No. 840,144.

PATENTED JAN. 1, 1907.

L. B. LINCOLN.

PUZZLE.

APPLICATION FILED NOV. 6, 1905.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

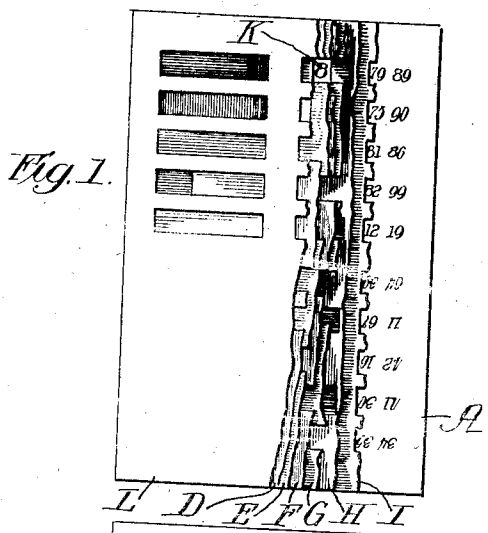


Fig. 1.

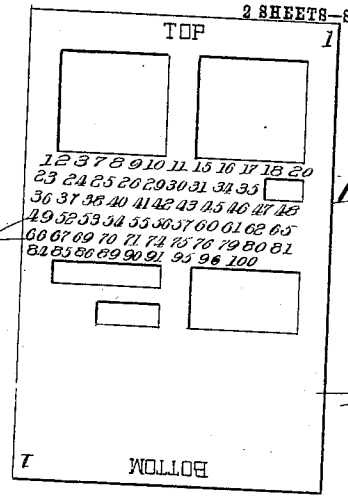


Fig. 2.

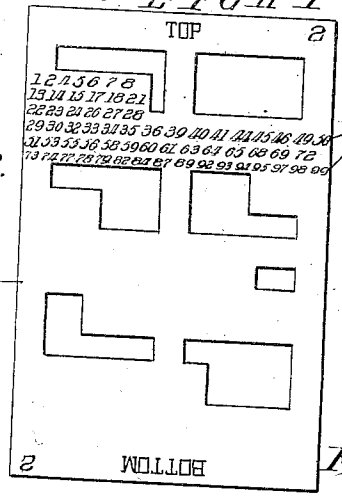


Fig. 3.

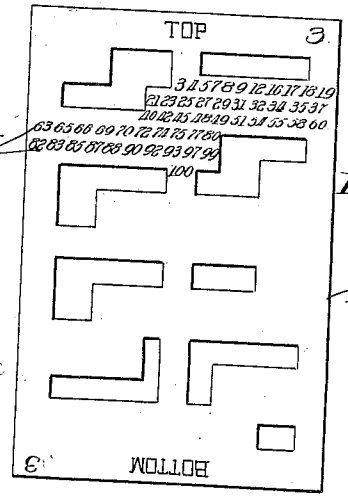
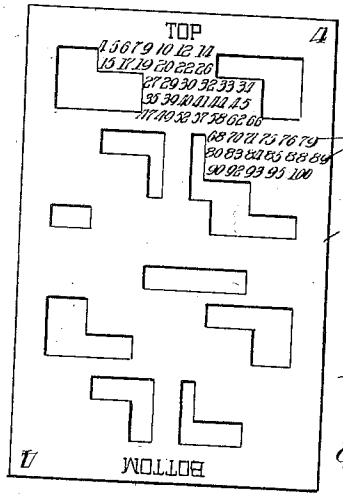


Fig. 4.

Fig. 5.



Witnesses:
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H. G. Barrett.

Inventor:
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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

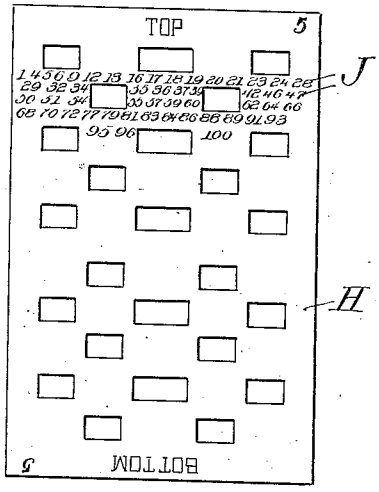


Fig. 6.

