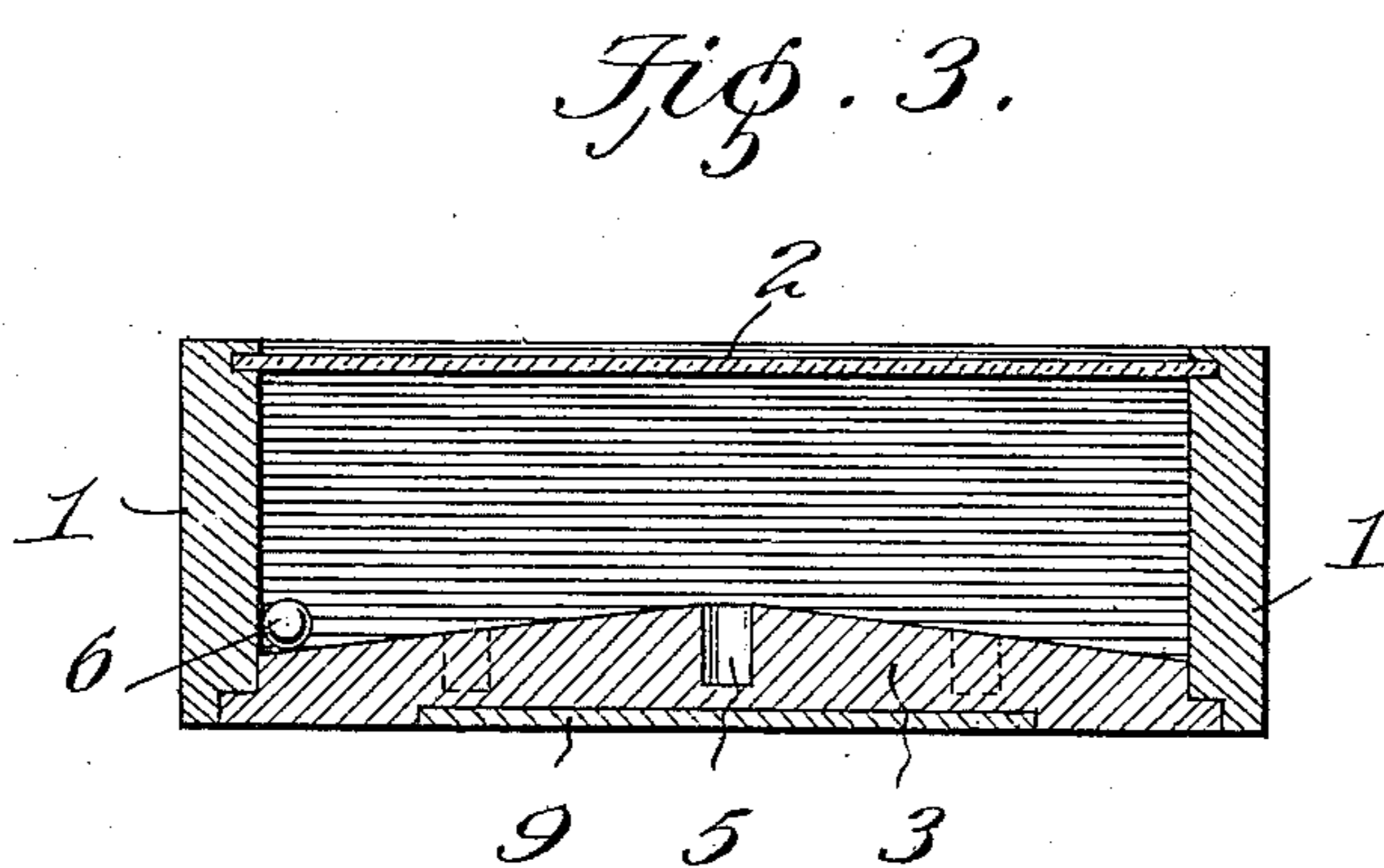
