G. H. PARKER.

GAME.

APPLICATION FILED AUG. 12, 1919.

1,350,384.

Patented Aug. 24, 1920.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

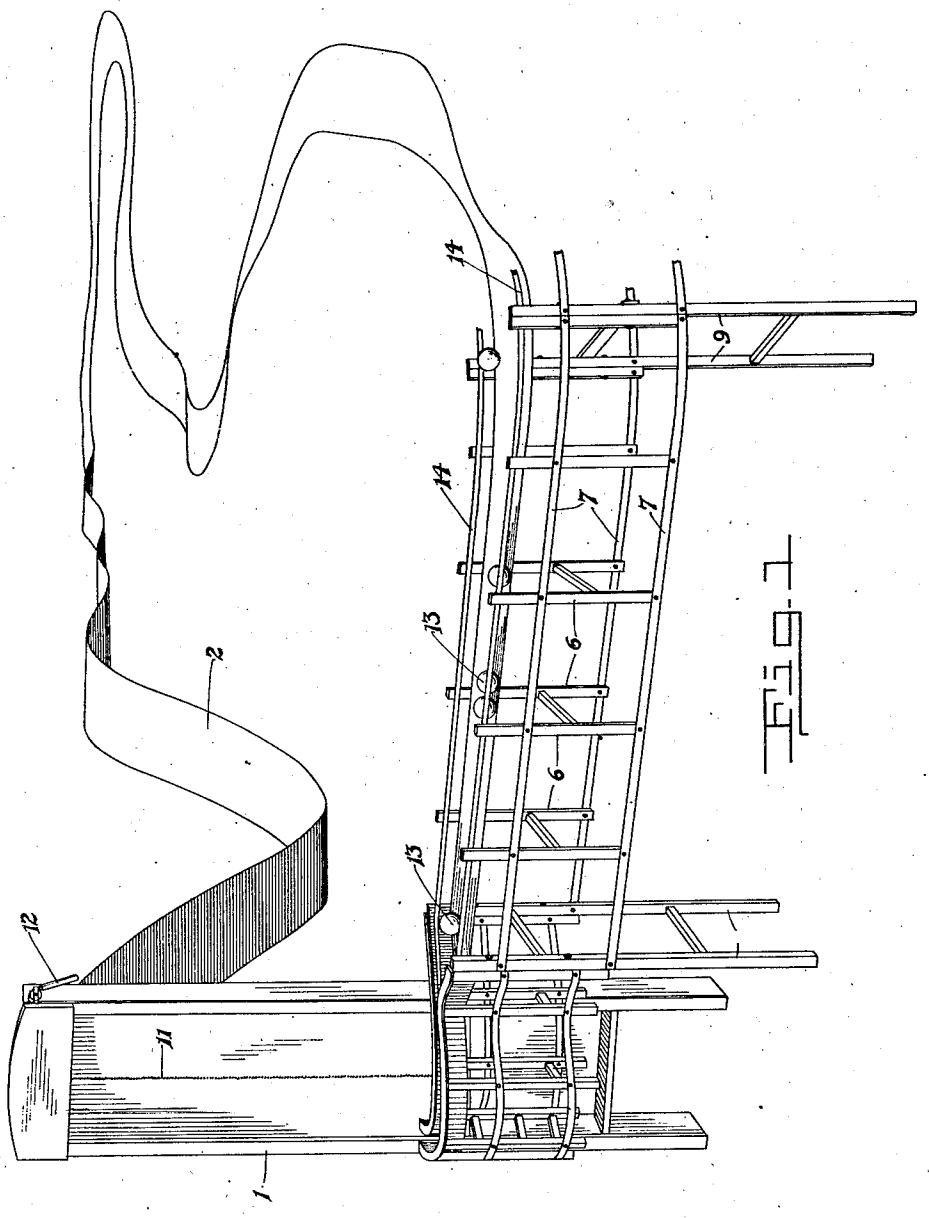


Fig. 1.

INVENTOR

G. H. Parker

BY

Duell, Warfield & Duell

ATTORNEY

G. H. PARKER.

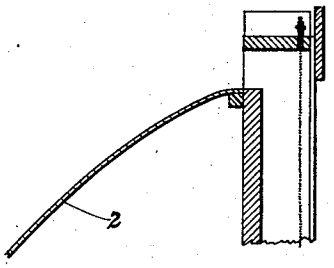
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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.



