

Dec. 4, 1928.

1,693,711

E. F. L. FRITZ

PUZZLE

Filed July 18, 1927

3 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.

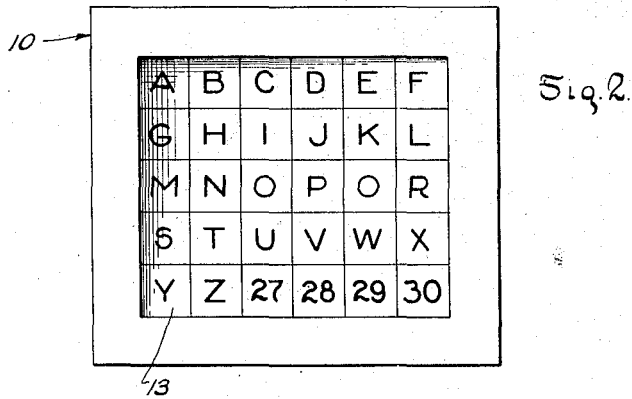
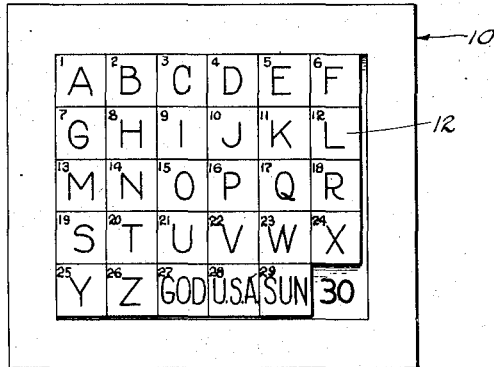
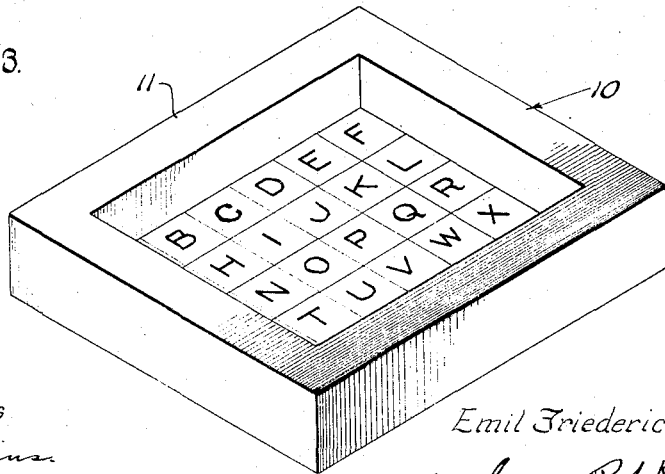


Fig. 3.