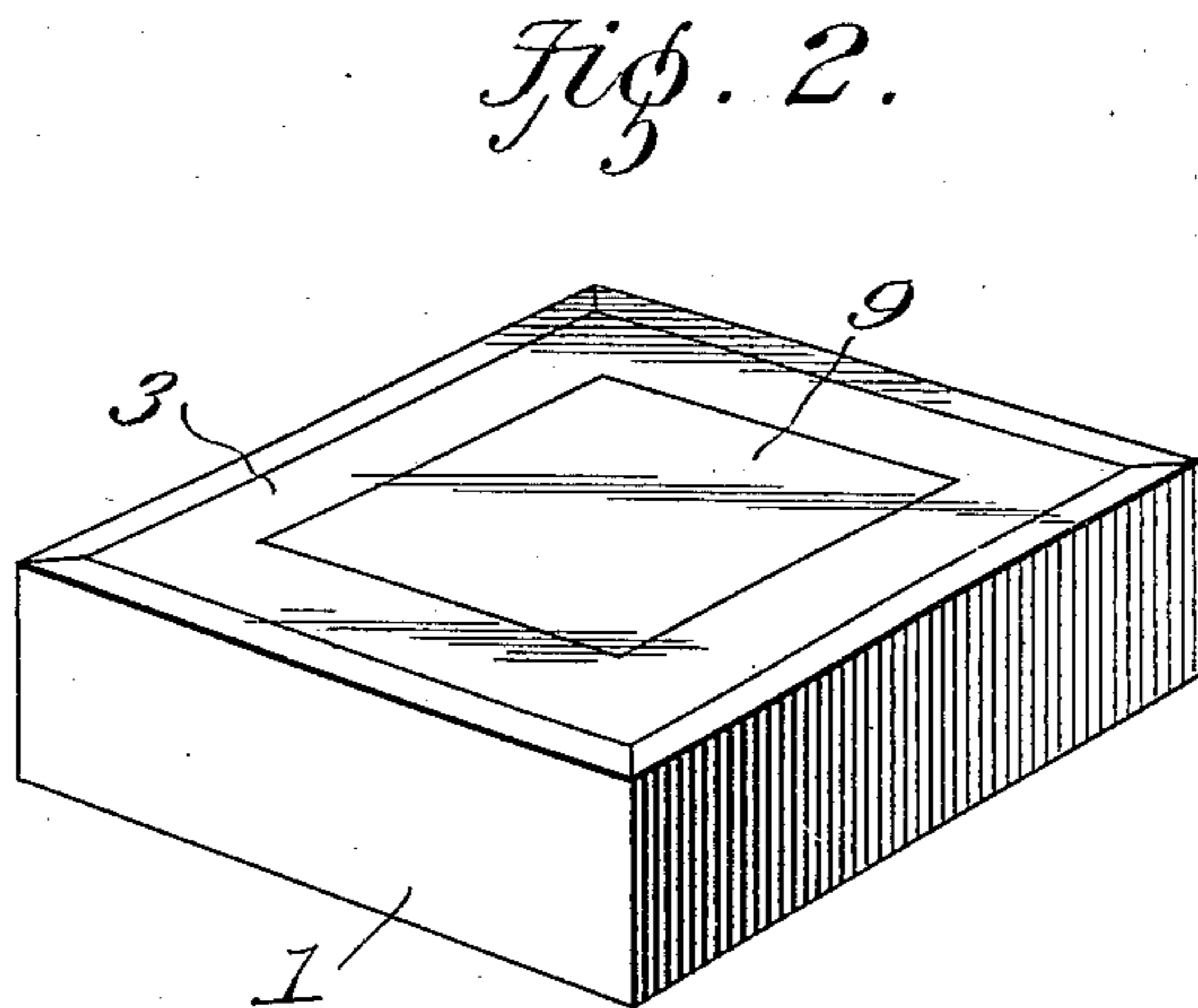
