

April 14, 1936.

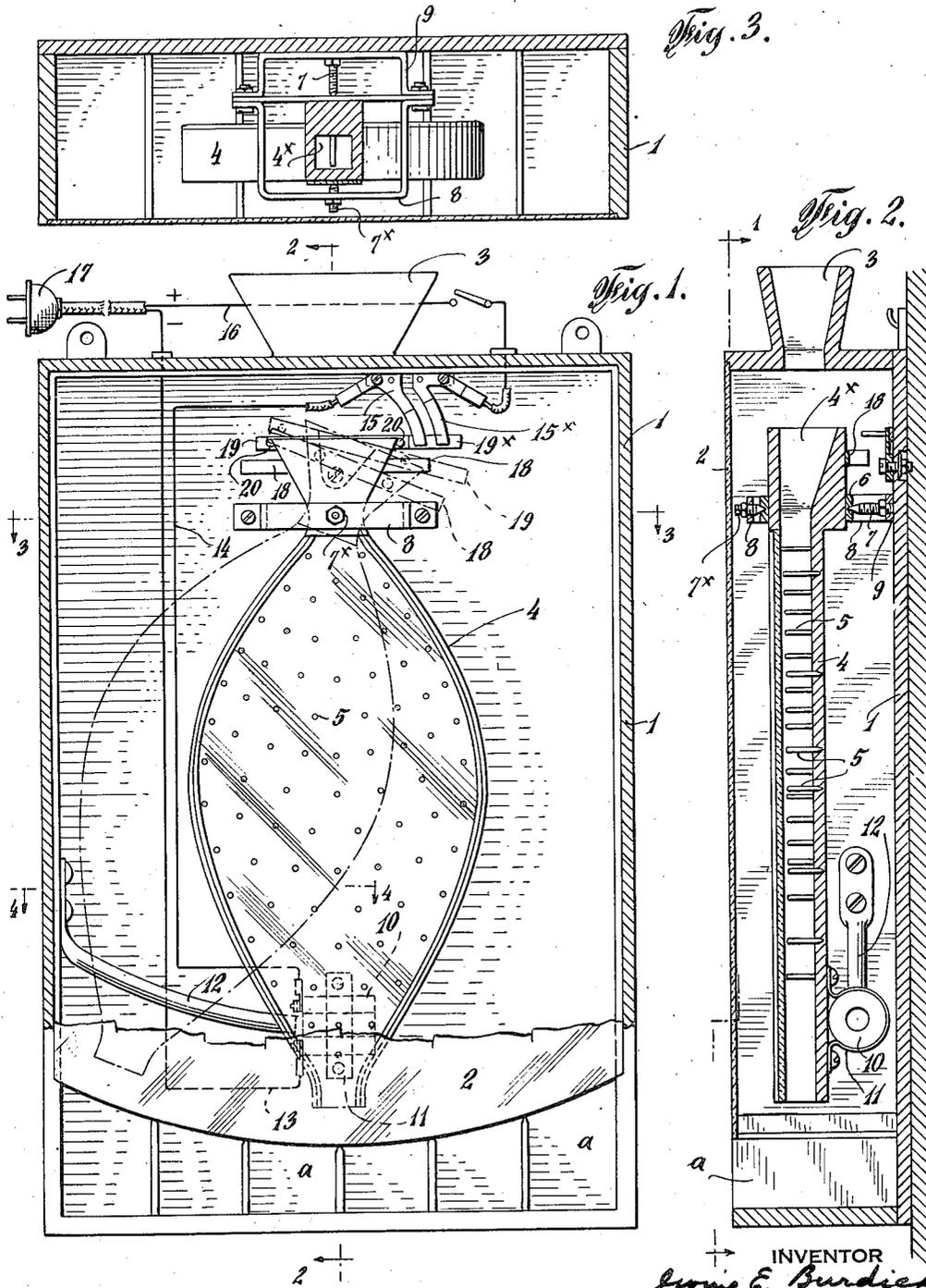
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2,037,064

