May 17, 1932. F. R. RICHARDS 1,859,220

GAME

Filed Nov. 24, 1930

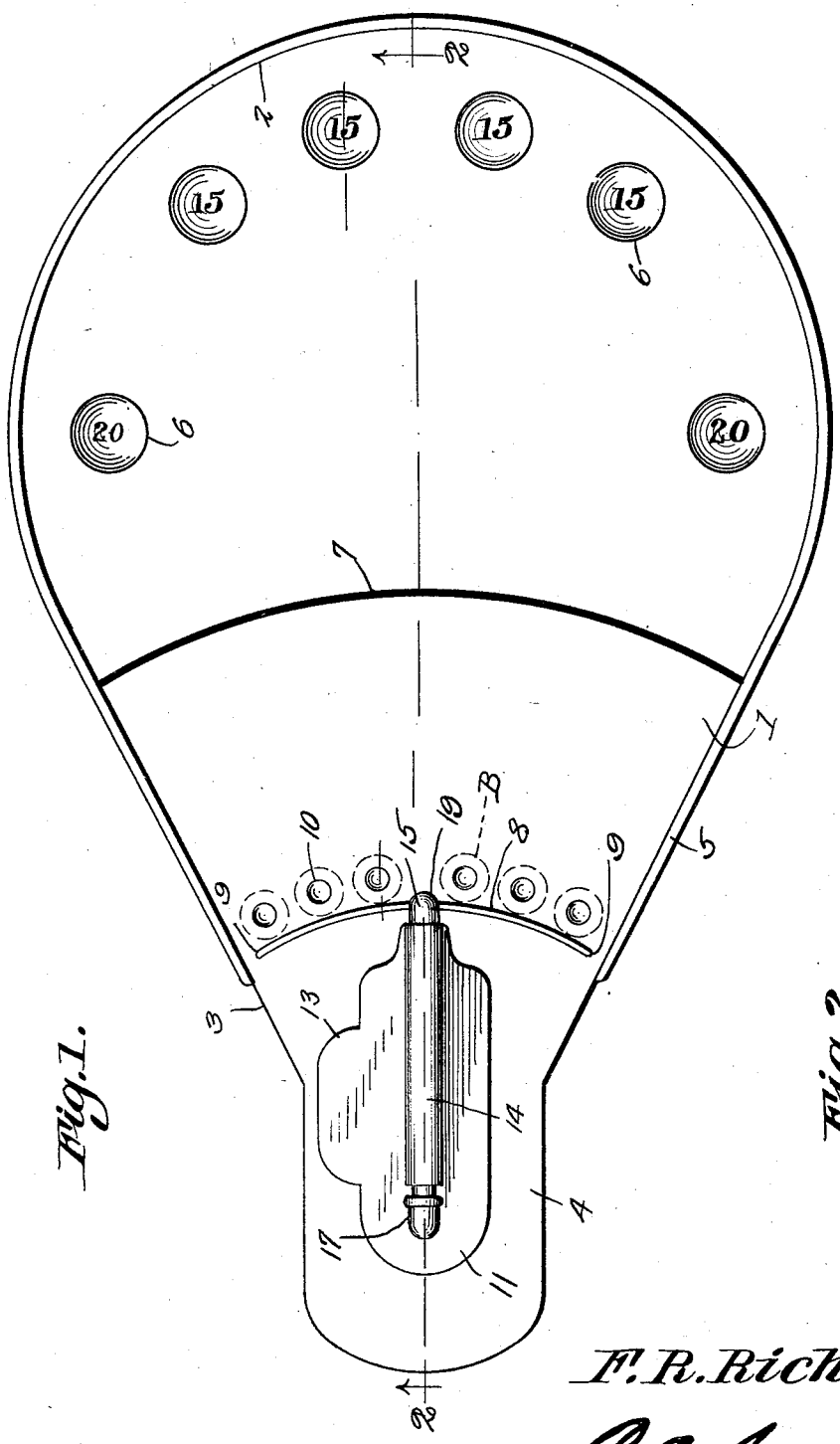


Fig. 1.

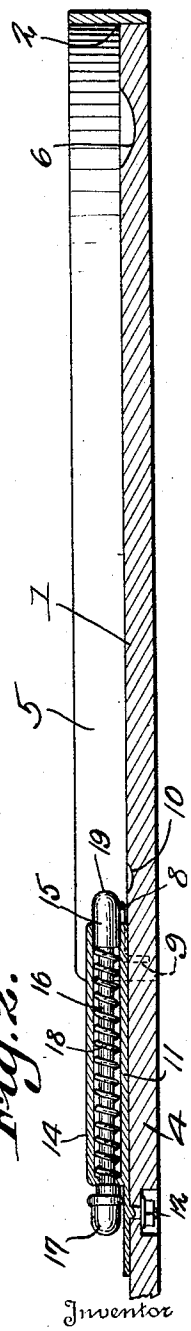


Fig. 2.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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GAME

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This invention relates to a game, one of the objects being to provide a game which is simple and inexpensive in construction and, because of the skill required in operating the game pieces, will afford considerable entertainment to the user.

