

1,057,677.

Patented Apr. 1, 1913.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.

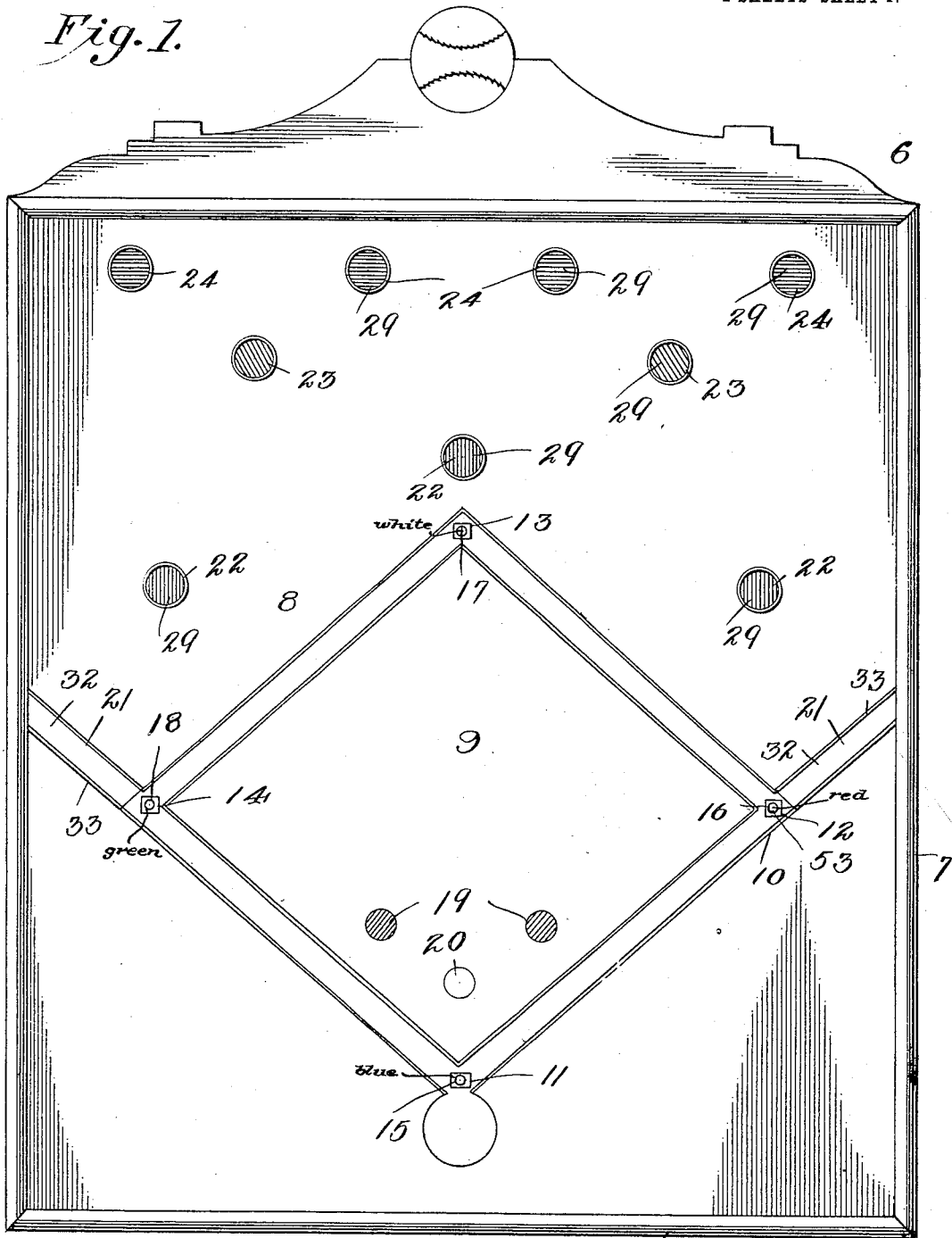
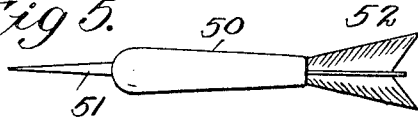


Fig. 5.



