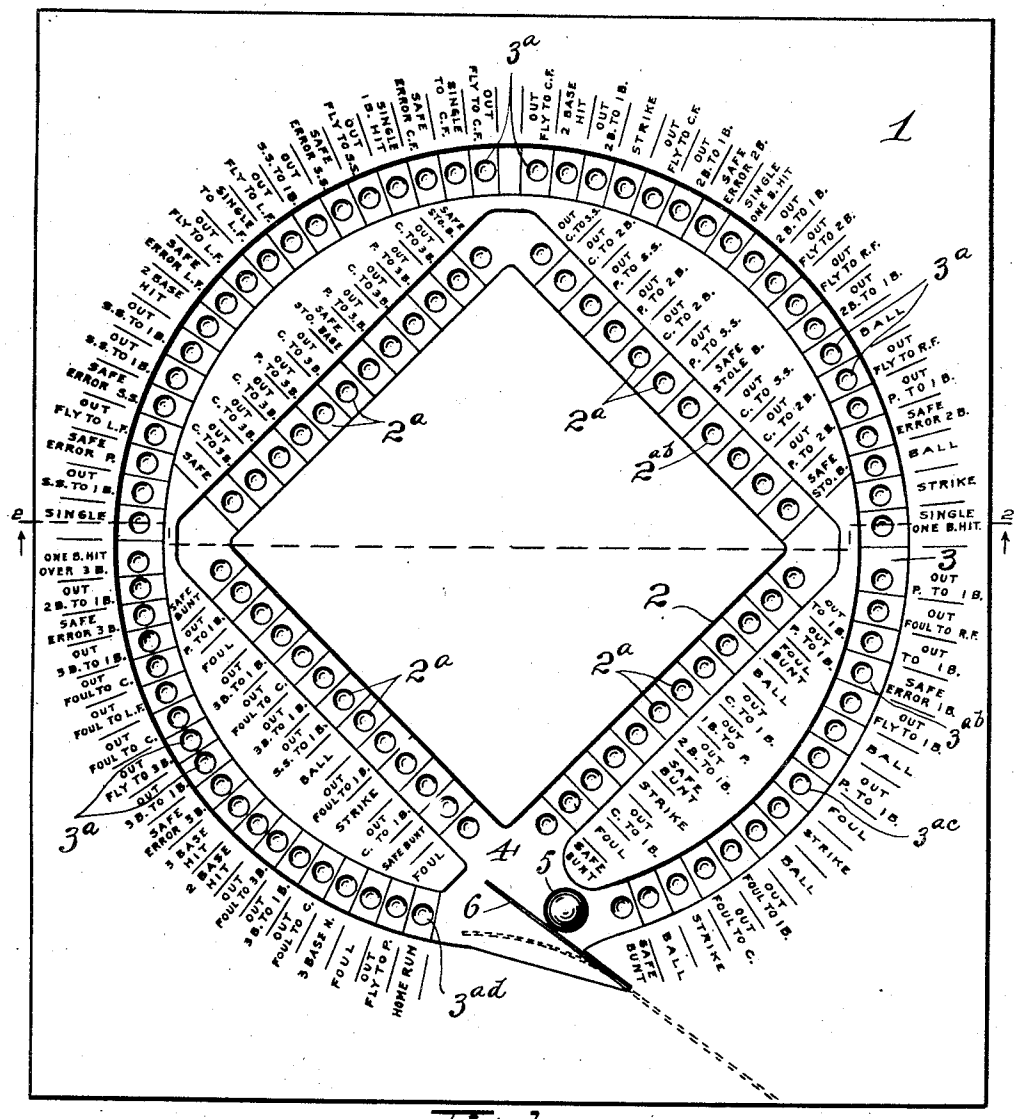


Fig. 1

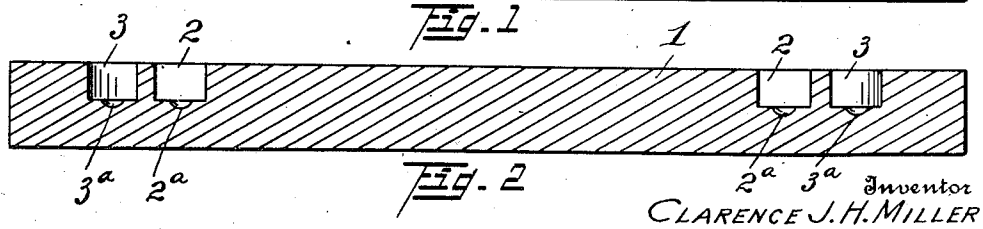


Fig. 2

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GAME APPARATUS.

