

April 13, 1926.

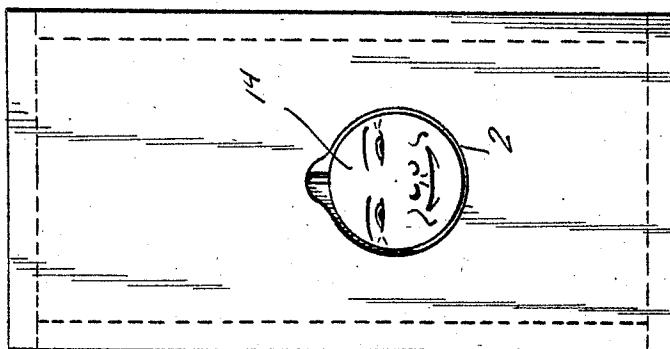
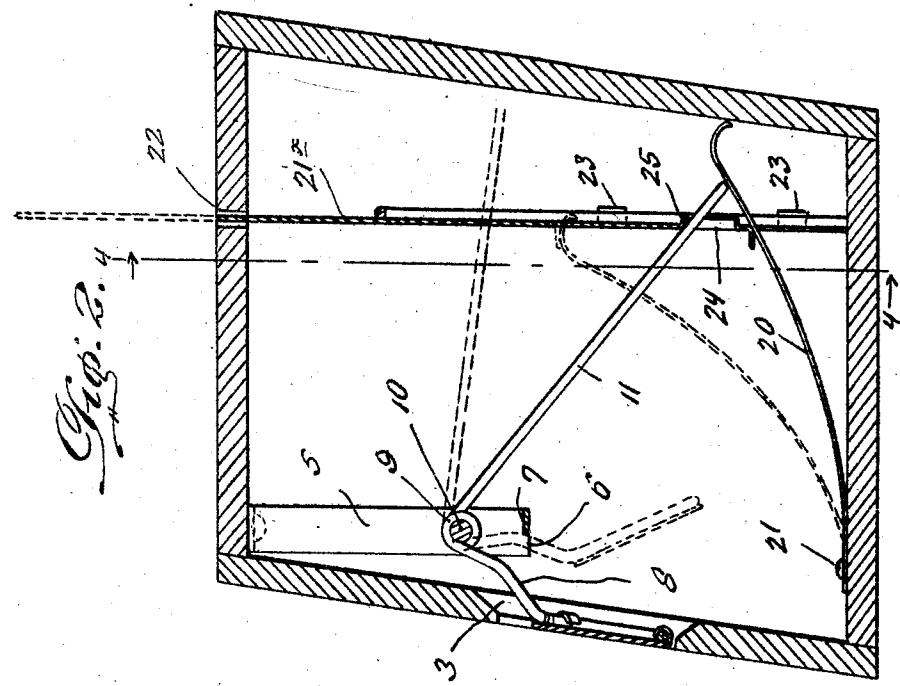
1,581,069

O. C. KNOFF

GAME APPARATUS

Filed Nov. 27, 1925

2 Sheets-Sheet 1



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April 13, 1926.

