F. T. ELLITHORPE.

GAME INDICATOR.

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1,253,479.

Patented Jan. 15, 1918.

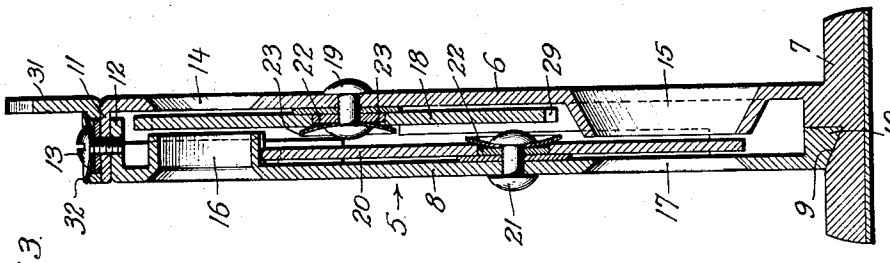


Fig. 3.

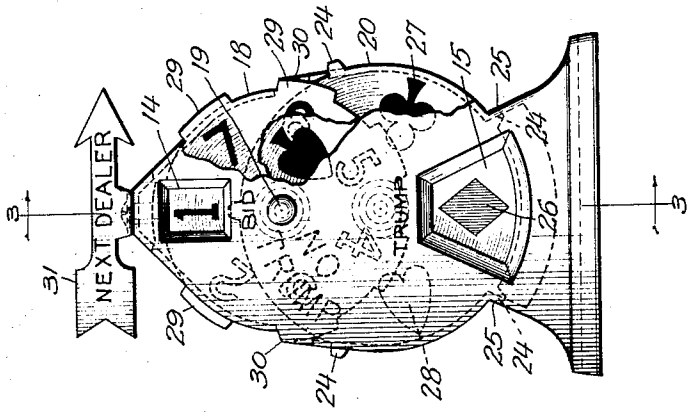


Fig. 2.

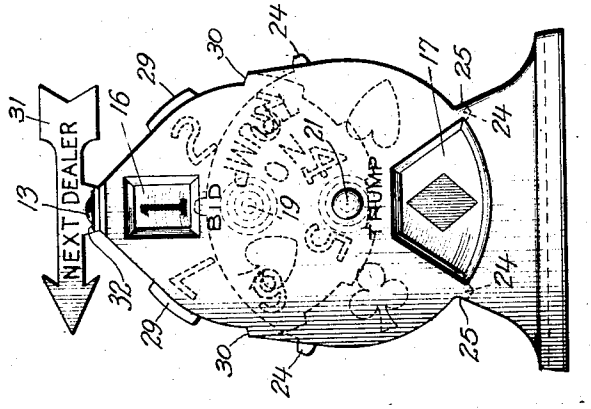


Fig. 1.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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GAME-INDICATOR.

1,253,479. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Jan. 15, 1918.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FREDERICK T. ELLITHORPE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Game-Indicators, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in game indicators.

One of the objects of my invention is to provide a game indicator especially adapted for use in card games, such for example as auction bridge, or the like.

A specific object of my invention is to provide rotatable members, each having suitable indicia on exposed areas, shiftable, by convenient means to designate the condition or progress of the game.

Another object of my invention is to provide said rotatable members with uniformly spaced-apart finger-engaging abutments, in coöperation with fixed parts of the frame, the latter serving as finger stops, whereby said members may be rotated equal distances by application of pressure to said abutments, produced by the operator's finger, to the stops serving as means to limit the extent of rotation of said members produced by each application.

Other, further and more specific objects of my invention will become readily apparent, to persons skilled in the art, from a consideration of the following description when taken in conjunction with the drawings wherein:—

Figure 1 is a rear elevation of the device.

Fig. 2 is a front elevation of the device, showing parts broken away.

Fig. 3 is an enlarged central section taken on line 3—3 of Fig. 2.

In all the views the same reference characters are employed to indicate similar parts.

