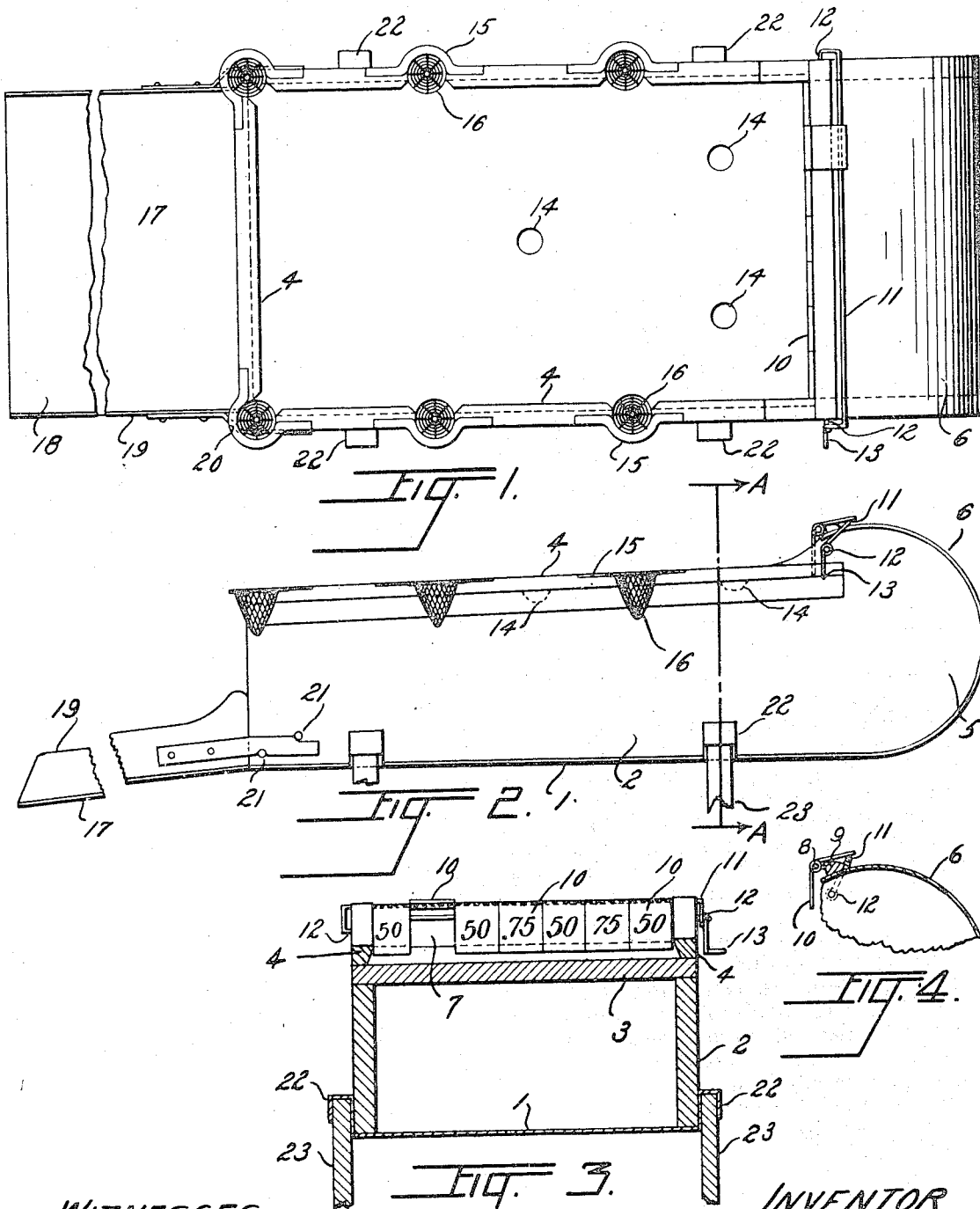


B. F. FITCH.
AMUSEMENT DEVICE.
APPLICATION FILED JULY 19, 1909.

961,595.

Patented June 14, 1910.



WITNESSES:

D. D. Green

W. W. Withenbury

INVENTOR

Benjamin F. Fitch

BY

Robert Klotz

ATTORNEY

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BENJAMIN F. FITCH, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO EDWIN F. FITCH, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

AMUSEMENT DEVICE.

961,595.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, BENJAMIN F. FITCH, a citizen of the United States, and residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Amusement Devices, of which the following is a complete specification.

The main objects of this invention are to provide an amusement device adapted to afford amusement for both children and adults, and which is also capable of scientific operation, and therefore capable of developing the skill of the players; to provide a device adapted to be employed either as a parlor game to afford amusement in the home, or to be permanently set up in amusement parks or resorts or other public places; and to provide a device of cheap and simple construction having a pool table and a guide chute for the balls adapted to direct the balls onto the table.

A specific construction embodying this invention is shown in the accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a fragmentary, top plan view of the device showing one of the doors open. Fig. 2 is a fragmentary, side elevation of the device. Fig. 3, is a section taken on line A—A of Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a sectional detail of the swinging doors and the supporting and tripping mechanism therefor.