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Witnesses

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

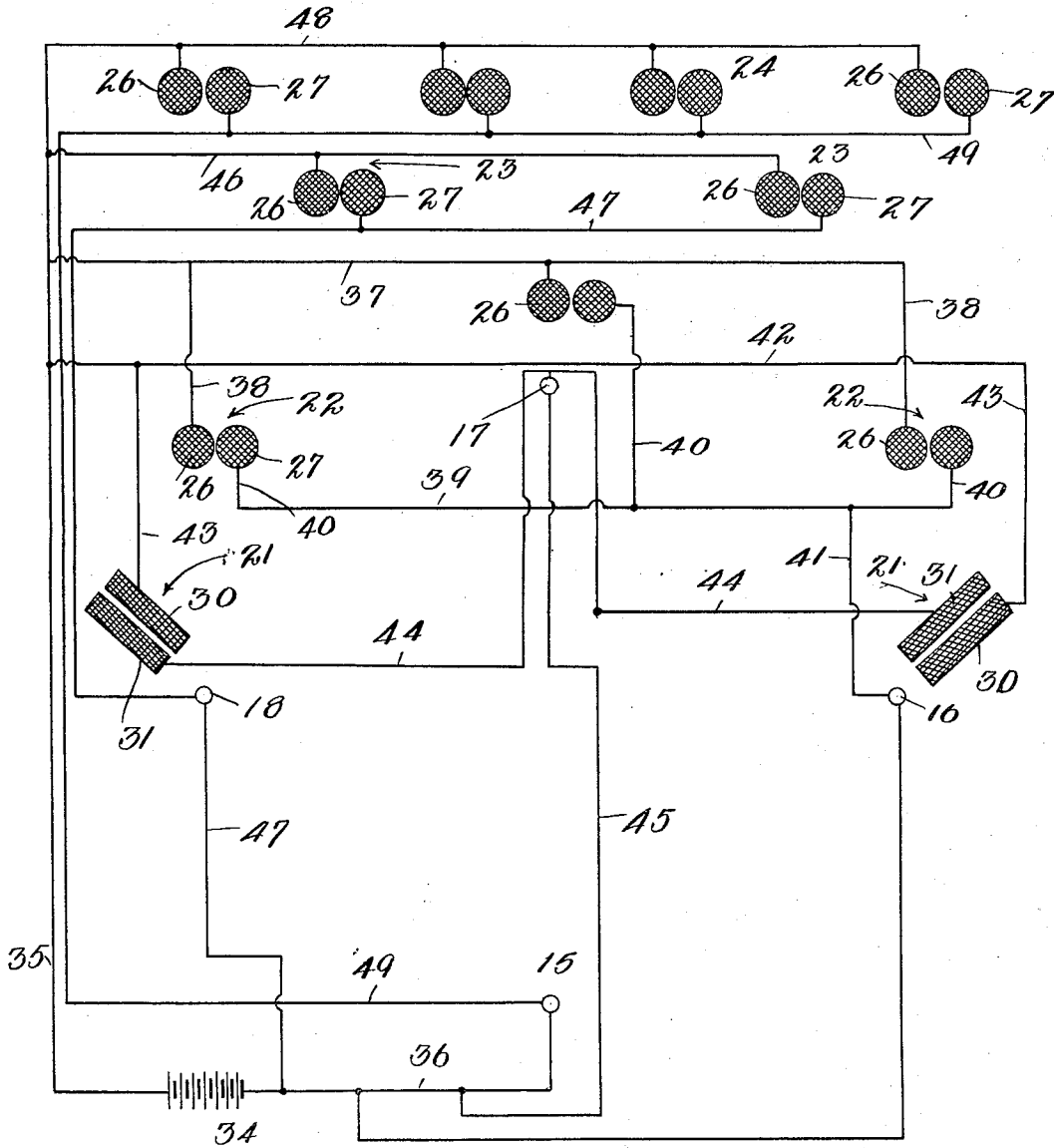


Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.

