

R. T. PECKHAM.
PICTURE PUZZLE.
APPLICATION FILED FEB. 15, 1909.

950,951.

Patented Mar. 1, 1910.
2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

FIG. 1.

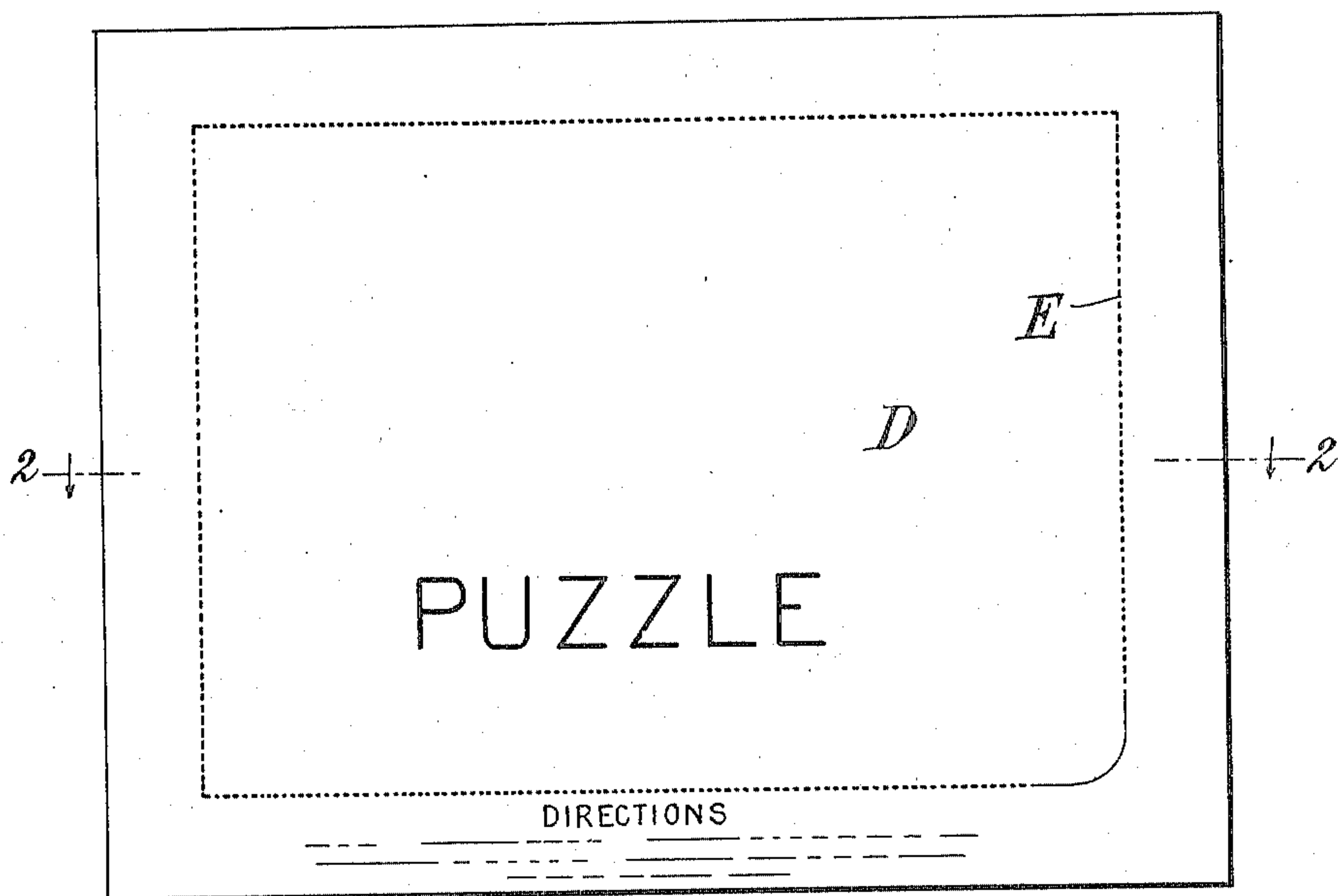


FIG. 2.

