March 15, 1938. E. M. SQUIRES 2,111,339

GAME

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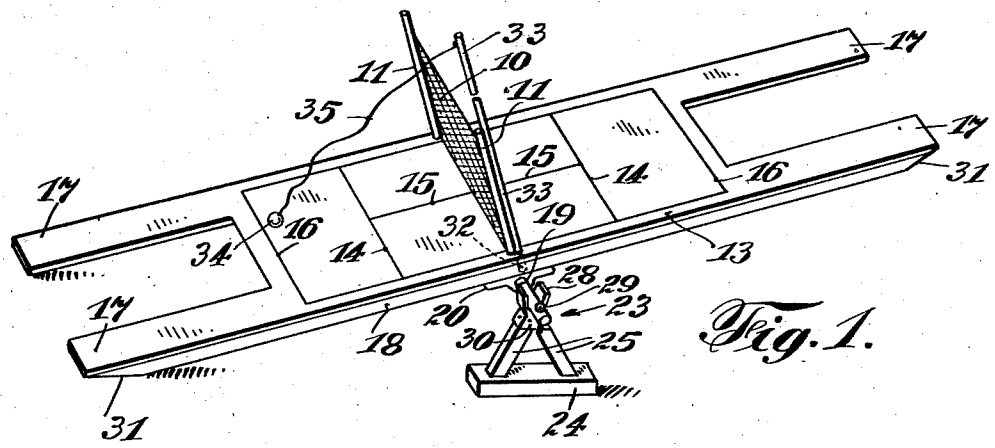


Fig. 1.

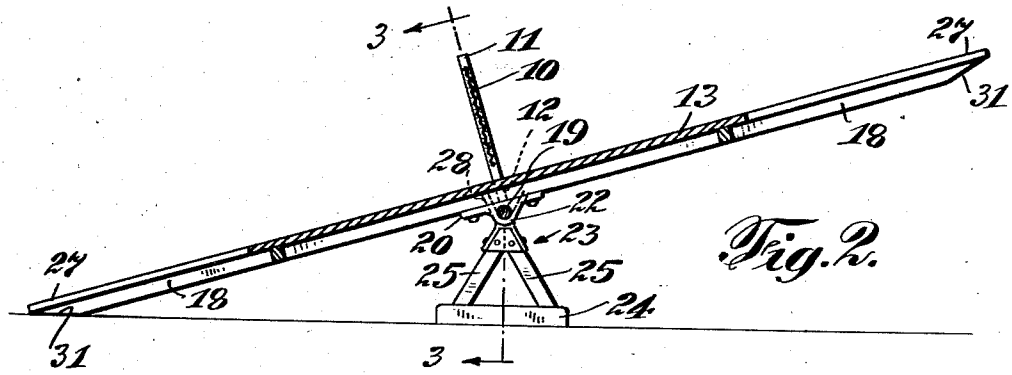


Fig. 2.

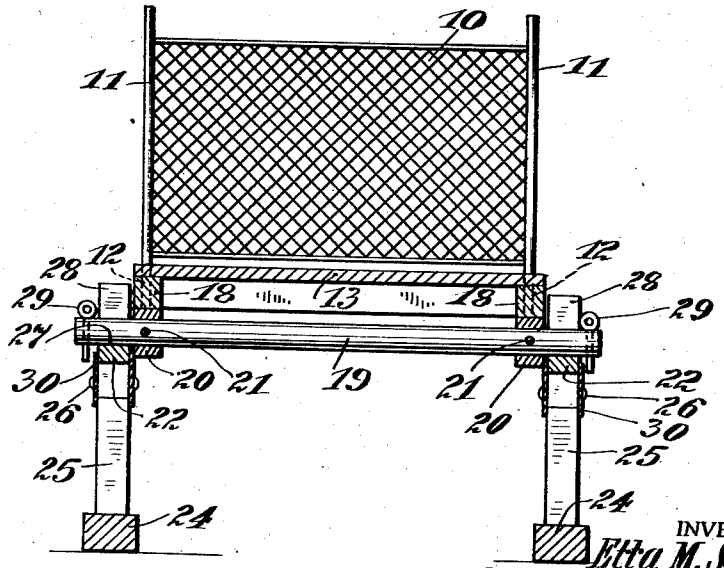


Fig. 3.

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GAME

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6 Claims. (Cl. 273—30)

This invention relates to games in which one element is mounted on a seesaw, and is here illustrated as a game of table tennis in which the top surface of the seesaw serves as the field or court of the tennis game, and the net swings or teeters with the seesaw.

A new element of uncertainty is introduced into table tennis or other ball games played upon a seesaw, by the teetering of any element which teeters with the seesaw. This added uncertainty requires a new kind of skill to overcome it, or makes the game more and more a game of chance and less a game of skill, thus making a new game.

