Sept. 30, 1941. J. E. HUFFAKER 2,257,687

BOARD

Filed June 20, 1940

Fig. 1.

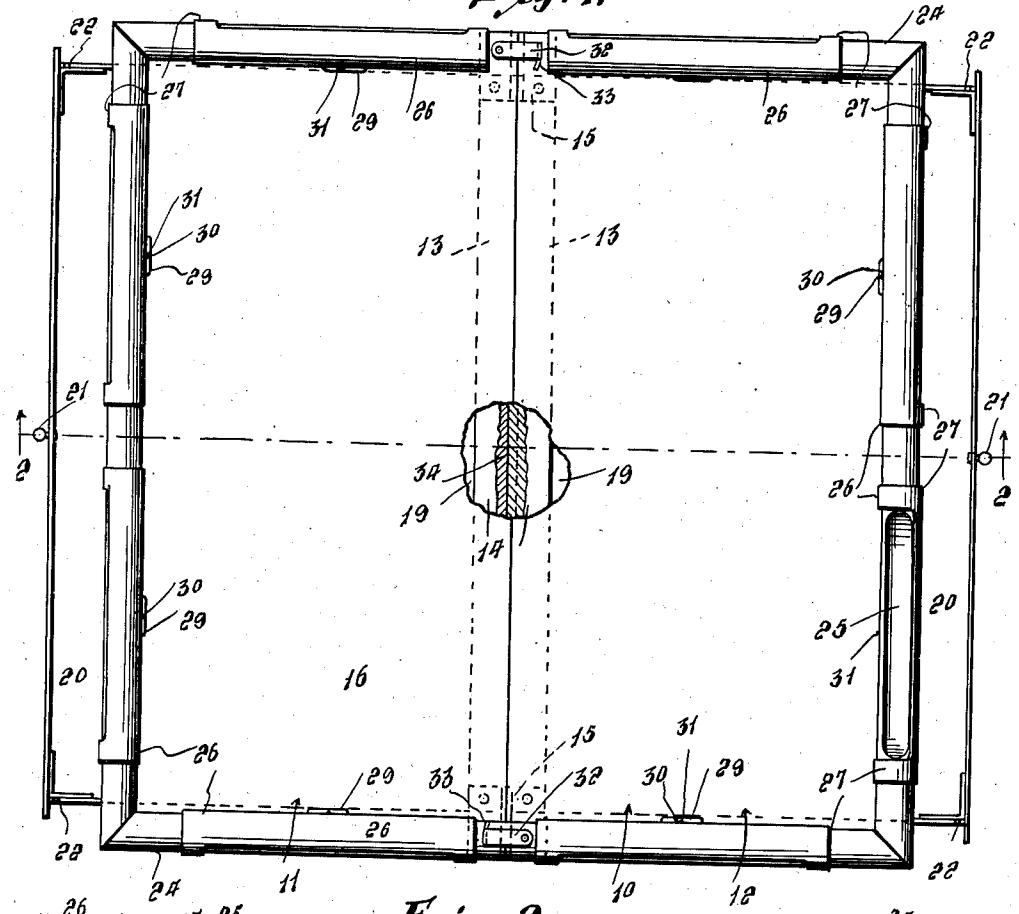


Fig. 2.

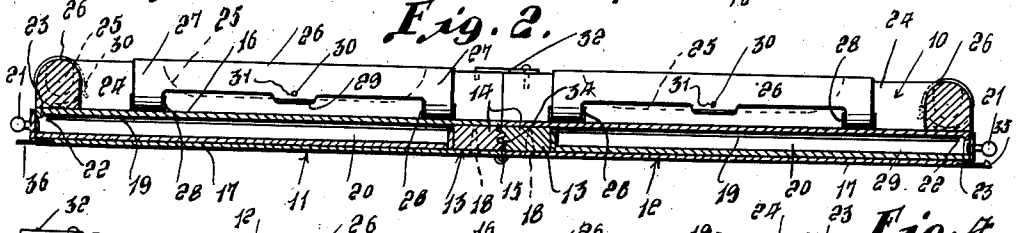


Fig. 3.