GAME

Filed Oct. 20, 1934

2 Sheets-Sheet 1



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2 Sheets-Sheet 2

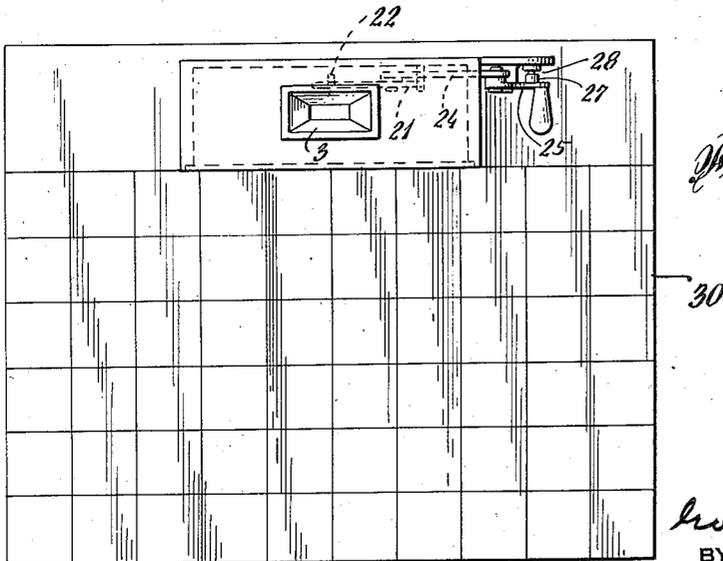
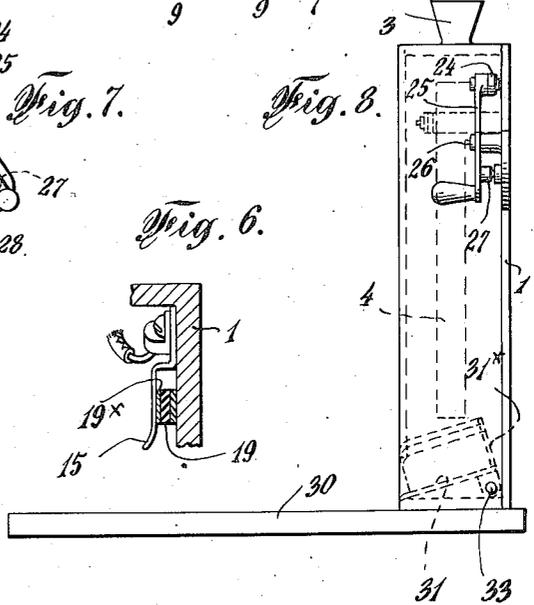
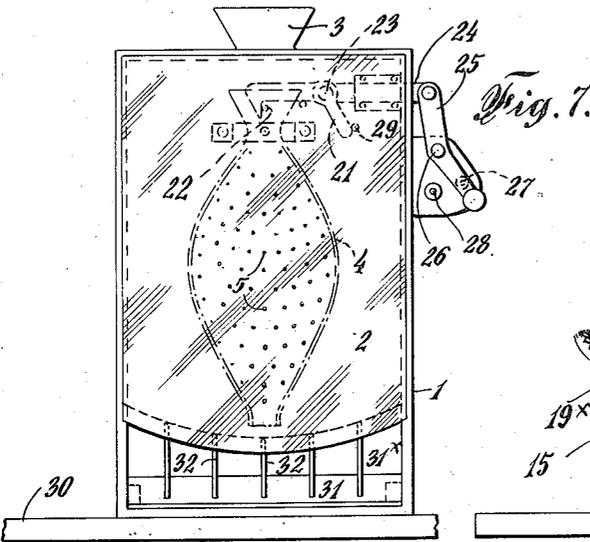
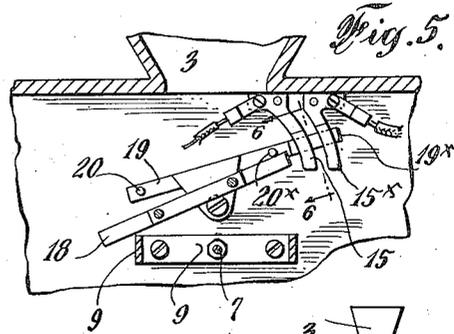
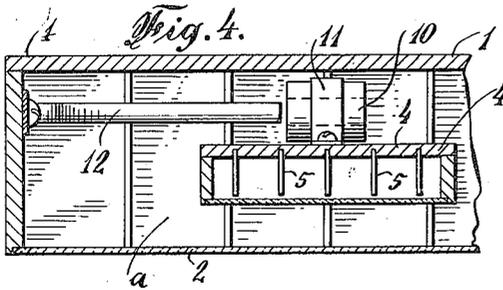


Fig. 9.