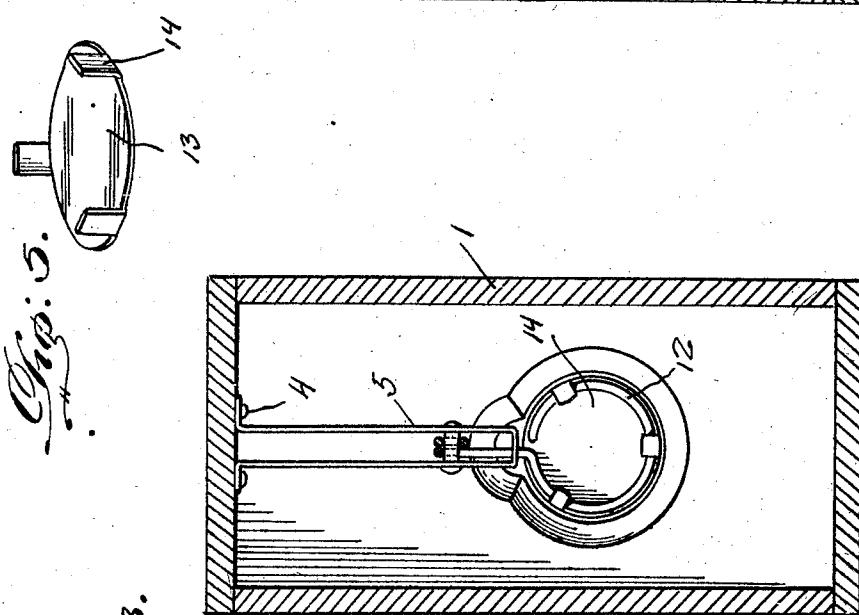
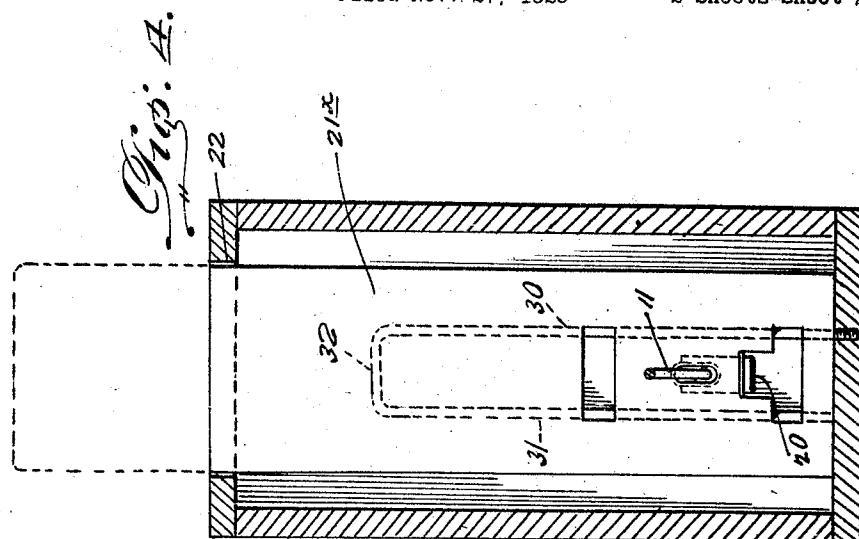
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2 Sheets-Sheet 2



*Fig. 3.*

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

OSCAR C. KNOFF, OF FLINT, MICHIGAN.

## GAME APPARATUS.

Application filed November 27, 1925. Serial No. 71,665.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, OSCAR C. KNOFF, a citizen of the United States, residing at Flint, in the county of Genesee and State of Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Game Apparatus, of which the following is a specification.

My present invention has to do with apparatus for use in the playing of games; and 10 it has for one of its objects to provide an apparatus for the playing of an entertaining game that I prefer to style the man in the moon game.

Another object of the invention is the provision of a game apparatus for use in the playing of a game, and calculated to excite the interest and afford pleasure to a group of 15 adults as well as children.

Another object of the invention is the provision of a game apparatus which in comparison with the pleasure it is adapted to afford, is extremely simple and inexpensive in 20 construction.

To the attainment of the foregoing, the invention consists in the improvement as hereinafter described and definitely claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification:—

Figure 1 is a front elevation of the game 30 apparatus constituting the preferred embodiment of my invention.

Figure 2 is a vertical section front to back of the apparatus.

Figure 3 is a transverse section of the apparatus taken in a plane slightly back of the 35 front wall of the casing body.

Figure 4 is a transverse section taken in the plane indicated by the line 4—4 of Figure 2, looking in the direction indicated by 40 arrow.

Figure 5 is a detail perspective of the simulation bearing disk of my improvement.

Similar numerals of reference designate 45 corresponding parts in all of the views of the drawings.

The casing body of my improvement is numbered 1, and manifestly said body may be of wood or of any other appropriate material. In its front wall the casing body 1 is 50 provided with an opening 2, the inner or rear portion of which is flared as designated by 3 and best shown in Figure 2.

