J. F. STEPHAN.

GAME DEVICE.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 11, 1916.

1,203,805.

Patented Nov. 7, 1916.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

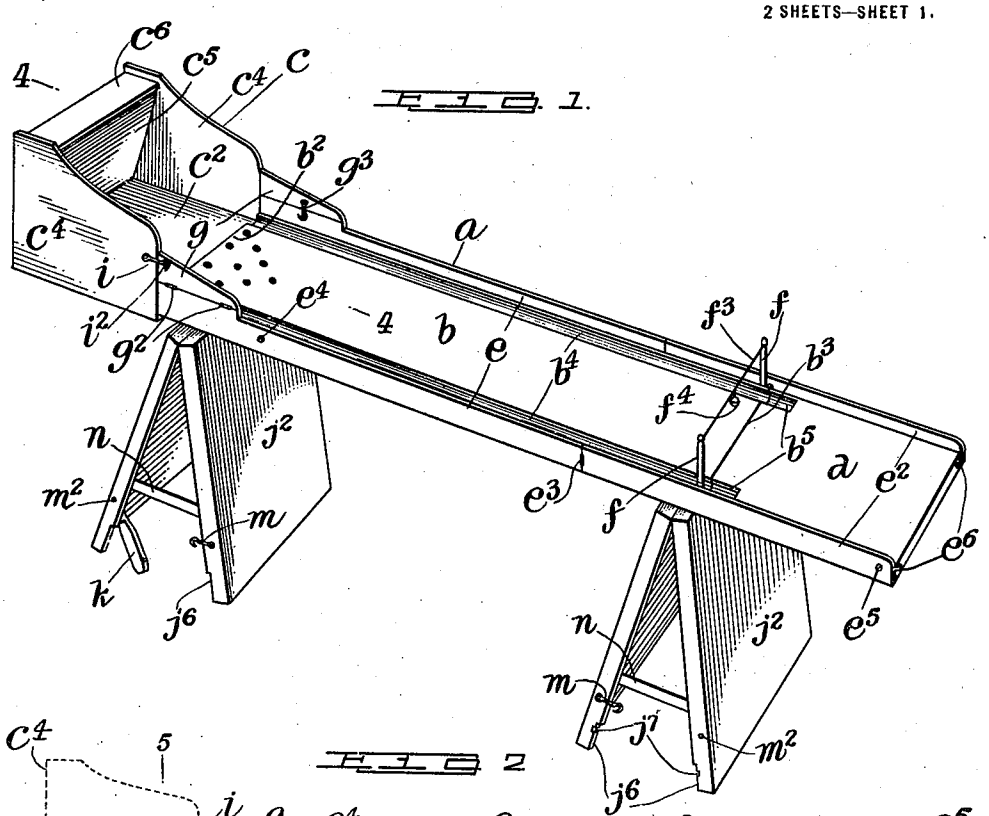


Fig. 1.

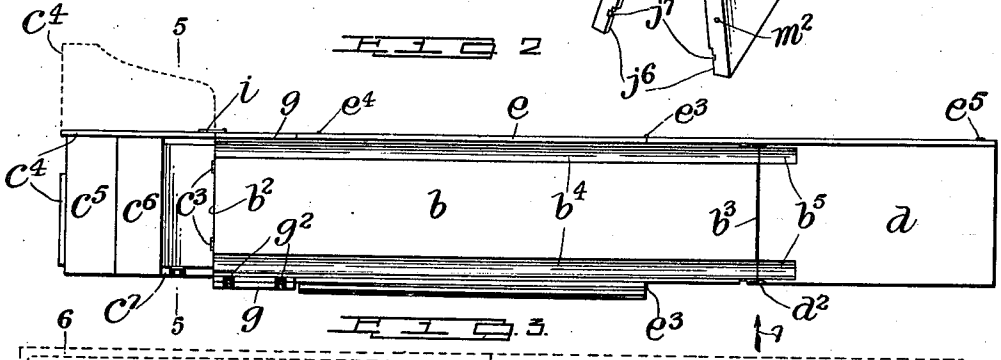


Fig. 2.

