R. C. JACKSON.

ELECTRICAL CHECKER BOARD.

APPLICATION FILED MAR. 8, 1912.

1,043,318.

Patented Nov. 5, 1912.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

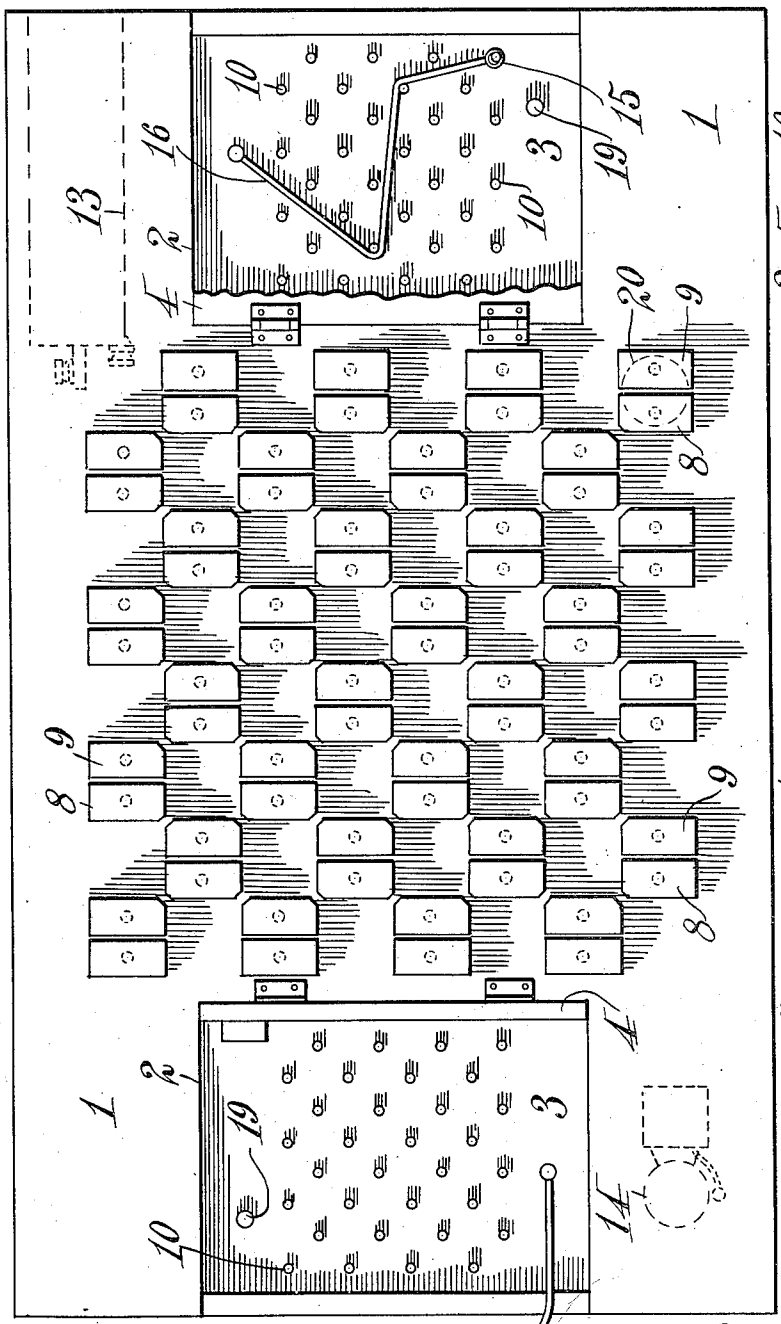

Fig. 1.

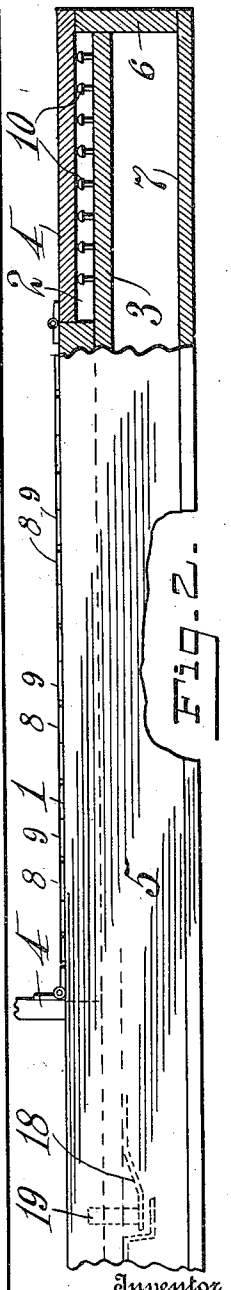

Fig. 2.

Witnesses

M. Dubler

M. Galloway

Inventor

Roy C. Jackson

By R. J. McCarty

his Attorney

R. C. JACKSON.

ELECTRICAL CHECKER BOARD.

APPLICATION FILED MAR. 8, 1912.

1,043,318.

