

April 18, 1933.

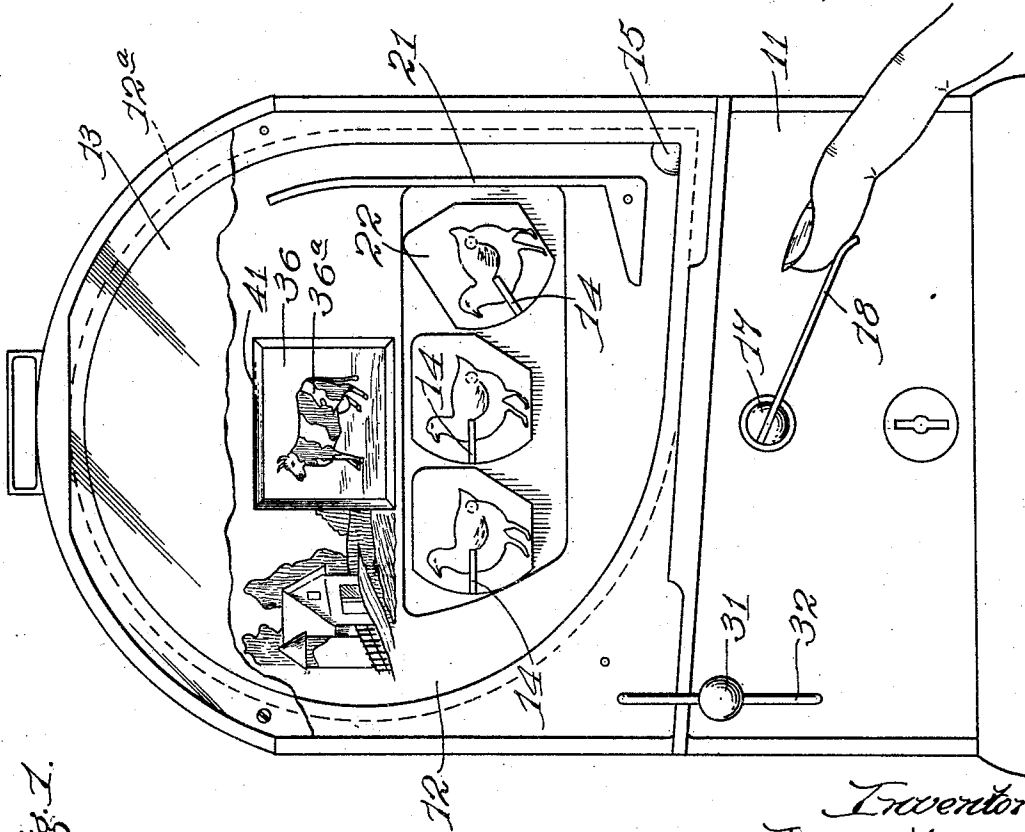
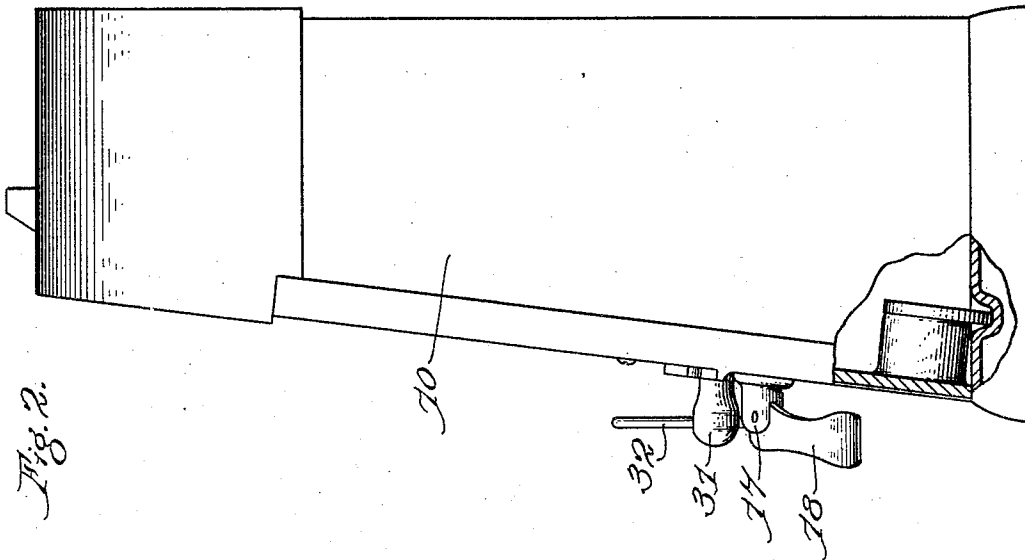
L. MYERS

1,903,790

GAME APPARATUS

Filed Sept. 25, 1931

3 Sheets-Sheet 1



Inventor:
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April 18, 1933.

