



March 1, 1960

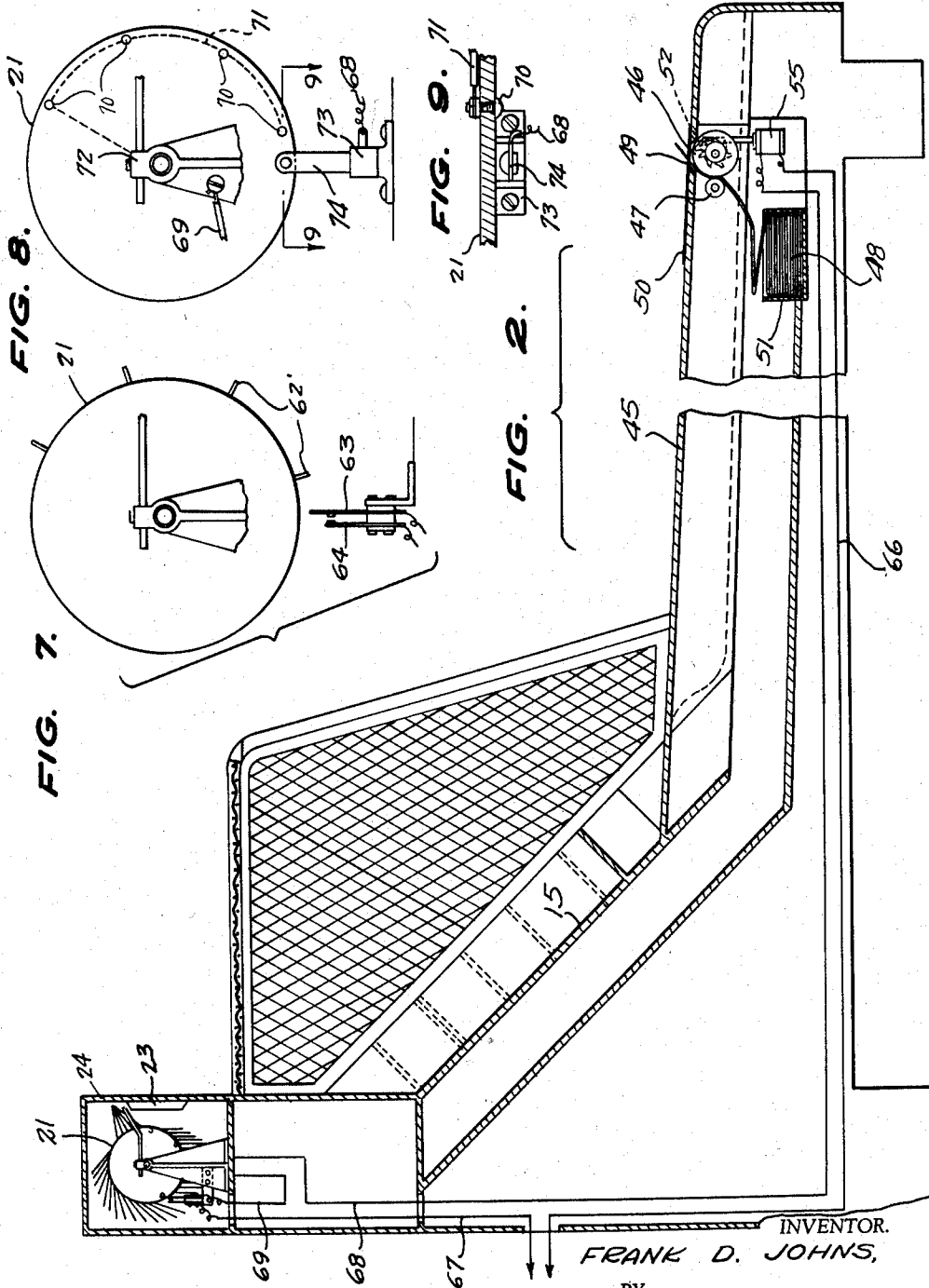
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2,926,915

