Feb. 17, 1948. H. SOLOMON 2,436,273

GAME BOARD HOLDER

Filed April 6, 1945 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.

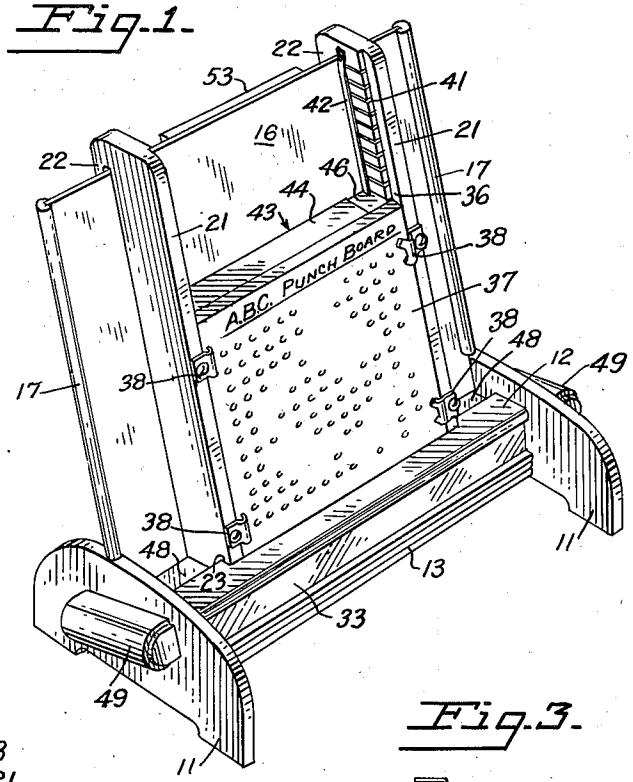


Fig. 2.

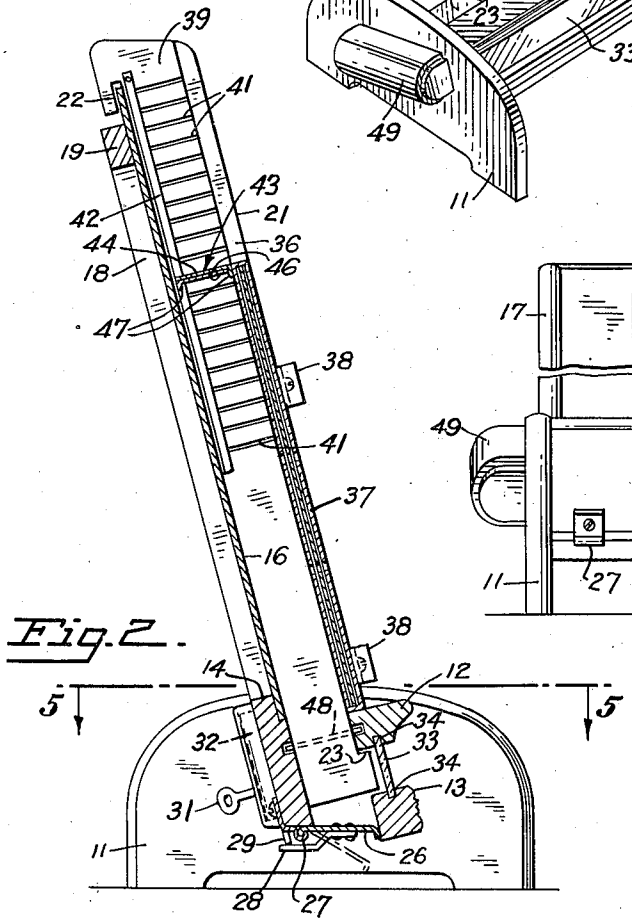
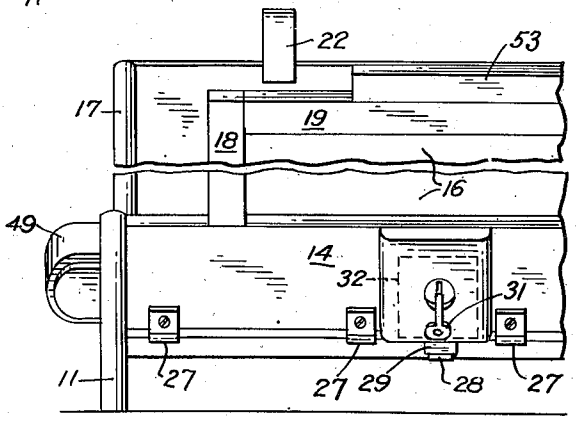


Fig. 3.