1,406,473. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Feb. 14, 1922.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CLARENCE J. H. MILLER, a citizen of the United States, residing at East Cleveland, in the county of Cuyahoga and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Game Apparatus, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a game apparatus particularly designed for playing the game of base-ball on a table, for indoor pastime.

The object of the invention is to provide a game for the amusement of persons old, and young, and in which there is more or less rivalry created in the playing of the same.

By the combination of chance and skill of contestants playing the game, substantially all of the plays featured in the field game may be made, or indicated, thus making the game very interesting, and more or less exciting to the players, and to the onlookers.

In playing the improved table game, generally speaking, the rules governing the field game are followed, and the score may be recorded on the regulation score-card.

The invention, stated in general terms, consists of a game apparatus constructed and arranged in substantially the manner hereinafter described and claimed.

The nature, characteristic features, and scope of the invention will be more fully understood from the following description, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings which are made part of the specification, similar reference characters being employed to designate corresponding parts.

In the said drawings Figure 1 is a plan view of an embodiment of the improved game apparatus, and Fig. 2 is a section taken on line 2—2 of Fig. 1.

On a suitable board or table 1 is arranged a diamond shaped channel 2, and a circular channel 3, the diamond channel 2 being inclosed within the bounds of the circular channel 3, and said channels being connected, as shown at 4. These channels are of uniform depth throughout their extent, so that they are level when the board or table 1 is in a level position, which is the proper position in playing the game.

A plurality of spaced depressions, or ball seats 2^a is provided in the bottom of the channel 2, and similarly arranged depressions 3^a are in the bottom of channel 3. Corresponding to each of the depressions 2^a and 3^a is an inscription, the significance of which will be made apparent in the following explanation of the playing of the game.

A ball 5 having its axial diameter less than the width of the channels 2 and 3, is placed in the channel connecting space 4, and is propelled by a spring device 6, manipulated by a player, into either the channel 2 or channel 3, as may be elected by said player. The ball 5, when thus propelled, or in base-ball parlance, when batted, will come to rest in one of the depressions 2^a or 3^a, and the player is credited with the play indicated by the inscription corresponding to the stop.

For example, if the ball is batted in the channel 2 and stops in depresion 2^{ab}, the player is "Out—catcher to short stop." If the ball is batted in channel 3 and stops in depression 3^{ab}, the player is safe, and the first base-man is charged with an error. If the ball, when batted, stops in depression 3^{ac} the player has fouled and bats again, in accordance with the general rules which govern the field game of base-ball. If the ball makes a complete circuit of the channel 3, lodging in depression 3^{ad}, the player is credited with a home-run.

Considering the foregoing examples, and referring to the inscriptions corresponding to the various depressions arranged in the channels, it will be seen that substantially all the plays that are featured in the course of a field game of base-ball, may be made on the board, the record of the game being kept on a suitable tally-sheet or score-card, substantially the same as in the professional field game.

The game may be played by two contestants, each one representing a base-ball team, and playing the nine men of each side, according to rule, or any number of persons may play the game.

While the present arrangement of significant inscriptions is calculated to bring about the average liabilities of a professionally played field game, and is conducive to the skill of the player, it will be understood that the invention is not confined to the specific imprints, or their relative arrangement.

It will also be understood that there may be changes in details of construction of the apparatus without departure from the spirit of the invention or the scope of the appended claim.

What I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is.

In a game apparatus, a horizontal board provided with a continuous channel of uniform depth arranged to represent the diamond of a base-ball field, and a second continuous channel of uniform depth which represents the outfield, said second channel surrounding the diamond channel and connected therewith at one angle of the diamond which corresponds to the home-plate, a series of separate ball-seats disposed in the bottoms of the channels, significant inscriptions on the face of the board corresponding to the ball-seats, the inscriptions referring to the diamond ball-seats signifying the plays which are ordinarily made on the infield, and the inscriptions corresponding to the ball-seats in the surrounding channel being indicative of the plays usually made in the outfield, and means for propelling a ball from the junction of the channels.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

CLARENCE J. H. MILLER.