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2,500,495

POCKET PINOCHLE CALCULATOR

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Fig. 1.

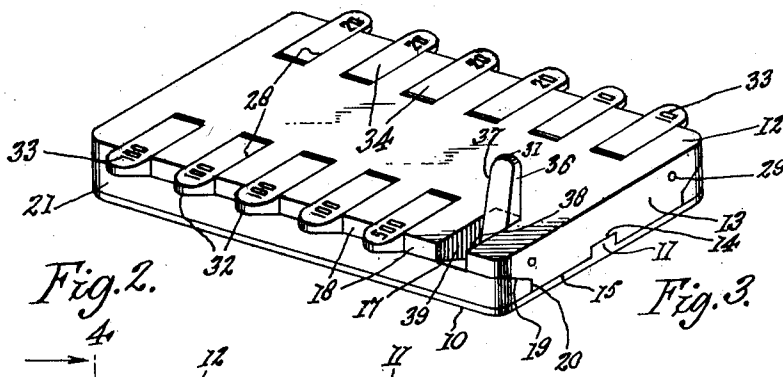


Fig. 2.

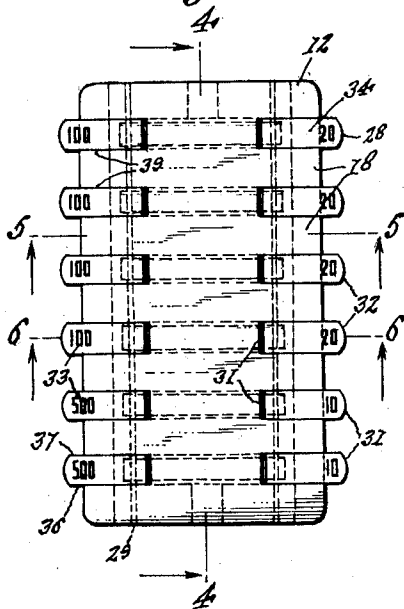


Fig. 3.

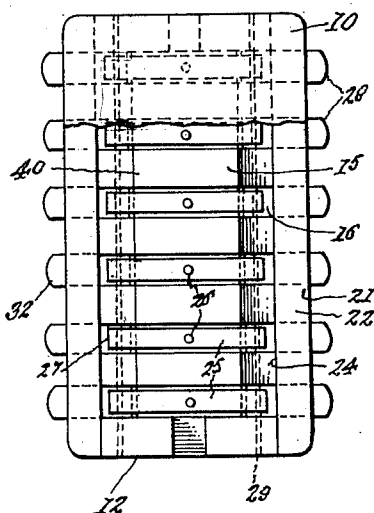


Fig. 4.

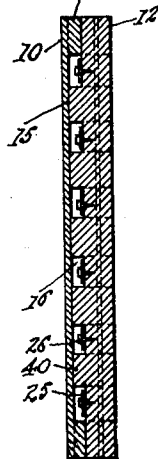


Fig. 5.

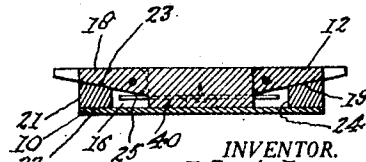
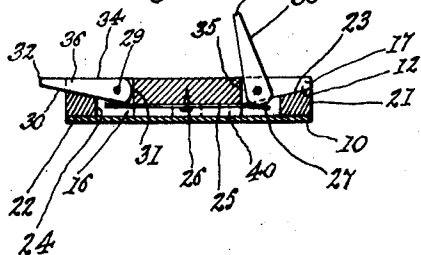


Fig. 6.



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POCKET PINOCHLE CALCULATOR

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1 Claim. (Cl. 235-127)

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The present invention relates to improvements in pocket pinochle calculators and has for an object the provision of a device of this character which is small and compact so that it may be readily carried about in the pocket of the user.

Another object of the present invention is to provide an improved device of this kind in which the scores for the game of pinochle can be accurately kept without the use of paper and pencil, especially when the game is being played while traveling or outdoors where writing is inconvenient or impossible.

A further object of the present invention is to provide an improved pinochle calculator by the use of which the irksome task of writing down each score as it is made and the totaling of each player's score with its attendant chances of error are eliminated.

The present invention aims to provide an improved calculator of this character which consists of relatively few parts, is economical to manufacture and is of sturdy construction.

With the foregoing and other objects in view, the invention will be hereinafter more fully described and more particularly pointed out in the appended claim.

In the drawings, in which the same parts are denoted by the same reference numerals throughout the several views,

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a pocket pinochle calculator constructed in accordance with the present invention,

Figure 2 is a top plan view of the same,

Figure 3 is a bottom plan view of the same with the bottom plate partly broken away,

Figure 4 is a longitudinal vertical sectional view on the line 4-4 of Figure 2,

Figure 5 is a transverse vertical sectional view on the line 5-5 of Figure 2, and

Figure 6 is a transverse vertical sectional view on the line 6-6 of Figure 2.

Referring more particularly to the drawings, 10 indicates a bottom plate or piece which is substantially rectangular in shape and has adjacent each end and intermediate its sides an upstanding tongue 11. A top plate or piece 12 of substantially the same size and shape as the bottom plate 10 is supported by the bottom plate. The top plate 12 has at each end an enlarged T-shaped head 13 which has a depth greater than the remaining portion of the top plate 12. Each head 13 of the top plate 12 has at its lower edge a recess 14 which receives the corresponding tongue 11 of the bottom plate 10 and with which it substantially corresponds in size and shape.

