July 18, 1933. R. A. HENNINGS 1,918,749

GAME

Filed Oct. 13, 1931 4 Sheets-Sheet 1

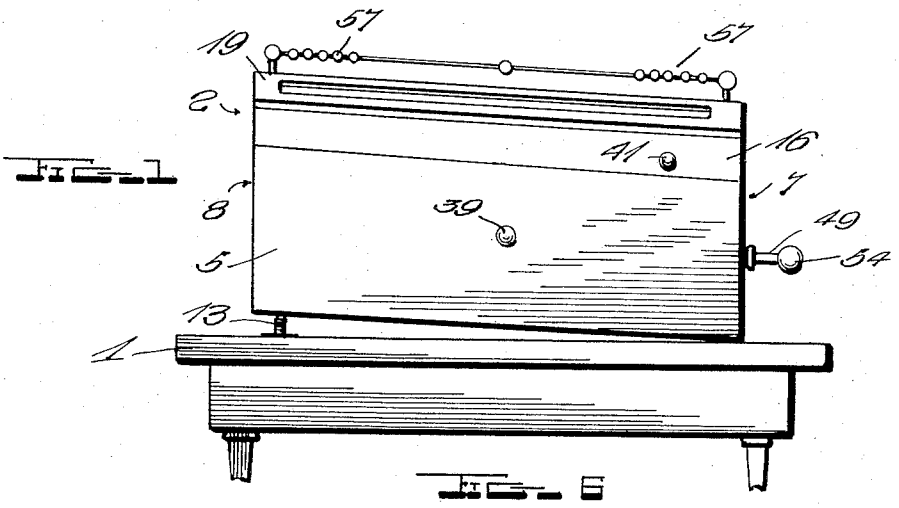


FIG. 1

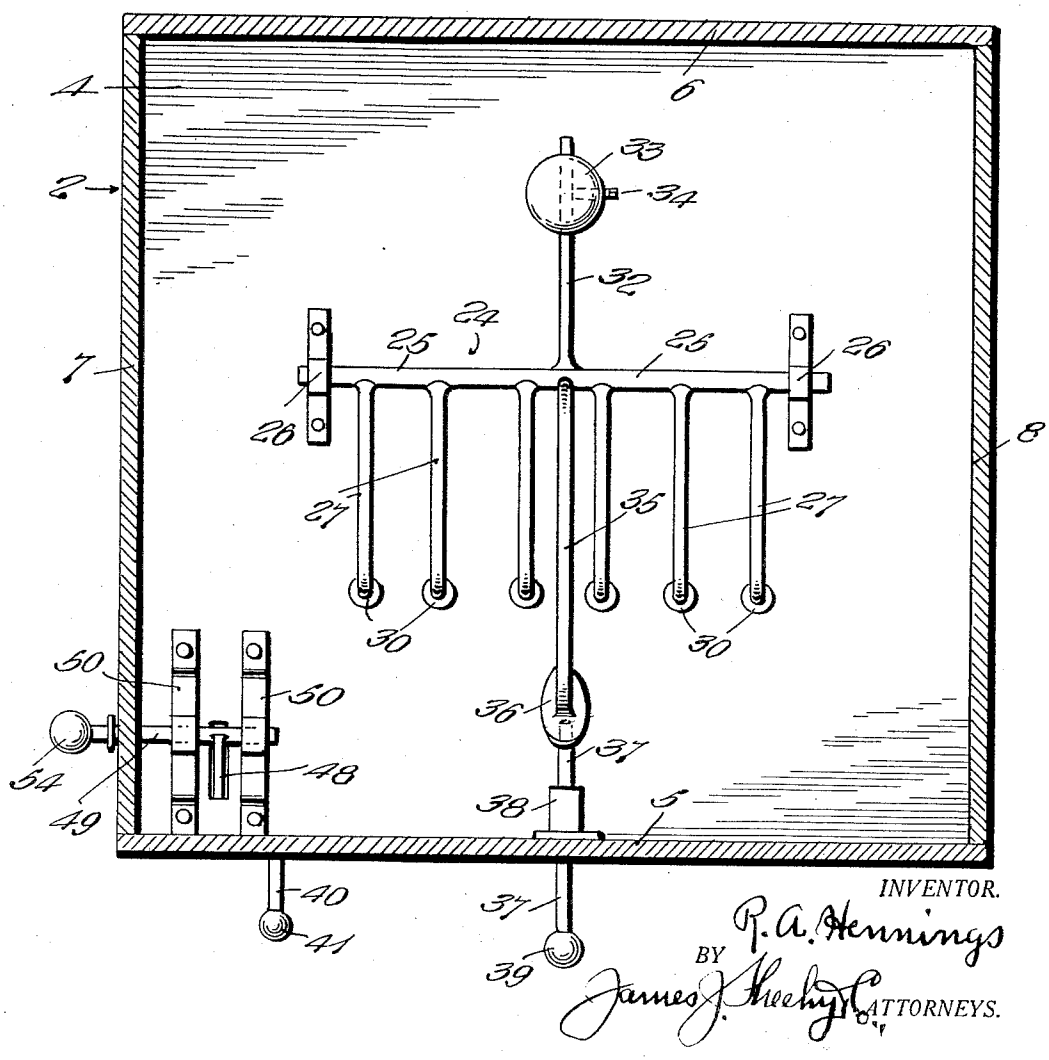