AUTOMATIC TICKET-DISPENSING SKEE BALL MACHINE

Filed Jan. 31, 1958

4 Sheets-Sheet 2



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4 Sheets-Sheet 3

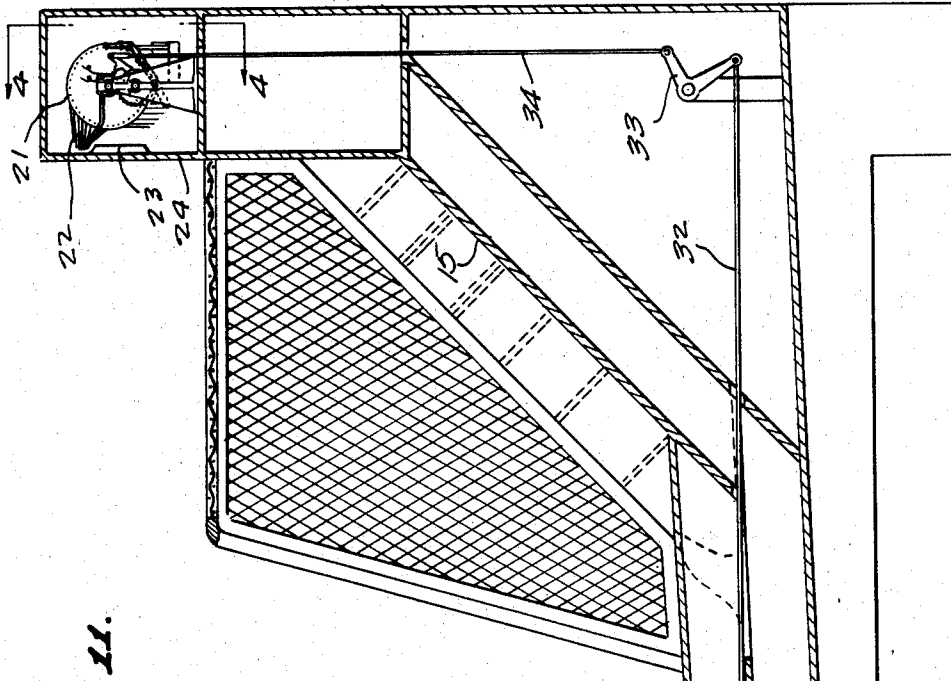


FIG. 11.

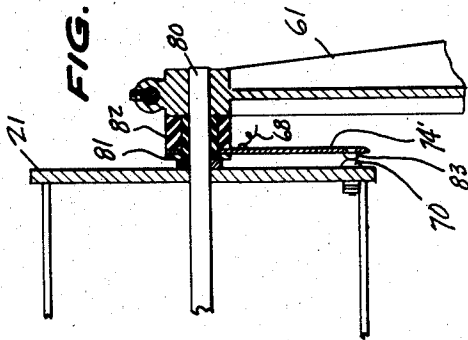


FIG. 3.

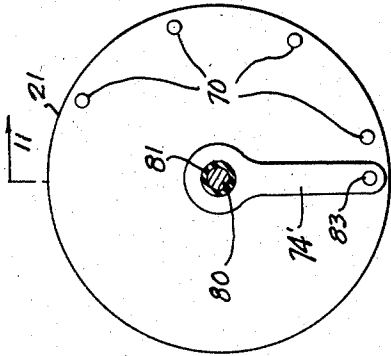
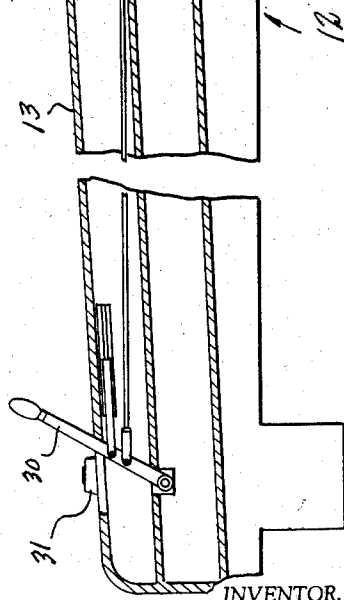


FIG. 10.