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The main body portion of the top plate 12 is of less thickness than that of its heads 13 so that the under surface 15 of the top plate 12 is spaced upwardly from the upper surface of the bottom plate 10 to provide a space 16 therebetween. The top plate 12 has along each of its side edge portions a series of spaced apart cutaway portions which form a series of spaced apart recesses 17. The formation of these recesses 17 provides a series of intervening arms 18 along each side edge of the top plate 12. The under surface of each of these arms 18 is spaced upwardly from the upper surface of the bottom plate 10 and is inclined from the lower outer edge of the arm inwardly and downwardly, as indicated at 19, towards the center of the top plate 12.

At the inner end of each inclined lower surface 19 each arm 18 of the heads 13 has a vertically extending wall 20. In the space along each side edge between the upper surface of the bottom plate 10 and the lower inclined surface 19 of the arms 18 a side rail 21 is located.

As shown in Figure 6, each of the side rails 21 has its lower surface 22 substantially flat so as to accommodate itself to the upper flat surface of the bottom plate 10 and the upper surface 23 of each rail is inclined inwardly and downwardly to correspond to the lower surface 19 of the arms 18. The inner surface 24 of each rail is substantially vertical and engages the wall 20 of each head 13 in order to limit the inward movement of the rail 21.

A flat steel spring 25 is attached by a small wire nail 26 to the under surface 15 of the top plate 12 opposite to each of the recesses 17. Each spring 25 is so connected to the top plate 12 that the main body portion of the spring engages the under surface 15 of the top plate 12 and the opposite free ends 27 of the spring 25 extend beyond the surface 15 into the oppositely disposed recesses 17. Each of the recesses 17 receives a counter or marker 28 and the arms 18 and the markers 28 are apertured for the reception of a pin 29 which provides a pivot for the swinging of the markers 28.

As shown in Figure 6, each of the markers 28 has a lower inwardly and downwardly inclined surface 30 which rests upon the upper surface 23 of the side rail 21 when the markers 28 are in their lower inoperative position. The inner end of each marker 28 has a cam surface 31 and the opposite outer end of each marker extends outwardly beyond the bottom plate 10, the arms 18 and the side rail 21 to provide a finger engaging portion 32. Various numerals, such as, 10, 20, 100

and 500, as indicated at 33, are inscribed on the upper surfaces 34 of the markers 28.

Each recess has an inner vertical wall 35 against which the upper surface 34 of the marker 28 engages to limit its upward movement. Each marker 28 has side faces 36 and 37 which engage side faces 38 and 39, respectively, of the arms 13 to restrain the markers from lateral movement within the recesses 17.

To prevent accidental lateral movement of the springs 25 the top plate 12 has ribs 40 extending downwardly into the space 16 between each two adjacent springs 25 to engage the side edges of the springs.

All of the parts of the device may be made of hard wood except the spring 25, nails 26 and pins 29. In this event the various wooden members may be glued together. If desired, the various parts may be made of aluminum or other metal.

In the use of the calculator, each player in a game of pinochle is provided with one of the devices. Each time a player makes a score during the game he raises the proper marker 28 by placing his finger under the finger piece 32 and swinging the marker upwardly on its pivot 29 so that the cam surface 31 of the marker engages the corresponding free end 27 of its spring 25 and deflects this end 27 downwardly as indicated at the right of Figure 6. Due to the inherent resiliency of the steel spring 25, its deflected end portion 27 will tend to return to its original position and will thereby exert pressure upon the raised marker 28 so as to frictionally hold the raised marker in its vertical position. The raised marker accordingly cannot be accidentally moved to its lower position. As the player scores additional points during the game, other markers 28 will be raised until he has scored sufficient points to permit him to raise all of the markers 28 on his device. The individual player who first raises all of his markers is the winner of the game.

The markers can be restored to their original or inoperative positions by engaging the finger pieces 32 of each one and swinging the markers downwardly about their pivot 29 until the lower surface 30 of each marker engages the upper surface 23 of the side rail 21 which will limit the downward movement of the marker. The accidental upward movement of the markers 28 is prevented by the engagement of the free end 27 of the spring 25 with the lower surface 30 of the marker, as shown at the left of Figure 6.

It is obvious that various changes and modifica-

tions may be made in the details of construction and design of the above specifically described embodiment of this invention without departing from the spirit thereof, such changes and modifications being restricted only by the scope of the following claim.

What I claim is:

An improved pinochle calculator comprising a bottom plate, a top plate having an enlarged T-shaped head at each end engaging the bottom plate for holding the intermediate portion of the top plate spaced from the bottom plate, the top plate having along each side edge a series of spaced recesses arranged in pairs and having arms disposed between said recesses, the arms being spaced from the bottom plate, a side rail disposed between the bottom plate and each series of recesses in the top plate, a marker received by each recess, a pivot pin extending through each marker and arm along each side edge of the top plate, a series of flat springs supported by the under portion of the top plate in the space between the top and bottom plates, each spring secured to said top plate proximate the center thereof having its opposite ends extending into the opposite adjacent respective recess of a pair of the recesses of the top plate and disposed in the path of movement of the respective marker, each marker having a cam surface for engagement with the extended end of its spring for placing the spring under tension when the marker is in its indicating position, said side rails form the bottom of the recesses for limiting the movement of the markers to their non-indicating positions, and ribs supported by the top plate for engaging the springs to maintain them against lateral movement.

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The following references are of record in the file of this patent:

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