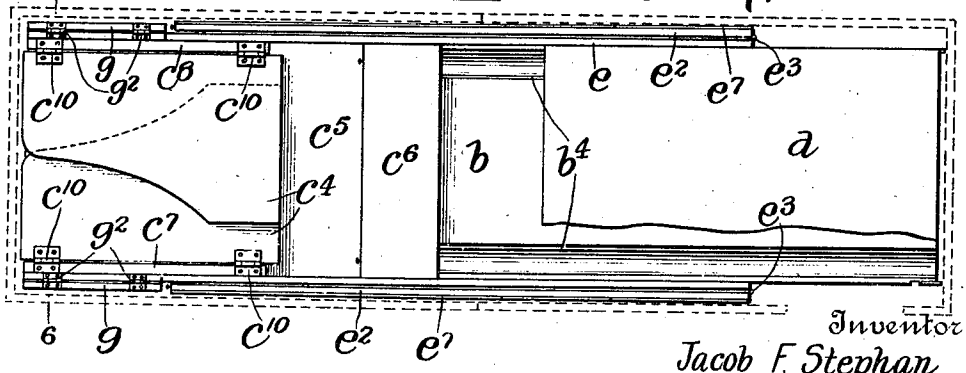


Fig. 3.

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

FIG. 4.

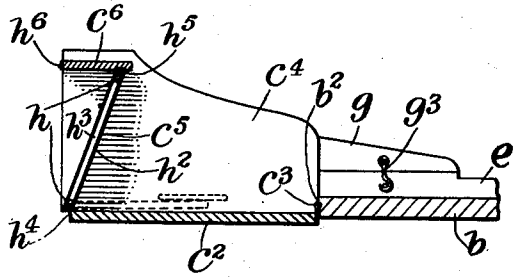


FIG. 5.

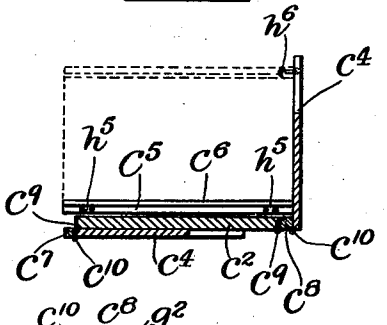


FIG. 6.

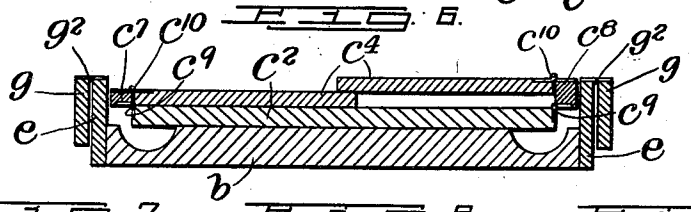


FIG. 7.

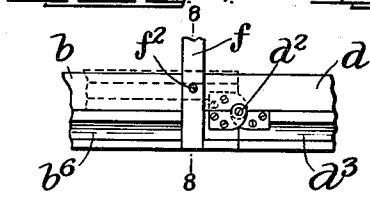


FIG. 8.

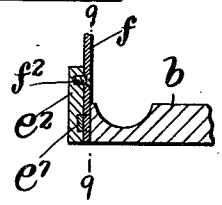


FIG. 9.

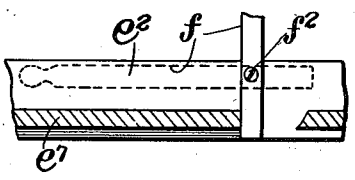


FIG. 10.

