May 19, 1925.

1,538,768

O. E. WHEATON

PUZZLE

Filed Feb. 24, 1923

Fig. 1.

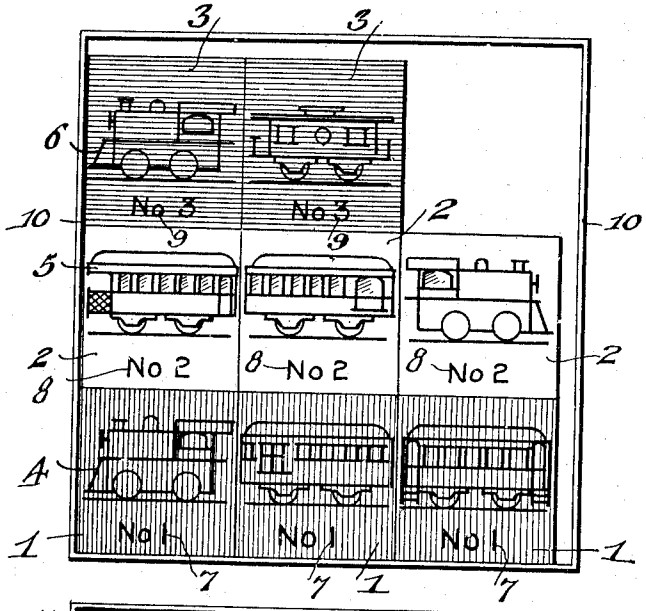


Fig. 2.

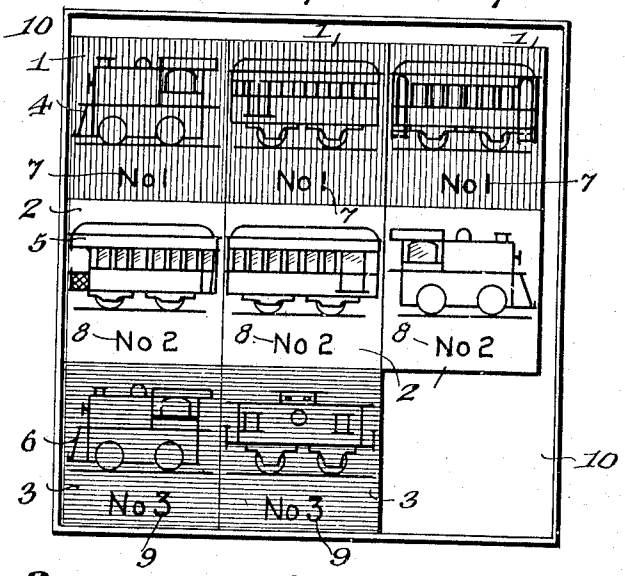


Fig. 3.

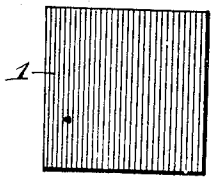


Fig. 4.

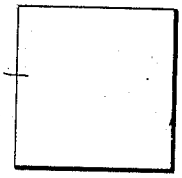
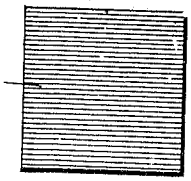


Fig. 5.



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Patented May 19, 1925. 1,538,768

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ORSON E. WHEATON, OF ST. JOHN, NORTH DAKOTA.

PUZZLE.

Application filed February 24, 1923. Serial No. 620,981.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ORSON E. WHEATON, a citizen of the United States, residing at St. John, in the county of Rolette and State of North Dakota, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Puzzles, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a puzzle and has for its object to provide, in a manner as hereinafter set forth, a puzzle including a series of sections or sets of blocks to provide for the representation of an intermediate and a pair of outer railway trains disposed in parallelism and whereby the solution thereof consists in shifting the sections or sets of blocks to reverse the positions of the outer trains with respect to the intermediate train, that is to say, shifting from its initial position of one outer train to the initial position of the other outer train, and shifting the last mentioned train to the initial position of the first mentioned train, and with the intermediate train positioned between the outer trains after these latter have been shifted as stated, under such conditions providing a puzzle which will be interesting and amusing and which will further provide a test for one's ingenuity and resourcefulness.

Further objects of the invention are to provide a puzzle which is unusually simple in its construction, compact, amusing, and inexpensive to manufacture.

With the foregoing and other objects in view, the invention consists of the novel construction, combination and arrangement of parts as hereinafter more specifically described and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, wherein is shown an embodiment of the invention, but it is to be understood that changes, variations and modifications can be resorted to which come within the scope of the claims hereunto appended.

In the drawings wherein like reference characters denote corresponding parts throughout the several views:—

Figure 1 is a plan view illustrating the sections or sets of blocks in their initial position.

Figure 2 is a like view illustrating the sections or sets of blocks in position when the puzzle is solved.

Figure 3 is an inverted plan view of one of the blocks of one of the sections or sets.

Figure 4 is a like view of one of the blocks of another of the sections or sets.

