W. G. ASHLEY.

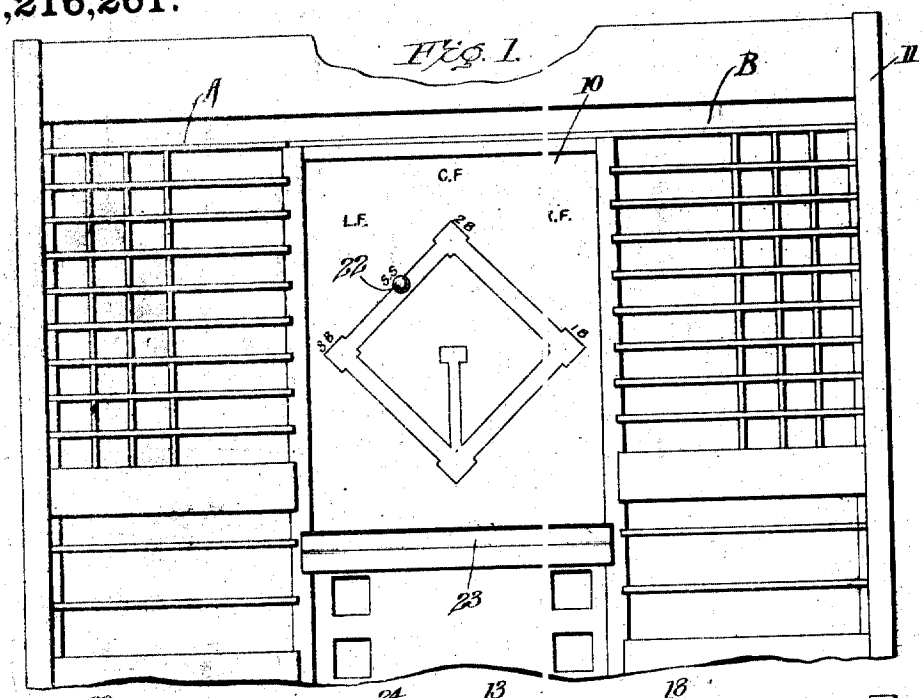
GAME EXHIBITING DEVICE.

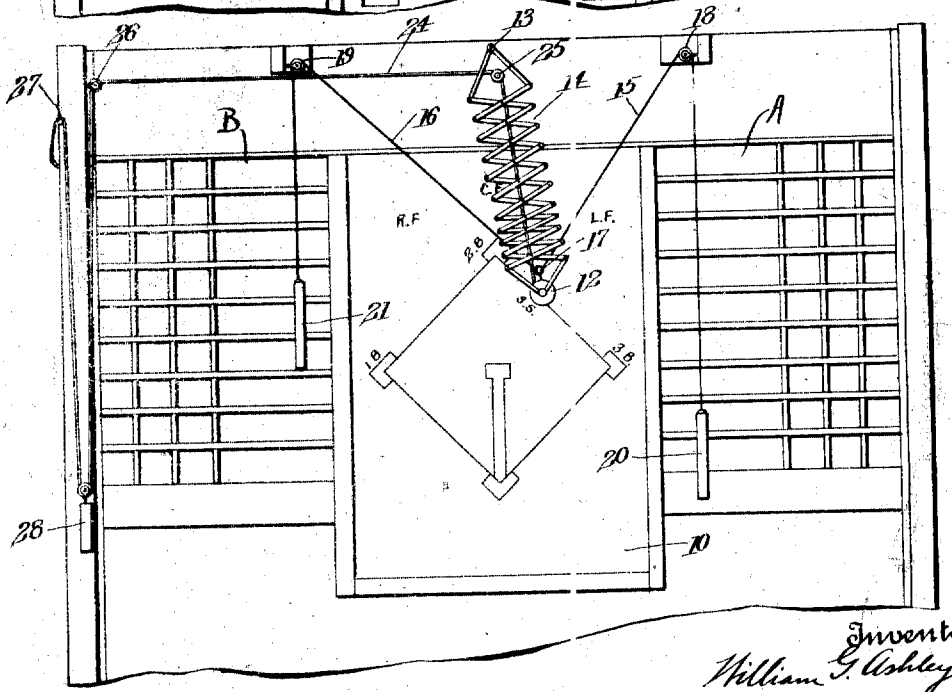
APPLICATION FILED NOV. 17, 1915.

1,216,261.

Patented Feb. 20, 1917.

FIG. 1.





Inventor

William G. Ashley

Witnesses

G. F. Baker.

E. L. Greenewald

FIG. 2.

by Foster Freeman Watson & Coit

Attorneys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM G. ASHLEY, OF NEW BEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS.