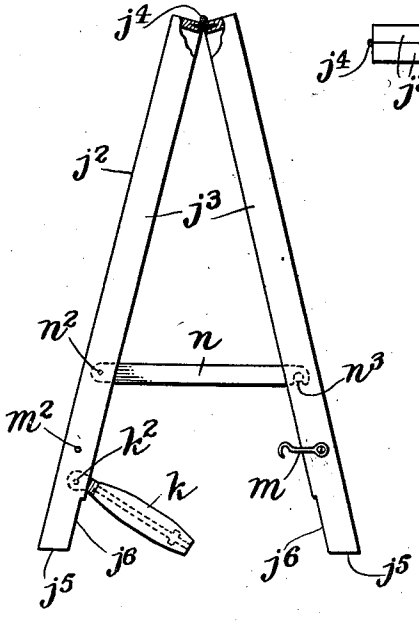


FIG. 11.

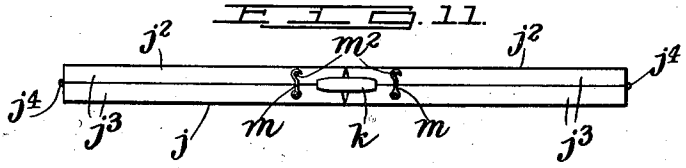


FIG. 12.

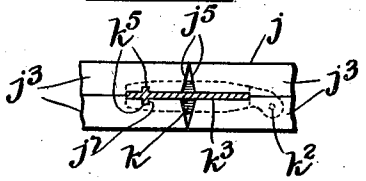
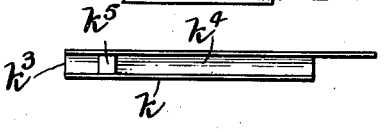


FIG. 13.



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GAME DEVICE.

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Application filed May 11, 1916. Serial No. 96,747.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JACOB F. STEPHAN, a citizen of the United States, and residing at New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Game Devices, of which the following is a specification, such as will enable those skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to game devices, and the object thereof is to provide an improved device of this class designed as an imitation of the game of ten-pins and for use as a parlor game device or apparatus, and which may be used in homes, clubs, saloons, cafés and other places; a further object being to provide a game device or apparatus of the class specified which may be compactly folded together and inclosed in a casing which consists of separate parts adapted when not in use as a container for the game device or apparatus proper to serve as a support for the same.

The invention is fully disclosed in the following specification, of which the accompanying drawings form a part, in which the separate parts of my improvement are designated by suitable reference characters in each of the views, and in which;—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved game device or apparatus and showing the same set up for use; Fig. 2 a plan view of a bowling alley part of the apparatus and showing parts thereof in a folded position; Fig. 3 a view similar to Fig. 2 showing the separate parts of the alley entirely folded and with part of the construction broken away, and indicating the container therefor in dotted lines; Fig. 4 a partial section on the line 4—4 of Fig. 1; Fig. 5 a section on the line 5—5 of Fig. 2; Fig. 6 a section on the line 6—6 of Fig. 3 and on an enlarged scale; Fig. 7 a detail view looking in the direction of the arrow 7 of Fig. 2 and on an enlarged scale; Fig. 8 a section on the line 8—8 of Fig. 7; Fig. 9 a partial section on the line 9—9 of Fig. 8; Fig. 10 a side view of one part of the container casing which I employ with parts broken away and in position for use as a support for the alley; Fig. 11 a side view of the container complete; Fig. 12 a detail sectional view of the means for joining the separate parts of the container shown in Fig. 11; and Fig. 13 a plan view of a detail of the construction shown in Fig. 12 and on an enlarged scale.

My improvement comprises what is known as a collapsible alley device on which such games as ten-pins, duck pins and other games may be played, and the object thereof as hereinbefore stated is to provide an imitation device of this class which may be compactly folded together and which, as a whole, is indicated at *a* in Fig. 1, in which figure the device or apparatus is set up for use and supported by the separate parts of a container casing into which the device or apparatus when folded together may be placed for package, shipment or other purpose, said container casing being shown complete in Fig. 11 and the separate parts thereof being shown in Fig. 1.

