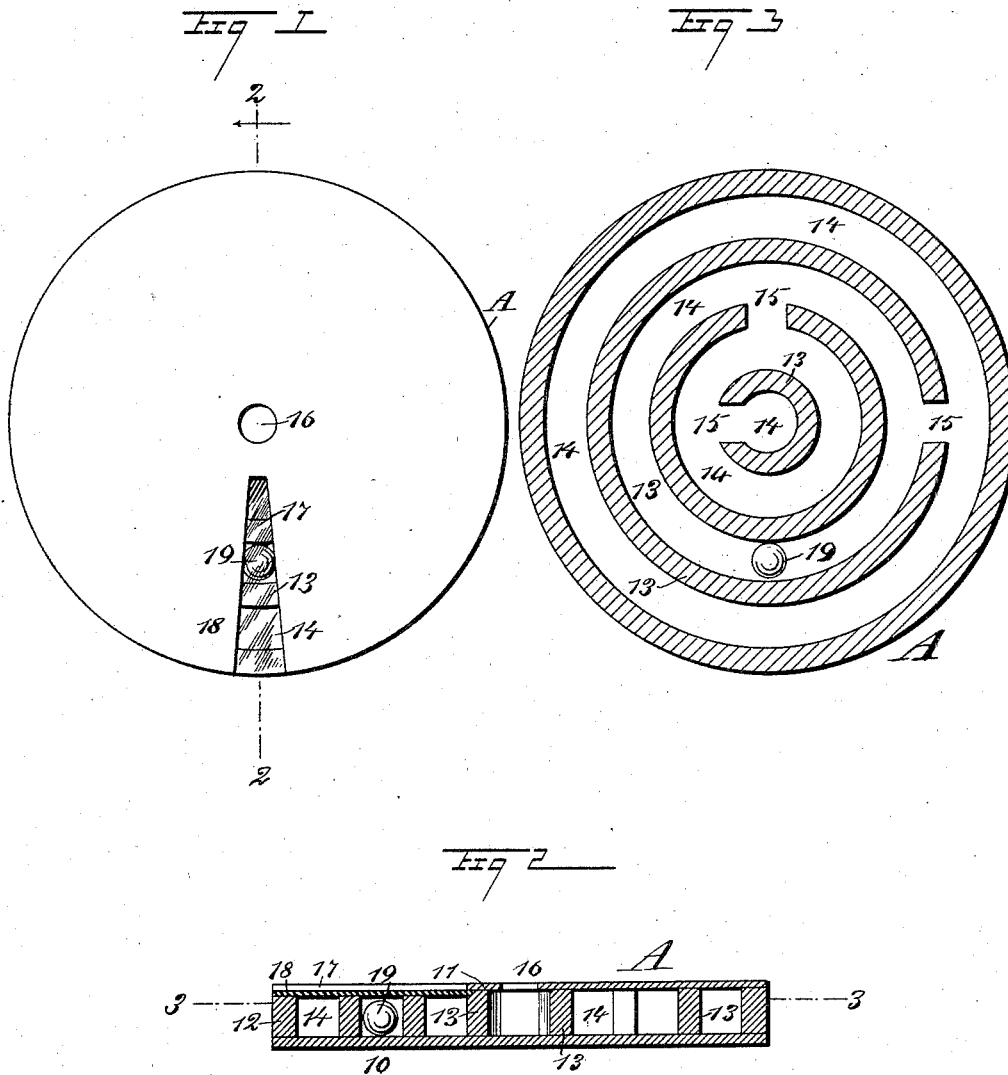


(No Model.)

E. E. JENNE.
PUZZLE.

No. 456,826.

Patented July 28, 1891.



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ELMER E. JENNE, OF ILION, NEW YORK.

PUZZLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 456,826, dated July 28, 1891.

Application filed March 18, 1891. Serial No. 385,472. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ELMER ELLSWORTH JENNE, of Ilion, in the county of Herkimer and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Puzzle, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

My invention relates to a puzzle, and has for its object to construct such an article embodying an essentially covered system of circles having non-registering hidden openings, a small portion only of the solid surfaces of the circles being exposed to view.

A further object of the invention is to employ in connection with the circles a ball or other readily-movable object or objects adapted to travel in the spaces between the circles when the puzzle board or receptacle is manipulated, which balls or ball are accessible or tangible only at the inner circle; and the prime object sought to be attained by the above-described construction is to enable the player or operator to so manipulate the board or receptacle that the balls or ball, while concealed, may be made to travel from the innermost to the outermost circular space and back to the starting-point.

The invention consists in the novel construction and combination of the several parts, as will be hereinafter fully set forth, and pointed out in the claims.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar figures and letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the views.

Figure 1 is a plan view of the puzzle board or receptacle. Fig. 2 is a central vertical section taken practically on the line 2 2 of Fig. 1, and Fig. 3 is a horizontal section taken essentially upon the line 3 3 of Fig. 2.

In the construction of the puzzle a receptacle A is preferably employed, which is usually of a circular shape, comprising mainly a bottom 10, a top 11, and a continuous side 12, connecting the two. Within the receptacle a series of concentric circular ribs 13 is located, extending from top to bottom and so spaced as to form a series of circular spaces or runways 14. Each rib is provided with a gate or opening 15, and the openings are so located that they are non-aligning, as illus-

trated in Fig. 3. Thus the several spaces or runways are connected, and it is possible for an object placed in the central space to traverse the runways and enter the outer space. In the top of the receptacle an aperture 16 is produced, and the top is further provided with an opening 17, preferably of tapering shape and extending from the periphery over the central rib, or practically so, which opening is widest at its outer end and is covered by a pane 18 of any transparent material. The opening 17 is so located as not to reveal any of the openings or gates 15 in the ribs, as is illustrated in Fig. 1. In connection with the board or receptacle one or more balls or other readily-movable objects are employed, which are introduced into the central circular space through the cover-aperture 16 above the same.

The puzzle consists in rocking the receptacle in any manner, whereby the balls or ball will be caused to roll from the central space or runway through the intermediate spaces into the outer one and back again to the center. The transparent pane 18 enables the manipulator of the puzzle to ascertain from time to time in what space the ball or balls are located, and thus the operator is enabled to decide in what direction to rock or otherwise manipulate the receptacle to carry the ball or balls to the desired space. The ball may be removed from the receptacle only from the central space and through the cover-aperture 16. The ribs may be differently colored, and the ball or balls may be decorated, as fancy may dictate.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. A puzzle comprising a closed receptacle and a series of circular spaced ribs located therein, the said ribs being provided with non-aligning apertures and the cover of the receptacle being provided with an inlet opening over a space inclosed by one of the circular ribs, and a second opening disclosing the ribs at the solid portions thereof, as and for the purpose specified.

2. As an improved article of manufacture, a puzzle comprising a closed receptacle containing a series of concentric and spaced ribs

extending from top to bottom and provided with non-aligning openings, one face of the receptacle being provided with a central opening and with a narrow diametrical opening, 5 the latter opening exposing solid sections of the ribs, and a movable object located within the receptacle and adapted to travel between the ribs, as and for the purpose specified.

3. In a puzzle, the combination, with a closed 10 receptacle provided with a series of spaced concentric ribs extending from top to bottom, each of said ribs being provided with an opening and the openings in the ribs being non-

aligning, one face of the receptacle being provided with a diametrical opening covered by 15 a transparent pane and an inlet-opening near the center, of a ball or equivalent movable object adapted to enter the inlet-opening of the receptacle and travel in the spaces between the ribs, as and for the purpose set 20 forth.

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Witnesses:

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