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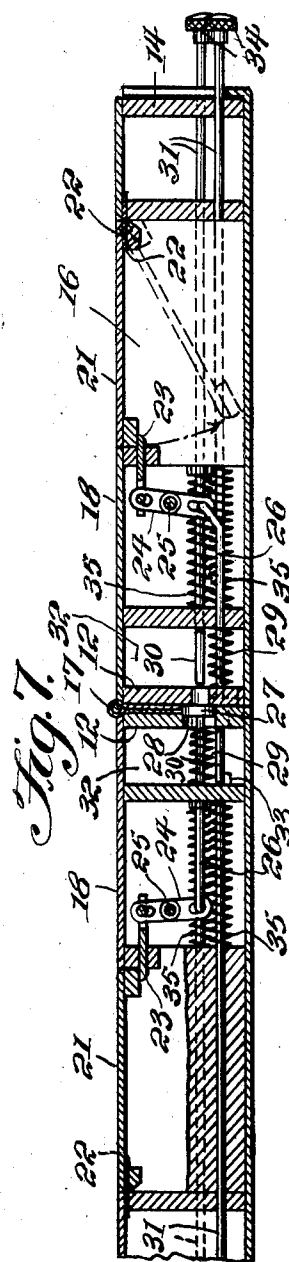
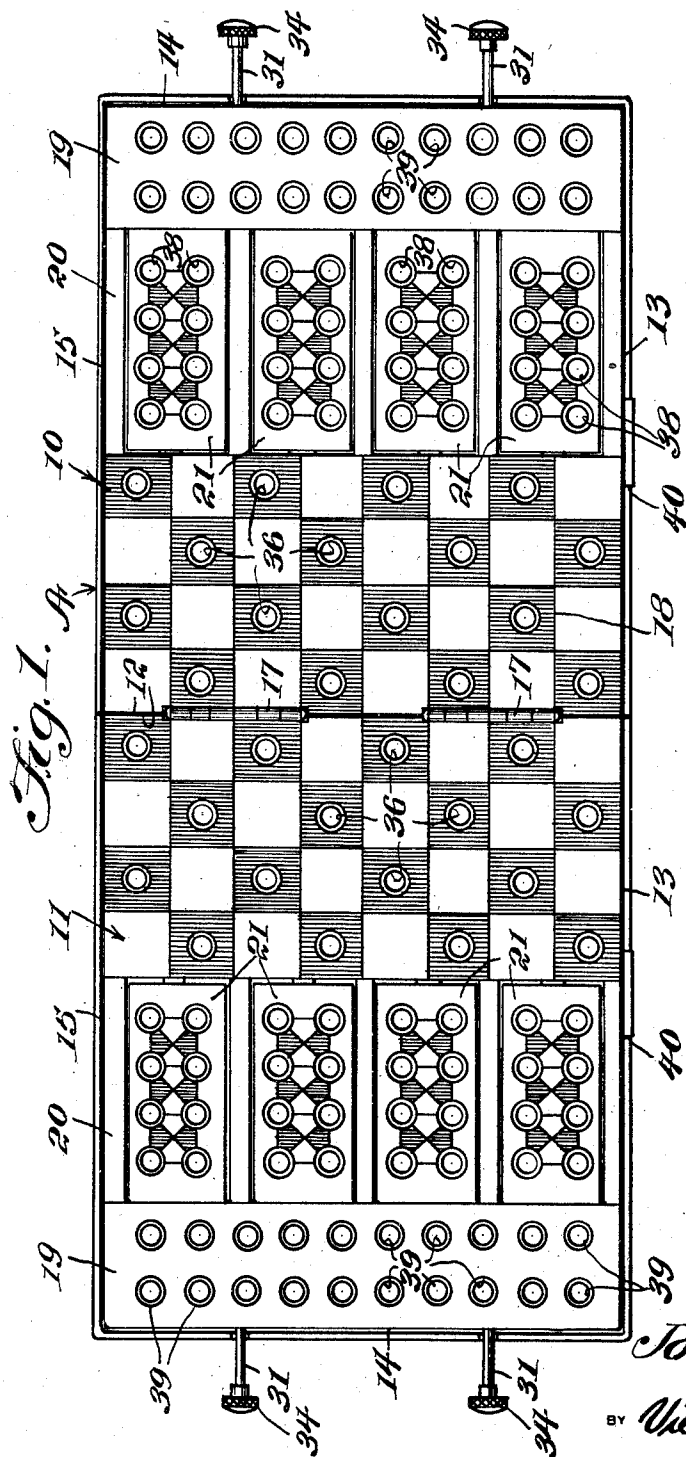
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INVASION CHECKERS