In the practice of my invention I provide a central alley-way *b* at the rear end of which is the pin and ball pit *c* and at the front of which is an extension *d*, the rear end of the alley-way terminating at b^2 and the front end thereof at b^3 and the transverse line at b^3 also forms the "foul" line. At the opposite sides of the alley-way *b* are the usual grooves b^4 and, in the construction shown, these grooves cross the foul line b^3 as shown at b^5. The front end extension *d* of the alley-way is hinged to said alley-way at d^2 and is adapted to fold up over the alley-way as indicated in dotted lines in Fig. 7 and as shown in full lines in Fig. 3. The alley-way *b* is also provided with the usual side wall strips *e* which extend from the rear end of the alley-way at b^2 to the front end of the front extension *d* of said alley-way, and the front end portions e^2 of said strips are hinged to the central and rear end portions thereof at e^3 and are adapted to fold backwardly onto and flush with the said central and rear end portions, as shown in Figs. 2 and 3, and said strips *e*—e^2 are provided on the outer sides thereof, at e^4 and e^5, with the separate parts of a ball and socket attaching device, whereby the parts e^2 are secured to the parts *e* when in their folded position. The front end portions e^2 of the strips *e* are also detachably connected at e^6 with the front end of the front extension *d* of the alley-way *b*. The sides of the alley-way *b* and the front extension *d* thereof are provided with grooves b^6 and d^3 respectively, and the parts e^2 of the strips *e* are provided with corresponding tongues e^7 which fit in

said grooves when the parts are extended and set up for use, as shown in Fig. 1, and this forms a support for the front extension d of the alley-way b. At the front end of the alley-way b, and at the opposite sides thereof, are standards f which are pivoted to the inner sides of the parts e^2 of the side strips e as shown at f^2 in Figs. 8 and 9, and said standards are adapted to fold horizontally as indicated in dotted lines in Fig. 9, and the tops thereof are connected by an elastic transverse cord f^3 to which is secured a small signal bell f^4, or similar device, and these parts constitute the guard of the foul line in the playing of the game.

The pin and ball pit c comprises a bottom c^2 hinged to the rear end of the alley-way b at c^3, hinged side boards c^4 and a hinged rear wall c^5 provided with a hinged top portion c^6, and at the front of the pin and ball pit the wall strips e of the alley-way are provided with raised supplemental guard boards g which are hinged at g^2 and adapted to fold outwardly, and the details of the pin and ball pit, including the parts g are as follows. The side portions of the bottom are provided with strips c^7 and c^8 which are hinged to the bottom at c^9, and the strip c^8 is wider than the strip c^7, and said strips c^7 and c^8 are hinged to the corresponding sides c^4 as shown at c^{10}.

The back c^5 is composed of a rectangular frame h provided with a fibrous covering h^2 which forms an air space h^3 between the front and back walls thereof, and this construction forms a cushion back against which the balls and pins strike, and said back is hinged to the rear end of the bottom c^2 as shown at h^4, and the back c^5 is hinged to the front portion of the top c^6 as shown at h^5, and as shown in Fig. 4 of the drawing the back c^5 is arranged at an angle to the bottom c^2 and as the pins and balls strike the same, said pins or balls will be forced downwardly. The top c^6 is detachably connected with the sides c^4 by suitable lock devices h^6, one of which is shown in Fig. 5.

The supplemental guard boards g are provided with hook devices g^3 which engage pins or other devices on the parts e, and said hook devices serve to hold said supplemental guard boards in their vertical position, and the side members c^4 of the pin and ball pit c are provided with hook devices i which are adapted to engage pins i^2 on the supplemental guard boards g and by means of said hooks i and pins i^2 said pit is held in its operative position.