Patented Nov. 5, 1912.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

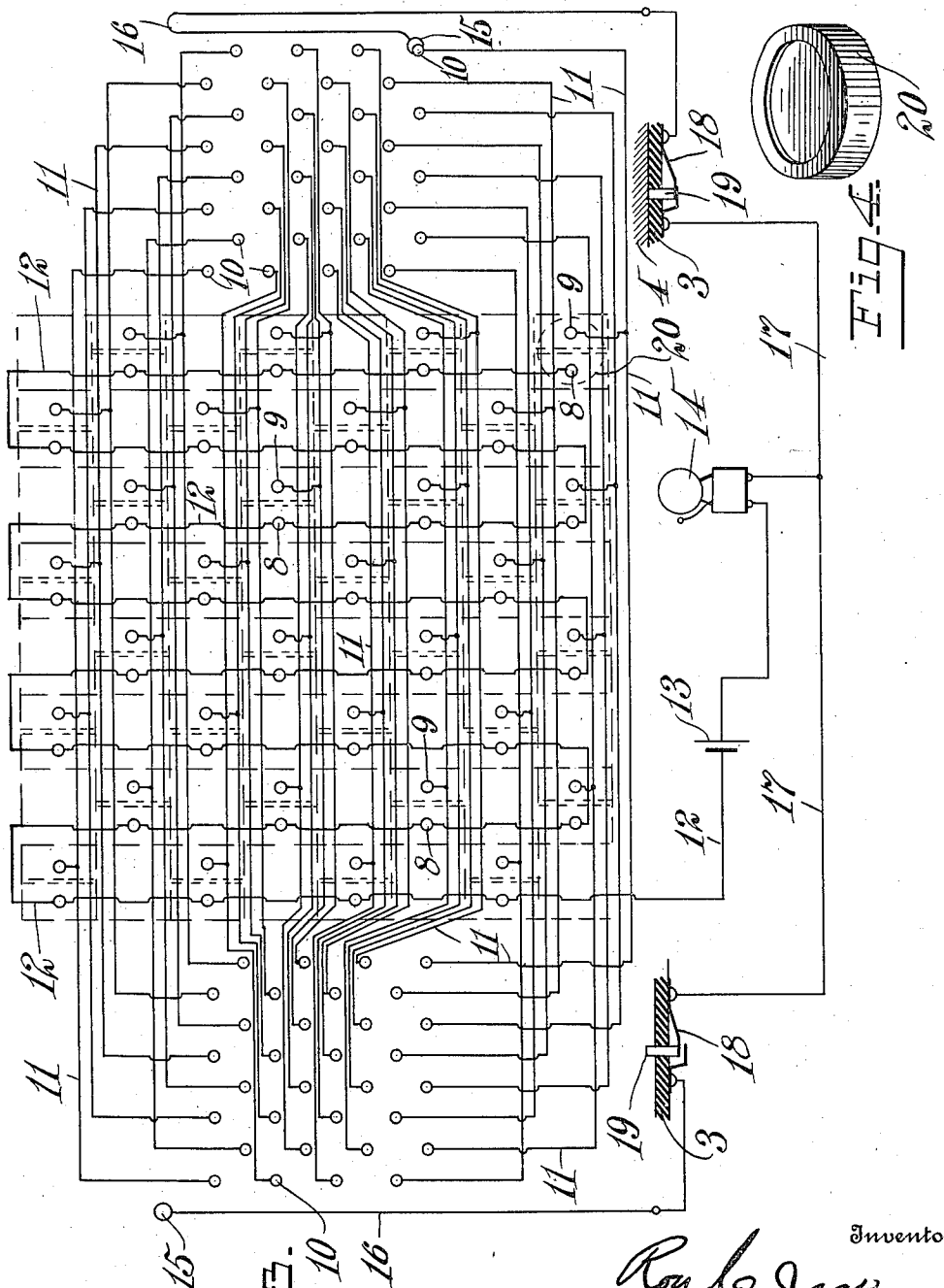

FIG. 2.

FIG. 4.

Witnesses

M. Sibley

M. Galloway.

Inventor

Roy C. Jackson.

By

R. J. McCarty

his Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ROY C. JACKSON, OF DAYTON, OHIO.

ELECTRICAL CHECKER-BOARD.

1,043,318. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Nov. 5, 1912.

Application filed March 8, 1912. Serial No. 682,558.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ROY C. JACKSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Dayton, in the county of Montgomery and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Electrical Checker-Boards; and I do 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, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to improvements in boards for playing the game of checkers.

The object of the invention is to provide an electrically operated board by means of which the moves of the players may be anticipated, and a signal electrically given if a man is moved onto a space which has been connected in the circuit.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a top plan view of my improved electrical checker board; Fig. 2 is a side or edge elevation with parts broken away; Fig. 3 is a diagrammatic view of the electrical connections; and Fig. 4 is a perspective view of one of the metallic checkers.