The game shown is played by two, three or four persons who may be seated upon the seesaw so that at least one person is going up while another is going down, though the game is susceptible of being played by persons standing upon the ground while the seesaw teeters up and down carrying up and down or back and forth the game element which is fixed to it, the net in form shown.

The uncertainty is added to make the new game one particularly suited for children who are always seeking something new.

In the forms shown the seesaw includes two separate standards each carrying a bearing, and a board or plank carrying a shaft adapted to rest in the bearings.

The board may be provided with narrow extensions beyond the ends of the court on the board forming convent seats.

The game is well adapted to be kept in a game room with the board or plank lifted off its bearings and set on end against a wall, with the posts also set against the wall. Moreover the posts holding the net may be lifted out of the holes which normally hold them so that the whole game device is normally out of the way but easily set up on the game room floor.

Other features and advantages will hereinafter appear.

In the accompanying drawing Figure 1 is a perspective view of a device embodying one form of the invention.

Figure 2 is a sectional side view of the same.

Figure 3 is an end view with the board or plank level.

In the form shown a table-tennis net conventionally shown at 10 is stretched between posts 11 which fit closely but easily in holes 12 at opposite edges of a board or plank 13, so they may be lifted out and the net 10 rolled up.

The upper face of the plank 13 is shown as serving for the court or field or game floor for a game of table tennis, being provided with the usual line markings 14, 15, 16.

To play this or any other game the players may be seated upon extensions 17 of the plank 13. The extensions 17 are here shown as relatively narrow, so that a player may sit astride of an extension at one side or the other of the plank, or sit sideways upon it with the feet dangling between the extensions, 17.

To enable a relatively light plank 13 to serve the purpose the plank may be stiffened by relatively thin longitudinal planks or girders 18 on edge, one suitably fastened near each edge to the underside of the plank 13 and extending out to near the end of the extensions 17.

The plank 13 is shown as provided with a transverse shaft 19, mounted on hangers 20 which are shown as fastened to the bottom edges of the longitudinal planks 18, so that the plank usually balances on the shaft, at the holes 12.

The shaft 19 is shown as fixed in the hangers 20 by transverse pins 21 and as extending beyond the edges of the plank 13 so that its ends rest in journal members 22 on the upper ends of supporting horses 23, with the result that the plank 13 forms a seesaw turning on the horses 23.

For compactness and solidity the horses 23 are formed with relatively broad bases 24 from which rise timbers 25 forming an inverted V, the journal members 22 forming the apexes of the V's, and being held by transverse and longitudinal bolts 26 to the timbers 25.

For simplicity the journal members provide a bearing 27 between upstanding arms 28, and the horses 23 are prevented from working lengthwise of the shaft 19 by cotter pins 29 passing through the shaft and long enough to lie adjacent the vertical faces 30 of the bearing members 22, thus confining the play of the horses between the hangers 20 and the pins 29.

The ends of the vertical planks 18 are shown as cut off at their ends 31 on a slant so that they do not limit the rocking of the seesaw 13. Thus the full teetering of the plank 13 is utilized to increase the interest of a game such as the table tennis illustrated.

The plank 13 may also be provided with an opening 32 near one of the post holes 12, to removably hold an upstanding post 33 to which the ball 34 for playing any game is tethered by a highly flexible string 35.

Thus, given a string 35 of suitable length, table tennis may be played with the tethered ball 34, or another game may be played with the tethered ball after removing the posts 11 and net 10.

Having thus described certain embodiments of the invention, what is claimed is:

1. A game floor balanced as a seesaw carrying upstanding posts at the point about which it seesaws while playing the game, and a net stretched between the posts.

2. A game floor balanced as a seesaw, carrying an upstanding game element at the point about which it balances while playing the game, and extensions of the floor forming seats upon which players of the game may sit and teeter up and down with the floor while playing the game.

3. A game floor balanced as a seesaw carrying upstanding posts at the point about which it seesaws while playing the game, a net stretched between the posts, and extensions of the floor forming seats upon which players of the game may sit and teeter up and down with the floor while playing the game.

4. A game floor balanced as a seesaw carrying upstanding posts at the point about which it seesaws while playing the game, a net stretched between the posts, and extensions at each side of each end of the floor forming seats upon which players of the game may sit and teeter up and down with the floor while playing the game.

5. A balanced game floor having an opening to receive a post, a post removably fitting the opening, hangers on which the floor teeters and a ball tethered to the post in position for players to play the game with the ball upon the teetering floor.

6. A game floor balanced as a seesaw, a post fitting an opening in the floor, a net carried by the post and forming part of the game equipment, a second post fitting another opening in the floor, and a ball tethered to the second post in position for players to play the game with the ball upon the teetering floor.

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