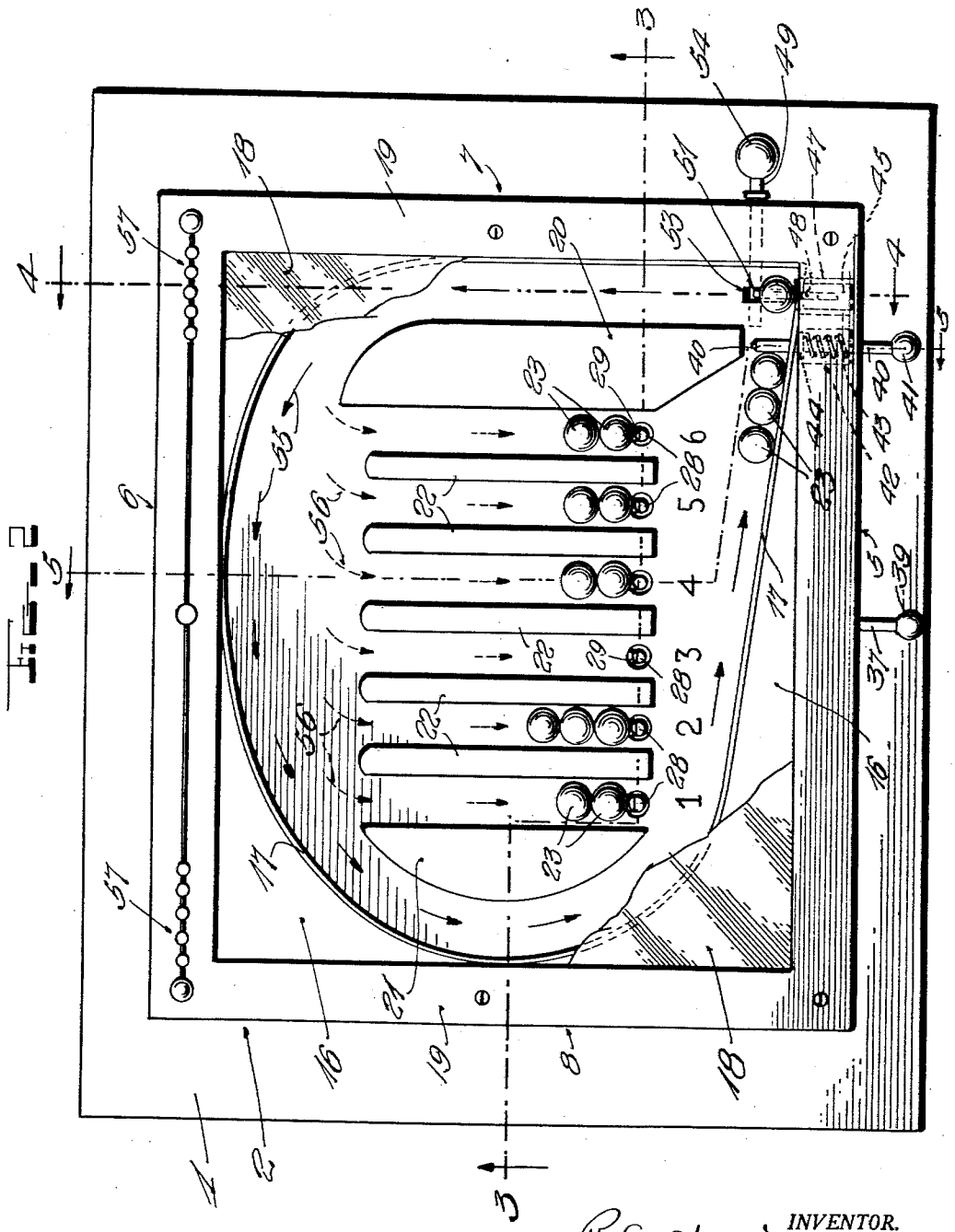
FIG. 6

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GAME

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July 18, 1933. R. A. HENNINGS 1,918,749

