No. 860,924. PATENTED JULY 23, 1907.

C. H. LEE.

GAME APPARATUS.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 29, 1907.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

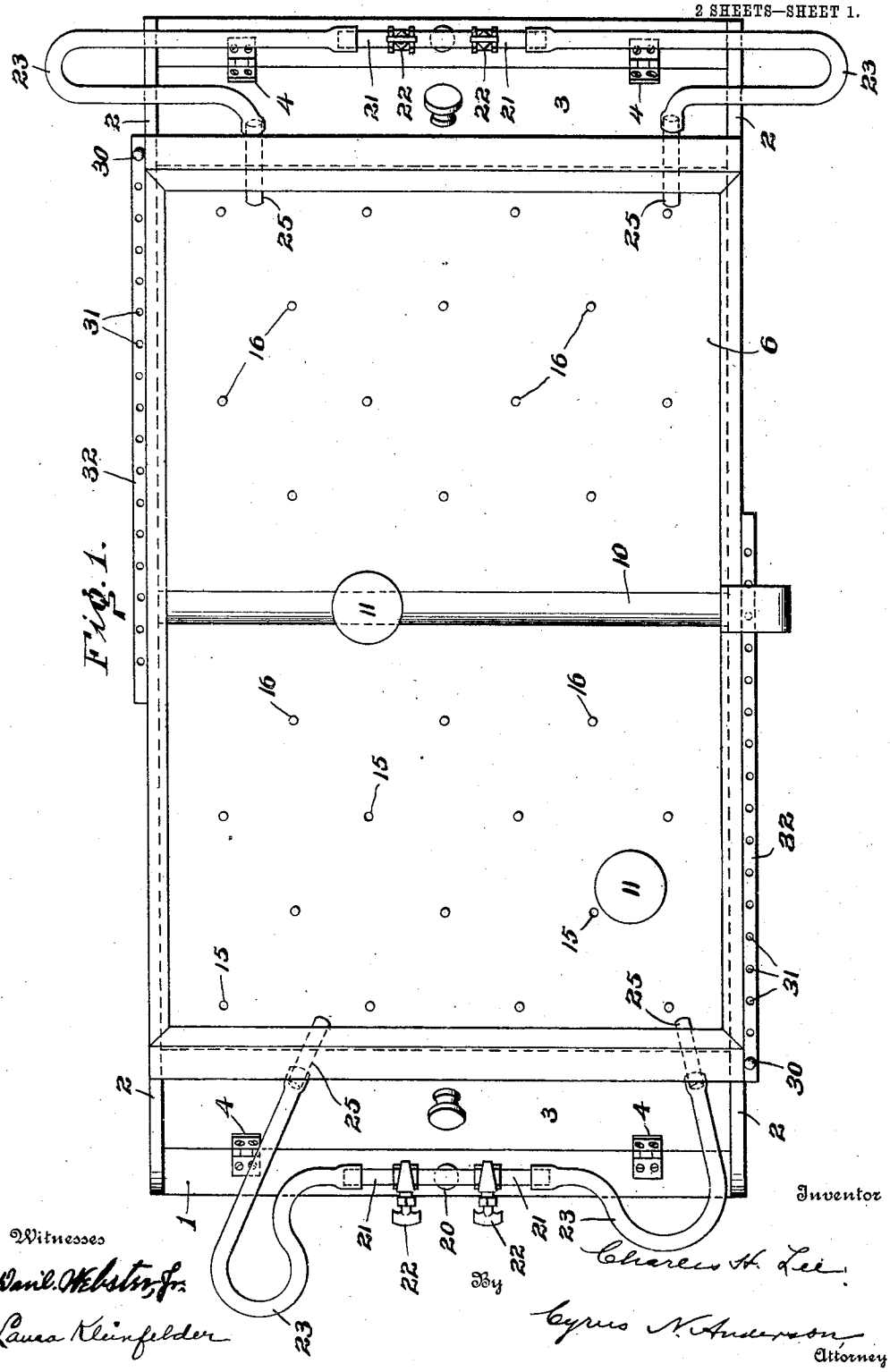


Fig. 1.

