

Dec. 1, 1936.

W. HASTINGS

2,062,453

GAME AND EDUCATIONAL DEVICE

Filed April 3, 1934

2 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.

9

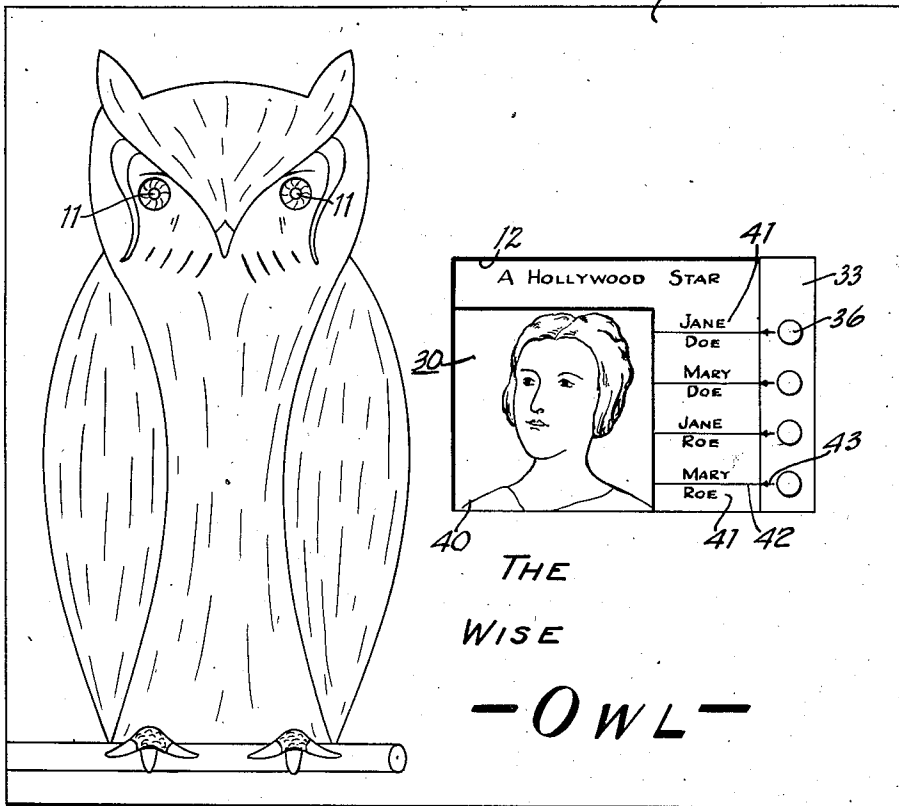
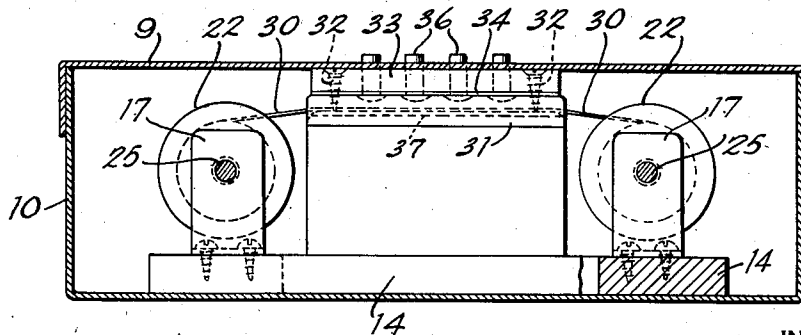


Fig. 3.



INVENTOR
Whitney Hastings
BY
J. S. Hall
ATTORNEY

Dec. 1, 1936.

