July 14, 1936. L. R. PAUL ET AL 2,047,744

GAME TOY

Filed June 15, 1933

Fig. 1.

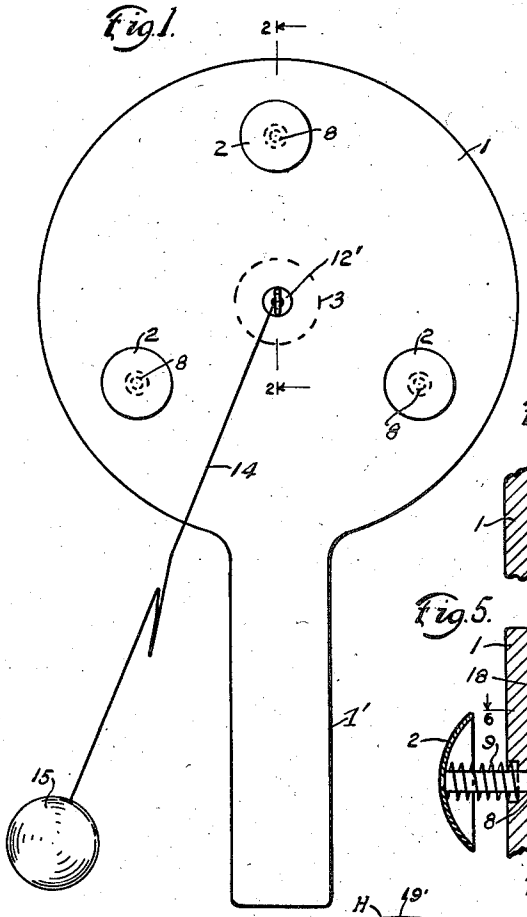


Fig. 2.

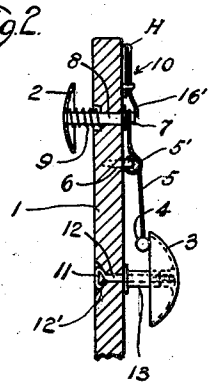


Fig. 6.

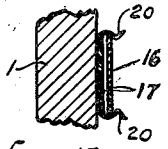


Fig. 5.

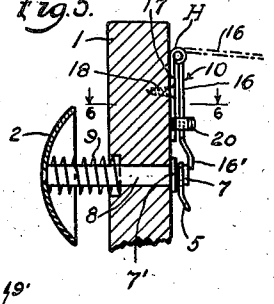


Fig. 4.

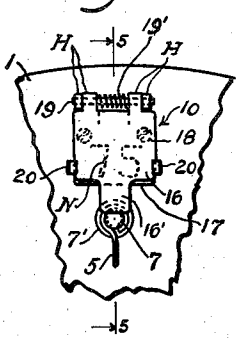
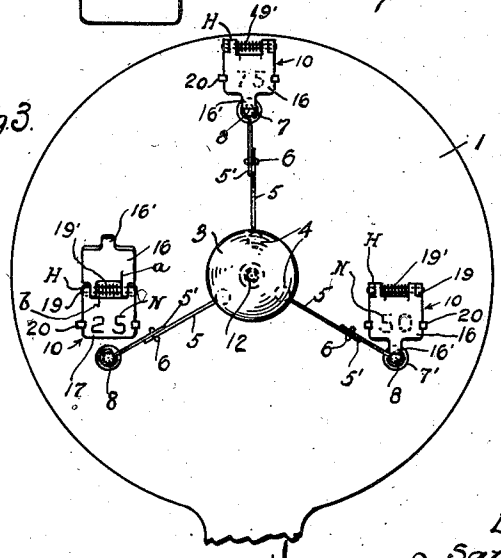


Fig. 3.



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GAME TOY

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Application June 15, 1933, Serial No. 675,942

13 Claims. (Cl. 273—97)

The present invention relates to a game toy and has for its principal feature the provision, with a tethered ball and bat, of means for indicating certain of the strokes of a ball against the bat, as a scoring means for the game.

A further feature is in the provision of an alarm means associated with the score indicating means whereby the operation of the score indicator will be audibly indicated each time a score indicator is struck by the ball. If, in play, no indicator is struck, no hit is made and no alarm is sounded.

These and other features will be apprehended as the herein description proceeds and it is obvious that modifications may be made in the herein construction without departing from the spirit thereof or the scope of the appended claims.

In the drawing,

Fig. 1 is a front view of the device, in elevation;

Fig. 2 is a partial sectional view taken on the line 2—2, Fig. 1, looking in the direction of the arrows;

Fig. 3 is a fragmental rear view of the device, showing the alarm and scoring indicators;

Fig. 4 is an enlarged fragmentary rear view of the device showing a score indicator set for automatic action;

Fig. 5 is an enlarged fragmentary section, taken on line 5—5, Fig. 4, looking in the direction of the arrows; and

Fig. 6 is an enlarged fragmentary section taken on line 6—6, Fig. 5, looking in the direction of the arrows.