GAME

Filed Oct. 13, 1931 4 Sheets-Sheet 3

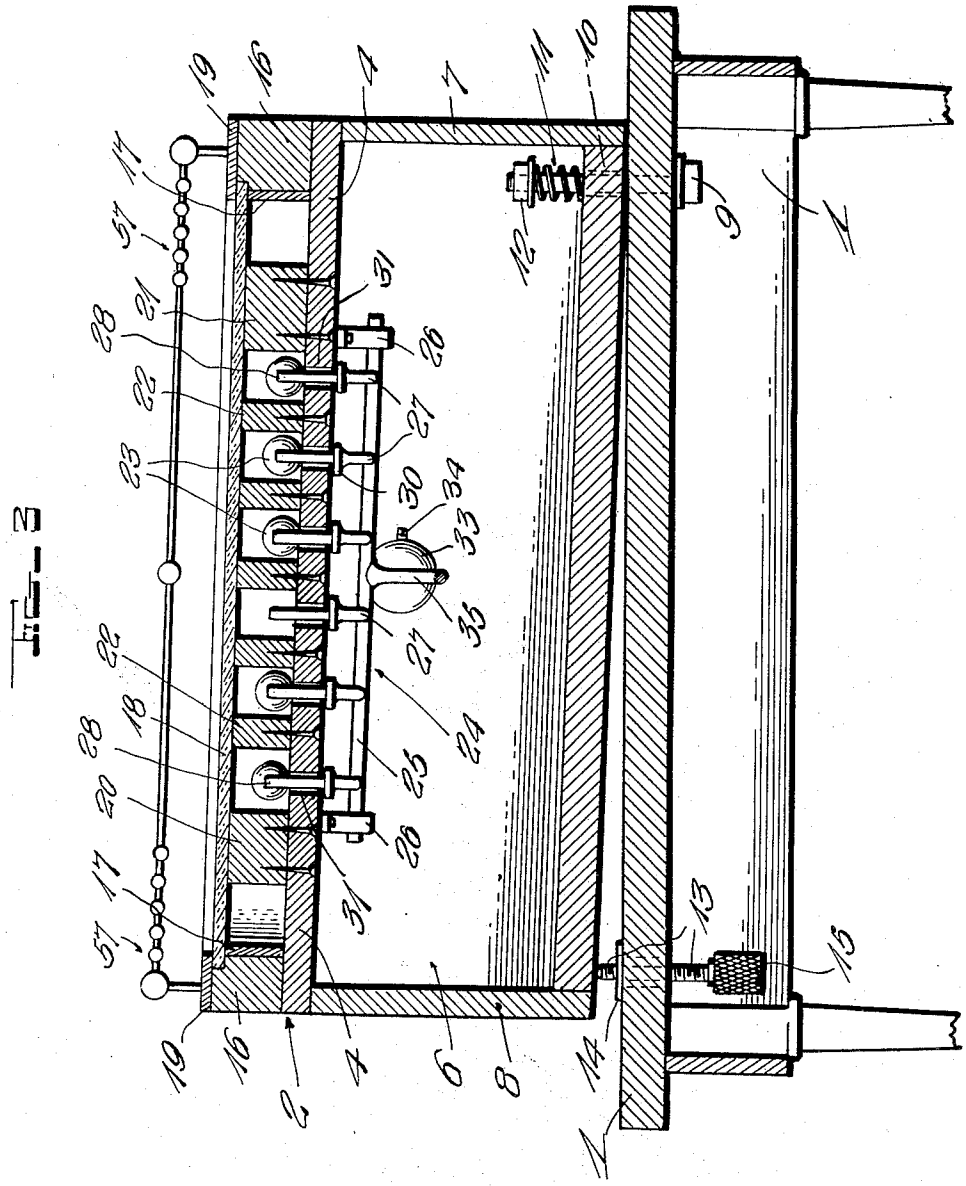


FIG. 2

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GAME