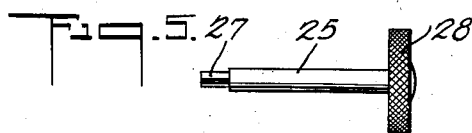
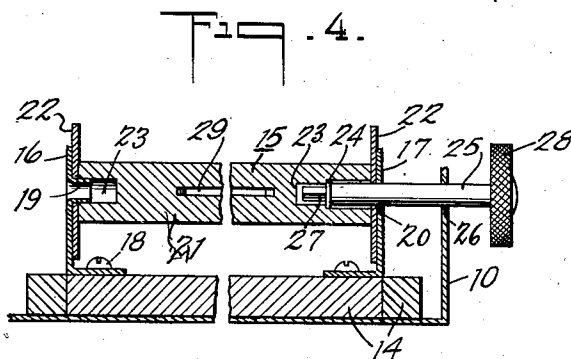
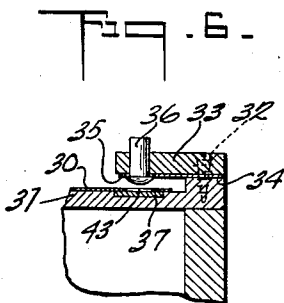
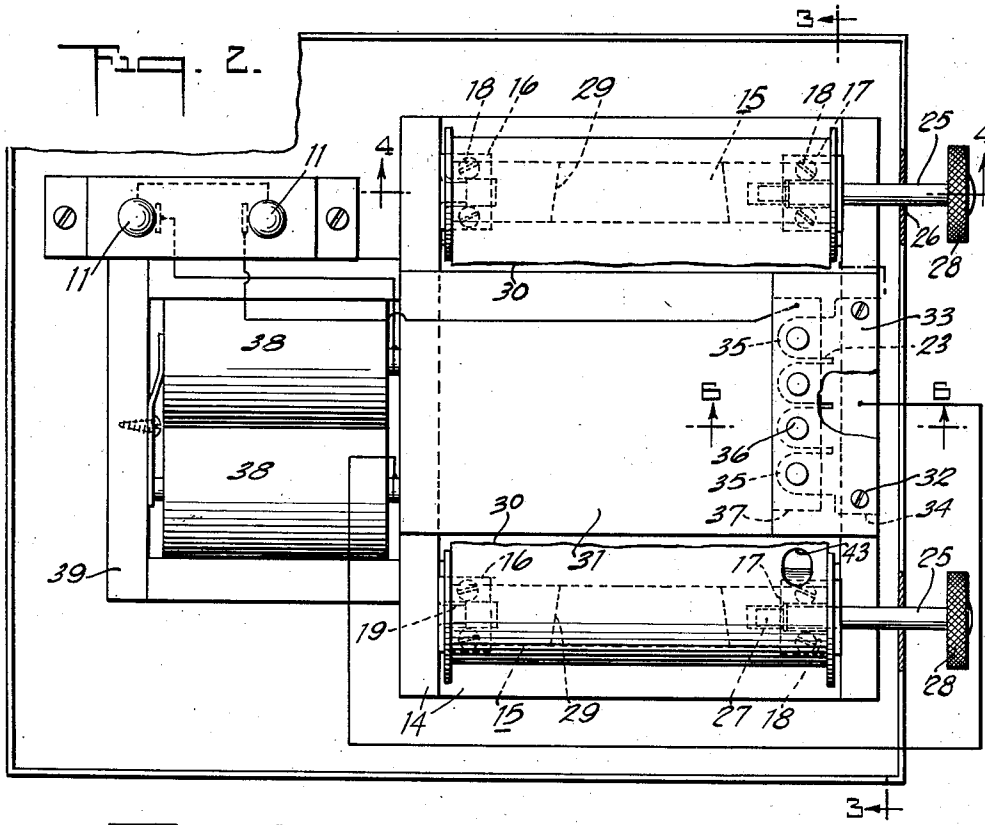
W. HASTINGS

2,062,453

GAME AND EDUCATIONAL DEVICE

Filed April 3, 1934

2 Sheets-Sheet 2



INVENTOR
Whitney Hastings
BY
J. J. Holland
his ATTORNEY

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,062,453

GAME AND EDUCATIONAL DEVICE

Whitney Hastings, Middletown, Conn.

Application April 3, 1934, Serial No. 718,768

3 Claims. (Cl. 35—9)

My invention relates to a guessing game, which also may embody educational features.

In accordance with my invention, a roll of paper or other suitable flexible material is provided with a series of pictures of prominent people, buildings or the like, and opposite each picture appears a plurality of titles, one of which is correct. This roll is arranged to be moved underneath an opening in a box-like structure so that one picture is visible at a time. Opposite the correct title, but out of sight through the opening in the box, the roll is provided with an aperture. The portion of the roll in which the apertures are formed passes between the contacts of a plurality of electric push buttons or the like, the number of push buttons being the same as the number of titles opposite each picture. If the push button opposite the correct title is pushed, it will make contact through the aperture in the roll and will cause a visible or audible signal to be operated. If a button opposite any of the incorrect titles is pushed, it will not make electrical contact by reason of an imperforate portion of the roll being between the contacts of the button.

Further objects and advantages of my invention will be apparent from the following description considered in connection with the accompanying drawings which form a part of this specification and on which:

Fig. 1 is a top view of a preferred embodiment of my invention;

Fig. 2 is a top view of the device with the top of the box removed;

Fig. 3 is a cross-sectional view taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2;

Fig. 4 is a view of a portion of the device shown in Figs. 1 through 3;

Fig. 5 is an elevational view of one of the members employed in my invention; and

Fig. 6 is a cross-sectional view taken on the line 6—6 of Fig. 2.

