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F. HAMILTON

CHEST OF TRAYS

Filed Jan. 28, 1924

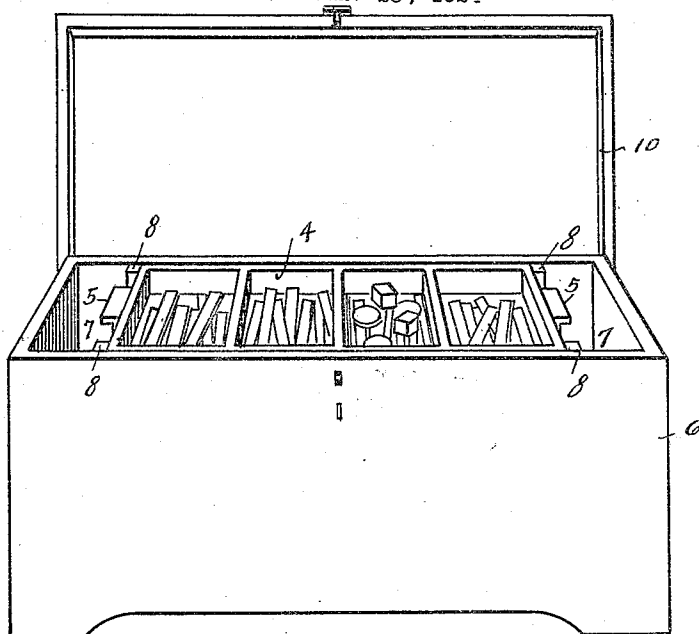


Fig. 1.

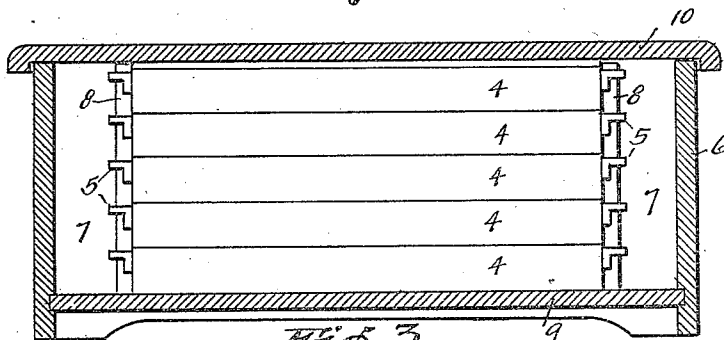


Fig. 3.

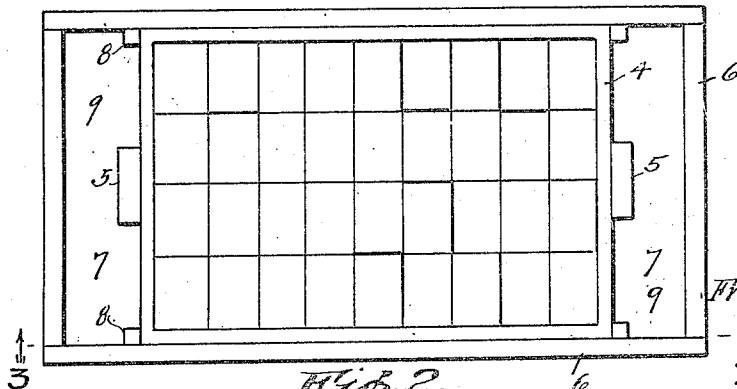


Fig. 2.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANCIS F. HAMILTON, OF INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA.

CHEST OF TRAYS.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANCIS F. HAMILTON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Indianapolis, in the county of Marion and State of Indiana, have invented new and useful Improvements in a Chest of Trays, of which the following is a specification.

The object of this invention is to provide a safe and convenient place for the deposit of trays containing sundry articles when the latter are not in use, such as gaming devices employing several series each comprising a plurality of separate pieces or tiles which are best kept in methodical order.

A further object is to accommodate a series of trays in a chest, which trays are stacked one upon another therein, and to provide means whereby one, or several, or all of the trays may be conveniently reached with the fingers and removed.

A further object is to provide a simple, durable, neat appearing, and inexpensively manufactured device for the above uses and for any use to which it may be found to be adapted.

I accomplish the foregoing, and other objects which will hereinafter appear, by the means illustrated in the accompanying drawing, in which—

Fig. 1, is a front perspective view of a chest with the lid raised, and containing trays. Fig. 2, is a top plan view of the chest without its lid and without the top tray shown in Fig. 1, and Fig. 3 is a vertical section on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2, showing all of the trays in the chest, and a closed lid.

Like characters of reference indicate like parts throughout the several views of the drawing.

The tiles or other gaming devices are placed and kept when not in use in the trays 4, here shown as five in number. These are rectangular in shape, with raised sides and ends, and are alike in size. Handles 5 are attached to the tray-ends, and as shown here, are horizontal flanges that make them easy to grasp by the fingers when the fingers of the two hands of a person desiring to lift the trays are placed, one at each end of a tray.

The trays 4 are stacked one upon the other

in a chest 6, of the right width to receive the trays with a sliding fit against the sides of the trays, but the length of the chest is enough greater than the length of the trays 55 to provide spaces 7 at each end for the free insertion of the fingers of a person between the trays and adjacent chest-end in placing and removing the trays.

Vertical cleats 8, two for each front and 60 back walls of the chest, are fastened to the inner walls of the chest as shown, for contact therewith of the tray-ends, whereby the trays will be properly spaced from the ends of the chest and so retained as long as they 65 remain within the chest. The corners of the trays make close sliding fits against the cleats.

The chest has a suitable bottom 9, upon which the trays are directly supported and 70 stacked; and it is provided with a lid 10, properly hinged and equipped with a lock, in any usual and suitable manner.

By the construction as above described and as shown in the drawing, the stacked 75 trays are always held by the cleats in their vertical alinement, and the finger spaces 7, between the trays and each end of the chest enable the handles of any desired one of the trays to be selected and reached with the 80 fingers, and that and all of the trays above it may be quickly and easily lifted up and out of the chest. The number from the top of any given tray may be counted by feeling with the fingers, or by sight, as all of the 85 handles of an end of the stack are visible from above the open chest through the space separating the trays from the adjacent end of the chest.

Having thus fully described my invention, 90 what I claim as new and wish to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is:

1. The combination, with a chest of rectangular shape, of a plurality of like-shaped trays stacked in the chest and making close 95 sliding fit with the sides of the chest, said trays being enough shorter than the chest to provide a finger space between the trays and the end of the chest, and vertical cleats fastened to the chest to keep the vertical aline- 100 ment of the stack.

2. The combination, with a chest of rec-

tangular shape, of a plurality of like-shaped trays stacked in the chest and making close sliding fit with the sides of the chest, said trays being enough shorter than the chest to
5 provide finger spaces between the trays and adjacent ends of the chest; vertical cleats fastened to the chest to keep the vertical

alinement of the stack, and horizontal flanges forming finger-pulls on each end of each tray.

Signed at Indianapolis, Indiana, this the
25th day of January, 1924.

FRANCIS F. HAMILTON.