The toy comprises a bat having a flat, wide face 1, and a handle 1', and is preferably made of wood. At its center it is bored and this bore is countersunk as at 12' on its front face. The counter bore 12' seats a triangular eyed screw head 11 therein, which has a threaded shank portion 12 extending to beyond the rear face of the bat face 1, Fig. 2.

The shank portion 12, mounts a flanged spacer 13 thereon, and an alarm bell 3, having an internal threaded boss is screwed on the threaded end of the shank 12 and thereby locks the assembly to the center of the bat 1. The bell is thus held, in operative position, spaced away from the rear face of the bat 1.

A flexible cord 14, preferably of rubber, is tied to the triangular eye 11, as in Fig. 1, and to the other end of the cord 14 is affixed a rubber ball 15.

At predetermined spaces around the center of the bat 1 are mounted a plurality of impact buttons having mushroom-like heads 2 affixed to shanks 8. These buttons are mounted by their shanks 8 for reciprocation in the bat face 1, the said shanks 8 extending through and beyond the rear face of the bat 1, as in Figs. 2 and 5.

As in Fig. 5, a coiled spring 9 is supported on button shank 8 with one end against the inner face of button head 2 and its other end rests in a seat formed by a recess in the front of the bat face 1. The rear end of the shank 8 has a pressed on stop washer 7' to hold the button 2 in operative position in a spaced away position from the bat face 1.

As in Figs. 2 to 5 inclusive, there is located, on the rear face of the bat 1, and in operative relationship with each rear end of the button shanks 8, a spring actuated score indicating means generally denoted by 10, and comprising a back plate 17, which is affixed to the rear face of bat 1, by screws 18—18, the upper end of said plate being provided with curled loops H to support a pintle 19, which in turn pivotally supports a front cover plate 16 by means of curled loops H, Figs. 4 and 5. The cover plate 16 has, at its lower end, an offset extension 16' which lies, when in normal closing position in abutting contact with the rear end of the button shank 8.

A coiled spring 19' is mounted on the pintle 19, between the associated curled hinge loops H—H, with their opposing flat ends *a*—*b*, Fig. 3 pressing against the opposed inside faces of the members 16 and 17, thus to cause the member 16 to spring away when the shank 8 pushes on extension 16' of plate 16.

The back plates 17 have score indicating numbers thereon, such as N, Fig. 3, each plate having a different score, as shown dotted on the other plates. The back plates 17 are each provided with opposed, upstanding spring clips 20—20, at each side, as in Fig. 6, thereby to form holding clips, for holding the spring actuated cover plate 16 in closed operative position over the score indicating numerals N. These cover plates are manually closed between each scoring play.

Each button shank 8, has located on its rear end 7, between the flange 7' and the abutting extension 16' of plates 16, a loosely mounted spring wire loop formed on one end of a wire arm 5 which at its mid distance is curled into a complete loop 5', to form a pivot loop, which is pivotally supported on the rear face of the bat 1, by a double pointed U shaped tack 6, Fig. 2, the lower end of the spring arm 5 being located behind the rim of the bell 3, and mounting a clapper head 4, which is spaced away slightly from the bell rim.

In operation, the handle 1' is grasped by the player, the elastically tethered ball 15 is brought

upwardly by a backward motion of the bat, by the player, and is struck with considerable force in a forward propelling direction. If, at the moment of impact, the ball contacts with one of the plunger buttons 2, this action drives the plunger inwardly, releases the cover plate 16, which springs upwardly, exposing its associated score. As the plunger button is quickly returned to its normal forward position under the influence of spring 9, this causes the clapper 4 to jump forward with a snap, to strike the bell and audibly indicate that a score has been made.

If, in play the ball stroke misses the buttons 2 completely at any random stroke, no score is indicated, and no alarm is given.

Either one or a plurality of bats may be used by plural players in a game scoring competition.

Having thus described our invention what we claim is:

1. A toy comprising a bat and a ball tethered thereto, a plurality of plungers movably mounted in said bat to be struck by said ball, and a plurality of score indicators, one for each plunger and operated thereby when the plungers are struck by the ball.

2. A toy comprising a bat and a ball resiliently tethered thereto, a plurality of spaced plungers movably mounted in said bat, a plurality of score indicators one for each plunger and operated thereby and an audible alarm means operated by said plungers when the plungers are struck by the ball.

3. A toy comprising a bat and a ball resiliently tethered thereto, a plurality of spaced plungers reciprocably mounted in said bat, a plurality of score indicators one for each plunger and operated thereby and a common audible alarm means operated by said plungers when the plungers are struck by the ball.

4. The combination with a bat and a ball resiliently tethered thereto of a plurality of spaced plungers movably mounted on the front face of said bat, means for normally holding the plungers away from said front face, score indicating means mounted on the rear face of the bat in operative connection with said plungers and means operated by said plungers to cause said score means to indicate a stroke when the plungers are struck by the ball.

