

Feb. 18, 1930.

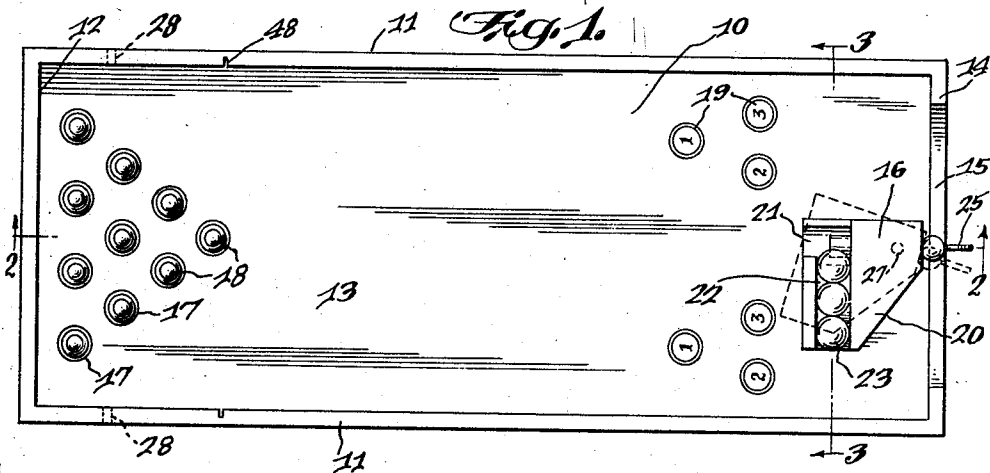
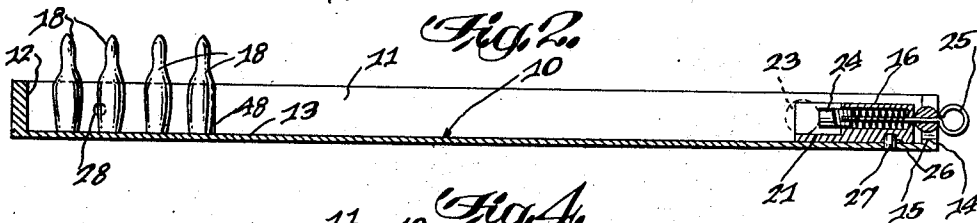
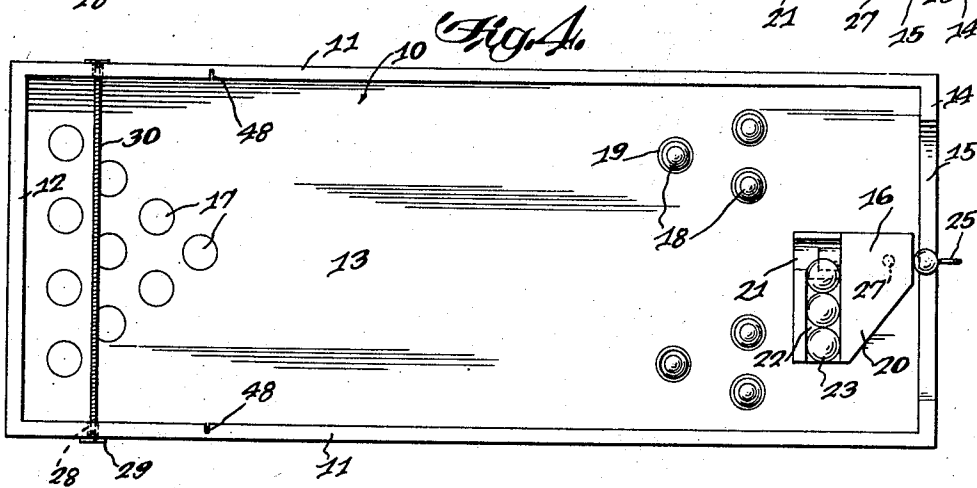
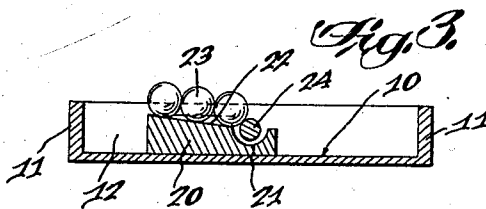
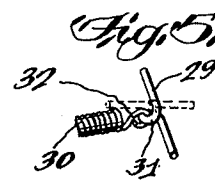
C. A. WETZELL