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FIG. 4

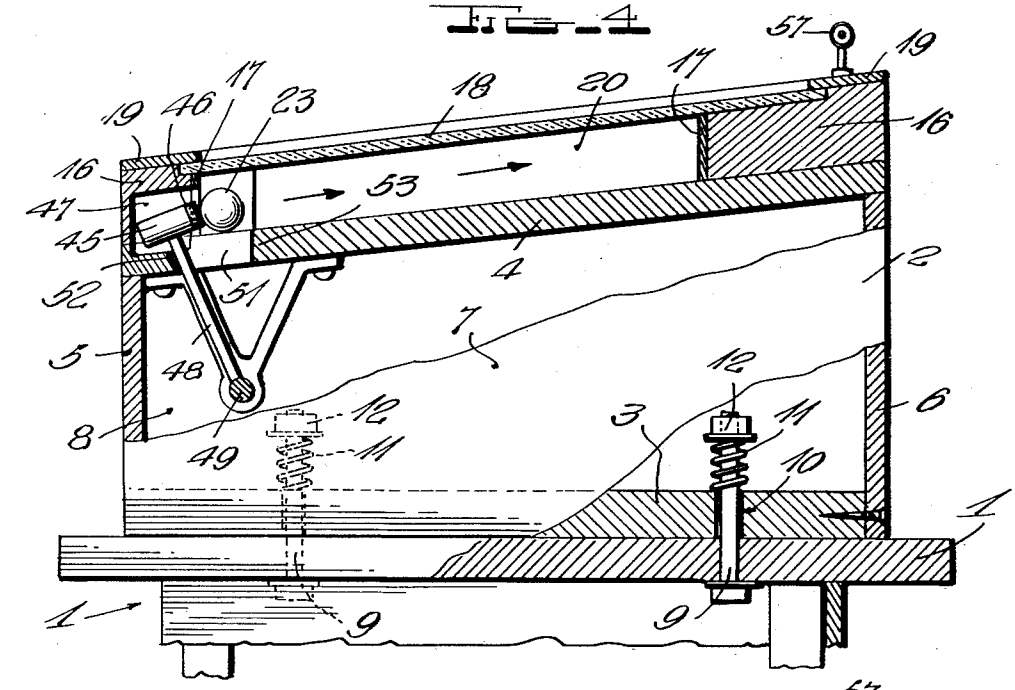
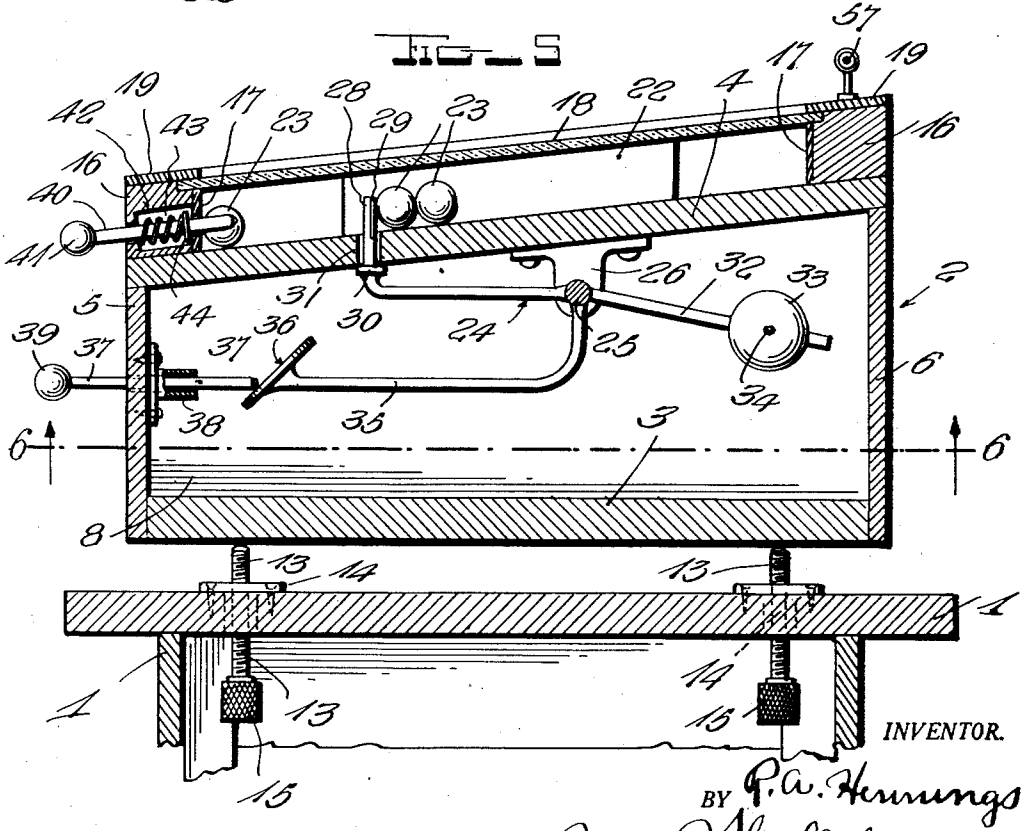


