J. A. MARIKLE.

GAME APPARATUS.

APPLICATION FILED JULY 12, 1911.

1,018,840.

Patented Feb. 27, 1912.

Fig. 1.

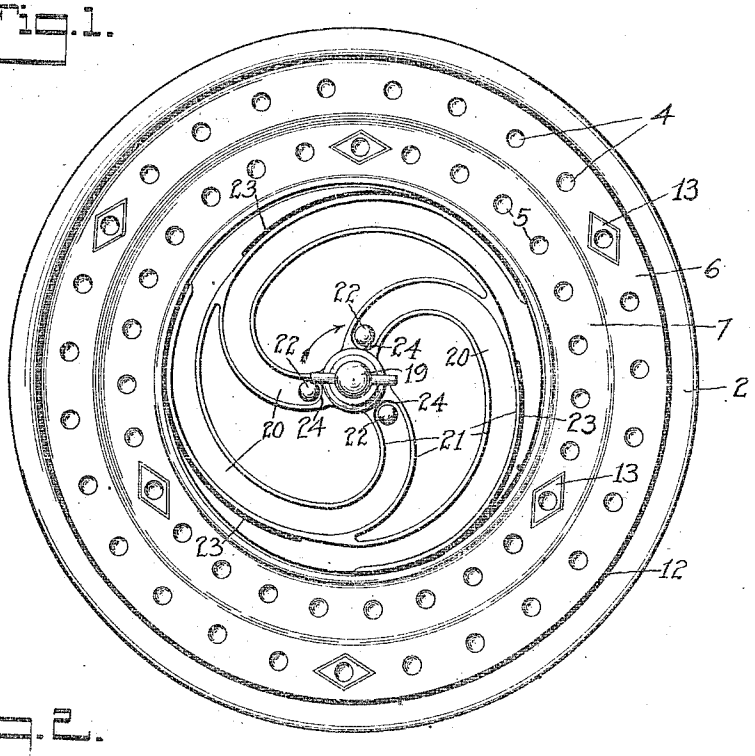


Fig. 2.

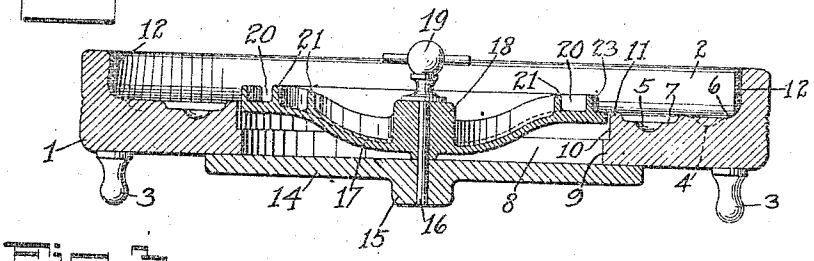
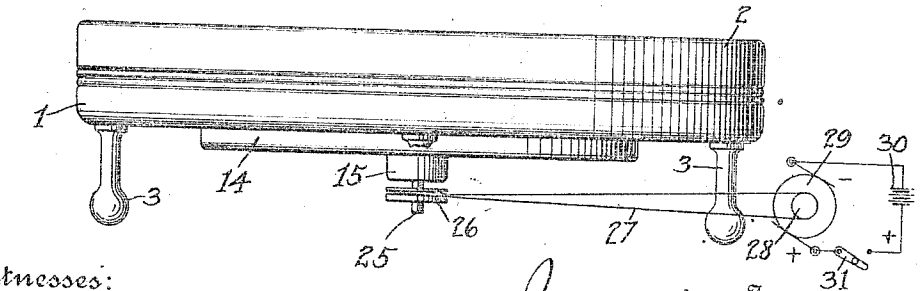


Fig. 3.



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GAME APPARATUS.

1,018,840. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Feb. 27, 1912.

Application filed July 12, 1911. Serial No. 638,060.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JERVIS A. MARIKLE, a citizen of the United States, residing in the borough of Brooklyn, county of Kings, and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Game Apparatus, of which the following is a description.

This invention relates to game apparatus and has for its objects to provide a cheap, simple and easily operated device adapted to fortune-telling, games of chance and to afford amusement for a large number of persons.

In order that my invention may be readily understood, I have provided drawings wherein:

Figure 1 is a top plan view of my apparatus; Fig. 2 is a transverse vertical section taken from side to side through the center of Fig. 1; and Fig. 3 is a side elevation showing another form of my invention.

