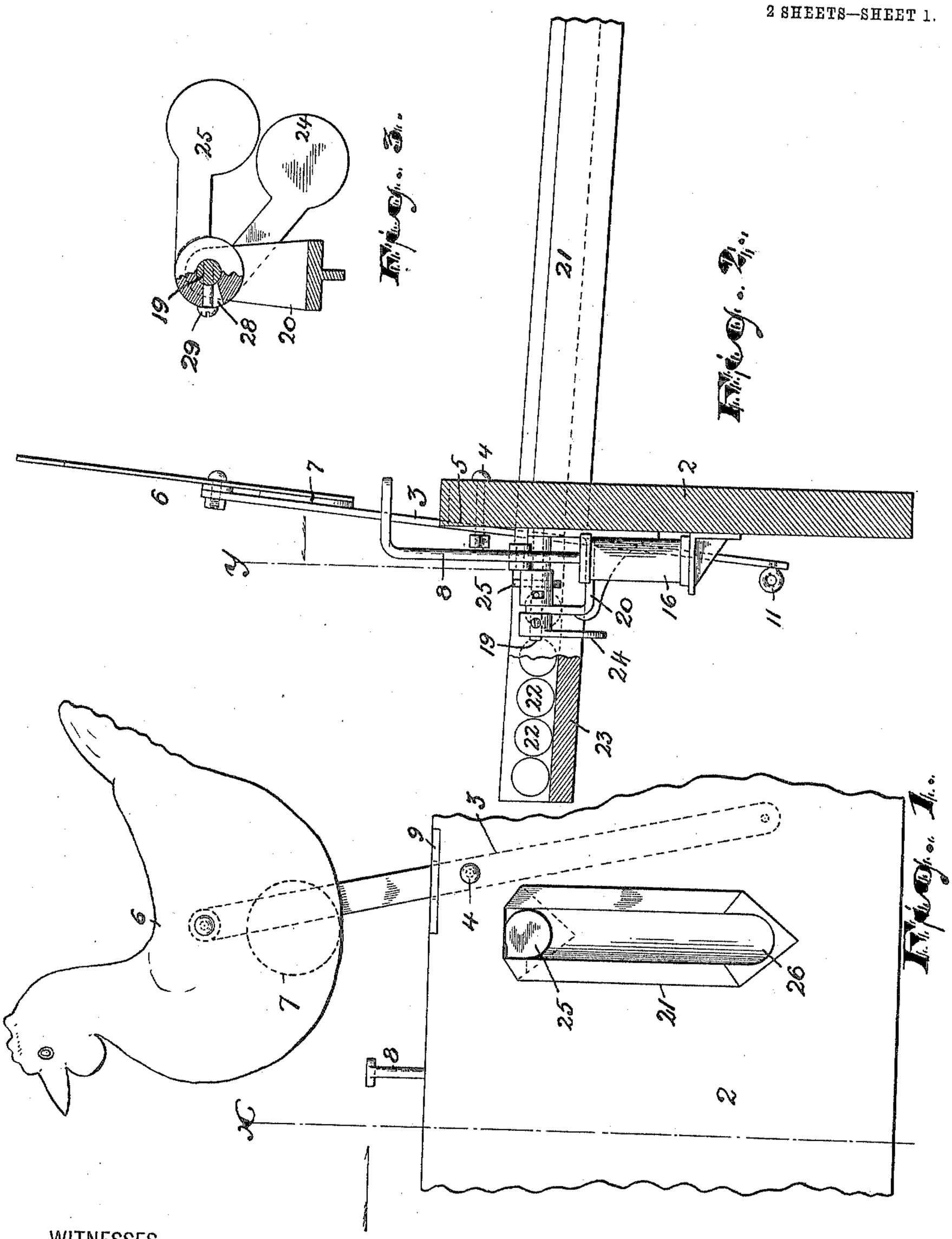
No. 817,401. PATENTED APR. 10, 1906.

M. STOLTZ.

AMUSEMENT DEVICE.

