

Dec. 6, 1927.

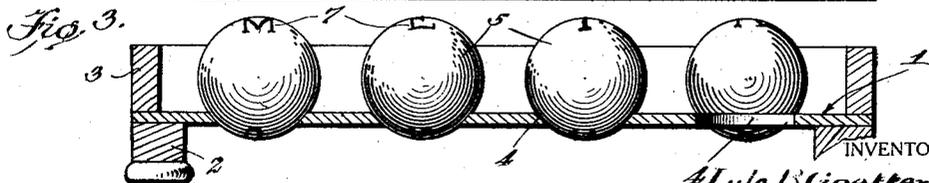
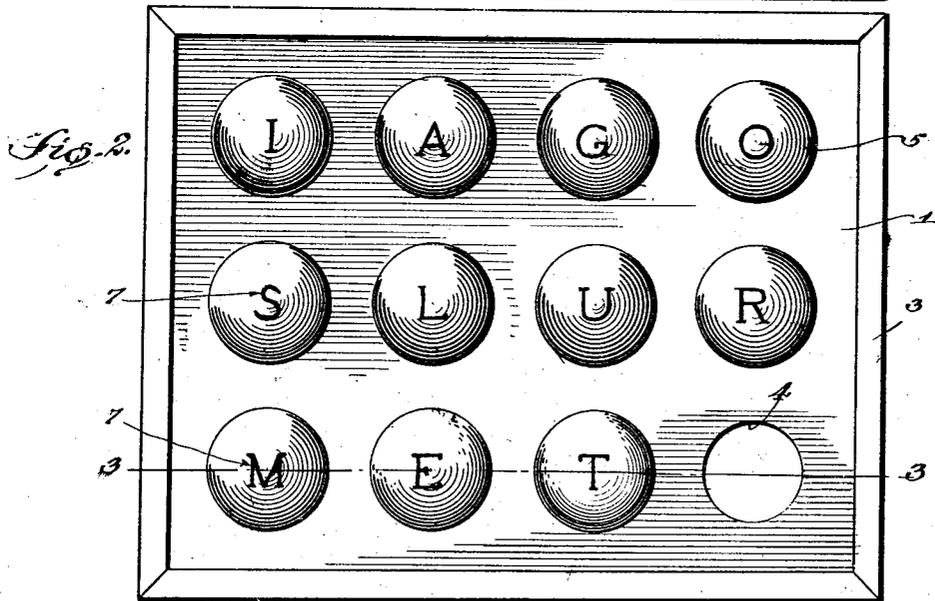
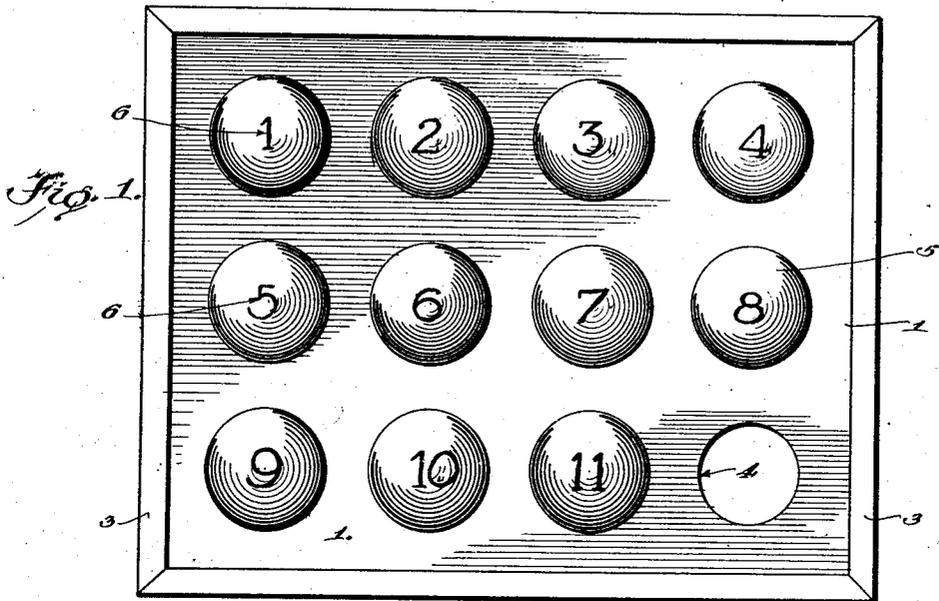
1,652,115

