April 14, 1925. 1,533,676

T. TROMANS ET AL

GAME

Filed April 22, 1924 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

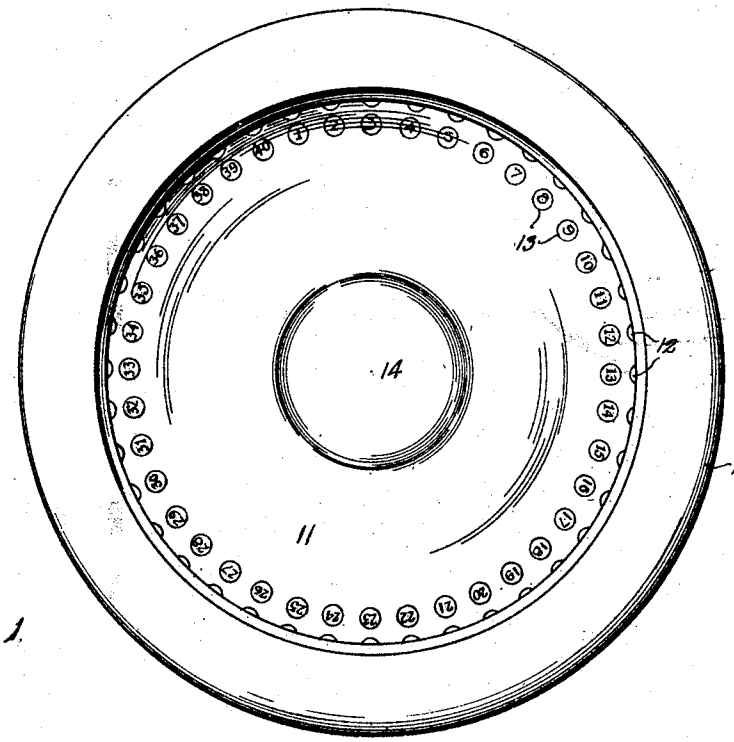


Fig. 1.

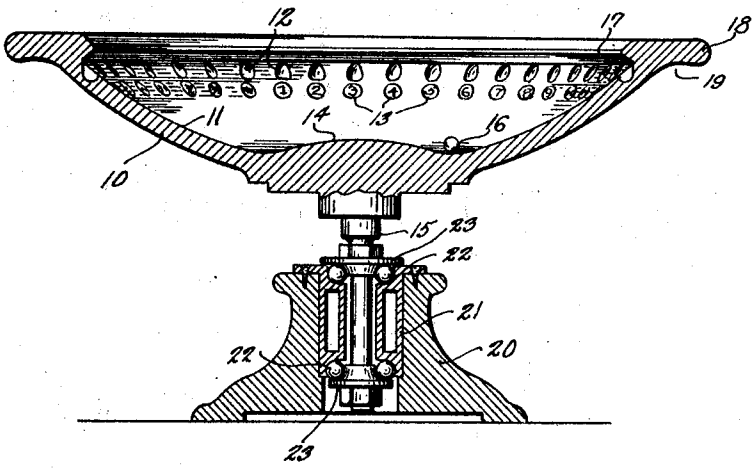


Fig. 2.

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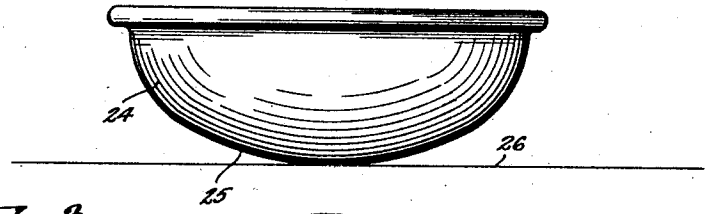


Fig. 3.

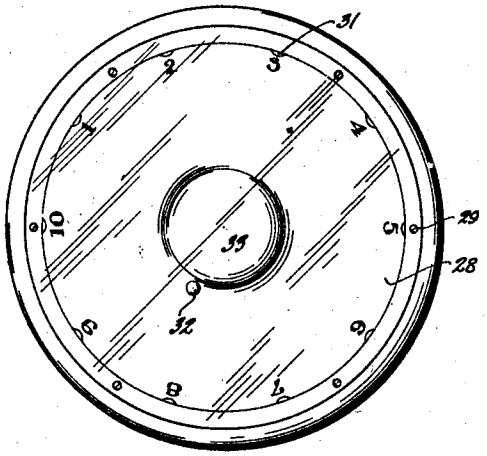


Fig. 4.

