Sept. 22, 1931. E. L. WRIGHT 1,824,647

ROULETTE WHEEL

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Fig. 1.

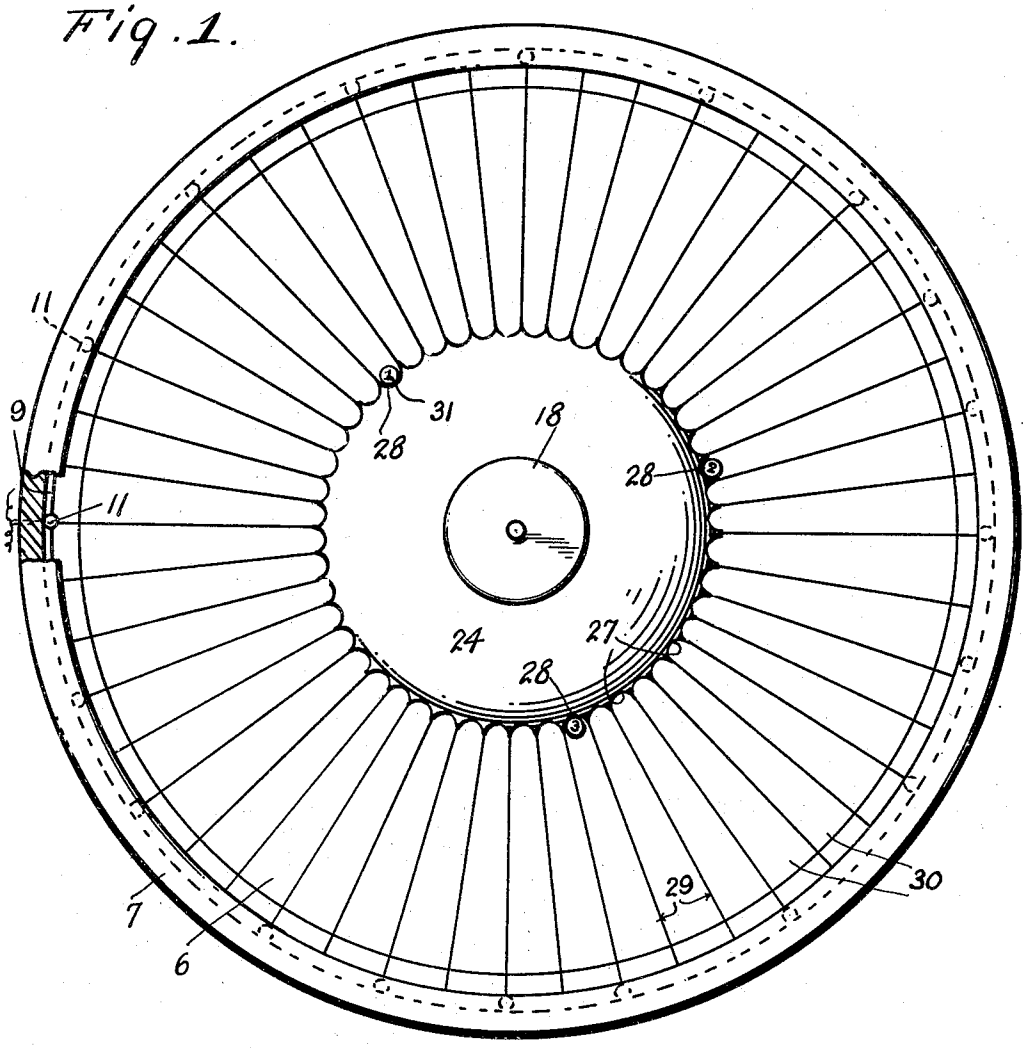
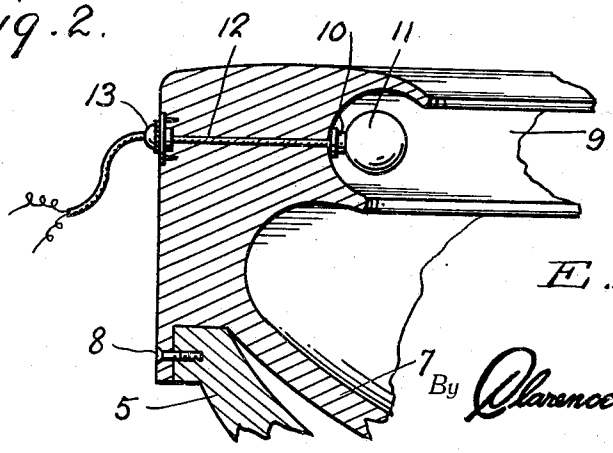


Fig. 2.



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Fig. 3.

