March 11, 1952 R. H. FISH 2,588,972

PARLOR BASEBALL GAME

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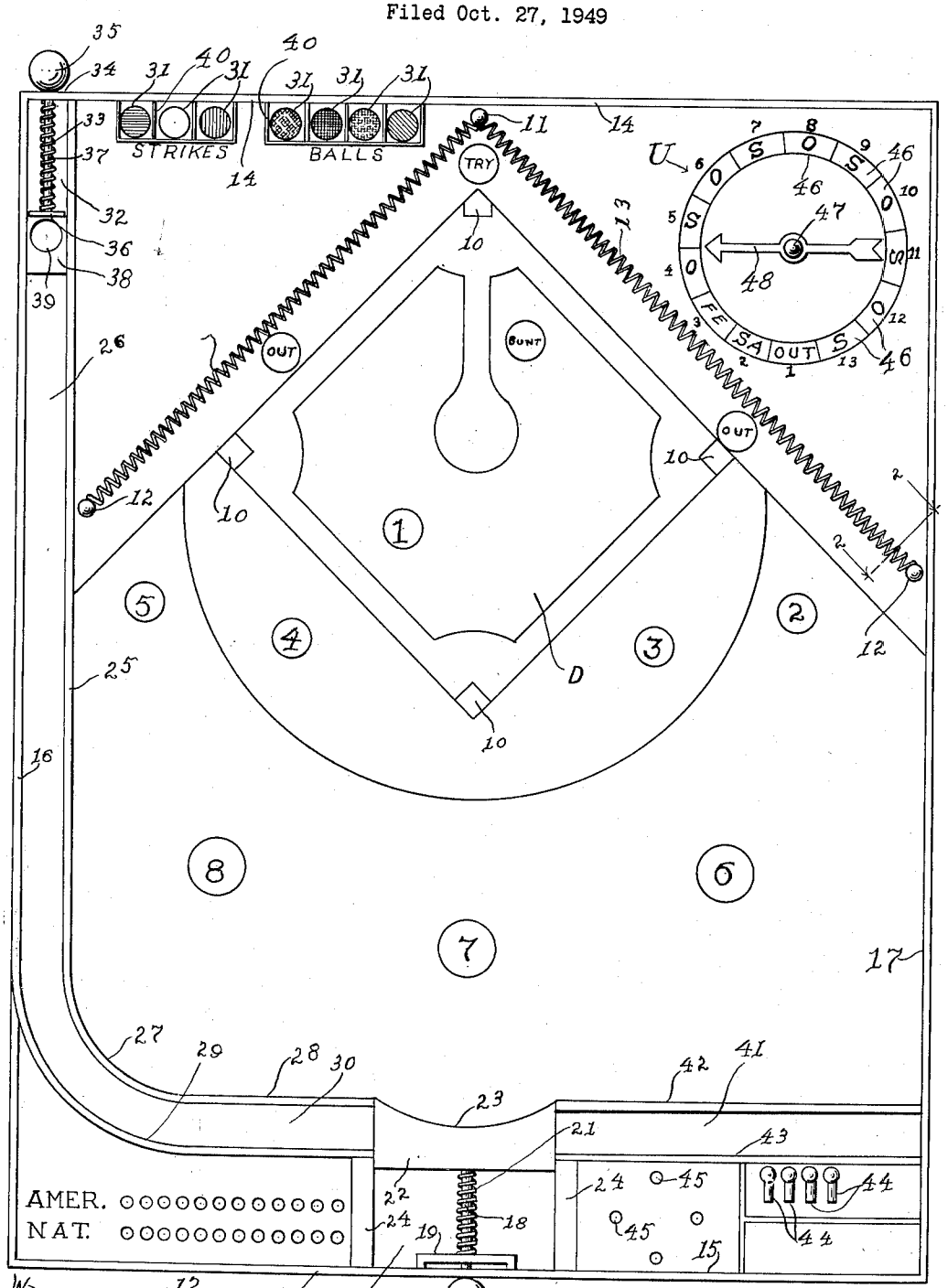


Fig. 1.

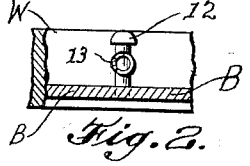


Fig. 2.