Witnesses

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

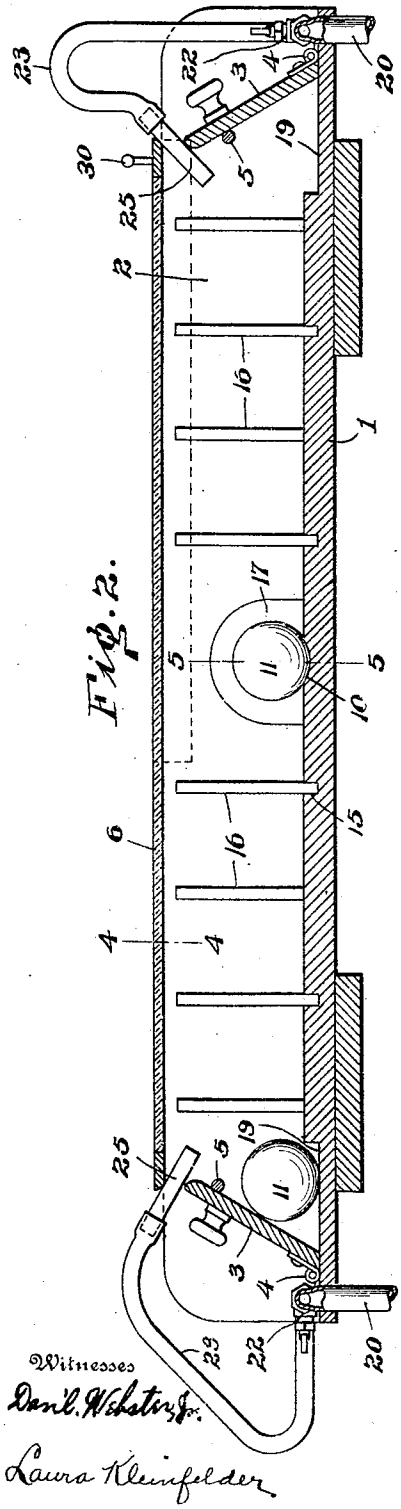


Fig. 2.

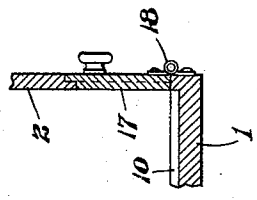


Fig. 5.

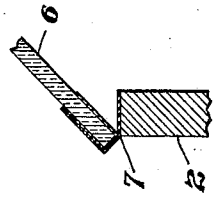


Fig. 4.

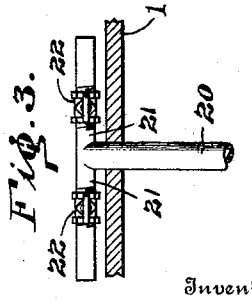


Fig. 3.

Witnesses

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GAME APPARATUS.

No. 860,924. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented July 23, 1907.

Application filed April 29, 1907. Serial No. 370,845.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES H. LEE, a citizen of the United States, residing in the city and county of Philadelphia, State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Game Apparatus, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to an improvement in game apparatus, and its object is to provide a game which is adapted to be played indoors, and in which a table or board is employed, balls being placed thereupon, the said balls being adapted to be driven from end to end or side to side of the table by opposing players by means of jets of suitable gaseous fluid, preferably air.

The convenient form of my invention is disclosed in the accompanying drawing, but various changes within the scope of the claims may be made without departing from the same.

In order that my invention may be more readily understood, reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, in which

Figure 1 is a top plan view of the apparatus; Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section thereof; Fig. 3 is a section through a portion of one end of the table of the apparatus, showing certain parts of the apparatus in elevation; Fig. 4 is a section on the line 4—4 of Fig. 2; and Fig. 5 is a section on the line 5—5 of Fig. 2.