Referring to the drawings, the numeral 1 indicates a table made of any suitable material and preferably of circular form (though I do not purpose limiting my invention to this form or shape of table) provided with an upwardly-extending flange 2. The bottom of the table is provided with any suitable number of legs 3 for supporting the same in a horizontal position. The top surface of the table is provided with a circular series of circular depressions 4, near the flange 2, and another circular series of circular depressions 5, arranged concentrically with reference to the depressions 4 and within the circle of the latter. The surface 6, in which the depressions 4 are made, is slightly higher than the surface 7, in which the depressions 5 are formed, thus providing for different ranges for the balls which are used. The table is formed with a circular opening 8, of any suitable diameter, providing a wall 9, above which is a wall 10, bounding the opening 8 at this position, terminating in the flange 11, extending sufficiently high to coöperate with the wheel, presently described, and encircling the surface 7, in which the depressions 5 are formed. The inner surface of the flange 2 is provided, in some instances of my invention, with an elastic or resilient facing 12 of soft rubber, or other suitable material, calculated to make the balls rebound and accelerate their movements. Each of the surfaces 6 and 7 may be provided, about any number of its depressions 4 and 5, respectively, with designs, characters, coloring, or other indicia 13, according to the requirements of the game to be played.

The bottom of the table 1 has fixed thereto, in any suitable manner, a base-board 14, provided with a hub 15, in which is entered a pin 16, forming the journal or axle of a wheel 17, to the bearing or hub 18 of which said pin 16 is secured in any suitable manner, a handle 19, of any form capable of being manipulated to turn the wheel upon the journal 16, being fixed to said pin. The wheel 17 is formed in its top surface with a plurality of spiral grooves 20, in the form of my invention shown in the drawings, formed by providing the top surface of the wheel with parallel flanges 21. The inner ends of the grooves terminate at the hub 18, while the outer ends terminate at the periphery of the wheel, at which point the balls 22, which are to be agitated and with which the game is played, will leave the grooves in which they are placed and roll upon the surfaces 6 and 7 of the table. Preferably, I form the grooves 20 in the wheel 17 with their inner ends, adjacent the hub 18, lower than their outer ends at the periphery of the wheel, the rise from the hub to the periphery of the wheel providing a gradual and gentle incline, up which the ball must run before entering upon the table surface. In order to increase and modify the action of the balls, I may face a portion of the inner ones of the flanges forming the grooves 20, with elastic material 23, said facing beginning substantially at the point of termination of the inner wall of the next adjacent groove, the balls, during their run, being thus caromed back and forth between the two elastic surfaces resulting in greater activity of the balls. The inner flange of each groove may be dispensed with if desired, leaving only enough thereof to form a rest-pocket for the balls; or such a pocket may be formed by the curved end 24 of the grooves.

In the form of Figs. 1 and 2, by manipulating the handle 19, and after having placed the balls in the grooves 20 of the wheel 17, and causing said wheel to rotate in the direction of the arrow shown in Fig. 1, the balls will be caused, by centrifugal action or force, to glide or roll along the groove 20

from its inner lower end to its outer upper end and then glide upon the table from one surface to another, striking the flanges 2 and 23 and being deflected from time to time until at last its force is spent and it comes to rest in one or the other of the circular depressions 4 or 5.

In the form of my invention shown in Fig. 3, the axle or journal-pin 16 is extended outwardly from the hub 15, as shown at 25, to provide for affixing thereto a pulley 26, to be driven by a belt 27, running from the driving-shaft 29. A battery is indicated by 30 and the positive lead extending therefrom is connected by a switch 31 to the positive brush of the motor, the negative brush of which runs back to the negative side of the battery, as will be readily understood. By closing the switch 31, the battery will drive the motor which, in turn, will cause its belt 27, through the pulley 26, to rotate the wheel 17. Manipulation of the switch will cause the wheel to rotate or become stationary as desired.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A game apparatus comprising a table provided with a central opening, and an exterior, upwardly-extending flange, in combination with a wheel journaled to rotate within the said central opening, said wheel being provided with a plurality of spiral grooves in its top surface, and means whereby said wheel may be rotated, substantially as described.

2. In combination, a stationary table provided with a circular series of circular depressions, and a flange at the outer edge of said table, a wheel journaled in the center of said table and provided with a plurality of spiral grooves, the inner ends of which terminate at the hub of the wheel and the outer ends at the periphery thereof, and means whereby said wheel may be rotated relatively to said table.

3. A game apparatus comprising a table having an upwardly-extending flange, in combination with a wheel journaled centrally of said table, said wheel being provided with a plurality of spiral walls on its top surface against which balls are adapted to run, and means whereby said wheel may be rotated, substantially as described.

4. A game apparatus comprising a table provided with an upwardly-extending flange, in combination with a wheel journaled centrally of said table, said wheel having means for momentarily retaining a plurality of balls on its upper surface, the flange of the table being provided with resilient material and a wall on the wheel provided with a resilient surface, and means whereby the wheel may be rotated, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto signed my name in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JERVIS A. MARIKLE.

Witnesses:
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