L. B. GOETTERT

PUZZLE

Filed March 22, 1926

2 Sheets-Sheet 1



INVENTOR
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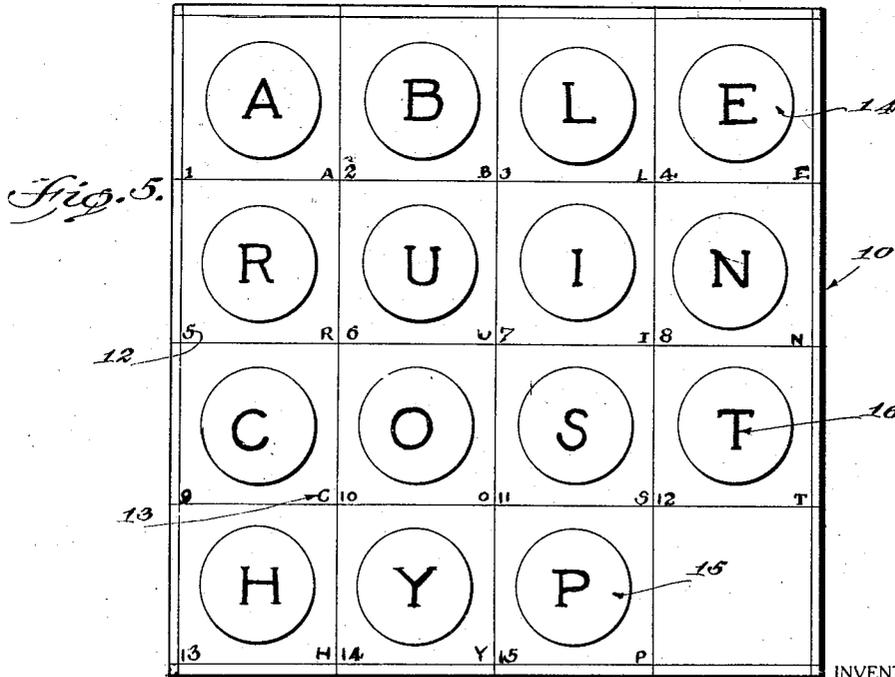
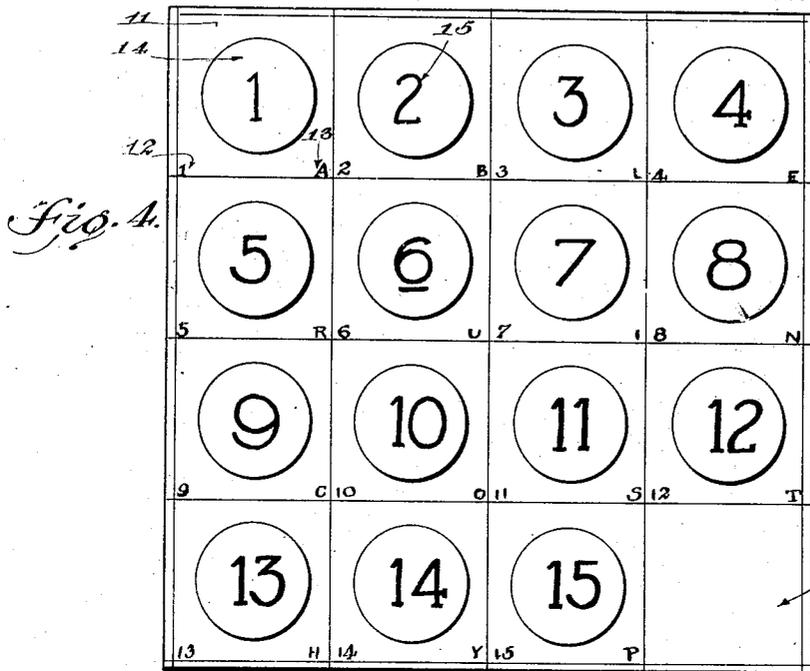
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2 Sheets-Sheet 2



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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PUZZLE.

Application filed March 22, 1926. Serial No. 96,618.

This invention relates to a puzzle which makes use of numbers or letters or other symbols to work out series of words or other predetermined groupings in an interesting and entertaining manner.

A further object is to provide a puzzle of this character which is of simple and durable construction, entertaining and amusing in operation and easy and comparatively inexpensive to manufacture.