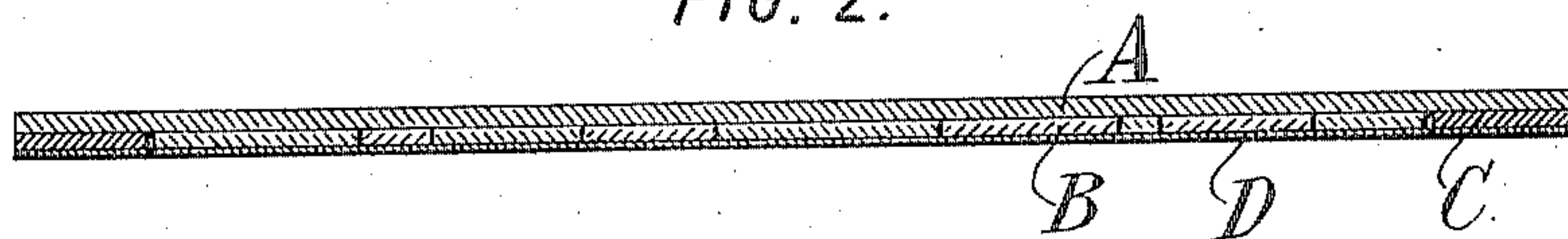
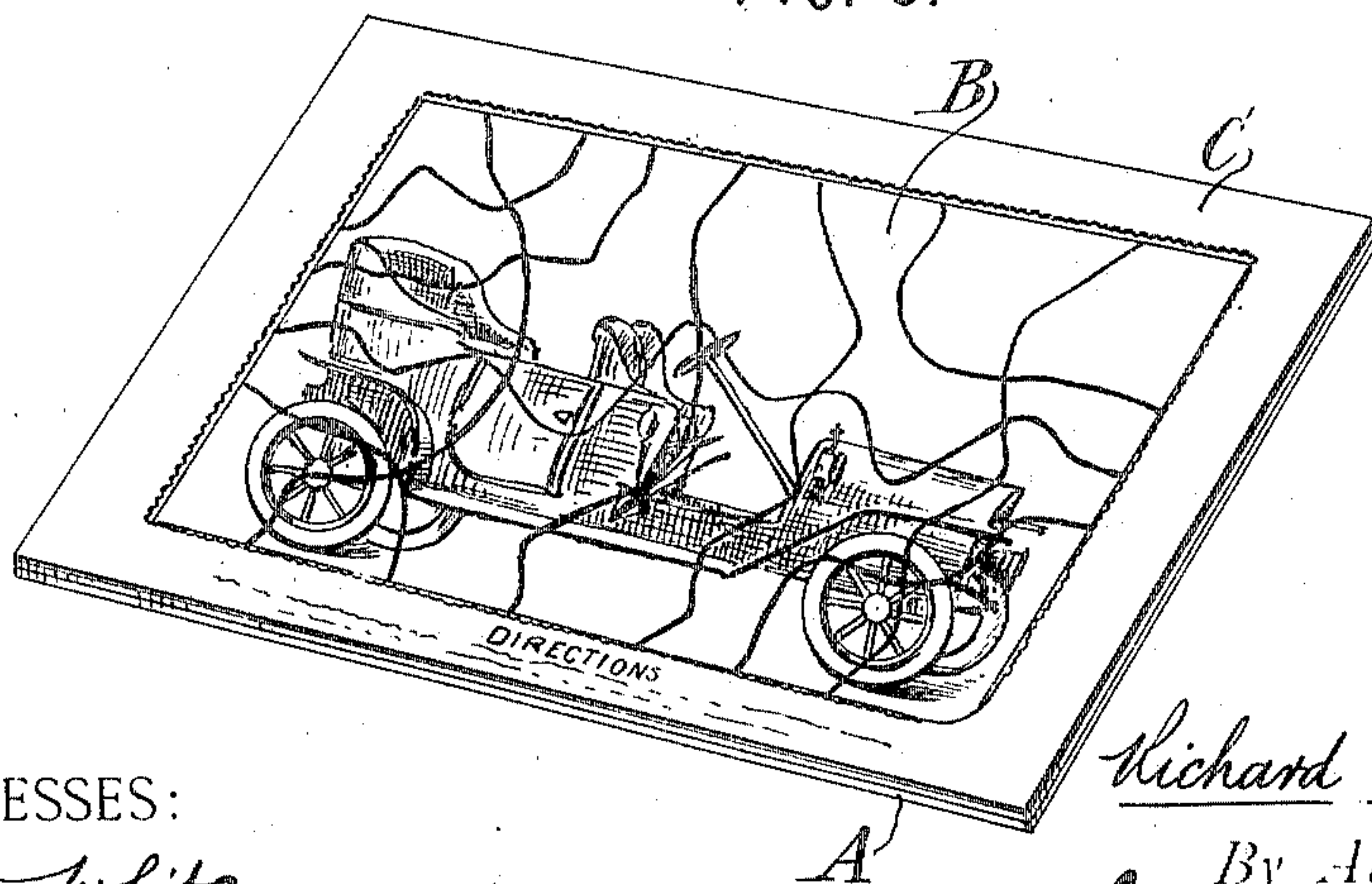


