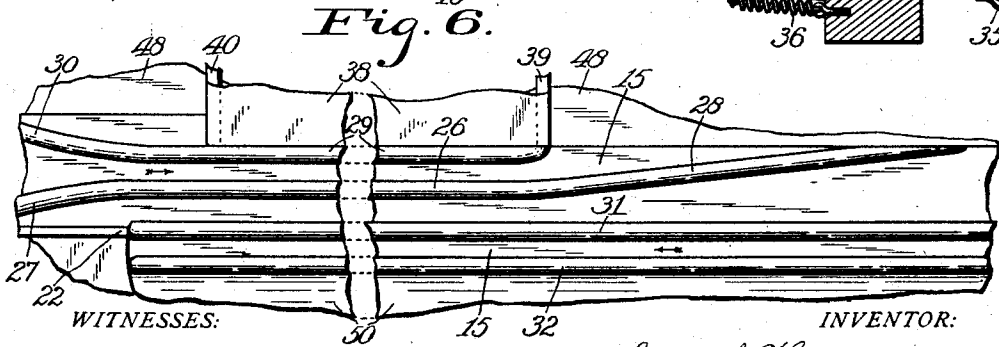
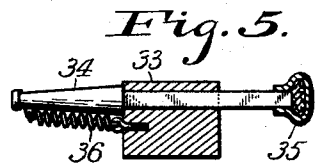
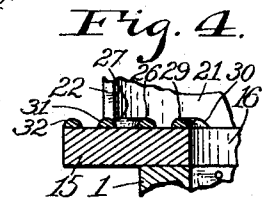
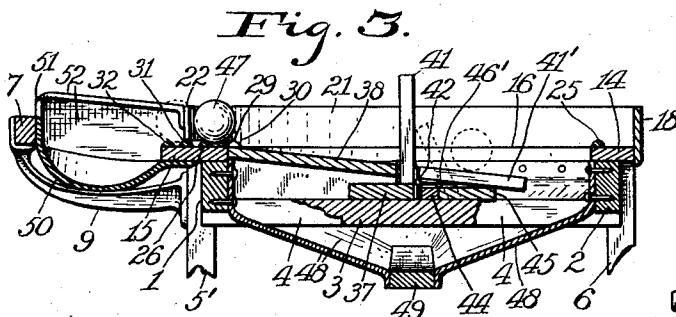
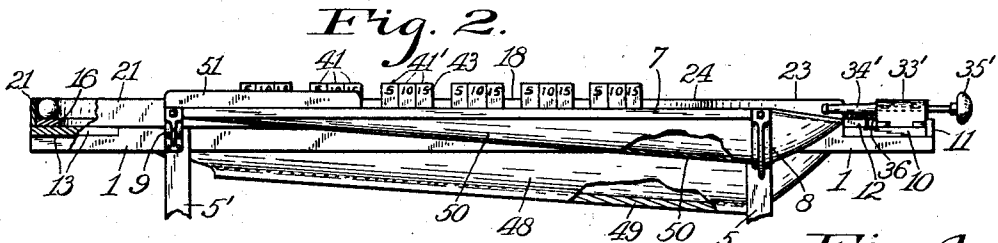
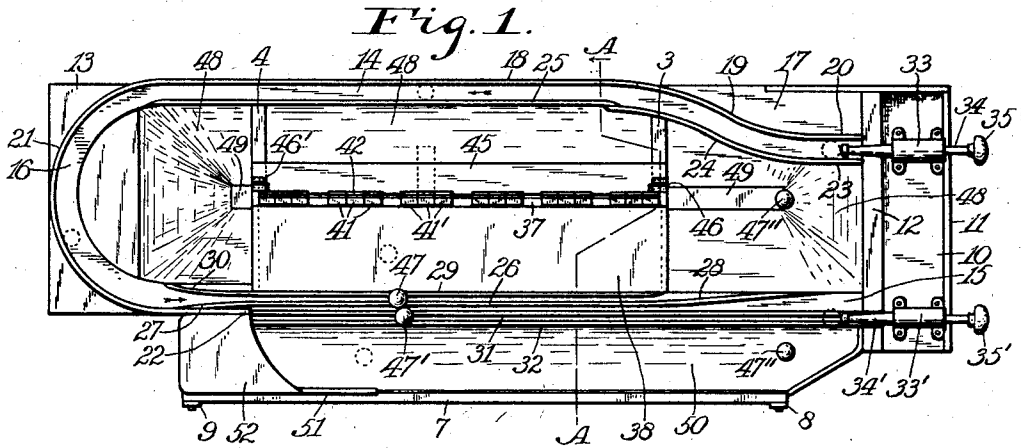


S. HUMMERSON.
AMUSEMENT GAME APPARATUS.
APPLICATION FILED MAY 24, 1912.

1,047,637.

Patented Dec. 17, 1912.



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AMUSEMENT GAME APPARATUS.