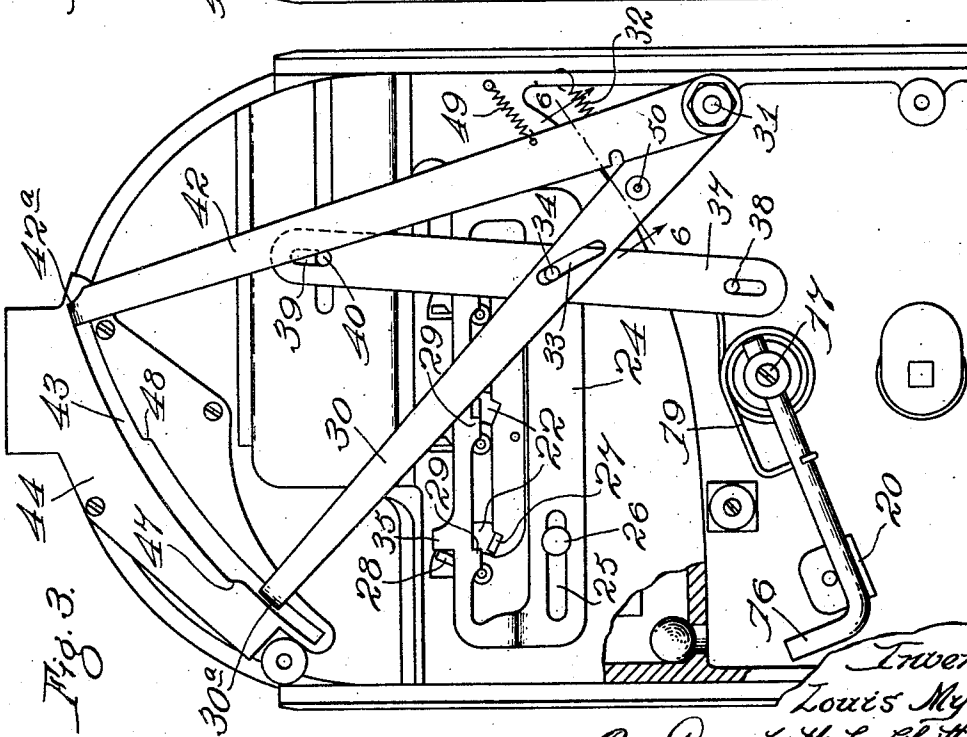
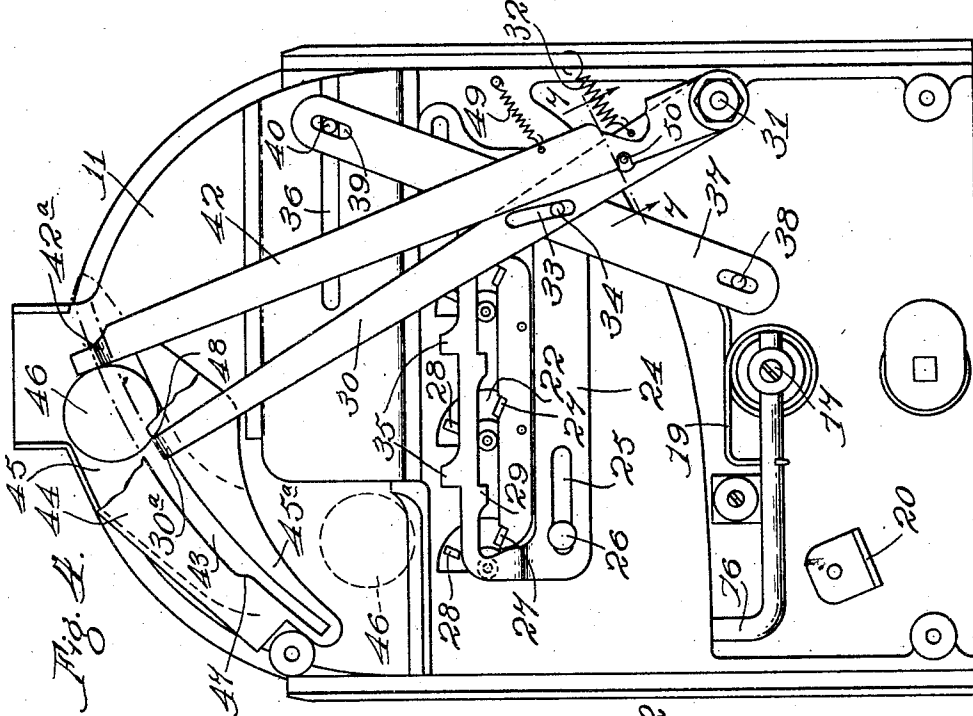
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GAME APPARATUS

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3 Sheets-Sheet 2



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3 Sheets-Sheet 3

Fig. 5.

