

No. 858,776.

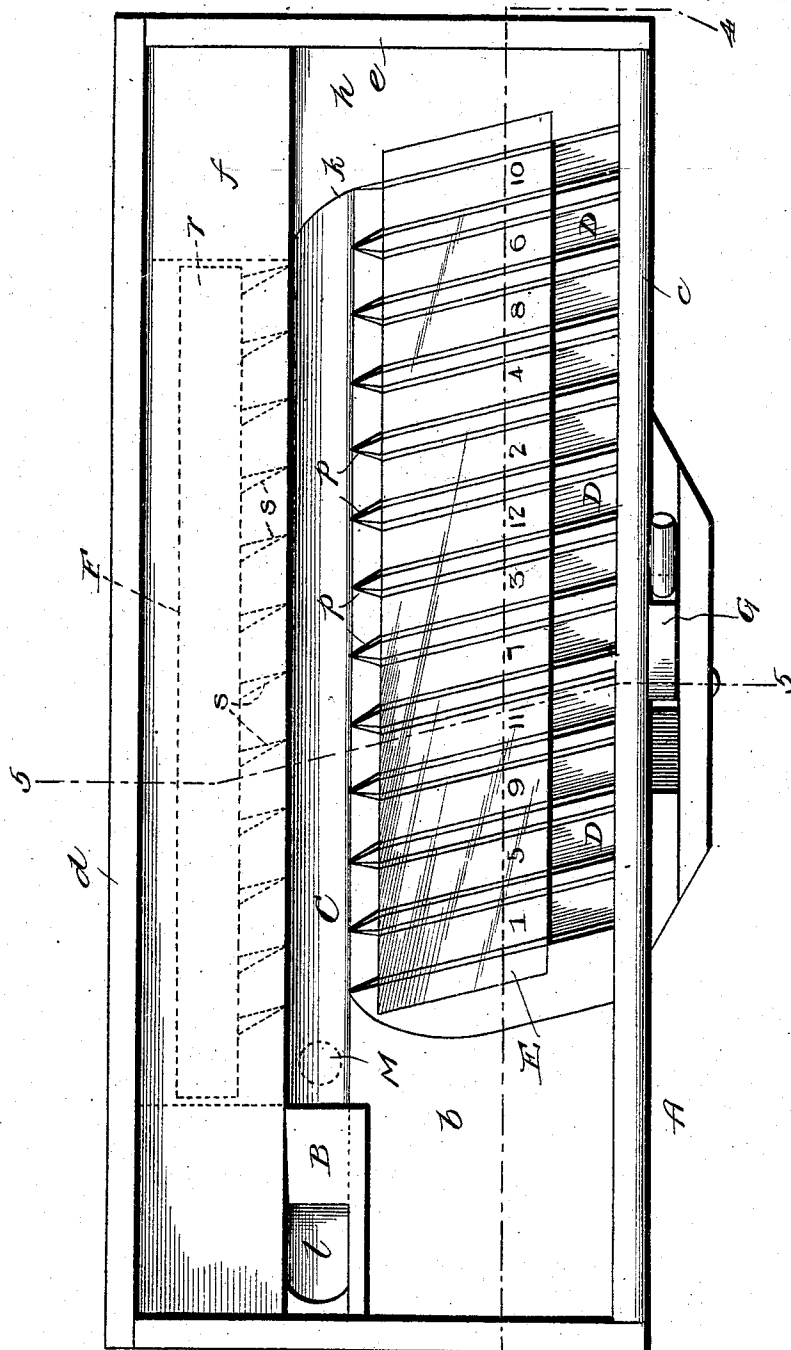
PATENTED JULY 2, 1907.

P. W. AMLIE.
GAME APPARATUS.

APPLICATION FILED MAR. 19, 1906.

3 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.



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Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

PAUL W. AMLIE, OF BINFORD, NORTH DAKOTA.

GAME APPARATUS.

No. 858,776.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented July 2, 1907.

Application filed March 19, 1906. Serial No. 306,788.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, PAUL W. AMLIE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Binford, in the county of Griggs and State of North Dakota, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Game Apparatus, of which the following is a specification.

My invention has reference to game apparatus; and it contemplates the provision of a simple, compact and inexpensive game apparatus embodying such a construction that its operation combines the elements of chance and skill, and hence it is well adapted to afford recreation and amusement to adults as well as to children.