FIG. 3.



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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

FIG. 4.

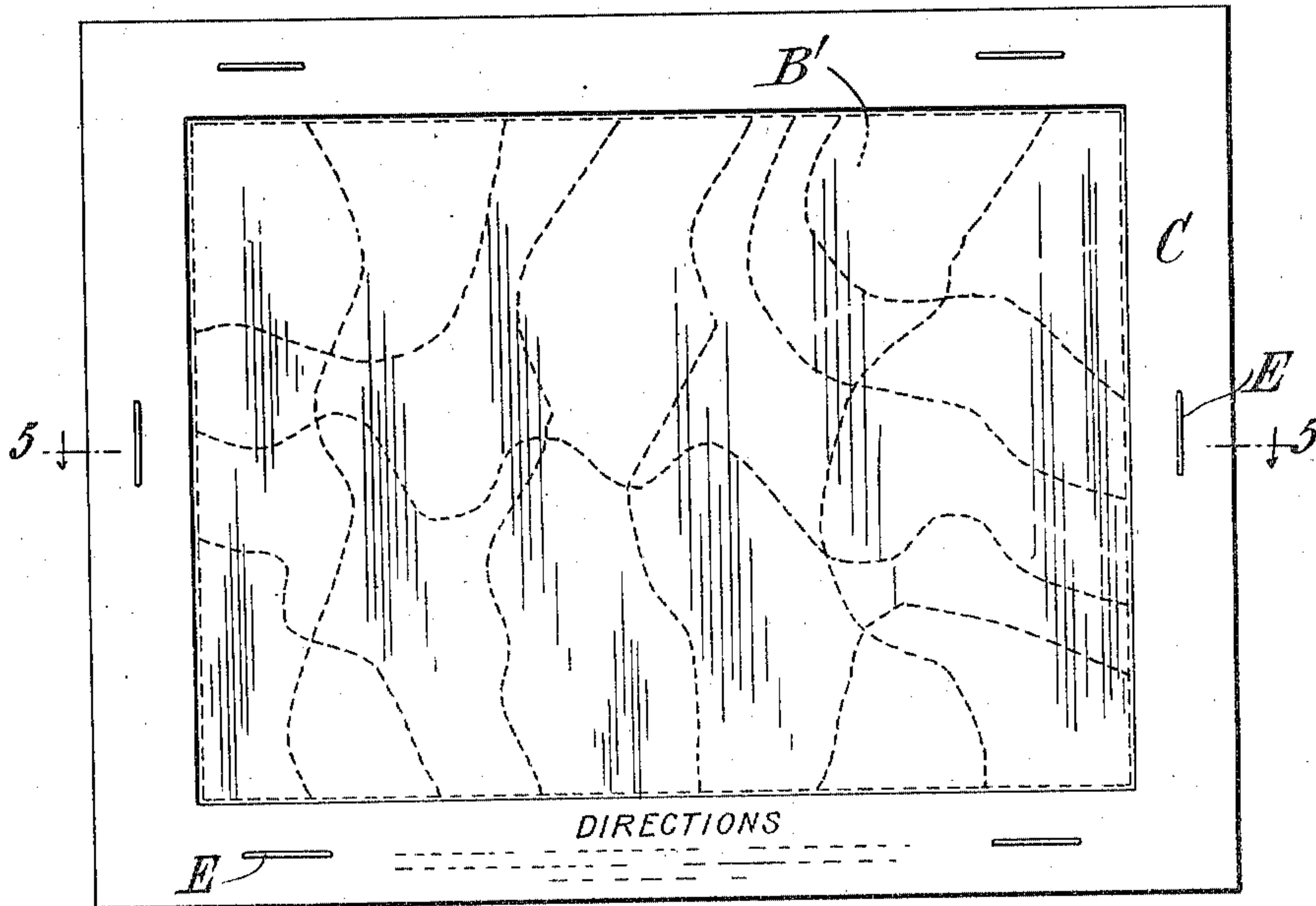


FIG. 5.