Referring to the drawings, reference character 10 designates a box-like structure, the top 9 of which is removable and may be ornamentally designed in some such manner as shown in Fig. 1. As shown, there is a picture of an owl, the eyes of which are formed by electric bulbs 11. Opposite the owl the top of the box is formed with an opening 12 which, if desired, may be covered with glass or other transparent material. Opposite the opening there is located an electric circuit closing device, to be explained hereinafter. The bottom of the box is provided with a reinforcing member 14, upon which are adapted to be mounted spaced reels or spools 15. As shown,

brackets 16 and 17 of resilient material are secured to members 14, as by screws 18. Bracket 16 has a hole punched therethrough and the material upset to form a cylindrical, horizontally extending projection 19. Bracket 17 has a hole 20 formed therein which, when the brackets are mounted, is in alignment with projection 19.

Spools 15 include a hub portion 21 to each end of which is secured a disc 22. Each end of hub 21 is bored out for at least a short distance to form cylindrical recesses 23. A washer 24 having a square or rectangular hole therethrough is driven part way into the bore at one end, or such washers may be driven into both bores so that the spool may be reversed. A spindle 25 is adapted to be passed through an opening 26 formed in the side of box 10 in alignment with hole 20. Resilient brackets 16 and 17 may be spread apart sufficiently to allow the placing of spool 15 therebetween with projection 19 extending into the bore 23 and rotatably supporting that end of the spool. Spindle 25 is then inserted through hole 20 in bracket 17 and into bore 23. The end 27 of the spindle is formed square or rectangular in cross-section and is adapted to pass through the similarly formed hole in washer 24, whereby rotation of spindle 25 causes rotation of the spool. Resilient brackets 16 and 17 bear against the ends of the spool sufficiently to prevent undesired rotation of the spool. The outer end of spindle 25 is provided with a knob 28 to facilitate turning by hand. Hub 21 is formed with a slot 29 to receive and engage one end of a strip 30 of paper or other suitable flexible material which is adapted to be wound on the spool.

Between the spools there is located a table or supporting member 31 which is situated beneath the opening 12 in the top of the box. Secured to one end of member 31 by means of screws 32 is a member 33, the left hand portion of which as viewed in Fig. 6, is spaced slightly above the top surface of member 31. Mounted below member 33 is a metallic conducting member 34 having a plurality of fingers 35. Each of these fingers is provided with a button 36 which extends through an opening in the member 33. Fingers 35 are resilient so that they may be forced down by pushing on the button and will spring back when the pressure is relieved. Directly underneath contact fingers 35 on the table member 31 are located corresponding fixed contact members, or if desired, one contact strip 37, extending under all of the fingers 35.

Located within the box 10 is one or more dry cell batteries 38, which are suitably secured in

place within a frame 39. These batteries are included in an electrical circuit comprising the electric bulbs 11 and the circuit closing device including member 34 and strip 37, which latter are equivalent to four push buttons connected in parallel in the circuit, and the circuit may be closed by establishing contact through any finger 35 and strip 37. As shown, bulbs 11 are connected in series, but obviously they may be connected in parallel if desired.

The strip of paper or other suitable flexible material 30 is wound on one of the spools 15, passes over the table member 31 and engages the other spool 15, so that, by turning one of the knobs 28, the strip will be wound from one spool to the other in much the same manner as a film in a camera. The strip of flexible material 30 is provided with a series of pictures or other visual representations 40. Opposite each picture 40 is a plurality of titles or other visual representations 41. The number of titles is the same as the number of buttons 36. Associated with each title is a line 42 formed on the strip, which is adapted to be lined up with an arrow 43 opposite each button. Obviously, only one line and one arrow could be used. One of the titles is the correct one for the picture with which it is associated, while the others are incorrect. Opposite the correct title the strip is formed with an aperture 43 which is in alignment with the contact members, and this edge of the strip is adapted to pass between the contacts.

In operation, the spool 15 upon which is wound the strip of flexible material 30 is placed in the device by removing the top of the box and withdrawing one of the spindles 25. The spool is then placed between the brackets 16 and 17 and the spindle is inserted through the openings 26 and 20 and through the square opening in the washer 24. The end of the strip is then led over the table member 31 with the right hand edge passing between the electric contacts. The strip is then secured to the other spool as by inserting the end of the strip in the slot 29 formed in the hub 21. The top of the box may then be replaced, and the game is ready to be played.

The spindle 25 associated with the spool 15 to which the end of the strip has been secured is then turned until the first picture 40 on the strip appears in the opening 12, and the lines 42 are aligned with the arrows 43. The player then pushes the button 36 opposite the title which he believes to be the correct one. If he is right, the button which he has selected is over the aperture in the reel and consequently pushing of the button closes the electrical circuit and the bulbs 11 are illuminated. If he has selected the wrong button the circuit is not closed, by reason of the fact that an unapertured portion of the strip is between the contacts of that button. The spindle 25 may then be turned further until the next picture appears in the opening 12. The selection of a button is then repeated. The strip is constructed so that the correct title appears in different order for the different pictures. For instance, the correct title for the first picture may be the third; the correct title for the second picture may be the first, and so on. Consequently, the player can never know from the construction of the device which is the correct button, but must rely upon his knowledge of the subject matter shown on the strip.

