

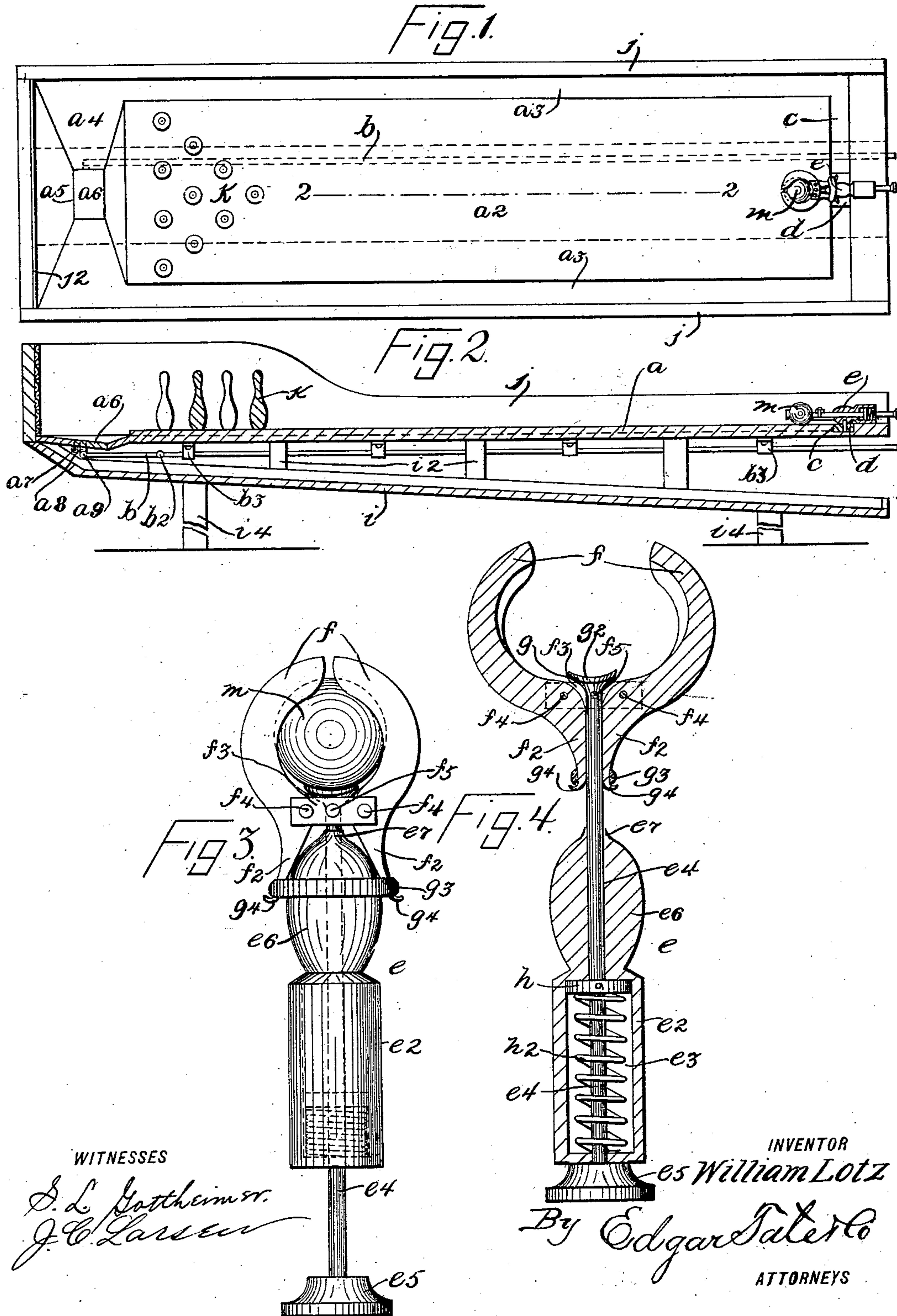
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W. LOTZ.
GAME DEVICE.

APPLICATION FILED APR. 20, 1903.

NO MODEL.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM LOTZ, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.

GAME DEVICE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 750,988, dated February 2, 1904.

Application filed April 20, 1903. Serial No. 153,366. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM LOTZ, a citizen of the United States, residing at Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Game Devices, of which the following is a specification, such as will enable those skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

The object of this invention is to provide an improved game device whereby the game of tenpins may be played in a parlor, saloon, café, or other apartment; and with this and other objects in view the invention consists in a game device or apparatus of the class specified constructed as hereinafter described and claimed.

The invention is fully disclosed in the following specification, of which the accompanying drawings form a part, in which the separate parts of my improvement are designated by suitable reference characters in each of the views, and in which—

Figure 1 is a plan view of a game device or apparatus involving my invention; Fig. 2, a longitudinal section on the line 2 2 of Fig. 1; Fig. 3, a plan view, on an enlarged scale, of a part of the apparatus shown in Figs. 1 and 2; and Fig. 4, a horizontal section thereof.

