Jan. 1, 1924 1,479,681

R. I. SMITH

GAME

Filed April 15, 1922

Fig. 1.

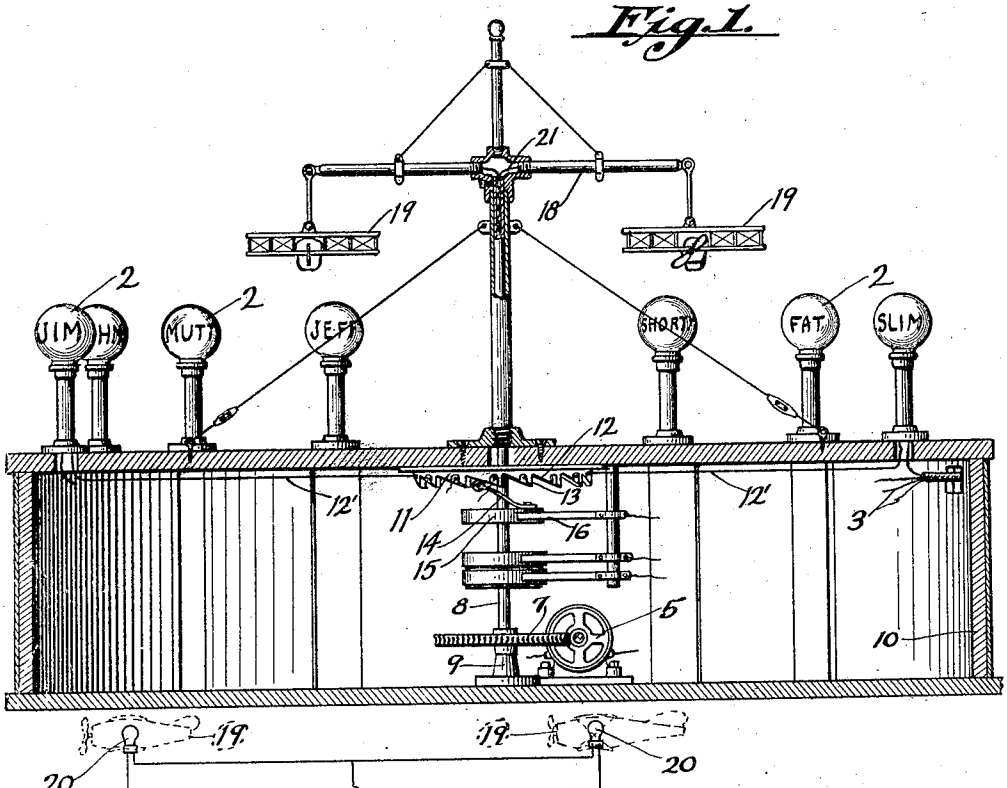
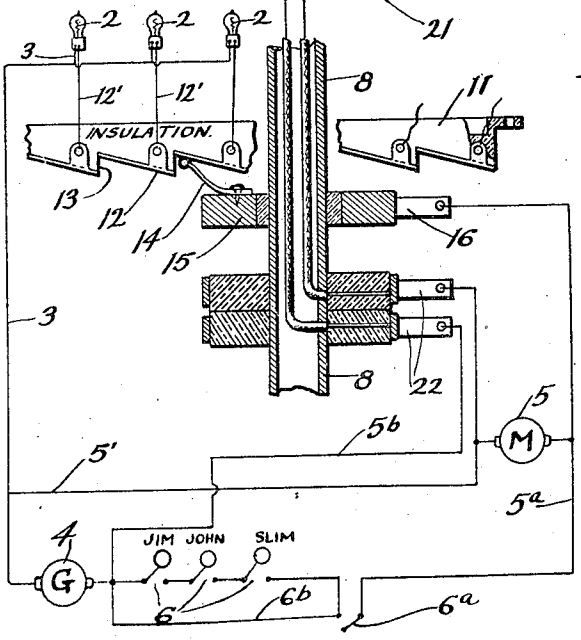


Fig. 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

RAYMOND I. SMITH, OF VENICE, CALIFORNIA.

GAME.

Application filed April 15, 1922. Serial No. 552,845.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, RAYMOND I. SMITH, a citizen of the United States, residing at Venice, in the county of Los Angeles and State of California, have invented new and useful Improvements in Games, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to amusement devices and more particularly to games.

The present invention has for its object to provide a game in which there is provided a series of signal devices combined with means automatically operative to intermittently flash these signal devices, and an object is to provide an attractive amusement device and game, the mechanical operation of which is controlled by electrical means including switches, all of which must be concurrently closed to start operation of the driving motor.

Fig. 1 is a vertical, central section of the preferred form of the invention, parts of which are shown in section.

Fig. 2 is a diagrammatic view of the wiring of the apparatus.

