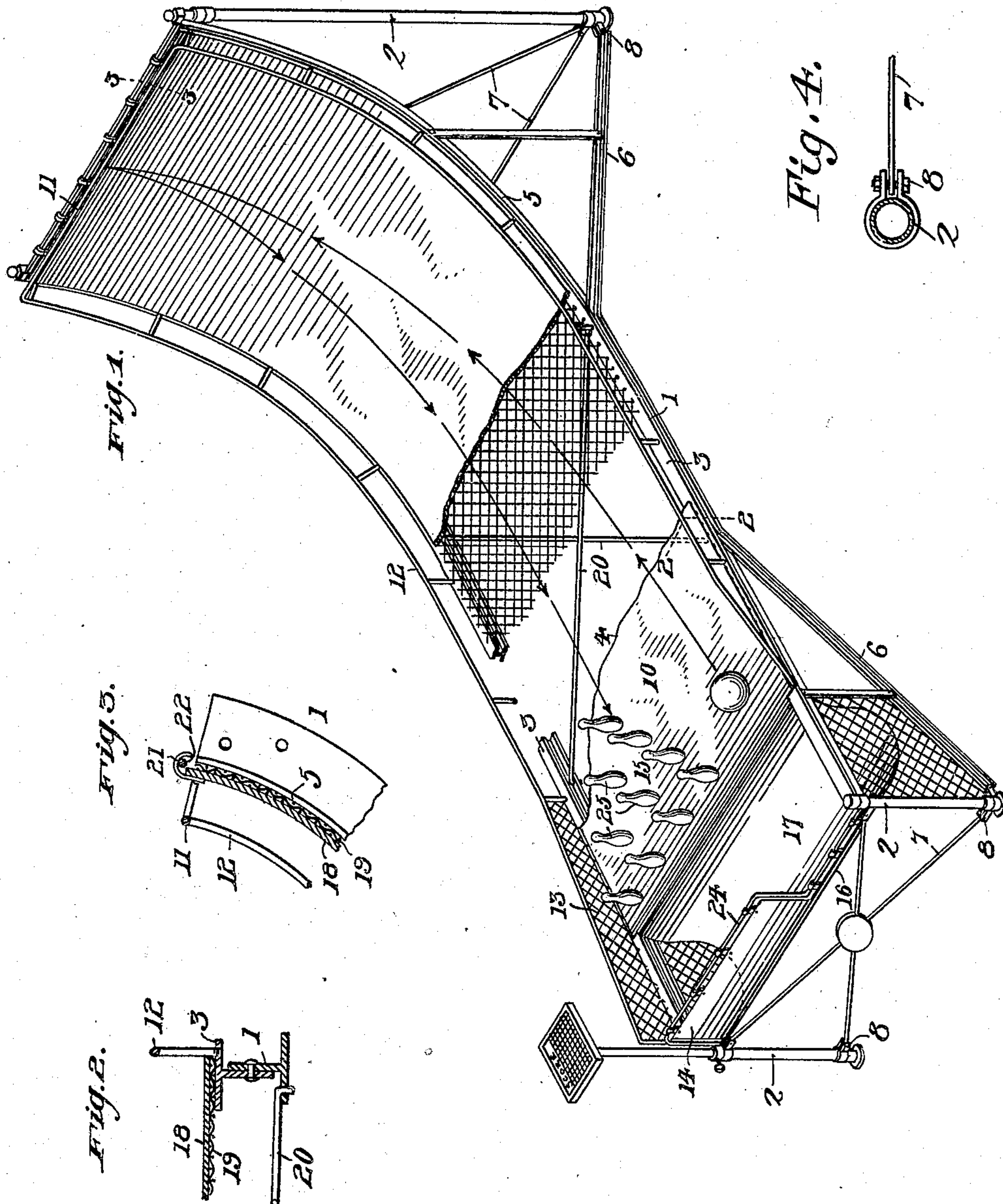


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BOWLING DEVICE.
APPLICATION FILED AUG. 17, 1908.

924,212.

Patented June 8, 1909.



witnesses:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES ZABEL, OF EDGEWOOD PARK, PENNSYLVANIA.

BOWLING DEVICE.

No. 924,212.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented June 8, 1909.

Application filed August 17, 1908. Serial No. 448,848.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES ZABEL, a resident of Edgewood Park, in the county of Allegheny and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Bowling Devices, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to indoor or parlor games and particularly to a device for playing substantially a bowling game in a small room.

The object of the invention is to provide a device of this character which is practically noiseless, which occupies a small amount of space, and which can be conveniently set up and taken down, so as to adapt the same for ordinary house use.

In the accompanying drawing Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved bowling table; Fig. 2 is a sectional detail on the line 2—2 Fig. 1; Fig. 3 is a similar view on the line 3—3, Fig. 1; and Fig. 4 is a sectional detail showing the detachable connections for the frame.