In the drawings,—1 designates a table or board and 2 designates the sides of the apparatus which are joined at their bottom or lower edges to the sides of the table or board.

3 designates end boards or closures for the opposite ends of the apparatus and 4 designates hinges by which the end plates 3 are hinged to the table or board.

5 designates stop rods which extend from side to side of the apparatus and against which the upper portions of the end plates 3 rest.

6 designates a cover (preferably of glass) which is connected to the upper edge of one of the sides 2, by means of a flexible device 7, so that the lid or cover may be raised, if desired, as indicated in Fig. 4 of the drawings. It is to be understood, however, that if the apparatus is made of larger size, it may be impracticable to lift the lid, as indicated in Fig. 4, in which case it would, of course, be unnecessary to hinge it to the sides of the apparatus.

It will be observed that the upper edges of the end plates 3 are located below the cover or lid 6, so as to leave a space between the said upper edges and the cover or lid, as indicated in the drawing. The cover or lid 6 is shorter in length than the table 1. The distance between the points of connection of the end plates 3 and the table 1 is greater than the length of the lid or cover 6 so that in order to bring the upper edges of the end plates into substantial alinement with the opposite ends of the lid or cover it is necessary to incline them inwardly, as illustrated in the drawings. The advantage of inclining the end plates as indicated will be pointed out hereinafter.

The table or board 1 is provided at its center with a groove or depression 10 which extends from side to side of the table, the purpose of which is to facilitate the positioning of the balls 11 at the center of the table in order to begin the playing of a game. Upon the opposite sides of the groove or depression 10 small holes 15 are provided in the bottom of the table for the reception of pins 16. These pins are removable so that a greater or less number of the same may be left in place during the playing of a game. If desired, all of the pins may be removed, or there may be a greater number of pins upon one side of the depression 10 than upon the other. This is a matter entirely within the control of the players. If one player is more skilful than another, the inequality due to skill may be compensated for by having a different number of pins upon the opposite sides of the groove or depression 10.

In order to provide special means for placing the balls 11 in the groove or depression 10, I have provided a door 17, hinged at 18 to the central portion of one edge of the table 1. The table is provided at each of its ends with a depression 19 extending from side to side of the table, which is formed by cutting away a portion of the material thereof. The inner edges of the depressions 19 are located a short distance inside the lines of the upper edges of the end plates 3, but such inner edges are located outside of the line of jets of air which may escape from the air nozzles, so that after the balls 11 are placed in the depressions 19, they pass underneath the overhanging end plates 3 and are outside of the line of draft of the jets of air from the air nozzles.

20 designates pipes connected to a source of air under pressure (not shown), the upper ends of which pipes are provided with laterally extending portions 21 provided with valves 22 which are adapted to open and close the passages through the said pipes.

23 designates flexible tubes which are connected to the ends of the laterally extending portions 21. The outer ends of these flexible tubes are provided with nozzles 25, which are adapted to be inserted in the space between the upper edges of the end plates 3 and the lower sides of the opposite end portions of the lid or cover 6, as indicated most clearly in Fig. 2 of the drawings.

As illustrated, the apparatus is designed to be used in connection with a source of air supply under pressure from any suitable mechanical device which may be employed for this purpose, but it is desired that it be understood that the flexible tubes may be disconnected from the laterally extending pipes 21 and applied to the mouth, so that the game may be played by persons blowing through the said tubes and without the em-

ployment of air through the pipe 20 from a source of air pressure resulting from mechanical means or appliances.

It will be observed that two flexible tubes are shown in the drawings at each end of the table so that four persons may play the game on the apparatus, as illustrated, but the number of these tubes may be varied, either by increasing or decreasing the number. If desired, only one of the tubes at each end may be employed.