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GAME

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5 Claims. (Cl. 273-144)

This invention relates to a game apparatus characterized by the employment of a pendulum adapted to receive balls, blocks or dice and to discharge the same within pockets at the lower end thereof, or upon a baseboard having the general function of a pocket member, it being divided into sections. The pendulum is preferably provided with pins or other impediments to retard the movement of the balls, blocks or dice and with means for imparting a bodily swinging movement relatively to the pocket member.

The invention will be described with reference to the accompanying drawings in which

Fig. 1 is a view in front elevation of an embodiment of the invention, the transparent front plate being broken away on the line 1-1, Fig. 2.

Fig. 2 is a vertical section on the line 2-2, Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a horizontal section on the line 3-3, Fig. 1.

Fig. 4 is a fragmentary horizontal section on the line 4-4, Fig. 1.

Fig. 5 is a fragmentary elevation of certain of the switch members showing them in contact position.

Fig. 6 is a detailed section on the line 6-6, Fig. 5, looking in the direction of the arrows.

Fig. 7 is a schematic elevation showing a modified form of mechanically actuated means for the pendulum.

Fig. 8 is a side elevation of the device shown in Fig. 7.

Fig. 9 is a plan view of the device shown in Figs. 7 and 8 incorporating a baseboard divided into sections for the reception of the playing units.

Referring to the drawings, it will be seen that the embodiments therein shown comprise a casing 1 of any suitable material having a transparent front plate 2, the upper wall of the casing having an inlet member 3 for the playing units, the latter being disposed in register with the inlet of pendulum 4.

Pendulum 4 preferably carries a plurality of pins or other obstacle members indicated at 5 and is pivotally mounted within the casing. In the embodiment shown, the pendulum is elliptical in shape having an inlet opening at 4x, the walls surrounding the opening being provided with a metallic strap 6. A pivoted pin 7 engages the strap at the rear thereof and a second pivot pin 7x engages the strap at the front thereof, the pivot pin 7 being carried by a yoke-like bracket member 8 secured to the rear wall of the casing through bracket member 9 which carries pivot pin 7.

Means are provided for mechanically swinging the pendulum. In the construction shown in Figs. 1 to 5 inclusive, such means comprises a solenoid coil 10 held on the pendulum by strap 11 and a solenoid core 12 secured to a wall of the casing. To the negative terminal of coil 10 is connected wire 13. To the positive terminal of the coil is led wire 14 connected to spring switch member 15, the latter being slightly spaced from a co-acting switch member 15x connected to positive wire 16. Wires 13 and 16 lead to a suitable plug connection 17.

Secured to the rear of the pendulum is a transverse arm 18, the latter being disposed below a switch closing arm 19. Arm 19 carries spaced pins 20, 20x, and at one end of the arm is a metallic bridging member 19x for the switch members 15, 15x.

When the pendulum lies in the position shown in full lines, Fig. 1, the switch closing arm 19 will hold bridging extension 19x in position to close the circuit, the solenoid will draw the pendulum to the left to the dotted line position of Fig. 1. In such movement, arm 18 will strike pin 20 and rock arm 19 to such position as to retract member 19x from the switch members and break the circuit. When the circuit is broken, the pendulum will move to the right (from the dotted line position of Fig. 1) under the action of gravity, its weight being augmented by the weight of the solenoid coil at the lower end thereof, and in practice, its momentum will carry it into register with the right hand pocket a, Fig. 1, before the action of the solenoid can take effect, although the switch members 15, 15x will be bridged at the instant the pendulum reaches full line position, Fig. 1. The pendulum will then move to the left while the frictional engagement of the members 15, 15x upon bridging extension 19x will hold the circuit closed. When the pendulum reaches the full line position of Fig. 1, the solenoid will continue the movement to the left and the action will be repeated as before.

In Figs. 7 to 9 inclusive, I have shown manually operated means for operating the pendulum. Such means comprises a pivoted lever 21 having a hooked end adapted to engage a stud 22 carried by the pendulum near the top thereof. Lever 21 is connected by pivot stud 23 to an endwise movable shaft 24 pivotally connected in turn to a hand lever 25. Hand lever 25 is fulcrumed at 26 and is provided with a detent recess at 27 adapted to be entered by the ball end of a detent pin 28. This pin may be spring

pressed or the normal lateral spring action of hand lever 25 may be utilized for the detent action.