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PARLOR BASEBALL GAME

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2 Claims. (Cl. 273—89)

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This invention relates to a surface projectile game and it is an object of the invention to provide a game of this kind including a resilient barrier against which the projectile is adapted to be impacted and to be repelled therefrom upon a playing field.

Another object of the invention is to provide a game of this kind including a field divided into a plurality of playing areas which become selectively effective by the area in which the projectile comes to rest.

A further object of the invention is to provide a game of the character indicated above, in which projectiles of different colors are being used and wherein the color of a projectile in connection with its final resting area decides the value of the play.

An additional object of the invention is to provide a game wherein a spinner is used as an umpire to decide any doubtful plays.

The invention consists in the details of construction and in the combination and arrangement of the several parts of my improved surface projectile game whereby certain advantages are attained, as will be hereinafter more fully set forth.

In order that my invention may be better understood, I will now proceed to describe the same with reference to the accompanying drawings, wherein:

Figure 1 is a view in top plan of a game apparatus embodying the invention; and

Figure 2 is an enlarged fragmentary sectional view taken substantially on the line 2—2 of Figure 1.

In the embodiment of the invention as illustrated in the accompanying drawings, B denotes a flat body of plastic or any other suitable material and having any desired suitable shape. On the body B a baseball diamond D is delineated and in said diamond four bases 10 including a home plate are indicated. A pin 11 is secured on the body B outside of the diamond D rearwardly of the home plate. Two other pins 12 are secured on the body B at opposite sides of the diamond D and at points beyond first and third bases. The pins 11 and 12 are substantially in alignment across the diamond D. A resilient bumper 13 is arranged between and supported by and between the pins 11 and 12 and extends substantially parallel to the first and third base points and between. Preferably the bumper 13 comprises a coil spring.

The area of the body B representing the entire playing field is surrounded by a wall W. The wall W comprising the end or transverse portions

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14 and 15 and the longitudinal or side portions 16 and 17.

A striking unit S is located adjacent to the tarnsverse wall portion 15 and is arranged in alignment with the home plate and the second base. S comprises a plunger rod 18 slidably supported in substantially horizontal position by the transverse wall portion 15 and a bracket 19 of any suitable construction secured to said wall portion 15. On the end position of the plunger rod 18 extending outwardly of the wall portion 15 a hand knob 20 or the like is mounted. A helical spring 21 surrounds the plunger rod 18. On the inner end portion of said rod a striking head 22 is rigidly mounted and is preferably made from hardwood. This head consists of a block having preferably an elongated rectangular shape. The face of said block, i. e., the surface facing the diamond, is concavely curved from one end to the other as at 23. The spring 21 abuts the bracket 19 and the rear surface of the head 22 urging the plunger rod 18 to extend inwardly of the transverse wall portion 15. A pair of guide walls 24 formed from angle iron or any other suitable material are secured to the body B and extend inwardly from the transverse wall portion 15 at right angles thereto so that the head 22 is guided by said guide walls in its sliding motion against and under the pressure of the helical spring 21.

A guide wall 25 is arranged on the body. It is spaced from and runs parallel to the longitudinal wall portion 16 with which it forms a channel 26. The guide wall 25 extends inwardly from the transverse wall portion 14 and is curved as at 27 so that its end portion 28 runs parallel to the transverse wall portion 15. The end of the wall end portion 28 is located adjacent to one of the front corners of the striking head 22.

Another guide wall 29 branches off from the longitudinal wall portion 16 and runs parallel to the curved guide wall portion 27 and the straight guide wall portion 28. The end portion of the guide wall 29 is located adjacent to the lateral surface of the striking head 23 and in front of the guide wall 24.

The distance between the guide wall 29 and the guide wall portions 27 and 28 is equal to the distance between the longitudinal wall portion 16 and the guide wall 25 so that the guide wall 29 and the guide wall portions 27 and 28 form a continuation 30 of the channel 26.

The channel 26 and its continuation 30 are adapted to guide a ball 31 to the space in front of the striking head 22 when said head is retracted by pulling on the hand knob 20.