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Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SAMUEL HUMMERSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Indianapolis, in the county of Marion and State of Indiana, have invented a new and useful Amusement Game Apparatus, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon.

This invention relates to games requiring the exercise of skill and judgment on the part of players, the invention having reference more particularly to game apparatus designed for competitive playing.

An object of the invention is to provide new and useful game apparatus that will afford means for amusement of one or more persons and which shall be so constructed as to be adapted to be moved about from place to place if desired, so as to be available for social parties or picnics or elsewhere when desired.

A further object is to provide an amusement game apparatus that shall be useful to young as well as adult persons and be simple so as to be easily learned, while requiring more or less practice in order to play skillfully.

A still further object is to provide simple and cheaply constructed game apparatus that shall be calculated to hold the interest of players, and be durable in use.

With the above mentioned and other objects in view, the invention consists in a table provided with a novel arrangement of guideways for guiding balls, drivers mounted on the table for giving momentum to the balls, a series of blocks upon the table to be pushed over by the balls, and troughs supported by the table for guiding the spent balls back approximately to the starting place; and the invention consists further in the parts and combinations and arrangements of parts as hereinafter particularly described and claimed.

Referring to the drawings, Figure 1 is a top plan of the new game apparatus; Fig. 2, a side elevation of the table partially broken away; Fig. 3, transverse section approximately on the line A A in Fig. 1; Fig. 4, a fragmentary section reproducing portions of Fig. 3 on an enlarged scale; Fig. 5, a sectional elevation of one

of the drivers, and Fig. 6, a fragmentary top plan of a portion of the table on an enlarged scale.

Similar reference characters in the several figures of the drawings indicate corresponding elements or features of construction herein referred to.

As preferably constructed the table or game board comprises two side rails 1 and 2 of suitable length to the under sides of which two cross-bars 3 and 4 are secured at suitable distances from the ends of the rails, to constitute the main portion of a frame provided at one side with two supporting legs 5 and 5' and at the opposite side with similar legs 6, a guard rail 7 being suitably supported preferably by means of brackets 8 and 9 at a suitable distance outward from the rail 1, the guard rail preferably being somewhat higher than the plane of the rails 1 and 2. A head board 10 is secured upon the rails 1 and 2 at one end thereof and preferably provided with ledges 11 and 12 on opposite edges thereof, the opposite ends of the side bars having a board 13 secured thereon. A track board 14 is secured upon the rail 2 and a similar board 15 is secured upon the rail 1, and they are continuous with a curved track board 16 supported partially upon the rails and partially upon the board 13 to form the bottom of a continuous guideway, there being a relatively broader track board 17 extending continuously from the board 14 to the ledge 12. A guide rail 18 is secured to the outer side of the board 14, a reversely curved guide rail 19 extending from the rail 18 toward the ledge 12, a straight portion 20 extending from the curved rail portion 19 to the ledge.

A curved guide rail 21 extends from the rail 18 on the curved board 16 and has a terminating end 22 adjacently to the cross-bar 4. A straight guide rail portion 23 is secured upon the board portion 17 opposite the rail portion 20 and a reversely curved guide rail portion 24 extends therefrom to the board portion 14 to constitute a channel for guiding a ball, the inner edge of the board 14 having a molding or bead 25 thereon extending opposite the guide rail 18 from the rail portion 24 to the curved board 16. A straight strip of molding 26 is secured upon the board 15 in a plane at one side of the terminal end 22 and it has an outwardly

curved portion 27 extending over to the rail 21. and also an oblique angled portion 28 extending toward the ledge 12 to guide the balls off of the guideway. Another molding 29 is secured upon the board 15 inwardly from the molding 26 a suitable distance and it has a curved portion 30 extending away oppositely from the curved portion 27 onto the curved board 16, the molding 29 extending toward the head board only to the plane of the cross-bar 3. The moldings 26 and 29 constitute ribs to form a channel or groove for guiding the balls. Two other moldings 31 and 32 are secured upon the board 15 at suitable distances apart and outwardly beyond the molding 26 to constitute another guideway for balls. Two suitable guide heads 33 and 33' preferably are secured upon the head board 10 and two rods 34 and 34' are mounted therein, respectively, so as to slide longitudinally to constitute drivers for starting the balls, one of the rods being arranged in the entrance of the guideway formed by the guide rails 20 and 23 and the other at the entrance of the guideway formed by the ribs 31 and 32. The rods preferably are provided with cushioned heads 35 and 35', respectively, and each rod is provided with a retracting spring 36 which is suitably connected thereto and also to the guide head.