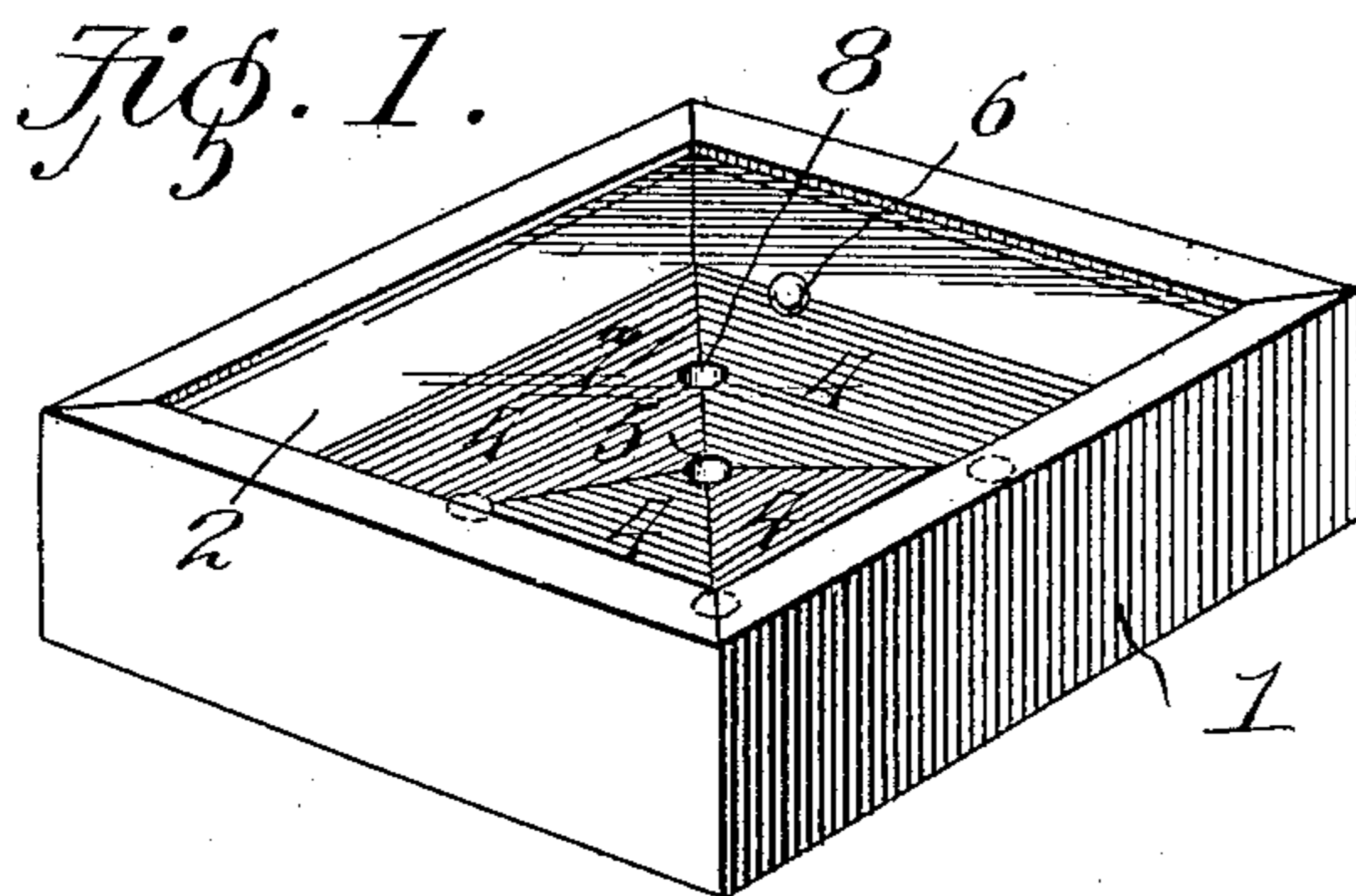