Figure 5 is a view similar to Figure 3 of one of the blocks of the other section or set.

The puzzle includes three sections or sets of blocks. Each section or set represents a railway train and each section or set is formed of a plurality of blocks. Two of the sections or sets consist of three blocks and the other section or set consists of two blocks. Each of the blocks of each set is square.

The sections or sets of blocks include two outer sections and an intermediate section. The number of blocks employed in one outer section is three, and are indicated by the reference character 1, and the number of blocks employed in the other outer section is two and are indicated by the reference character 3. The number of blocks employed in the intermediate section is three and are indicated by the reference character 2.

The outer as well as the inner faces of the blocks 1 are colored red. The outer and inner faces of the blocks 2 are white and the outer and inner faces of the blocks 3 are blue.

The outer face of each of the blocks 1 is provided with conventional means, as at 4, to constitute the representation of a railway train when the blocks 1 are in assembled position.

The outer face of each of the blocks 2 is provided with conventional means, as at 5, to constitute the representation of a railway train when the blocks 2 are in assembled position.

The outer face of each of the blocks 3 is provided with conventional means, as at 6, to constitute the representation of a railway train when the blocks are in assembled position.

Each of the blocks 1 is correspondingly numbered, as at 7. Each of the blocks 2 is correspondingly numbered, as at 8, and each of the blocks 3 is correspondingly numbered, as at 9.

A container 10 is provided for the sets of blocks and said container is of sufficient size to permit of the shifting of the sets of blocks when solving the puzzle, which consists in shunting the train formed by the blocks 3 to the position of the train formed by the blocks 1, and the shunting of the train formed by the blocks 1 to the position from which the train formed by the blocks 3 was removed.

In solving the puzzle, the sections or sets

of blocks are shifted in the container so that the position of the blocks 3 and 1 will be reversed, or in other words, so that the blocks 3 and 1 will be shifted from the position shown in Figure 1 to the position shown in Figure 2.

As the blocks of each set are correspondingly colored an operator cannot interpose a block of another set to complete the solution of the puzzle.

I have entered into a detailed description of the construction and relative arrangement of the parts embraced in the present and preferred embodiment of my invention in order to impart a full, clear, and exact understanding of the same. I do not desire, however, to be understood as confining myself to such specific construction and relative arrangement of parts, as such changes or modifications may be made in practice as fairly fall within the scope of my invention as claimed.

What I claim is:—

1. A puzzle comprising a rectangular receptacle, a pair of independent outer and an independent intermediate set of blocks slidably mounted in said receptacle, the number of the blocks of one outer set being less than the number of the blocks of the other set, said sets of blocks to be arranged in sidewise opposed relation, and each of the blocks of each set having its outer face provided with the pictorial representation of a part of a railway train whereby when the blocks of each set are slid to cooperative relation with respect to each other each set of blocks will form the complete pictorial representation of a railway train.

2. A puzzle comprising a rectangular receptacle, a pair of independent outer and an independent intermediate set of blocks slidably mounted in said receptacle, the number of the blocks of one outer set being less than the number of the blocks of the other set, said sets of blocks to be arranged in sidewise opposed relation, and each of the blocks of each set having its outer face provided with the pictorial representation of a part of a railway train whereby when the blocks of each set are slid to cooperative relation with respect to each other each set of blocks will form the complete pictorial representation of a railway train, the blocks of each set being correspondingly colored and the color of each set being different with respect to the other set.

3. A puzzle comprising a rectangular receptacle, a pair of independent outer and an independent intermediate set of blocks slidably mounted in said receptacle, the number of the blocks of one outer set being less than the number of the blocks of the other set, said sets of blocks to be arranged in sidewise opposed relation, and each of the blocks of each set having its outer face provided with the pictorial representation of a part of a railway train whereby when the blocks of each set are slid to cooperative relation with respect to each other each set of blocks will form the complete pictorial representation of a railway train, the blocks of each set being correspondingly colored and the color of each set being different with respect to the other set, the blocks of each set having the outer face thereof correspondingly numbered, the numbers on the blocks of one set being different from the numbers on the blocks of an opposed set.

4. A puzzle comprising a rectangular receptacle, a pair of independent outer and an independent intermediate set of blocks slidably mounted in said receptacle, the number of the blocks of one outer set being less than the number of the blocks of the other set, said sets of blocks to be arranged in sidewise opposed relation, and each of the blocks of each set having its outer face provided with the pictorial representation of a part of a railway train whereby when the blocks of each set are slid to cooperative relation with respect to each other each set of blocks will form the complete pictorial representation of a railway train, the pictorial representation of the parts of a railway train on the blocks of the intermediate set of blocks being oppositely disposed with respect to the pictorial representation of the parts of a railway train on the outer sets of blocks whereby when the sets of blocks are assembled the complete pictorial representation of the train formed by the inner set of blocks will extend in an opposite direction with respect to the pictorial representation of the trains formed when the other sets of blocks are in cooperative position.

In testimony whereof, I affix my signature hereto.

ORSON E. WHEATON.