Aug. 24, 1926. 1,596,947

J. E. RUSSELL

GAME

Filed Dec. 31, 1925 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

FIG. 1

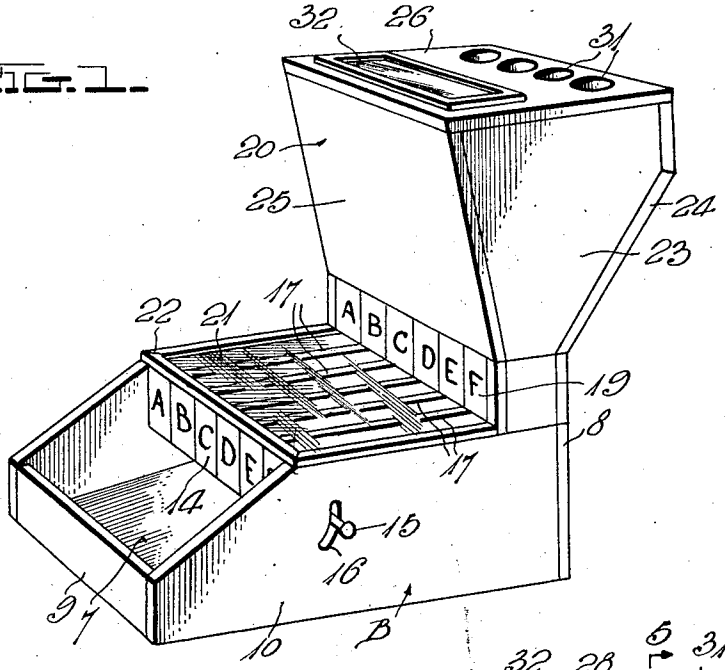
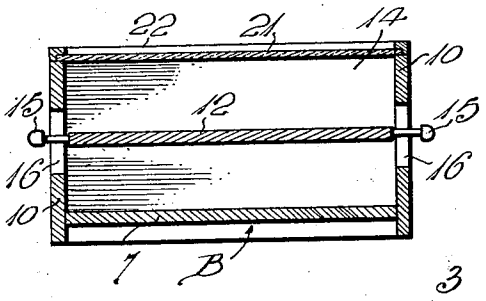


FIG. 3



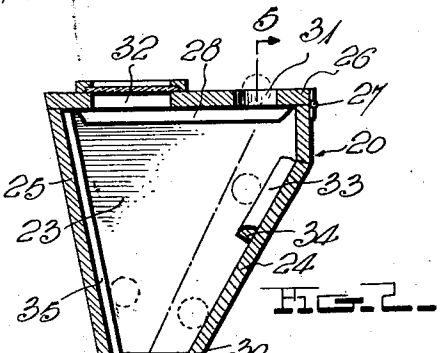
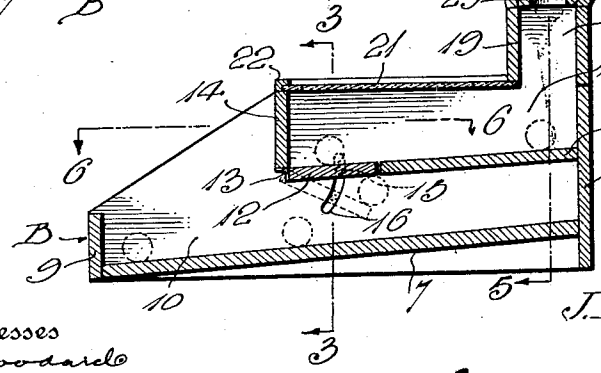


FIG. 2



Witnesses
H. Woodard
H. W. Woodard

Inventor
J. E. Russell

By H. B. Wilson & Co
Attorneys

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J. E. RUSSELL

GAME

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FIG. 4.

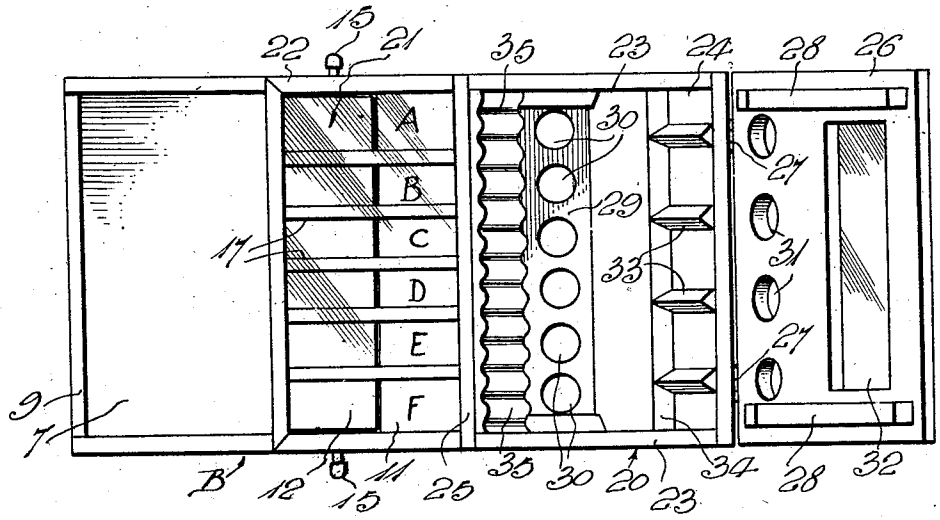


FIG. 5.