FIG. 5



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Patented July 18, 1933 1,918,749

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

RAYMOND A. HENNINGS, OF NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA

GAME

Application filed October 13, 1931. Serial No. 568,629.

My present invention pertains to games and it contemplates the provision of a device through the medium of which one or more persons may play a game in which balls are used and a mallet is employed to drive said balls into various compartments having different scoring or point values.

The invention further contemplates the provision of a device so constructed and arranged that skill is required in driving the balls into the compartments having the highest point value due to the inclination of the table.

Other objects of the invention will be fully understood from the following description and claims when the same are read in connection with the drawings accompanying and forming part of this specification, in which

Figure 1 is a side elevation of this device.

Figure 2 is a top plan view, partly in section and partly in elevation, looking down into my novel game.

Figure 3 is a sectional view taken in the plane indicated by the lines 3—3 of Figure 2 and looking in the direction of the arrows.

Figures 4 and 5 are sectional views taken in the planes indicated by the lines 5—5 and 4—4 of Figure 2.

Figure 6 is a horizontal sectional view taken in the plane indicated by the line 6—6 of Figure 5, and looking in the direction of the arrows.

Similar numerals of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the views of the drawings.

My novel device indicated as a whole by 2 is preferably secured on a table, counter or platform 1, and the said device comprises a bottom 3, a top 4 that is inclined as illustrated, a front wall 5, a back wall 6 and side walls 7 and 8. The said bottom wall 3 is secured to the table or counter 1 by means of bolts 9 that pass through the slots 10 of the bottom wall 3 and surrounding the bolts 10 are springs 11 that are adapted to be placed under pressure by means of the washer-backed nuts 12. This construction permits adjustment of my novel device to various thicknesses of counters, platforms and the like. These bolts 9 secure the device at the back thereof while at the front I provide the threaded bolts 13 that pass through a threaded plate 14 that in turn is secured to the platform 1 and these bolts 13 are provided with knurled ends 15 and the purpose of said bolts is to give an incline to the casing or member 2 as a whole. Manifestly incline of the platform or wall 4 and the adjustment of the bolts 13 gives more or less of a difficult angle of position of the table or ball-race of the device. Mounted on the inclined wall 4 is the top 16 and arranged in this top 16 is a confining partially circular track 17 while arranged on the playing surface adjacent the track 17 is a fine grade of billiard cloth unnumbered and manifestly this cloth is provided on the upper face of the upper wall 4. Secured on the top 16 is a frame 19 that receives a heavy glass 18 so that access to the balls is precluded.

Arranged on the wall 4 are obstacles 20 and 21 and equi-distantly spaced between these obstacles are partitions 22 that form the passage to the pockets numbered 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6. Manifestly the driving of a ball into the pockets away from pocket 6 is fraught with more difficulty the further the player attempts to drive said ball and consequently a ball driven into pocket 1 has a greater counting value than one driven into pocket 2 and 2 a greater value than 3 et cetera.

