

Nov. 5, 1940.

J. L. McKEOWN

2,220,823

GAME

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Fig. 1

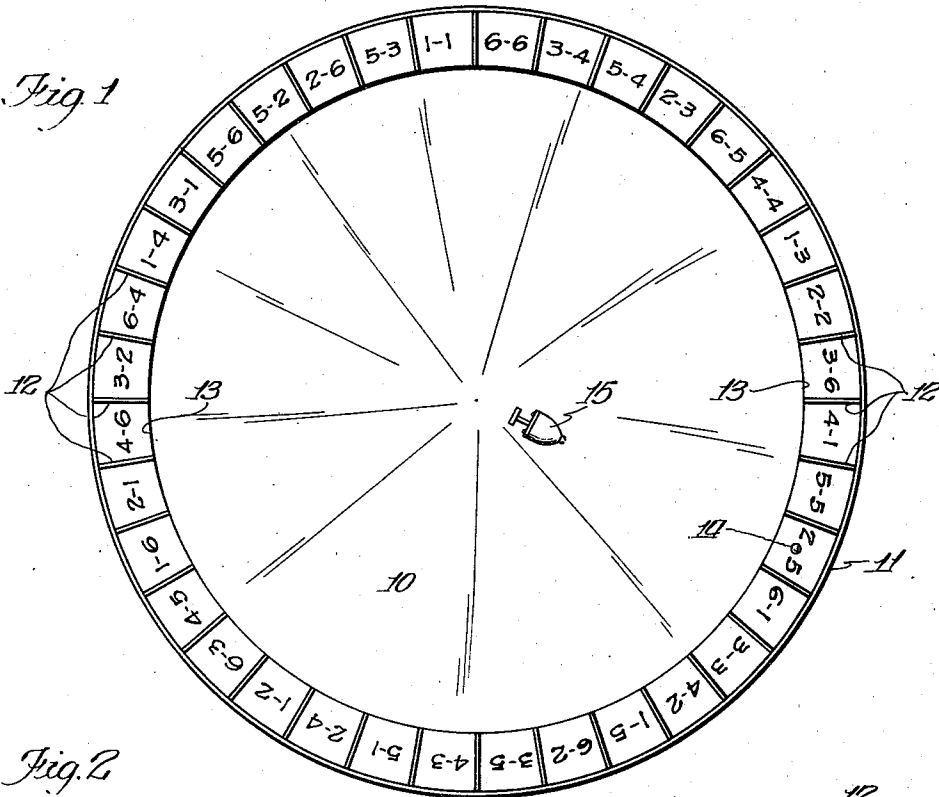


Fig. 2

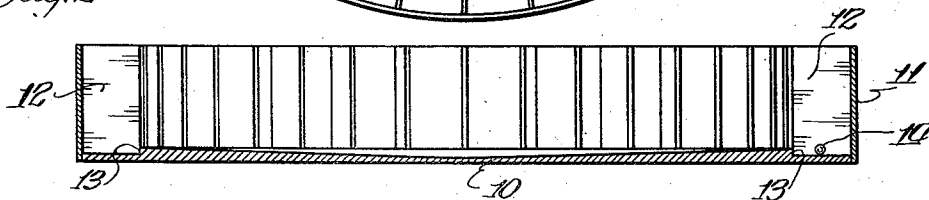


Fig. 3

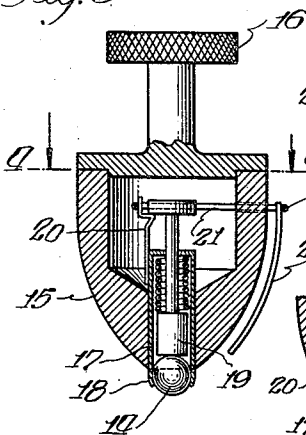


Fig. 4

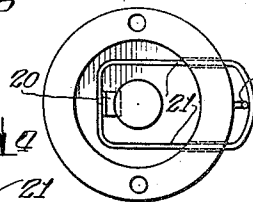


Fig. 6

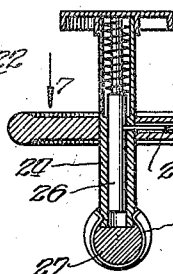


Fig. 7

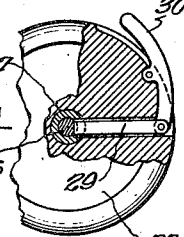
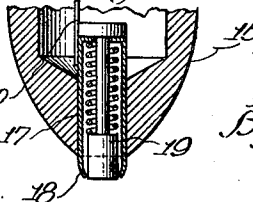


Fig. 5



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,220,823

GAME

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Application January 15, 1940, Serial No. 313,963

8 Claims. (Cl. 46—65)

The invention relates to improvements in games and has for its primary object the provision of an improved game operating by chance, which is of simple construction and amusing in use.

Other objects will appear hereinafter.

The invention consists of the combinations and arrangements of parts hereinafter described and claimed.

