C. E. PINE.

SCORER FOR AUCTION PINOCHLE.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 24, 1914.

1,145,211.

Patented July 6, 1915.

Fig. 1.

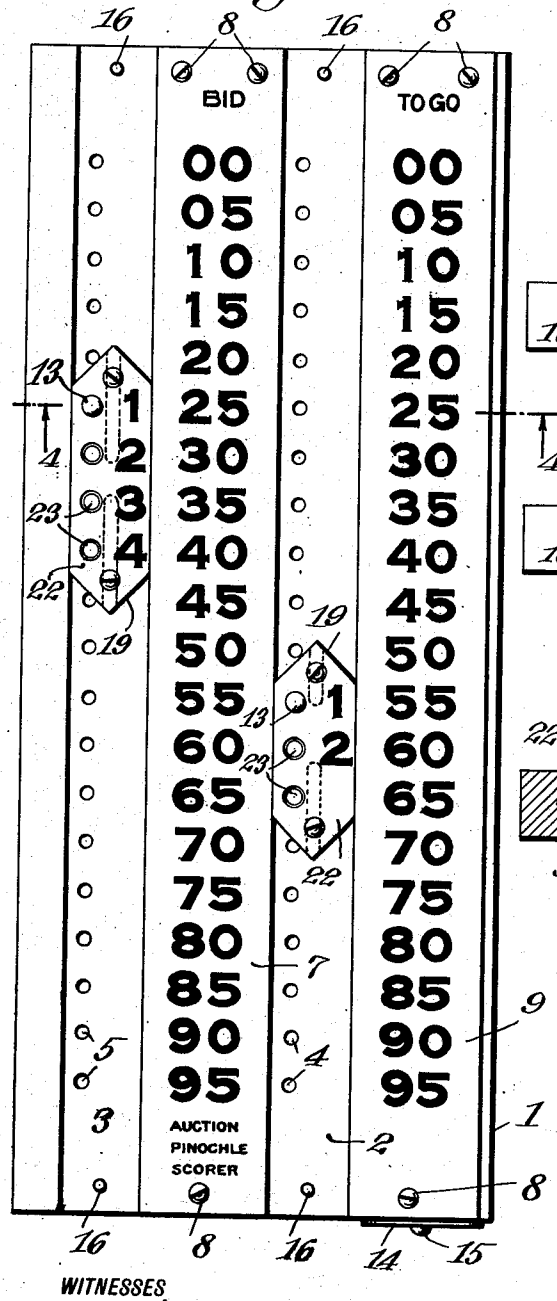


Fig. 2.

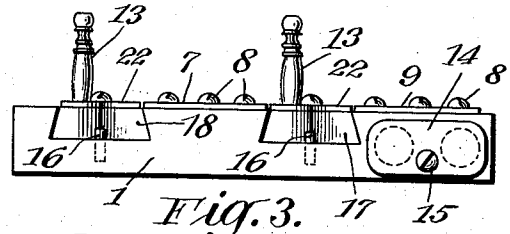


Fig. 3.

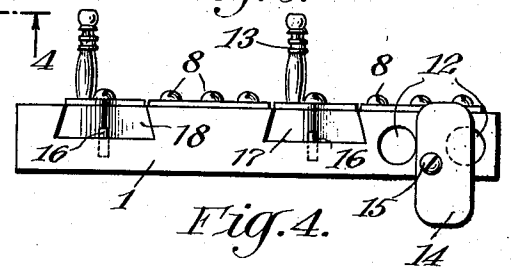


Fig. 4.

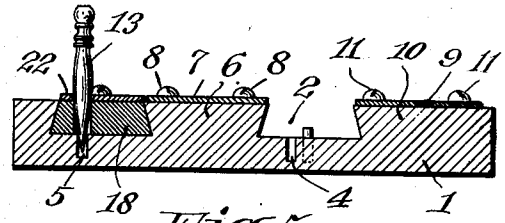
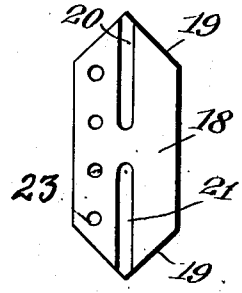


Fig. 5.



