

Oct. 13, 1925

G. WOLKENHAUER

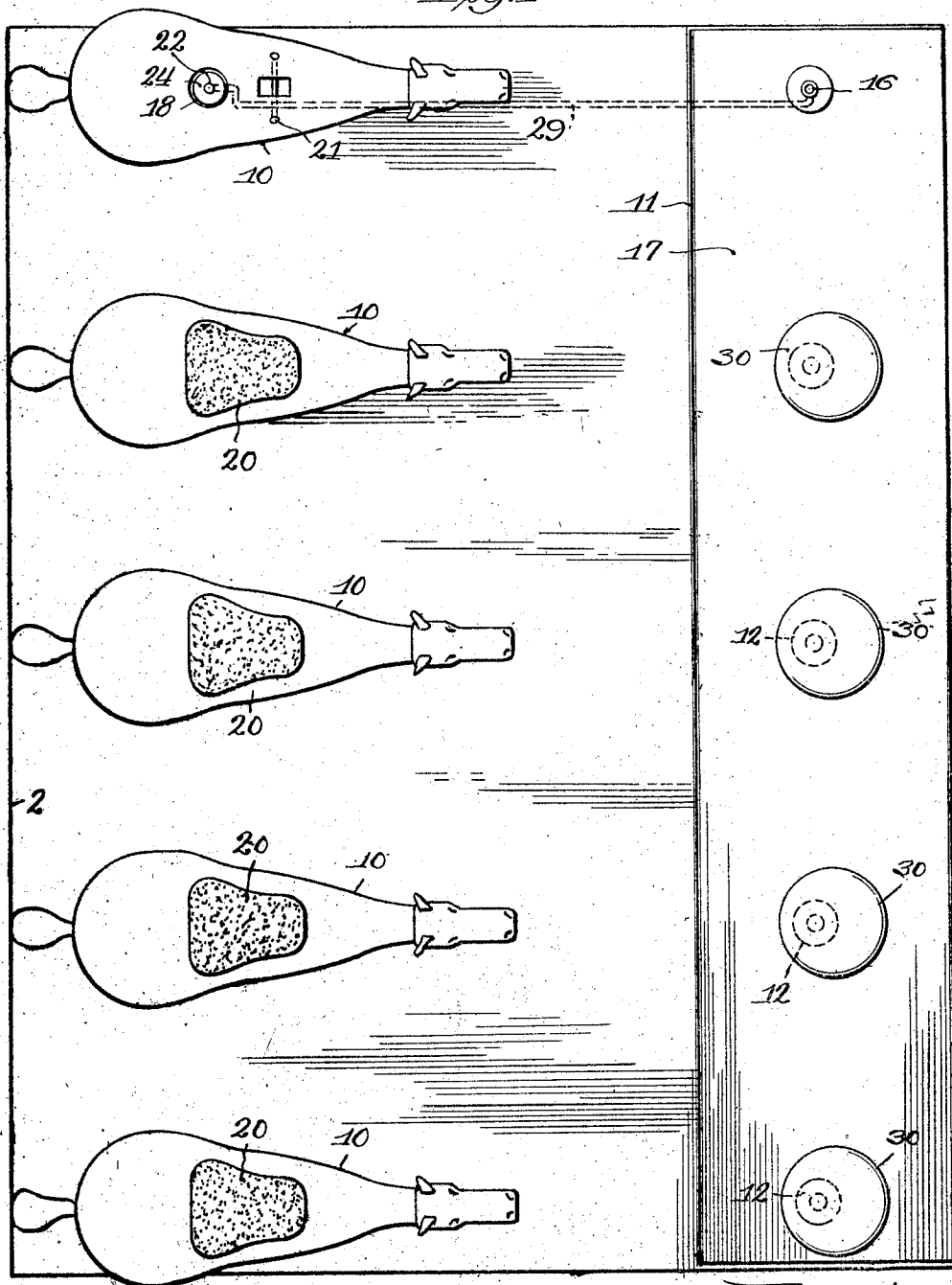
1,556,984

GAME

Filed Dec. 15, 1924

2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1



Witness:
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Inventor
Gustav Wolkenhauer
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Fig. 2