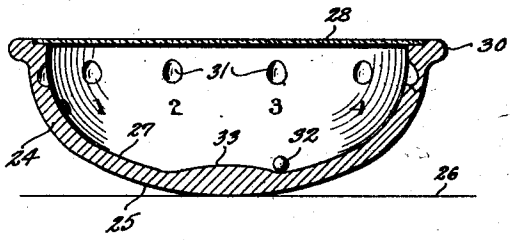


Fig. 5.

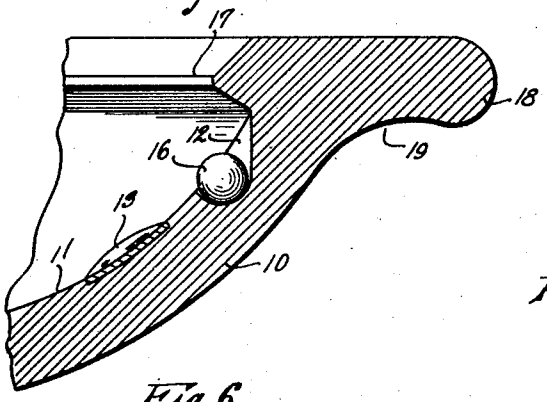


Fig. 6.

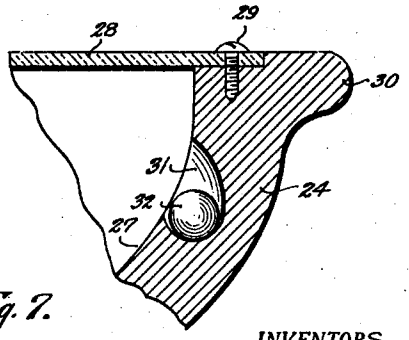


Fig. 7.

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Patented Apr. 14, 1925. 1,533,676

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS TROMANS, OF BRIDGEPORT, AND ERNEST L. WHITNEY, OF STRATFORD, CONNECTICUT.

GAME.

Application filed April 22, 1924. Serial No. 708,103.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, (1) THOMAS TROMANS and (2) ERNEST L. WHITNEY, citizens of the United States, residing at (1) Bridgeport, (2) Stratford, county of Fairfield, State of Connecticut, have invented a new and useful Game, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a game, and particularly to that type of game in which there is a receptacle with a concave inner surface provided with a series of pockets or recesses leading therefrom adjacent its upper outer edge adapted to receive one or more balls which may be thrown outwardly by centrifugal action.

It is an object of the invention to provide an improved device in which the balls may roll directly over the center but in which there will be no chance of the balls becoming stationary on a fixed center, and also to provide an improved construction of this type of apparatus.

With the foregoing and other objects in view, we have devised the construction illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which

Fig. 1 is a top plan view of one form of our invention.

Fig. 2 is a transverse section through the same, showing the method of mounting it.

Fig. 3 is a side elevation of a different form of a device.

Fig. 4 is a top plan view of the device shown in Fig. 3.

Fig. 5 is a transverse section through the same.

Fig. 6 is a transverse section through a portion of the outer rim of the receptacle shown in Figs. 1 and 2 on an enlarged scale, and

Fig. 7 is a similar sectional view of the form of device shown in Figs. 3 to 5.

Referring to Figs. 1, 2 and 6, 10 represents a receptacle or bowl, made of any suitable material such as wood, which is circular and has a concave inner surface 11. It is provided about its upper outer rim or edge with a plurality of pockets or recesses 12 with the openings thereto leading from this inner surface. These pockets or recesses are also numbered, preferably by plates 13 set into the inner surface of the receptacle. The bottom of the receptacle has a raised surface 14 which is convex, and it is arranged substantially coaxially with the mounting 15 for rotatably supporting the receptacle. The receptacle is adapted to hold one or more balls 16 which are of a size to rest in the pockets or recesses 12. For the purpose of retaining these balls in the receptacle the open top may be covered with suitable transparent material as glass or mica, but in this larger form we prefer to provide an inwardly extending flange 17 upon the upper rim of the receptacle above the entrance to the pockets or recesses 12. The bowl is also preferably provided with an outwardly extending rim or flange 18 which may be grasped for starting its rotation, and also to facilitate carrying, and this rim may if preferred be somewhat concaved at its under side, as shown at 19. In this larger form of receptacle it is preferred to mount it to rotate in a horizontal plane upon a permanent mounting. For this purpose a pedestal 20 is provided carrying a sleeve 21 having ball bearing raceways at its opposite ends, and carrying suitable balls 22 coacting with cones 23 on the vertical shaft or support 15 to allow the receptacle to rotate very freely. The pockets or recesses 12 preferably extend somewhat below the lower edge of the entrance to the recesses, as shown in Fig. 6, so as to retain the balls therein until the number beneath the pockets may be read after the receptacle has stopped rotating.