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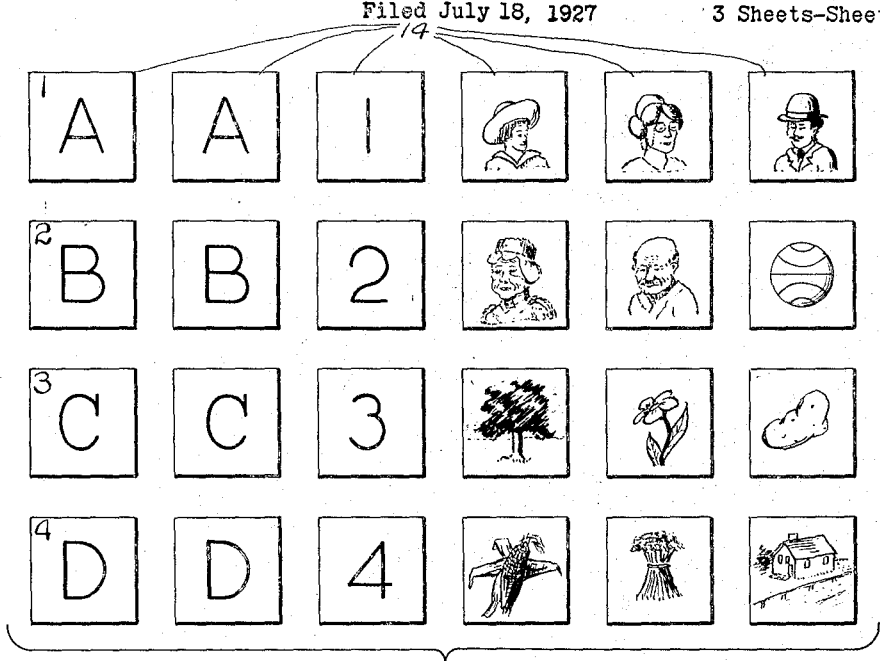
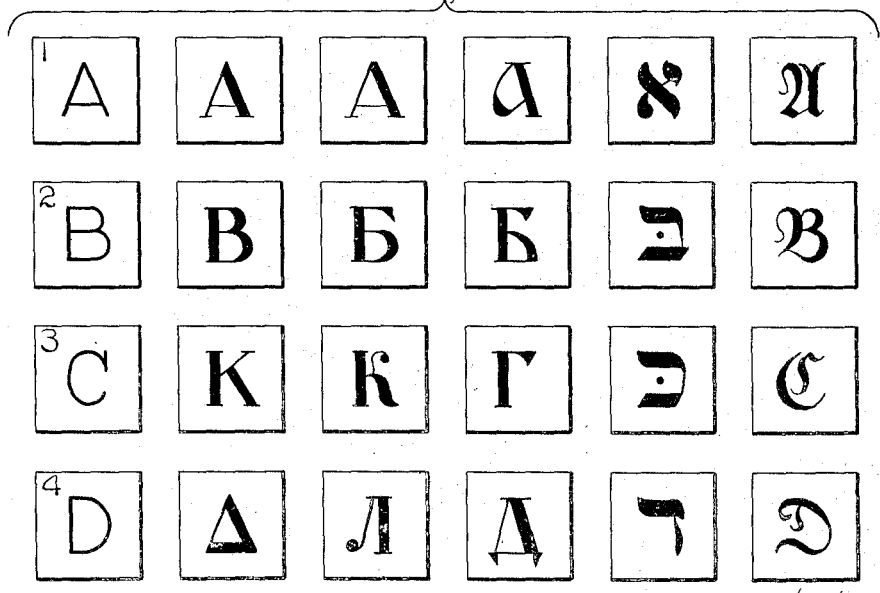


Fig. 4.

Fig. 5.



