

No. 760,032.

PATENTED MAY 17, 1904.

A. L. SNEDEKER.

PUZZLE.

APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 23, 1903.

NO MODEL.

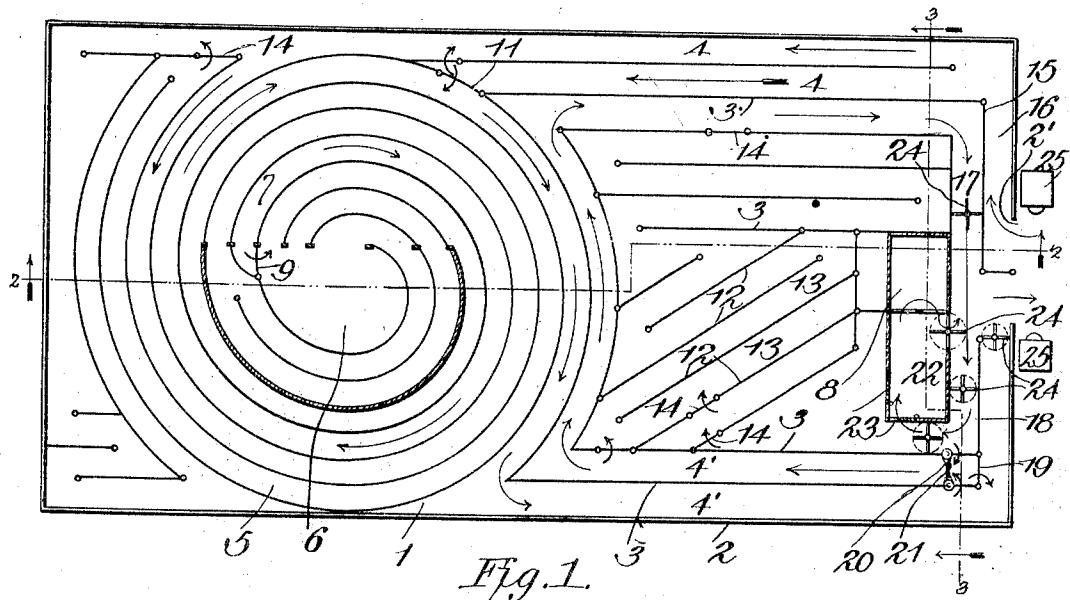
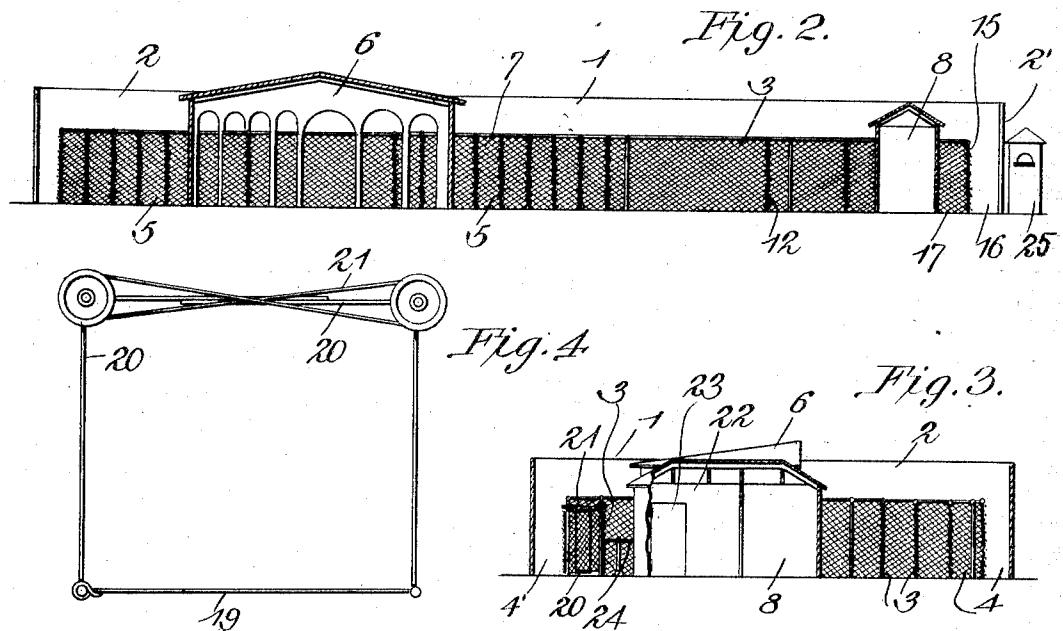


Fig. 1.