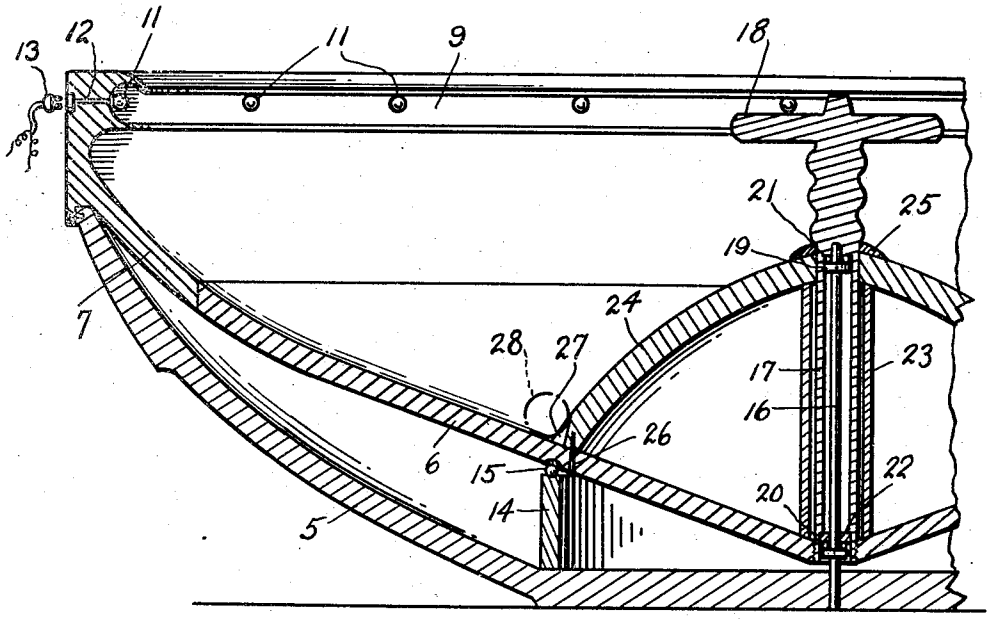
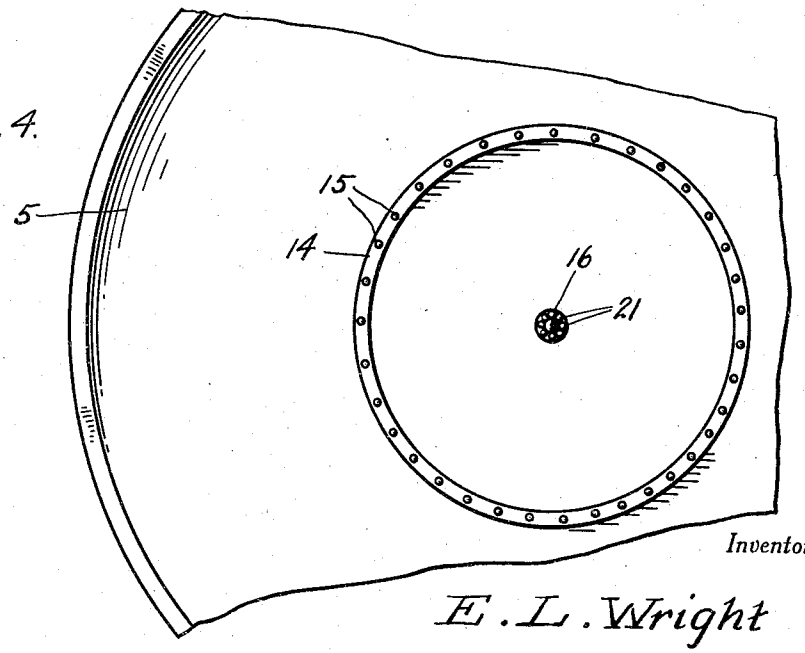


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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ROULETTE WHEEL

Application filed June 1, 1929. Serial No. 367,639.

The present invention relates to amusement devices and more particularly to a roulette wheel and has for its principal object to provide a novel structure for rotatably supporting the rotor of the wheel.

An additional object is to provide a roulette wheel in which the rotor is provided with a plurality of ball bearing assemblies for facilitating the free rotation thereof and arranged upon a vertical shaft and also at a point outwardly of the center thereof.

An additional object is to provide an article of this character of a simple and practical construction, which is neat and attractive in appearance, strong and durable, relatively inexpensive to manufacture and otherwise well adapted for the purposes for which the same is intended.

Other objects and advantages reside in the special construction, combination and arrangement of the various elements forming the invention as more fully hereinafter described and claimed, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part hereof, wherein like numerals refer to like parts throughout, and in which:

Figure 1 is a top plan view of the roulette wheel constructed in accordance with my invention,

Figure 2 is a fragmentary vertical sectional view through the outer edge of the bowl,

Figure 3 is a fragmentary vertical sectional view through the device illustrating means for the rotor and

Figure 4 is a front view of the base illustrating the annular support for the under side of the rotor.

Referring now to the drawings in detail, for the purpose of illustration I have disclosed a preferred embodiment of the invention and which includes a bowl 5 constituting a supporting base for the rotor 6 and outer ring member 7, the latter forming the upper edge of the device.

