Dec. 19, 1933. T. L. ISAZA 1,939,819

GAME APPARATUS

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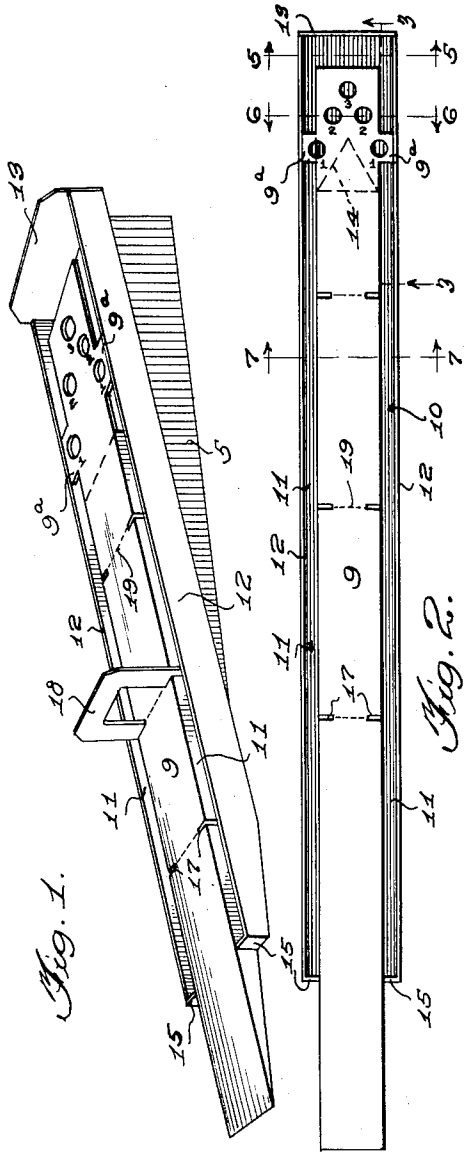


Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

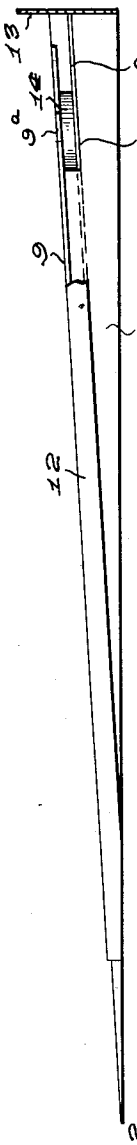


Fig. 3.

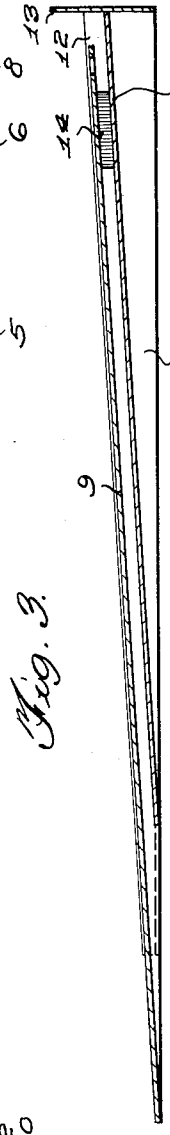


Fig. 4.

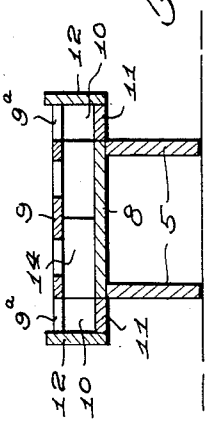


Fig. 6.

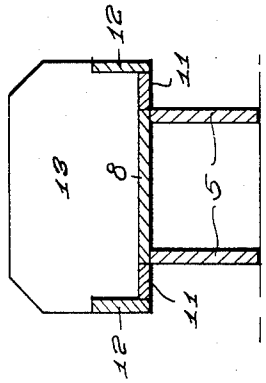


Fig. 5.