In this preferred form the invention consists of a series of lanterns having globes 2 within which are arranged electric light bulbs, these being provided with suitable electric conductors one of which is shown at 3 as leading directly to a source of current as the generator 4. The conductor 3 is a common line with branches to each lantern bulb. For amusement purposes and for the determination of the winner when the game is played, each of the lanterns is given a name, preferably proper names, or nick names, as "Jim," "John," "Mutt," "Jeff," "Shorty," "Fat" and "Slim," for example.

The selective flashing of the lanterns is accomplished in the present case by means of an electric motor 5, one line 5′ of which is connected to the common feed line 3 while the other feed wire 5^a is connected to the opposite side of the generator 4, and in the line 5^a there is arranged a plurality of switches 6. Upon the closure of all of the switches, which are in series, a circuit will be closed through the motor 5. It is geared as by a worm and gear train 7 to a shaft 8 having its lower end in a step bearing 9 in a suitable framework or housing 10 in which the motor is encased.

Upon the top of the housing 10 there is fixed a disc 11, either of insulating material or provided with an insulating portion, upon which there is attached a series of downwardly projecting inclined contact shoes 12. Each shoe 12 is insulated from the other and presents an angular recess 13 into which there is adapted to spring a brush 14 which is carried by a member 15 secured upon, and insulated from, the shaft 8, which is tubular.

As the shaft is rotated, the brush 14 travels in a circular orbit and springs from one contact 12 to another. Each contact 12 is connected by a wire 12′ to one of the lamps 2. To complete the circuit the brush carrying member 15 is provided with a cylindrical face engaged by a brush 16 from which leads a branch, for instance, of the wire 5^a. It will be seen, therefore, that when the motor circuit is closed, the shaft is rotated and the circuit closing brush 14 moves successively from one contact to another and thus momentarily flashes the lanterns 2. The inclined contact members form means for insuring illumination of one of the lanterns when the shaft 8 comes to a stop since the resilient brush 14 will be maintained in contact with one or another of the contact shoes 12 when the brush carrying member 15 is idle.

To enhance the attractiveness of the device there is mounted upon the upwardly extending end of the shaft 8 a sweeping arm 18 upon the outer ends of which are suspended miniature aeroplanes 19 and these may be provided with electric lamps 20, as indicated in Fig. 2, having circuit wires 21 leading down through the mast 8 and respectively connected to service brushes 22. One of the brushes 22 is connected to the motor line 5^a while the other is connected by a line 5^b to the opposite side of the generator 4. Therefore, the aeroplane lamps are energized constantly irrespective of the opening of the switches 6 of the motor circuit.

From the above it will be seen that the device is controlled by the closure concurrently of all of the main line switches 6. The switches are given names corresponding to the names of the different lanterns 2 so that players will have the opportunity of selecting switches bearing their own names. Amusement is provided since a fat or a slim person may select switch keys respectively designated by these names and yet when the motor operated contact brush 14 comes to a stop it will indifferently illuminate some other one of the various lanterns.

The person in charge of the game or apparatus can close or break the circuit controlling the motor M and the lanterns by opening and closing a master switch 6^a having line 6^b connected between the generator 4 and the series of switches 6 so that the operator can break the circuit at a suitable time even while all of the switches 6 are in closed position.

Various changes may be made without departing from the spirit of the invention as claimed.

What is claimed is:

1. In an amusement device, a rotary mast, a series of lanterns arranged about the mast and provided with electric bulbs, a plurality of contact members each respectively connected with certain of the lamps, a control brush secured upon the mast, service wires from a source of supply, one of which is common to the lanterns and the other of which is connected to the brush secured upon the mast, and in which wire is arranged a plurality of switches in series to be manually closed for controlling the operation of the circuit closing means.

2. In an amusement device, a rotary mast carrying miniature aeroplanes, a generator, electrical connections between the generator and electric bulbs carried in the aeroplanes, said connections being mounted in the mast, a plurality of insulated contact members and lanterns having electrical connection therewith, a common connection between said lanterns and the generator, a conductor having a plurality of manually closed switches connected in series and terminating in a brush, and a contact member fastened on the mast and adapted to successively engage the lantern contacts and being in constant electrical engagement with said brush, whereby when the mast is rotated, the lanterns will be successively illuminated.

3. In an amusement device, a rotary mast carrying miniature aeroplanes, a generator, electrical connections between the generator and electric bulbs carried in the aeroplanes, said connections being mounted in the mast, a plurality of insulated contact members and lanterns having electrical connection therewith, a common connection between said lanterns and the generator, a conductor having a plurality of manually closed switches connected in series and terminating in a brush, a contact member fastened on the mast and adapted to successively engage the lantern contacts and being in constant electrical engagement with said brush, whereby when the mast is rotated, the lanterns will be successively illuminated, and an electric motor in the switch controlled circuit for driving the mast.

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

RAYMOND I. SMITH.