

No. 693,821.

Patented Feb. 18, 1902.

P. F. DE FORD.

DEVICE FOR PLAYING GAMES OF CHANCE.

(Application filed Jan. 29, 1901.)

(No Model.)

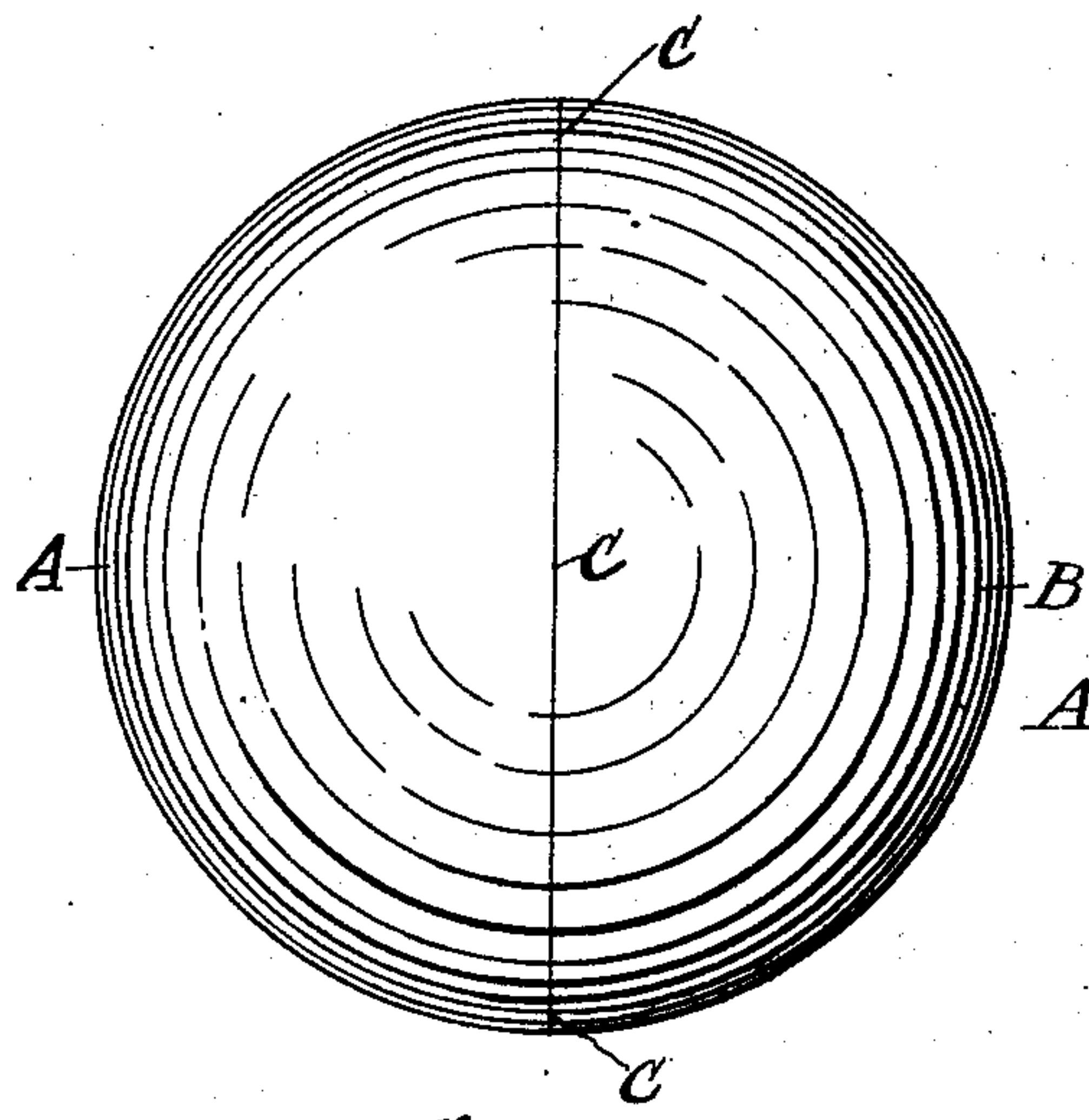


Fig. 1

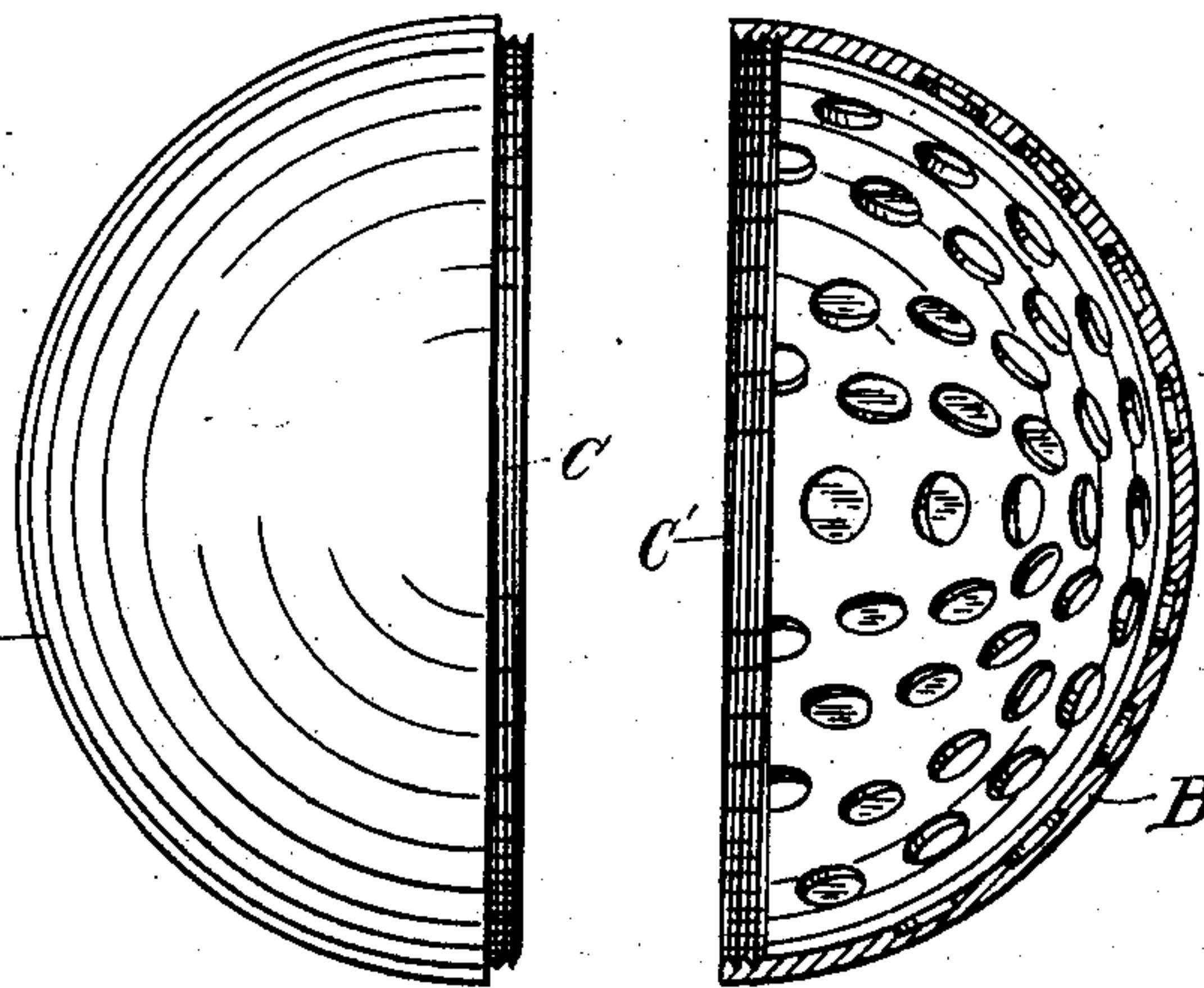


Fig. 2