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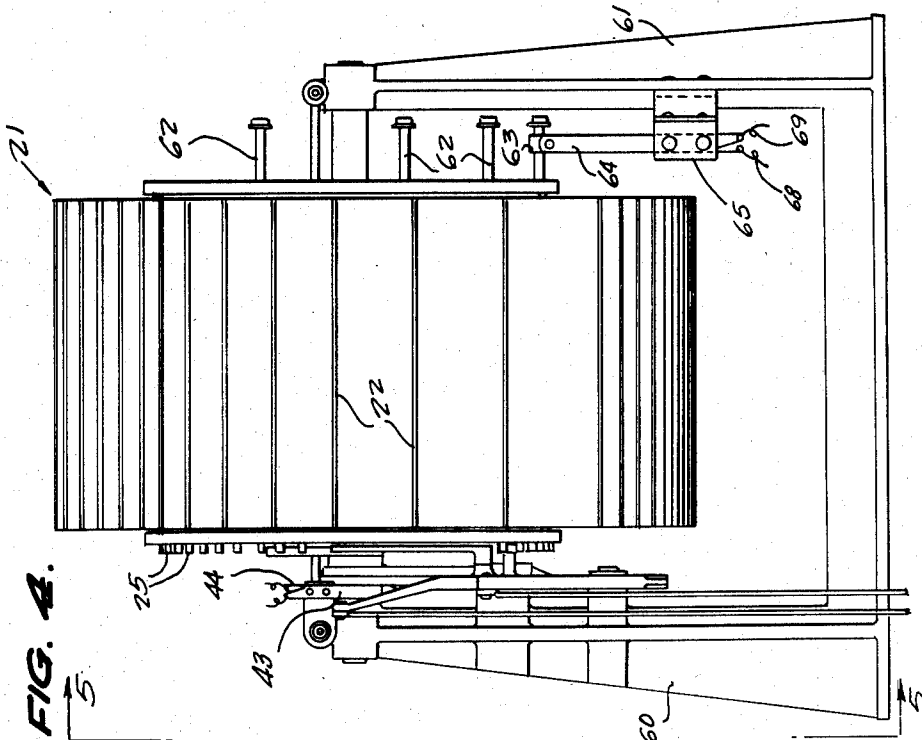


FIG. 4.

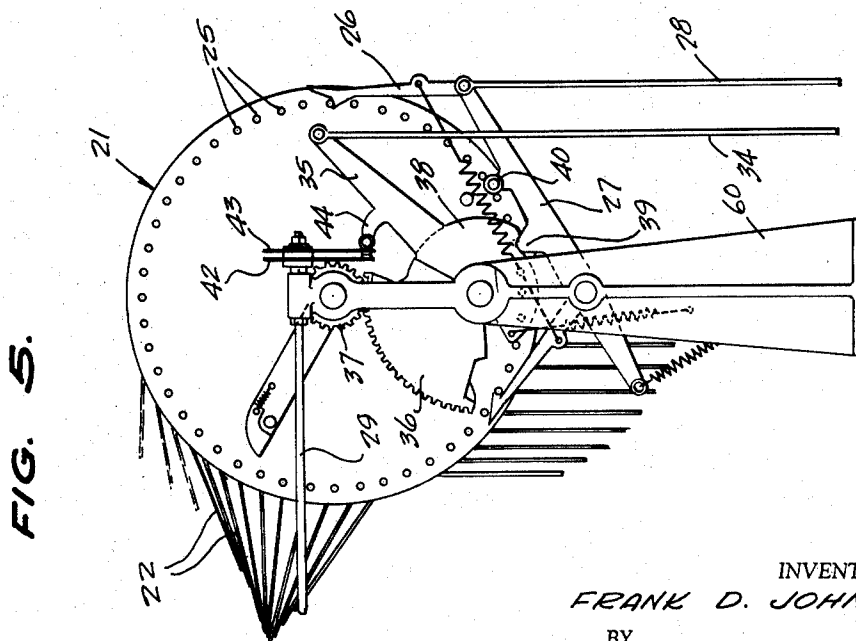


FIG. 5.

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2,926,915

AUTOMATIC TICKET-DISPENSING SKEE BALL MACHINE

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Application January 31, 1958, Serial No. 712,498

3 Claims. (Cl. 273-95)

This invention relates to target game apparatus of the type in which balls are projected against targets, and more particularly to a skee ball machine provided with a scoring register and having an automatic ticket-dispensing mechanism associated therewith and operating to dispense tickets as a player reaches predetermined cumulative score values, the tickets being exchangeable for free games, prizes, or other rewards.

A main object of the invention is to provide a novel and improved target game apparatus of the type including a scoring register operating in response to the striking of the target to display respective cumulative score values, the apparatus being provided with means for automatically dispensing tickets when predetermined cumulative score values are reached by a player, the apparatus being simple in construction, involving relatively few parts, and being provided with means for preventing any ticket-dispensing action during the time that the register is returned to its starting position.