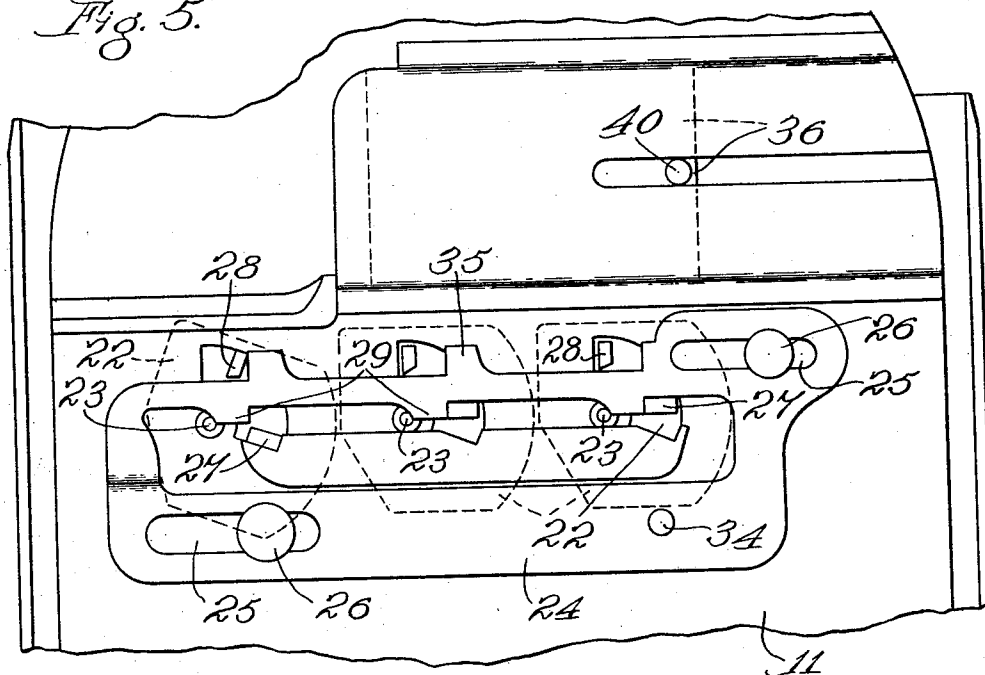


Fig. 6.

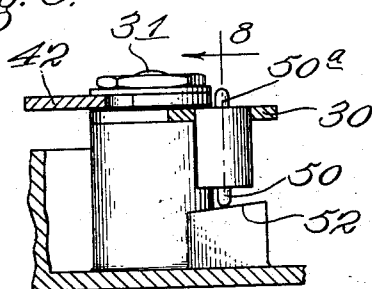


Fig. 7.

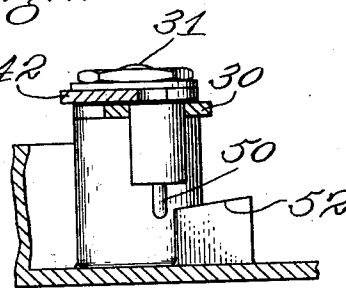
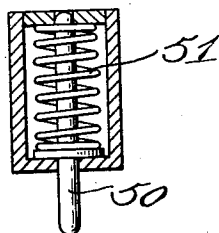


Fig. 8.



Inventor:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

LOUIS MYERS, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

GAME APPARATUS

Application filed September 25, 1931. Serial No. 565,167.

This invention relates to improvements in game apparatus and coin-controlled mechanism adapted for use in connection therewith.

Among the features of my invention is the provision of such apparatus and mechanism adapted for use in connection with slot-machines, vending machines, games of skill, and the like.

Although I have shown the game apparatus controlled by coin-operated mechanism, it is apparent that certain features thereof may be made manually operable without coin control; and that other forms of coin control may be substituted for that here shown.