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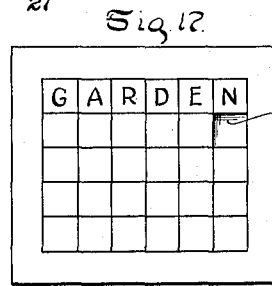
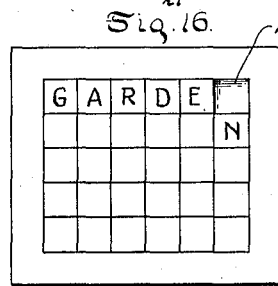
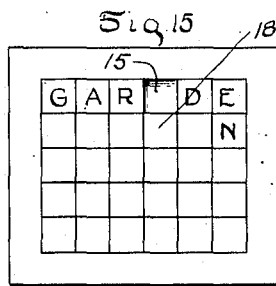
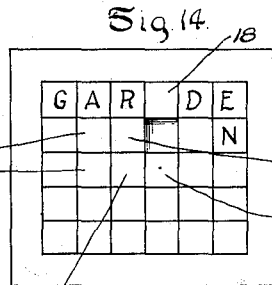
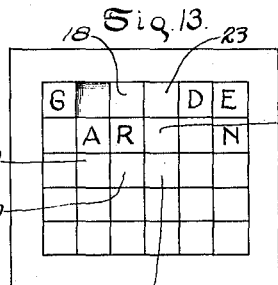
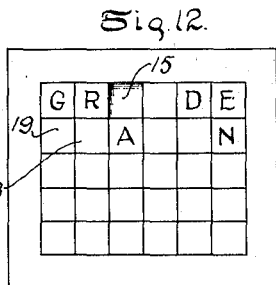
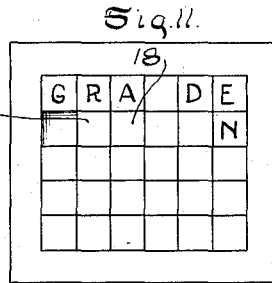
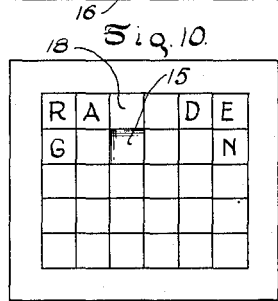
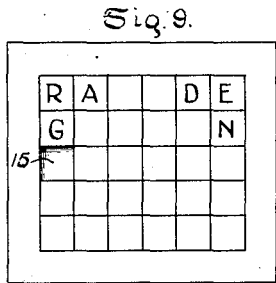
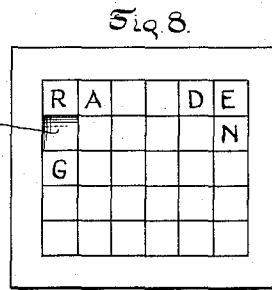
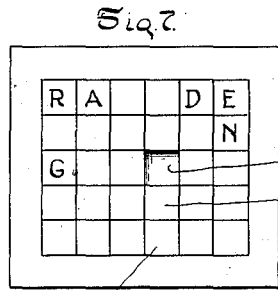
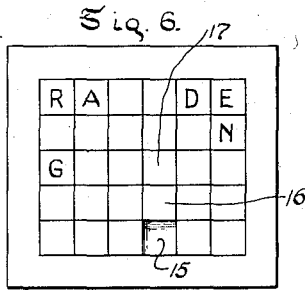
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3 Sheets-Sheet 3



Witnesses  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EMIL FRIEDERICH LEWIS FRITZ, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

## PUZZLE.

Application filed July 18, 1927. Serial No. 206 442.

My invention relates to a puzzle and, more particularly, to an alphabetic puzzle or game of an educational character.

The object of my invention is to provide a device of the above character which inspires an interest in children and indirectly presents educational instrumentalities to the operator of this device, whereby said operator learns certain letters and words while at play.

Another object of my invention is to provide a container for blocks, said container being marked off in squares and adapted to have one of said blocks positioned on each square, said blocks being provided with numbers and with alphabets of a plurality of languages and with certain words relating particularly to the universe, and with certain pictures of an educational character.

For the purpose of illustration I have shown in the accompanying drawings the preferred embodiment of my invention in which

Figure 1 represents a container having blocks positioned therein and numbers and letters thereon, as incorporated in my invention.

Figure 2 shows the container disclosed in Figure 1 with the blocks removed.

Figure 3 is a perspective view of that disclosed in Figure 2.

Figure 4 is a view of the six sides of each of four of the blocks shown in the container in Figure 1.

Figure 5 is a similar view of a modified form of blocks.

Figures 6 to 17, inclusive, are similar views, of that disclosed in Figure 1 and showing the manner of sliding and rearranging the blocks for the purpose of solving the puzzle.

In the accompanying drawings, numeral 10 represents a container of rectangular form, having thirty squares marked off on the inner surface thereof and having the letters of the English alphabet marked in part of said squares and having numbers in the remainder of said squares. The container 10 is preferably made of a single piece of metal and being provided with a relatively wide margin 11, on which the hands of the operator may be rested while solving the puzzle. As shown in Figure 1, the container 10 is adapted to receive plurality of blocks 12, each positioned over one of the squares 13 and leaving one vacant square. For the use of beginners, it may be desirable to leave more than one vacant square and thereby make it easier to solve the puzzle.

Each block 12 in the container 10 is substantially a cube and therefore has six square faces 14, as shown in Figures 4 and 5, and each face of each block is provided with letters and numbers and with equivalent letters of different languages or with pictures cast integral with the face of the block, as may be desired. Some of the blocks may have words, numbers and pictures thereon instead of single letters.