Filed Nov. 27, 1944

3 Sheets-Sheet 1



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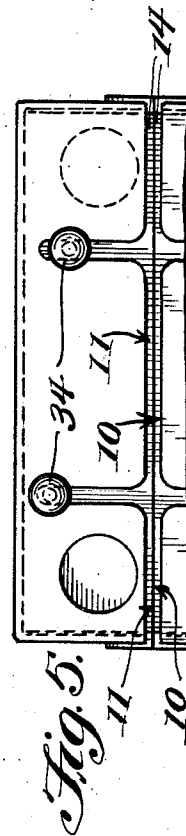
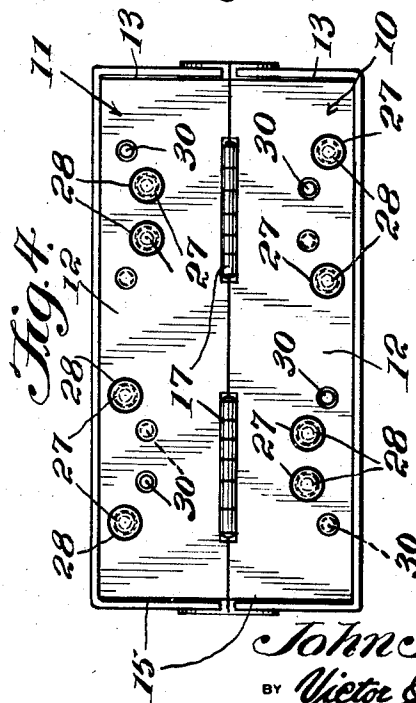
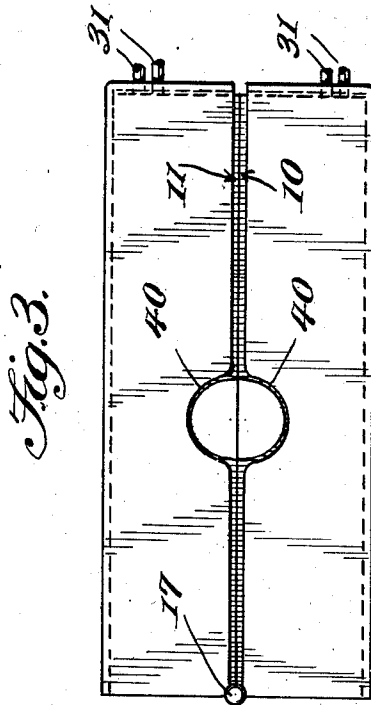
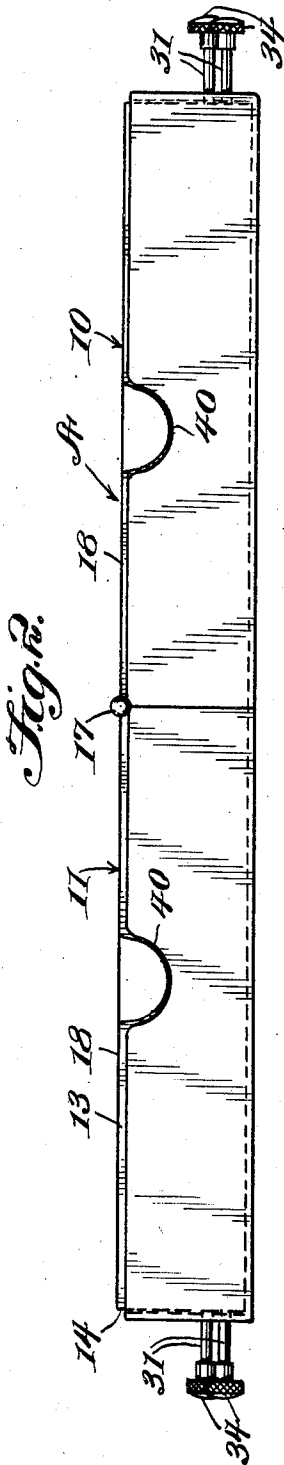
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3 Sheets-Sheet 2