1,748,030

GAME APPARATUS

Filed March 27, 1928

2 Sheets-Sheet 1



Clare A. Wetzell
INVENTOR
BY Victor J. Evans
ATTORNEY

Feb. 18, 1930.

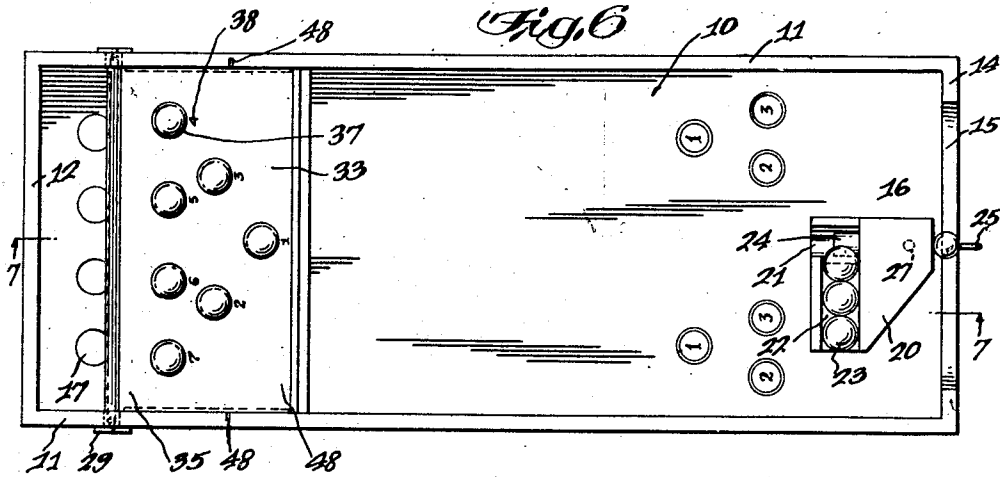
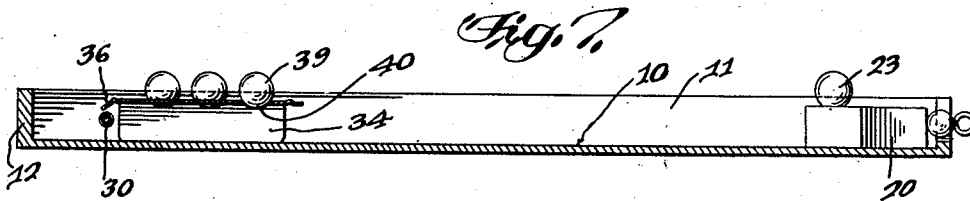
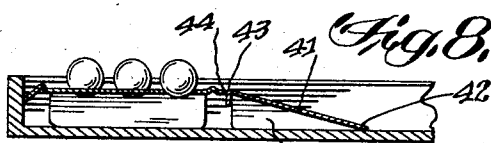
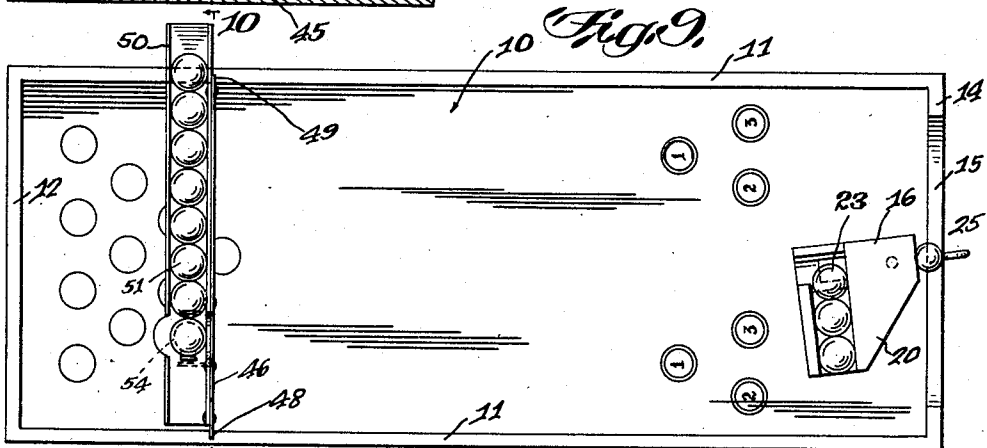
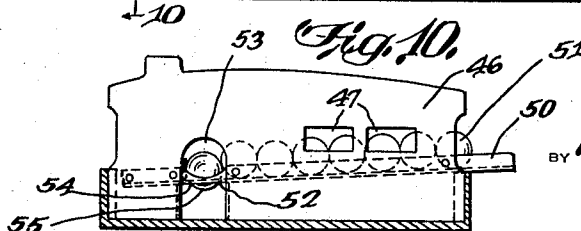
C. A. WETZELL