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Feb. 17, 1948. H. SOLOMON 2,436,273

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Filed April 6, 1945 2 Sheets-Sheet 2

Fig. 4.

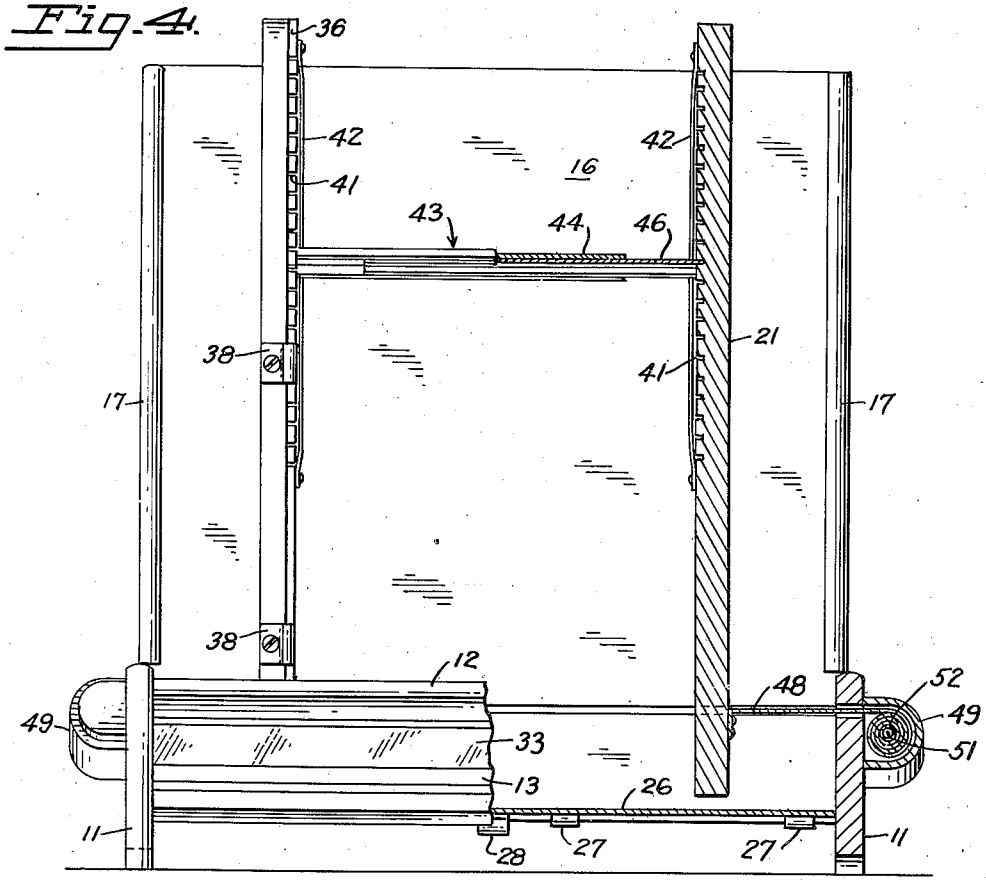
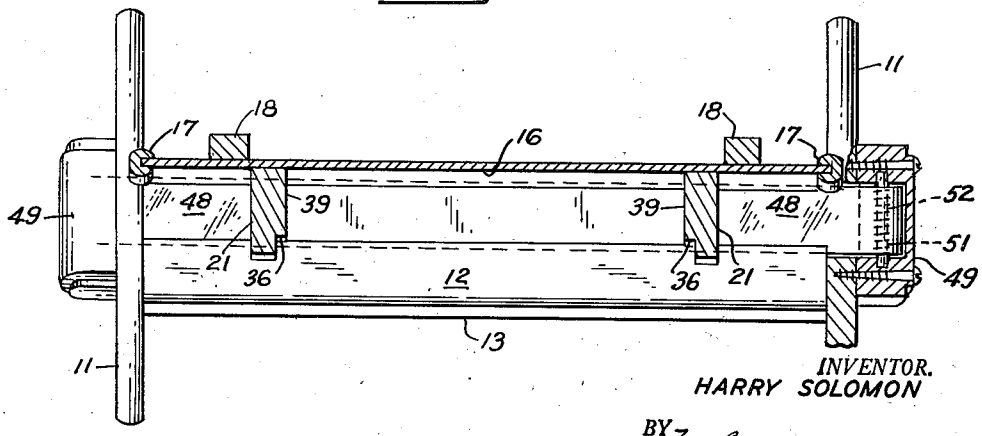


Fig. 5.