Broadly stated, the invention consists in the combination in a game apparatus, of a body, a plurality of stalls or ball-retaining channels arranged thereon, and means for deflecting a ball into one of the stalls incident to the swift passage of the ball in front of the series of stalls or ball-retaining channels.

The invention also consists in the peculiar construction, the novel combinations, and the adaptation of parts hereinafter described and particularly defined in the claims appended.

In the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification: Figure 1 is a top plan view of the game apparatus constituting the present and preferred embodiment of my invention, with the deflector in its active position. Fig. 2 is a front elevation of the apparatus. Fig. 3 is an inverted plan view, showing the deflector-operating mechanism of the apparatus. Fig. 4 is a longitudinal, vertical section taken in the plane indicated by the line 4—4 of Fig. 1. Fig. 5 is a transverse section taken in the plane indicated by the line 5—5 of Fig. 1, and: Fig. 6 is a detail, longitudinal-vertical section showing the ball-receiver of the apparatus.

Similar letters designate corresponding parts in all of the views of the drawings, referring to which:

A is the body of my novel apparatus which is preferably, though not necessarily, made of wood and mounted on four legs *a*. The said body comprises a table *b* the upper surface of which is inclined in the direction of its length, as shown in Fig. 4, and in the direction of its width, as shown in Fig. 5, and means surrounding the said upper surface of the table and designed to prevent a ball or balls rolling off the same. This means may be of any character compatible with the objects of my invention without involving departure from the scope thereof, though I prefer to have it comprise a front wall *c*, a comparatively high back wall *d*, and end walls *e* tapered or gradually reduced in height from the back wall to the front wall.

Extending longitudinally of the body A at the inner side of the back wall *d* is a bar *f* between which and the upper surface of table *b* a play space *g* is afforded for a purpose presently set forth, while on the upper surface of the table *b* at the lower end thereof is arranged an

abutment *h* the upper portion of the inner edge of which is curved as indicated by *k*. At the opposite end of the table *b*, with reference to the abutment *h*, and against the bar *f* is arranged the ball-receiver B of the apparatus. This ball-receiver has an opening *l* in which the playing ball is deposited and an inclined plane *m* which declines from said opening *l* toward the lower end of the table, as best shown in Fig. 6. Formed by preference in the upper side of the table *b* is a shallow, longitudinal groove C which extends between the ball-receiver B and the abutment *h*, and is designed to serve a purpose presently pointed out in detail.

D are stalls or ball-retaining channels arranged on the table *b* at the opposite side of the groove C, with reference to the play space *g*, and open at their ends adjacent to the said groove so as to adapt them to receive the ball therefrom. The said stalls or ball-retaining channels preferably extend laterally and slightly forward from the groove C, and the ends of their walls remote from the ball-receiver B are beveled, as indicated by *p*, so as to enable the deflected ball to more readily enter a stall.

E is a plate, preferably of glass or other transparent material, which I prefer to fix over the stalls or ball-retaining channels D and utilize to bear the numbers of the stalls or ball-retaining channels as well as to prevent the ball jumping out of the stall or ball-retaining channel into which it is deflected.

F is a deflector, and G is a hand lever for enabling the player positioned in front of the apparatus to expeditiously and easily operate the deflector. The deflector comprises a laterally movable bar *r* arranged in the play space *g*, and fingers *s* extending laterally inward and slightly forward from the bar. The hand-lever G is mounted at the front of the body A, Fig. 5, and is connected with the deflector F through the medium of the bell-crank H and the bail I, best shown in Fig. 3; the bail having upwardly reaching portions on its arms fixed to the bar of the deflector.

I prefer in practice to provide the deflector F with fingers *s* corresponding in number to the stalls or ball-retaining channel D, and to arrange the fingers *s* in the manner shown in Fig. 1, relative to the stalls or ball-retaining channels. I also prefer to provide on the body A, above the fingers *s* as shown in Fig. 4, a number indicating the particular stall with which each finger is adapted to cooperate.

In the practical use of my novel apparatus, a player grasps the lever G with one hand, and the ball, indicated by M, is dropped in the receiver B. The player watches the ball during the passage of the same along the channel or groove C, and at the proper time throws the lever toward the left, this to move the deflector laterally toward the stalls or ball-retaining channels and enable one of the fingers of the deflector to engage the ball and direct it into one of the said

stalls or ball-retaining channels. It is of course the aim of the player to place the ball in the stall bearing the largest number, but this will be found difficult to do inasmuch as the player is liable to move the deflector too soon or too late during the quick passage of the ball down the channel or groove C. When a player has operated the apparatus, his score is noted, and the apparatus is then operated by another player. This is continued until the score of one player reaches a predetermined amount, say 100, when he of course wins the game.

