Nov. 24, 1964 C. PEARSON, JR 3,158,370

SKILL GAME COMPRISING A DISPLACEABLE BOWL FROM WHICH OBJECTS ARE TO BE WITHDRAWN

Filed March 7, 1962

Fig. 1

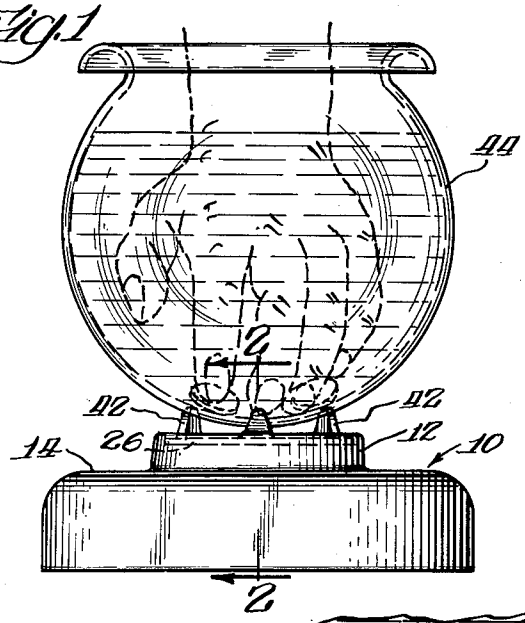


Fig. 5

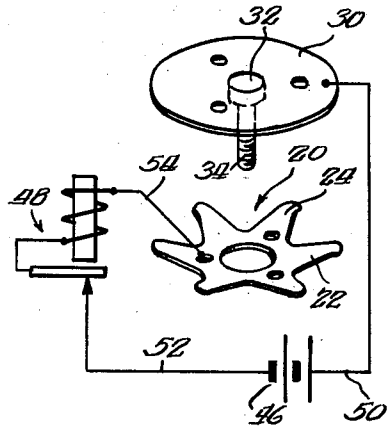
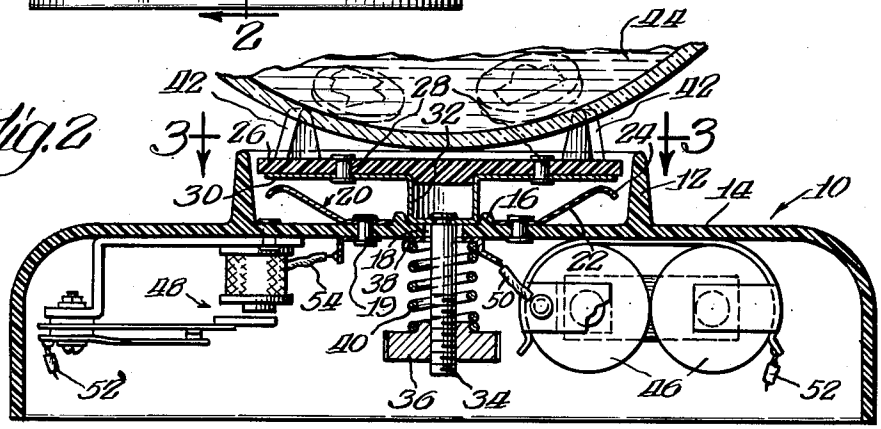