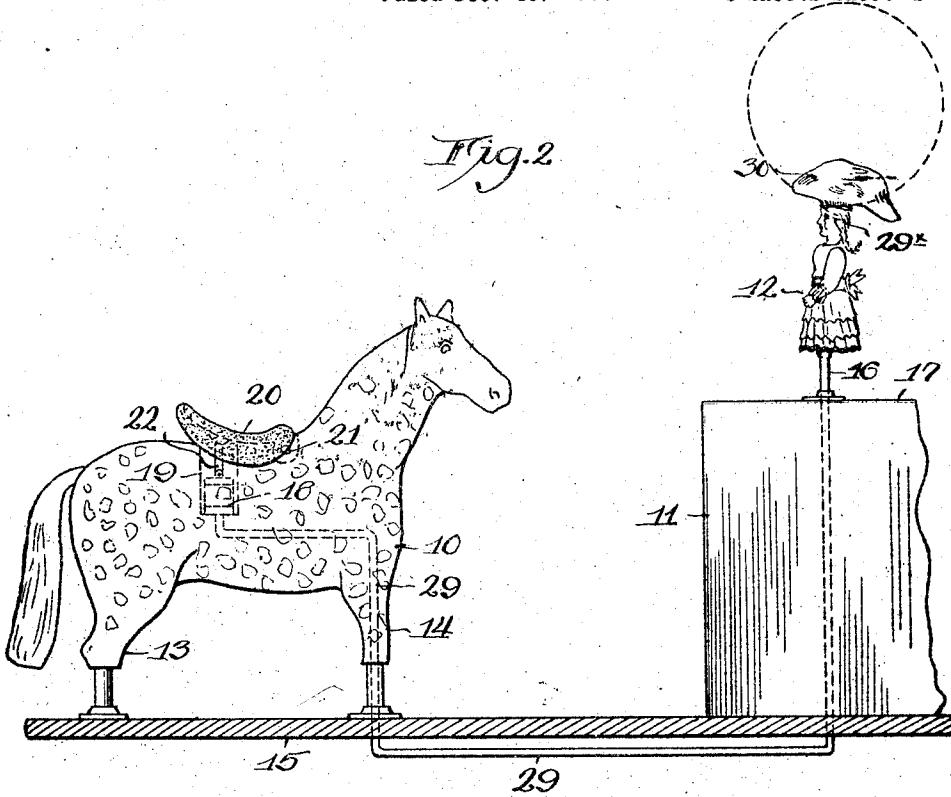
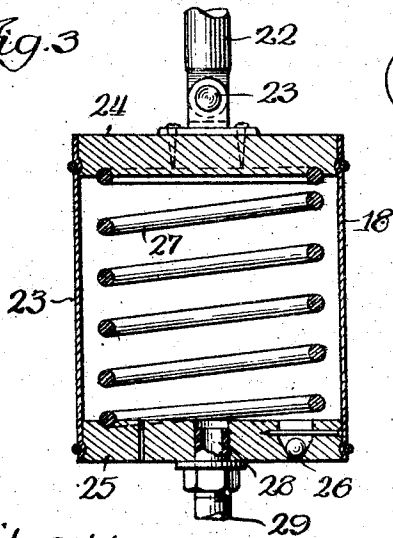
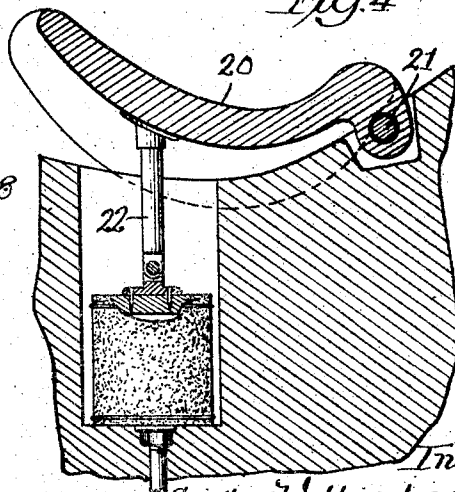


Fig. 3



Witness:
Chas. R. Fournier

Fig. 4



Inventor,
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GUSTAV WOLKENHAUER, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNOR TO RIVERVIEW PARK COMPANY, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, A CORPORATION OF ILLINOIS.

GAME.

Application filed December 15, 1924. Serial No. 755,814.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GUSTAV WOLKENHAUER, a citizen of the Republic of Germany, and a resident of Chicago, county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Games; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form part of this specification.