In playing the game, the receptacle is rotated sufficiently rapidly to cause the balls to be thrown outwardly on the inner concaved surface by centrifugal action to bring them into alignment with the entrances to the pockets or recesses 12, their outward movement being limited by the flange 17. If thrown outwardly under centrifugal action they tend to roll around the flange 17 and eventually become seated in some of the pockets 12. The raised convex surface 14 prevents the balls, when the bowl is stationary, becoming at rest upon the axis of rotation, that is, it prevents them getting onto the dead center. It will be apparent that should a ball become at rest on this dead center it will not be thrown outwardly under centrifugal action when the bowl is rotated. By means of this convex surface the balls always come to rest at a distance from the axis of rotation, as shown in Fig.

2, that is in the annular recess formed at the junction of the concave surface 11 and the convex surface 14.

In the form of device shown in Figs. 3, 4, 5 and 7 there is provided no permanent pedestal for rotatably supporting the receptacle 24. This construction is designed for a smaller device adapted to be carried in the pocket, but as it is to be rotated its outer surface 25 is convex so that the receptacle may be spun on a plane surface, indicated at 26, as the top of a table or desk. The inner surface 27 is concave and circular substantially the same as the first form, although preferably of a somewhat greater curvature. It is preferable to provide this form with a closure for the open side, as for instance a piece of glass or mica 28 recessed into the top of the receptacle and secured there by suitable means, such as screws 29. This form is also provided with an outwardly extending flange 30 to facilitate handling and operating. The receptacle is also provided with a plurality of pockets 31 about the upper outer rim beneath the cover 28 for entrance of the balls 32. The entrances to these pockets are preferably spaced somewhat beneath the cover, as shown. This form of the device is also provided in the bottom thereof, substantially in alignment with its normal axis of rotation, with a raised convex surface 33 corresponding to the surface 14 of the first form to prevent the balls coming to rest on the dead center or axis of rotation. The operation of this form is practically the same as that of the first form as the bowl or receptacle is spun or rotated on a point on its outer convex surface.

Having thus set forth the nature of our invention, what we claim is:

1. A game comprising a receptacle having a concave interior surface, one or more balls in said receptacle, said receptacle being provided with a plurality of depressed pockets arranged about the same adjacent its upper edge adapted to receive the balls, said receptacle being also provided with a convex centrally arranged hump projecting above the bottom thereof, and means whereby the receptacle may be rotated.

2. A game comprising a receptacle having a circular upwardly flaring interior surface, and provided in the center of the bottom thereof with a convex raised surface, and one or more balls in said receptacle, said receptacle being also provided with a plurality of depressed pockets arranged around the side and entirely below the surface thereof and communicating with the receptacle at a distance from said raised surface, the entrance openings to said pockets being in said flaring interior surface.

3. A game comprising a receptacle having a circular upwardly flaring interior surface, and provided in the center of the bottom thereof with a convex raised surface, one or more balls in said receptacle, said receptacle being also provided with a plurality of pockets arranged around the side and below the surface thereof and communicating with the receptacle through said flaring surface thereof at a distance from said raised surface, and means about the rim of the open top of the receptacle to retain the balls therein.

4. A game comprising a receptacle having a circular upwardly flaring interior surface, and provided in the center of the bottom thereof with a convex raised surface, one or more balls in said receptacle, an inwardly extending flange about the rim of the open top of the receptacle to retain the balls therein, said receptacle being also provided with a plurality of pockets arranged about the sides of the same and below the flaring surface thereof, and said receptacle being provided with means on which it may be rotated about a vertical axis.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures.

THOMAS TROMANS.
ERNEST L. WHITNEY.