APPLICATION FILED AUG. 3, 1905.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



WITNESSES

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Russell M. Everett

INVENTOR:
Melville Stoltz,
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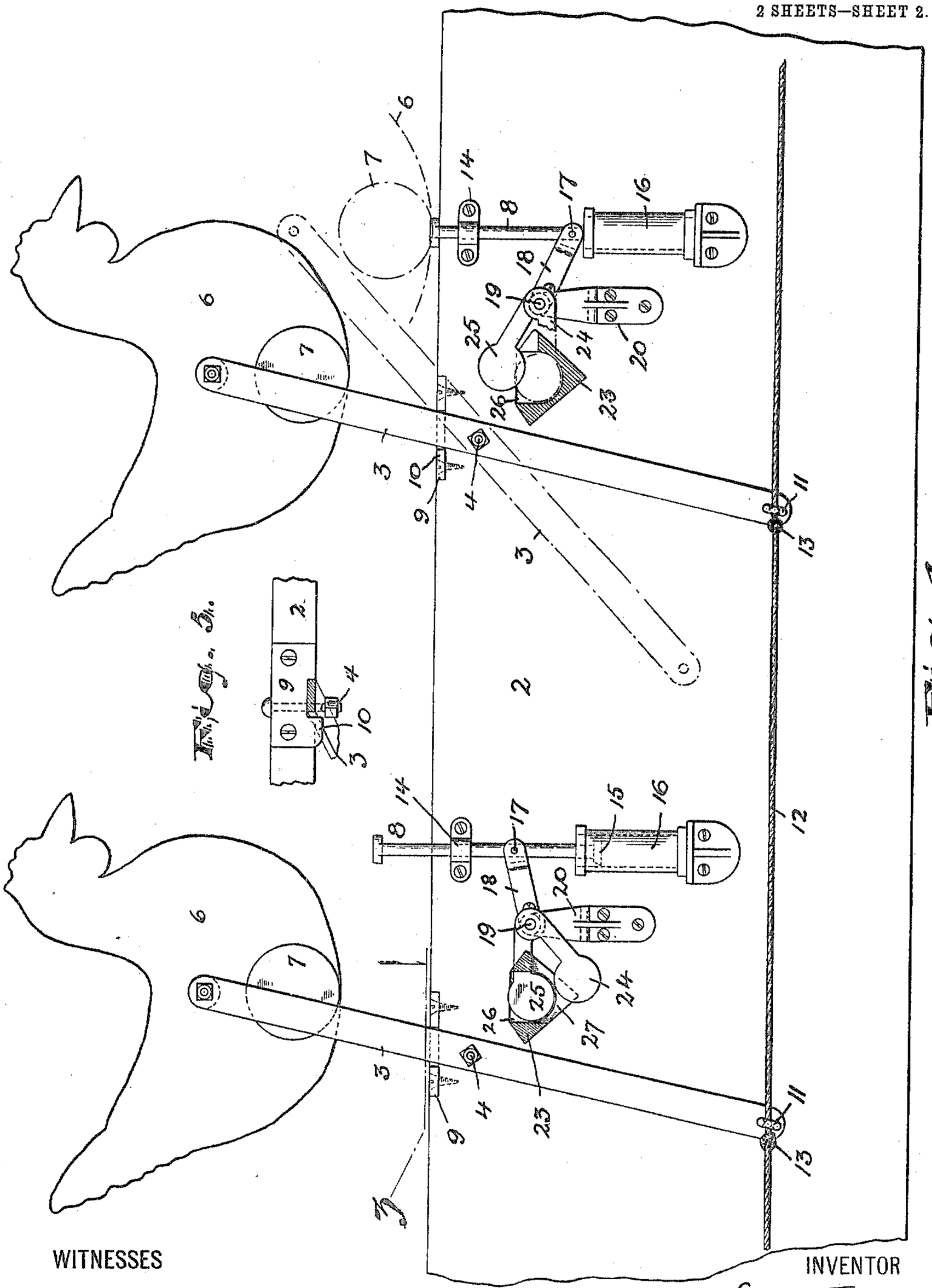

Fig. 3.

Fig. 4.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MELVILLE STOLTZ, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., ASSIGNOR TO THE ACME NOVELTY COMPANY, OF NEW YORK.

AMUSEMENT DEVICE.

No. 817,401. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented April 10, 1906.

Application filed August 3, 1905. Serial No. 272,604.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MELVILLE STOLTZ, a citizen of the United States, residing at New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Amusement Devices; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to numerals of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

The objects of this invention are to provide an amusement device of novel construction, to utilize in such a device the figure of a fowl which when struck by a thrown ball causes an egg to roll into view from a suitable receptacle, to provide for this purpose simple and effective mechanism, and to obtain other advantages and results, some of which may be hereinafter referred to in connection with the description of the working parts.

