Aug. 25, 1964 M. J. RUDERIAN 3,145,994

MANUALLY DRIVEN ROTATABLE DISC DEVICE AND STAND COMBINATION

Filed Jan. 4, 1963

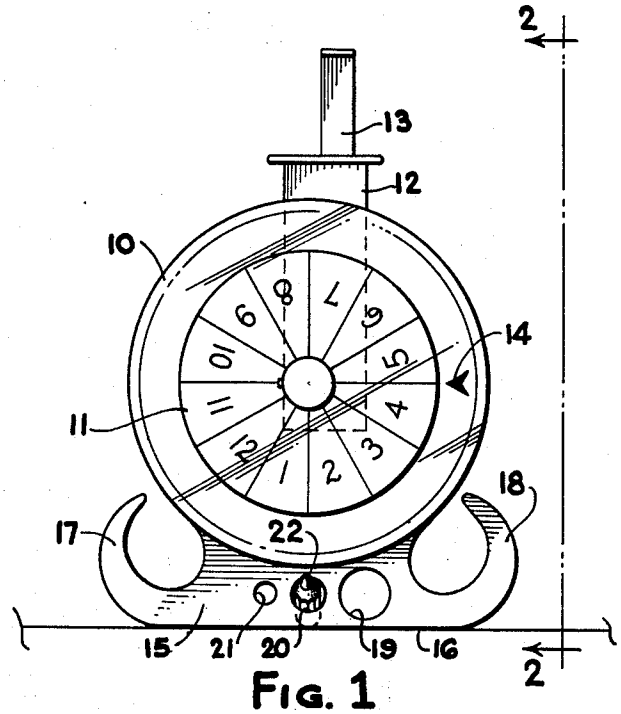


FIG. 1

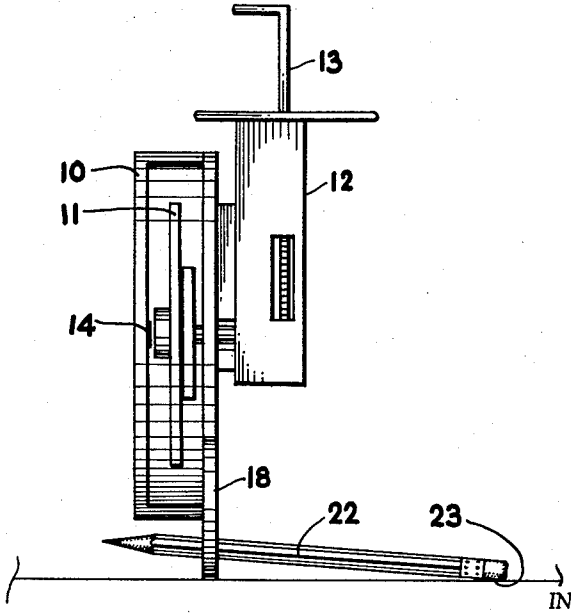


FIG. 2

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MANUALLY DRIVEN ROTATABLE DISC DEVICE AND STAND COMBINATION

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This invention relates generally to amusement devices and more particularly to a novel combination toy and stand designed so that a given toy may be supported in a position to be rotated and observed by a group of persons.

In my co-pending application Serial No. 243,515, filed December 10, 1962, and entitled Power Toy, there is disclosed a manually operable drive mechanism for rotating a disc having a plurality of symbols thereon. A stationary marker in the form of an arrow is provided so that when the disc comes to rest, the arrow will designate one of the markings. By this arrangement, several different types of games may be played.

As also shown in the above-mentioned co-pending application, the power toy includes a stand structure forming part of the driving mechanism so that the toy may be placed on a flat surface and the disc caused to spin and the same observed by a group of persons as the disc comes to rest.

The instant invention constitutes an improvement over the teachings of my co-pending patent application wherein the stand structure is modified to provide a more stable support and render operation of the toy simpler than in the co-pending case.

Accordingly, it is a primary object of this invention to provide an improved combination toy and stand wherein a stable support is provided and yet there is substantially very little increase in manufacturing cost of the toy.

More particularly, it is an object to provide a combination stand and power toy incorporating a spinning disc wherein the power toy may be supported on a flat surface by itself by means of the stand while the disc is spun so that a group of persons may readily observe the face of the disc as it is spinning.

