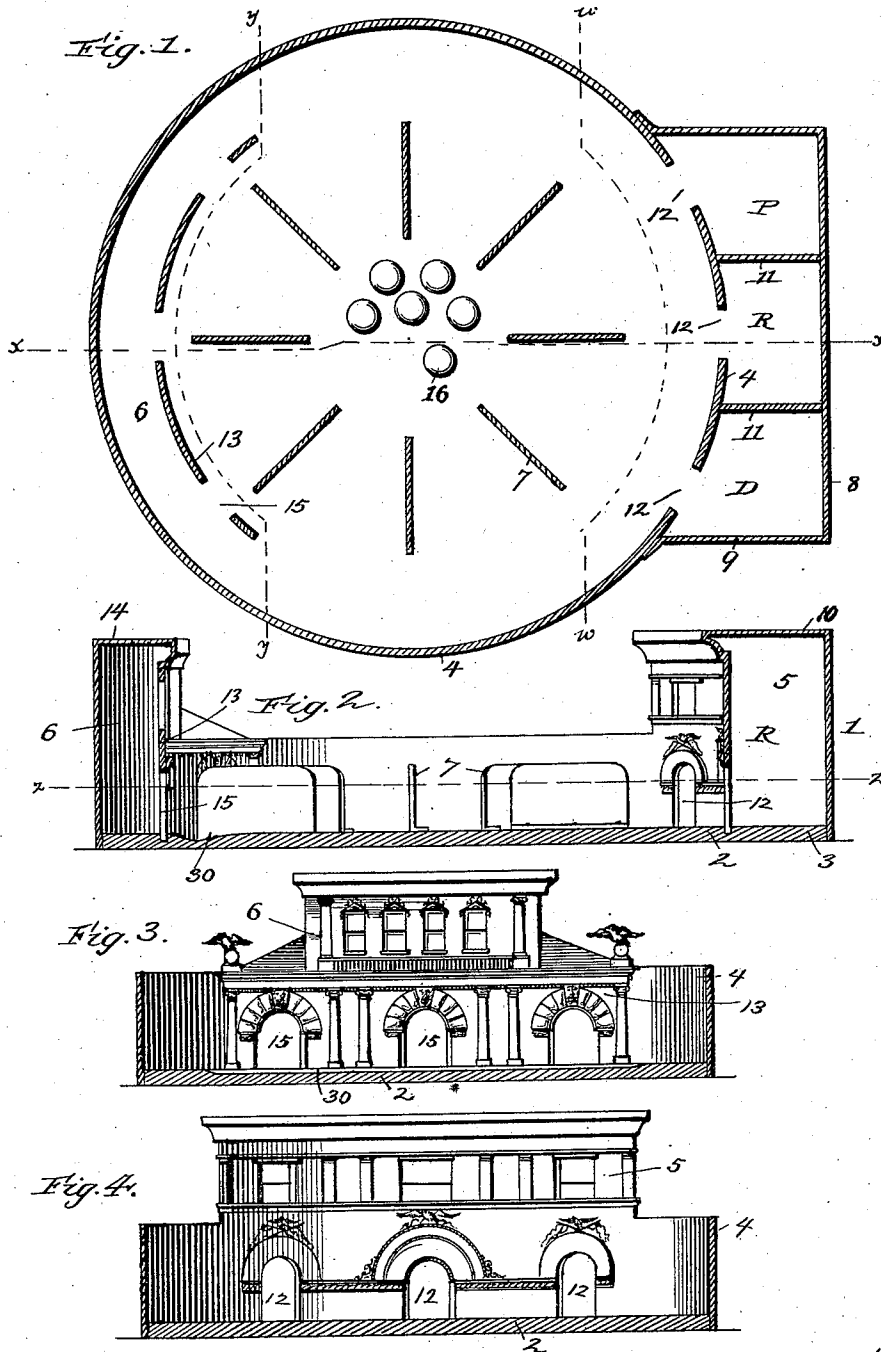


(No Model.)

E. B. PARKER.
PUZZLE OR GAME.

No. 577,146.

Patented Feb. 16, 1897.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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PUZZLE OR GAME.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 577,146, dated February 16, 1897.

Application filed May 16, 1896. Serial No. 591,836. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ELIZABETH B. PARKER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Fort Collins, in the county of Larimer and State of Colorado, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Puzzles or Games; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to improvements in puzzles or game appliances; and it has for its general object to provide a cheap, simple, and amusing puzzle or game appliance which will afford an illustration of the care and attention necessary to the proper conduct of a campaign and the election of a President and Vice-President of the United States.

With the foregoing end in view the invention will be fully understood from the following description and claim when taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a horizontal section of a puzzle or game appliance embodying my invention, said section being taken in the plane indicated by the line *z z* of Fig. 2. Fig. 2 is a diametrical section taken in the plane indicated by the line *x x* of Fig. 1; and Figs. 3 and 4 are vertical sections taken in the planes indicated by the lines *y y* and *w w*, respectively, of Fig. 1.