In the practice of my invention I provide a table *a*, which may be of any desired length and of any suitable width, and the central longitudinal portion *a*² of this table forms the alleyway, at the opposite sides of which are shallow gutters or races *a*³ and at the rear end of which is a pit *a*⁴, the floor of which converges toward a central opening *a*⁵, in which is hinged a door *a*⁶, the hinge of the door being at *a*⁷. The door *a*⁶ is provided at one end with a downwardly and outwardly directed member *a*⁸, to which is hinged or pivoted at *a*⁹ a rod *b*, which is composed of two parts hinged or pivoted together at *b*², and this rod passes through keepers *b*³, suspended beneath the table and extends the full length thereof, and by pushing or pulling on the front end of said rod at the front end of the table the door *a*⁶ may be opened or closed, as will be readily understood.

At or near the front end of the table is a

transverse groove or gutter *c*, in which is placed a transversely-movable block *d*, and pivoted thereto and adapted to swing in a horizontal plane is a ball-projecting device *e*, and the transverse groove or gutter *c* preferably communicates with the races or gutters *a*³. The ball-projecting device *e* consists of a handle portion *e*², which is provided with a central longitudinal chamber *e*³, and passing therethrough is a rod *e*⁴, provided at its outer end with a knob or handle *e*⁵, and the inner end of the handle portion *e*² of the ball-projecting device is provided with an extension *e*⁶, which is preferably elliptical in longitudinal section, while the outer end of which is beveled or conical, as shown at *e*⁷, and I also provide two segmental jaws *f*, having shanks *f*², and these jaws are pivotally connected by transverse plates *f*³ and pins *f*⁴, which are passed therethrough, and a similar pin *f*⁵ is passed through the plates *f*³ and through the end of the rod *e*⁴, and said end of said rod is provided with a head *g*, the outer surface of which is concave in form, as shown at *g*². The ends of the shanks *f*² adjacent to the handle portion *e*² of the ball-projecting device are connected by a strong elastic rubber band or similar device *g*³, and the said ends of said shanks adjacent to said band are curved or beveled outwardly, as shown at *g*⁴. The rod *e*⁴ is provided within the chamber *e*³ with a collar *h*, and between said collar and the outer end of the handle member is placed a strong spiral spring *h*², and this spring serves to force the parts of the ball-projecting device into the position shown in Fig. 4.

Longitudinally of the bottom of the table *a* is placed a runway *i*, which extends from the door *a*⁶ to the front end of the table, and this runway is connected with the table *a* by any suitable supports *i*², and the supporting-legs of the table are preferably connected with the runway *i*, as shown at *i*⁴, although these legs may be connected directly with the table, if desired, or said table may be supported in any preferred way. The table *a* is also provided with raised side walls *j* and with a rear pit-wall *j*², and in practice the usual pins *k* are employed, and these pins may be of any desired size and are preferably much smaller

than ordinary tenpins of the class. I also provide a ball *m*, which is preferably similar to an ordinary billiard-ball, and in order to play this game the pins *k* are set up in the usual manner and the ball *m* is placed between the jaws *f*. The rod *e* is then drawn outwardly to the limit of its movement, and in this operation the shanks *f*² of the jaws *f* are spread apart or separated by the conical or rounded end of the handle member *e*³, and when the rod *e*⁴ is released it will be forced by the spring *h*² in the direction of the pins *k*, and in this operation the jaws *f* will be instantly separated by the contraction of the band *g*³ and the ball *m* will be projected in the direction of the pins. When the rod *e*⁴ is withdrawn outwardly or backwardly, the jaws *f* close in on the ball *m*, as shown in Figs. 1 and 3, and when said rod is released the operation will be as above described, the jaws *f* being separated and the ball *m* projected.

The block or slide *d* may be moved to any desired point transversely of the end of the alley-way, and the ball-projecting device may be swung into any desired position, as will be readily understood, and the counting of the game is the same as in the ordinary game of tenpins.

The table may be of any desired length and width, and all the other parts herein described may be of any preferred dimensions, and it will be understood that when the ball *m* has been projected it will finally come to rest in the pit *a*⁴ and will roll onto the table *a*, and by shoving the rod *b* backwardly the door *a*⁶ will be opened and the ball will drop down onto the runway *i* and will roll forwardly to the front end of the table.

Having fully described my invention, what

I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In a game apparatus of the class described, a ball-projecting device comprising a handle portion provided at one end with a conical or beveled member, a spring-operated rod passing therethrough, segmental jaws provided with shanks between which said rod passes, transverse members to which said jaws are pivoted and with which said rod is connected, and a contractile member mounted on the shanks of said jaws, said shanks being adapted to be separated, and said jaws pulled together by the withdrawal of the rod from the handle member, substantially as shown and described.

2. In a game apparatus of the class described, a table provided with an alley-way and a ball-projecting device transversely adjustable of one end of said alley-way, and comprising a block, an end member pivoted thereto and adapted to swing in a horizontal plane, a spring-operated rod passing through said handle member, pivotally-connected jaws between which the rod passes and with which said rod is connected, said jaws being provided with shanks which extend in the construction of the handle member and are adapted to be separated thereby and a contractile device placed on said shanks, substantially as shown and described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my invention I have signed my name, in presence of the subscribing witnesses, this 18th day of April, 1903.

WILLIAM LOTZ.

Witnesses:

J. C. LARSEN,
F. A. STEWART.