Aug. 11, 1959 H. CARTER 2,899,206

GAME

Filed Sept. 9, 1957

FIG. 1

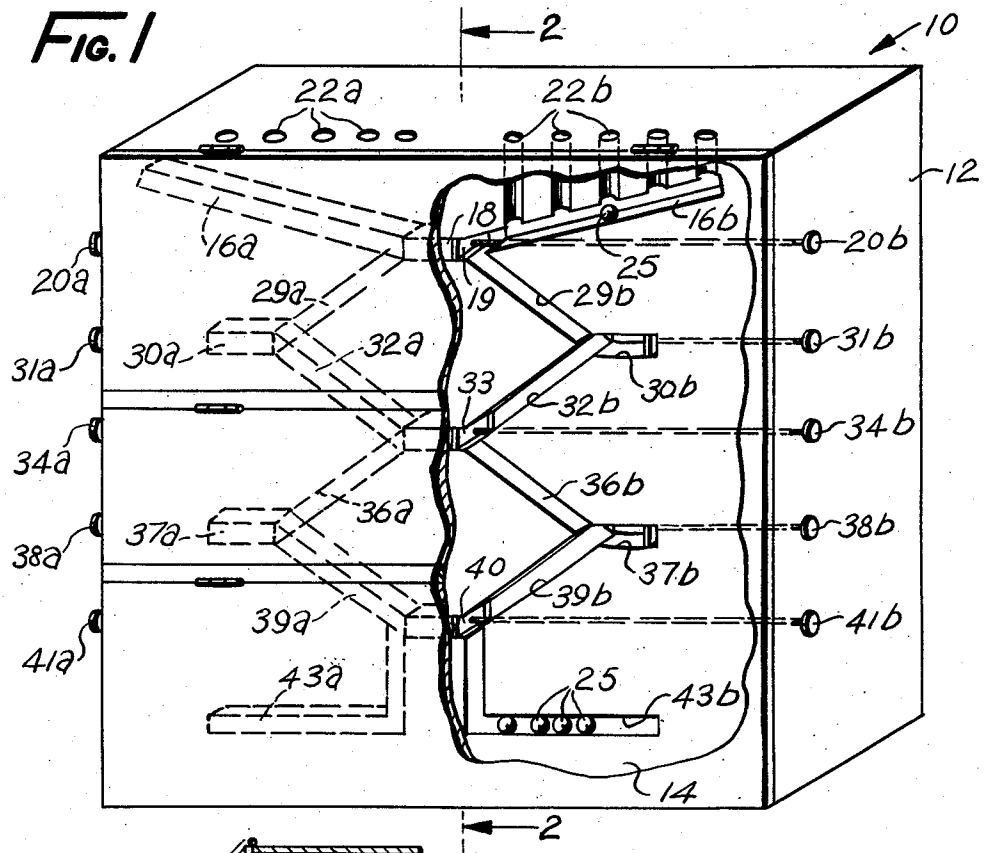
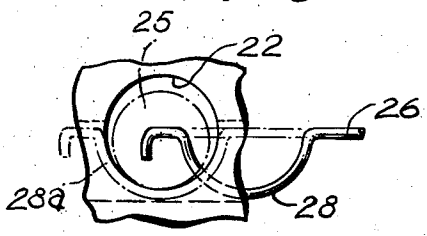


FIG. 2

FIG. 3



INVENTOR.

HAROLD CARTER

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2,899,206

GAME

Harold Carter, Melvindale, Mich.

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1 Claim. (Cl. 273—120)

This invention relates to amusement devices and more particularly to a game for children and adults.

It is an object of the present invention to provide an animated game which offers a challenge to both chance and skill in which each of two players attempts to attain a higher score than the other.

Another object of the present invention is to provide a game of the above type in which the final score is not determined until the end of the game, at which time the position of each of the score indicating members may be visually observed by both players at the same time so that the scoring of the game is not known to either of the players during the progress of the match.

Other objects of the invention are to provide a game bearing the above objects in mind which is of simple construction, has a minimum number of parts, is inexpensive to manufacture and efficient in operation.

For other objects and for a better understanding of the invention, reference may be had to the following detailed description taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawing, in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a game made in accordance with the present invention, with parts broken away to show details of construction;

Figure 2 is a transverse cross sectional view taken along line 2—2 of Figure 1; and

Figure 3 is an enlarged cross sectional view showing certain operating parts of the present invention.

