

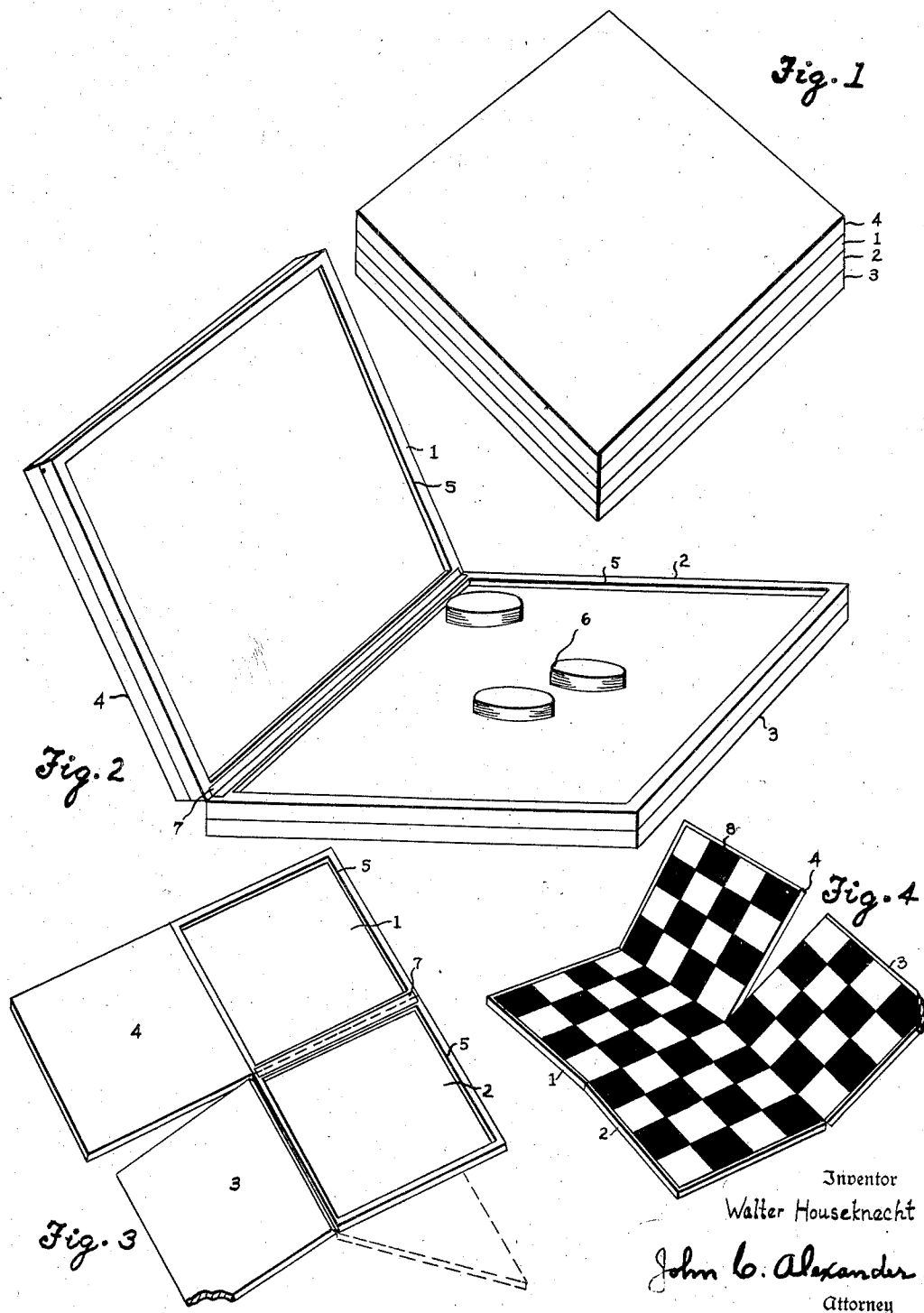
Feb. 21, 1939.

W. HOUSEKNECHT

2,147,900

GAME BOARD

Filed Nov. 16, 1936



Inventor
Walter Houseknecht

John C. Alexander
Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,147,900

GAME BOARD

Walter Houseknecht, Highland Park, Mich.

Application November 16, 1936, Serial No. 110,963

1 Claim. (Cl. 273—136)

This invention relates to game boards and particularly to game boards formed in sections and collapsible to form a box for the pieces played on the board, such as checkers or chess men.

5 An object of the invention is to form a game board of four hingedly connected sections, substantially equal in thickness, so as to each seat solidly and throughout its bottom area on a table, when the board is opened out for use, two 10 of said sections having their bottom faces similarly recessed, so as to jointly form a container, when the board is folded, for the pieces used on the board.

Another object is to apply to the top face of 15 the board a strong but flexible sheet of fabric on which is printed or otherwise impressed, a design or pattern determining the positions and movement of the pieces, said fabric being further used to establish a hinge connection between certain 20 of the sections.

These and various other objects are attained by the construction hereinafter described and illustrated in the accompanying drawing, wherein:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of the board collapsed and forming a box.

Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the board, partially opened out, and particularly showing the box formation.

Fig. 3 is a perspective bottom view of the board 30 fully opened out.

Fig. 4 is a top view of the board fully opened out.

In these views, the reference characters 1, 2, 3, and 4 designate the four sections which comprise the board, said sections being formed preferably of heavy cardboard, and all equal in size and of a substantially square shape. The bottom faces of the sections 1 and 2 are similarly recessed throughout their major areas, as indicated at 5, to jointly form a container for pieces to be played 40 on the board, such as the checkers 6. Said sections are hingedly connected by a strip 7 of strong but thin fabric cemented or glued to the adjoined margins of the sections, upon their bottom faces. 45 The sections 3 and 4 are hinged to corresponding edges of the sections 1 and 2, these hinge connections being established preferably by two sheets 8 of strong fabric, one cemented or glued

to the top faces of the sections 1 and 4, and the other to the top faces of the sections 2 and 3, fully covering such faces. The sheets 8 further carry a pattern or design to generally determine 5 the positions and moves of the pieces, such as the well-known arrangement of squares, illustrated in Fig. 4.

In collapsing the board, the sections 3 and 4 are folded over with their top faces engaging those of the sections 1 and 2, as Fig. 2 illustrates, 10 and finally the sections 1 and 2 are folded one on the other, with their bottom faces engaging, resulting in the quite compact box form shown in Fig. 1.

As compared to prior sectional game boards 15 exercising an additional box function, the described board, when opened out seats firmly and securely on a table throughout its bottom area, and employs no feet or projections that might 20 mar a table or prevent the board from lying perfectly flat. Also the hinge connection between the several sections of the board is considerably simpler and less expensive in applicant's construction than in prior disclosures.

The invention is presented as including all such 25 modifications and changes as come within the scope of the following claim.

What I claim is:

A game board comprising four sections, two thereof having their bottom faces recessed to 30 jointly form a box when folded one upon the other, such box serving to receive pieces played on the board, an elongated flexible strip of sheet material forming a hinge connection between ad- 35 joined edges of said recessed sections, the other two sections being hinged to corresponding edges of the two recessed sections transverse to their connected edges, all of said sections having substantially the same thickness, whereby they may 40 each have similar engagement with a supporting surface, and means, in sheet form, applied to the top faces of the sections, forming the hinge connections between the recessed sections and the other two sections, and further receiving a pat- 45 tern determining proper positioning of the pieces on the board.

WALTER HOUSEKNECHT.