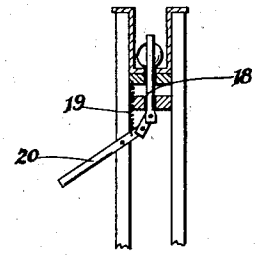


Fig. 4

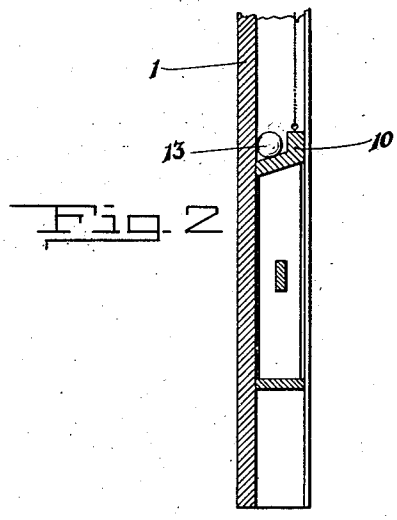


Fig. 2

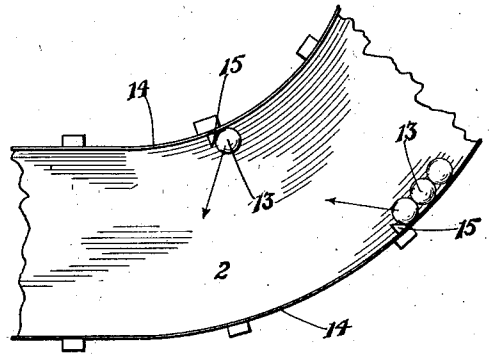


Fig. 5

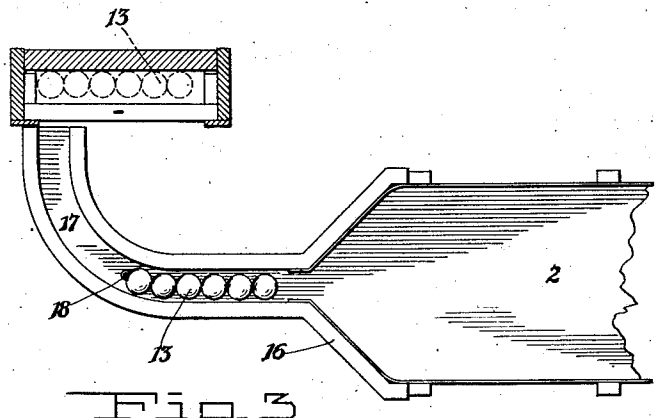


Fig. 3

INVENTOR

G. H. Parker

BY

Duell, Warfield & Duell

ATTORNEY

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE HENRY PARKER, OF STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT, ASSIGNOR TO CHRISTINE R. PARKER, OF STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT.

GAME.

1,350,384. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Aug. 24, 1920.

Application filed August 12, 1919. Serial No. 317,027.

Be it known that I, GEORGE HENRY PARKER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Stamford, in the county of Fairfield and State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Games, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to amusement devices.

It is an object of the invention to provide an unusual and entertaining form of amusement device of a character particularly adapted for attracting crowds and arousing interest.

Another object is to provide an improved construction of game or amusement device which is inexpensive to maintain and operate, and from which a revenue may be received.

Other objects and advantages will be in part noted hereinafter in connection with the following description of the accompanying drawings which illustrate a typical but preferred embodiment of the invention, and in which,

Figure 1 is a fragmentary perspective view of the improved device;

Fig. 2 is a sectional view through one end of the device, partially broken away;

Fig. 3 is a plan view of an end of the device;

Fig. 4 is a detailed view of one part; and

Fig. 5 is a detailed view of a part of the track or runway thereof.

Referring more particularly to the drawings, there is represented in Fig. 1 a device including a vertical standard 1 and a track or runway 2 extending from the top of standard 1 by a circuitous and uneven course to a lower part of the standard. The track 2 is preferably formed of a composition of boarding or other material capable of assuming curved and twisted shapes and is supported by a framework consisting of a plurality of uprights 6 and reinforcing strips 7. For convenience in manufacture and shipping, the device is preferably made in sections; for example, in Fig. 1 one sectional unit consists of legs 8 and the track and supporting framework thereof to legs 9.