From the position shown in Fig. 1, the separate parts of the pin and ball pit c are folded together and onto the alley b in the following manner. The lock devices h^6 are operated to detach the top c^6 from the side c^4, and said top and back c^5 are then folded inwardly as shown in Figs. 2 and 5, and as indicated in dotted lines in Fig. 4, after which one of the hook devices i is detached from the corresponding pin i^2, and the side parts c^4 to which said hook device i is secured, is folded downwardly and the hook g^3 of the corresponding supplemental guard board g is detached from its pin, and said guard board g folded outwardly as indicated in Fig. 2, and said folded side c^4 may then be folded beneath the bottom c^2 as shown in Fig. 5. The other side c^4 and supplemental guard board g will then be correspondingly detached and folded, and by reason of the size of the strip c^8 said last named side c^4 will fold over the first named side c^4, as clearly shown in Figs. 3 and 6, after which the bottom c^2 with the folded sides c^4 thereunder is folded forwardly and onto the alley b, on the hinges c^3, as shown in Figs. 3 and 6, in which operation the back c^5 again folds on the hinges h^4 to bring said back in line with the bottom c^2 and in front thereof, as clearly shown in Fig. 3, in which figure it will also be seen that the bottom, back and top, fold between the side wall strips e and, as shown in Fig. 6, said folded parts do not extend to any great extent above the top of said strips.

As hereinbefore described, the front extension d is folded backwardly on the hinges d^2 and rests on the alley b between the strips e, as clearly shown in Fig. 3, in which operation the front end portions e^2 of the strips e are folded backwardly on the hinges e^3 after the connection at e^6 has been detached, and are locked in their folded position, as hereinbefore described and as indicated in Fig. 3.

My improved apparatus in its folded position, as shown in Fig. 3, is compact and in the folding thereof it will be noted that the alley proper has not been broken up or interrupted by the folding it centrally thereof.

The alley in its folded position is placed in a suitable container j as shown in Fig. 11 which is preferably composed of separate and corresponding parts j^2, and each of the separate parts j^2 is composed of front and back members j^3 hinged together at one end, at j^4, and the other ends of the top and bottom members j^3 are provided with beveled edges j^5, and the separate parts j^2 of the container j are adapted to serve as standards or supports for the alley b, as shown in Fig. 1, in which position the beveled edges j^5 rest on the floor and the alley b is placed on the hinged end portions thereof.

The separate parts j^2 of the container j are held together by means of suitable lock devices k, one of which is pivoted in connection with the opposite sides of each of the separate parts thereof, as shown at k^2 in Fig. 10, said lock devices k comprising a central web portion k^3 forming on the opposite sides thereof channels k^4 into which

the corresponding end portions of the separate parts j^2 of the container j fit, and said end portions are preferably recessed as shown at j^6 to receive the web portion k^3 of the lock devices, and the web portions of the lock devices are provided adjacent to one end thereof with oppositely directed studs k^5 which are adapted to enter corresponding recesses j^7 in the corresponding ends of the separate parts j^2, and by means of this construction the separate parts j^2 are held against separation and the top members j^3 of the separate parts j^2 are locked in connection with the bottom members thereof by hook devices m pivoted to the bottom members j^3 and adapted to engage pins m^2 secured to the top members j^3.

In practice, the separate parts of the container j, or the bottom members j^3 thereof are placed on a floor or support and joined together by the lock devices k as illustrated in Figs. 11 and 12, and the folded alley b is then placed therein, after which the hinged top members j^3 are locked in connection with said bottom members by means of the hook devices m as clearly shown in Fig. 11, and this forms a compact package which may be carried from point to point, or shipped from place to place.

The separate parts j^2 of the container j when serving as standards are locked in proper position by means of arms n pivoted to the top or bottom member of said separate parts at n^2 and detachably connected with a pin or similar device n^3 in the opposite part thereof, as clearly shown in Fig. 10.

Having fully described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:—

1. In a collapsible game device of the class described, a main central portion having side walls and said central portion being provided with hinged end portions which are adapted to fold onto said central portion, said side walls having hinged end portions which are adapted to fold onto said walls and are detachably connected therewith, and means in said hinged end walls adapted to enter the corresponding hinged end portion of the main central portion to support said end in its open or operative position.