Obviously the strips 30 may be formed with other than pictures and titles. For instance, the

picture could be replaced by a quotation and the titles by the names of several authors, or the picture 40 might be replaced by one title and the titles 41 might be replaced by four small pictures.

The broad principle of applicant's invention is that the strip is formed with a series of visual representations (shown in the drawings as pictures 40) each associated with a set of visual representations (shown in the drawings as titles 41) one representation of each set having a subject matter relation to the first mentioned visual representation with which it is associated.

While I have described one more or less specific embodiment of my invention, it is to be understood that this is only for purposes of illustration of the invention, and that the scope thereof is not to be limited thereby, but is to be measured by the appended claims viewed in the light of the prior art.

What I claim is:

1. In a device of the class described, an electric circuit, means for closing said circuit including a plurality of pairs of electric contacts, a member having thereon a picture and a plurality of titles associated with said picture, said member being formed with an aperture located opposite one of said titles, and means for guiding said member between said pairs of contacts with said apertures in alignment with the contacts.

2. In a device of the class described, an electric circuit, means for closing said circuit including a plurality of pairs of electric contacts, a pair of rotatable members located on either side of said means, a flexible member adapted to be rolled from one of said members to the other, said flexible member having thereon a series of visual representations and a set of visual representations associated with each of the representations in said series, said flexible member being formed with an aperture located in the same relative position in relation to one representation in each set, and means for guiding said flexible member between said pairs of contacts with said apertures in alignment with the contacts.

3. In a device of the class described, a supporting member, an electric circuit, means for closing said circuit including a plurality of pairs of electric contacts carried by said member, a pair of rotatable members located on either side of said supporting member, and a flexible member adapted to be rolled from one of said rotatable members to the other and to pass over said supporting member, said flexible member having thereon a series of visual representations and a set of visual representations associated with each of the representations in said series, said flexible member being formed with an aperture located in the same relative position in relation to one representation in each set, said contact devices being so positioned with respect to said flexible member that the latter passes between the pairs of contacts with said apertures in alignment therewith.

4. In a device of the class described, a supporting member, an electric circuit, means for closing said circuit including a plurality of pairs of electric contacts carried by said member, a pair of spools, means for rotatably and removably mounting said spools on either side of said supporting member, and a flexible member adapted to be rolled from one of said spools to the other and to pass over said supporting member, said flexible member having thereon a series of

visual representations and a set of visual representations associated with each of the representations in said series, said flexible member being formed with an aperture located in the same relative position in relation to one representation in each set, said pairs of contacts being so positioned with respect to said flexible member that the latter passes between the pairs of contacts with said apertures in alignment therewith.

5. In a device of the class described, a box-like member, a cover for said member, said cover formed with an opening therethrough, a supporting member mounted within said box-like member beneath said opening, an electric circuit, means for closing said circuit including pairs of electric contacts carried by said supporting member and accessible through said opening, a pair of spools, means including withdrawable spindles for rotatably and removably mounting said spools on either side of said supporting member, said spindles extending to outside said box-like member, and a flexible member adapted to be rolled from one of said spools to the other and to pass over said supporting member, said flexible member having thereon a series of visual representations and a set of visual representations associated with each of the representations in said series, said flexible member being formed with an aperture located in the same relative position in relation to one representation in each set, said pairs of contacts being so positioned with respect to said flexible member that the latter passes between the pairs of contacts with said apertures in alignment therewith.

6. In a device of the class described, an electric circuit, means for closing said circuit including a plurality of pairs of electric contacts, a member of insulating material having thereon a visual representation and a plurality of visual representations associated with said first mentioned representations, said member being formed with a non-insulating area opposite one of said plurality of visual representations, and means for guiding said member between said pairs of contacts with said area in alignment with the contacts.

7. In a device of the class described, an electric circuit, means for closing said circuit including a plurality of pairs of electric contacts, a member of insulating material having thereon a series of visual representations and a set of visual representations associated with each of the representations in said series, said member being formed with a non-insulating area opposite one representation in each set, and means for guiding said member between said pairs of contacts with said areas in alignment with the contacts.

8. As a new article of manufacture, a flexible member having thereon a series of visual representations and a set of visual representations associated with each of the representations in said series, and said member being formed with a non-insulating area located opposite one representation only in each set.

WHITNEY HASTINGS.