

V. D. DIXON.
PUZZLE OR TOY.
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974,478.

Patented Nov. 1, 1910.

Fig. 1.

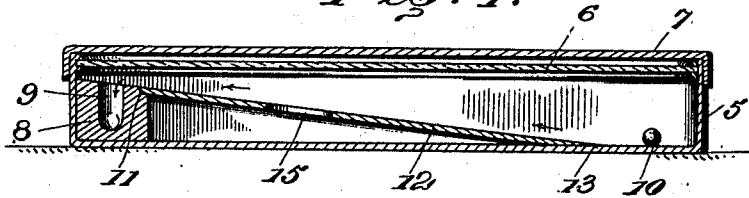
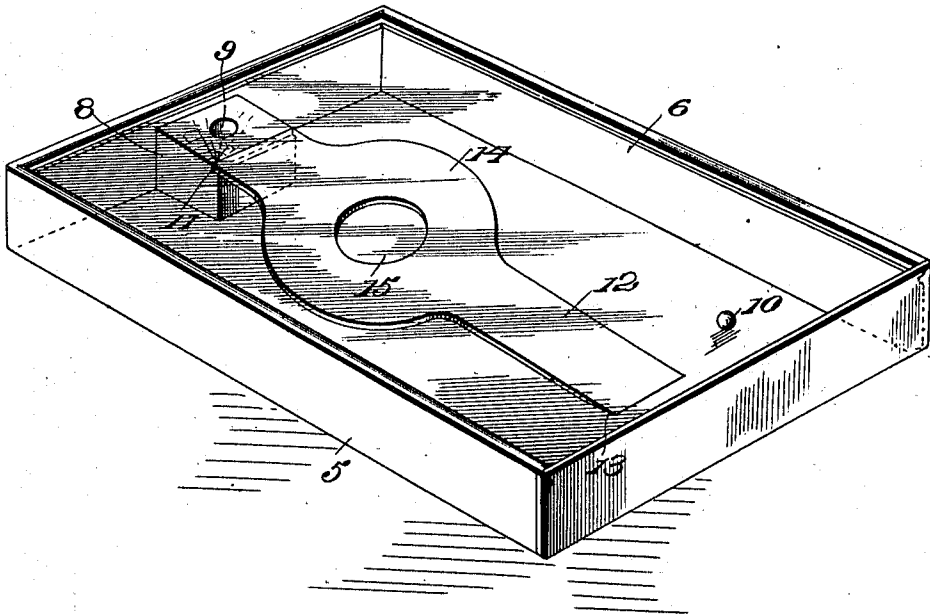


Fig. 2.



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Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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PUZZLE OR TOY.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, VARIEN D. DIXON, citizen of the United States, residing at Fort St. Michael, District of Alaska, have
5 invented certain new and useful Improvements in Puzzles or Toys, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to puzzles and has for its object the provision of a comparatively simple and inexpensive device of this
10 character, designed to afford a source of amusement for children and other persons attempting to solve the same.

The invention further provides a puzzle
15 or toy including a box or receptacle having a cup disposed at one end thereof and connected with the bottom of said box by a perforated bridge, the object being to roll a movable projectile, such as a ball of mercury,
20 over the bridge and position the same within the cup without spattering the mercury.

A still further object of the invention is generally to improve this class of devices so as to increase their utility, durability and
25 efficiency, as well as to reduce the cost of manufacture.

Further objects and advantages will appear in the following description, it being understood that various changes in form,
30 proportions and minor details of construction may be resorted to within the scope of the appended claims.

For a full understanding of the invention and the merits thereof, reference is to be had
35 to the following description and accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a transverse sectional view of a puzzle constructed in accordance with my
40 invention; Fig. 2 is a perspective view with the cover removed.

Corresponding and like parts are referred to in the following description and indicated in all the views of the drawings by the same
reference characters.

The device comprises a substantially rectangular box or receptacle 5 having a transparent top 6 provided with a removable lid or cover 7. Secured to the bottom of the
45 box 5 at one end thereof is a block 8 having its upper surface inclined downwardly and provided with a pocket or cup 9 adapted to receive a ball of mercury, indicated at 10. The upper edge of the block 8 is rabbeted at
50 11 to form a support for the adjacent end of a bridge piece 12, the opposite end of which is inclined or beveled at 13 and glued or
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otherwise permanently attached to the bottom of the box, as shown. The intermediate portion of the bridge piece 12 is provided with a circular enlargement 14 having a
60 central opening 15 formed therein and disposed concentric with the outer wall of the enlargement 14 so as to render it necessary to roll the ball of mercury on either side of the opening 15 in order to position mercury
65 within the cup 9. By rabbeting the upper surface of the block 8, the upper surface of the bridge piece will be disposed flush with said block so as not to present any obstruction to the passage of the ball of mercury.
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In using the device, the ball of mercury is positioned on the bottom of the box and the latter tilted in the hand so as to direct the ball of mercury on the lower end of the
75 bridge piece 12, when by further manipulation of the box, the mercury may be caused to travel around the central opening 15 in the bridge piece and positioned in the pocket or cup 9.

It will of course be understood that the
80 block 8 and bridge piece 12 may be formed integral and that the width and length of the bridge piece may be varied so as to render it more or less difficult to position the mercury within the cup.

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

1. A puzzle including a receptacle, a cup disposed within the receptacle, a perforated bridge forming a connection between the top
90 of the cup and bottom of the receptacle, and a movable member adapted to be rolled over the bridge and positioned within the cup.

2. A puzzle including a receptacle, a cup
95 secured to the receptacle, a bridge piece secured to the top of the cup and bottom of the receptacle, respectively, said bridge piece having its intermediate portion provided with an enlargement having an opening
100 therein, and a ball of mercury adapted to be rolled over the bridge piece and positioned within the cup.

3. A puzzle including a receptacle, a block
105 secured to the bottom of the receptacle and having its upper surface inclined downwardly and provided with a cup, a bridge piece secured to the top of the block and bottom of the receptacle, respectively, and having its intermediate portion provided
110 with an enlargement having a central opening therein, and a ball of mercury adapted

to be rolled over the bridge piece and positioned within the cup.

4. A puzzle including a receptacle having a transparent top and provided with a cover, a
5 block secured to the bottom of the receptacle at one end thereof and having its upper surface inclined downwardly and provided with a depression constituting a cup, one edge of the block at the inclined surface thereof being
10 rabbeted to form a shoulder, a bridge piece having one end thereof resting on the shoulder and its other end beveled and secured to the bottom of the receptacle, said

bridge piece having its intermediate portion provided with a circular enlargement having a central opening formed therein, and a
15 ball of mercury adapted to be rolled over the upper surface of the bridge piece and positioned within the cup.

In testimony whereof, I affix my signature 20
in presence of two witnesses.

VARIEN D. DIXON. [L. S.]

Witnesses:

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