It is obvious that a person knowing the alphabet of one language will readily become acquainted with the equivalent letters in alphabets of other languages and thereby become educated to that extent simply by the association of the letters on the various faces of each of the blocks used in solving the puzzle. The alphabets of any languages may be used on these blocks, as may be desired, so long as there are not more than thirty letters to the alphabet.

For the purpose of illustrating the operation of this puzzle, I have shown in Figures 6 to 17, inclusive, views of my invention showing only a portion of the letters from which a word may be formed and showing one blank space into which the blocks may be moved for the purpose of rearranging the blocks to get them in the proper order for making the desired word. For this purpose I have shown only the letters from which the word "garden" may be spelled and the blank space 15, as shown in Figure 6. Figure 7 is like Figure 6, with the exception that the blocks 16 and 17 have been moved downwardly, leaving the blank space 15 above them. In Figure 8 other blocks have been moved, bringing the blank space 15 above the "g" and in Figure 9 the "g" has been moved upwardly, as shown. In Figure 10 other blocks have been shifted, thereby leaving the blank space 15 in such a place that by the downward movement of block 18, space is provided for the movement of "a", "r" and "g" into the positions shown in Figure 11. From this position, the blocks 18 and 19 are moved to the position shown in Figure 12 and block "a" is moved upwardly, as shown.

In order to write the word "garden", it is necessary to get the "a" in the position in which "r" is in Figure 12, and to do this the block 18 and the letters "a" and "r" must be rotated into the position shown in Figure 13, and then the "a" may be moved upwardly to the position shown in Figure 14, which leaves

the blank space to the left of the "r". In order to get the "r" into the position shown in Figure 14, the blocks 19, 20, 21, 22, 23 and 18 must be rotated around the "r" for making the space above and permitting the "r" to be moved upwardly into position. After the blocks are in the position shown in Figure 14, it is obvious that block 18 may be lowered to the position shown in Figure 15, and the letters "d" and "e" moved to the left, as shown in Figure 16, and the letter "n" may then be moved upwardly into the position shown in Figure 17. Thus the word "garden" has been completed simply by the sliding movement of one block at a time into the vacant space and by this method it is possible to make various arrangements of the letters and numbers as the operator of the puzzle may choose.

Having described my invention in its preferred form, it will be obvious to those skilled in the art that variations may be made herein without departing from the spirit of the invention. I do not, therefore, wish to be limited to the precise details of construction illustrated and described, but desire to avail myself of such variations and modifications as come within the scope of the appended claims.

I claim as my invention:

1. A device of the class described, comprising a rectangular container having the inner surface thereof marked off in squares; a plurality of cubical blocks, each of a size adapted to cover one said squares; there being less blocks than squares for permitting relative sliding movement of said blocks; letters and numbers in said squares; letters and numbers on one face of said blocks and corresponding letters of a plurality of languages on the other faces of said blocks.

2. A device of the class described, comprising a rectangular container having the inner surface thereof marked off in squares;

a plurality of cubical blocks, each of a size adapted to cover one of said squares; there being less blocks than squares for permitting relative sliding movement of said blocks; means on said blocks for indicating an order of arrangement to be attained by said sliding movement; said means comprising letters and numbers on one face of said blocks and different but related and corresponding characters on the other faces of said blocks; letters in some of said squares and numbers in other of said squares.

3. A device of the class described, comprising a container having the inner surface thereof marked off in squares; part of said squares having letters therein and other of said squares having numbers therein; a plurality of blocks having each face thereof of a size adapted to fit over said squares; letters and numbers on one face of said blocks and corresponding letters of a plurality of languages on the other faces of said blocks, there being one more square than blocks and the number of squares being such as to permit six moves in one direction and five moves at right angles to said direction.

4. A device of the class described, comprising a container having the inner surface thereof marked off in squares; part of said squares having letters therein and other of said squares having numbers therein; a plurality of blocks having each face thereof of a size adapted to fit over said squares; letters and numbers on one face of said blocks and different but related and corresponding characters on the other faces of said blocks; there being one more square than blocks, and the number of squares being such as to permit six possible moves in one direction and five moves in a direction at right angles to the first said direction.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification.

EMIL FRIEDERICH LEWIS FRITZ.