Fig. 2



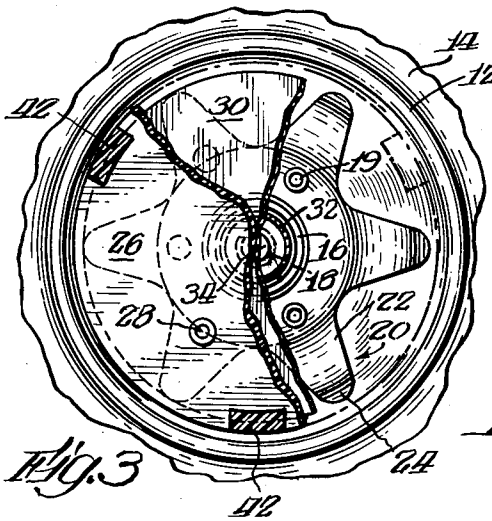


Fig. 3

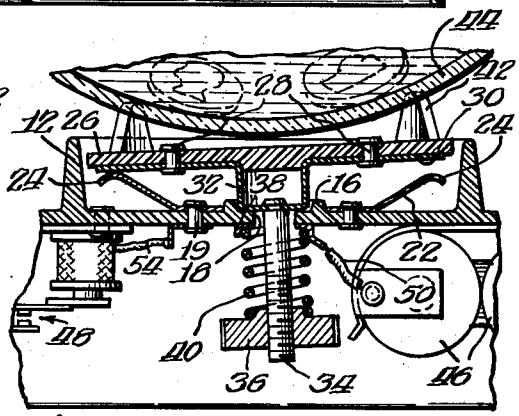


Fig. 4

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SKILL GAME COMPRISING A DISPLACEABLE BOWL FROM WHICH OBJECTS ARE TO BE WITHDRAWN

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This invention relates to a game device.

One of the objects of this invention is to provide a game device on which the skill of touch is utilized in playing the game.

Another object of this invention is to provide a game device which includes a bowl or container filled with money or prizes and which is delicately balanced so that if the player in inserting his hand into the bowl to extract the contents touches a portion of the bowl or the contents so as to tilt the bowl momentarily, a signal will be actuated to disqualify the player and the player will be required to release what he has picked up.

Another object of this invention is to provide a game device capable of being played by children as well as adults, which requires a high degree of manual dexterity and skill.

Other objects will become apparent as this description progresses.

In the drawings:

FIGURE 1 is a view of the game device.

FIGURE 2 is a cross-sectional view taken on lines 2—2 of FIGURE 1, showing the parts in normal positions.

FIGURE 3 is a top plan view taken on lines 3—3 of FIGURE 2.

FIGURE 4 is a view corresponding to FIGURE 2, but with the bowl supporting disc tilted to close the electrical circuit for operating the signal, and

FIGURE 5 is a schematic view showing the circuit.

The game device has a housing or base generally indicated at **10**, formed of plastic or non-electrical conducting material, which has a central annular wall **12** extending upward of the top **14** of the housing. The top of the housing **10** has an annular embossing **16** and an adjacent central opening **18**.

Secured to the top **14** of the housing as by rivets **19** is a spider or six pointed star-shaped metal contact member **20**, the fingers or points **22** of which extend upwardly from the central portion and terminate in downwardly curved tips **24**. The central portion of contact member **20** is provided with an enlarged opening which surrounds the embossing **16**.

A bowl supporting disc **26** is adapted to be supported on the housing **10** for tilting movement. Secured to the underside of the disc by rivets **28** is an annular metal contact plate **30** having a central depressed portion **32**, to the bottom wall of which is suitably anchored a metal threaded bolt **34** which extends through the opening **18** in the top of the housing. The bolt **34** is free to tilt in the opening **18**. A metal nut **36** is secured to the lower end of the threaded bolt.

A metal cup-shaped washer **38** is secured to the underside of the top **14** of the housing, and a metal coiled spring **40** surrounds the threaded bolt **34**, with one end of the spring in engagement with the cupped washer **38** and the other end engaging the threaded nut **36**. The bottom of the depressed portion **32** of the contact plate **30** rests on the top **14** of the housing within the embossing **16** but is free to tilt with respect thereto.

This construction supports the disc **26** in a horizontal position. Any slight pressure on the disc **26** anywhere except on the disc axis will cause the disc **26** to tilt, which will close an electrical circuit, to be presently described,

which in turn will actuate a signal. The disc **26** is thus delicately balanced. The compression of the spring **40** is controlled by the adjustable nut **36**.