In the construction shown, the casing or guide chute comprises a bottom 1 of sheet metal or other preferred material, and side walls 2, which are preferably formed of wood or other light and rigid material. Supported on the side walls 2 is the table top 3, and secured on both the side and end edges of the table is a strip of molding 4, the inner face of which inclines inwardly and upwardly to form a deflecting cushion for the balls.

The casing or chute is open at its forward end and the side walls 2 thereof are longer than the table top 3, and extend rearwardly beyond the same. The rear ends 5 of said side walls are rounded and extend upwardly beyond the level of the table, as shown more clearly in Figs. 2 and 3. The rear portion 6 of the bottom 1 is curved around the ends 5 of the side walls and terminates at a point above the rear end of the table 3, thereby forming a ball deflector and leaving an opening 7 between the end of said deflector and

the rear end of the table. A hinge rod 8 is carried in brackets 9 on the end of said portion 6, and hinged thereon are a plurality of swinging doors 10 which normally hang down in front of said end and close the opening 7. When balls are thrown into the open end of the casing or chute they are deflected upwardly by said deflector through the opening 7 onto the table 3. If said doors are in normal position the balls will strike some of them and swing them upwardly and rearwardly, as shown in Fig. 2.

For the purpose of quickly and easily returning the doors to normal position, a trip rod 11 extends across the portion 6 at a point beneath the ends of the back turned doors, and is bent at its ends downwardly and forwardly and pivoted on the side walls 2 at 12. One end of said rod is provided with a handle 13, and when the handle is thrown rearwardly the rod is swung upwardly and forwardly and turns the doors on their pivot or hinge and permits them to fall back to closed position.

The table is provided in its top with sockets 14 into which the balls may roll, and at its margins is provided with brackets 15 carrying pockets 16 into which the balls may roll. Said sockets and pockets may be arranged in any desired order on the table and are numbered so that when a ball stops in either of them the number may be counted in the score of the player. The doors 10 are also numbered, and when a door is turned back or opened by a ball the number thereon may be added to the score of the player. At the forward end of the casing is a detachable extension 17 comprising a bottom plate 18 and narrow sides 19. Said extension is adapted to be secured to the chute so that the balls may be thrown thereon and directed into the chute. Arms 20 are secured on the sides of the extension and are adapted to lap by the side walls 2 and are provided with notches or seats in their top and bottom edges to receive pins 21 in said side walls. The rear end of said bottom 18 is flush with the forward end of the bottom 1 and inclines downwardly and forwardly therefrom.

The device may be set upon an ordinary table when in use, but it is also provided with leg sockets 22 on the sides 2 in which may be secured legs 23.

The operation of the construction shown

is as follows: The device is supported either upon a table or upon the legs 23, and the extension 17 is secured in place. The balls, which preferably are formed of rubber, are thrown onto the extension and into the chute and they are deflected by the deflector 6 upwardly and forwardly onto the table 3. If the doors 10 are down or closed the balls will throw open the ones they come in contact with, and pass onto the table where they may roll into the sockets 14 or pockets 16, and the score is counted according to the numbers on the doors through which the balls pass, and at the sockets and pockets into which the balls roll. The doors are returned to normal position by means of the trip rod 11 after each player has completed throwing the balls. If it is desired to play the game scientifically, the doors are all raised so as not to interfere with the balls, and the balls may then be thrown so as to enter the table and strike the cushions at the proper angles to be deflected to the pockets and sockets.

25 While but one specific construction of the invention has been herein shown, it will be understood that numerous details of the construction shown may be varied or omitted without departing from the spirit of this invention.

I claim:

1. The combination with a casing having an open forward end, of a table on said casing, means at the rear end of the casing adapted to deflect balls onto the table, means normally closing the opening between the table and said deflecting means, and means on the table adapted to receive the balls.
2. The combination with a casing having an open forward end, of a table on said cas-

ing, a curved deflector at the rear end of the casing extending above the rear end of the table, hinged members on the upper end of said deflector, and pockets in said table.

3. The combination with a casing, of a table thereon having sockets in its upper surface, a curved deflector at the rear of the casing and extending above the table, and a plurality of doors hinged on the end of said deflector.

4. The combination with a casing, of a table thereon having sockets in its top, pockets at the edges of the table, an extension adapted to be connected to the forward end of the casing, a deflector at the rear of the casing, and a plurality of doors hinged on said deflector.

5. The combination with a casing, of a table thereon, a curved deflector at the rear of the casing, a plurality of doors hinged at the forward end of the deflector and normally overhanging the rear end of the table, and means adapted to turn the doors to normal position.

6. The combination with a casing, of a table thereon, a curved deflector on the rear end of said casing and extending above the rear end of the table, a plurality of numbered doors hinged on the deflector and normally closing the opening between the deflector and the table, a trip rod pivoted on the casing and adapted to close said doors, and means for operating said rod.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name in the presence of two witnesses.

BENJAMIN F. FITCH.

Witnesses:

W. W. WITENBURY,
L. P. FITCH.