Mounted beneath or to the under side of the wall 4 is a device indicated as a whole by 24 and it comprises a shaft 25 fulcrumed in the brackets 26 and the said shaft 25 is provided with arms 27 having stop collars 30 and these arms 27 terminate in upstanding portions 28 that are leather faced at 29 and normally rest in the position as shown in Figure 5 to prevent the balls 23 from dropping into the ball-race 17. The upstanding portions 28 pass through a slot 31 and secured in the center of the shaft 25 is an arm 32 having a weight 33 that is adjustable at 34. The shaft 25 is further provided with a forwardly reaching arm 35 having the integral disk 36 that is adapted to engage a plunger 37 that passes through a collar 38 mounted on the wall 5 of the device 2. This plunger 37 is provided exte-

riorly of the wall 5 with a knob 39. When it is desired to drop the balls in any of the pockets through the ball-race 17 it is merely necessary to push the plunger inwardly which will cause the shaft 25 to rotate thereby moving the arm 24 and abutments 28 downwardly. This drops the balls into the ball-race. Mounted above the plunger 37 is a stop plunger 40 having the knob 41 that passes through a casing 42 provided with an opening 43 and the said plunger 40 is provided with a return spring of quick action construction indicated by 44. This plunger 40 when pulled outwardly permits a ball to pass into the shooting position illustrated and the spring immediately returns the plunger or stop 40 to its normal position to prevent escape of a succeeding ball into the shooting position, hence only one ball will be in a shooting position at any one time. Arranged adjacent the stop plunger 40 and immediately to the right in the wall 7 of the device 2 is a mallet 45 having a cue tip 46 and the said mallet travels in a slot or recess 47 and secured to the mallet head 45 is an arm 48 actuable by the lever 49 that is fulcrumed in the brackets 50. In order to hold the ball to be shot in position to engage the mallet I provide a slot 51 having the faces 52 and 53. The compartment or slot 47 receives the mallet 45 while the recess or slot 51 acts as a guide for the ball and also a guide for the lever 48 of the mallet. The leather lining at 52 and 53 is to prevent injuries to the ball and at the same time to deaden the sound. The said shaft 49 is provided with a hand knob 54. Manifestly manipulation of the knob 54 will actuate the mallet to drive the ball to take the direction indicated by arrows 55 or 56 according to the skill of the player. The counting string 57 may be mounted at any convenient point desired.

In the operation of the device, the player manipulates the knob 39 to drop the balls from the pockets to the ball race where the stop plunger 40 prevents the balls from entering the shooting position. Pulling the lever 41 causes one ball at a time to drop to the shooting position. The handle or knob 54 is then manipulated to cause the mallet to drive the balls into some of the compartments where a certain value is accorded the player depending upon the pocket or compartment in which the ball lands. Anyone realizes that it is more difficult because of the angle of the device to drive the balls into the lower numbered compartments than to the higher numbered compartments because the over application of the mallet to the balls is fraught with the possibility of driving the balls so far that no point value accrues to the player.

What I claim:—

1. A game comprising a casing having an inclined upper wall, obstacles arranged in the upper wall, partitions formed in the upper wall between the obstacles whereby compartments are formed, a cover spaced from the upper wall, means for normally holding miniature balls in the compartments and comprising a shaft fulcrumed to the under side of the upper wall, arms mounted on the shaft; said arms having upstanding portions that pass through the wall to engage the balls, an arm extending rearwardly from the shaft and having an adjustable weight thereon, a comparatively large arm forwardly reaching from the shaft and having a disk mounted on its free end, a plunger normally engaging the disk to hold the upstanding portions of the first arms of the shaft upwardly; said plunger being adapted on inward movement to force the disk downwardly to move the upstanding portions downwardly to release the balls from the compartments, a stop plunger projecting into the path of the balls and when actuated adapted to permit but one ball to move downwardly at a time, a shooting chamber provided with a recess into which the stop plunger permits one of the balls to pass, a mallet having an arm, a shaft secured to the arm and a handle secured to the shaft whereby rotary movement of the handle will cause the mallet to drive the ball out of the recess of the shooting compartments.

2. In a game apparatus a casing having a top wall provided with a ball runway compartment and having an opening at the end of said compartment, a shaft pivoted under the top wall, an arm carried by said shaft and having an end portion passing through said opening, a second arm carried by said shaft, a weight mounted upon said second arm, a third arm carried by said shaft and extending substantially in the same general direction as the first mentioned arm, an inclined disk carried at the free end of the third mentioned arm and a plunger rod slidable through the side of the casing and having an end adapted to ride upon the surface of said disk and depress the third mentioned arm, turn the shaft and withdraw the end portion of the first mentioned arm from the ball runway compartment.

RAYMOND A. HENNINGS.