A further object is to provide a game which can be held in one hand while being manipulated with the other.

With the foregoing and other objects in view which will appear as the description proceeds, the invention resides in the combination and arrangement of parts and in the details of construction hereinafter described and claimed it being understood that changes in the precise embodiment of the invention herein disclosed may be made within the scope of what is claimed without departing from the spirit of the invention.

In the accompanying drawings the preferred form of the invention has been shown.

In said drawings:

Figure 1 is a plan view of the game apparatus.

Figure 2 is a section on line 2—2, Figure 1.

Referring to the figures by characters of reference, 1 designates a flat game board one end 2 of which is slightly more than semi-circular and merges into straight sides 3 which converge toward a flat handle 4 constituting a continuation of the game board. The longitudinal centers of the board 1 and handle 4 aline and the resultant structure is of a well balanced paddle shape which can be handled readily by a player grasping the handle 4.

An upstanding flange 6 is extended along the converging sides 3 and the curved end 2, thereby defining a playing field having the shape of the board 1. Formed in the top surface of the board adjacent to the curved end 2 are shallow depressions or recesses 6 each of which can be provided with a designating character indicating the value of a play whereby a game piece is deposited in said recess.

That end of the playing field nearest the handle is bounded by a transverse arcuate line 7 while the space between the ends of the flange 3 is substantially bridged by an arcuate rail 8 formed preferably of a stiff wire the ends of which are pressed into the board 1 at points close to the flanges 5 and as indicated at 9. Adjacent to this wire and in the space between the wire and the boundary line 7 are two spaced groups of small recesses 10 for holding game pieces close to the abutment wire 8.

A plate 11 rests on the handle portion 4 and has a stud 12 secured in said handle portion. This stud constitutes a pivot for the plate about which the plate can be oscillated on the handle portion. Wire 8 is concentric with this pivot. A wing 13 is extended laterally from the plate and constitutes a finger piece. By pressing on this wing with the thumb of the hand grasping handle 4, plate 11 can be shifted angularly to any desired position and clamped in said position.

Formed on or connected to the plate 11 is a barrel 14 in which is slidably mounted a plunger 15. Rod 16 is extended from the plunger and is connected at its back end to a head 17. A spring 18 is mounted on the rod and bears at one end against plunger 15 and at its other end against the back end of the barrel 14. The outer or forward end of the plunger is rounded as shown at 19 and is supported on the abutment wire 8 where it is held normally by the spring 18.

The game pieces to be used consist of balls B one of which is to be placed in each of the recesses 10 at the start of the game. Thereafter the handle 4 is grasped in one hand and the other hand is used for pulling head 17 and plunger 15 backwardly against the action of spring 18. With the parts thus held the thumb of the hand grasping the handle is used for swinging the gun to any desired angle whereby when the head 17 is released the plunger will be actuated to strike a selected game piece and propel it onto the playing field of the board. The direction in which the game piece is propelled will depend on the angle at which the gun is held. The object of thus setting the game piece in motion is to deposit it in one of the numbered recesses 6 so that after a full number of shots have been made, the player totaling the greatest number of points will be the winner. It is intended to actuate the game pieces in succes-

sion to deliver them from the recesses 10 and as the number of recesses 10 are equal to the number of recesses 6 a perfect score would be obtained only when all of the game pieces, when moved from their recesses 10, become seated in the several recesses 6.

Various rules can be made concerning the value of game pieces at one side or the other of the boundary line. It will be noted that the wire 8 not only serves as a support and guide for the plunger but also acts as an abutment to prevent the game pieces from rolling backwardly off of the board.

What is claimed is:

Game apparatus including a flat paddle-shaped board having a handle portion and a field portion, a flange at the edges of the board for retaining game pieces on the field portion, an arcuate rail constituting an abutment member interposed between the end portions of the flange for retaining game pieces on the field portion, there being recesses in the field portion adjacent to and equidistant from the abutment rail for holding separate game pieces, the field portion being provided with a similar number of recesses remote from the retaining means, a spring gun mounted for lateral angular adjustment on the handle portion for ejecting game pieces one at a time from the respective recesses adjacent to the abutment rail, said rail constituting a support and guide for that end of the gun nearest the game pieces while said end is in any of its active positions.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own, I have hereto affixed my signature.

FRANK R. RICHARDS.