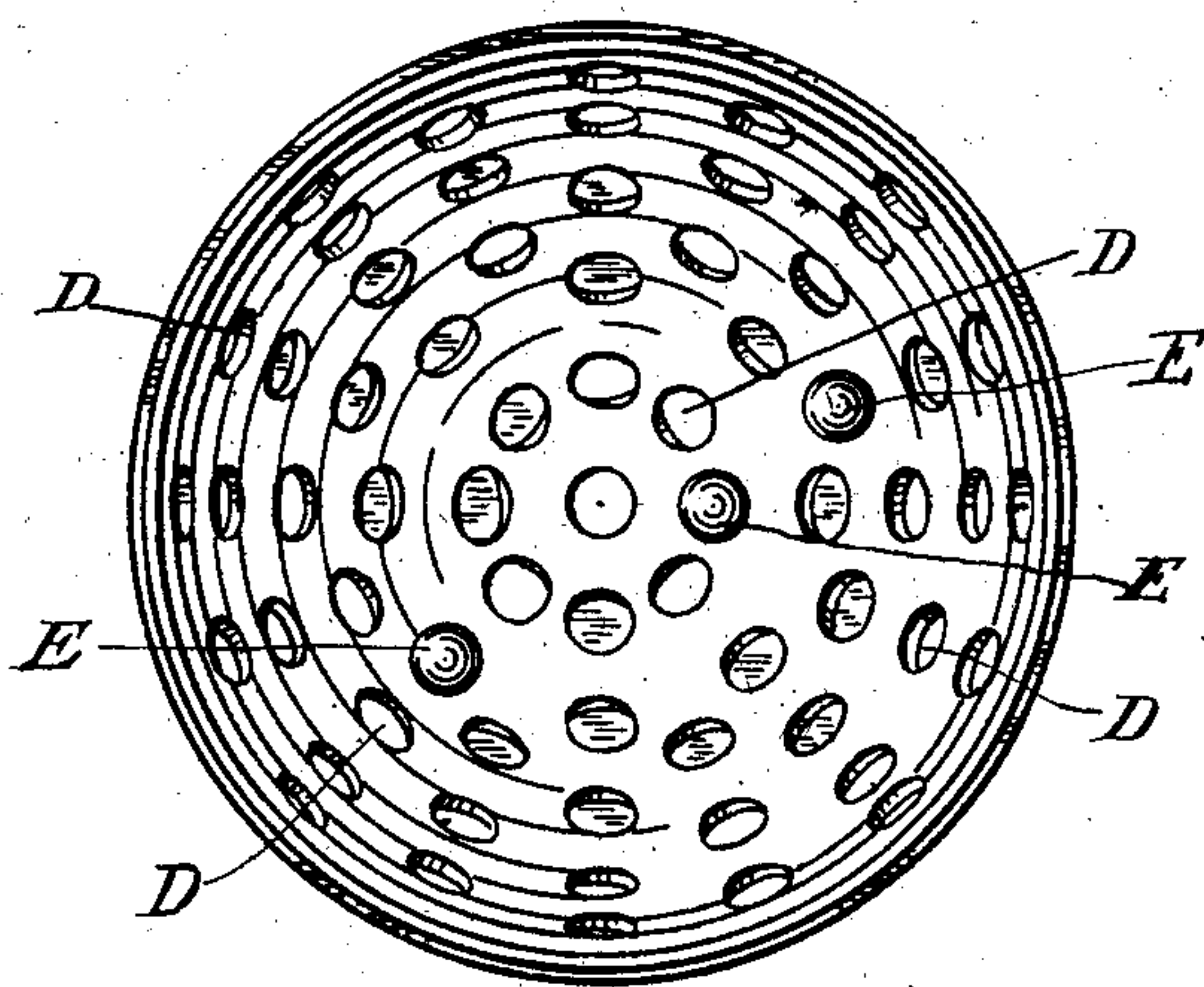


Fig. 3

Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

PAUL F. DE FORD, OF PASADENA, CALIFORNIA.