The invention consists in the improved amusement device and in the arrangements and combinations of parts of the same, all substantially as will be hereinafter set forth, and finally embraced in the clauses of the claim.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, in which like numerals of reference indicate corresponding parts in each of the several figures, Figure 1 is a front view of a portion of my improved device. Fig. 2 is a cross-section upon line *x*, Fig. 1, looking in the direction indicated by the arrow. Fig. 3 is a section upon line *y*, Fig. 2, looking rearward. Fig. 4 is an elevation of the device from the rear, and Fig. 5 is a detail section upon line *z*, Fig. 4.

In said drawings, 2 indicates the front board of my improved device, which may be of any suitable form adapted to support and conceal behind itself the working parts. Upon the rear side of this board are upright levers 3, each of which is adapted to swing in a plane approximately parallel to the board 2, being pivoted upon a pin 4 near the upper edge of the board. The pivoting of said levers 3 is loose, so that the upper arm of each lever may lean toward the board 2 and lie in a groove 5 therein, extending upward from the pivotal pin 4. This serves to retain the lever in a nearly upright position in its plane of motion, as shown in Fig. 1, and at an angle to the plane of the board 2, as shown in Fig. 2. The said levers 3 project above the top of the board 2, and upon the upper extremity of each is pivoted a hen 6 or other fanciful form, which is sufficiently weighted, as at its base 7, to hold the hen upright regardless of the position of the lever. Each hen 6 is mounted upon the side of its lever 3 parallel to the board 2, and preferably at the same side of the lever as the said board 2. Thus when the hen is hit by a ball thrown, as is common in this class of devices, the upper arm of the lever 3 is thrown out of the seat or groove 5 and the weight of the hen 6 swings the lever 3 upon its pin 4. This movement brings the body of the hen down upon a plunger 8 and serves to set in motion certain releasing devices hereinafter described.

Preferably upon the upper edge of the board 2 a plate 9 is fitted around the top of the groove 5, having at one side wall of said groove a projection 10, which insures that the lever 3 shall not pass beyond alinement with the said recess when set or brought into its upright position. Furthermore, for so setting the levers 3 the lower end of each is provided with a lateral eye 11, through which extends a rope 12, knotted just back of each eye, as at 13, to engage the same, whereby all the hens may be raised up at once or only one or two or more of them which happen to be tipped over.

The plunger 8, upon which the hen strikes in falling, is guided by a clasp 14 upon the board 2 and at its lower end has a piston 15, adapted to work in a dash-pot 16. Connected to said plunger 8 by a slot-and-pin connection 17 is an arm 18, which is fast at its other end to a short shaft 19, journaled perpendicular to the board 2 in a bracket 20 thereon. Said shaft 19 is closely adjacent to a trough 21, which extends through the board 2, and is adapted to lead eggs or balls 22 from a suitable receptacle 23 at the rear of said board 2 downwardly through the same and toward the person who is using the device. Upon the said shaft 19 are two gates 24 and 25, spaced to receive between themselves a single egg and adapted to swing across the passage-way 26 of the trough 21 in transverse slots 27 thereof. The rear one 24 of said

gates normally, or when the hen is in raised position, lies beneath the trough 21, while the forward one 25 lies across the passage of the said trough to prevent the eggs rolling down. When the plunger 8 is engaged by the hen 6, the rear gate 24 swings upward to hold back the supply of eggs while releasing the foremost one, and at the same time the forward gate 25 is raised to release said foremost egg. Preferably the forward gate 25 has a little lost motion upon the shaft 19, being provided in its hub with a segmental slot 28, engaging a pin 29 of the shaft, so that said forward gate does not rise to release the foremost egg until the rear gate has risen far enough to cut off the others back of it.

Having thus described the invention, what I claim as new is—

1. In an amusement device, a lever adapted to swing automatically in one direction, detent means for holding said lever from swinging, an inclined trough, and gates for said trough adapted to be actuated by said lever.

2. In an amusement device, a lever adapted to swing automatically in one direction and having a limited movement at right angles thereto, a catch for holding said lever from swinging, a conduit, and a gate for said conduit adapted to be actuated by said lever.

3. The combination of a gravity-lever, a catch for said lever, a target on said lever, a plunger adapted to be engaged by said target, a trough, and gates for said trough adapted to be actuated by said plunger.

4. The combination of a gravity-lever, a catch for said lever, a target on said lever, a plunger adapted to be engaged by said target, a trough, a shaft, gates for said trough projecting from said shaft, and an arm connecting said plunger to said shaft.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand this 15th day of July, 1905.

MELVILLE STOLTZ.

Witnesses:
I. S. BENNETT,
JOHN H. BENNETT.