Sept. 13, 1927. 1,642,424

E. M. MASSEY

PUZZLE

Filed May 23, 1925 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.

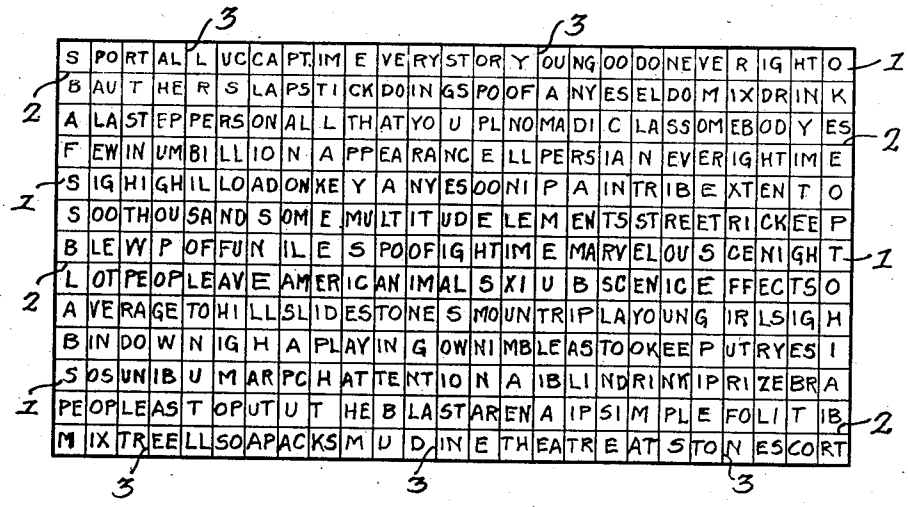
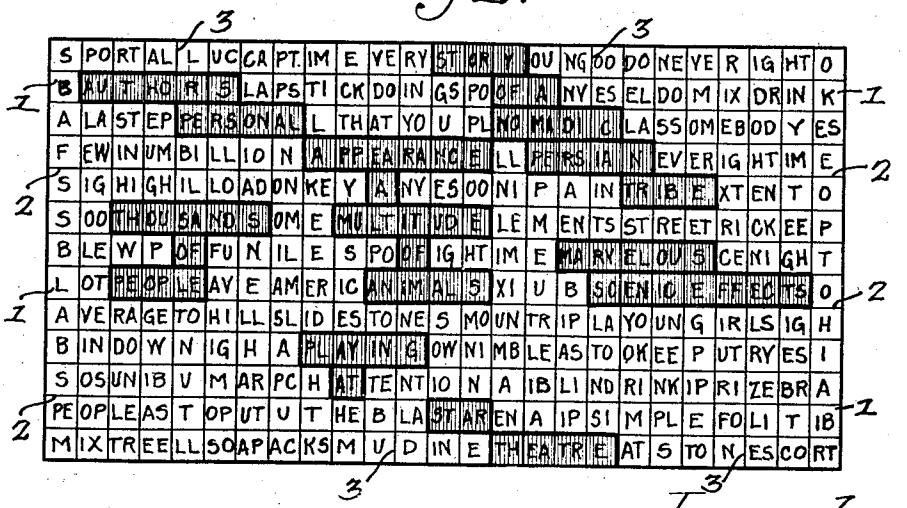


Fig. 2.



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Fig. 3.

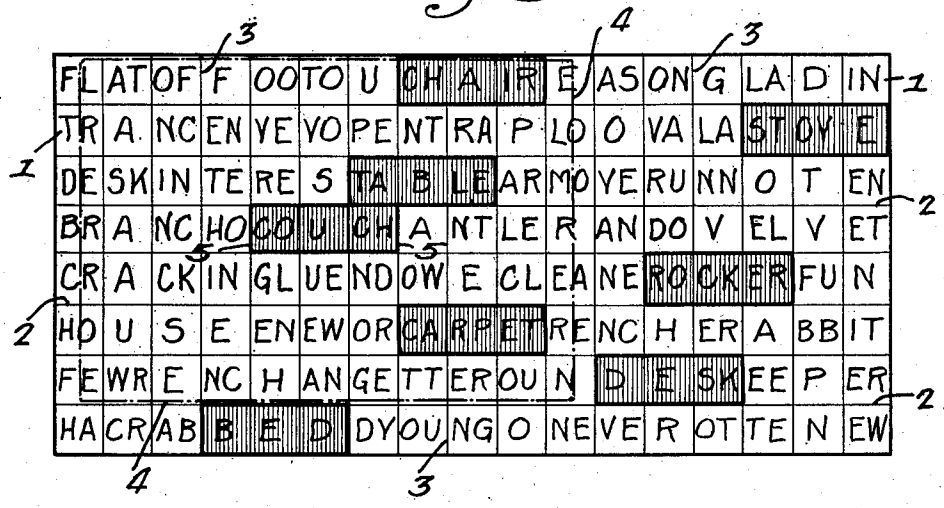
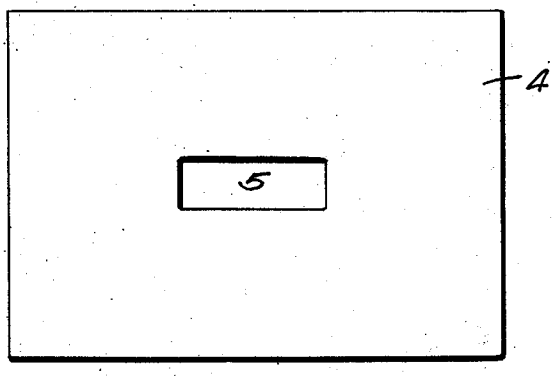