5. The combination with a bat and a ball resiliently tethered thereto of a plurality of spaced plungers reciprocably mounted on the front face of said bat, resilient means for normally holding the plungers away from said front face, score indicating means mounted on the rear face of the bat in operative connection with said plungers, an audible alarm means mounted on the rear face of said bat and means operated by said plungers to cause said score means to indicate a stroke and to sound said alarm when the plungers are struck by the ball.

6. In combination, a bat having a striking portion; a bell on the bat; a shank slidably passing through the striking portion and having a button member on its front end; a pair of spring clips and score indicia on the back face of the bat near said shank; a cover plate hinged to the back plate and disposable over the indicia and yieldably held between said clips, and positioned and adapted to be pushed therefrom by said shank; and means operated by said shank to strike the bell.

7. In combination, a bat having a wide flat striking portion having a front face; a bell on the back of the bat; a shank slidably passing through the striking portion and having a button on its front end; means yieldably pushing the shank frontwardly; a back plate mounted on the back face of the bat near said shank having score indices thereon and spring clips at opposite edges; a cover plate hinged to the back plate and disposable over the back plate and yieldably held between said clips, and positioned and adapted to be pushed therefrom by said shank when said button is struck by a ball; and means operated by said shank to strike the bell.

8. In combination, a bat having a front striking face; a bell on the back of the bat; a shank slidably passing through the striking portion of the bat and having a button on its front end; a spring means for yieldably pushing the shank frontwardly; and means operated by said shank to strike the bell; said spring being weak enough to allow operation of the shank by the ball, and strong enough to retract the shank and prevent operation by momentum of the shank and bell in any position of the bat.

9. In combination, a bat having a wide front striking face; a ball; an elastic member tethering the ball to the front of the bat; a bell on the back of the bat; a shank slidably passing through the striking portion of the bat and having a thin button on its front end; a spring surrounding said shank and compressed between the button and the bat and forming means for yieldably pushing the shank frontwardly; and means operated by said shank to strike the bell; said spring being weak enough to allow operation of the shank by the ball, and strong enough to retract the shank and prevent rattling of the bell and operation by momentum of the shank and bell in any position of the bat, and to prevent operation of the bell by the jar of the blow of the ball when the bat only and not the button is struck; said spring serving the double function of retracting the shank after impact thereon, and preventing shank operation from momentum thereof.

10. In combination, a bat having a front striking face; a ball; an elastic member tethering the ball to the front of the bat; a bell on the back of the bat; a shank slidably passing through the striking portion of the bat and having a button on its front end; a spring means for yieldably pushing the shank frontwardly; and means operated by said shank to strike the bell; said spring being weak enough to allow operation of the shank by the ball, and strong enough to retract the shank and prevent operation by momentum of the shank and bell in any position of the bat; said button being thin and disposable closely against the bat, thereby to avoid erratic rebound and interruption of the play.

11. In combination, a bat having a front striking face; a bell on the back of the bat; a shank slidably passing through the striking portion of the bat and having a thin concavo-convex button on its front end; a spring surrounding said shank frontward of the striking face of the bat and compressed between the button and the bat and forming means for yieldably pushing the shank frontwardly; and means operated by said shank to strike the bell; said spring being weak enough to allow operation of the shank by the ball, and strong enough to retract the shank and prevent operation of the shank and bell by momentum in any position of the bat; the inner face of the button being concaved, and said spring allowing the edge of the button to engage flat against said bat, so that the front face of the button approximately merges with the front face of the bat, whereby

the rebound from the edge of the button is not erratic and does not interrupt the playing.

12. In combination, a thin bat having a wide front striking face; a bell on the back of the bat; a shank slidably passing through the striking portion of the bat and having a thin button on its front end; a spring disposed frontwardly of said striking face and surrounding said shank and compressed between the button and the bat and forming means for yieldably pushing the shank frontwardly; and means operated by said shank to strike the bell; said spring being weak enough to allow operation of the shank by the ball to strike the bell, and strong enough to retract the shank and prevent operation of the shank and bell by momentum in any position of the bat; said spring being weak enough to allow said button to be easily driven by the ball flat against said striking face without appreciably affecting the rebound, so that the front face of the button approximately merges with the striking face of the bat and allows the rebound from the button or the edge thereof to be substantially the same as rebound from said face remote from the button.

13. In combination, a thin bat having a wide front striking face; a ball; an elastic member tethering the ball to the front of the bat; a bell on the back of the bat; a shank slidably passing through the striking portion of the bat and having a thin button on its front end; a spring surrounding said shank and compressed between the button and the bat and forming means for yieldably pushing the shank frontwardly; and means operated by said shank to strike the bell; said spring being weak enough to allow operation of the shank by the ball, and strong enough to retract the shank and prevent operation by momentum of the shank and bell in any position of the bat; said spring being substantially entirely frontward of the bat thereby allowing the bat to be thin.

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