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Patented Feb. 17, 1948

2,436,273

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,436,273

GAME BOARD HOLDER

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Application April 6, 1945, Serial No. 586,904

4 Claims. (Cl. 273—139)

1

This invention relates to holders for conventional punch boards or game boards of the type having pellets carrying indicia, or having other articles, in perforations in the boards, which pellets or articles can be punched out of the boards by players.

Objects of the invention include the provision of holders which are adjustable vertically and horizontally to accommodate boards of different dimensions, which will collect in a locked chamber the pellets punched out by a player, and which will make them visible to the player while they enter and remain in the locked chamber; and also to provide means which permit only an authorized person to open the chamber and remove the pellets.

Other objects of the invention are to provide holders of the type referred to which are simple in construction, easy to manufacture, and are so constructed that insertion or removal of a punch board can be easily and quickly accomplished.

Further objects will be apparent on reading this specification.

The preferred embodiment of the invention is illustrated on the accompanying drawings, on which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the novel holder with a punch board in position thereon;

Figure 2 is a vertical cross section thereof;

Figure 3 is a broken rear elevation of the holder;

Figure 4 is a front elevation, partly in section; and

Figure 5 is a horizontal cross section.

The preferred construction of holder includes spaced supporting feet 11 joined by front cross bars 12 and 13, one over the other, and by a rear cross bar 14. A thin backing 16 is attached to and projects obliquely upwardly from the rear cross bar, the latter being slightly thicker below the bottom of the backing, so that the face of the backing will be flush with the face of the thicker portion, and for another purpose which will be referred to hereafter. The side edges of the backing are covered by slotted bars 17, the lower ends of which rest on the feet 11. Upwardly extending reinforcements 18 and a horizontal reinforcement 19 are attached to the thin backing to avoid warping thereof.

Sides 21 are movable, but only horizontally, and this movement is for the purpose of lateral adjustment. They have hook-like members 22 overhanging the top of the backing, and have slots 23 so that parts of the sides adjacent the slots are over and under the front cross bar

2

12, to lock them against removal. They project downwardly to a member 26 hinged at 27, when in its uppermost position. Attached to this member is a projecting lug 28 with which a downwardly projecting bolt 29 of a lock cooperates. When a key 31 is placed in the lock 32 and turned therein to project its bolt 29 outwardly, the bolt presses the lug 28 downwardly and causes the hinged member to swing upwardly about its hinge to close the bottom of the space between the front and back of the holder and thus serve as a bottom closure member or door. It opens automatically by its own weight on withdrawal of the lock bolt, but only to a position which is inclined downwardly toward the front of the holder. The front of the compartment partly defined by such bottom closure member is closed by a window comprising a transparent strip 33 with its upper and lower edges within opposed grooves 34 in the front cross bars 12 and 13, and with its ends abutting the feet 11.

The sides 21 are cut away at their opposed forward corners to form shoulders 36 against which the punch board 37 can rest when the sides are properly adjusted laterally, and clamps 38 are provided to retain the punch board in position. The board is always so placed that it rests on or is very closely adjacent to the cross bar 12 so as to prevent access to any part at the rear of the board from below.

The parts 39 of the side pieces behind the shoulders 36 and forming such shoulders are provided at their opposed faces each with a series of parallel grooves 41 and a thin, narrow strip 42. A top 43 adjacent the top of the punch board, seals off the space between the top of the board and the backing 16, to prevent access to the rear of the board. It is composed of parts 44 and 46 which slide telescopically one within the other so that its length is thereby adjustable, and the outer ends slide into the grooves 41. Each part is provided with a short slot extending to the rear edge, closely adjacent the outer ends, to accommodate the strips 42, and also with depending flanges 47 at the front and rear, that at the rear stopping at the last mentioned slots. The top is placed with its ends within such of the slots in the sides 21 as are at the level of the top of the punch board, the latter then being put and fastened in place. The mounted punch board thus locks the top securely in place to prevent access to the back of the punch board from above.