Referring now more in detail to the drawing, a game **10** made in accordance with the present invention is shown to include a cubical housing **12** having a vertical wall member **14** at one side thereof. This wall member **14** is provided with a plurality of holes and channels that communicate with each other and direct the moving parts of the game into scoring positions. A primary pair of downwardly and inwardly converging channels **16***a*, *b* intersect at a central location to define a pocket **18** that has a closure member **19** which may be operated from either side of the housing **12** by the opposing players by means of push rods **20***a*, *b*. Vertically extending bores **22***a*, *b* overlie these primary channels **16***a*, *b*, each of these holes releasably supporting a ball **25** therein of a predetermined color or color combination. A plunger member **26** having a bail member **28** at its inner end extends transversely across the housing **12** into communication with each one of the holes **22***a*, *b*. A spring **27** normally urges the plunger **26** in an outward direction, in which position the bail member **28** blocks the downward movement of the ball **25**, whereupon inward movement of the plunger **26** against the action of the spring **27** is operative to displace the bail member to an adjusted position **28***a*, so as to permit the associated ball **25** to fall downwardly into the primary channel **16***a*, *b* at the respective side of the housing. A pair of downwardly and outwardly diverging secondary channels **29***a*, *b* extend from the pocket **18** to separate side pockets **30***a*, *b*, which pockets are controlled by push rods **31***a*, *b* at the opposite playing sides of the device. A pair of third channels **32***a*, *b* extend downwardly and inwardly toward a second center pocket **33** which is controlled by push rods **34***a*, *b*. Fourth channels **36***a*, *b* extend downwardly and outwardly from the second center pocket **33** and terminate in second side pockets **37***a*, *b* which are controlled by similar push rods **38***a*, *b*. Fifth channels **39***a*, *b* extend downwardly

and inwardly toward a third center pocket **40** which is controlled by associated push rods **41***a*, *b*. Finally, a pair of final score grooves **43***a*, *b* are in communication with the third center pocket **40** for receiving the balls **25** from either side of the unit.

In playing the game, the balls are released by depressing the plunger **26** associated with each one of the holes **22***a*, *b*. The first player on the left side releases the button and after the ball released thereby has become arrested in one of the pockets or in the final score channel, the other player from the right releases a ball, in turn. Each player tries to control the pockets through the use of the respective plungers so as to trap the falling balls in one of the pockets and thus impede its travel downwardly to the final score channel. The score of each ball is not known to either of the players until the game has been concluded, at which time the hingedly mounted doors **45**, **46**, **47**, on the outside of the vertical wall **14** are rotated to a raised position **45***a*, **46***a*, **47***a*, to reveal the position of each of the ball members in the pockets and the final score channel **43***a*, *b*. These doors also facilitate the removal of the balls from the respective pockets and channels for the next play in a simple and efficient manner.

It will be recognized that all of the balls may be of different or similar colors, whereby different score bonuses may be attached thereto. Similarly, each of the pockets and final score channels may be awarded different scores depending upon the difficulty in reaching each of those positions. Therefore, without going into detail insofar as the particular coloring and scoring arrangement which may be used, it will be evident that various types of competition and scoring arrangements can be allocated, as may be desired to suit the particular playing rules of the game.

While various changes may be made in the detail construction, it shall be understood that such changes shall be within the spirit and scope of the present invention as defined by the appended claim.

What I claim as new and desire to protect by Letters Patent of the United States is:

A game comprising, in combination, a housing including a vertical wall member, said vertical wall member defining a pair of downwardly and inwardly converging primary channels, a plurality of vertical bores overlying each of said channels, a ball member rollably supported within each one of said bores, means for releasably supporting each of said ball members in spaced relationship above said respective primary channels, a center pocket at the point of intersection of said primary channels, a gate in said center pocket, means at each side of said housing independently controlling said gate, a pair of outwardly diverging channels extending downwardly from said center pocket, a side pocket at the outermost extremity of each of said outwardly diverging channels, a gate in each of said side pockets, means at each side of said housing independently controlling said side pocket gates, a pair of final score channels beneath said pockets for receiving all of said balls to indicate the score of each player, and manually operable cover means for selectively covering all of said pockets and said channels, removal of said cover means providing access to said pockets and channels to tabulate the score of all of said balls in said pockets and said channels and to permit the removal thereof for the next game.

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