2. In a collapsible game device of the class described, a main central portion having side walls, said central portion being provided with hinged end portions which are adapted to fold onto said central portion, said side walls having hinged end portions which are adapted to fold onto said walls and are detachably connected therewith, means in said hinged end walls adapted to enter the corresponding hinged end portion of the main central portion to support said end in its open or operative position, and means for locking said hinged side walls in connection with said hinged end portion.

3. In a collapsible game device of the class described, a main central portion provided with hinged end portions which are adapted to fold onto said central portion, one of said hinged end portions being composed of a bottom hinged to the end of the central portion, sides hinged to the bottom member, a back hinged to the rear end portion of the bottom member and inclined forwardly and provided with a hinged top member, said side members being detachably connected with the rear end portion of the central member and the top member being detachably connected with the side members.

4. In a collapsible game device of the class described, a main central portion having side walls, said central portion being provided with hinged end portions which are adapted to fold onto said central portion, said side walls having hinged end portions which are adapted to fold onto said walls and are detachably connected therewith, means in said hinged end walls adapted to enter the corresponding hinged end portion of the main central portion to support said end in its open or operative position, means for locking said hinged side walls in connection with said hinged end portion, and standards pivoted to the hinged side walls adjacent to the corresponding end of the central portion and provided with a flexible connection on which is mounted an alarm device.

5. A collapsible game device having folding end portions and folding side portions, and a container composed of a casing divided transversely to form two separate similar parts each of which consists of separate similar members hinged together at one end, and means for locking the separate parts of said casing together end to end, and means for locking the separate members of each of said parts together.

6. A collapsible game device of the class described, and a container therefor consisting of a casing divided transversely into separate similar parts, consisting of separate members hinged together at their outer ends, and means for locking the separate parts of the casing together, and means for locking the separate members of the separate parts of said casing together.

7. A collapsible game device of the class described and a container therefor consisting of a casing divided transversely into separate similar parts, consisting of separate members hinged together at their outer ends, and means for locking the separate parts of the casing together, and means for locking the separate members of the separate parts of said casing together, said sep-

arate parts of said casing when detached being adapted to be opened up and to serve as a support for the game device.

8. In a collapsible game device of the class described, a continuous alley portion, end portions connected therewith, one of said end portions comprising a bottom, a back hinged to the bottom, a top hinged to the back and sides hinged to the bottom and detachably connected with the top.

9. In a collapsible game device of the class described, a continuous alley portion, end portions connected therewith, one of said end portions comprising a bottom, a back hinged to the bottom, a top hinged to the back and sides hinged to the bottom and detachably connected with the top, and the other end portion comprising a flat board which forms an extension of said alley portion and means connected with said alley portion and adapted to engage said last named end portion for supporting the same in its operative position.

10. In a collapsible game device of the class described, a continuous alley portion, end portions connected therewith, one of said end portions comprising a bottom, a forwardly inclined back hinged to the bottom, a top hinged to the back and sides hinged to the bottom and detachably connected with the top, said back and top being foldable onto the bottom, the sides onto the bottom, and the parts thus folded being foldable onto the alley portion.

11. In a collapsible game device of the class described, a continuous alley portion, end portions connected therewith, one of said end portions comprising a bottom, a forwardly inclined back hinged to the bottom, a top hinged to the back and sides hinged to the bottom and detachably connected with the top, said back and top being foldable onto the bottom, the sides onto the bottom, and the parts thus folded being foldable onto the alley portion, the other end portion comprising a flat board which forms an extension of said alley portion and means connected with said alley portion and adapted to engage said last named end portion for supporting the same in its operative position.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my invention I have signed my name in presence of the subscribing witnesses this 10th day of May 1916.

JACOB F. STEPHAN.

Witnesses:
C. E. MULREANY,
H. E. THOMPSON.