WITNESSES

H. Loeckein

Anna M. Wall.

INVENTOR:

Clarence E. Pine.

BY

Chas. M. C. Chapman.

ATTORNEY.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CLARENCE E. PINE, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

SCORER FOR AUCTION-PINOCHLE.

1,145,211. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented July 6, 1915.

Application filed April 24, 1914. Serial No. 834,066.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CLARENCE E. PINE, a citizen of the United States, residing in the borough of Brooklyn, city of New York, county of Kings, and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Scorers for Auction-Pinochle, of which the following is a description.

This invention relates to game apparatus and, particularly, to scorers for auction pinochle.

Among the objects of my invention may be noted the following: to provide a device which is simple, compact, inexpensive to produce and effective as a scorer for auction pinochle, as generally played by three or four persons, and with a "widow" consisting of three cards, the dealer, in the game when played by four persons, taking no cards; to provide a scorer for auction pinochle by means of which the score of each hand may be quickly and accurately computed and locked, thus avoiding dispute; to provide a scorer for auction pinochle in which two columns of like figures, in combination with a pair of shiftable blocks, provide the means by which the "bid" and the "to go" of each hand of the game may be quickly noted; to provide a scorer for auction pinochle by means of which the successful "bid" may be recorded by the cooperation of a column of figures and a shiftable block having thereon a column of figures, and the amount necessary "to go" may also be recorded in like manner; to provide a scorer by which the score can be easily and accurately kept by one of the players or by an onlooker, and which avoids the necessity of using pencil and paper; and to provide a device of the character indicated, which is small, portable, neat in appearance, and has its numerals in bold and legible design, thus rendering it effective for the purposes stated.

With the above objects in view, and others which will be detailed during the course of this description, my invention consists in the parts, features, elements and combinations thereof hereinafter described and claimed.

In order that my invention may be clearly understood, I have provided drawings wherein:

Figure 1 is a top-plan view of a structure showing an embodiment of my invention; Fig. 2 is an end elevation of the structure shown in Fig. 1; Fig. 3 is a view similar to Fig. 2, illustrating a different position of certain parts; Fig. 4 is a section on the line 4—4, Fig. 1; and Fig. 5 is a bottom-plan view of one of the sliding-blocks.

Referring to the drawings, the numeral 1 indicates the base of the scorer, which is provided longitudinally with two parallel, dove-tail grooves indicated, respectively, by 2 and 3, said grooves in the bottom thereof, near their left margin, being provided with a series of spaced apertures 4 and 5, respectively. The raised portion 6 of the scorer, between the grooves 2 and 3, is provided on its surface with a strip of material, ornamental or otherwise; but, in this instance, shown as a strip of white celluloid 7, the same being secured upon the raised portion 6, in any suitable manner, as by screws 8. A corresponding strip of material 9 is also applied to the raised portion 10 of the scorer, between the side of the latter and the groove 2, the same being secured in position by means of screws 11, for example. The strips 7 and 9 have thereon the numerals and words indicia of the score, the strip 7 having, at one end thereof, the word "Bid" and the strip 9 having at the corresponding end, in a similar location, the words "To go". Each of the strips is provided with corresponding numerals from 00 to 95, increasing at the rate of five units in progression. The numerals on the strips 7 and 9 are in alinement transversely with the apertures 4 and 5, the said apertures corresponding in number to the whole numerals indicated on the individual strips.

At one end, preferably the end which would be nearer the score-keeper and which may be designated the bottom end of the device, may be provided, near its right margin, with a pair of apertures 12, the same being bored into the base 1, longitudinally thereof, to any required distance. These apertures are for safekeeping the pegs 13,

and are normally closed by a cover 14, pivotally secured at 15 to the base, at a point between the two apertures and at a point below the longitudinal center of said cover, and substantially midway between its ends. By thus pivoting the cover, it may be made to normally cover both apertures, as shown in Fig. 2; or, when it is desired to obtain the pegs from the apertures, by turning said cover at a right-angle to its normal closing position, as shown for example in Fig. 3, said cover will entirely uncover one aperture and close the other so as to prevent the escape of surplus pins from the latter.