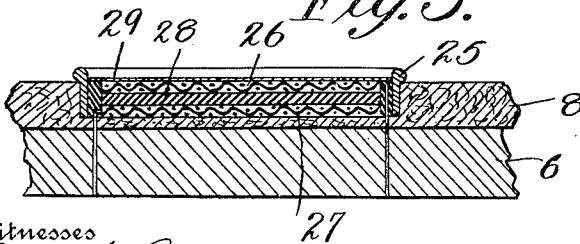
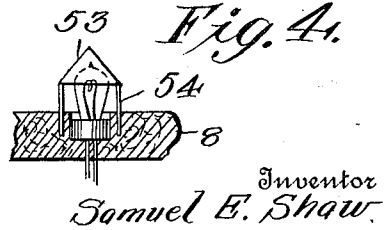


Fig. 4.



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GAME APPARATUS.

1,057,677.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SAMUEL E. SHAW, a citizen of the United States, residing at Govans, in the county of Baltimore and State of Maryland, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Game Apparatus, of which the following is a specification.

The present invention relates to a game apparatus and has particular reference to a baseball game apparatus wherein electrical circuits are provided which are closed by a dart to light lamps located at or near the bases.

An important object of this invention is to provide a game apparatus of the above mentioned character, which may be played by any number of persons, is interesting, and may be played with different degrees of success, depending upon the skill of the individual player.

A further object of the invention is to provide a game apparatus of the above mentioned character, which is simple in construction, cheap to manufacture, and not liable to derangements.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will be apparent during the course of the following description.

In the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification and in which like numerals are employed to designate like parts throughout the same, Figure 1 is a front elevation of the apparatus, Fig. 2 is a diagrammatic view of the circuits included in the apparatus, Fig. 3 is a transverse sectional view through one of the targets and circuit closing means contained therein, Fig. 4 is a similar view through one of the bases showing an electric lamp or bulb in elevation, and Fig. 5 is a side view of a dart or aerial projectile.

In the drawings wherein for the purpose of illustration, I have shown a preferred embodiment of my invention, the numeral 6 designates a board forming the body portion of the apparatus, upon which are secured strips 7, forming a rectangular recess to receive a sheet of cork 8 or other suitably soft material, which may be readily pierced by a dart or aerial projectile. The outer surface of the sheet of cork 8 is formed smooth and may be painted black or any other suitable color. Formed upon the sheet of cork 8 is a diamond 9, which is bounded

by metallic strips 10, which are sunk into the material of the cork 8.

The numerals 11, 12, 13 and 14 designate, respectively, home base, first base, second base, and third base. Disposed near or at the home base, first base, second base, and third base, are electric lamps or bulbs 15, 16, 17 and 18, respectively. The home base bulb is blue, the first base bulb is red, the second base bulb is white, and the third base bulb is green.

The numerals 19 and 20 designate infield bunt and sacrifice targets.

The numeral 21 designates second base targets, which are disposed near the first and third bases, as shown.

The numeral 22 designates first base targets which are disposed outwardly of and near the diamond.

The numeral 23 designates third base targets which are disposed outwardly of the first base targets.

The numeral 24 designates home base targets which are disposed outwardly of the third base targets, as shown.

As more clearly shown in Fig. 3, each of the targets 22 to 24, inclusive, comprises a metal ring 25, which is sunk within the material of the cork 8. Disposed within the metal ring 25 are spaced superposed circular sections of wire fabric 26 and 27, which are insulated from each other by an insulating sheet 28, as shown. Disposed upon the uppermost section of wire fabric 26 is a sheet of fibrous material 29, which is painted a desired color as will be next described. The sheets 29 of the targets 22 are painted red to correspond to the red bulb or lamp at first base; the sheets 29 of the targets 23 are painted green to correspond to the green third base bulb; and the sheets 29 of the targets 24 are painted blue to correspond to the blue home base bulb. The second base targets 21 are similar to the other targets and include strips of wire fabric 30 and 31, which are insulated from each other by a sheet of insulating material as described in connection with Fig. 3. A sheet of fibrous material 32 is disposed upon the uppermost section of wire fabric 30 and is painted white to correspond to the second base bulb. Metallic strips 33 receive the sections of wire fabric 30 and 31 and the sheet 32 therebetween.

