Sept. 22, 1925. 1,554,768

E. W. STODDART

GAME PLATE

Filed Nov. 1, 1924

Fig. 1.

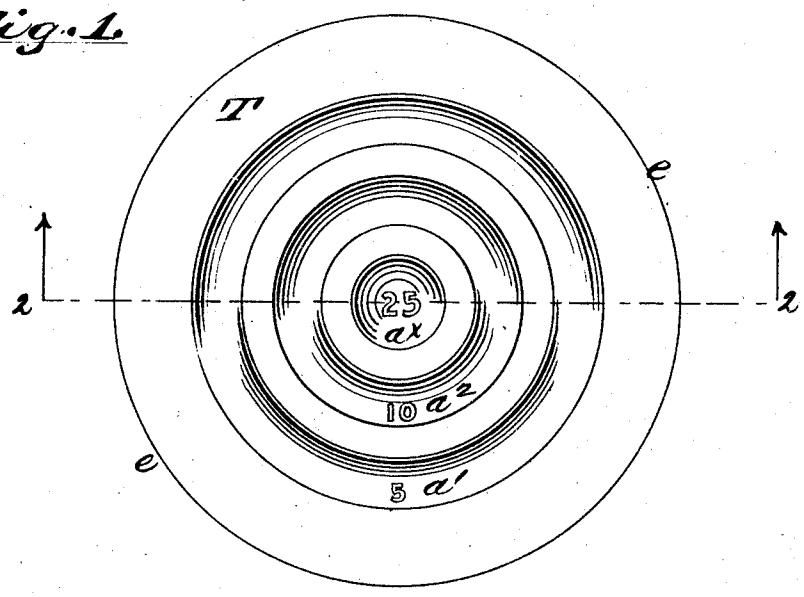


Fig. 2.

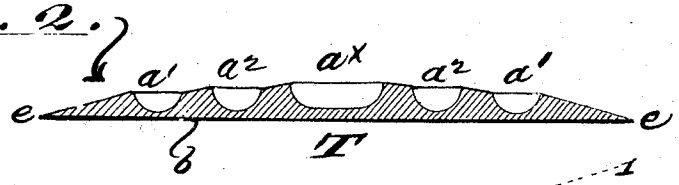
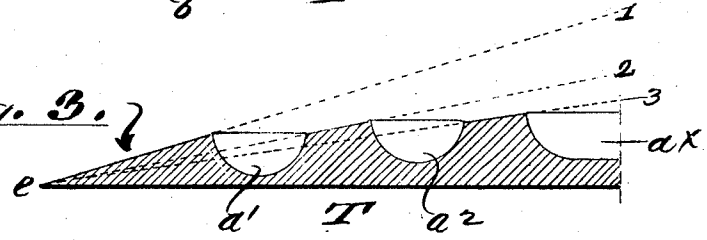


Fig. 3.



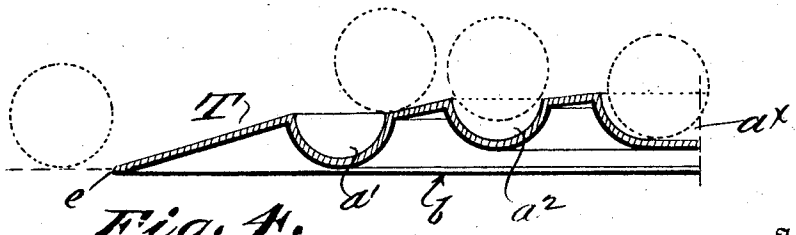


Fig. 4.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWIN W. STODDART, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

GAME PLATE.

Application filed November 1, 1924. Serial No. 747,160.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWIN W. STODDART, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the borough of Bronx, county of Bronx, city and State of New York, have invented a certain new and useful Game Plate, of which the following is a specification sufficient to enable those conversant with the art to which the invention appertains to utilize the same.

My improvements relate to games and apparatus in which one or more balls are used to attain a score by propulsive location on a plate or board formed with a plurality of co-related receptacles or pockets having prescribed tally valuations or denominations; and are designed to afford interesting play problems incidental to the scientific structure of what may be designated for convenient functional indication as a horizontal target affording scope for skilled performance in conjunction therewith, all as hereinafter fully set forth, the invention consisting essentially in the specific construction and arrangement of parts described and claimed, and a distinctive feature being the conoidal upper surface of the target plate formed with a central or "bull's-eye" pocket, in co-relation with one or more concentric grooves and with intervening annular inclined planes of prescribed extension as related to said recessed portions of the target plate, substantially as shown.