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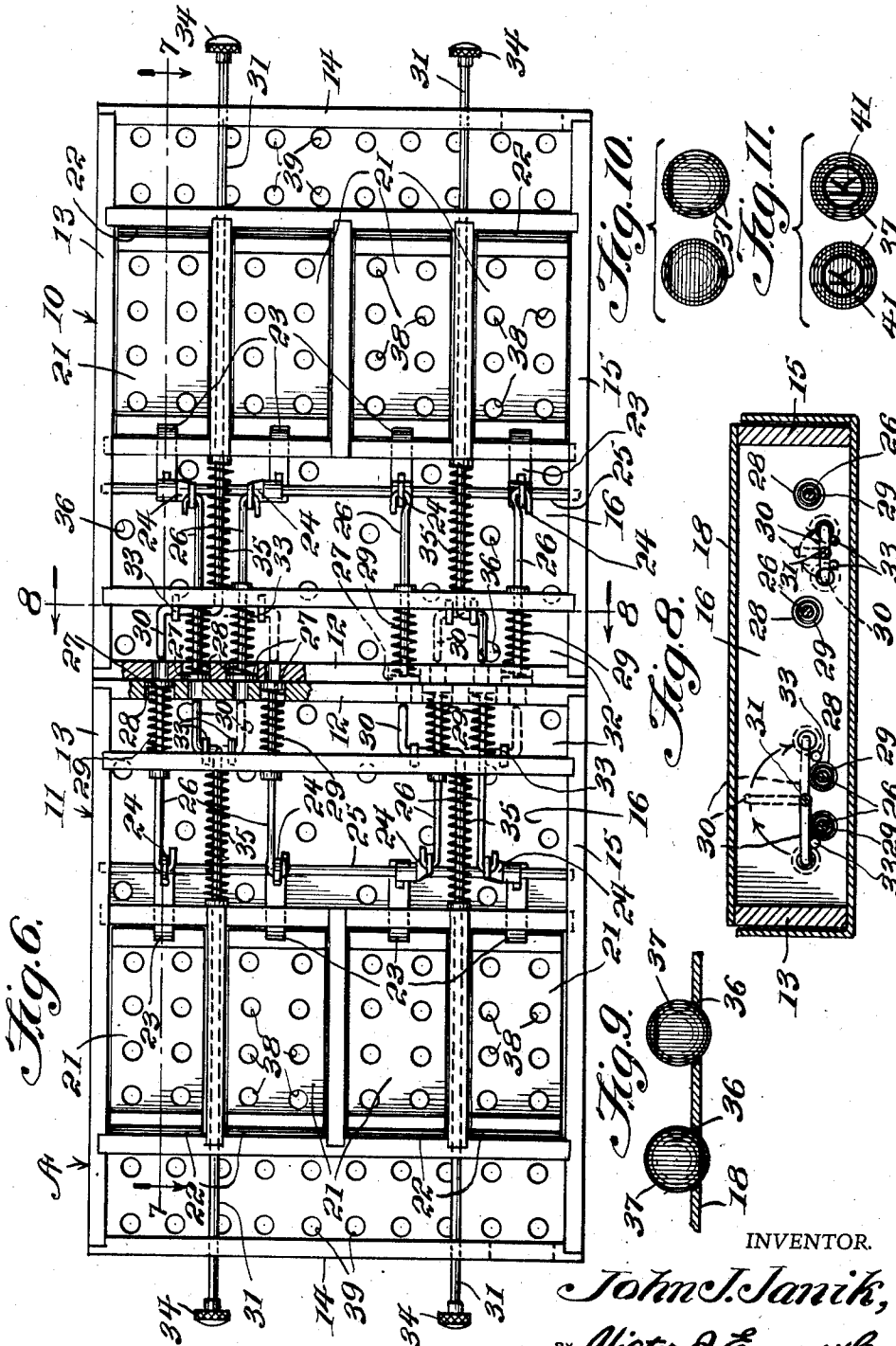
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INVASION CHECKERS

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3 Sheets-Sheet 3



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,420,482

INVASION CHECKERS

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2 Claims. (Cl. 273-136)

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The invention relates to a game apparatus, and more especially to a device for playing the game of checkers.