In the playing of the game, the balls are placed at the center of the board in the groove 10. The players take positions at opposite ends of the table and direct the nozzles of the flexible tubes 23 toward the balls, to drive them toward the opposite ends of the table under the influence of the jets of air escaping from the nozzles. The endeavor of the players is to drive the ball or balls toward the opposite end of the table beyond the ends of the nozzles and into the depressions 19, as indicated at the left hand side of Fig. 2 of the drawings. If a person standing say at the right hand side of Fig. 2 of the drawings succeeds in driving the ball or balls toward the left into the depression at the left hand side of Fig. 2 of the drawings in opposition to the efforts of a person standing at the left hand side of Fig. 2 of the drawings, the game is won by him and the score may be kept by placing a score pin 30 in holes 31 provided in a score plate 32 secured to one side of the apparatus.

Having thus described my invention, I claim:—

1. In a device of the character described, the combination of a table, side and end plates connected to the said table, the said end plates being inclined upwardly and inwardly, balls located upon the said table and adapted to be driven to the opposite ends of the said table underneath the inclined end plates, and means at the opposite ends of the said device adapted to direct jets of air against the said balls.

2. In a device of the character described, the combination of a table, side and end plates connected to the said table, the said end plates being inclined inwardly and upwardly, a cover or lid supported upon the said side plates, the opposite ends of which cover or lid are located a distance above and in substantial alinement with the upper edges of the end plates so as to leave an elongated space between the said end plates and the said cover or lid, balls located upon the said table and adapted to be driven thereover by means of jets of air to the opposite ends of the said table underneath the said inclined end plates, and means at the opposite ends of the said device adapted to be extended through the spaces between the end plates and the cover or lid to direct jets of air against the said balls.

3. In a device of the character described, the combination of a table, side and end plates connected to the said table, a cover or lid supported upon the said side plates, the opposite ends of which cover or lid are located a distance above the upper edges of the end plates so as to leave an elongated space between the said end plates and the said lid or cover, balls located upon the said table and adapted to be driven thereover by means of jets of air, and means at the opposite ends of the said device adapted to be extended through the spaces between the end plates and the said cover or lid to direct jets of air against the said balls.

4. In a device of the character described, the combination of a table, side and end plates connected to the said table, a cover or lid located upon the upper edges of the said side pieces, the opposite ends of the said cover or lid being located a distance above the upper edges of the end plates, pins secured upon the said table and being located upon opposite sides of a central line across the said table, balls adapted to be driven over the said table under the influence of jets of air, and means located at the opposite ends of the said device and being adapted to be inserted in the spaces between the said lid or cover and the upper edges of the said end plates to direct the jets of air against the said balls.

5. In a device of the character described, the combination of a table, side and end plates connected to the said table, a cover or lid located upon the upper edges of the said side pieces, the opposite ends of the said cover or lid being located a distance above the upper edges of the end plates, pins secured upon the said table and being located upon opposite sides of a central line across the said table, balls adapted to be driven over the said table under the influence of jets of air, means located at the opposite ends of the said device and being adapted to be inserted in the spaces between the said lid or cover and the upper edges of the said end plates to direct the jets of air against the said balls, and a pipe for supplying air to the said means.

6. In a device of the character described, the combination of a table, side and end plates connected to the said table, the said end plates being inclined upwardly and inwardly, a cover or lid supported upon the said side plates, the opposite ends of which cover or lid are located a distance above the upper edges of the end plates so as to leave an elongated space between the said end plates and the said cover or lid, depressions in the opposite ends of the said table which extend underneath the overhanging end plates, balls located upon the said table and adapted to be driven into the said depressions underneath the said end plates, and means at the opposite ends of the said device adapted to be extended through the spaces between the end plates and the said cover or lid to direct jets of air against the said balls.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my invention, I have hereunto signed my name this 25th day of April, A. D. 1907.

CHARLES H. LEE.

In the presence of—
IRVIN SHUPP, Jr.,
LAURA KLEINFELDER.