This invention relates to a novel and improved game and consists of the matters hereinafter described and more particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

The object of the invention is to provide a game in simulation of a race by those playing it, primarily intended as an amusement device to be used at amusement parks, county fairs, and like public amusement places, which amusement device is of simple and economical construction, which will present a wide-spread and lively interest and attraction for the great majority of those attending such places, which will vividly produce in the players all the excitement and sensation of an actual race, and which may be operated at a minimum of cost to those running the game.

The advantages of the invention will appear more fully as I proceed with my specification.

In the drawings:—

Figure 1 is a view representing a top plan of the game apparatus as a whole.

Figure 2 is a view representing a section through the apparatus in a plane indicated by the line 2—2 of Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a vertical sectional view on an enlarged scale of one of a plurality of bellows members used in the apparatus.

Figure 4 is a view representing a partial vertical section through one of the dummies, in this case, a horse, which are included in the apparatus.

The new game comprises in general a plurality of dummies, built in the form of animals, as for example, horses, equipped for riding and arranged in one or more ranks or rows and a like number of puppets or dolls, arranged in ranks or rows corresponding to the ranks or rows of the dummies, with each puppet or doll provided with a collapsed toy balloon applied as a cap or

hat, and connected by a concealed pipe or tube to a bellows or like device, in or near the body of a dummy associated therewith and operable by means of a saddle or other movable part on the dummy to blow up and expand the bellows. The dummies, as the horses or other animals, may be provided with gay trappings and the puppets or dolls may be dressed in artistic or garish clothes so as to attract the attention of the passers-by. The parts are all arranged and correlated so that when a dummy is mounted by a rider, the saddle or other movable part thereon may be operated by some movement of the body of the rider to actuate the bellows intermittently and supply an intermittent air pressure to the cap or hat on the puppet or doll to blow it up and expand it as in the case of the familiar toy balloon.

The object of the game is to provide for the dummies a number of riders, each of whom, by a movement of the body, will simulate a riding race on the dummies, the horses or other animals, the winner of the race to be that rider who first succeeds, by the actuation of the bellows associated with the dummy which he rides, in expanding the balloon cap on the puppet connected to his dummy to a size to break it.

Referring now to that embodiment of the invention illustrated in the drawings: 10 indicates the dummy to be ridden which, in this case, is made in the likeness of a horse. A plurality of such dummies are provided, arranged in ranks or rows, there being illustrated in this case, a single rank or row of five horses, all of which are alike. The animal figures may all be alike as illustrated or each animal of the rank may be different, as desired, in order to promote the hilarity attending the game. 11 indicates an elongated table or other support which is arranged, as shown, in a position parallel to the row of horses. 12 indicates a plurality of puppets or dolls, each located in line with an associated dummy 10.

The several dummies 10 have legs or standards bearing upon and secured to a main platform or floor 15, which supports the apparatus. The puppets or dolls 12 likewise have legs 16, which are attached to the top 17 of the table 11.

18 indicates a bellows device which is preferably located in a suitable recess 19 in the body of each dummy 10. 20 indicates

a movable member on the dummy, which movable member in this case is a saddle, hinged at 21 to the body of the dummy at a point forward of the recess 19. The saddle 20 has depending from it, at a point spaced to the rear of the pivot 21, a plunger 22, which is operatively connected to the bellows 18.

As illustrated in the drawings, the bellows consists of a tubular, collapsible bag 23, closed at its ends by heads 24—25, one of which, namely, the top head 24, is reciprocable in a vertical direction, and the other of which, namely, the bottom head 25 is fixed and provided with a suitable valve opening and valve 26 of any familiar construction adapted to retain the air within the tubular bellows body, when the top head 24 is moved downwardly toward the bottom head 25 and to admit air during the reverse, upward movement of the top head 24.

The heads 24—25 of the bellows are normally maintained in expanded relation, that is to say, at the farthest distance apart, by means of an expansion coiled spring 27, one end of which engages the bottom head 25 and the other end of which engages the top head 24. The plunger 22 is connected by a flexible joint 23 to the top head 24 of the bellows. The bottom head 25 is provided with a discharge opening 28, in which is fixed in any suitable manner a pipe or tube 29. Said pipe or tube 29 is concealed in or about the body of the horse in any suitable way and leads down through one of the leg supports 14 and through the platform or floor 15. The pipe 29 is thence conducted underneath said floor or platform 15 to a position below the associated puppet 12, whence it is extended upwardly through the leg 16 of said puppet and through the body thereof to a nipple 29* in the head of said body.