As clearly shown in Fig. 2, the numeral

34 designates a source of current having one pole thereof connected with a supply wire 35 and its opposite pole connected with a return wire 36. Connected with the supply wire 35 is a wire 37 having connection with the sections of wire fabric 26 of the targets 22 through the medium of wires 38. A wire 39 is connected with the sections of wire fabric 27 of the targets 22 by means of wires 40. Connected with the wire 39 is a wire 41, having the first base lamp or bulb 16 connected in series therewith. The wire 41 is connected with the return wire 36. Connected with the feed wire 35 is a wire 42, having connection with wires 43, which in turn are connected with the sections of wire fabric 30 of the second base targets 21. Connected with the sections of wire fabric 31 of the second base targets are wires 44, which are connected with one end of a wire 45, as shown. The wire 45 has the second base bulb 17 connected in series therewith. The wire 45 is connected with the return wire 36. Connected with the wire 35 is a wire 46 having electrical connection with the sections of wire fabric 26 of the targets 23, as shown. The sections of wire fabric 27 of these targets are connected with a wire 47, having the third base bulb 18 connected in series therewith, as shown. The wire 47 is connected with the return wire 36. The wire 35 has connection with a wire 48, which is electrically connected with the sections of wire fabric 26 of the targets 24, as shown. The sections of wire fabric 27 of these targets are electrically connected with a wire 49, having the home base bulb 15 connected in series therewith. The wire 49 is connected with the wire 36.

In Fig. 5 I have shown a dart or aerial projectile, comprising a body portion 50, preferably formed of wood and carrying at one end a metallic point 51 and provided at its opposite end with feathers or vanes 52. Each dart may be painted any preferred color so that it may be readily distinguished from the others.

Each of the bulbs is protected or covered by a conical shield 53, which is supported by legs 54, as shown. The function of these shields is to prevent the bulbs from being struck by the dart and to reflect the light back upon the board.

The operation of the game is as follows:—The board is supported vertically and the player stands a suitable distance from the board. The player throws the dart or aerial projectile toward the board, aiming at a selected target. Assuming that the dart has struck the target 22 at the left, the metallic point 51 will pass through the material of such target and electrically connect the sections of wire fabric 26 and 27. As soon as this takes

place a circuit will be closed to cause the first base bulb to glow. In this closed circuit current flows from one pole of the source of current 34, through wire 35, wire 37, wire 38, section of wire fabric 26, metallic point 51, section of wire fabric 27, wire 40, wire 39, wire 41 and first base bulb 16 connected in series therewith, and through wire 36 back to the opposite pole of the source of current. Assuming that the player again throws the dart and the same strikes target 21 to the right, the point 51 electrically connects the sections of wire fabric 30 and 31, whereby a circuit will be closed to cause the second base bulb 17 to glow. In this circuit current flows from one pole of the source of current 34, through wire 35, wire 42, wire 43, section of wire fabric 30, metallic point 51, section of wire fabric 31, wire 44, wire 45 and bulb 17 connected in series therewith, and through wire 36 back to the opposite pole of the source of current. It is obvious that when the dart strikes the target 21 to the left a circuit will be closed to cause the bulb 17 to glow. When the dart strikes the target 23 to the left a circuit is closed to cause the third base bulb 18 to glow. In this closed circuit, current flows from one pole of the source of current 34 through wire 35, wire 46, section of wire fabric 26, metallic point 51, section of wire fabric 27, wire 47 and bulb 18 connected in series therewith, and through the wire 36 back to the opposite pole of the source of current. It is obvious that when the dart strikes the other target 23 a circuit is closed to cause the bulb 18 to glow. Assuming that the dart has struck the target 24 at the right end of the series of the same, a circuit will be closed to cause the home base bulb 15 to glow. In this closed circuit current will flow from one pole of the source of current 34 through wire 35, wire 48, section of wire fabric 26 of the target 24, metallic point 51, section of wire fabric 27, wire 49 and the bulb 15 connected in series therewith, and through the wire 36 back to the opposite pole of the source of current. It is obvious that when either of the remaining targets 24 is struck by the dart, a circuit will be closed to cause the home bulb 15 to glow. In playing the game, when the dart strikes the board outside of the targets, it counts for an out. When the dart strikes the target 22 there is a one base hit, the target 21 a two base hit, and so on.

