E. J. BESEMAN.

AMUSEMENT APPARATUS.

APPLICATION FILED DEC. 30, 1913.

1,104,469. Patented July 21, 1914.

Fig. 1.

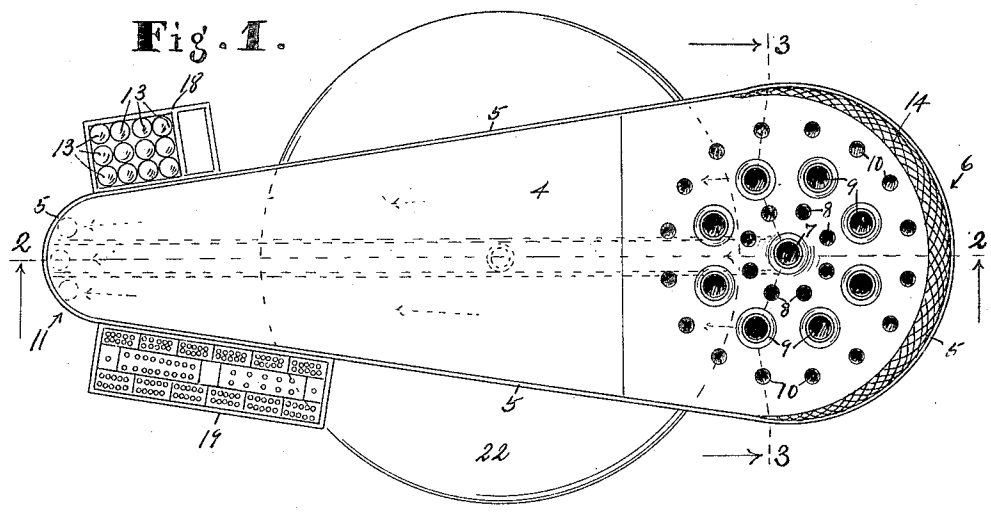



Fig. 2.

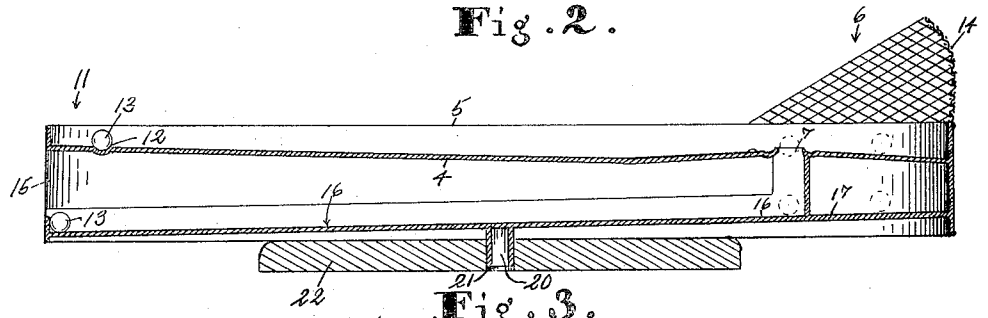
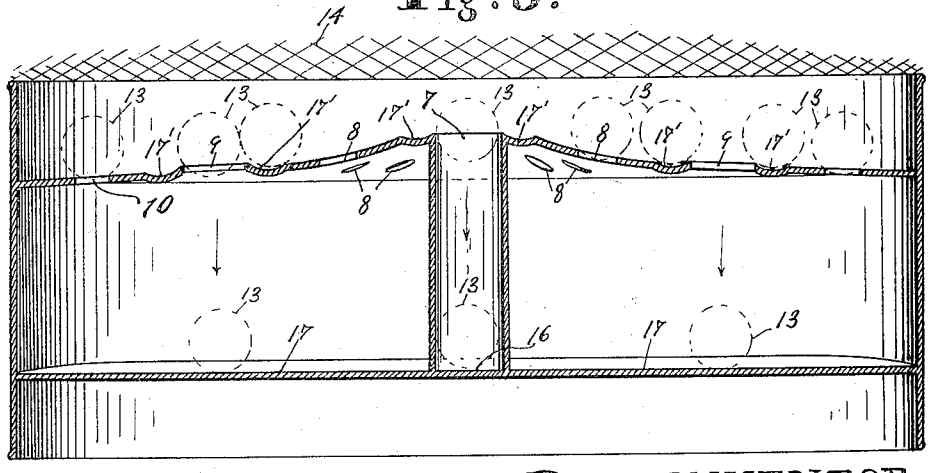



Fig. 3.




WITNESSES:

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THE NORRIS PETERS CO., PHOTO-LITHO., WASHINGTON, D. C.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWARD J. BESEMAN, OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA.

## AMUSEMENT APPARATUS.

1,104,469. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented July 21, 1914.