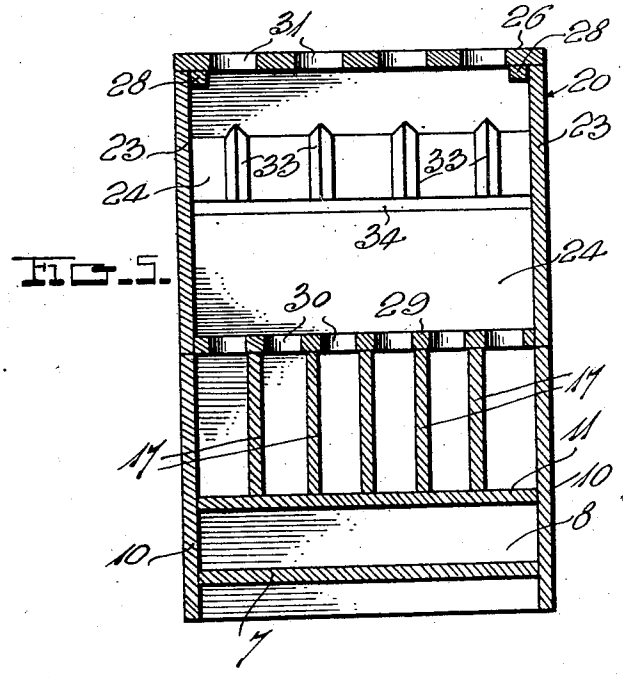
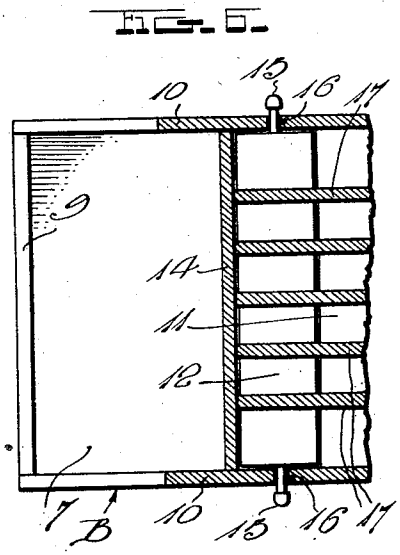


FIG. 6.



Witness
H. Woodard

Inventor
J. E. Russell

By H. B. Williamson & Co
Attorneys

Patented Aug. 24, 1926. 1,596,947

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN E. RUSSELL, OF SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, ASSIGNOR TO RUSSELL MACHINE COMPANY, INC., OF SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA, A CORPORATION OF PENNSYLVANIA.

GAME.

Application filed December 31, 1925. Serial No. 78,569.

The invention relates to improvements in games of the general type disclosed in my U. S. Patent 1,531,455 of March 31, 1925. In the patented structure, segregated fields were employed, a ball receiver was provided above said fields, ball passages were employed from the receiver to the fields respectively, and balls were provided to be tossed into the receiver, attempting to make any ball so tossed, reach a selected field. It is one object of the present invention to provide a new and improved construction in which the receiver is closed instead of being open at its top but is provided with a plurality of openings through which the balls may be dropped, so that it is not necessary to toss them into said receiver and they may thus be initially directed on any desired downward path. It is a further aim of the invention however to provide novel means within the receiver for preventing straight descent of any ball from the opening through which it is dropped, into the ball passage substantially under such opening. Thus, the improved game is strictly a game of chance.

Another object of the invention is to provide new and improved means permitting discharge of the balls from the playing fields into a hollow base with which the game is provided.

With the foregoing in view, the invention resides in the novel subject matter hereinafter described and claimed, the description being supplemented by the accompanying drawings.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a game embodying the improvements.

Fig. 2 is a central vertical longitudinal sectional view.

Fig. 3 is a transverse section on line 3—3 of Fig. 2.

Fig. 4 is a top plan view with the top of the ball receiver removed.

Fig. 5 is a vertical sectional view as indicated by line 5—5 of Fig. 2.

Fig. 6 is a detailed horizontal section on the plane of line 6—6 of Fig. 2.

In the drawings above briefly described, B designates a base which comprises a forwardly declined bottom 7, a back wall 8, a front wall 9 of relatively slight height, and a pair of parallel side walls 10. A forwardly declined board 11 extends forwardly from the back wall 8, above the bottom 7 and between the side walls 10, this board terminating in rearwardly spaced relation with the front wall 9. Another board 12 abuts the front edge of the board 11 and the upper surfaces of these two boards are flush with each other. The board 12 is mounted for downward swinging, said board being preferably connected by spring hinges 13 with an additional front wall 14 which rises from its front portion, said wall 14 being rearwardly spaced from the wall 9 and being secured to the side walls 10. The spring hinges 13 serve to normally raise the board 12 and for depressing said board to the inclined position as shown in dotted lines in Fig. 2, it may well be provided with handles 15 passing through slots 16 in the side walls 10.