Among the features of my invention is the provision of a device affording amusement and offering an opportunity for the exercise of dexterity and skill.

My device is so constructed that play may be continued until the object of the game is attained; when play cannot be resumed until a coin is deposited. It is so made, however, that if the game is not completed, the apparatus may be reset at any time for the commencement of a new game without the deposit of a coin.

Although I have here shown a device with certain features in connection with the object of the game, it is to be particularly noted that there may be wide departure and variation from the details thereof without departing from the spirit of the invention.

Other features and advantages of my invention will appear more fully as I proceed with my specification.

In that form of device embodying the features of my invention shown in the accompanying drawings—

Figure 1 is a view in front elevation; Fig. 2 is a view in side elevation; Fig. 3 is a view in rear elevation of the mechanism, showing the same removed from the casing; Fig. 4 is a similar view with some parts in altered positions; Fig. 5 is a similar fragmentary view on an enlarged scale; Fig. 6 is a view taken on the line 6 of Fig. 3; Fig. 7 is a view taken on line 7 of Fig. 4; and Fig. 8 is a view taken on the line 8 of Fig. 6.

As shown in the drawings, the device is housed in a suitable case 10, with a remov-

able front cover 11 to the rear side of which most of the mechanism is attached. The front of the cover contains a circular recess 12 covered by a piece of glass 13. In this recess are mounted a plurality of targets or objects 14 adapted to be hit by a shot or ball 15 projected upwardly by a spring-controlled finger 16 mounted on the rotatable shaft 17. The forward end of the shaft 17 extends through the front wall 11 and is equipped with the trigger 18. Numeral 19 indicates the spiral spring urging the finger 16 upwardly and 20 indicates a stop limiting its downward movement. A guide rail 21 directs the ball vertically upwardly until it engages the curved upper wall 12^a of the recess 12. The force with which the ball is shot can be varied by the degree of depression of the trigger 18 and the location of its fall thus modified. By the exercise of skill, the ball can be caused to fall on any one of the targets 14 which are here shown as small flat horizontally arranged pieces of metal.

As here shown, the targets 14 are mounted on discs 22 carried by short shafts 23 rotatably mounted in the plate 11. Obviously, the discs or targets may be suitably ornamented or decorated to suit the taste. For example, the discs are here shown as containing on their front faces pictures of chickens. This is purely for the purpose of illustration; as it is obvious that any form of decoration or ornamentation could be used. The targets 14 are movable from locking position to unlocking position, such movement being permitted by slight rotation of the shaft 23. As shown in Fig. 1, there are three targets, the two to the left being in locking position and the one at the extreme right being in depressed or unlocking position. It will be seen that when the ball or shot 15 is projected upwardly, it may be caused to fall on any one of the targets by adjusting the force with which it is shot. The targets being movable as above described, when one of them is hit by the shot, it will be depressed (as shown by the right-hand target in Fig. 1) and moved into unlocking position.

On the back of the plate 11 there is slidably mounted a movable member 24, here shown

as in the form of a bar. This bar is provided with slots 25, 25 embracing the pins 26, 26 in order to guide its sliding movement. The rear side of each disc 22 is provided with a locking lug 27 and a setting lug 28. The member 24 is provided with a shoulder 29 for each of the locking lugs 27, said shoulders adapted to engage the locking lugs when the targets are in locking position to hold the movable member 24 in set position. In Fig. 3, the movable member 24 is shown held in set position by the lug 27 on the middle target and also by the lug on the target to the right (as viewed in Fig. 3) which is obscured by one of the levers. The lug 27 on the disc 22 (to the left as viewed in Fig. 3) is shown in unlocking position, this being on the disc 22 (viewed at the extreme right in Fig. 1). In Fig. 3 the movable member 24 is shown in set position and in Fig. 4 it is shown in released position.

Means are provided for yieldingly urging the movable member 24 to released position. As here shown, such means include the resetting lever 30 pivoted at 31 and yieldingly urged to the right (as viewed in Figs. 3 and 4) by the spiral spring 32. This lever is provided with a slot 33 engaging the pin 34 in the movable member 24. The upper edge of the movable member 24 is provided with a projection 35 for each of the setting lugs 28 on the target devices. When the movable member 24 is moved to the left (as viewed in Figs. 3 and 4), the projections 35 engage the setting lugs 28 to restore all the targets to locking position, thus raising the lugs 27 so that they will engage the shoulders 29 and thus hold the member 24 in set position. It will be seen that any one of the lugs 27 will serve to hold the member 24 in set position; and that the same is not free to be moved to released position by the spring 32 until all of the targets have been depressed and all of the three locking lugs 27 consequently released from the shoulders 29. When this happens, the spring 32 operating through the lever 30 and the pin 34 will move the member 24 to released position.