1,748,030

GAME APPARATUS

Filed March 27, 1928

2 Sheets-Sheet 2



Clare A. Wetzell
INVENTOR
BY Victor J. Evans
ATTORNEY

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

CLARE A. WETZELL, OF STERLING, ILLINOIS

GAME APPARATUS

Application filed March 27, 1928. Serial No. 265,078.

This invention relates to certain novel improvements in game apparatus and has for its principal object the provision of an approved construction of this character which will be economical in manufacture, fascinating and amusing in use.

Among the several objects of the invention is to provide a game apparatus which includes unchangeable elements affording the playing of several games without wholly disassembling the apparatus.

Other objects will appear hereinafter.

The invention consists in the novel combination and arrangements of parts herein after described and claimed.

The invention will be better understood by reference to the accompanying drawing, showing the preferred form of construction and in which:

Fig. 1 is a top plan view of the game embodying my invention;

Fig. 2 is a sectional detail view of the same taken substantially on line 2—2 of Figure 1;

Fig. 3 is a sectional detail view of the same taken substantially on line 3—3 of Figure 1;

Fig. 4 is a plan view of the game illustrated in Figure 1, showing an attachment thereto;

Fig. 5 is a fragmentary perspective view of the attachment;

Fig. 6 is a plan view of the game apparatus illustrated in Figure 1 showing an attachment thereto;

Fig. 7 is a sectional detail view of the same taken substantially on line 7—7 of Figure 6;

Fig. 8 is a fragmentary sectional detail view of the game apparatus shown in Figure 6 showing a further attachment thereto;

Fig. 9 is a plan view of the game illustrated in Figure 1 showing an attachment thereto; and

Fig. 10 is a sectional detail view taken substantially on line 10—10 of Fig. 9.

As pointed out herein it is one of the many objects of this invention to provide a game apparatus whereby several different games may be played and to accomplish this and other objects of the invention, I provide a base plate 10 which includes on three sides flanges 11 and 12 defining a restricted field 13. Opposite the flange 12 the base plate pro-

vides a flange 14 which has its intermediate portion removed as at 15 to provide a substantial space for the end of the operator and to accommodate a projecting device indicated at 16 and hereinafter more fully described. At one end of the base plate there is defined a plurality of seats 17 on which pins 18 are mounted at the opposite end of the base plate there is likewise provided a plurality of seats 19 which may be of a different color and design from the color and design of the seat 17 whereby to distinguish the seats. The projecting device which is herein indicated at 16 is similar in structure to that disclosed in my co-pending application, Ser. No. 265,079, filed March 27, 1928, and therefore only such structure as is necessary to understand the operation and use of the present invention will be described.