DEVICE FOR PLAYING GAMES OF CHANCE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 693,821, dated February 18, 1902.

Application filed January 29, 1901. Serial No. 45,256. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, PAUL F. DE FORD, of the city of Pasadena, in the county of Los Angeles, in the State of California, have invented a certain new and useful Device for Playing Games of Chance for Purposes of Amusement, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description or specification, reference being had to the annexed sheet of drawings and to the letters marked thereon.

This invention consists of a hollow device which when rolled upon a surface or otherwise moved about enables any desired number of balls contained loosely within the hollow thereof to be caught and retained in a corresponding number of recesses. The interior of this hollow device is constructed with a large number of recesses capable of receiving such balls—for example, one hundred or more recesses and one, two, three, four, or more balls—into some of which recesses the balls locate themselves and are held as the hollow device is rolled or otherwise moved about. The recesses may be marked with numbers, and the summation of the numbers of the recesses whereinto the balls have fallen or moved constitutes the score of the game. Instead of numbering each of the recesses with a different number they may be colored, each color representing a different number or value, and the balls themselves may also be numbered or colored with different numbers and colors, so that the score in these cases would be counted by the position of the balls in recesses of different numbers or of different colors or by the position of the balls at different positions of the hollow of the device, which numbers on the balls determine the summation or score, or other symbols than numbers or colors may be marked in this manner—such, for example, as the symbols which are used on a pack of cards for playing whist or other games.

While the device may be used for obtaining the scores, as has been explained, by different methods, yet the device itself is always the same, and it is the device which constitutes the present invention.

The device is preferably made in two hemispheres, which when united together by an equatorial joint constitute a perfect sphere.

On the annexed drawings, Figure 1 repre-

sents the device in such spherical form. Fig. 2 represents the two hemispheres constituting the device separated, the hemisphere on the left-hand side being shown in elevation and the hemisphere on the right-hand side being shown in vertical section. Fig. 3 is a plan of one of the hemispheres, showing the interior thereof and a number of circular recesses in the said interior, with three balls situated in three of these recesses.

The hollow sphere is preferably made with an equatorial screwed joint C, as shown at Figs. 1 and 2, so that the two hemispheres A and B, respectively, may be united or separated by the equatorial screw-joint C and C'. As will be seen by Fig. 3, the interior or hollow of each hemisphere is constructed with numerous circular recesses D D D D, whereinto, as the hollow device is rolled about, either upon the surface of a table or upon the floor of an apartment or upon any other surface or even moved about while being held in the hands of a person, each of the balls E E E fall and take up any position in the recesses which the hand, the direction of the movement of the device, and the balls within it may control.

To ascertain the score or scores made by the device and the balls therein, the hollow device is opened by unscrewing and separating the hemispheres, when the position of the balls E E E indicates the score in the manner hereinbefore mentioned.

It is to be understood that while I have upon the annexed drawings shown my device as spherical in form, believing, as I do, this to be preferable, yet I desire it to be understood that the hollow device is not necessarily spherical, as it may be made tubular, cylindrical, or conical and in any form of two or more parts capable of being separated and united by a joint, the parts in either case containing analogous recesses D D D and containing any desired number of balls E E E.

Having now described the nature of my said invention and the best system, mode, or manner I am at present acquainted with for carrying the same into practical effect, I desire to observe, in conclusion, that what I consider to be novel and original, and therefore claim as the invention to be secured to me by Letters Patent, is as follows:

The spherical hollow receptacle constructed in two hemispheres united by an equatorial joint; so that the receptacle can be opened and closed, and whose interior portion consists of as many circular recesses or holes as 5 can be conveniently formed therein, whereinto balls, contained within the hollow spherical receptacle fall, when the said receptacle is rolled upon any surface, and which recesses 10 or holes are marked with numbers or their equivalents for indicating a score, all in the

manner and for the purposes substantially as hereinbefore described.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal, this 1st day of November, in 15 the year of our Lord 1900, in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

PAUL F. DE FORD. [L. s.]

Witnesses:

ST. JOHN DAY,
W. E. MURRAY.