GAME-EXHIBITING DEVICE.

1,216,261. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Feb. 20, 1917.

Application filed November 17, 1915. Serial No. 61,042.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM G. ASHLEY, a citizen of the United States, and resident of New Bedford, county of Bristol, State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Game-Exhibiting Devices, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to an apparatus for exhibiting the progress of games and sports and has particular reference to a novel means whereby a ball is moved over the surface of a miniature base ball diamond and field to visually illustrate to an audience the actual movements of the ball used in the actual game.

The principal object of the invention is to provide a ball of magnetic material which is controlled by an electromagnet on the rear side of the exhibition board, the movements of the ball being controlled by the electro-magnet, which latter may be moved to any position corresponding to the movements of the ball in the progress of the game which is illustrated.

The above and other objects and the novel features of my invention will be apparent from the following description taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, in which,

Figure 1 is a front view of an exhibition board embodying the invention; and

Fig. 2 is a rear view of the same.

Referring to the drawing, the invention may be carried out in any one of many different ways and in the drawing I have illustrated a common form of bulletin board for exhibiting the players' names, the individual record of each player, the balls and strikes, runs and outs and other features entering into the progress of the game. The names of the players of the opposing teams are placed in the racks A and B at opposite sides of the member 10 on which the representation of the game field appears. The member 10 consists of a rigid plate of zinc or other substance thin enough to allow the tractive power of an electro-magnet to safely sustain and move a ball on the opposite side thereof in all directions when the magnet is moved. The zinc plate 10 is fastened in the frame 11 which supports the racks and other parts of the apparatus in a vertical position before the audience. The representation on the plate of zinc 10 is an ordinary diamond and base ball field, the diamond being shown on the front and rear faces of the plate in exactly the same positions only reversed left for right, so that the operator at the rear of the board may properly display the movements of the ball and plays by the players to the audience. The rear of the board also has a series of racks on opposite sides of the zinc plate 10 for the players' names and their records and the racks below corresponding to the racks for balls and strikes, runs and outs, on the front of the board.

An electro-magnet 12 of any ordinary or preferred construction is suspended from a hook 13 directly above the center line through home and second base on the miniature diamond represented on the plate 10. The electro-magnet 12 is suspended from the hook 13 by means of a collapsible arm 14 in the form of a lazy tongs which may be expanded and contracted to follow the movements of the ball in the actual game. Since the magnet is completely under the control of the operator, the speed and direction of the device moved by it may be varied within wide limits. The magnet 12 also has two cords 15 and 16 attached to a hook 17 thereon, or on the lower end of the collapsible member 14. The cords 15 and 16 pass over pulleys 18 and 19 fastened at points near the top of the exhibition board and at points equally distant from the hook 13 which carries the collapsible member 14. The outer ends of the cords 15 and 16 have the weights 20 and 21 fastened thereto and by this means the magnet and the arm carrying it will remain balanced at any point desired by the operator. The electro-magnet is held against the rear side of the zinc plate 10 by the collapsible arm 14 and when the magnet is energized it may be moved in any position on the rear of the plate 10 drawing with it the ball 22 which rolls in contact with the front side of the plate. The ball 22 is of magnetic material, so that it may be held by magnetic force of the field of the magnet and may be made of solid iron, hollow steel or iron or it may be a wooden ball with a steel covering. At the lower edge of the plate 10 there is a trough 23 which is designed to catch the ball 22 when the same is released due to the fact that the current has been turned off and the electro-magnet 12 de-energized.

The current to the electro-magnet is conducted by means of a cable 24 which carries

the positive and negative wires for supplying current to the magnet and passes over a suitable guide pulley 25 on the rear of the exhibition board above the plate 10. The cable 24 also passes over the pulleys 26 and 27. The portion of the cable between the pulleys 26 and 27 suspends a weight 28 by means of which the conductors leading to the electro-magnet are kept taut, no matter where the electro-magnet is moved.

While I have shown and described the invention in detail, it is to be understood that I do not wish to be limited to the exact construction shown. The device is equally suitable for use in exhibiting the progress of base ball and foot ball games, sports such as horse racing, boat racing, etc., the form of the miniature field and the form of object or objects on the front of the plate moved by the magnet or magnets on the rear of the plate depending on the game or sport which is illustrated.