This projecting device includes the body 20 defining the receiving seat 21 and guiding groove 22 returning through and adapted to support a plurality of balls 23 to be successively received by the seat 21 and projected by the spring actuated projecting head 24 operated by means of a handle 25. This body is provided with an opening 26 into which projects a stud 27 carried by the plate 10 whereby the projecting device may be moved from side to side and held firmly in one position.

In playing the game shown in Figure 1, the pins are positioned upon the seat 17. The projecting head is withdrawn by means of the handle 27 so that the first ball may find entrance to the receiving seat. The handle is released and the projecting head strikes the ball and projects the ball toward the pins knocking down one or more of the pins.

The flanges 11 provide aligned openings 28 through which fastening elements 29 are adapted to be passed to secure a coil spring 30 transversely of the plate 10 adjacent the flange 12. These fastening elements as shown in Fig. 5 of the drawing are each formed from a link of wire bent to provide a loop 31 which has connection with the end loop 32 of the spring coil. The links are passed through the openings by extending the links longitudinally with respect to the coil spring

and after they have passed through they are turned substantially at right angles with respect to the coil spring whereby to firmly hold the coil spring in the position shown in Figure 1. By the use of this spring in connection with the base plate, the pins may be struck down from the seats 19 and this is accomplished in the following manner:

The pins are first disposed upon the seats 19 and a ball is positioned in the seat by retracting the projecting head. When this is accomplished the projecting head is released to strike the ball by action of the spring projecting the ball toward the coil spring. The impact of the ball against the coil spring will place this spring under tension and when this spring returns to its normal position it will throw the ball back toward the pins upon the seat 19 and strike one or more of these pins down.

In Figure 6 I have shown an attachment to the game apparatus shown in Figure 1 whereby an entirely different game may be played. In this particular instance there is mounted upon the base plate a platform 33. This platform 33 is held above the base plate by means of end flanges 34. The edge 35 of the platform defines an inclined flange 36 which extends slightly to the rear and above the spring 30. The platform has formed therein a plurality of spaced openings 37 each indicated by numerical character 38. These openings are of a smaller dimension than the balls 39 and when the balls 39 are positioned upon the platform their portions 40 will be exposed beneath the platform through these openings. The distance between the platform and the base plate is of a sufficient diameter to permit a ball to travel thereunder, but the distance between the exposed portions of the balls and the platform is of a dimension whereby the ball will come in contact with one or more of the exposed portions of the balls to unseat the balls from their positions in the openings.

When the platform is mounted upon the base plate the game is played in the following manner.

The projector head is retracted to permit one of the balls 23 to pass down into the receiving seat. When the projector head is released it will strike this ball and direct the ball toward the platform. The ball will pass under the platform and if aimed correctly will hit one or more of the exposed portions of the balls 39 and unseat these balls thus hit from the openings. The ball 23 when it passes under the platform will strike against the coil spring and be bounced backward toward the playing end of the game apparatus.

In Figure 8 I have shown an attachment to the game apparatus shown in Figure 7 and in this instance the attachment includes a plate 41 having one edge portion 42 resting

upon the base plate 10 and its upper edge 43 flush with the edge 44 of the platform. The plate 41 is supported in an inclined position by end flanges 45. With this additional attachment it is intended that the balls will be guided up the plate 41 onto the platform 33 to settle in different of the openings provided therein.

In Figures 9 and 10 I have shown a further attachment which is adapted to be associated with the game apparatus illustrated in Figures 1 and 2 and in the preferred form of construction this attachment includes a plate 46 which is shaped to represent the side of a cabin or the like and provided with window openings 47. The flanges 11 provide opposite grooves 48 into which the edges 49 of the plate 46 are adapted to pass to effect connection between this plate and the base plate. To the rear of the plate 46 there is attached in any suitable manner a trackway 50 into and along which a plurality of balls 51 are adapted to pass. This trackway is supported in an inclined position upon the plate 46 whereby the balls are to pass by gravity to the lower end portion 52 of the trackway, which lower end portion 52 is exposed through a door opening 53 formed in the plate 46. This trackway at this end portion is provided with an opening 54 through which portions 55 of the balls will be exposed. In playing the game with this attachment the object is to aim the ball projecting from the projecting device toward and through the opening so that the projected ball will strike the portion 55 of the ball 51 in the opening 54 to unseat the ball from that opening. In view of the fact that the trackway is inclined it is manifest that the balls will seat by gravity if each ball is struck from the opening.