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ABRAHAM L. SNEDEKER, OF STEUBENVILLE, OHIO, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-FOURTH TO LEWIS GARROCK SINCLAIR AND BIRT CHENEY, OF STEUBENVILLE, OHIO.

PUZZLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 760,032, dated May 17, 1904.

Application filed September 23, 1903. Serial No. 174,348. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ABRAHAM L. SNEDEKER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Steubenville, in the county of Jefferson and State 5 of Ohio, have invented a new and useful Puzzle, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to that class of buildings known as "labyrinths," and has for its object to provide an inexpensive and durable 10 structure of this character particularly designed for erection and use in parks and other public places as an amusement device.

A further object of the invention is to provide a labyrinth having a series of circuitous 15 passages and irregular paths gated or connected one with the other to form a complicated maze, several of the passages terminating blindly, with no apparent exit after leading in or out, so as to deceive or baffle the person 20 attempting to leave the labyrinth, and with one of said passages continuous and leading from the entrance to a prize-chamber or compartment.

A still further object is to provide the main 25 passage leading to the prize chamber or compartment with a series of swinging doors, and to furnish each person entering the labyrinth with a map or chart showing the disposition of the various passages and the prize-chamber, said maps being numbered, so that the 30 person finding his way to said chamber will draw a prize corresponding to the number of his map or chart.

The invention consists in the construction 35 and novel combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawings, and pointed out in the claims hereto appended, it being understood that various changes in form, proportion, and minor details of construction may 40 be resorted to without departing from the principle or sacrificing any of the advantages of this invention.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is 45 a top plan view of a labyrinth constructed in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal sectional view of the same, and

Fig. 3 is a transverse section. Fig. 4 is a sectional detail view of the swinging doors.

Similar numerals of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures of the drawings.

1 designates the labyrinth, which may be of any desired shape or contour, being preferably rectangular, as shown, and formed of 55 metal, wood, or other suitable material, wire fencing being the preferred material employed in the construction of the device herein shown and described. The labyrinth consists of an outer or marginal wall 2, provided at one end 60 with a main entrance 2' and having the space inclosed within the marginal wall provided with a plurality of partitions 3, defining longitudinally-disposed paths or passages 4 and 4', one of which communicates with a series 65 of spirally-arranged passages 5, the inner ends of which terminate in a centrally-disposed covered chamber 6. All of the spirally-disposed passages 5 lead blindly from the central chamber 6, with the exception of the passage 7, said passage leading from the chamber 6, in the direction indicated by the arrow, to the longitudinal passages 4' and thence to a prize chamber or compartment 8, preferably located at a point adjacent the main 70 entrance. A spring-door 9 normally closes the entrance to the passage 7, and a spring-door 11, adapted to open in but one direction, affords a source of communication between one of the longitudinal passages 4 and the 75 terminal portion of passage 7, so as to permit access to the prize-compartment without the necessity of passing through the central chamber 6. One or more diagonally-disposed partitions or walls 12, defining passages 80 85 13, are secured in any suitable manner to the partitions 3, and said walls or partitions, as well as the partitions 3, are provided at suitable intervals with gates 14, arranged in alinement therewith and preferably forming 90 a continuation of said partitions.

A transversely-disposed partition 15, forming an entrance-passage 16, and an exit 17, is arranged on one side of the main entrance 2,

and a similar partition 18 arranged on the opposite side of said entrance, an outwardly-swinging door 19 being pivotally mounted in the partition 18, as shown. A pair of spring-
 5 actuated swinging-doors 20, connected by a sprocket-chain 21, are mounted in one of the longitudinal passages 4' at a point adjacent the door 19, the blades of each door being arranged at right angles to each other and
 10 adapted to make a quarter-revolution and return to their normal position when operated from either side. A compartment 22 is arranged adjacent the prize-compartment 8, the doors 23 of which are provided with
 15 combination locks or catches, (not shown,) it being necessary to open said doors and pass through the chamber 22 before access can be obtained to the prize-compartment. Several of the paths or passages are provided with turn-
 20 stiles 24, which turn freely in one direction, but are locked against return movement, so as to prevent a person from returning after he has once entered said passages. Suitable boxes or stands 25 are arranged near the
 25 main entrance 2 and on either side thereof, adapted to be used as ticket-offices.