Accordingly the present invention consists in the provision of a puzzle which comprises a board having a plurality of seats arranged in transverse rows, all of the seats but one being designed to receive the co-operable shiftable elements in the final arrangement of the shiftable elements which constitutes the solution of the puzzle, the blank seat affording with the other seats the necessary provision for manipulation of the shiftable elements by which the puzzle is solved. The shiftable elements may take the form of balls or discs having letters and numerals applied thereto. The shiftable elements may have both letters and numerals applied thereto, the letters being on one face and the numerals on the other, or a set of shiftable elements may be employed with letters only and another set with numerals only.

Other objects and advantages reside in certain novel features of the construction, arrangement and combination of parts which will be hereinafter more fully described and particularly pointed out in the appended claims, reference being had to the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification, and in which:

Figure 1 is a plan view showing a board and set of shiftable elements in the form of balls, the numerals of the balls being shown in use,

Figure 2 is a similar view showing the letters of the balls in use,

Figure 3 is a sectional view taken on the line 3—3 of Figure 2,

Figure 4 is a plan view of another embodiment of the invention showing the numerals in use,

Figure 5 is a similar view showing the letters in use, and

Figure 6 is a detail perspective view of only the discs or chips employed in Fig. 4.

Referring to the drawings it will be seen that in the embodiment of the invention shown in Figs. 1 to 3 a board 1 is provided

and is supported on legs 2, the board having an upwardly extending marginal flange 3 and being formed with openings 4 constituting seats and arranged in transverse or horizontal and vertical or longitudinal rows. A set of shiftable elements having the form of balls 5 is provided for co-action with the seats constituted by the openings 4. As shown in Fig. 1 the balls 5 have numerals 6 applied to one portion thereof and letters 7 applied to an opposite portion. Eleven balls are provided for co-action with the twelve seats, the extra or blank seat affording the necessary means that must be had to permit of manipulation of the balls or shiftable elements in accordance with the rules of the game.

In playing the game the balls or other shiftable elements employed are shuffled up and are placed in their shuffled condition, that is, at random, in the seats of the board. In manipulating the balls they can be moved up or down the board between the adjacent horizontal rows or across the board between adjacent vertical rows but they cannot be moved diagonally. The problem then is to manipulate the balls so as to cause the letters thereof to spell out predetermined words or cause the numerals on the balls to be arranged in a numerical series. Fig. 1 illustrates the numbers arranged in numerical series from 1 to 11. Fig. 2 illustrates the balls arranged to spell out words, that is, "Iago", "Slur" and "Met" and the vertical rows spell "Ism", "Ale", "Gut" and "Or."

In the form of the invention shown in Fig. 4 the board is designated at 10 and has the seats defined as panels 11. Each panel or seat has identifying indicia 12 and 13 which shows how the shiftable elements should be located in the final solution of the puzzle. The shiftable elements are shown for the sake of illustration as being round chips or discs 14 having numerals 15 applied to one face thereof and letters 16 applied to the other face. If desirable the board 1 may have adjacent its seats, letters and numerals indicating how the balls should be arranged to solve the puzzle. The chips or balls are preferably colored so that in the solved problem there will be rows of red, white and blue balls in the order named. The interest which the game carries is enhanced by the fact that following most shufflings the balls will probably be placed in an impossible combination or order

or in other words manipulation in accordance with the rules of the game cannot result in solving the problem. The balls must then be reshuffled. The game is played as
 5 in the other embodiments of the invention with the exception that the solution is indicated on the board. It is to be understood that the chips 14 vary in size and form and may be hexagonal.

10 I claim:—

1. A puzzle comprising a board having a plurality of openings arranged in rows, a plurality of balls adapted to seat in said openings, there being one more opening than
 15 there are balls for bringing them into the order desired, letter indicia upon one side of each

ball and numerical indicia on opposite sides of each ball, and letter and numerical indicia about each opening co-inciding with
 20 that upon each side of the balls, the numerical indicia indicating the alphabetical position of the letter indicia.

2. A puzzle comprising a board, a plurality of game pieces adapted to be arranged
 25 in marked rows of spaces, the spaces being one greater in number than the objects to permit shifting of the objects, indicia upon each side of the objects, and indicia in each space corresponding to the indicia upon each
 30 side of an object the pieces being variously colored, whereby when correctly solved the puzzle will present rows of different colors.

LULA B. GOETTERT.