July 26, 1927. 1,637,211

B. B. BLEY

TALLY

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Fig. 1.

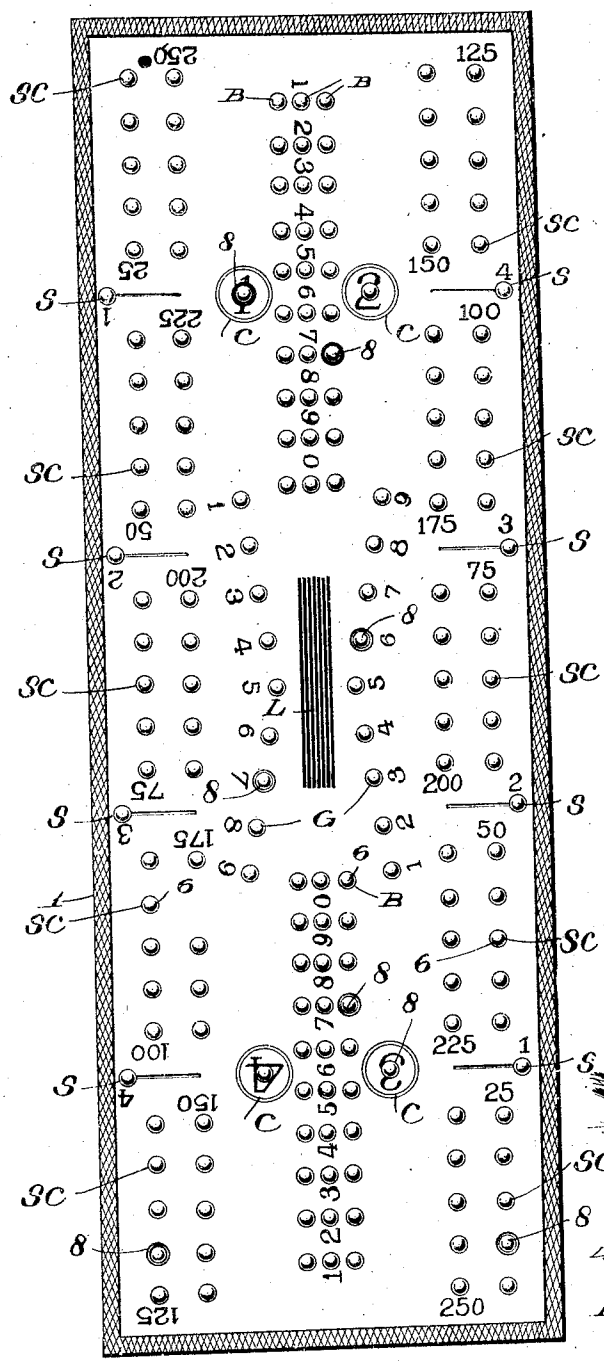


Fig. 2.

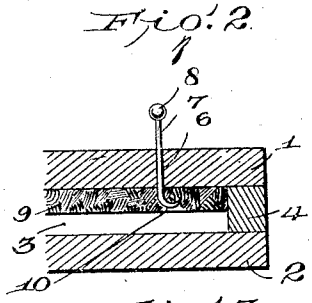


Fig. 3.

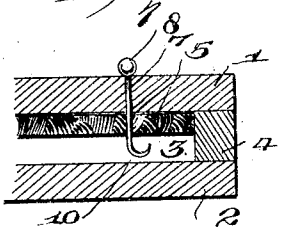


Fig. 4.

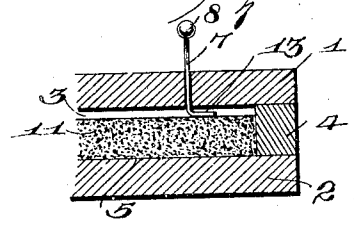


Fig. 5.

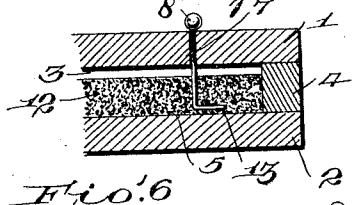
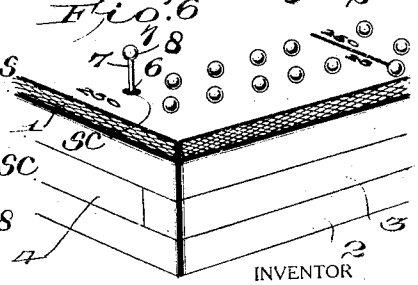


Fig. 6.