It is to be understood that the form of my invention herewith shown and described is to be taken as a preferred example of the same and that certain changes in the shape, size, and arrangement of parts may be resorted to without departing from the spirit of the invention or the scope of the subjoined claims.

Having thus described my invention, I claim:—

1. In a game apparatus of the character described, a board provided with a baseball diamond, a signal device of a different character for each base, a suitable number of targets including metallic elements, a circuit including the signal devices, the metallic elements of the targets and a source of current, and an aerial projectile provided with metallic point which is adapted to enter a selected target to electrically connect the metallic elements thereof and thereby close a circuit to cause a corresponding signal device to operate.

2. In a game apparatus of the character described, a signaling device, a normally open circuit connected therewith and including a source of current, perforated contact elements connected in the circuit, and a dart carrying a metallic point to pass through the perforated contact elements to close the circuit.

3. In a game apparatus of the character described, a board, a signaling device associated therewith, a normally open circuit connected with the signaling device and including a source of current and normally insulated sections of wire fabric, and an aerial projectile having a metallic point adapted to pass through the sections of wire fabric to close the circuit.

4. In a game apparatus of the character described, a board provided with a baseball diamond, electric lamps disposed near the bases of the diamond, a plurality of targets suitably arranged upon the board, circuits including the targets, lamps, and a source of current, and an aerial projectile to strike a selected target, whereby a circuit is closed and one of the lamps made to glow.

5. In a game apparatus of the character described, a board having a base ball diamond formed thereon, different colored electric lamps disposed at the bases of the diamond, sets of targets suitably arranged upon the board and colored to correspond to the base lamps, circuits including the targets, lamps and a source of current and an aerial projectile to strike a selected target for closing a circuit, whereby one of the lamps is made to glow.

6. In a game apparatus of the character described, a board having a base ball diamond formed thereon, different colored electric lamps disposed near the bases of the diamond, a plurality of targets suitably arranged upon the board and colored to correspond with the base lamps, each target comprising normally insulated superposed sections of foraminous metallic material, and an aerial projectile having a metallic point adapted to pass through the foraminous metallic material to electrically connect the same.

7. In a game apparatus of the character described, a board having a base ball diamond formed thereon, electric lamps disposed near the bases of the diamond, circuits connected with the lamps and including a source of current, and means including an aerial projectile to close a selected circuit to cause one of the lamps to glow.

8. In a game apparatus of the character described, a board, an electric lamp, a circuit connected with the lamp and including a source of current, a target connected in the circuit and including sections of foraminous metallic material which are normally insulated from each other, and an aerial projectile provided with a metallic point to pass through said sections of foraminous metallic material to electrically connect the same, substantially as described.

9. In a game apparatus of the character described, a board having a base ball diamond formed thereon, a plurality of electric lamps arranged near the bases of the diamond, circuits connected with the lamps including a source of current, means to close a selected circuit including an aerial projectile, and a shield for each lamp including a substantially conical cap surrounding the lamp in spaced relation from the board, to protect the lamp from the projectile and to reflect the light given out by the lamp back upon the board.

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

SAMUEL E. SHAW.

Witnesses:

AUGUSTUS W. BRADFORD,
EDUARD CHILL.