No. 863,412.

PATENTED AUG. 13. 1907.

H. MACRUM.  
PUZZLE OR GAME APPARATUS.  
APPLICATION FILED MAR. 29, 1907.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



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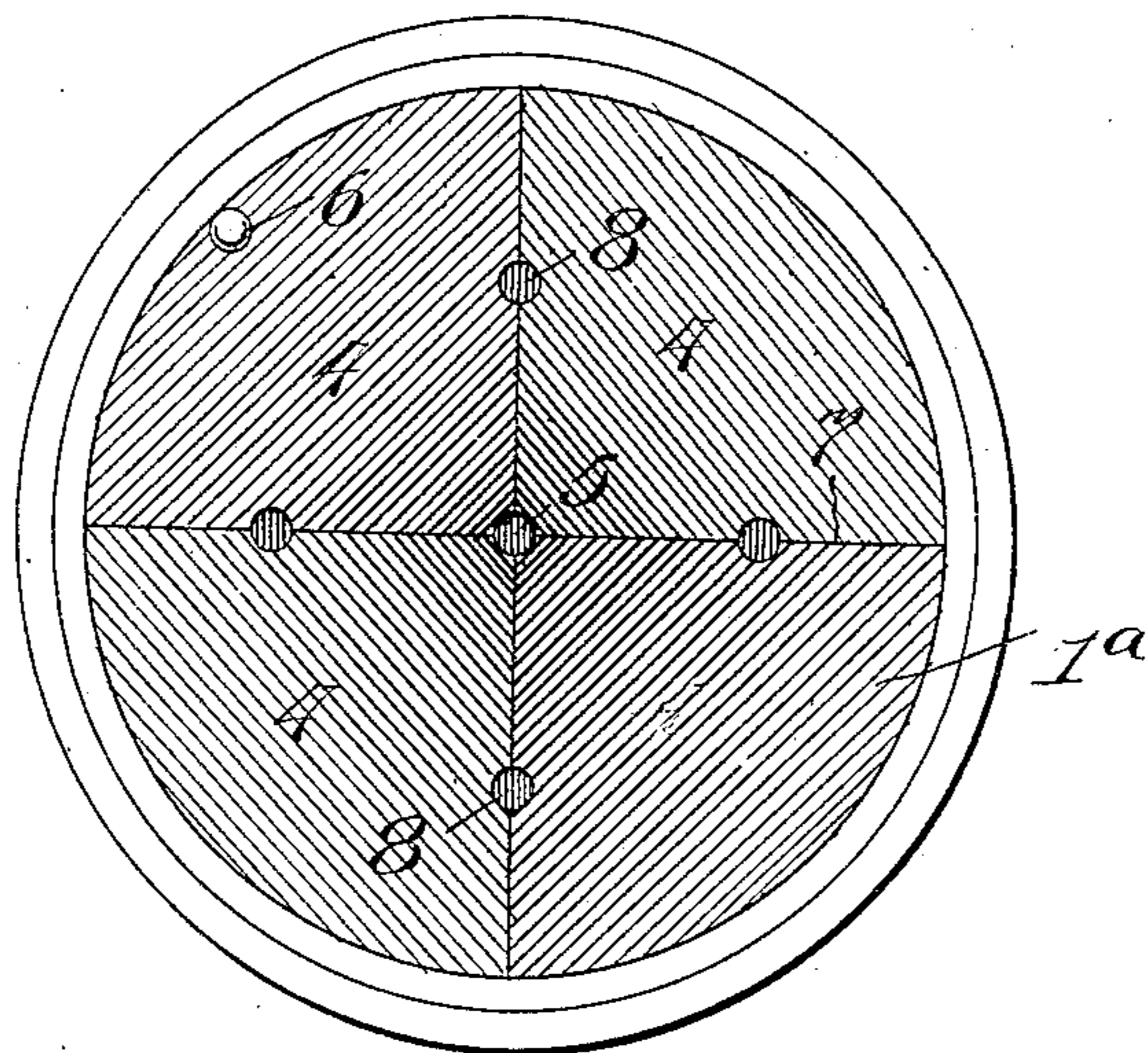