INVENTOR

Benjamin B. Bley

BY Munn & Co.

ATTORNEYS

Patented July 26, 1927. 1,637,211

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BENJAMIN BERNARD BLEY, OF WACO, TEXAS.

TALLY.

Application filed July 3, 1926. Serial No. 120,410.

My invention relates to improvements in tallies or indicating devices for use in the playing of games, such as the game of dominoes, and it consists in the combinations, constructions and arrangements herein described and claimed.

The present invention is an improvement over the tally that is disclosed in my prior application, Serial #10,337, filed Feby. 19, 1925, in which there is disclosed a tally which affords facilities for making use of a block of soft wood and a plurality of headed pins to indicate at any time not only the scores of the players but also the number of games which have been played, the bids and the sequence of the deal.

An object of the invention is to provide a tally of the character described which includes a block or box and series of headed pins in association with the top member of the block or box and being capable of limited vertical movement so that the pins can be readily shifted vertically from inactive or non-indicating positions with the heads of the pins close to the top of the box to raised active or indicating positions, the invention contemplating the provision of novel and efficient means for preventing the pins from being moved completely out of engagement with the top of the block or box and for yieldingly maintaining the pins either in their raised active positions or in their lowered inactive positions.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will be apparent from the following description, considered in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, in which

Figure 1 is a plan view of a tally embodying the invention, with the majority of the pins omitted,

Figure 2 is a fragmentary vertical section through the improved tally, showing one of the pins in raised position and one form of means for preventing accidental downward movement of the pin from its raised position,

Figure 3 is a view similar to Figure 2, showing the pin in its lowered or inactive position,

Figure 4 is a fragmentary vertical section through a tally block or box embodying the invention and equipped with a modified form of means for yieldingly maintaining the pin in either raised or lowered position, the pin being shown in raised position,

Figure 5 is a view similar to Figure 4, showing another means for yieldingly maintaining the pin in either raised or lowered position, the pin being shown in lowered position, and

Figure 6 is a fragmentary perspective view of the improved tally, showing one of the pins in raised position and a plurality of pins in lowered inactive positions.

The improved tally comprises a block or box which may comprise a flat top member 1, a flat bottom member 2 and spacing and connecting end and side strips as at 3 and 4, respectively. The spacing end and side strips 3 and 4 are disposed between marginal edge portions of the top and bottom members of the block or box, thus maintaining the top member 1 in spaced relation to the bottom member 2 and producing a shallow chamber 5 in the block or box. The members 1, 2, 3 and 4 of the block or box preferably are made of wood. The top and bottom members 1 and 2 preferably are rectangular and coextensive with each other in length and width.

The upper face of the top member 1 of the block or box is flat and is provided adjacent to each of its opposite ends and at opposite sides of its longitudinal median line with a pair of transversely aligned circles C, the circles adjacent to one end of the top member 1 being numbered 1 and 2, respectively and the circles adjacent to the opposite ends of the member 1 being numbered 3 and 4, respectively. Adjacent to each longitudinal edge of the top member 1 of the block or box are four longitudinally spaced dots or circular marks S which respectively have the numerals 1, 2, 3 and 4 associated therewith. Five series of ten circular marks or dots SC each are provided adjacent to each longitudinal edge of the top member 1, the respective marks SC of each series being arranged in two rows of five marks each and the corresponding rows of the respective series on each longitudinal edge portion of the top member 1 being in alignment longitudinally of the top member 1 of the block or box. The marks SC have a value of 5 each beginning with the mark SC at the outer end of the outer row of the series at one end of the top member 1 and continuing along the outer rows of the remaining series to the opposite end of the top member 1 and then counting back along the aligned inner rows of the respective series of marks SC to the first end of the

top member 1 and it will be observed that the values of the respective rows of the respective series of marks SC are shown on the upper face of the top member 1, the respective marks SC adjacent to each of the longitudinal edges of the top member 1 having values ranging from "5" to "250". The top face of the member 1 of the block or box also has produced thereon along its longitudinal median line and intermediate its length a rectangular mark or division line L and at opposite sides of the division line L are series of nine circular marks or dots G which are arranged in substantially V-shaped formation and which respectively are numbered 1 to 9 inclusive. At opposite ends of the division line L are series of three longitudinally extending rows of ten marks B in each row. Associated with the marks B of the middle row of each series are the numerals 1 to 9 inclusive and "O" beginning with the marks of the middle row nearest to the adjacent end of the top member 1 of the box or block. The marks B of the row at one side of the middle row of each series have values ranging from 1 to 10 inclusive, the marks of the middle row have values ranging from 10 to 100, inclusive and the marks B of the remaining row have values ranging from 100 to 1000 inclusive.