Connected at 4 to the top wall of the casing body and arranged within said body and 55 slightly back of the front wall thereof is a hanger 5. The bight or lowermost portion

of the hanger 5 is recessed as designated by 6 and best shown in Figure 2 so as to form a stop 7 for limiting the rearward movement of a trigger arm 8. The trigger is preferably formed of wire, and is coiled at 9 about a transverse pintle 10 carried in the hanger 5. It will also be understood that in addition to the arm 8 and the coiled portion 9 the trigger has an arm 11 adapted to normally extend downwardly and rearwardly as clearly shown in Figure 2. The arm 8 of the trigger lever terminates in a circular portion 12, and in front of said portion 12 is arranged a sheet metal disk 13 adapted to 70 bear on its face a simulation of the face of the typical man in the moon. The said moon face on the disk 13 is designated by 14 in Figure 1. On its periphery the disk 13 is provided with integral lateral clips 14 which 75 when bent about the circular portion 12 in the manner best shown in Figure 3 are calculated to strongly hold the disk 13 on and to said circular portion 12 so that the portion 12 and the disk 13 will be capable of 80 moving as a unit.

Opposed to and engaged with the rear end of the trigger lever arm 11 is a spring strip 20, connected at 21 to the bottom wall of the casing body. When the arm 11 of the trigger 85 11 is in the normal position shown in Figure 2 it serves to hold the spring strip 20 under tension, and in this connection it will be understood that when the spring strip 20 is released it will tend to fly upwardly into 90 the position shown by dotted lines in Figure 2. By so flying upwardly the spring strip 20 serves to raise a slidible member 21\* through an opening 22 in the top wall of the casing body. The element 21\* is in the form 95 of a plate and in the preferred embodiment of my invention the said element is adapted to bear on the face of its upper portion the simulation of a man with his hands in up-raised position. Said plate like elements 21\* 100 is preferably of thin sheet metal, and it is provided at 23 with barrels struck from its major portion, and is also provided with an aperture 24 for the reception and passage of the arm 11 of the trigger lever. Flanges 25 105 being preferably provided above and below the said aperture 24 as shown. The barrels 23 loosely receive the arms or side portions 30 and 31 of a substantially upright fixed guide. The said guide also has a bight 32 110 at its upper end, and in the preferred embodiment of my invention the lower end of

the side portion 30 is threaded and is turned into a threaded socket in the bottom wall of the casing body 1 as clearly shown in Figure 4.

5 It will be apparent from the foregoing that when a ball or the like strikes the moon face 14, the impetus of the ball will swing the arm 8 of the trigger lever rearwardly and by so doing will raise the trigger lever 10 arm 11 and with it the slidable member 21<sup>x</sup>, the element 21<sup>x</sup> being raised certainly, however, by the spring strip 20 and being maintained in raised position by said strip 20. From this it follows that after each striking 15 and rearward movement of the trigger lever arm 8, the element 21<sup>x</sup> will be yieldingly maintained in raised position to display the simulation of a man on the face of its upper portion above the casing body 1. At this 20 point I would have it understood that after a rearward movement of the moon face 14 and a raising of the element 21<sup>x</sup>, it is necessary for the operator or one of the players to move the element 21<sup>x</sup> downwardly by 25 hand, this serving to return the moon face portion of the trigger to normal position in readiness for another operation, and also serving to position the trigger lever arm 11 so that the latter will hold the spring strip 30 20 against upward movement and hence will preclude casual upward movement of the element 21<sup>x</sup>.

In the playing of the game preferably styled the man in the moon, two or more 35 players may be engaged, the players following one after the other and each player throwing three balls in succession against or toward the face 14. During the throwing described, each player stands preferably 40 at a distance of about six feet from the moon face 14, and the balls employed are preferably rubber balls so as not to inflict injury on the apparatus.

In the preferred mode of scoring, if a 45 player hits the moon face once out of three throws, and thereby brings about raising of the element 21<sup>x</sup> to the condition stated the player will score five points, and if he makes two hits out of three throws he will be given 50 ten points, and if all three throws are attended by a success he will be given a score of twenty-five points. Missing of the entire apparatus in one throw out of three sets the player back five points, and two misses 55 out of three throws sets the player back ten points and three futile throws sets the player back twenty-five points. The attainment of any predetermined number of points may constitute the goal but I have found from 60 experience that it is desirable to have the player who first makes fifty points win the game.

It will be readily appreciated from the foregoing that my novel game apparatus is 65 calculated to afford considerable interest

and is also adapted to cultivate skill on the part of adults and children, and it will also be noted that notwithstanding its advantages as indicated, the apparatus is so simple and inexpensive in construction that it may be 70 made and sold with profit at a small price.