At the opposite ends of the base and in the middle of the grooves 2 and 3, respectively, are rigidly set pins 16, which may be removable, if desired. Coöperating with the groove 2 is a sliding-block 17, a similar block 18 being arranged to coöperate with the groove 3. The two blocks are formed transversely correspondingly with the grooves 2 and 3, and each of said blocks is formed V-shaped at its opposite ends, as indicated at 19, thus permitting the blocks to slide freely within the grooves. Formed longitudinally in each block, in the bottom thereof, are alined grooves 20 and 21, each groove extending from a point near the middle of the block to the vertex of the angle at the end thereof. These grooves, in the respective blocks, are for the purpose of coöperating with the pins 16, at the opposite ends of the respective grooves 2 and 3, thus limiting the movement of the blocks within the grooves of the base, and preventing them from being accidentally shifted from the grooves.

Each of the blocks is provided on its face, or upper surface, with a strip of material 22, similar to that of the strips 7 and 9, and each of the blocks, near its left margin, is provided with a series of apertures 23, extending vertically entirely through the surface strip and the block. The pegs 13 cooperate with said apertures 23 in the blocks and the apertures 4 and 5, respectively, in the base, and, thereby, said blocks may be temporarily set in fixed position at any desired point in the grooves 2 and 3 of the base. As will be seen upon viewing Fig. 1, the block 18 is slightly longer than the block 17, and has one more aperture 23 than the block 17, the said apertures, as before suggested, corresponding in spacing with the apertures 4 and 5 in the base for the purpose stated. The smaller block 17 is provided upon its top surface with the numerals 1 and 2, one under the other, spaced correspondingly with the spacing of the figures in the adjacent columns on the strips 7 and 9; and the block 18 is likewise provided with numerals 1, 2, 3 and 4, in column formation, and with similar spacing. The numerals on the two blocks, in computing the score, are, in coöperation with the numerals on the base, a ready and efficient means for computing the points in the game of auction pinochle, as will be readily understood by those skilled in the art and the game.

As shown in the drawings, the numerals on the base and blocks should be large, bold and clear, thus facilitating computation and enabling all players around the table to see the score readily. The said numerals may be formed in, or stamped upon, the surface of the base and blocks, instead of being applied, in some manner, to the strips on said parts, as shown.

The grooves in the base may be given a different form, the form shown being suggestive only and not definitive. Whatever said form may be, it should be such as to permit free sliding movement of the blocks and at the same time prevent them from being lifted from the grooves.

The pegs, while removable and permitting movement of the blocks, are temporary locking devices for the blocks, and are handles by means of which the blocks may be quickly and easily shifted on the base. In one sense, said pegs are a means for locking the score so as to prevent the same from being accidentally changed while the play is on.

The scorer in the game of auction pinochle is used as follows: The blocks 17 and 18 may be manipulated along the grooves 2 and 3, respectively, by using the pegs 13 as handles, and the movement of the blocks is limited in opposite directions only by the pins 16 cooperating with the grooves 20 and 21 in the respective blocks. Thus, the block 17 may be moved to the bottom of the scorer until the numeral 1 thereof is opposite the numeral 95 in the "to go" column, while said block may be moved to the top of the scorer until the blank is opposite the two ciphers of said column. The slide 18 may be moved downwardly until the numeral 1 thereof is opposite the numeral 95 in the "bid" column, and may be moved upwardly until the numeral 4 thereof is opposite the two ciphers in said column. In any intermediate position the blocks may be locked in position by pushing the peg through the blocks into the corresponding apertures 4 or 5; and the position of the peg opposite the numerals on the blocks will indicate the total which is recorded on the scorer.