My improved bowling table comprises side frames 1, formed of any suitable material, preferably of light metal bars, such as T irons or the like, having legs 2, for supporting the device, and having their upper edges practically horizontal for some distance, as at 3 and then curved gradually upwardly as at 5 until substantially vertical at their upper ends. T bars 6 extend from near the bottoms of the legs to the side rails and are united to the latter. The side frames are united by suitable end frames 7, which are shown as diagonal braces having their ends joined to the legs by bolts 8, so as to hold the side frames in position, but enabling the whole to be readily taken down when it is desired to store away the device. The alley or ball surface is shown at 10, being supported at its edges on the top members or rails 3, of the side frames, and conforms to the shape of said top members, being substantially horizontal at its lower end and curving upwardly, and the upper end being substantially vertical. At the upper end of the alley is a suitable cushion, such as formed by the cross bar 11, which serves to reflect the balls when rolled upwardly against the same. At the sides of the alley are the confining rails 12, and at the lower end is a confining lattice or mesh 13, and an end portion 14, of such height that the balls will not readily jump over the same. This

confining end portion 14, however, extends only opposite the pin space 15, on the lower horizontal portion of the alley, leaving a space 16, at the side of such confining wall so that the balls can be delivered on to the alley practically on a level therewith. A suitable trough 17, is formed at the lower end of the alley.

The alley proper may be formed of any suitable material, but if the table is built up so that it can be readily taken apart for storage as illustrated, this alley is preferably formed of suitable flexible material which can be rolled for storage. Heavy linoleum is suitable for the purpose. The drawings illustrate linoleum 18, supported on a wire fabric 19, which in turn is supported by cross bars 20. The trough 17, is formed by the fabric. The fabric is held in place by hooks 21, which engage a cross bar 22 at the top, and a cross bar 24, at the bottom. The end wall 14, is a part of the linoleum sheet. In any event, the alley or ball surface 10, will be formed of, or covered with, some sound-deadening material so as to render the device largely noiseless.

In use of the device, the pins 25, are set up in the space 15, at the lower end of the alley. The ball 26, will be of about the size of the usual small sized bowling ball, except that it will be formed of solid rubber or be filled with some suitable composition so as to be practically noiseless. The ball will be delivered in the usual way at the space 16, at the lower end of the alley, and will roll up the alley, hitting the cross bar or cushion 11, by which it is reflected at an angle and rolls down to the pins at the lower end of the alley. The player will, therefore, have to judge the angle as well as of the straightness of delivery. The ball need not hit the cushion bar, as will be the case when the vertical part is quite long. In this case the ball ascends until stopped by gravity and then descends in a straight line.

The device occupies only a small amount of space and gives a considerable amount of exercise as well as sport. It can be used even in a restricted space, where an ordinary bowling alley is not possible.

While the knock-down feature is of considerable importance, I wish it understood that the invention is not limited in this particular.

What I claim is:

1. A bowling device comprising a station-

ary surface horizontal at one end and curving upwardly at its opposite end, said surface being provided at its lower portion with a pin space and with a ball delivery space at the side thereof and being thereby adapted to have a ball thrown by hand to ascend and descend on the same surface.

2. A bowling device, comprising a frame, a stationary ball surface or alley thereon and being substantially horizontal at one end and curving upwardly at its other end, a cushion bar at the upper end of said alley, and a trough at the lower end of said alley, said alley being provided on its lower portion with a pin space and with a ball delivery space at the side thereof and being thereby adapted to have a ball thrown by hand to ascend and descend on the same surface.

3. A bowling device, comprising a frame, a stationary ball surface or alley supported thereon and being substantially horizontal at one end and curving upwardly at its other end, a cushion bar at the upper end of said alley, a trough at the lower end of said alley, said alley being provided with a pin space on its horizontal portion, and a barrier around said alley, said barrier at the lower end of the alley at the side of the pin space being not higher than the alley surface to provide a space for the delivery of a ball by hand.

4. A bowling device comprising a frame, a stationary ball surface or alley formed of

noiseless material supported on said frame and being substantially horizontal at one end and curving upwardly to approach the vertical at its opposite end, said alley being provided with a pin space on its horizontal portion, a trough at the lower end of the alley, and a barrier around said alley, said barrier at the lower end of the alley at the side of the pin space being not higher than the surface of the alley to provide a space for delivery of a ball by hand.

5. A bowling device comprising a frame constructed for ready disconnection, a flexible ball surface or alley supported by said frame and being horizontal at one end and curving upwardly at its opposite end, a cushion at the upper end of said alley, and a trough at the lower end of said alley.

6. A bowling device comprising side frames, cross members detachably connected to said side frames, a flexible ball surface or alley connected to said frame and being horizontal at one end and curving upwardly at its opposite end, a cushion bar at the upper end of said alley, and a trough at the lower end of said alley.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand.

CHARLES ZABEL.

Witnesses:

JOHN S. CORT,
F. W. WINTER.