April 30, 1940. W. G. MULLER 2,199,161

TOY

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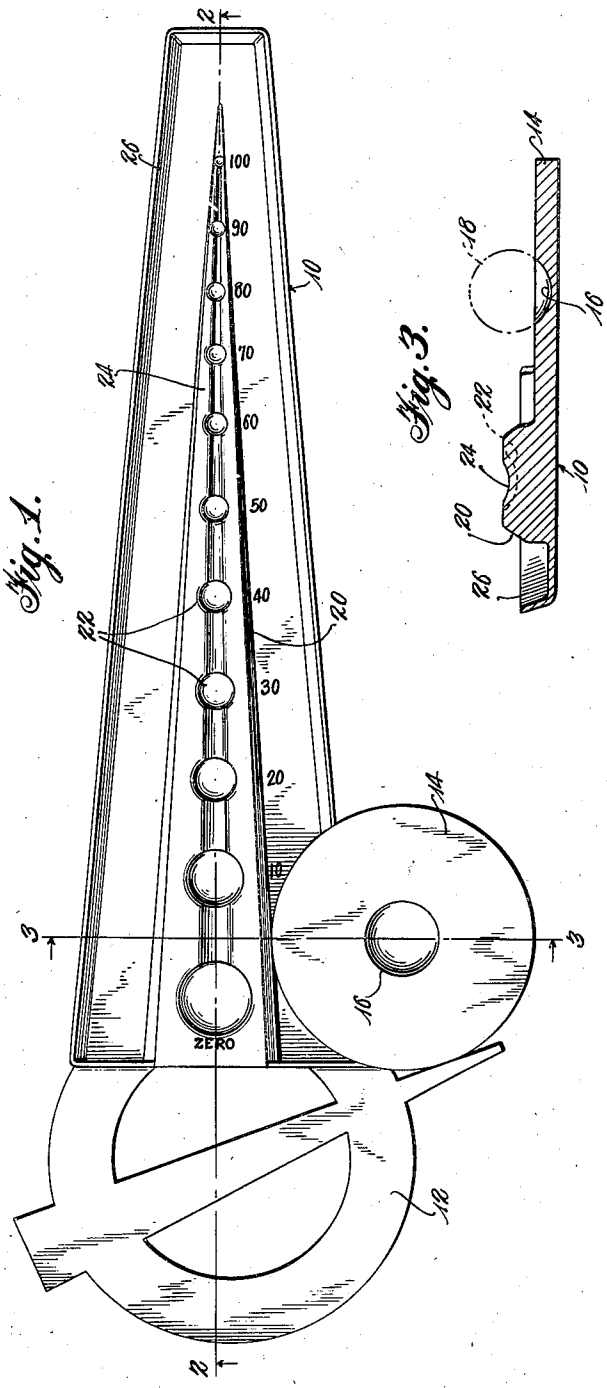


Fig. 1.

Fig. 3.

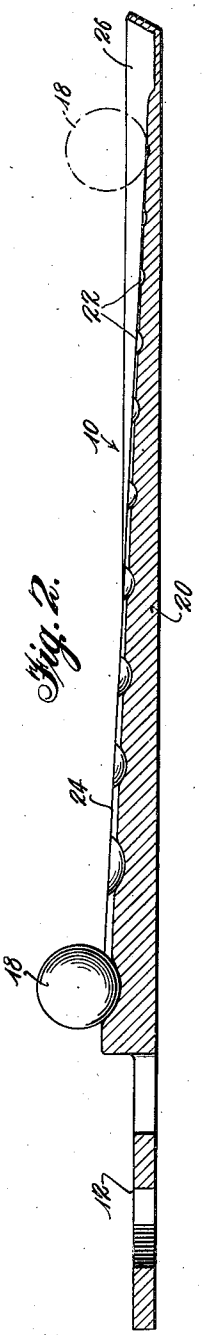


Fig. 2.

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TOY

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3 Claims. (Cl. 273—115)

This invention relates to improvements in toys, and particularly the class of toys embodying a playing board and a ball to be rolled along the board to reach destinations of varying scores whereby comparative skill in operating the device may be adjudged.

It is an object of the invention to provide a playing board which may be held by the operator and tilted to cause a ball or other movable object to roll into one of a series of pockets of graduated size or varying adaptability to receive the ball and whereby to score the comparative skill of the players.

The invention further comprehends the provision of a board having ball-return channels and which may be reversely tilted to return the ball to its starting position.

Another object of the invention is to provide a device simple in construction, but which is capable of affording considerable amusement to the players and at the same time test their operating skill.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will be apparent from the following detailed description taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawing, wherein a preferred embodiment of the principles of the invention is selected for exemplification.

In the drawing:

Figure 1 is a plan view of a device as contemplated by this invention;

Figure 2 is a longitudinal section taken on the line 2—2 of Figure 1; and

Figure 3 is a transverse section taken on the line 3—3 of Figure 1.

Referring more particularly to the drawing, wherein like numerals refer to like parts, 10 represents in its entirety a playing board of any convenient size and formed of any suitable material having at one end thereof a handle 12 which may be held by the operator to tilt the board at any desired angle. Also provided on the board is a disc portion 14 having a pocket or depression 16 for normally receiving a ball 18 when the device is not in use.

Extending centrally and longitudinally of the board 10 is an elevated portion 20 having at various portions along its length a series of pockets 22 of gradually diminished width beginning with a large pocket marked "Zero" at the handle end of the board and terminating in a small pocket marked "100" at the forward end of the board. Interconnecting the various pockets 22 and extending centrally and longitudinally of the elevated portion 10 is a ball path 24 along which the ball 18 is adapted to roll when the board is tilted whereby the operator may cause the ball to settle in a pocket of the greatest denomination without, however, rolling off the elevated portion.

At the outer edges of the board 10 is an upturned flange 26 forming with the elevated portion 20 ball-return channels at opposite sides of the board whereby to catch the ball if it rolls off the elevated portion 20 and prevent its falling to the floor.

A novel feature of the invention comprehends the provision of pockets 22 of varying adaptability to receive the ball 18 and, in the simple and convenient construction illustrated, the pockets 22 as well as the ball path 24, if desired, may gradually diminish in width from the handle end of the device toward its forward end. Each pocket 22 is provided with indicia graduated according to the facility of the path pocket to receive the ball whereby the comparative skill of the players may be readily scored.

It will be understood that the essential structural details embraced by the invention may be embodied in devices of any desired design and are not limited to the particular arrangement of parts herein illustrated.

I claim:

1. A toy including a playing board, said board having an elevated elongated central portion, a series of pockets provided on said portion and of graduated widths, and an upwardly extending flange provided on the edges of said board and at each side of said central portion to form therewith ball-return channels.

2. In a ball game, a playing board, a series of pockets of successively smaller sizes, a grooved ball path interconnecting said series of pockets and of gradually decreasing width in the direction of the smallest of said series of graduated pockets.

3. A toy including a playing board, said board having an elevated elongated central portion, a plurality of pockets each successively disposed along the length of said central portion, said pockets being of successively smaller sizes, a grooved ball path interconnecting said pockets and of gradually decreasing width in the direction of the smallest of said pockets, and an upwardly extending flange on the edges of said board and bordering said central portion to therewith form ball return channels.

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