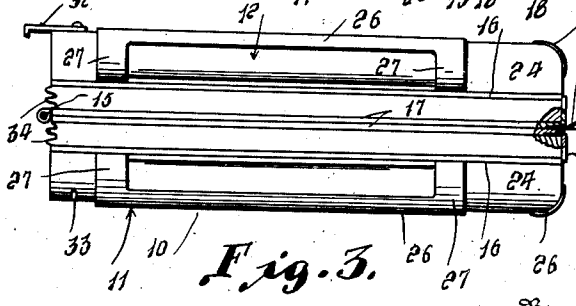
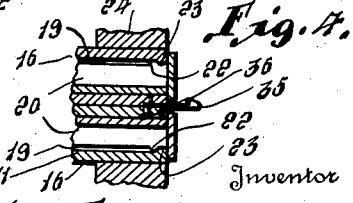


Fig. 4.



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2,257,687

BOARD

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Application June 20, 1940, Serial No. 341,551

2 Claims. (Cl. 273—136)

This invention relates to an improved board primarily adapted for use as a game board and also well adapted for use as a drawing board and having drawers for holding game pieces and other game implements or drawing instruments and materials, or the like.

More particularly, it is an aim of the invention to provide a board, for example, capable of being used for play of a number of games and formed of pivotally connected sections capable of being folded, for storage when not in use; said sections each containing drawers for holding sheets provided with playing areas, and said drawers having latch means for releasably retaining them in closed positions.

Still another aim of the invention is to provide a folding game board with a pivotally connected resilient latch means for holding the game board sections in a folded position and pivotally mounted latch means for holding the board in an extended position.

A further aim of the invention is to provide in combination with the drawers for holding game paraphernalia, recesses formed in the marginal railing of the game board for holding the game pieces and having covers turnably mounted on the railing for exposing or closing said recesses.

Still another aim of the invention is to provide board sections pivotally connected along corresponding edges thereof and provided with rounded longitudinally extending ribs and grooves in said edges for inter-meshing, when the board is extended, to thereby reinforce the intermediate portion of the board to prevent excess pressure on the hinges or pivots which connect the board sections.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will hereinafter become more fully apparent from the following description of the drawing, which illustrates a preferred embodiment thereof, and wherein;

Figure 1 is a top plan view of the apparatus,

Figure 2 is a longitudinal vertical sectional view taken substantially along the plane of the line 2—2 of Figure 1, with the drawers in fully closed positions,

Figure 3 is an end view in elevation showing the apparatus folded, and

Figure 4 is a fragmentary vertical sectional view showing a portion of the board in a folded position.

Referring more particularly to the drawing, wherein like reference characters designate like or corresponding parts throughout the different views, 10 designates generally a board, particularly adapted to be used as a game board, but which may be used as a portable drawing board. The board 10 is divided transversely, intermediate of its ends, and forms corresponding sections 11 and 12, each of which is provided with a U-shaped frame 13, the intermediate portions 14 of which are connected by hinges 15. The ends or legs of the frames 13 extend outwardly relatively to each other. The sections 11 and 12 are provided with the top portions 16 and bottom portions 17 which are secured to the opposite sides of the U-shaped frames 13 by means of fastenings 18 to form spaces 19, which open outwardly of the remote ends of the board 10.

Drawers 20 are mounted in the spaces 19 and are provided with the knobs 21 for moving the drawers 20, relatively to the spaces 19 to open and closed positions. The drawers 20 carry curved latch elements 22 of spring metal which are adapted to engage fixed keepers 23, which project into the spaces, for releasably holding the drawers in fully closed positions.