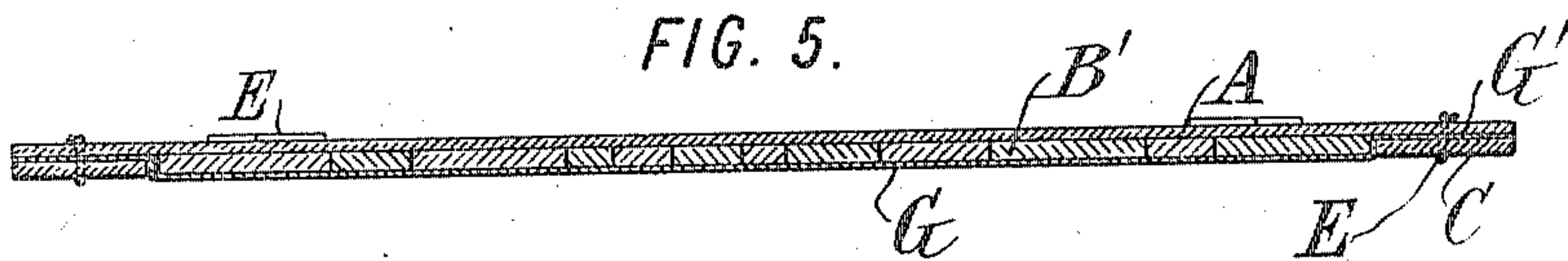


FIG. 6.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

RICHARD T. PECKHAM, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., ASSIGNOR TO AMERICAN LITHOGRAPHIC COMPANY, A CORPORATION OF NEW YORK.

PICTURE-PUZZLE.

950,951.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Mar. 1, 1910.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, RICHARD T. PECKHAM, a citizen of the United States, residing in the borough of Manhattan, city, county, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Picture-Puzzles, of which the following is a specification.

My invention aims to provide certain improvements in cut up picture puzzles whereby they may be made very cheaply and may be conveniently and cheaply sent through the mails as printed matter and may be conveniently handled and shipped in envelopes, in boxes with other goods, as cigarettes, and may be generally used for advertising purposes or as gifts. Various other points of advantage are referred to in detail hereinafter.

The accompanying drawings illustrate embodiments of the invention.

Figure 1 is a face view of a package containing the puzzle. Fig. 2 is an inverted cross-section of the same on the plane indicated by the line 2—2 of Fig. 1 and looking in the direction of the arrows. Fig. 3 is a perspective view with the package opened. Fig. 4 is a face view of another style of package. Fig. 5 is an inverted cross-section of the same on the plane indicated by the line 5—5 of Fig. 4, and looking in the direction of the arrows. Fig. 6 is a face view of an embodiment of the invention in which no package is necessary.

In order to secure a thin flat package which can be easily mailed, the puzzle should be assembled and should be held in the assembled position of the parts. In the embodiment of the invention illustrated in Figs. 1 and 2 it is carried in a package consisting of a cardboard or other stiff back A, upon the face of which the parts B of the puzzle are assembled and held by a frame C also of cardboard or the like, and by a cover D of paper which can be readily cut along the dotted line E which coincides with the inner edge of the frame C, so that by removing the inner part of the cover D the pieces of the puzzle can be taken out. The back A, frame C, and cover D are pasted upon each other. The cover D may be used to carry any suitable advertising matter and the directions for opening. The back A is preferably arranged for putting on an address and stamp so as to mail the puzzle in

the complete package without the necessity of a separate envelop. In such a package the bending of the package back and forth is apt to bend up the edges of the pieces of the picture and to cause them to become mixed in the envelop and to lie one on the top of the other instead of in their proper flat positions. When the flat position is once disturbed it is never assumed again, and the pieces when they lie over each other are very apt to be so injured in handling as to spoil the puzzle. There is danger also of their becoming so thickly packed at one point as to break the cover of the package. I purpose to avoid this difficulty by cutting the pieces of the puzzle in such shapes that all or substantially all the pieces run to an edge of the picture. At its edge the picture is held down very closely by reason of the attachment of the cover D to the side frame C which lies immediately alongside the edge of the picture. In fact the edges of the picture are so closely held by the cover D that pieces which run to the edge seldom become loosened. Consequently by making all the cut pieces run to the edge, they will all be firmly held in position notwithstanding any bending of the package; and the danger of their becoming loosened is practically eliminated. Fig. 3 shows the various pieces of the picture running clear to the frame C, the central portion of the cover being removed to permit the taking of the pieces out of the picture.