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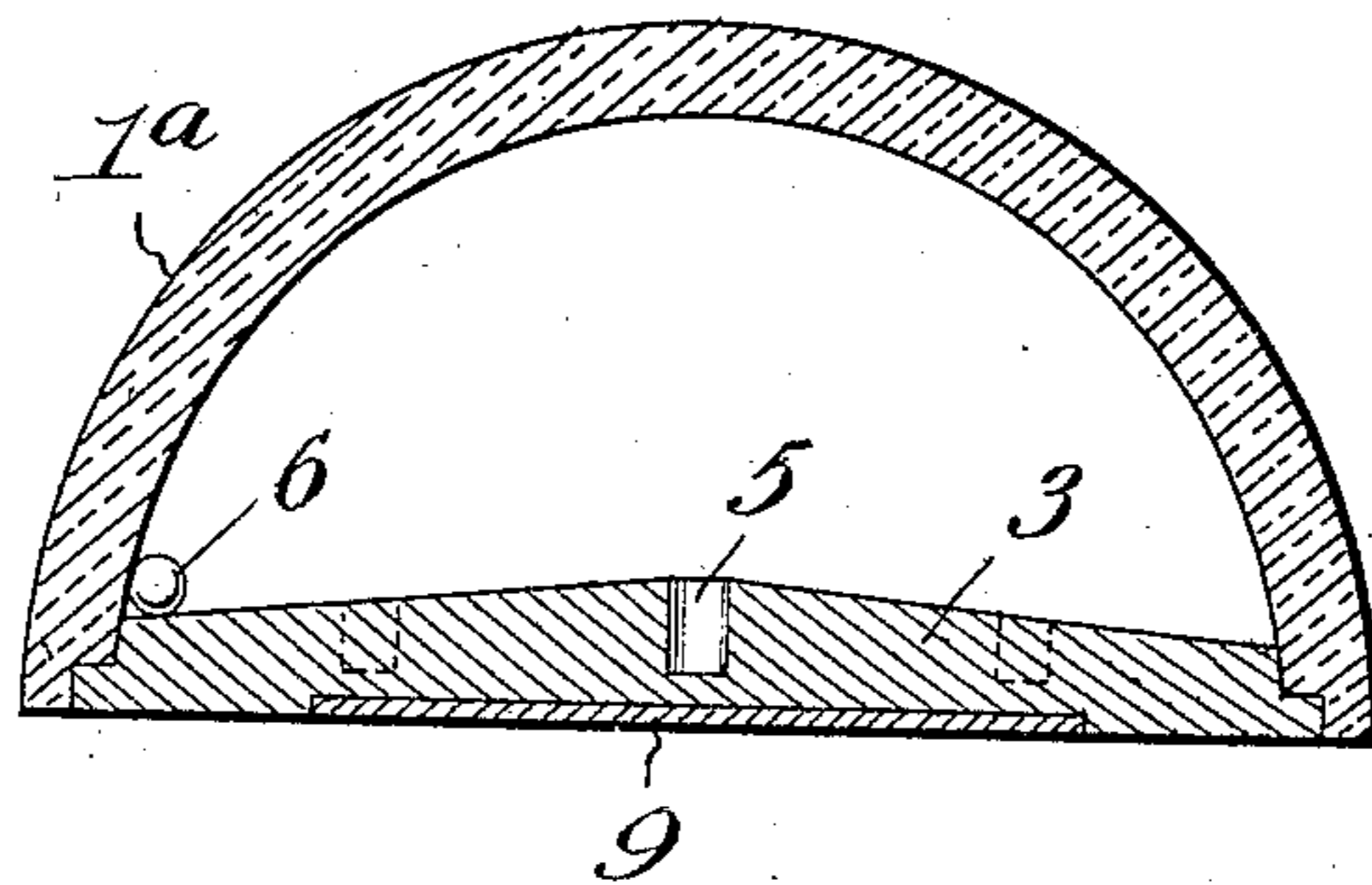
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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