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWARD M. MASSEY, OF WYNNEWOOD, PENNSYLVANIA, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO THE PHILADELPHIA TABLOID PUBLISHING COMPANY, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA, A CORPORATION OF PENNSYLVANIA.

PUZZLE.

Application filed May 23, 1925. Serial No. 32,359.

This invention relates particularly to puzzles consisting of arrangements of letters and adapted to be printed in newspapers, magazines, or books, or to be made up in card form as a game.

The principal object of the invention is to provide a puzzle of the type set forth which is amusing and instructive, and which is also adapted to be used for advertising purposes. Other objects will be apparent from the following specification and claims.

In the accompanying drawings I have shown examples of puzzles embodying the invention, but it will be understood that these are merely examples and that the arrangements of letters and words can be varied indefinitely. It will be further understood that the forms of the puzzle can also be varied widely within the scope of the claims without departing from the spirit of the invention.

Of the drawings,

Fig. 1 is a representation of a puzzle embodying the invention;

Fig. 2 is a view similar to Fig. 1, but showing the solution of the puzzle;

Fig. 3 is a representation of another puzzle embodying the invention, this being shown as solved;

Fig. 4 is a view of a shield adapted for use in connection with the puzzle shown in Fig. 3.

Referring to the drawings, particularly Fig. 1, it will be observed that the puzzle comprises a plurality of continuous rows 1, 1 of letters, printed on a sheet and so arranged that, as an entirety, they are meaningless. As shown, the rows of letters are horizontal, but this is not essential, and they may extend in any desired direction. Intermingled among the letters of the several rows are certain words which are so selected as to conform to a predetermined description or definition. Preferably, though not necessarily, several words in different rows are grouped to form phrases or sentences.

The puzzle is solved by outlining, or otherwise marking, the words corresponding to the description or definition. In the example shown in Figs. 1 and 2 the description might call for phrases or slogans relating to a certain motion picture production. Fig. 2 shows the following phrases outlined to show the solution of the puzzle: Author's personal appearance; Story of a nomadic Persian tribe; A multitude of animals; Thousands of people; Marvelous scenic effects; Playing at Star Theater.

In order to make the puzzle more interesting and more difficult of solution I prefer to include in the rows of letters a number of words in addition to the words forming the solution of the puzzle; and preferably some of the words are overlapped so that the latter part of one word forms the first part of another word. This is illustrated in the latter part of line 1 of the puzzle where the following appears:

STORYOUNGOODONEVERIGHTO.

The rows of letters may appear by themselves, but I prefer to locate the several letters in parallelograms or squares formed by two series of parallel lines intersecting each other. In Fig. 1 I have shown horizontal lines 2, 2 and vertical lines 3, 3, forming squares between them. Preferably the letters are arranged with different numbers of letters in different parallelograms or squares. As shown, some squares have one letter and others two letters, but as to this there can be variation.

Fig. 3 shows another example of a puzzle embodying the invention. The solution is given, and it will be noted that the words outlined correspond to a predetermined definition, and as shown, the words are names of household furnishings. Each of the words or expressions occupies the same arrangement and number of parallelograms or squares, although they have different numbers of letters. It will be understood that the number and grouping of the parallelograms may be varied indefinitely. To facilitate the solution I may provide a stencil or template 4 having an opening 5 corresponding in size and form to the spaces occupied by the words of the solution. This stencil may be placed over the puzzle, as shown by dot-and-dash lines in Fig. 3, and

shifted until the various words are found. The stencil may also serve as a guide for a pencil in outlining the several words.

I claim:

1. A puzzle comprising a plurality of continuous letters so arranged that as an entirety they are meaningless, the said rows of letters including a limited number of words intermingled with the other letters and grouped in different rows to form phrases corresponding to a predetermined definition or description.

2. A puzzle comprising in combination a sheet carrying a plurality of continuous rows of letters so arranged that as an entirety they are meaningless, the said rows of letters including a limited number of expressions of uniform size and grouping intermingled with the other letters and corresponding to a predetermined definition or description, and a stencil having an opening corresponding in size and shape to the aforesaid expressions and adapted to be applied to the sheet in order to select the said expressions.

EDWARD M. MASSEY.