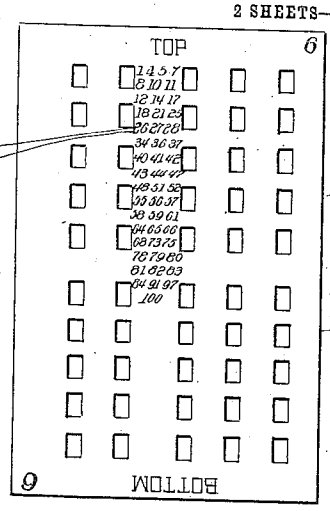


Fig. 7.

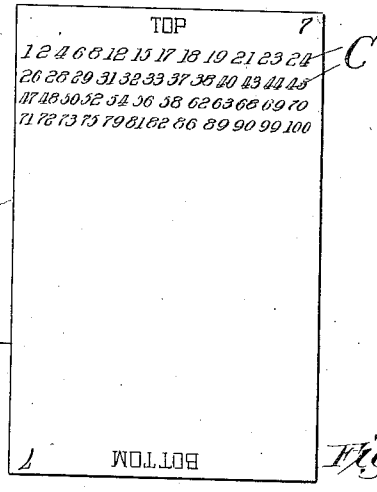


Fig. 8.

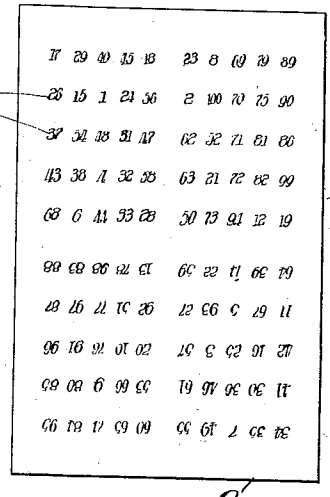
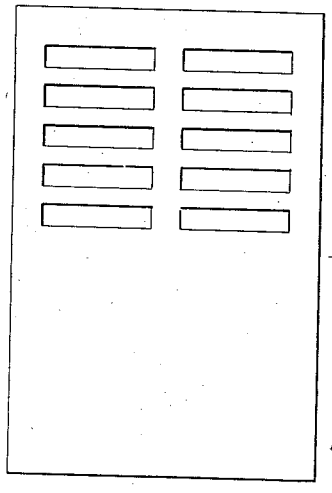


Fig. 9.

Fig. 10.



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Inventor:
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Atty

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LEO BUNSEL LINCOLN, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNOR TO HOWARD AMES, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

PUZZLE.

No. 840,144. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Jan. 1, 1907.

Application filed November 6, 1905. Serial No. 286,032.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LEO BUNSEL LINCOLN, of Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Puzzles; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to a novel puzzle; and the invention consists in the matters hereinafter set forth, and more particularly pointed out in the appended claim.

The puzzle consists of a plurality of cards, one of which, called the "base-card," bears on its front face all of the numbers of a series between and including two selected numbers—as, for example, from "1" to "100," both inclusive—and the others of which are adapted to be laid flat upon said numbered or base card and are perforated or cut away in such manner that certain of the perforations of each of the cards register with other perforations of the other cards to provide an opening through all the superposed cards, through which is disclosed one of the numbers on the base-card. The said numbers are arranged one-half on the upper part of the base-card and one-half on the lower part thereof, and the numbers of the group on one end or half of the card are inverted relatively to the numbers of the other group. The cards are marked with suitable characters to indicate the tops and bottoms thereof. The perforations of each perforated card are so arranged that when the card is laid over the base or numbered card one-half of the numbers thereon are exposed, while one-half are concealed. The arrangement of each perforated card is such also that when the card is reversed end to end it exposes the numbers before concealed, while concealing the numbers before exposed. Each of the cards, the base-card as well as the perforated cards, bears (preferably on its back) a series of numbers, which are composed from the numbers appearing on the face of the base-card in the manner hereinafter more fully to appear. The scheme of the puzzle is to select a number from a group on the back of one of the cards and to arrange all of the cards on the back of which said number is found with their tops upwardly, while the cards which do not bear such selected number on the back thereof will be arranged with their bottoms upwardly, said cards being laid flatwise in superposed position over the base-card. When so arranged, the number so selected will be exposed through the properly-registering perforations of the perforated cards, while the other numbers on the base-card will be concealed by the imperforate parts of the superposed cards.

In the cards I have shown an equipment consisting of a base-card, six perforated cards, and one title-card, and this number of cards is convenient in the range of numbers illustrated—to wit., from "1" to "100," both inclusive.