The primary object of the invention is the provision of an apparatus or device of this character, wherein the standard game of checkers can be played or that game known and titled invasion checkers, in the latter instance, the playing field for maneuvering the playing pieces can be barricaded at selected areas, undetermined by an opponent player, for the passing of reverse playing pieces onto the playing field, and such reserve playing pieces captured, thereby defeating the player in the winning of the game, thus affording amusement and interest to all playing participants, with a challenge of skill and the power of mental perception.

Another object of the invention is the provision of an apparatus of this character, wherein through the playing of a game therewith considerable fun and amusement is assured to the respective players thereof, and the playing activity for the winning of such game resembles invasion strategy in war maneuvering.

A further object of the invention is the provision of an apparatus of this character, which is simple in construction, thoroughly reliable and efficient in the operation thereof, strong, durable, the mechanical working parts being under the control of the respective players of the game played thereon, foldable and compact when not in use, and inexpensive to manufacture.

With these and other objects in view the invention consists in the features of construction, combination and arrangement of parts as will be hereinafter more fully described, in detail, illustrated in the accompanying drawings, which show the preferred embodiment of the invention, and pointed out in the claims hereunto appended.

In the accompanying drawings:

Figure 1 is a plan view of the apparatus constructed in accordance with the invention, unfolded and in position for use for the playing of a game thereon.

Figure 2 is a side view thereof.

Figure 3 is a view similar to Figure 2 with the apparatus folded for disuse.

Figure 4 is an end view of Figure 3.

Figure 5 is a fragmentary view similar to Figure 4 looking at the opposite end.

Figure 6 is a bottom plan view, partly in section, of the apparatus unfolded, with covering face removed.

Figure 7 is a sectional view taken on the line

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7-7 of Figure 6 looking in the direction of the arrows.

Figure 8 is a sectional view taken on the line 8-8 of Figure 6 looking in the direction of the arrows.

Figure 9 is a fragmentary vertical sectional view through the seating stations of several playing pieces, the latter being in side elevation.

Figure 10 is an enlarged elevation of the playing pieces separated from their station seats.

Figure 11 is a view similar to Figure 10 looking toward the tops of such pieces.

Similar reference characters indicate corresponding parts throughout the several views in the drawings.

Referring to drawings, A designates generally the apparatus or device constructed in accordance with the invention, and in detail, comprises a pair of substantially rectangular shaped box-like body sections 10 and 11, respectively, each being of uniform length, width and depth with respect to each thereof, and permanently walled at 12, 13, 14 and 15, to provide an enclosed compartment or chamber 16. These sections 10 and 11 are disposed in matched relation to each other, to have their ends next to each other, connected together by hinges 17, so that such sections can be folded, one upon the other, or unfolded, as best seen in Figures 1, 2, 3, 4 and 7 of the drawings. The sections 10 and 11 when unfolded present a playing board or surface providing an intermediate checker-board playing field or area 18, outer playing-piece reserve stations 19, and trapping zones 20, therebetween, respectively.

The zones 20 are cut-away to accommodate swinging trap doors 21, in the present instance, four in number to each zone, and are uniformly spaced from one another, in a transverse row, of the sections. The doors 21 are longitudinally directed in parallel relation to each other toward the field or area 18, and are supported by hinges 22 for their swinging movements.

The doors 21 are normally held against dropping by releasable latches 23, one for each door, each of the latches 23 being operatively connected to a rocker 24 supported on a shaft 25, and such rocker has connection with push release rod 26, having a contact head 27, exposed through the hinged end of each section 10 and 11, with confinement in a pocket 28. The latches 23 are urged to latching position by tension springs 29 about the rods 26 next to the contact heads 27. The doors 21 drop within the compartments or chambers 16 for a purpose presently described.