In the accompanying drawings I illustrate a practical embodiment of the essential features of my invention, although I do not limit myself to the identical construction shown by way of exemplification, since modifications may be made in minor details, and equivalent mechanical expedients resorted to, with like results, and without departing from the spirit and intent of my invention in this respect.

With this understanding:—

Fig. 1, is a top view or plan of my game plate;

Fig. 2, a central vertical section thereof, taken upon plane of line 2—2, Fig. 1;

Fig. 3, is a central sectional detail, upon a larger scale, of one half the diameter of the plate, illustrating the superficial projection thereof;

Fig. 4, is a central sectional detail, similar to Fig. 3, showing a modification in structure, and illustrating the function of the recesses, conoidal planes, etc.

My horizontal target plate T, may be made solid of any suitable material as illustrated in Figs. 2 and 3, of the drawings, or it may be made of sheet metal spun drawn or moulded into the requisite shape, as indicated in Fig. 4, as may be found most expedient in adapting it to various requirements of use, since a target of this character may be utilized for indoor or outdoor sport or amusement, and may be made accordingly of relatively large or miniature dimensions with like results in so far as appropriate game requirements and conditions are concerned.

In general external configuration my horizontal target T, is superficially of proximate conoidal character, consisting of a flat base line b, and having a central apexial portion of maximum height or thickness in which the bull's-eye or medial pocket or recess a^x, is formed.

Concentric with this apexial bull's-eye pocket a^x, I form my target T, with one or more annular grooves or pockets, preferably two thereof a', a^2, as exemplified in the drawings, although I do not restrict myself in this respect, because the essential features of appropriate game play may be formulated in accordance with one or any desired plural number of such concentric pockets in conjunction with the central bull's-eye a^x, according to simplicity or complication of play or conditions desired.

The circumscribing edge of the bull's eye pocket a^x, and the circumscribing edges of the concentric groove pocket or pockets are of prescribed horizontal extension when the plate T, is positioned properly on a horizontal support. Thus the inner edge of an annular groove pocket cannot obstruct the passage of a ball provided the latter has sufficient momentum to clear the mouth of the groove.

The intervening annular superficial spaces between the bull's-eye pocket and the concentric groove pockets are prescribed in inclination substantially as illustrated in Fig. 3, of the drawings. Thus, beginning at the circumferential edge e, of the plate T, a relatively steep grade or incline represented by the line 1, extends to the exterior edge of the concentric annular groove a', and the inclination of the annular plane or surface between the annular grooves a' and a^2, is prescribed by a line 2 projected from said edge e, of the plate T, to the exterior edge of the

groove a^2, and in like manner the inclination of the corresponding annular plane between said annular groove a^2, and the edge of the bull's-eye a^x, is prescribed by a line 3 projected from said edge e, of the plate and the rear edge of the groove a^2, it being understood that the angles of inclination of intervening concentric planes shown by way of exemplification may be increased or diminished as may be found most expedient in adapting the target to various requirements of game etc.

Thus constructed and arranged, the upper superficial area of my target is adapted to afford co-related lines and edges of least resistance to the advance of a ball thereover, the limiting of the edges of the pockets to co-related horizontal extension being an important factor in this respect conjointly with the intervening planes of prescribed inclination as set forth.

What I claim as my invention and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:—

1. A horizontal game target of the character designated, of proximate conoidal superficial configuration, formed with a central bull's-eye pocket, and a concentric groove pocket the edges of each of said pockets being in a horizontal plane as related to each other and to the base line of the target, substantially in the manner and for the purpose set forth.

2. A horizontal game target of the character designated, of proximate conoidal superficial configuration, formed with a central bull's-eye pocket, and a plurality of concentric groove pockets the edges of each of said pockets being in a horizontal plane as related to each other and to the base line of the target, substantially in the manner and for the purpose set forth.

3. A horizontal game target of the character designated, of proximate conoidal superficial configuration, formed with a central bull's-eye pocket, and a plurality of concentric groove pockets, the edges of each of said pockets being in a horizontal plane as related to each other and to the base line of the target, together with intervening planes of prescribed inclination between said pockets, substantially in the manner and for the purpose set forth.

EDWIN W. STODDART.