As shown in the drawings, Figure 1 illustrates a pack of cards constituting a proper equipment for the puzzle, the upper or perforated cards being partially broken away to exhibit a portion of the base-card underneath. Figs. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7 are rear face views of the perforated cards numbered from "1" to "6," both inclusive. Fig. 8 is a rear face view of the base-card, which is numbered as "7." Fig. 9 is a front face view of said card. Fig. 10 is a front face view of the title-card.

As shown in the drawings, A designates the base or number card, provided on its front face with a complete series B of numbers running from "1" to "100," inclusive, in irregular order, and on its other side with a series C of numbers embracing certain but less than all the number in the series B. It will be noted that the one hundred numbers on the face of said card A are arranged one-half on one end of the card and one-half on the other end of the card and, further, that the numbers of one half of the series are inverted relatively to the numbers of the other half of the series.

D, E, F, G, H, and I designate the perforated cards, which are also identified by the numbers "1," "2," "3," "4," "5," and "6." The said perforated cards each bears on its rear face a series J of numbers differing from the numbers of the series J of the other perforated cards and differing also from the series C of the base-card A. In other words, the numbers of the several series J and C are so arranged that while taken as a whole they

embrace all the numbers on the base-card, yet no two groups or series comprise the same numbers. The said perforated cards are divided into upper and lower parts to correspond with the upper and lower halves of the base-card A, and the perforations of each card are such that when the card is laid in one endwise position over the series B of numbers on the base-card there are exposed through the perforations thereof one-half of the numbers on said base-card, and the same numbers of the series B are concealed by the imperforate portion of said perforated card when the latter is reversed endwise of said base-card. The numbers on the back of the base-card are those which appear on upper part of the front face of the said base-card, said numbers appearing on the back of said base-card in their running order. The numbers appearing on the back of each perforated card are those which are exposed through the perforations of the upper end of that card when said card is laid on the base-card with its top end upward, together with the numbers on the bottom end of the base-card which are concealed by the imperforate part of said perforated card. When the cards are manipulated in the manner described and are disposed one upon the other, the number selected will appear in the upper half of the series, as shown at K in Fig. 1, while the other numbers of the upper half of said series will be concealed.

A convenient manner of manipulating the cards to solve the puzzle is for one person to select a number from the series on the back of one of the cards, which number may represent the age of the person so selecting the number, while another person handles the cards. The card from which the number was so selected is laid flat upon a table or the like, and another card is presented and the person selecting the first number is asked whether or not the number selected appears upon the card last presented. If he answers in the affirmative, the last card is placed upon the first card with its top end upward. If the answer be in the negative, the card last presented is reversed to bring its bottom end upward. This procedure is followed with all the cards, and when the last card is laid in place upon the other cards the perforations of the several perforated cards will register in such manner as to expose the number selected on the base-card.

L designates a title-card which is imperforate at its lower end and transversely slotted at its upper end to expose any number on the upper end of the base-card. Said card L does not constitute one of the operative cards of the puzzle, but is merely provided to give finish and to provide space for instructions or for other announcement, as advertising.

In manipulating the cards to solve the puzzle the title-card may conveniently be first placed face downwardly on a table or the like. A number is selected from the series of numbers on the back of card No. 1, and it is laid face downwardly upon the title-card L. Thereafter the other cards are in like manner and conveniently in their order laid upon card No. 1 and each other, the endwise disposition of each card depending upon whether or not the selected number appears upon the series on the back thereof. The base-card is placed last upon the pile of cards under the same conditions as are the perforated cards. The pile of cards are then lifted and turned with the face of the title and toward the observer, and the selected number will appear through the properly-registering perforations of said perforated cards.

It will be understood that the arrangement of the series of numbers on the cards, as well as the location and form of the perforations of the perforated cards, may be varied without departing from the spirit of my invention.

I claim as my invention—

In a game device, a plurality of sheets adapted to be superposed and consisting of a single sheet having thereon a symbol for every symbol entering into the game, and a plurality of perforated eliminating-sheets, each of which has upon one side only thereof, selecting symbols corresponding to some of the symbols on the base-sheet and a marker or markers, the base-sheet and the perforated eliminating-sheets being arranged so when superposed and arranged according to the markers appearing on the several eliminating-sheets, any selected symbol entering into the game will be exhibited through the perforations in the eliminating-sheets and all other symbols eliminated.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my invention I affix my signature, in presence of two witnesses, this 3d day of November, A. D. 1905.

LEO BUNSEL LINCOLN.

Witnesses:
G. R. WILKINS,
W. L. HALL.