Selectively engageable with the contact heads

27 of the rods 26 in each section 10 and 11 are the elbowed striker tips 30 of slidable and turnable control plungers 31, mounted in the said sections, there being a pair for each of the latter, and the pair in one section operates a pair of the latches 23 in the other section, and clearances 32 in the hinged ends of such sections have been provided for this operation. In the path of the swinging of the elbowed striker tips 30 are stops 33 for limiting the swing thereof. The outer ends of the plungers 31 carry hand knobs 34 for the manual operation of the same, the said plungers being retracted from the heads 27 by springs 35.

In the playing field or area 18 at the station spaces 35 thereof are provided rest seats 36 for holding the playing pieces 37, in the present instance, these are in the form of marbles, although they may be in the form of checker disks, images of soldiers or otherwise created, while the doors 21 and the zones 20, are formed with spaced rows of rest seats 38 and 39, respectively, for these playing pieces.

In companion sides of the sections 10 and 11 are provided finger holes 40 conveniently usable for the folding and unfolding of such sections. The plungers 31 are rotated clockwise and counterclockwise for the selective engagement of their tips 30 with one of a pair of the rods 26 at the heads 27 thereof. In this manner, it should be seen that one or a pair of the doors 21 in the row of four thereof in each of the sections 10 and 11 can be released or unlatched for dropping movement into the compartment or chamber 16 companion thereto.

The purpose of the drop doors 21 in their arrangement and operation is that competitive players, in maneuvering their groups of playing pieces 37, for the playing of the game of checkers through the use of the apparatus or device A, an opponent can be defeated by bringing up reserve playing pieces from the zone 20 where the latter are normally placed, onto the field or area 18, as it being required that such reserve pieces be first placed on the doors 21, in zone 19, and then transferred onto the field or area 18. Now, each door may be termed an invasion bridge, and when released by an opponent player, the reserve playing pieces 37 on the bridge are dropped into the compartment or chamber 16, for the capture of such pieces. The player who captures all the playing pieces 37 from the opponent player in this manner is proclaimed the winner of the game.

When one player adjusts these plungers 31, under direct control of the latter, this enables the said player to release the doors on that side of the apparatus or device for the opponent player, so that the latter's playing pieces 37 thereon will be dropped into the compartment or chamber 16 for the capture thereof. Each player can only trip two of the four bridges on the opponent side of the apparatus, and it is optional by such player as to which bridges are to be dropped. The plungers 31 are arranged for door dropping operation at the beginning of each game and cannot be changed during the game. As a player cannot determine which of his doors will be dropped by his opponent, the player cannot de-

feat the loss of his player pieces through the dropping of such doors with resultant capture thereby.

It is of course understood that the playing pieces 37 of the group for one player are marked or distinguishable otherwise from the playing pieces of the group for another player, while certain of the playing pieces of each group will bear an identifying mark or symbol 41 to signify higher ranking value than other playing pieces of such group. The standard rules for the playing of the well known game of checkers is followed in the playing of the invasion game thereof in the use of the apparatus or device A and the participants in the game is limited to two players.

What is claimed is:

1. A game apparatus of the kind described, comprising a pair of box-like sections, means connected to corresponding portions of said box-like sections for swingingly connecting the same to each other, each of said box-like sections having its outer surface divided into a playing field portion and bridge portion, each said playing field portion and bridge portion having game-piece receiving recesses therein, each said bridge portions having a plurality of depressible trap doors, latch means for releasably latching the trap doors closed, and manually-operable means located in each of said box-like sections for actuating the latch means in the other of said box-like sections, to unlatch the depressible trap doors in said other of said box-like sections.

2. A game apparatus of the kind described, comprising a pair of box-like sections, means connected to corresponding portions of said box-like sections for swingingly connecting the same to each other, each of said box-like sections having its outer surface divided into a playing field portion and bridge portion, each said playing field portion and bridge portion having game-piece receiving recesses therein, each said bridge portions having a plurality of depressible trap doors, latch means for releasably latching the trap doors closed, and manually-operable means located in each of said box-like sections for selectively actuating the latch means in the other of said box-like sections, to unlatch the depressible trap doors in said other of said box-like sections, said manually-operable means being reciprocally and rotatably mounted in each box-like section whereby the said means in one of said box-like sections may be moved to selectviely unlatch the depressible trap doors in the other of said box-like sections.

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