Manifestly while the apparatus is designed specifically for the playing of the game styled the man in the moon, the apparatus may be embellished in any appropriate manner and may be employed for the playing of any game to which it is applicable. 75

I prefer the construction illustrated and described in all of its details because of its 80 simplicity, inexpensiveness and durability. I do not desire, however, to be understood as confining myself to the construction and relative arrangement of parts as herein specifically set forth, my invention being defined 85 by my appended claims within the scope of which various structural changes and changes in arrangement may be made without departure from my invention.

Having described my invention, what I 90 claim and desire to secure by Letters-Patent, is:—

1. In a game apparatus and in combination, a support, an element movable rectilinearly relative to said support, a spring strip carried by the support and engaging said element for the movement of the latter when released, and a swingable member mounted on the support and having an arm arranged to be struck and moved and also having an arm directly engaging and movable over and arranged to normally hold the spring strip under tension and against movement. 95

2. In a game apparatus and in combination, a support, an element movable rectilinearly relative to said support, a spring strip carried by the support and engaging said element for the movement of the latter when released, and a swingable member mounted on the support and having an arm arranged to be struck and moved and also having an arm arranged to normally hold the spring strip under tension and against movement; the said rectilinearly movable element being in the form of a metallic plate, and being apertured for the passage of the arm of said lever and being guided and held to the lever and the spring strip during the movement of the rectilinearly movable element, the spring strip and the lever together. 110

3. In a game apparatus, the combination of a casing body, a trigger lever mounted in said body, a disk carried by one arm of said lever and adapted to be displayed through an opening in the front wall of the casing body, a spring strip carried by and in the body and directly engaged by the other arm to the trigger lever and adapt- 115 120 125 130

ed to be tensioned and held under tension by the other arm of said lever, and a rectilinearly movable element disposed for movement through an aperture in the top 5 wall of the casing body and engaged with the said lever arm and the spring strip.

4. In a game apparatus, the combination of a casing body, a trigger lever mounted in said body, a disk carried by one arm of 10 said lever and adapted to be displayed through an opening in the front wall of the casing body, a spring strip carried by and in the body in direct contact with and adapted to be tensioned and held under tension 15 by the other arm of said lever, and a rectilinearly movable element disposed for movement through an aperture in the top wall of the casing body and engaged with the said lever arm and the spring strip; the 20 said rectilinearly movable element being of sheet metal and being shaped to receive both the spring strip and the lever arm and being provided with guide barrels, and guide means fixed to the casing body and 25 disposed in said barrels.

5. The combination in a game apparatus, of a casing body having a display opening in one of its walls, and a swingable member mounted in the casing body, the said swingable member terminating in an open circular 30 portion and carrying a disk adapted to be arranged in coincidence with said opening, said disk having clips bent about said circular portion whereby the disk and circular 35 portion are connected together of themselves.

6. A game apparatus comprising a casing body having an opening in its front wall and also having an opening in its top

wall, a hanger connected to the top wall of 40 said casing body, a trigger lever mounted in said hanger and adapted to be stopped against the same and having a forward arm and a rear arm, a spring strip connected to the bottom wall of the casing body and ar- 45 ranged to be held detachably in tensioned state by the last-named arm of the lever, a guide on the bottom wall of the casing body, and a rectilinearly movable element guided on said upright and apertured for the recep- 50 tion of the lever arm and the spring strip and movable through the said opening in the top wall of the casing body.

7. A game apparatus comprising a cas- 55 ing body having an opening in its front wall and also having an opening in its top wall, a hanger connected to the top wall of said casing body, a trigger lever mounted in said hanger and adapted to be stopped against the same and having a forward arm and a rear arm, a spring strip connected to the bottom wall of the casing body and ar- 60 ranged to be held detachably in tensioned state by the last-named arm of the lever, a guide on the bottom wall of the casing body, 65 and a rectilinearly movable element guided on said upright and apertured for the recep- 70 tion of the lever arm and the spring strip and movable through the said opening in the top wall of the casing body; the said disk bearing a picture on its face, and the upper portion of the rectilinearly movable element also bearing a picture on its face and adapt- 75 ed to attract attention when said element is suddenly projected above the top of the cas- ing body.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.  
OSCAR C. KNOFF.