In considering the various structures which I have herein shown and described it will be manifest that I have provided a single game with several attachments whereby several games may be played in a fascinating and amusing manner.

I do not wish to be limited to any style of projecting device to be used in connection with the game apparatus herein described nor to any particular design of pins or balls which are to be struck down by the projecting balls as it is obvious that different styles of pins and balls may be employed without departing from the spirit of my invention or without making any radical changes.

While I have illustrated and described the preferred form of construction for carrying my invention into effect, this is capable of variation and modification, without departing from the spirit of the invention. I, therefore, do not wish to be limited to the precise details of construction set forth, but desire to avail myself of such variation and modifications as come within the scope of the appended claims.

Having thus described my invention what I claim as new and desire to protect by Letters Patent is:

1. A game apparatus including a base-
board providing a field, a member extending
transversely of the field at one end thereof
and having a portion providing a platform
and other portions supporting the platform
in spaced relation of the base plate, said plat-
form being provided with a plurality of
spaced openings, a plurality of balls posi-
tioned in said openings with portions exposed
through said openings beneath the platform,
a ball adapted to be projected toward and
beneath the platform in a direction to engage
one or more of the ball portions exposed be-
neath the platform, and means for projecting
said balls.

2. A game apparatus including a base-
board providing a field, a member extending
transversely of the field at one end thereof
and having a portion providing a platform
and other portions supporting the platform
in spaced relation with respect to the base
plate, said platform being provided with a
plurality of spaced openings, a plurality of
balls positioned in said openings with por-
tions exposed through said openings be-
neath the platform, a ball adapted to be pro-
jected toward and beneath the platform in a
direction to engage one or more of the ball
portions exposed beneath the platform, and
means for projecting said balls and means
for changing the direction of movement of
said ball after passing under the platform.

3. A game apparatus including a restricted
field, a plurality of balls, means supporting
said balls above the field, a ball adapted to be
projected toward said supporting means into
contact with the balls at their lower portions
and means for projecting said balls.

4. A game apparatus including a member
having a plurality of openings formed there-
in, a plurality of elements positioned in the
openings with their lower portions exposed
from the bottom of said members, a ball
adapted to be projected toward said member
and pass thereunder to strike one or more of
the exposed portions of said balls, means for
supporting said member to permit said ball
to pass thereunder into contact with said ex-
posed portions, and means for projecting said
balls.

5. A game apparatus including a member
having a plurality of openings formed there-
in, a plurality of elements positioned in the
openings with their lower portions exposed
from the bottom of said members, a ball
adapted to be projected toward said member
and pass thereunder to strike one or more of
the exposed portions of said balls, means for
supporting said member to permit said ball
to pass thereunder into contact with said ex-
posed portions, and means for projecting said
balls, and means for arresting movement of

said ball after passing under said platform
and for throwing said ball in an opposite
direction.

6. A game apparatus including a member
providing a restricted field, a member pro-
viding a platform and having end portions
supporting the platform in spaced relation
with the field, said platform having a plu-
rality of openings formed therein, a plurality
of balls positioned in the openings with their
lower portions projecting through the open-
ings beneath the platform, a ball adapted to
be projected beneath the platform into con-
tact with one or more of the exposed portions
of said balls, means for projecting said balls,
a spring member extending transversely of
the field and longitudinally with respect to
the outer edge of the platform and adapted
to arrest movement of the ball and throw said
ball in an opposite direction.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

CLARE A. WETZELL.