The punch board seals off at the front the space above the hinged bottom door 24 between the

sides 21; while the parts of such space between the sides 21 and the feet 11 are each sealed by flexible strips 48 which preferably consist of lengths of transparent film attached each at one end to a side 21, and at the other end to a take-up device to permit lateral movement of the sides 21. The side edges of the strips 48 slide in grooves, one at the front formed in the rear side of the front cross bar 12, and the one at the rear formed by the lower edge of the backing 16 and the shoulder formed by cutting away part of the rear cross bar 14 to accommodate the backing. The take-up devices are located within casings 49 on the outside faces of the feet 11 through which the strips extend. The take-ups preferably are rollers 51 about which the strips can be wound, with springs 52 urging the rollers to rotate in a direction to foreshorten the strips, said direction in which the rollers are urged being clockwise in the right side casing 49 and counter-clockwise in the left side casing, as viewed in Fig. 4. The strips thus remain taut at all times, no matter to what location the sides may be adjusted. The strips may be short; and to avoid moving the sides 21 far enough away from the rollers on which the strips are wound, to damage the strips, a stop member 53 is affixed to the rear of the backing 16, adjacent the top and extending laterally thereof, for the book-like parts 22 of the sides to strike against.

With a punch board properly set up on the novel holder, and with the bottom door 26 closed and locked, a player does not have access to any part of the punch board except the front from which the pellets are punched out, nor does he have access to any of the punched out pellets until after the bottom door 26 has been opened by an authorized person. When punched free of the board the pellets enter the sealed space between the board and the backing, and fall onto the upper face of the locked door 26, where they are visible but inaccessible. They remain inaccessible even if they, or some of them, should perhaps move laterally outwardly between the lower end of a side member and the locked door, since they would then be in the space sealed by a strip 48. Accordingly since the door extends laterally beyond the sides of the holder to the supporting feet, access to all punched out pellets is controlled by the door. The person authorized to open the door unlocks it when the player has completed his play, whereupon it drops automatically to a forwardly slanting position, and the pellets roll off of it toward the player.

Certain details have been illustrated and described for the purpose of explaining the invention without limiting it, and can be changed without departing from the spirit of the invention as set forth in the appended claims.

The invention claimed is:

1. A game board holder comprising a backing, laterally adjustable side members, a front spaced forwardly from said backing at the lower part thereof, said side members having means to hold a game board on said front in spaced relation to said backing, said board and front serving as a continuous forward closure for the space defined between said backing and said board and front and between said side members, adjustable means to seal the top of the space defined by said front and backing outside of said side members, adjustable means carried between the side members to seal the top of the space between said backing and the board, a door to seal the bottom of the space defined by said front and backing both between and beyond said side members, and a lock to lock said door.

2. A game board holder comprising a backing, laterally adjustable side members, a windowed front spaced forwardly from said backing at the lower part thereof, said side members having means to hold a game board on said front in spaced relation to said backing, said board and front serving as a continuous forward closure for the space defined between said backing and said board and front and between said side members, flexible transparent strips extending outwardly from, and attached to, said side members to seal the top of the space defined by said front and backing outside of said side members, take-up means tending to foreshorten the strips to maintain said strips taut, adjustable means carried by said side members to seal the top of the space between said backing and the board, and a door having a lock to seal the bottom of the space defined by said front and backing both between and beyond said side members.

3. A game board holder comprising a backing, laterally adjustable side members, a windowed front spaced forwardly from said backing at the lower part thereof, said side members having means to hold a game board on said front in spaced relation to said backing, said board and front serving as a continuous forward closure for the space defined between said backing and said board and front and between said side members, adjustable means to seal the top of the space defined by said front and backing outside of said side members, adjustable telescopic means to seal the top of the space between said backing and the board, means to attach said telescopic means detachably to said side members, and a door having a lock to seal the bottom of the space defined by said front and backing both between and beyond said side members.

4. A game board holder comprising a backing, laterally adjustable side members, a windowed front spaced forwardly from said backing at the lower part thereof, said side members having means to hold a game board on said front in spaced relation to said backing, said board and front serving as a continuous forward closure for the space defined between said backing and said board and front and between said side members, flexible transparent strips extending outwardly from, and attached to, said side members to seal the top of the space defined by said front and backing outside of said side members, spring urged rollers tending to foreshorten the strips to maintain said strips taut, adjustable telescopic means to seal the top of the space between said backing and the board, means to attach said telescopic means detachably to said side members, a door normally open and slanting downwardly and forwardly when open to seal the bottom of the space defined by said front and backing both between and beyond said side members, and a lock having a bolt arranged to close and lock said door on protrusion of said bolt.

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