In the embodiment illustrated the supporting frame 5 consists of two major parts, the plate 6 with the integral base part 7 and the plate 8. The base part 7 is preferably provided with a crescent shape groove 9 within which to receive a similarly formed projection 10 from the plate 8. Each of the plates 6 and 8, are provided with overlapping, engaging flanges 11 and 12, respectively, held together by means of a screw 13. When the projection 10 is within the recess 9 of the base 7, a single screw firmly holds the two parts immovably together. The plate 6 is provided with an observation window 14, near its top and another window 15 of similar character below its vertical center. Diametrically opposite the window 14 in the plate 8 is an observation window 16 in plate 6 and opposite the window 15, in the plate 6 is a similar window 17 in the plate 8. A disk 18 is pivoted to the plate 6, as at 19, portions of both side surfaces being visible through the windows 14 and 16. A similar disk 20 is pivoted to the plate 8, as at 21, portions of both of its side surfaces being visible through the lower windows 15 and 17 of the plates 6 and 8, respectively. Each of the disks is bored with a rather large axial perforation to surround a bearing washer 22 that encompasses the shank of the rivets 19 and 21, respectively. The washers 22 provide bearings for the disk upon which the disks are rotatable and a concaved spring washer 23, is placed between the inner head of the rivets, 19 and 21, respectively, and the bearing washer 22, to exert a yielding pressure upon the disk to produce some frictional resistance to their rotation, so that when the disks will remain in the positions in which they may be placed. The disk 20 is provided with spaced-apart projections or finger-engaging abutments 24. These abutments are spaced apart around the disk 20 so that when the disk is rotated by pressure of the operator's finger in contact therewith, on either side of the instrument, and pushed downwardly, on either side, until the finger comes into contact with the respective finger stop 25 on the frame, which serves as a stop, to prevent further rotation of the disk, an indication 26, such as a "diamond", "club", "heart" or "spade" will appear and become visible through the windows 15 and 17, and another abutment 24′ will be moved into the position occupied formerly by the abutment that has been pushed downwardly by application of the finger. Looking at Fig. 2; if it is desired to place the "club" 27 in front of the windows 15 and 17, the abutments 24, on the right hand side of the instrument, is depressed, and if it is desired that a "heart" 28 be placed in front of said windows, the projection 24 on the left hand side of the instrument, is depressed, until the finger comes in contact with the stop 25, whereupon the "heart" will appear and become visible through the windows. If it is desirable that a "spade" should be made visible,

or a "no trump" indication, then the dial must be moved by the application of two pressure impulses to bring the desired trump into view. The upper disk 18 is provided with a similar number of abutments, as 29, uniformly spaced around the disk, and equal in number to the number of indications upon the side surfaces thereof. A part of the frame 30, on either side of the instrument, serves as a finger stop to limit the extent of movement of the disk, at each impulse. The disk 20 is to indicate the number bid by the buyer of the trump, the indication imprinted on either side of the disk is changeable progressively, from 1 to 7 inclusive. The operation of the disk 18 is similar to the described operation of the disk 20, when one of the abutments 29 is pushed down to the stop 30, from either side of the instrument, a corresponding indication will appear on either side of the disk, in front of the windows 14 and 16 respectively.

The disks 18 and 20 may be made of celluloid or other suitable material to give the apparatus a pleasing appearance and the frame may be made in any suitable manner.

Under the screw 13 which holds the plates 6 and 8 of the frame together, I may pivot an arrow 31, having the legend "Next dealer" thereon to indicate the player next to deal. This arrow may be rotated upon the screw pivot 13 and is resisted by friction provided by the spring washer 32, which is placed under the head of the screw.

While I have herein shown a single embodiment of my invention, for the purpose of clear disclosure, it is manifest that many changes may be made in the general form and arrangement of the parts within the scope of the appended claims.

Having described my invention, what I claim is:—

1. An indicator comprising a frame having two spaced-apart elongated plates and having an observation window near each end; a rotatable disk supported in the frame between said plates, one near each end thereof, each disk bearing indicia to appear in sequential order at the respective windows and provided with a like number of equally spaced apart abutments on its perimeter, whereby to apply pressure on each disk, by application of the operator's finger to rotate it to a limited extent, and finger stops for each disk, on each side of the longest axis of the frame to limit the extent of rotation of said disks to bring an indication in register with the respective window.

2. An indicator of the character described comprising two confronting spaced apart plates, having a plurality of confronting observation windows; two disks pivoted between said plates having indicia for exhibition behind said windows; a projection on one plate and a part on the other to receive the projection near the one edge of the plate; overlapping flanges near the other edge of the plate; means associated with the said flanges to hold the plates together and an indicating arrow pivoted on the device.

In testimony whereof I hereunto set my hand.

FREDERICK T. ELLITHORPE.