



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CARL C. HAYHURST, OF BARBERTON, OHIO.

## PUZZLE.

No. 849,236.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, CARL C. HAYHURST, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Barberton, in the county of Summit and State of Ohio, have invented a new and Improved Puzzle, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The invention relates to puzzles in which one or more balls and devious runs or paths are employed for conducting the balls from a starting-point to a goal.

The object of the invention is to provide a new and improved puzzle which is simple and durable in construction and arranged to require considerable skill on the part of the player to solve the puzzle in a comparatively short time.

The invention consists of novel features and parts and combinations of the same, which will be described more fully hereinafter and then pointed out in the claims.

A practical embodiment of the invention is represented in the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in both the views.

Figure 1 is a plan view of the improvement, and Fig. 2 is a sectional side elevation of the same on the line 2 2 of Fig. 1.

On the upper face of a board A are arranged a number of partitions to form devious passages for balls to travel in, as hereinafter more fully described, and of the said partitions the outermost partition B is preferably made circular and provided with outwardly-extending corner-pockets C, arranged in the corners of the board A and each adapted to contain a ball D, intended to travel through the devious passages to goals or stalls E, preferably in U-shaped form and erected on the board A, as plainly indicated in Fig. 1. A second partition F is arranged concentric to the partition B and spaced therefrom, so as to form an annular passage G for the balls D to travel in after leaving the corresponding pockets C. This inner partition F is provided opposite the corner-pockets C with inwardly-extending pockets H, and intermediate pockets I are arranged between adjacent pockets H, said intermediate pockets I likewise extending inwardly from the inner partition F. Segmental passages J, each open at both ends, extend through the inner partition F into the annular passage G, and each segmental passage J extends around the rear of the corresponding

pocket H, as plainly indicated in Fig. 1. Each passage J connects by an opening J' in its rear wall with a second segmental passage K, terminating at its ends near the pockets I, opposite which and in an inward direction therefrom are located the stalls E, previously mentioned, and in which the balls D are to be located in order to properly solve the puzzle. In the middle of the board A and in the rear of the stalls E are arranged a plurality of deflecting-passages L to prevent a ball from easily reaching the corresponding stall E.

Now in playing the game the balls D are placed in the corner-pockets C, as plainly indicated in Fig. 1, and then the operator by slightly tilting the board A causes the balls D to roll out of the pockets C into the annular passage G, from which the balls can pass by way of the passages J and K to the stalls E. Now by locating the pockets H and I as described and shown it is evident that the balls are liable to be caught and retained by the pockets, and in a like manner the segmental passages J and K tend to deflect the balls from the stalls E, so that it requires considerable skill on the part of a player to properly solve the puzzle in a comparatively short time.

The puzzle shown and described can be cheaply manufactured, and it affords considerable amusement to the player.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. A puzzle, comprising a board, and raised partitions thereon, the said partitions forming runs for a plurality of balls, and comprising an annular outer partition having exterior corners each for the reception of a ball, an inner partition concentric to the outer partition and spaced therefrom to form a circular pathway, the inner partition having pockets opposite the said corners, a set of pockets on the said inner partition intermediate the said corner-pockets and stalls located radially inward from the said intermediate pockets.

2. A puzzle, comprising a board and raised partitions thereon, the said partitions forming runs for a plurality of balls, and comprising an annular outer partition having exterior corners each for the reception of a ball, an inner partition concentric to the outer partition and spaced therefrom to form a circular pathway, the inner partition having pockets opposite the said corners, a set of pockets

on the said inner partition intermediate the said corner-pockets, stalls located radially inward from the said intermediate pockets, and a set of segmental passages opening at both ends into the said circular pathway adjacent to the said intermediate pockets and extending around the inner wall of the corner-pockets.

3. A puzzle, comprising a board and raised partitions thereon, the said partitions forming runs for a plurality of balls, and comprising an annular outer partition having exterior corners each for the reception of a ball, an inner partition concentric to the outer partition and spaced therefrom to form a circular pathway, the inner partition having pockets opposite the said corners, a set of pockets on the said inner partition intermediate the said corner-pockets, stalls located radially inward from the said intermediate pockets, a set of segmental passages opening at both ends into the said circular pathway adjacent to the said intermediate pockets and extending around the inner wall of the corner-pockets, the said segmental passages having each an outlet at the middle of its rear wall, and a second set of segmental passages concentric to the said first-named set of segmental passages and terminating at their ends adjacent to the rear of the said intermediate pockets.

4. A puzzle, comprising a board and raised partitions thereon, the said partitions forming runs for a plurality of balls, and comprising an annular outer partition having exterior corners each for the reception of a ball, an inner partition concentric to the outer partition and spaced therefrom to form a circular pathway, the inner partition having pockets opposite the said corners, a set of pockets on the said inner partition intermediate the said corner-pockets, stalls located radially inward from the said intermediate pockets, a set of segmental passages opening at both ends into the said circular pathway adjacent to the said intermediate pockets and extending around the inner wall of the corner-pockets, the said segmental passages having each an outlet at the middle of its rear wall, a second set of segmental passages concentric to the said first-named set of segmental passages and terminating at their ends adjacent to the rear of the said intermediate pockets, and central deflection-passages to deflect the balls from the said stalls.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

CARL C. HAYHURST.

Witnesses:

C. A. STROBEL,  
CLAUDE V. FRASE.