Referring more particularly to the drawings, the "board" consists of a face or upper side member 1 upon which the checker spaces are arranged, and the ends of which are provided with pockets 2 formed by depressed portions 3. There is a pocket 2 for each player, and said pockets are adapted to be closed by hinged lids 4 for the purpose hereinafter described. The face member 1 is supported on the sides 5 and ends 6 of a box which is provided with a bottom 7, and which houses the electrical connections. The checker spaces, upon which the checker members are to be placed, are each formed of two metallic conducting members 8 and 9. Each checker space on the board is represented at each pocket 2 by a respective pin or contact point 10. As shown in Fig. 3, each portion 9 of the checker spaces is electrically connected with their respective pins 10 by electrical conductors 11, while the portions 8 of all the checker spaces are connected with a common conductor 12. The common conductor 12 is provided with a source of electrical energy 13, and an indicator such as a bell 14. The pins 10 in the pockets 2 are adapted to be engaged by a ring 15 of which there is one for each pocket, said rings being attached on the ends of flexible connections 16. The flexible connections 16 are connected with the common conductor 12, by conductors 17. In the conductors 17 are switches 18 adapted to be closed by pins 19 mounted in the depressed portions 3. The pins 19 are adapted to be depressed by the hinged lids 4 when said lids are lowered. The rings 15 are adapted to be placed over one of the pins 10 and the flexible connections 16 are adapted to be extended or laced through said pins. This permits the lid to be lowered thereby closing the respective switch 18, as will be seen from the right of each of Figs. 1 and 3. The circuits are closed on the checker spaces 8 and 9 by metallic checkers 20 shown in Fig. 4. The metallic checkers bridge the two members 8 and 9 of the checker spaces when placed thereon.

The operation of playing the game is briefly as follows: Assuming that the player at the right end of the board anticipates that the player at the left will move one of his checkers on the lower right hand checker space 8 and 9, he thereupon connects his ring 15 with the pin 10 corresponding with that checker space as is shown diagrammatically in Fig. 3. He then laces the connection 16 through the pins 10 and lowers the lid 4. The lowering of the lid 4 closes the respective switch 18 and prevents his changing the selection after once made. When the lid 4 is elevated, it hides the pins 10 from the view of the other player, consequently it is not known to one player what move the other player anticipates. If the left player should then move one of his checkers on said space, the electrical circuit will be completed through the battery 13, bell 14, right conductor 17, switch 18, flexible connection 16, ring 15, pin 10, individual conductor 11, checker space portion 9, checker 20, portion 8, common conductor 12 to the battery 13. A bell 14 will therefore be sounded. It is contemplated by the rules that a move anticipated by one player and indicated by the bell 14, shall not be made by the other player.

I claim,

1. In a device of the type specified; a checker board consisting of checker spaces forming the terminals of individual split circuits and each of which consists of two

portions, a checker constructed of conducting material adapted to complete the circuit through said spaces, contact points for each checker space, electrically connected to one portion of each respective checker space; a common conductor connecting all the other portions of said checker spaces, electrical connections connected to said common conductor and adapted to be connected with said contact points, thereby completing a circuit, and an energizer, and an indicator in said circuit.

2. In a device of the type specified; a checker board consisting of checker spaces each of which consists of two portions adapted to be electrically bridged, a checker adapted to electrically bridge said spaces, two contact points for each checker space electrically connected to one portion of their respective checker spaces; a common conductor connecting all the other portions of said checker spaces; flexible electrical connections connected to said common conductor and adapted to be connected with said contact points, thereby completing a circuit; a switch in each flexible electrical connection; and an energizer and an indicator in said circuit.

3. In a device of the type specified; a checker board provided with checker spaces each of which consists of two electrically conducting portions, a checker constructed of conducting material and adapted to electrically connect said spaces, a right and a left contact point for each checker space electrically connected to one portion of their respective checker spaces; a common conductor connecting all of the other portions of said checker spaces; flexible electrical connections connected to said common conductor and adapted to be connected with said contact points, thereby completing a circuit; a switch in each flexible connection; means controlling access to said contact points and also controlling said switches; and an energizer and an indicator in said circuit.

4. In a device of the character specified, a series of checker spaces each consisting of two separate portions of conducting material, two oppositely arranged series of contact points electrically conducted to one side of each checker space, a common conductor electrically connected to the other side of each checker space, said common conductor being also electrically connected with two circuit closing and opening devices, two flexible conductors connected with said circuit opening and closing devices and having contact members adapted to be electrically connected with one of the contact points of their respective series, shutters adapted to conceal the hand while selecting the particular contact point for connection with the common circuit through one or the other of said flexible conductors, said shutter being adapted to close one or the other of said circuit closing and opening devices after such selection is made, and means such as a checker constructed of conducting material and adapted to be placed on any of said checker spaces to complete the circuit therethrough, and an indicator arranged in the common circuit.

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

ROY C. JACKSON.

Witnesses:
R. J. McCARTY,
MATTHEW SIEBLER.