The ring member 7 is supported upon the upper edge of the bowl, as clearly illustrated in Figures 2 and 3 of the drawings and secured in position thereto by screws or the like 8. The upper inner edge of the ring member is formed with a channel 9 within which electric light sockets 10 are disposed at spaced intervals for supporting electric lamps 11, the sockets having electrical connection by means of circuit wires 12 extending outwardly through the ring at the outer edge of the ring with a plug and socket connection 13 whereby the lamp may be connected with the house current.

The lower edge of the ring member is disposed inwardly of the bowl 5 and terminates inwardly of the edge of the bowl and in spaced relation from the inner surface of the bowl, as will be observed from an inspection of Figure 3.

An annular upstanding wall 14 is formed within the bowl, adjacent its base, the upper edges of said wall having its surface recessed for receiving a set of ball bearings 15 upon which the under side of the rotor 6 is adapted to rest. The outer edges of the rotor terminate in close proximity with the inner lower edge of the ring member 7 so as to close any space between the abutting edges of said members during the rotation of the rotor.

At the center of the bowl is arranged a vertically extending shaft 16 extended through the hollow lower portion of a stem 17 having a head 18 formed at its upper end and terminating at a plane substantially horizontal with the upper edge of the ring member 7.

The shaft 16 is provided with upper and lower flanges 19 and 20 respectively for supporting ball bearing assemblies 21 at the upper and lower portions of the tubular stem to facilitate the rotation of the rotor about said shaft.

A disk member 22 is fitted within the lower end of the stem for supporting said lower end upon the lower set of ball bearings. The lower end of the stem is also externally threaded for receiving the base of the rotor whereby to fixedly secure the rotor to the stem for rotation as a unit.

A sleeve 23 is disposed about the stem with its lower edge resting upon the upper surface of the rotor and its upper end terminating below the head 18 and forming a support for a dome member 24. The top of the dome is formed with an opening through which the stem is inserted and the parts are secured to-

gether as by soldering or the like as indicated at 25.

The lower edge of the dome is secured to the upper surface of the rotor by screws or the like 26, at a point immediately above the wall 14. The outer surface of the dome, at its lower edge, is provided with a series of recesses 27 within which a series of balls 28 are adapted to seat, when the rotor is stationary. The upper surface of the rotor is provided with a series of radially extending lines 29 terminating at their inner ends with the side edges of the recesses and defining radially extending strips 30 which may be painted in different colors corresponding in number to the number of the recesses formed upon the rotor for receiving the balls.

Accordingly the player may select one of the colors and upon spinning the rotor through the head 18, the ball will be ejected from their recesses by force, upon the stopping of the rotor the ball will seat within one of the recesses, and of course should such recess appear within the area of the colored strip selected by the player such player will be declared the winner.

It is to be also understood that any desired number of balls may be used in play, the balls being numbered as shown at 31 for the purpose of designating first, second and third choice. Also a suitable chart may be provided (not shown) divided into a predetermined number of different colors corresponding to the colored strips of the rotor and upon which the players may place suitable game pieces to indicate their selection of the colors.

By reason of the construction thus provided it will be apparent that the rotor may be easily spun through the novel construction provided for supporting the same within the bowl.

It is obvious that my invention is susceptible to various changes and modifications in construction without departing from the spirit of the invention or the scope of the appended claims, and I accordingly claim all such forms of the device to which I am entitled.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new is:

1. In a game apparatus, a relatively fixed bowl, a concavo-convex rotor positioned within the bowl, a centrally arranged spindle rotatably supporting the rotor, an upstanding annular wall carried by the bowl and positioned between the axis and the peripheral edge of the rotor, anti-friction elements carried by the upper edge of said annular wall and engaging the rotor between the axis and the periphery thereof, and a dome mounted on said rotor and engaging the rotor at a point adjacent said upstanding wall, said dome having pockets in its lower edge for receiving a movable game piece carried by the rotor, the wall supporting the rotor being located at a substantial distance outwardly of the axis of said rotor.

2. In a game apparatus, a bowl, a rotor mounted within the bowl, a dome mounted on the rotor and having the peripheral edge portions thereof engaged with the rotor and formed with an annular series of recesses for receiving a game piece movably carried by the rotor, and means supporting the rotor to maintain the same at a horizontal plane, being located at a substantial distance outwardly of the axis of said rotor.

3. In a game apparatus, a bowl, a rotor mounted within the bowl, a dome supported on the rotor and having the peripheral edge portions thereof engaged with the rotor and formed with an annular series of pockets for receiving a game piece freely carried by the rotor, supporting means for the rotor located outwardly of its axis and positioned immediately beneath said pockets to maintain the same at a horizontal plane, and an annular member secured to the outer edge of the bowl and having an inwardly extending annular flange forming a continuation of the surface of the rotor and in closely spaced relation with the outer edges of the rotor, the adjoining edges of the flange and the rotor being cut at an oblique angle with respect to the surface of the rotor to prevent sagging of the outer portion of the rotor.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

EDWARD L. WRIGHT.