A further object of the invention is to provide an improved ticket-dispensing attachment for skee ball machines, said attachment involving relatively inexpensive components, being easy to install on a conventional skee ball machine, and providing a means to heighten interest and entertainment derived from using a skee ball machine by providing a means to automatically dispense tickets when the scoring register of the machine shows predetermined cumulative score values, the tickets being exchangeable for prizes or free games, whereby a player is rewarded for his skill.

A still further object of the invention is to provide an improved ticket-dispensing attachment for a skee ball machine, said attachment being easy to install on a conventional machine, and greatly increasing the amusement value of the machine by providing an incentive for attaining a high score, namely, by automatically dispensing tickets which may be exchanged for free games or articles of value.

Further objects and advantages of the invention will become apparent from the following description and claims, and from the accompanying drawings, wherein:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a skee ball machine provided with automatic ticket-dispensing means according to the present invention.

Figure 2 is an enlarged longitudinal vertical sectional view taken on the line 2-2 of Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a vertical longitudinal cross sectional view, similar to Figure 2, but taken on the line 3-3 of Figure 1.

Figure 4 is an enlarged elevational view of the rotary scoring register of the skee ball machine of Figures 1 to 3, said view being taken on the line 4-4 of Figure 3.

Figure 5 is a side elevational view of the rotary scoring register, taken on the line 5-5 of Figure 4.

Figure 6 is a schematic diagram showing the electrical connections of the automatic ticket-dispensing mechanism

portions of a modified form of switch-actuating means associated with the rotary scoring register of the skee ball machine.

Figure 8 is a fragmentary side elevational view, similar to Figure 7, showing a further modified form of switch means for energizing the ticket dispenser, which may be employed in a skee ball machine, according to this invention.

Figure 9 is a horizontal cross sectional view taken on the line 9-9 of Figure 8.

Figure 10 is a fragmentary side elevational view of a further modification of a switch means operated by the rotary scoring register of a skee ball machine which may be employed in accordance with the present invention.

Figure 11 is a fragmentary vertical cross sectional view taken on the line 11-11 of Figure 10.

Referring to the drawings, 12 generally designates a skee ball machine of the type in which balls are projected against respective targets, for example, are rolled along an alley 13, engaging a curved abutment 14 and are projected upwardly toward an inclined target board 15. The target board is provided with respective enclosures defined by upstanding wall members 16, 17, 18, 19 and 20, defining enclosures which may receive the ball, and wherein respective score values may be registered responsive to the reception of a ball. The action is transmitted to a register mechanism of a conventional type, shown at 21, said mechanism comprising a drum to which are hinged a plurality of score-indicating cards 22 which are displayed through a window 23 provided on the upstanding rear portion 24 of the apparatus. Thus, the register 21 may be provided with the spaced laterally projecting pins 25 which are engageable by a pawl member 26 carried on the end of a lever 27, the lever being rotated by conventional mechanism, not shown, through a link rod 28 connected to the end of the lever so that the lever operates responsive to the reception of a ball in one of the enclosures on the inclined scoring board 15. The pawl member 26 is moved down by lever 27 through a distance corresponding to the magnitude of the score value, whereby the pawl member 26 on its upward stroke rotates the register drum in a counter-clockwise direction, as viewed in Figure 5, through an angle corresponding to said score value, thus allowing the associated score-indicating card 22 to move downwardly past a retaining yoke 29 and rotate to a depending vertical position in which it is visible through the score-indicating window 23.

The register drum is returned to its initial position by means of a hand lever 30 located at one side of the machine adjacent the forward end thereof, the lever 30 being released by a conventional coin-actuated mechanism designated generally at 31. Thus, when a player desires to use the machine, he drops a coin in the mechanism 31, releasing the lever 30, so that it may be rotated in a counterclockwise direction from the position thereof shown in Figure 3. The lever 30 is connected by a link rod 32 to one arm of a bell crank 33. The other arm of the bell crank 33 is connected by a link rod 34 to a reset arm 35 which is rigidly secured to a gear sector 36. Sector 36 meshes with a pinion gear 37 secured coaxially to the register drum, so that the drum is rotated to its starting position by the cooperation of the sector gear 36 and the pinion gear 37 responsive to the downward rotation of the reset arm 35.

It will be understood that the resetting mechanism is conventional per se and forms no part of the present invention.

As will be seen from Figure 5, the reset arm 35 is car-

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