Partitions 17 extend from the front wall 14 to the back wall 8 and preferably have upward extensions 18 at their rear ends, said partitions dividing the upper surfaces of the boards 11 and 12 into separate playing fields, which fields may be colored or may be identified by letters as shown in Fig. 4, or may have any other desired distinguishing means. The same identifying means may well be provided on the front side of the wall 14 and upon the lower front portion 19 of a ball receiver 20 which is mounted upon the base B, at the rear end of the latter. By preference, a transparent cover 21, held by a suitable frame 22, extends over all of the partitions 17.

The receiver 20 is preferably formed with vertical end walls 23, with a forwardly declined back wall 24, with a rearwardly declined front wall 25, and with a top 26, the latter being preferably hinged as at 27. The part 28 shown in Fig. 2, under the top 26, is one of a pair of reinforcing cleats which may be provided for said top. (See Fig. 5.)

The bottom 29 of the receiver 20 is formed with ball outlet openings 30 and the partition extensions 18 are of course disposed between these openings, so that balls from the receiver may enter the spaces or playing fields between the partitions 17. The top 26 is formed with a plurality of ball inlet openings 31 which are preferably formed in its rear portion, and the front portion of this top is preferably formed with a glass

covered opening 32 through which the travel of the balls may be observed, after said balls are dropped through the openings 31, by hand. The openings 31 are preferably of less number than the openings 30, and said openings are disposed over the forwardly declined rear wall 24, as clearly shown in Fig. 2. Each ball must thus engage this rear wall during its descent, and provision is made whereby such descent cannot be substantially straight. The inner side of the wall 24 is provided with a plurality of vertically directed ribs 33 which are preferably of the V shape form shown, said ribs being disposed under the openings 31, so that balls dropped in said openings and engaging the ribs, will be bounced to the side in one direction or the other. A horizontal rib 34 preferably extends along the lower ends of the ribs 33 so as to give an upward or forward bounce to the balls, and I prefer to provide the front wall 25 with an irregular inner side, formed by ribs 35 or in any other desired manner, so that such ribs will cause additional lateral bouncing of any ball which engages them.

The players are allotted different fields and the balls which they are to use, may well be identified with these fields. Each one drops his ball into any of the openings 31 which he may choose, and attempts to make such ball reach his own playing field. If it does reach the proper field, a desired number of points may be scored in his favor. If desired, there may be one "dummy" field and any ball reaching the same may count a desired number of points for the player.

Very pleasing results have been obtained with the construction disclosed and it is therefore preferably followed. However, within the scope of the invention as claimed, variations may of course be made.

I claim:

1. A game comprising separate playing fields, a closed ball receiver above the fields having ball outlets to said fields respectively, said receiver having a plurality of openings through which to drop a ball and being provided with an inclined wall under said openings, and means projecting from said inclined wall in substantially vertical alinement with said openings to cause deflection of the ball from its initial downward path.

2. A game comprising separate playing fields, and a closed ball receiver above the fields having ball outlets to said fields respectively, said receiver having a plurality of openings through which to drop a ball, attempting to cause the same to reach a selected playing field; said receiver having an inclined wall under the openings provided with vertically extending ribs substantially alined with said openings to cause deflection of the ball from its initial downward path.

3. A game comprising separate playing fields, and a closed ball receiver above the fields having ball outlets to said fields respectively, said receiver having a plurality of openings through which to drop a ball, attempting to cause the same to reach a selected playing field; said receiver having an inclined wall under the openings provided with vertically extending ribs substantially alined with said openings to cause deflection of the ball from its initial downward path, said inclined wall being also provided with a horizontal rib at the lower ends of the vertically extending ribs to cause bouncing of the ball.

4. A game comprising separate playing fields, and a closed ball receiver above the fields having ball outlets to said fields respectively, said receiver having a plurality of openings through which to drop a ball, attempting to cause the same to reach a selected playing field; said receiver having an inclined wall under the openings provided with vertically extending ribs substantially alined with said openings to cause deflection of the ball from its initial downward path, said inclined wall being also provided with a horizontal rib at the lower ends of the vertically extending ribs to cause bouncing of the ball, the wall of the receiver opposite said inclined wall being formed with an irregular inner side to cause further bouncing of the ball.

5. A game comprising a base having a forwardly declined bottom, front and rear walls, and side walls, a forwardly declined board spaced above said bottom and extending forwardly from said back wall between the side walls, said board terminating in rearwardly spaced relation with said front wall, a downwardly swingable board spaced behind said front wall and abutting the front edge of said declined board, the upper surfaces of the two boards being flush and segregated into playing fields, a second front wall behind the first named front wall and rising from the front portion of said swingable board, ball-directing means leading to the aforesaid fields, and means for downwardly swinging said swingable board to discharge a ball from any field into said base.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto affixed my signature.

JOHN E. RUSSELL.