Briefly, these and other objects and advantages of this invention are attained by providing a power toy mechanism similar to that described in my above co-pending patent application. In one embodiment of said application, there is provided a transparent housing for the disc structure which is secured to the power drive mechanism. In accordance with the instant invention, this housing includes an extending portion in the form of a flat stamping terminating in a straight edge portion adapted to engage a floor or table surface. This stamping includes at least one central opening adapted to receive an elongated member in the form of a pencil or the like so that the member will extend normally from the plane of the stamping and provide a three-point support for the power toy. The arrangement is such that the power operating rack mechanism reciprocates from the top of the power toy when it is standing on a floor or table surface so that it may readily be depressed with one hand and the disc member properly spun. By providing the simple opening in the stamping, any conventional elongated member readily available such as a pencil may be used so that there is very little increased manufacturing expense for the stand structure itself.

A better understanding of the invention will be had by now referring to a preferred embodiment thereof as illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which:

FIGURE 1 is a front elevational view showing the appearance of the combination top and stand when positioned on a flat surface; and

FIGURE 2 is a side elevational view thereof taken generally in the direction of the arrows 2—2 of FIGURE 1.

Referring first to FIGURE 1, the combination stand and power toy includes a housing **10** preferably transparent within which there is rotatably mounted a disc **11** arranged to be driven by a drive mechanism **12**. Towards this end, there is provided an opening rack member **13** adapted to reciprocate into and out of the mechanism **12** to rotate the disc **11** as described in detail in my co-pending patent application mentioned heretofore.

The housing **10** includes an arrow **14** on its top surface arranged in a position juxtaposed the periphery of the disc **11** so that when the disc **11** is rotated and comes to rest, the arrow **14** will designate one of the symbols on the face of the disc.

It will be appreciated that the device as described thus far may be held in one hand and the rack member **13** reciprocated with a person's thumb. However, in the event a group of persons wish to play the game, it would be desirable to be able to position the power toy on a flat surface and simply spin the disc and then all persons may readily view the same. Towards this end and in accordance with the present invention, the housing **10** includes a flat extending stamped portion **15** terminating in a flat lower straight edge **16**. The outer ends of the stamping **15** include upwardly and inwardly turned portions **17** and **18** defining hooks. These hooks will enable the device to be suspended if desired such as from the belt stay of a person's clothing so that he can carry the toy about.

The stamping **15** also includes a plurality of central openings such as indicated at **19**, **20**, and **21**. These openings are arranged to receive elongated members such as a pencil **22** so that the pencil will extend normally from the plane of the stamping **15** and provide a stable support for the structure.

The foregoing arrangement can better be appreciated by referring to FIGURE 2 wherein it will be noted that the far end of the pencil **22** engages a flat surface or floor as at **23**.

In operation, the toy may be supported by inserting a member such as the pencil **22** in one of the openings of suitable diameter and the device stood on a flat surface as shown. The operator need then simply depress the operating rack member **13** to spin the disc **11** and a group of persons sitting about the table may observe the face of the disc as it is opening.

After any one of a number of games have been played, the person may remove the pencil **22** and then simply suspend the toy from his belt stay or any other convenient suspending means to carry the same about. Since the pencil has been removed, the bulkiness which conventionally results from table stands is avoided when the device is not actually being supported by the stand.

From the foregoing description, it will thus be evident that the present invention has provided a greatly improved combination toy and stand. While the bottom end of the stand has been described as a straight edge, it will be evident to those skilled in the art that an equivalent stable support could be provided by simply having two spaced points of the straight edge engaging the floor. The invention is therefore not to be thought of as limited to the exact embodiment set forth merely for illustrative purposes.

What is claimed is:

1. A power toy and stand combination comprising: a manually operable drive mechanism; disc means rotatably mounted to said drive mechanism; symbol means on said disc means; stationary pointer means juxtaposed the periphery of said disc means for designating one of said

symbol means when said disc means comes to rest; and a stationary housing for said disc means secured to said drive mechanism and including a flat extending portion terminating in a straight edge for engaging a floor, said flat extending portion having at least one opening extending therethrough adapted to receive an elongated member in a direction normal to its plane to provide a stand for said power toy.

2. The combination of claim 1, in which said manually operable drive mechanism includes an operating rack member adapted to be manually reciprocated to rotate said disc means, said rack member extending upwardly when said power toy is held by said stand so that a group of persons may observe the face of said disc means when it is spinning.

3. The combination of claim 2, in which the outer

ends of said flat portion curve upwardly and inwardly to define hook means to enable suspension of said toy, said flat portion including additional openings of different diameters to receive different elongated members of substantially corresponding diameters.

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