The board 10 is provided with an up-set marginal railing 24 which is formed of corresponding U-shaped sections carried by the board sections 11 and 12, the ends of which are adapted to be disposed in abutting engagement, as best seen in Figure 2, when the board 10 is in an extended position. The railing 24 is substantially circular in cross section and along each side thereof is provided with a plurality of longitudinal grooves 25 which open upwardly and outwardly thereof. Each of the grooves 25 is provided with a cover 26, which covers are arcuately shaped in cross section. The covers 26 are provided with integral ring portions 27 at the ends thereof, which are disposed around the railing 24 and in grooves 28 in the under side thereof, and which are loosely mounted relatively to the railing to permit the covers 26 to be turned on the railing 24 for exposing or closing the grooves 25. Each of the covers 26 is provided with an outwardly curved lip 29, forming a handle for turning the covers. The lips 29 are provided with apertures 30 for engaging projections 31 on the inner side of the railing 24 for latching the closures 26 in closed positions. The lips 29 are sufficiently resilient to be sprung out of engagement with the projections 31 for releasing the latch means.

Latch members 32 are pivotally mounted on opposite ends of the two U-shaped sections of the railing 24 and are provided with down turned free ends, as best seen in Figure 2, for engaging grooves 33 in the other, alternate ends of the railing sections for releasably holding the board

10 in an extended position. The adjacent edges of the portions 14 are provided with longitudinally extending rounded ribs and grooves 34 which inter-mesh or inter-lock, when the board 10 is in an extended position, as best seen in Figure 2, to prevent pressure on the upper side of the board 10 from distorting or twisting the hinges 15 and to thereby provide means whereby the hinges 15 are relieved from supporting the weight of the intermediate portion of the board 10, when in an extended position.

Referring particularly to Figure 4, a hook 35 is secured at its shank end to the under side of the section 12, with its hooked end projecting outwardly from the free end of said section. A loop 36 is pivotally connected to the under side of the corresponding portion of the section 11 for detachably engaging the hook 35 when the sections 11 and 12 are folded relatively to each other, in the manner as illustrated in Figure 3. The shank of the hook 35 is sufficiently resilient to permit its free end to be bent and passed through the loop 36 for connecting or disconnecting the parts.

From the foregoing it will be seen that the grooves 25 form receptacles for holding game pieces, and the like, while the drawers 20 may be used for containing the sheets on which are printed various types of playing fields for use in the play of different games in conjunction with playing pieces, not shown, disposed in the recesses 25. Said sheets, not shown, may be spread on the upper side of the board 10, when extended, so that the board will act as a support for the game sheets and playing pieces. The drawers 20 and recesses 25 may also be used for holding drawing instruments and paper, not shown, and under such circumstances the board 10 is readily adapted for use as a drawing board, and if desired a part or all of the railing 24 can be dispensed with. The board 10, as heretofore explained, will be retained in an extended position by the latch elements 32 engaging the recesses 33 and these latch elements 32 may be swung inwardly to let the board be folded and latched in a folded position by the parts 35 and 36. When thus folded latch elements 32 will hold the drawers 20 closed while the latch means 30 and 31 will hold the covers 26 in closed positions for effectively storing articles contained within the drawers 20 and the grooves 25.

Various modifications and changes in the construction and arrangement of the parts forming the invention are contemplated and may obviously be resorted to as only a preferred embodiment has been illustrated and described.

I claim as my invention:

1. A game board, formed of sections, having an upstanding marginal railing extending around the game board, said railing being formed of sections connected to the upper side of the board sections, said railing being substantially semioval in cross section and being provided with spaced upwardly opening grooves, covers for closing or exposing said grooves, said covers being arcuately shaped in cross section and being provided with integral ring portions at the ends thereof, and said railing having arcuately shaped grooves in its underside for receiving the ring portions to position them for engaging around the railing for turnably mounting the covers thereon.

2. A game board of the type having recesses opening outwardly of the ends thereof for receiving slidable drawers, comprising an upstanding marginal railing attached to the upper side of the game board adjacent the marginal edges thereof, said railing being substantially semioval in cross section and having upwardly opening, lengthwise disposed channels in its upper portion and transversely disposed arcuately shaped grooves in its underside, and cover members, arcuately shaped in cross section, disposed on the railing and having ring shaped ends extending through and engaging the grooves for turnably mounting the covers on the channeled portions of the railing.

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