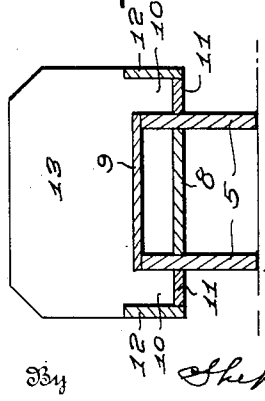


Fig. 7.

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GAME APPARATUS

Tulio Lopez Isaza, Bucaramanga, Colombia

Application February 7, 1933. Serial No. 655,663

4 Claims. (Cl. 273—125)

This invention relates to a game apparatus, and it has for its object to provide a novel type of game board along which balls may be batted, thrown or rolled; the said game board having a group of numbered holes at an elevated end of the same and being provided with runways along which the balls may gravitally roll back to such a point as to be readily reached by the player without leaving the position of play.

It is a further object of the invention to provide a readily shiftable horizontal bridge adapted to be disposed in varying positions along the length of the playing surface to thereby vary the difficulty of play and to add interest to the game.

It is a further object of the invention to construct an apparatus of the character above indicated in a way which will lend itself to the production of the device at very low cost.

It is a further object of the invention to provide an apparatus of this nature so constructed that it will be easily portable.

Further objects and advantages of the invention will be set forth in the detailed description which follows.

In the accompanying drawing:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of an apparatus constructed in accordance with the invention.

Figure 2 is a plan view thereof.

Figure 3 is a view partly in side elevation and partly in section on line 3—3 of Fig. 2.

Figure 4 is a longitudinal sectional view of the apparatus.

Figure 5 is a transverse sectional view on line 5—5 of Fig. 2.

Figure 6 is a transverse sectional view on line 6—6 of Fig. 2 and

Figure 7 is a transverse sectional view on line 7—7 of Fig. 2.

Like numerals designate corresponding parts in all the figures of the drawing.

In the particular embodiment of the invention which I have shown for purpose of illustration, the numerals 5 designate main frame members or supports which taper from the upper or head end of the apparatus to the lower end thereof. These members 5 are cut out, as indicated at 6, adjacent their head ends and they have disposed between them a transverse support or lower deck 8. Disposed upon the top of the frame members 5 is an upper deck 9 which extends from the foot of the apparatus nearly to the head of the same. This deck has a plurality of holes formed therethrough which holes may be given numbers of any desired value.

In the particular form shown, the uppermost and central hole is numbered 3, the next two lower holes 2 and the lowermost holes 1; these latter holes being formed partly in the deck and partly in ears 9a which extend laterally from the deck.

By this arrangement, I am able to dispose these latter holes well out toward the side of the apparatus while at the same time I can keep the deck relatively narrow and provide for the alleys 10 which extend longitudinally along each side of the apparatus and are formed by bottom strips 11 and side strips 12. The head or upper ends of the members 5, 8, 11 and 12 are connected to a head wall 13. Disposed between deck 9 and the transverse support 8 is a V-shaped deflector 14, said deflector being disposed just rearwardly of the holes of the deck so that when the balls fall through said holes they are deflected in one direction or the other and will roll down the corresponding alley to the foot of the apparatus where they are stopped by the end walls 15 of the alleys.

The deflector 14 acts to deflect the balls laterally through the cut out portions 6 of the main frame members 5 and into the alleys. At a plurality of points in its length, the structure is provided with notches 17 adapted to receive a bridge 18 which constitutes a hazard and increases the difficulty of play in accordance with predetermined rules; said bridge being shiftable to any of the transverse lines 19, and said lines being given any arbitrary numbers that may be desired, the resultant play counting higher or lower according to the position of the bridge at the time of play and in accordance with a schedule determined upon by the players in advance. It will be observed that the upper deck 9 is relatively narrow and that its edges are unprotected by any portions projecting thereabove. It will further be observed that the outermost openings numbered 1 of the series of openings at the head of the deck, lie at least, in part, outwardly of the line of the edge of the deck. This arrangement greatly adds to the skill required to successfully place the balls in the openings 1; it being apparent that if the player rolls the balls too far outwardly they will roll off the unprotected edges of the deck, while if he rolls them too far inwardly they will miss the openings 1.