The top of the disc **26** is provided with three equally spaced upstanding members **42** which will centrally position a bowl or container **44** on top of the disc **26**.

Suitably supported on the inside of the housing **10** is a pair of small dry cell batteries **46**, as well as a signal member such as a buzzer generally indicated at **48**, both of which are connected, as shown in the circuit diagram in FIGURE 5 and which will also be explained in connection with FIGURE 2.

The batteries **46** are connected by conductor **50** to the metal cupped washer **38**, through coil spring **40**, nut **36**, bolt **34**, to metal contact plate **30** on the underside of disc **26**. The batteries **46** are also connected through conductor **52** to the signal member or buzzer **48** which is connected through conductor **54** to the star-shaped contact member **20** supported on the housing.

In normal positions the parts are as shown in FIGURE 2, in which case the disc **26** is in a horizontal position and the contact plate **30** thereon is out of contact with the star-shaped contact member **20** so that the circuit is open.

Any momentary slight tilt of the disc **26** in any direction will cause the contact disc **30** to make contact with the tips **24** of any of the fingers **22** and close the electrical circuit to operate the buzzer **48**. Relieving the pressure on the periphery of the disc **26** will cause the disc **26** to assume its normal horizontal position, as shown in FIGURE 2, breaking the electrical circuit and ending the buzzing. It will be understood that a light signal can be connected in the circuit or be substituted for the buzzer if desired.

The game device is played by placing money or other prizes in the bowl which rests on the disc. As long as the disc is centered with the weight contents equally distributed, the disc **26** will be in a horizontal position as shown in FIGURE 2, and the circuit will be open. If the player reaching into the bowl to extract the money or prizes does it skillfully and with dexterity, he can remove same without tilting the disc **26**, however, a slight touch or an uneven pressure against the bowl will tilt the disc **26** and close the circuit to sound the buzzer. If this occurs then the player must drop into the bowl that which he has picked up and is holding in his hand.

This provides a very fascinating game which requires skill and manual dexterity in playing same.

It will be understood that various changes and modifications may be made from the foregoing without departing from the spirit and scope of the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A game device comprising a base, a bowl supporting member supported on said base in a normal horizontal position, a bowl having an open top resting on said bowl supporting member and adapted to receive objects to be manually withdrawn through said open top, with said objects being positioned in said bowl to normally maintain said bowl supporting member in a horizontal position, the area above said bowl being unobstructed so as to permit insertion of a player's hand directly into said bowl for removal of said objects, normally separated contact members associated with said bowl supporting member and said base, a battery and a signal member in normally open electrical circuit with said contact members, said bowl supporting member adapted when tilted by manual pressure inadvertently applied thereto during withdrawal of said objects to cause said contact members to engage each other and close the circuit to operate said signal member, and means for restoring said supporting member to normal position to open said circuit immediately upon release of said manual pressure.

2. A structure as defined in claim 1 in which said restoring means comprise spring means biasing the bowl supporting member into said normal horizontal position.

3. A structure as defined in claim 1 in which the contact member on the base comprises a member having a plurality of fingers extending upwardly of the base for engaging with the contact member associated with the bowl supporting member.

4. A game device comprising a base, a bowl supporting member supported on said base in a normal horizontal position, a bowl having an open top resting on said bowl supporting member and adapted to receive objects to be manually withdrawn through said open top, with said objects being positioned in said bowl to normally maintain said bowl supporting member in a horizontal position, the area above said bowl being unobstructed so as to permit insertion of a player's hand directly into said bowl for removal of said objects, normally separated contact members associated with said bowl supporting member and said base, means for connecting said members to an electrical circuit comprising a battery and a signal member, said bowl supporting member adapted when tilted by manual pressure inadvertently applied thereto during withdrawal of said objects to cause said contact members to engage each other and close the circuit to operate said signal member, and means for restoring said supporting member to normal position to open said circuit immediately upon release of said manual pressure.

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