The invention will be best understood by reference to the accompanying drawing forming a part of this specification in which—

Figure 1 is a top plan view of a game embodying the invention;

Figure 2, a transverse vertical section of the same;

Figure 3, an enlarged vertical section of a top employed in the game;

Figure 4, a view taken substantially on line 4—4 of Fig. 3;

Figure 5, an enlarged detailed section of the lower end of the top showing the same after discharge of a projectile carried thereby.

Figure 6, a vertical section of a modified form of spinner or top; and

Figure 7, a partial sectional view taken substantially on line 7—7 of Fig. 6.

The embodiment of the invention illustrated in Figures 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 of the drawing comprises a circular game board or enclosure 10 having a bottom which slopes slightly toward its center and provided with a peripheral wall or flange 11 and radiating partitions 12 forming peripheral pockets entirely surrounding the outer edge of the game board 10 as indicated. A shoulder or ledge 13 is provided at the inner edge of said pockets in order to retain a ball 14 therein.

A spinning top 15 is provided with a spinning head 16 and a central tube 17 projecting slightly at 18 from the bottom of the top body. As shown, the lower edge 18 of the tube 17 is bent or turned slightly inwardly so as to releasably engage and hold the steel ball 14 therein. A spring-actuated plunger 19 is arranged as shown in the tube 17 and is normally held in retracted position by means of a spring detent 20 engaging the head of the plunger as shown in Fig. 3. A yoke 21 is attached as shown to the upper end of the detent 20 and projects loosely through suitable openings in the sides of the top body and carries a depending actuating arm 22. As shown, the pockets between the partitions 12 are marked with pairs of numbers as indicated in Fig. 1, and these numbers constitute values for playing games with the device.

In playing games with the device, the ball 14 is first inserted into the lower end of the tube 17, forcing the plunger 19 upwardly until its head is engaged by the detent 20, then the top is spun upon the game board 10 and permitted to run or rotate until it falls of its own weight and rolls upon the surface of the board. As soon as the weight of the top is thus thrown on the operating arm 22 the detent 20 is depressed to release the plunger 19, thereby forcibly projecting the ball 14 from said top and into one of said pockets, the ledge 13 retaining the ball in the pocket it first enters. The number indicated on the bottom of the pocket will indicate the value of the shot and may be utilized in playing a large variety of games, such as backgammon without dice and the like. The specific form and arrangement of parts constitutes a simple and effective construction for the purpose.

In the modified form of top or spinner disclosed in Figs. 6 and 7, a spinning body 23 in the form of a wheel is provided with a central vertical tube 24 projecting as shown from both the bottom and top thereof. The upper end of the tube 24 is provided with a spinning wheel 25, and the spring-actuated plunger 26 is imprisoned therein. A projectile in the form of a ball 27 is provided with a socket attached to receive the lower end of the tube 24, and with a spring 28 adapted to engage the lower end of said tube to hold said ball releasably thereon.

A spring detent 29 is arranged as shown in the body 23 to engage a notch in the side of the plunger 26 to hold said plunger in its retracted position when the ball 27 is forced over the end of the tube 24, as indicated in Fig. 6. At its outer end the detent 29 is connected with a tripping trigger 30 arranged as shown in the periphery of the wheel 23, so that when the body 23 ceases spinning and rolls upon the surface of the board 10 the trigger 30 will operate to release the plunger 27 to project the ball 27 into one of the pockets of the game board as before.

While I have illustrated and described the preferred forms of construction for carrying the invention into effect, these are capable of variation and modification without departing from the spirit of the invention. I therefore do not wish to be limited to the precise details disclosed, but desire to avail myself of such variations and modifications as fall within the scope of the appended claims.

I claim:

1. In combination, a top; a projectile carried by said top; means on said top adapted and ar-

ranged to project said projectile; and means on said top arranged to cause projection of said projectile when said top ceases spinning and rolls.

2. The device specified in claim 1 in which the projectile constitutes the spinning point of the top.

3. The device specified in claim 1 in which the projecting means on the top is spring-actuated.

4. The device specified in claim 1 in which the projectile constitutes the spinning point of the top and the projecting means on the top is spring-actuated.

5. A top comprising a body arranged to spin upon a vertical axis and having a bore extending vertically from the spinning point thereof; a spring-actuated plunger in said bore arranged to project a ball therefrom; and means for releasably retaining a ball in the mouth of said bore; a ball arranged to be releasably retained in the mouth of said bore and protrude therefrom to

constitute the spinning point of said top; and means on said top for actuating said plunger when the top ceases spinning and rolls.

6. A top comprising a body arranged to spin upon a vertical axis and having a tube protruding centrally from the bottom thereof; a ball arranged to fit into the protruding end of said tube and releasably engage it; a spring-actuated plunger in said tube arranged to project said ball; and means on said body for actuating said plunger when the top ceases spinning and rolls.

7. A top; a projectile carried thereby; and means on said top for automatically projecting said projectile when the top ceases spinning and falls to the spinning surface.

8. The combination specified in claim 7 in which the projectile constitutes the spinning point of the top.

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