Each of the circles C and each of the marks S, SC, G and B, is provided at its center with a vertical opening which extends through the top member 1 as indicated at 6 in Figures 2 to 5 inclusive, certain of the vertical perforations also being indicated at 6 in Figure 1. The shanks 7 of pins having heads 8 at their upper ends extend slidably through the perforations 6, there being a pin for each perforation. The heads of the pins which are associated with the respective series of marks and circles as hereinbefore described preferably have different colors, so that they may be instantly distinguishable from one another.

It is intended that the pins shall have limited vertical movement so that they may be raised from positions close to the upper face of the top member 1 of the box or block to active or indicating positions in which the heads of the raised pins are disposed well above the upper face of the top member 1 of the board as shown in the case of the one raised pin in Figure 6 and the raised pins in Figures 2 and 4 of the drawings. It also is desirable that the pins shall be retained against complete displacement from the perforations in the top member 1 of the box or block and that the pins shall be prevented from moving accidentally downward from active or indicating positions. To these ends, the invention may provide a sheet of felt 9 whch is secured by glue or in any other suitable known manner against the under-face of the top member 1 in the chamber 3. The lower end portions of the shank 6 of the pins extend through the sheet of felt 9 and the extreme lower end portions of the shanks 6 may be bent substantially to U-shape as indicated at 10 in Figures 2 and 3 so that the point of the free arm of the U-shaped lower end portion of the shank of the pin will enter and engage with the felt sheet 1 when the pin is raised from the position shown in Figure 3 to the position shown in Figure 2 and will prevent the accidental downward movement of the pin from raised position. Any other suitable fabric or material may be used instead of felt to form the sheet 9. Also, instead of providing a sheet of felt or like material against the under face of the top member 1 in the chamber 5 as shown in Figures 2 and 3, I may fill the chamber 5 with sand as indicated at 11 in Fig. 4 or with relatively fine hardwood sawdust as at 12 in Fig. 5. In that event the extreme lower end portion of the shank 7 of each of the aforesaid pins preferably is bent laterally substantially at right angles with the remainder of the shank of the pin as indicated at 13 in Figures 4 and 5. It is obvious that the laterally turned lower end portion 13 of the shank of the pin shown in Figures 4 and 5 will move vertically through the granular material within the chamber 5 of the block or box when the shank of the pin is moved vertically by manual action and that the granular material will immediately close behind the moving lower end portion of the shank of the pin so that the pin, when raised by manual action, will be supported by the underlying granular material in raised position and thus prevented from moving downward accidentally.

The pins that are associated with the perforations at the centers of the circles C are raised and lowered successively or selectively to indicate the sequence of the deal. One or more of the pins which are associated with the perforations through the marks B of the series of marks B at opposite ends of the box or block may be raised to indicate a bid or bids at any given stage in the playing of a game. Pins which are associated with the marks SC may be raised to indicate the scores, one or more of the pins which are associated with the respective series of marks G may be raised to indicate the number of games which have been played at any given time and one or more of the pins which are associated with the respective series of marks S may be raised to indicate the particular series of games. It therefore will be apparent that the improved tally affords facilities for indicating at any given time in the playing of a game pertinent data relating to that game. Each raised pin will be maintained against accidental downward movement from raised position and manual action will be required to move the

pin downward from its raised or indicating position to its lowered or inactive position.

Obviously, the invention is susceptible of embodiment in forms other than those which are illustrated in the accompanying drawings, and I therefore consider as my own all such modifications and adaptations thereof as fairly fall within the scope of the appended claim.

I claim:—

In a tally, a block having a top member having a chamber underneath said top member, said top member having a vertical perforation formed therein, a pin having a shank movable vertically in said perforation and having a head at the upper end of the shank, the lower end portion of said shank being turned laterally in said chamber, and granular material within said chamber through which said lower end portion of the shank may be moved vertically, said granular material being adapted to engage with said lower end portion of said shank to prevent accidental downward movement of said pin from a raised position.

BENJAMIN BERNARD BLEY.