The packing of the puzzle in the manner shown in Figs. 1 and 2 has a disadvantage that the contents are not open to inspection by the postal authorities. Consequently the package has to go as sealed matter at the highest rate. The form of package shown in Figs. 4 and 5 is designed to avoid this difficulty and to have certain other advantages. The parts B' of the puzzle are carried upon a back A similar to that of Fig. 1, though it may be made thinner to give greater flexibility. The frame C is fastened to the back in such a way as to permit the frame and the back to be separated at the edge, so that the postal inspector may look into the package between the two and make sure that it contains no written matter; this capability of inspection being obtained by fastening the frame and cover together with wire staples F or the like at suitable intervals. The pieces B' of the puzzle need not

necessarily extend to the edge of the picture, (though it is preferable to make as many of them do so as possible). The thin flexible cover G preferably is also transparent so as to show the picture and add to the attractiveness of the entire package, and also to indicate at a glance how the picture can be gotten at without injuring it. In fact with such a transparent cover the tearing off of the cover may begin at any point and proceed in any way, since the user will be able to see the picture and avoid injury to it in removing the cover. The cover is held down very flatly and at the same time more cheaply than in the constructions of Figs. 1 and 2, by running its margin as shown at G' between the back A and the frame C and assembling these three parts,—the back, the cover, and the frame,—in a single operation instead of in two separate operations as required for the first construction.

In Fig. 6 is shown an embodiment of the invention which may be placed loosely in an envelop or package of any sort with little or no danger of the separation of the pieces B². In this case the pieces B² will run to a marginal portion, such, for example, as the edge of the picture and they are fastened together at the edge in any suitable way, as, for example, by an integral marginal portion H surrounding the entire picture. A dotted line J may divide the margin from the picture proper and indicate the line along which the margin should be torn off, so as to cause the pieces to separate from each other; and this line J may be perforated to facilitate tearing off the margin. Preferably the directions are printed on the back, together with any advertising matter desired.

The pictures are preferably though not necessarily made of such material as can be stamped out cheaply with a die, such as stiff cardboard, which preserves good sharp edges.

Another advantage in the manufacture of the puzzle arises out of the extending of the pieces to the edge of the picture. If this is not done the die has to be made with one of the cutting edges interrupted where it crosses another so as to leave small connections between adjacent pieces of the puzzle, and these connections have to be torn when the pieces of the puzzle are to be mixed,

making an imperfect puzzle. With the pieces extending to the edge all the cutting edges of the die may be made substantially continuous, so as to make perfect cuts at the corners or crossing points. In manufacturing with such a die the cutting edges of the die will run continuously to the edges of the picture, but there will be a margin left around the picture holding the pieces together as in Fig. 6, and such a picture can be very easily handled and the margin cut off only when the picture is put into the package of Fig. 1 or Fig. 4.

I do not in this application claim the packages shown and described except in so far as they are covered in the following claims in combination with the picture puzzle.

What I claim is:—

1. A cut up picture puzzle in which each piece extends to an edge of the picture, and means for holding the pieces at the edge.
2. A cut up picture puzzle including in combination the pieces into which the entire picture is cut, each of said pieces extending to an edge of the picture, and a marginal strip around the picture to which each of said pieces is connected.
3. A cut up picture puzzle of thin flexible material including in combination the pieces into which the entire picture is cut, and a marginal portion connected to each of said pieces.
4. A cut up picture puzzle in which each piece extends to the edge of the picture and having a marginal strip around the picture to which each of the pieces is connected, a weakened line being provided between the pieces of the picture and said marginal strip whereby the latter may be accurately torn off.
5. A cut up picture puzzle in which each of the pieces of the picture is connected directly to a common member, by the separation of which from the pieces of the picture said pieces are all separated from each other.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto signed my name in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

RICHARD T. PECKHAM.

Witnesses:

DOMINGO A. USINA,
THEODORE T. SNELL.