From the foregoing description the construction of the device will be readily understood, and the operation thereof is as follows: Each person buying a ticket is furnished with a chart or map showing the general arrangement of the various passages, said maps being numbered and entitling the purchaser thereof to a correspondingly-numbered prize when he reaches the prize-chamber. A person entering the labyrinth follows the direction indicated by the arrow in Fig. 1 of the drawings, passing through the longitudinal passage 4 and circuitous passages
 30 5 to the central chamber 6, thence through the door 9 and passage 7 to the longitudinal passage 4' and through the doors 20 by a circuitous passage to the chamber 22. After entering the chamber 22 the person enters the
 35 compartment 8, receives his prize, and passes through the turnstile and out through the main entrance. The prize chamber or compartment may be reached without passing through the central chamber 6 by taking the longitudinal passage indicated by the feathered arrow in Fig. 1 and passing through the door
 40 11 and passage 4' in the manner before described.

Having thus described the invention, what
 45 I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A labyrinth comprising a centrally-disposed covered chamber and a plurality of spirally-disposed walls or partitions defining passages, said passages having their inner ends communicating with one side of the chamber and their outer ends terminating at different points.

2. A labyrinth comprising a centrally-disposed covered chamber and a plurality of spi-

rally-disposed walls or partitions defining passages communicating therewith, some of said partitions being arranged within the chamber.

3. A labyrinth comprising a centrally-disposed covered chamber, a plurality of spirally-disposed walls or partitions defining passages communicating with said chamber, and a door arranged within the chamber and adapted to normally close one of said passages. 70

4. A labyrinth comprising a centrally-disposed covered chamber and a plurality of spirally-disposed walls or partitions defining passages communicating therewith, the inner ends of said passages being arranged in a straight line at one side of the chamber, thereby to distinguish their order and relation. 80

5. A labyrinth comprising a plurality of spirally-disposed walls or partitions defining passages, the inner end of each of which terminates in a common chamber, a compartment 85 forming a terminus or goal, a path or passage forming a source of communication between the central chamber and the compartment or goal and a door adapted to normally close said passage. 9c

6. A labyrinth comprising a compartment forming a terminus or goal, a chamber having a plurality of spirally-disposed passages communicating therewith, one of which communicates with said compartment, and a pair of 95 oppositely-disposed swinging doors each provided with angularly-disposed blades pivotally mounted in said passage and adapted to normally close the same.

7. A labyrinth comprising a compartment forming a terminus or goal, a chamber having a plurality of spirally-disposed passages communicating therewith, one of which communicates with said compartment, a door arranged within the chamber and normally closing said 100 passage, and a turnstile disposed at the entrance to the compartment or goal. 105

8. A labyrinth comprising a compartment forming a terminus or goal, a chamber having a plurality of spirally-disposed passages communicating therewith, one of which communicates with said compartment, and a pair of oppositely-disposed spring-actuated doors pivotally mounted in said passage and adapted to operate simultaneously to open or close 110 the same. 115

9. A labyrinth comprising a compartment or goal, a second compartment provided with a plurality of doors communicating therewith, a series of partitions defining a plurality of independent paths or passages, one of which communicates with the second compartment, and a pair of spring-actuated doors pivotally mounted in said passage and adapted to operate simultaneously to open or close the passage. 120

10. A labyrinth comprising a compartment or goal, a plurality of partitions defining a series of independent paths or passages some of which are false or blind and one at least leads 125 130

to the compartment or goal, gates pivoted in
some of said partitions and forming continua-
tions thereof, a turnstile disposed at the en-
trance of the compartment or goal, and a door
5 adapted to normally close the entrance of the
passage leading to said compartment or goal.
In testimony that I claim the foregoing as

my own I have hereto affixed my signature in
the presence of two witnesses.

ABRAHAM L. SNEDEKER.

Witnesses:

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