The blocks are used as follows in recording the "bid" and the "to go" of a player; and a player's bid is from 150 at least to about 400 at most. Assuming that the bidding ceases at 320, the person operating the scorer inserts the peg in the hole beside the numeral 3 of the block 18, and, using said peg as a handle, slides the block until the peg and numeral 3 register with the numeral

20 in the "bid" column. The peg is then allowed to drop or is pressed in the corresponding aperture 5 in the groove 3 of the scorer and the "bid" for the play is thus recorded. If the successful bidder "melds out", there is, of course, no necessity for recording any number in the "to go" column. On the other hand, if the successful bidder is able to meld only 210, this amount is mentally subtracted from the "bid" of 320 and the person operating the scorer will insert another peg in the aperture beside the numeral 1 on the block 17 and slide the said block in the groove 2 until said peg and the numeral 1 register with the numeral 10 in the "to go" column of the scorer. The peg drops, or is pressed, into the aperture 4 corresponding with the position of the block and the amount "to go" is thus recorded. The play of each hand continues in this manner until the same is won or lost, the scorer being referred to to show if the bidder has been successful. It will thus be seen that the four numbers on the block 18 may be caused to record every possible "bid" from 100 to 495, and only one bid is recorded for each hand played. It will also be seen that the two numbers and the blank on the block 17 can be made to record every amount to be made in playing, from 5 to 250, the latter being the total value or limit of the cards.

From the foregoing description, it will be seen that I have provided a very simple and convenient scorer for the game of auction pinochle, which is valuable as a substitute for the pencil and paper method heretofore employed in keeping the score of the game; and it will also be seen that, by the use of my scorer, the successful "bid" may be quickly recorded by the combination of figures in the first column with the figures on the coöperating sliding block, while the amount "to go" can as readily be recorded by the combination of figures in the second column and the figures on the coöperating block. It will also be understood that it is possible to arrange a hand of cards to "bid" above 495; but, from wide experience in playing the game, I have found that the highest "bid" has never been above 400. If 500 were "bid", however, which would be probably once in a thousand hands, the "bid" could be easily kept mentally, while the amount "to go" would be indicated in the second column of my scorer, as heretofore explained.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A scorer having, in its base, a plurality of apertures, in combination with a pivoted cover adapted to normally close all of the apertures when left in one position, and when turned in another direction, adapted to open one of said apertures and substantially close the other, and when turned in a third position adapted to open the previously closed aperture and substantially close the other.

2. A scorer having a plurality of parallel grooves in its base, sliding blocks coöperating with said grooves, means for temporarily fixing said blocks in said grooves at predetermined points, together with fixed numerals arranged in predetermined order alongside of each groove, the movable blocks being provided with numerals which have a definite decimal relation to the fixed numerals of the corresponding grooves.

3. A scorer provided with a fixed sequence of indicating numerals varying by a constant difference and a groove adjacent thereto, in combination with a sliding block adapted to move in said groove and having a sequence of numerals on its face in increasing order, and means for holding said numerals in any desired order in relation to the fixed numerals, together with means for fixedly securing the moving block in any desired position with relation to the first named numerals.

4. A scorer provided with a plurality of numbers increasing by a definite amount of like decimal relation, and a corresponding plurality of grooves located parallel thereto, in combination with sliding blocks located in said grooves and provided with a plurality of unit numbers in sequence on their faces and adapted to be moved with relation to the first named numbers in any desired order.

5. A scorer having a base provided with a plurality of numbers which increase in definite relation and are displayed in sequence in a longitudinal row, together with a groove in said base parallel with said row of numbers, and a movable block located in said groove and having on its upper face a sequence of unit numbers designed to be combined with the first named numbers, together with means for holding said block in any desired position with relation to the first named numbers, and additional means at the ends of the groove for preventing it from being lost or wholly displaced.

6. A scorer embracing a base having two parallel grooves and two parallel rows of like numbers upon said base adjacent to the grooves, said numbers increasing by a definite amount throughout each sequence, in combination with two blocks adapted to slide in said grooves and provided with sequential unit numbers, and means for holding both of said blocks in any desired relation with corresponding rows of numbers.

7. A scorer comprising a base having, on its surface, two columns of figures corre-

sponding in value, in combination with blocks adapted to slide on the base relatively to said figures, said blocks having figures on the surface thereof adapted to cooperate with the figures on the base and increase the value of the latter.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto signed my name in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

CLARENCE E. PINE.

Witnesses:
ALFONSE F. SPIEGEL,
CHAS. M. CHAPMAN.