A frame bar 37 is supported on the cross-bars 3 and 4 and extends approximately midway between the rails 1 and 2. A board constituting an inclined plane 38 is supported on suitable blocks 39 and 40 arranged upon the cross-bars 3 and 4 respectively, the plane extending from the board 15 downward to the bar 37. A suitable number of blocks 41, 41', are arranged uprightly on the bar 37 and connected thereto by means of hinges 42 arranged at the farther side of the blocks from the lower end of the plane, so that the blocks may be pushed away from the plane to prone position. The blocks preferably are arranged in series with spaces between the different series to permit balls to pass between the different series, all being in a row at the foot of the plane. Preferably each block has a suitable numeral 43 on the side thereof that faces toward the plane so that points made in the game may be counted if desired. Hinge blocks 44 are arranged on the cross-bars 3 and 4 adjacent to the farther side of the bar 37 from the foot of the plane 38. A setting-bar 45 is normally arranged on the cross bars 3 and 4 adjacent to the bar 37 and is notched to receive the hinge blocks and is connected to the hinge blocks by means of hinges 46 and 46', so that when the blocks 41 are knocked down upon the setting-bar 45, the setting blocks form continuations of the inclined plane and may be again raised to normal position by means of the setting-bar which may be

swung on its hinges to lift them up from prone position.

A suitable number of balls 47, 47', 47'', are required. Ivory billiard balls preferably are employed and are of such diameter that they cannot pass on the two parallel guideways at the upper end of the inclined plane, it being designed that in an effort to pass, one or the other must force the opposing one off of its guideway or track. A suitable trough is provided for receiving the balls when their force is spent, and preferably a trough 48 composed of canvas is connected to the frame so as to extend from one side rail to the other and from the head board 10 to the board 13, the middle portion of the canvas being slitted and having a stiffening piece 49 secured in the slit so as to form a straight inclined chute in the bottom of the trough to guide the balls downwardly to the head end of the table. Preferably a separate canvas trough 50 is connected to the board 15 and the guard rail 7 for guiding some of the balls back to the driver 34'. The rail 7 preferably has a side board 51 thereon provided with a cover 52 extending over to the terminal end portion 22 of the guide rail 21, the cover being connected with the trough 50 to form a stop pocket for balls going into the trough 50.

In practical use the player places a ball against the driver 34 and another ball against the driver 34' and then strikes the cushioned head 35 a blow which drives the ball outward to and around the loop, and then acting on his best judgment the player strikes the head 35' a blow and thereby forces the remaining ball outward to meet the incoming ball on opposite guideways or tracks. Referring to Fig. 1, it will be seen that an incoming ball 47 is met by an outgoing ball 47', and that since the balls cannot pass it is evident either one or both of the balls must be dislodged, the ball moving at the higher speed usually forcing the other ball off. If a ball is forced from the return guideway or track when adjacent the inclined plane it will roll down the plane and knock over one of more of the blocks 41, or may pass through between two series of blocks and fall on the bar 45 and then roll off into the trough 48. If the ball is not adjacent to the inclined plane it may be driven off of its guideway directly into the trough. If the outgoing ball 47' is forced off of its track while the opposite ball continues on its way to the deflecting guide 28 and thence into the trough 48, the ball 47'' is forced over into the trough 50 and returns therein to the head end of the table.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new is:—

1. Game apparatus including a table, a plurality of blocks arranged in a row upon the table, an inclined plane on the table ex-

tending downward to one side of the row of blocks, and two parallel guideways on the table extending along the upper end of the inclined plane.

5 2. Game apparatus including a table having two parallel guideways thereon, one of the guideways having a looped approaching guideway connected therewith, a plane on the table extending downward from one of the two guideways, and a plurality of blocks 10 hingedly supported uprightly at the lower end of the plane.

3. Game apparatus including a table having a plurality of blocks hingedly supported uprightly in a row thereon, an inclined plane 15 on the table extending downward to the row of blocks, a guideway on the table extending along the higher end of the plane and around one end of the row of blocks and also 20 opposite the row from the plane, and a guideway on the table beyond the higher end of the plane and the guideway thereat.

4. Game apparatus including a table, an inclined plane on the table, a plurality of 25 blocks hingedly supported uprightly on the table in a row at the foot of the plane and movable to prone position, a setting-bar hingedly supported on the table adjacent to the foot of the plane for supporting the 30 blocks in prone position and raising the

blocks to normal upright position, two parallel guideways on the table adjacent to the top of the plane and having approaches provided with drivers, and two balls to be 35 started by the drivers on the approaches and thence to the guideways in opposite directions, the balls being of such size as to interfere on the guideways.

5. Game apparatus including a table having two parallel guideways thereon, one of 40 the guideways having a looped approaching guideway connected therewith, two movable drivers mounted on the table, one driver being at the inlet end of the approaching guideway, the other driver being at the inlet 45 end of the remaining one of the parallel guideways, an inclined plane extending downward from one of the parallel guideways, a plurality of blocks movably supported on the table at the foot of the plane, 50 and two troughs supported under the table at opposite sides of the parallel guideways, one of the troughs extending under the blocks and the inclined plane.

In testimony whereof, I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses. 55

SAMUEL HUMMERSON.

Witnesses:

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