The standard 1 is provided with an elevator 10 (Fig. 2) arranged for raising and lowering by a chain 11 operating over pulleys and having a handle 12 so that the elevator in its lower position is adapted to receive balls 13 from the lower and discharge end of the track 2, to raise the same to the top of the standard and thence to permit their departure by gravity from the starting raised portion of the track over the bumps and curves of the latter back to the discharge end of the runway. The balls 13 are maintained on the track between edge guide rails 14 preferably of thin flexible metal which act resiliently when struck by the balls. In order further to maintain the balls over the width of the track and not bunched in a following or file relation, particularly around the curves, there may be provided at desired intervals a plurality of angular bumpers 15, as shown in Fig. 5, which act to scatter the balls and alter their course and relationship.

The manner of operating the device is as follows: The desired number of balls, for example, six, are disposed in the elevator 1. Spectators are then invited to make their selection as to the ball expected to be the first to traverse the course of the track 2 and reach the discharge end 16. With the chances on the balls placed, the elevator 10 is raised and the balls then start evenly on their course. The order of finish is definitely and automatically indicated by the relative order thereof within the narrow alley 17 divided at the end of the track. Midway of the channel there may be provided a stop pin 18 normally urged upward by a spring 19 and depressible by a hand lever 20 when it is desired to carry the balls on into the elevator 10. In practice suitable prizes may be given to the player who preselected the winning ball. It will be understood that the constructional features of the device illustrated may be widely varied and that, for example, the track 2 may be twisted or curved or looped, as desired, while the configuration thereof permits the balls to traverse the full course by gravity or under an initial impulse.

Having described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:—

1. In an amusement device, in combina-

tion, a plurality of balls, an undulating and extended runway therefor having an elevated starting end and a lower discharge end, and means to carry a plurality of said balls from the lower to the elevated end and to deliver the same simultaneously to the latter.

2. In an amusement device, in combination, a circuitous runway having an elevated starting end and an adjacent but lower discharge end, means to elevate balls from said discharge end to said starting end, and means to indicate the order of arrival of the balls at said discharge end.

3. In an amusement device, in combination, a runway having an elevated starting end and an adjacent but lower discharge end and having minor hills and valleys and side bends in its length, guide rails at the sides of said runway, and an elevator to receive the balls from said discharge end and to raise the same to said starting end of said runway.

4. In an amusement device, in combination, a plurality of balls, a runway therefor, means to deliver a plurality thereof in transversely alined relationship in said runway, guide rails at the sides of said runway, and means to prevent extended travel of the balls in file along either guide rail.

5. In an amusement device, in combination, a gravity runway for balls having an elevated starting end and an adjacent but lower discharge end, guide rails at the sides of said runway, means to prevent grouping of the balls in file adjacent guide rails, a vertical standard connecting the discharge and starting ends of said runway, and an elevator to receive the balls from said discharge end and raise the same to said starting end of said runway.

6. In an amusement device, in combination, a plurality of balls a sectional gravity runway having an elevated starting end and an adjacent but lower discharge end and having minor hills and valleys and side bends in its length, said discharge end terminating in a narrow portion to receive the balls in file in the order of their arrival thereat.

7. In an amusement device, in combination, a plurality of balls a sectional gravity runway having an elevated starting end and an adjacent but lower discharge end and having minor hills and valleys and side bends in its length, said discharge end terminating in a narrow portion to receive the balls in file in the order of their arrival thereat, a vertical standard connecting the starting and discharge end of said runway, and means for receiving the balls from said discharge end and elevating them to said starting end.

8. In an amusement device, in combination, a plurality of balls a gravity runway having a raised starting end and a lower discharge end, the discharge end being narrowed to provide an alley for receiving the balls in the order of their arrival and a depressible stop in said alley to check the balls.

9. In an amusement device, in combination, a runway having an elevated starting end and an adjacent but lower discharge end, and elevating means for balls adapted to receive the balls from said discharge end of the runway and to release the balls to start in transversely alined position.

10. In an amusement device, in combination, a wide inclined runway for balls, means to start a plurality of the balls simultaneously at the upper end of said runway for gravitational travel down the same, means tending to insure promiscuous lateral distribution of the balls in their course down said runway whereby continued grouping thereof in file is prevented, and means whereby the order of arrival of the balls at the lower end of said runway is readily ascertainable.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature, in the presence of two witnesses.

GEORGE HENRY PARKER.

Witnesses:

G. FREDERICK STARK,

GLADYS E. BLAKE.