*Fig. 4.*



*Fig. 5.*



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HOWARD MACRUM, OF CLEVELAND, OHIO.

## PUZZLE OR GAME APPARATUS.

No. 863,412.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Aug. 13, 1907.

Application filed March 29, 1907. Serial No. 365,374.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, HOWARD MACRUM, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Cleveland, in the county of Cuyahoga and State of Ohio, have invented  
5 new and useful Improvements in Puzzles or Game Apparatus, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to puzzles or game apparatus, and particularly to that class of puzzles or game apparatus in which one or more spherical balls or objects  
10 are designed to be seated or placed in certain positions by manually manipulating the device to control their movements.

The object of the present invention is to provide a puzzle or game apparatus of this type in which an improved construction of playing surface is provided to  
15 increase the difficulty of seating the ball, and which is designed to be employed either as a puzzle or game apparatus; and a further object is to provide a construction of article of this nature which may be made to subserve the function of a paper weight or other similar  
20 useful article.

In the accompanying drawings illustrating the invention,—Figure 1 is a perspective view of the device in proper position for use. Fig. 2 is a bottom perspective  
25 view thereof. Fig. 3 is a central vertical transverse section of the device. Fig. 4 is a plan view of a modified construction. Fig. 5 is a sectional view of the same.

Referring to Figs. 1 to 3, inclusive, 1 designates a box or receptacle which may be of circular, rectangular or  
30 other preferred form and is provided with a transparent top or cover 2, consisting of a pane of glass or sheet of mica suitably fitted in the upper portion of the body of the box. In the form disclosed in these figures, the  
35 box is rectangular and provided with a bottom 3 suitably secured in position therein. In the form shown in Figs. 4 and 5 the body and top of the box or receptacle is formed of a single piece of transparent material, such as glass, and such body 1<sup>a</sup> is formed in its bottom  
40 with a recess to receive the bottom 3, which conforms in construction with that shown in Figs. 1, 2 and 3. The bottom in this case may be cemented or otherwise secured in position, and the device as thus constructed is intended to serve the additional function of a paper  
45 weight.

The upper surface of the body 3 is formed to provide a playing field or surface which is highest at the center and slopes downwardly toward the edges, and may be  
50 in practice of generally circular or angular formation, so that, in other words, the playing field will have the general shape of the frustum of a cone, pyramid or other similar object having a continuously circular sloping face or a plurality of angularly arranged sloping sides.

55 In the present instance, the upper surface of the bottom 3 is provided with a plurality of sloping sides 4 fac-

ing the respective sides of the inclosing chamber and extending downward from the center or highest point of such surface, at which point a seat, receiving socket or recess 5 is provided to receive a spherical or other  
60 shaped ball or movable object 6 inclosed within the casing, the ball and sloping playing surface being visible through the transparent top of the casing. The angular sides have their corners or points of intersection 7 alining with the corners of the rectangular box and  
65 radiating thereto from the central pocket 5, thus rendering it difficult to control the movements of the ball over the sloping faces so as to conduct it into the pocket, which is properly shaped for its reception. In the use  
70 of the device as a puzzle, a single pocket 5 of the arrangement shown may be employed, the solution of the puzzle consisting in so tilting or manipulating the device as to seat the ball within the pocket. For the purpose of adapting the device to be used in playing different games a number of auxiliary pockets 8 may be pro-  
75 vided, said pockets being located along the lines 7 at the points of intersection of the sloping sides and preferably midway between the pocket 5 and the corners of the casing.

In playing a game involving a desired number of  
80 scores or points, the pockets 5 and 8, respectively, may be considered as plus and minus pockets, the seating of the ball within the pocket 5 counting a certain number of points for the player, while, on the other hand, the seating of the ball in either one of the pockets 8 will be  
85 counted a loss of a certain number of points. Each player in turn may have an inning, which terminates at a certain time or when the ball is seated within one of the pockets, and the one who first makes the required number of points or the greatest number of points in a  
90 determined number of innings may be adjudged the winner. The pocket 5 is counted a plus pocket on account of the difficulty of seating the ball therein, while the pockets 8 are counted minus pockets owing to the comparative ease with which the ball may be seated  
95 within one of them by simply allowing it to roll around the playing surface. In using the device either as a puzzle or a game, the eyes and hand will be trained and interest and amusement afforded.

It will, of course, be understood that the device when  
100 constructed for use as a paper weight or the like may have its body portion of a circular or angular form, as desired, and the outside surface of the casing and the playing field may be used, in either adaptation of the device, for advertising purposes. For convenience in  
105 keeping score in a game, an erasable tablet 9 may be secured within a recess in the bottom 3 so as to lie flush with the underside of the bottom.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new, is:—

1. A puzzle or game device comprising a casing having a transparent portion and a playing field therein provided

with a sloping surface having a plurality of angularly related sides, said surface being formed at its highest portion with a main pocket and at the points of junction of its sides with auxiliary pockets.

- 5 2. A puzzle or game device comprising a casing having a transparent top and a bottom whose upper surface forms a playing field, said surface being of frusto-pyramidal form and having a pocket at the highest point thereof and auxiliary pockets at the points of junction of its angularly

related sides approximately midway of the height of the 10 playing field.

In testimony whereof, I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

HOWARD MACRUM.

Witnesses:

H. B. HARE,

H. F. DENNELL.