Preferably the head of the puppet itself is formed to constitute the nipple 29* to which is attached a small balloon 30 made of rubber or other flexible and expansible material, as the familiar toy balloon. Toy balloons of the kind are supplied in numbers to be used in the game and are provided with suitable devices of any familiar kind for attaching and detaching them to and from the nipple 29*. When the saddle 20 is depressed, the bellows 18 will be operated by the associated plunger 22, to force a charge of air through the pipe 29 and up through the nipple 29* and into the balloon 30; and rapid, successive depressions of the saddle will operate to expand the balloon.

To operate the saddle 20, the rider seats himself upon it astride in the usual manner of riding a horse or other animal. The dummies are preferably made comparatively low so that any rider, whether child or adult,

seated astride the horse, may put his whole weight on the saddle to depress the plunger and may then lift himself to permit the plunger to rise. An up and down movement of his body in this manner will move the saddle so as to produce, in conjunction with the expansion spring 27, the necessary vertical reciprocal movement of the head 24, to actuate the bellows.

Manifestly, the more rapid the movements of the rider in the manner aforesaid, the greater the rate of expansion of the balloon 30 on the associated puppet. Thus when several riders, each on a dummy, are going through the same required movements as above described, that one who moves with greatest rapidity will cause the balloon cap on his associated puppet to expand at the greatest rate, so that, presuming that the balloons are all made of fabric of the same breaking test, the said balloon will break first and that one will win the race. When it is remembered that toy balloons of the kind have such lack of uniformity that no two probably have the same capacity of expansion before breaking, the uncertainty of the results will be apparent, and said uncertainty will add to the continued interest in the game.

The possibilities of the game, when used in an amusement park or at a fair, will be manifest to those familiar with such places. Its appeal to adults as well as to children will be recognized. Prizes may be offered for the winner to increase the attraction of the game and this at small cost to those running it.

While dummies in the form of horses or other animals are described herein, the dummies are not limited to such form, as other devices generally used in racing may be simulated instead, in endless variety.

While in describing my invention, I have referred to certain details of mechanical construction and arrangement, it is to be understood that the invention is not limited thereto except as may be pointed out in the appended claims.

I claim as my invention:—

1. A game comprising the combination of a support, a plurality of dummies thereon simulating forms to be entered in a race, each dummy including a part which is movable with reference to said support, a plurality of bellows devices, one for each dummy, each operably connected to said movable part, a plurality of puppets there being a puppet associated with each dummy, a pipe connecting each bellows device to the associated puppet, and provided with a discharge nipple at its puppet end, and a plurality of expansible devices, one for each puppet attached to said nipples.

2. A game comprising the combination of a support, a plurality of dummies thereon

simulating forms adapted to be ridden in a race, each dummy including a part which is movable with reference to said support, and is adapted to be operated by a rider of the dummy, a plurality of bellows devices, each operably connected to said movable part, a plurality of puppets, there being a puppet associated with each dummy, pipes connecting said bellows devices to their associated puppets, and provided with discharge nipples at their puppet ends, and a plurality of toy balloons, one for each puppet, each detachably connected to one of said nipples.

3. A game comprising the combination of a support, a plurality of dummies thereon simulating the forms of animals, and arranged in ranks or rows, a movable saddle on each dummy, a bellows device in each dummy adapted to be actuated in the movement of said saddle, a plurality of puppets there being a puppet associated with each dummy, a plurality of pipes severally connecting said bellows devices of the dummies to the associated puppets, each pipe terminating in a discharge nipple opening through the head of the puppet, and a plu-

rality of toy balloons adapted to be attached to said nipples as caps for said puppets.

4. A game comprising the combination of a support, a plurality of dummies in the forms of animals arranged in ranks or rows as when entered for a race, a plurality of puppets arranged in corresponding ranks or rows, there being a puppet for each dummy, a movable saddle on each dummy, said dummy being provided with a recess below said saddle, a bellows device in said recess including a movable member, means operably connecting the movable member of the bellows to the associated saddle, a plurality of concealed pipes severally connecting the bellows devices to the associated puppets, each pipe terminating in a discharge nipple located in the head of said puppet, and a plurality of toy balloons adapted for connection to the heads of said puppets to receive the discharge from said nipples.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my invention, I affix my signature this 5th day of December 1924.

GUSTAV WOLKENHAUER.