In the said drawings similar numerals and letters designate corresponding parts in all of the several views, referring to which—

1 indicates the frame or box of my improved puzzle or appliance. This frame or box 1 comprises the bottom 2, which is of a general circular form and has the offset portions 3 and the circular wall 4, which rises from the bottom 2, and it is provided with the covered inclosure 5 at one point or end and with the covered inclosure 6 at a diametrically opposite point or end, and is also provided upon the bottom 2 with the radially-disposed walls 7, which are arranged between the inclosures 5 and 6, as shown, for a purpose presently to be described.

The inclosure 5 is arranged upon the offset portion 3 of the bottom 2, as shown, and it is formed by said portion 3, the circular wall 4, the outer side wall 8, the end walls 9, and the

top wall 10, and is divided by partition-walls 11 into three compartments R, D, and P, each of which communicates with the space within the wall 4 through openings 12 in said wall, as shown.

The inclosure 5 is formed by the circular wall 4, the circular wall 13, and the top wall 14, and it communicates at its ends with the space within the wall 4, and also communicates with said space through the openings 15, formed in the wall 13.

The three compartments R, D, and P of the inclosure 5 represent the nominating conventions of the three chief political parties of the country, to wit: the Republican party, the Democratic party, and the Prohibition party. The inclosure 6 represents the "White House;" and the puzzle or game consists in working the balls 16, which represent the presidential and vice-presidential candidates, from the conventions or compartments R, D, and P of the inclosure 5 to the "White House" or inclosure 6 and retaining them in such inclosure. The passage of the balls from the compartments R, D, and P to the inclosure 6 is rendered very difficult by the radially-disposed walls 7, and consequently careful and skillful manipulation of the appliance is necessary to transfer the balls from the one to the other. The walls 7 are arranged at intermediate points between the center of the frame or box and the wall 4 thereof, and therefore a center space is afforded between their inner ends and spaces between their outer ends and the wall 4 of the frame or box. In consequence of this the balls, by proper manipulation of the appliance, may be caused to take a course between the ends of the walls 7 and the side wall of the frame or box in passing from the inclosure 5 to the inclosure 6, or may be caused to take a direct course from one inclosure to the other, in which case they will pass between some of the walls 7 and across the center space. When the balls are caused to take this latter course, the arrangement of the walls 7 will tend to cause all of the balls to enter the inclosure 6 and will render it exceedingly difficult to place two balls in such inclosure without the others.

In practice the balls representing the various presidential and vice-presidential candi-

dates are colored or marked so that those representing the candidates of one party may be readily distinguished from those of the other parties, and the balls are placed in the proper compartments of the inclosure 5, that is to say, the balls representing the Republican candidates in compartment R, the balls representing the Democratic candidates in compartment D, and those representing the Prohibition candidates in compartment P.

There are three players, representing the Republicans, Democrats, and Prohibitionists, respectively, and the object of each is to work the balls representing the candidates of his party into the "White House" or inclosure 6 and keep the other balls out. Each player will have two plays and if he fails in placing the balls representing his candidates in the "White House" or inclosure 6 he must give way to another player. If a player succeeds in getting the candidates of his party in the inclosure 6 together with other candidates it will not count, and the balls must be returned to the inclosure 5 and another trial made.

In order to increase the difficulty attending the placing of the balls in the inclosure 6, I provide the bottom 2 in its upper side with the depression 30, which is arranged in front of the wall 13, as shown.

It is obvious that the puzzle or appliance may be worked with balls representing the candidates of but two parties, in which case one of the compartments of the inclosure 5 may be dispensed with.

It is also obvious that when desired but two balls need be employed, one representing the presidential candidate of one party and one the presidential candidate of another party. I prefer, however, to employ the six balls, as described, as their use renders it very difficult to place the balls representing the candidates

of one party in the inclosure 6 without getting some of the other balls in said inclosure.

My improved puzzle or game appliance, while very cheap and simple, will afford a great amount of amusement not only to the players, but also to those who are looking on and following the trials or attempts to place the balls representing certain candidates in the inclosure representing the "White House" without placing the other balls therein.

Having described my invention, what I claim is—

The puzzle or game appliance described consisting essentially of the frame or box having the inclosure 5, at one of its ends provided with separate compartments, and openings connecting said compartments with the interior of the frame or box, the inclosure 6, arranged at the opposite end of the frame or box with respect to the inclosure 5, and having its ends communicating with the interior of the frame or box and also having an opening in its front wall connecting its interior and the interior of the frame or box, the depression 30, formed in the bottom of the frame or box immediately in front of the front wall of the inclosure 6 and the radially-disposed, vertical walls 7 arranged on the bottom of the frame or box and between the inclosures 5, and 6, and also arranged at intermediate points between the center of the frame or box and the side wall thereof so as to form a central space between their inner ends and a space between their outer ends and the side wall of the frame or box, substantially as specified.

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

ELIZABETH B. PARKER.

Witnesses:

W. J. SICKMAN,
CHAS. V. PARKER.