The projectile 31 may be a ball, disk or the like but is herein shown as a ball. The projectile 31 is impelled to roll along the guide channel 26—30 by a spring biased pitching plunger 32. This plunger comprises a rod 33 slidably supported by and extending through the transverse wall 14 and a bracket 34 mounted on said transverse wall. A hand knob 35 is rigidly secured to the portion of the rod 33 located outside of the transverse wall and a propelling head 36 is mounted on the inner end portion of the rod 33. A helical spring 37 surrounds the rod 33 and abuts the propelling head 36 with one of its ends and the bracket 34 with its other end. The plunger 32 extends in the guide channel 26—30 and is protected by a cover 38 provided with a hole 39, which is large enough to permit projectile 31 to be placed in front of the propelling head 36.

There are furnished a plurality of projectiles 31, preferably seven and these projectiles are provided with marks distinguishing them from each other. Preferably they are differently colored. Adjacent to the pitching plunger 32 a support 40 for each of the projectiles 31 is provided on the body B.

A catching channel 41 is formed by walls 42 and 43 arranged in alignment with the walls 28 and 29 respectively at the side of the batting head 22 remote from the last named walls.

A projectile 31 is placed in playing position in front of the propelling head 36 and is impelled to roll along the channel 26—30 by one player selecting a projectile and manipulating the pitching plunger. Another player retracts the striking unit S, if he decides he wants to bat the projectile passing in front of the head 22. If he chooses to let the projectile pass by into the catching channel 41, the color of the projectile decides if the play is to be counted as a "strike" or a "ball." For instance, red, green and yellow balls may designate "strikes" and white, black, blue and orange designate "balls."

When the batter hits the projectile the latter is forcibly propelled against the bumper 13 from which it rebounds onto the playing field. The value of each play is decided by the area of the field in which the projectile comes to rest. There are defined a plurality of areas in the playing field and each such area is designated by a number or the like. If the projectile comes to rest in area #1, the play may be decided as a single. A projectile resting in area #2 may be a "bunt," in #3 a "foul," in #4 an "out" and so forth. If desired the value of the several areas may vary in accordance with the color of the projectile in play. For instance, a green projectile resting in area #4 may be "out" but a white projectile in the same area may be a "home run."

Four pins 44 are adapted to be put in four holes 45 provided in the body adjacent to the striking unit S. Each hole 45 designates one of the bases and the pins in the holes indicate base runners on the bases.

To decide doubtful plays, an umpire spinner U is provided on the body B outside the bumper 13. This spinner U comprises a dial 46 divided in a plurality of radially arranged fields 47. Some of these fields are provided with the legend "safe" and some with the legend "out." In the center of the dial 46 a vertical shaft 47 is fastened in the body B and a hand 48 is rotatably mounted on said shaft so that it extends over the dial. The hand is spun about the axle and the resting place of the hand decides the value of the play.

It is to be understood that the invention is not to be limited by and to the above indicated playing rules, but that such changes and alterations may be made which fall within the claims appended hereto.

While the present embodiment of the invention is based on the well known game of baseball, it is believed obvious that the areas of the playing field may be identified in a manner to permit simulation of a different type of field game.

It is also to be stated that the top or playing surface of the body B and more especially the playing field portion thereof is preferably flocked when balls are used or of a hard smooth surface should the projectiles be in the nature of disks.

I claim:

1. In a surface projectile game, an elongated rectangular flat body having its top surface provided with delineated scoring areas, means at one side of the rear end of said body for forcibly discharging the projectile forwardly along one side of the body, a movable striker mounted at the center of the front side of said body, means for directing the discharged projectile transversely of the body across the path of movement of the striker, and oppositely angled bumper means extending transversely of said body adjacent its rear end to change the direction of travel of the projectile, if and when it is propelled by the striker, so that it will come to rest at some point on the surface of the body.

2. The invention as defined in claim 1, with the said body having walls rising from its front rear and opposite side edges, and the said means, for directing the travel of the projectile transversely of the surface of the body across the path of movement of said striker, constituted in a continuation of a channel formed on the said surface immediately inward of and parallel to a wall at one side of the body from the point of initial discharge of the projectile to a point inwardly from the front end of the body, said channel continuation terminating at one side of the path of movement of said striker and in line with a second channel extending inwardly from the opposite side of the body, said second channel terminating at the opposite side of the path of movement of the striker, said striker being normally disposed between and closing the opposed ends of said channels.

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