Having described the invention what is claimed and desired to be secured by Letters-Patent is,

1. In an apparatus for exhibiting the progress of games and sports, the combination of an upright exhibition board having on its front and rear sides registering representations of a game field, an object comprising magnetic material, said object being a replica of the movable member of the game represented and being movable over the game field on the front of the board in any direction and to any point thereon to illustrate the progress of the game, and magnetic means movable in any direction and to any point over the game field on the rear of said board and adapted to control the movements of said object in accordance with the actual movements of the movable member of the game represented.

2. In an apparatus for exhibiting the progress of games and sports, the combination with an upright member having on its front surface a representation of a game field, an object of magnetic material representing a member used in the game, said object being movable over said field on the front of said upright member in the progress of the game, an electro-magnet at the rear side of said upright member for controlling the movements of said object, said object being free to move horizontally and vertically to any position on the front of said upright member and being only subject to the influence of the force of said magnet and gravity, and conductors for leading the current to said electro-magnet.

3. In an apparatus for exhibiting the progress of games and sports, the combination of an upright member having on its front surface a representation of a game field, an object of magnetic material representing a device used in the game, said object being movable over the front of said field to represent the progress of the game, said member also having on its rear surface a representation of a game field corresponding to the one on the front surface and reversed with respect thereto, and magnetic means at the rear of said member for controlling the movements of said object and adapted to cause said object to move at different speeds and in different directions.

4. In an apparatus for exhibiting the progress of a base ball game, the combination with a rigid upright plate having on its front and rear sides unobstructed surfaces provided with corresponding and registering representations of base ball fields, a ball comprising magnetic material and representing a base ball, said ball being movable over the base ball field on the front of said plate, and a magnet movable over the base ball field on the rear of said plate and adapted to control the movements of the ball on the opposite side of said plate and move the same freely to any position on the base ball field illustrated, to represent the successive movements of the ball in the progress of the actual game which is illustrated.

5. In an apparatus for exhibiting the progress of a base ball game, the combination with a rigid upright plate having on its front and rear surfaces corresponding and registering representations of base ball fields, a ball comprising magnetic material and representing a base ball, said ball being movable over the base ball field on the front of said plate, an electromagnet movable over the base ball field on the rear of said plate and adapted to control the movements of the ball on the opposite side of said plate to represent the successive movements of the ball in the progress of the actual game which is illustrated, and means for sustaining said magnet in any desired position to thereby sustain the ball at any desired point on the base ball field illustrated.

6. In an apparatus for exhibiting the progress of games and sports, the combination with a plate having on its front and rear surfaces corresponding and registering representations of the game field, an object comprising magnetic material and representing a device used in the game, said object being movable over the game field on the front of said plate, an electro-magnet movable over the field on the rear of said plate and adapted to control the movements of the object on the opposite side of the plate to represent the successive movements of the device in the progress of the actual game which is illustrated, and means for balancing the magnet in any desired position.

7. In an apparatus for exhibiting the progress of games and sports, the combina-

tion with an upright plate having on its front and rear surfaces corresponding and registering representations of the game field, an object comprising magnetic material and representing a device used in playing the game, said object being movable over the game field on the front of said plate, an electromagnet movable over the game field on the rear of said plate and adapted to control the movements of the object on the opposite side of said plate to represent the successive movements of the object in the progress of the actual game which is illustrated, an extensible device for supporting said magnet, and means for sustaining said magnet and extensible device in any desired position.

8. In an apparatus for exhibiting the progress of a base ball game, the combination of an upright plate having substantially flat unobstructed surfaces on the front and rear sides thereof which are provided with corresponding and registering representations of a base ball field, a ball consisting of magnetic material and representing a base ball, said ball being movable over and in contact with the base ball field on the front of said plate, an electro-magnet movable over the base ball field on the rear of said plate and adapted to move said ball on the opposite side of said plate from one point to any other point on the field to represent the successive movements of the ball in the progress of the game which is represented, a device suspended above the ball field represented, said device carrying said electro-magnet at its lower end, conductors for leading current to said electro-magnet, and means for sustaining said magnet and its supporting device in any desired position.

9. In an apparatus for exhibiting the progress of games and sports, the combination of an upright board having on its front and rear surfaces corresponding and registering representations of a game field, an object representing a device used in playing the game and movable over the game field on the front of said board, a member movable over the game field on the rear of said board and adapted to control the movements of the object on the opposite side of said board to represent the successive movements of the object in the progress of the actual game which is illustrated, a collapsible and extensible device for supporting said movable member at the rear of said board, and means for sustaining said member and collapsible and extensible device in any desired position corresponding to the position occupied by the actual object moved in the game.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

WILLIAM G. ASHLEY.

Witnesses:

GEORGE H. REYNOLDS,

JAMES P. DORAN.