Any visible means desired may be employed for indicating the movement of the member 24 from set to released position and vice versa. Purely for purposes of illustration, I have here shown another slidable member 36 connected to the member 24 by means of the link 37 pivoted on the pin 38. This link is provided with a hole engaging the pin 34 and its upper end is provided with a slot 39 embracing a pin 40 in back of the sliding member 36. As here shown, the front face of the sliding member 36, purely for the purpose of illustration, contains the representation of a cow 36^a appearing through a window 41 in the plate 11 when the member 24 is in set position. When this member moves to released position, the cow

36^a moves to the left (as viewed in Fig. 1) out of view.

Coin-controlled mechanism is employed for moving the lever 30 to reset the member 24. This includes a manually operable lever 42 mounted on the shaft 31, which extends forwardly through the casing and is provided with an operating handle 32. The upper ends of the levers 30 and 42 are bent over, as indicated by 30^a and 42^a to form projections extending through the slit 43 in the rear wall 44 of a coin slot 45. The lever 42 lies over the lever 30 and is somewhat longer so that if no coin is present, it can be swung back and forth freely and will completely clear the lever 30. Even the bent-over portion 42^a will clear the bent-over end 30^a of the lever 30 if no coin is present. When a coin 46, however, is placed in the coin slot 45, it will form a connecting bar or pusher between the two levers 42 and 30. That is, it will engage the bent-over end 30^a of the lever 30 and will be engaged by the bent-over end 42^a of the lever 42. With the coin in the position as shown in Fig. 4, therefore, movement of the lever 42 by the handle 32 will be transmitted to the lever 30 to reset the device. A shoulder 47 in the slit 43 limits the downward movement of the lever 42 and a shoulder 48 limits the upward movement of the lever 30. The coin slot 45 is open at the bottom 45^a to permit escape of the coin 46 after the device has been set. A spiral spring 49 serves to return the lever 42 to its normal position.

Means are provided for resetting one or two of the targets without a coin in the event that all three targets have not been struck and the member 24 not moved to released position. Such means include a pin 50 carried by the lever 30 and yieldingly urged outwardly by the spiral spring 51. When the lever 30 moves substantially to the limit of its downward movement, the lower end of the pin 50 rides up on the cam 52, thus projecting its upper end 50^a above the surface of lever 30 where it will be engaged by the lever 42. This pin, therefore, affords a connection between the two levers 42 and 30, permitting the targets to be reset in the event that all three have not been moved to unlocking position. When all three are released, then the bar 24 moves to released position and the pin 50 is permitted to be forced down so that the lever 42 will then clear the lever 30 until a new coin 46 is inserted.

While I have shown and described certain embodiments of my invention, it is to be understood that it is capable of many modifications. Changes, therefore, in the construction and arrangement may be made without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as disclosed in the appended claims, in which it is my intention to claim

all novelty inherent in my invention as broadly as permissible, in view of the prior art.

What I regard as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:

1. A device of the character described, including; a target movable from locking position to unlocking position; a shot; means for projecting the shot toward the target, said target adapted to be moved to unlocking position by impact of the shot; a member movable from set to released position; means yieldingly urging the movable member to released position; and a connection between the target and the movable member holding the latter in set position when the target is in locking position, said connection adapted to be released by movement of the target to unlocking position.

2. A device as claimed in claim 1, in which the target is carried by a rotatable member, said rotatable member having a part adapted to be engaged by a part on the movable member to move the target into locking position when the movable member is moved into set position.

3. A device as claimed in claim 1, including; a resetting lever connected to the movable member; a manually operable lever; a spring-pressed pin on the resetting lever normally urged to position to clear the manually operable lever; and a cam adapted to engage said pin near the end of the stroke of the resetting lever to move said pin into position to be engaged by the manually operable lever.

4. A device of the character described, including; a plurality of rotatable discs, each movable from locking position to unlocking position; a target on each disc; a shot; means for projecting the shot toward the targets, said targets adapted to move the discs to unlocking position when struck by the shot; a member movable from set to released position; means yieldingly urging the movable member to released position; co-operating parts on the discs and movable member adapted to hold the latter in set position when the discs are in locking position; and co-operating parts on the discs and movable member adapted to engage to move the discs to locking position when the movable member is moved to set position.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal, this 23d day of September, 1931.

LOUIS MYERS.