It will be gathered from the foregoing that by virtue of the construction of my novel game apparatus, considerable skill and quickness is necessary in order to enable a player to put the ball in the particular stall desired, and from this it follows that the game apparatus will prove entertaining to grown persons as well as to children.

When desired it is obvious that more than one ball may be used in the operation of my novel apparatus without affecting my invention.

The construction shown and described is the preferred embodiment of my invention, but I do not desire to be understood as confining myself to the said construction inasmuch as such changes or modifications may be made in practice as fairly fall within the scope of my claimed invention.

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

1. The combination in a game apparatus, of a body, a plurality of ball-retaining channels arranged thereon, and means operating wholly without said channels for deflecting a ball into one of the ball-retaining channels during the passage of the ball in front of same.
2. The combination in a game apparatus, of a body having a table, the upper surface of which is inclined, a plurality of stalls or pockets on the inclined surface of the table, and means for deflecting a ball into one of the stalls or pockets during the passage of the ball in front of the same.
3. The combination in a game apparatus, of a body having a groove or channel in its upper side, a plurality of stalls or pockets thereon at one side of the groove or channel, and means at the opposite side of the groove or channel for deflecting a ball into one of the stalls or pockets during the passage of the ball along the groove or channel.
4. The combination in a game apparatus, of a body having a table, the upper surface of which is inclined and provided with a channel or groove, a plurality of stalls or pockets on the table at one side of the groove or channel, and means at the opposite side of the groove or channel for deflecting a ball into one of the stalls or pockets during the passage of the ball along the groove or channel.
5. The combination in a game apparatus, of a body having a table the upper surface of which is inclined in the direction of its length and also in the direction of its width and is provided with a longitudinal channel or

groove, a plurality of stalls or pockets on the table at one side of the groove or channel, and means at the opposite side of the groove or channel for deflecting a ball into one of the stalls or pockets during the passage of the ball along the groove or channel.

6. The combination in a game apparatus, of a body, a plurality of stalls or pockets thereon, means for deflecting a ball into one of the stalls or pockets during the passage of the ball in front of the same, and a transverse plate extending over the stalls or pockets and adapted to bear the ordinals thereof.

7. The combination in a game apparatus, of a body having a groove or channel in its upper side, stalls or pockets on the body, a ball-receiver having an inclined plane leading to the groove or channel, and means for deflecting a ball into one of the stalls or pockets during the passage of the ball in front of the same.

8. The combination in a game apparatus, of a body, ball-retaining channels arranged thereon, a movable deflector operating wholly without said channels for turning a ball into one of the ball-retaining channels, an operating handle, and a connection intermediate the handle and the deflector for working the latter by the former.

9. The combination in a game apparatus, of a body having a channel or groove in its upper side, stalls or pockets on the body at one side of the channel or groove, a laterally movable deflector disposed at the opposite side of the channel or groove and having lateral fingers, an operating handle, and a connection intermediate said handle and the deflector for working the latter by the former.

10. The combination in a game apparatus, of a body, a plurality of stalls or pockets thereon, means for deflecting a ball into one of the stalls or pockets during the passage of the ball in front of the same, a plate extending over the stalls or pockets and adapted to bear the ordinals thereof, and ordinals arranged on the upper side of the body relative to the deflector.

11. The combination in a game apparatus, of a body, a plurality of stalls or pockets thereon, means for deflecting a ball into one of the stalls or pockets during the passage of the ball in front of the same, and a transparent plate extending over the stalls or pockets and adapted to bear the ordinals thereof.

12. The combination in a game apparatus, of a body, a plurality of stalls or pockets thereon, means for deflecting a ball into one of the stalls or pockets during the passage of the ball in front of the same, a transparent plate extending over the stalls or pockets and adapted to bear ordinals, and ordinals arranged on the upper side of the body relative to the deflector.

13. The combination in a game apparatus, of a body, a plurality of stalls or pockets thereon, means for deflecting a ball into one of the stalls or pockets during the passage of the ball in front of the same, a transparent, removable plate extending over the stalls or pockets and adapted to bear ordinals, and ordinals arranged on the upper side of the body relative to the deflector.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

PAUL W. AMLIE.

Witnesses:

OTTO PRITZ,
OSCAR GREENLAND.