Application filed December 30, 1913. Serial No. 809,580.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, EDWARD J. BESEMAN, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Los Angeles, county of Los Angeles, State of California, have invented a certain new and useful Amusement Apparatus; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to amusement apparatus, and it may be said to consist in the provision of the novel and advantageous features and in the novel and improved construction, arrangement, and combination of parts as will be apparent from the description and claims which follow hereinafter.

Objects of the invention are to provide an improved amusement apparatus which is adapted to afford a novel form of amusement, is simple in character, economical to manufacture, strong and durable, attractive in appearance, effective to train children to add numbers, well suited to provide agreeable pastime for children as well as adults, and which is well adapted to try the skill and patience of those who practise it.

Other objects and the advantages of the invention will be apparent to those skilled in the art from a consideration of the following description of the preferred form of construction embodying the invention, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings in which—

Figure 1 is a plan view of the amusement apparatus; Fig. 2 is a longitudinal sectional view taken on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1; and Fig. 3 is an enlarged cross sectional view taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1.

As shown, the amusement apparatus comprises a platform 4 having at the edge thereof an inclosing wall 5 which extends above and below the platform. The rear portion 6 of the platform 4 is provided with a substantially central opening 7, and with openings 8, 9, 10 concentric to the opening 7. The front portion 11 of the platform preferably slopes downwardly from the front end, and the rear portion of the platform preferably slopes upwardly toward the central opening 7. A depression 12 may be formed at the front end of the platform 4 to hold any one of a plurality of preferably rubber balls 13 which are of such size that they may pass completely through the openings 7 and 9 and partly through the openings 8 and 10. A netting 14 may be arranged on top of the rear end of the wall 5 to stop the balls passing over the wall 5. An opening 15 is provided in the wall 5 below the front end of the platform 4. Those of the balls 13 which pass through the opening 7 travel in a runway 16 to the front end of said runway adjacent to the opening 15, and those of the balls 13 which pass through the openings 9 travel in one or the other of runways 17, at the sides of runway 16, to the front end of the runways 17 adjacent to the opening 15. Circular depressions 17′ are formed adjacent to the openings 7 and 9 in the platform 4. At the front end on the wall 5 is mounted a suitable container 18 for the balls 13, and a suitable device such as the cribbage board 19 for keeping a record of the total scores of the players. The apparatus has on its underside a pivot 20 fitted in an opening 21 in the base 22, whereby it may be turned at will to bring its front end adjacent to the next player.

In use, one of the balls 13 may be placed in the depression 12 and then struck by hand or by a cue; the player aiming to have the ball move into one of the openings 7, 8, 9, or 10. When the player succeeds in moving any of the balls 13 into the openings 7, 8, 9, and 10, he may add to his score 40, 30, 20, and 10 for the respective openings. Balls passing through the openings 7 and 9 may be counted and played again to reward skilful players. When a ball stops in any one of the circular depressions 17′ it will in most cases prevent another ball from passing through the opening which is adjacent to the circular depression having the ball therein—see left half of Fig. 3.

It will be apparent that the improved apparatus is well adapted to accomplish the objects of the invention.

While one form of construction embodying the invention has been particularly illustrated and described, many minor changes and modifications thereof will readily occur to those skilled in the art—wherefore the right is reserved to all such changes and modifications as do not depart from the spirit and scope of the invention as defined in the appended claims.

I claim:—

1. Amusement apparatus comprising a platform provided with openings in the rear

end portion thereof and formed to provide circular depressions adjacent to the openings, an inclosing wall on the edge of the platform, and runways below the platform leading from the openings to the front end of the platform.

2. Amusement apparatus comprising a platform, the rear portion of the platform being provided with a substantially central opening and with openings spaced from the central opening and said platform having the front portion thereof sloping downwardly from the front end and the rear portion sloping upwardly toward the central opening, an inclosing wall on the edge of the platform, and runways below the platform leading from the openings to the front end of the platform.

3. Amusement apparatus comprising a platform, the rear portion of the platform being provided with a substantially central opening and with openings spaced from the central opening, some of the openings being larger than other of the openings, said platform having the front portion thereof sloping downwardly from the front end and the rear portion sloping upwardly toward the central opening, and provided with depressions adjacent to some of said openings, an inclosing wall on the edge of the platform, and runways below the platform leading from the larger of the openings to the front end of the platform.

4. The herein described amusement apparatus, comprising a platform the rear end portion of which is provided with a substantially central opening and with openings spaced from the central opening, some of the openings being larger than other of the openings, said platform having its front portion sloping downwardly from the front end and its rear portion sloping upwardly toward the central opening, and provided with circular depressions adjacent to the larger of the openings, an inclosing wall on the edge of the platform, said wall provided with an opening at the front end of the platform, and runways leading from the larger of the openings and terminating adjacent to the opening at the front end of the platform.

In testimony whereof, I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses at Los Angeles, county of Los Angeles, State of California, this 23rd day of December, A. D. 1913.

E. J. BESEMAN.

Witnesses:
ALEX. H. LIDDERS,
ELLA SCOTT.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."