In the position of the parts illustrated in Fig. 7, the end of pivoted lever 21 opposite its hooked end is in engagement with a stop pin 29. When hand lever 25 is moved to the left the requisite distance, the hooked end of lever 21 will, through stud 22 impart motion to the pendulum and stop pin 29 in the bodily movement of lever 21 will carry the hooked end upwardly out of register with the pin and the parts will be held in such position by the holding of hand lever 25 by the detent members 27 and 28. When the swinging of the pendulum has been concluded, hand lever 25 may be pulled back to the position shown in Fig. 7 for further action upon the pendulum.

In connection with the modification illustrated in Figs. 7 to 9 inclusive, I have shown the use of a so-called pocket board 30 either in substitution of the pocket member illustrated in the preceding figures or as an addition thereto. In the drawings, member 30 is shown as an addition to a pocket member comprising a base 31, a back wall 31x and pocket division walls 32, the pocket member being pivoted at 33 so as to lie in the dotted line position of Fig. 8 with the base or bottom wall 31 inclined toward the pocket board 30, so that the playing units dropped upon the inclined surface 31 will be projected forwardly upon the upper surface of the pocket board, the latter preferably being ruled or otherwise divided into sections or other divisions.

In both forms of the device, the action of the pendulum upon the playing units is first to cause the units to move downwardly in an uncertain path and in an uncertain period of time due to the impediments presented by pins 5 and secondly to discharge a given playing unit into one of the pockets. When playing the game, a player drops a ball or other playing unit into the hopper-like member 3, and the unit is received by the pendulum and is deflected by the pins through a circuitous path and finally is projected into one of the pockets, each pocket having its own value different from that of the other pockets, the object being to secure the greatest number of points, the player securing the major points winning the game.

When the board 30 is employed, an additional element of chance is provided for the reason that the playing unit will be projected through a given pocket of a specified value and thence upon a division of the board having a specified value. For example, the board 30 is shown in Fig. 9 as divided into a plurality of rows of rectangular divisions, each of which may have a designated value. The pivotal connection 33 may be frictional so that the pocket member so

pivoted may be moved upward with its wall 31 in horizontal position so as to eliminate the use of board 30 if desired, or a latch may be provided to hold said pocket member in upper position.

It will be understood that various changes may be made in the embodiment of the invention illustrated without departing from the spirit of the invention. What I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is as follows:—

1. A game apparatus comprising a support, a pendulum carried by said support and having inlet and discharge openings, means for swinging the pendulum in an arcuate path comprising a solenoid device and means operated by the pendulum for making and breaking a circuit to said solenoid device, the pendulum being adapted to receive playing units and to direct them to various points within said arcuate path.

2. A device constructed in accordance with claim 1, in which one member of the solenoid is carried by the pendulum and a second member thereof is carried by said support and the circuit closing means comprises a bridging member engaged and operated by the pendulum in its motion.

3. A game apparatus comprising a support, a pendulum carried by said support and having inlet and discharge openings, means for swinging the pendulum in an arcuate path, a pocket member having a plurality of pockets disposed below the pendulum and a baseboard divided into reception areas adjacent said pocket member, the pendulum being adapted to receive playing units and to direct them to said pockets, the pocket member being adapted to discharge the playing units from the pockets to said baseboard.

4. A game apparatus comprising a support, a pendulum carried by said support having a narrowed inlet, a narrowed outlet and an intermediate wide section bounded laterally by walls, spaced deflecting means carried by the pendulum and projecting therefrom substantially parallel with said walls and adapted to act upon playing units such as balls, a member below the pendulum adapted to receive playing units discharged therefrom and divided into areas, the support for the pendulum being so constructed that the pendulum is freely movable back and forth by a single impulse directed in a plane transversely of said walls.

5. A game apparatus comprising a support, an electrical circuit, a circuit breaker, including a pendulum carried by said support, means for directing a playing unit such as a ball, to a face of the pendulum so that said face may guide the ball in descent by gravity and a playing unit reception member below said pendulum and divided into reception areas.

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