While the construction shown and described is one which adapts itself to economy of construction in that the deck is made wide enough to receive the relatively widely spaced lower holes without having to be made of wider material throughout its length and in that the elements

which constitute the inner side of the alleys also constitute supports for the apparatus, I wish it to be understood that the device may be made in other ways and of many different kinds of material.

The different pieces used in the construction, the width and depth of the grooves, width of the deck, diameter of the holes, may be of any desired dimensions. The deck can be plain or it can be covered with cloth or other material with the object of putting more or less resistance upon the sliding of the ball, or as ornamentation.

The device may be constructed of wood, cement, metal or any other material, or a combination of the same. It may be cast in a single piece or may be made of demountable parts for its easy packing for transportation. The size of the apparatus will vary between half a meter or less and five meters or more. The apparatuses of very small size, although they do not offer the exercise that the larger ones do, provide, nevertheless, an entertaining game of the wrist which may be played on a table.

The combinations of the plays are at the pleasure or caprice of the players, with the end of prolonging or shortening the final outcome of a set, as for example, each player adding up the number of holes in which the ball has fallen in a given number of strokes and discounting from the total a unit for each bad stroke, that is to say, for each stroke in which the ball has not passed through the removable bridge or has struck against it. The strokes can be given in this case alternately by the players. In such a combination the player wins who has obtained the largest total of good units or least total of bad units in the number of strokes given.

The transverse lines marked on the deck and which indicate where the removable bridge should be placed, are numbered with a zero, as said before, which indicates that the value of the play which does not pass the ball through the agreed line is a unit as in the combination indicated in the previous paragraph. It is possible also not to give it any value. The zeros serve also to indicate, between two players one of whom is dextrous or clever and the other a novice, to what point the bad strokes of each come, it being possible thus to equalize their handicaps so that no one will hesitate to pair up with another. As the bridge is placed higher, it becomes more difficult to make the ball fall into the holes and, in consequence, a clever player can concede to a novice one or more zeros advantage.

Having described my invention, what I claim is:

1. Game apparatus of the character described comprising in combination a relatively long and narrow upper deck presenting laterally unprotected edges throughout its length so that a ball or like game piece may roll freely therefrom, alleys extending along the opposite sides of said deck, a lower deck spaced from the upper deck and extending beyond the upper end of the upper deck, a head wall at the upper end of the lower deck which lies in spaced relation to the upper end of the upper deck, said upper deck being disposed at an upward inclination away from the player, and a plurality of openings at the upper end of the upper deck and extending therethrough, at least a part of some of said openings being disposed outwardly of the line of the edge of said upper deck and at opposite sides thereof.

2. A structure as recited in claim 1 in combination with a deflector of inverted V-shape disposed between the upper and lower decks and serving to direct balls which fall into the space between said decks laterally outward into said alleys.

3. A structure as recited in claim 1 in combination with a bridge of inverted U-shape adapted to span the upper deck, the side edges of said upper deck being provided with vertical notches at a plurality of points in its length into which the legs of said bridge fit.

4. Game apparatus of the character described comprising a pair of longitudinally extending supporting members of wedge shape to thereby support the head end of the game apparatus at an elevation, a lower deck upon said supporting members, an upper deck upon said supporting members in spaced relation to the lower deck, a head wall at the upper end of the supporting members, said upper deck terminating short of said head wall, a deflector of inverted V-shape disposed centrally between the upper and lower decks at a point adjacent the upper end of the upper deck, members alined with the lower deck and disposed outwardly of said supporting members to constitute alley bottoms, vertical members outwardly of the alley bottoms and secured thereto and constituting alley sides which lie in spaced relation to the outer edges of the upper deck, the edges of said upper deck being laterally unprotected, openings formed through the upper deck at a point above the location of the deflector to permit balls to fall through said upper deck into the space between the upper and lower decks and to be deflected laterally by the deflector into the alleys, said upper decks comprising lateral extensions overlying the said alleys and within which portions of at least some of said openings are formed, as and for the purposes set forth.

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