G. W. GERDING.

TOY.

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1,141,389.

Patented June 1, 1915.

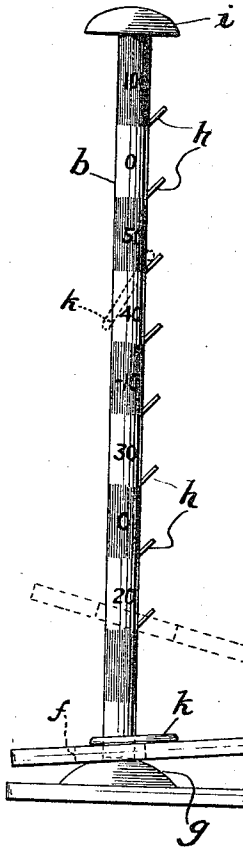


FIG. 1.

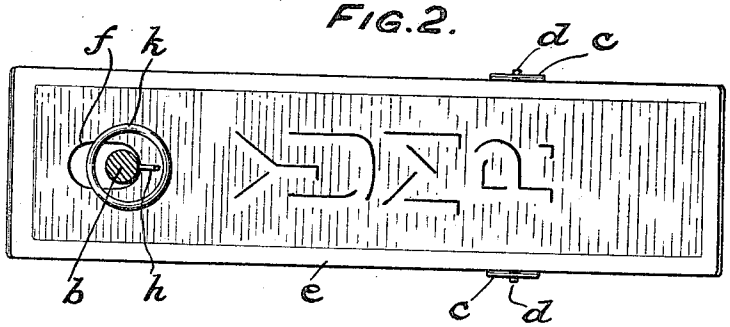
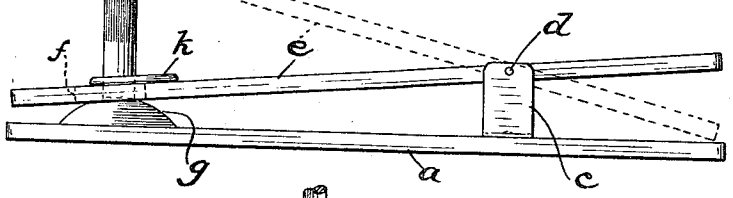


FIG. 2.



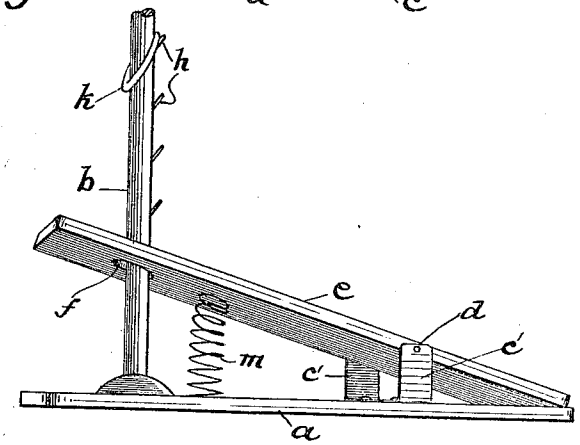


FIG. 3.

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TOY.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE W. GERDING, a citizen of the United States, residing at Philadelphia, county of Philadelphia, and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Toys, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form a part of this specification.

The object of my invention is to provide a toy or hand-operated game device which can be operated competitively by any number of players.

A preferred embodiment of the invention is shown in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation; Fig. 2 is a plan view showing the post in section, and Fig. 3 is a perspective view showing a modification.

Upon the rear of the base-board or base-plate *a*, which is of considerable length relatively to its width, is mounted a post *b*. Near the front of the base, above its opposite edges, are secured upwardly-extending brackets *c*, *c*, provided with holes to receive pivot pins *d*, *d*, projecting laterally from a ring-actuating board or plate *e*. The plate *e* may correspond in dimensions to the base-plate and its rear portion is provided with an orifice *f* through which the post *b* extends. The bottom of the post *b* is enlarged to form a rest *g*, upon which the rear end of the plate *e* rests.

The post *b* is provided with a series of pins *h*, all in vertical alinement. These pins project from the front of the post and are inclined obliquely upward. The upper end of the post is provided with a top or cap *i*.

A ring *k* encircles the post. This ring is limited in its downward movement by the plate *e* and in its upward movement by the cap *i*, whose diameter is preferably greater than the internal diameter of the ring so that the ring cannot be slipped off the post. The entire device is thus self-contained, there being no separate or removable parts which could be lost.

By reason of the fact that the plate *e* is pivoted nearer to its front end than to its rear end, the latter end is heavier and normally rests upon the part *g*. The ring *k* normally rests upon the plate *e*, the hole *f* not being large enough to allow the ring to drop through.

To operate the device, the user strikes the front of the plate *e* a sharp tap or blow, until it strikes the front of the base-plate *a*. This elevates the rear of the plate *e* carrying ring *k*. After the movement of the plate *e* is arrested by contact with the base-plate *a*, as shown in dotted line in Fig. 1, the ring *k*, due to momentum, continues to fly upwardly. The extent to which the ring *k* will rise depends upon the nature of the blow delivered upon the front of the plate *e* and also upon the extent to which its flight is arrested by contact with the pins *h*. Ordinarily, but not always, its upward movement ceases before it reaches the top of the post. In its downward fall it catches upon one of the pins *h*, as indicated in dotted lines; although not necessarily the pin immediately below the highest point which the ring attains, the ring sometimes striking one or more pins before it catches.

It is preferred to paint the post in the manner of a barber pole and divide it into section *x*, *x*, etc., each extending entirely around the pole, corresponding to the pins *h*, *h*, etc., and to apply numbers to each section indicating score values to be credited to the competing players. Preferably, half or more of the sections are given numbers which are to be added to the score, while the remainder of the sections are marked either with zeros or with numbers to be subtracted from the score.

If desired, a spring *m* may be interposed between the plates *a* and *e*, as shown in Fig. 3, the operator manipulating the device by pressing down the rear end of plate *e* against the action of the spring and then releasing the plate and allowing the spring to actuate it.

Having now fully described my invention, what I claim and desire to protect by Letters Patent is:

1. A toy comprising a base-plate, a post projecting upward therefrom, a ring strung upon the post, hand-controlled ring-actuating means adapted to project the ring upwardly along the post, and pins along the post adapted to engage and catch the ring in its descent.

2. A toy comprising a base-plate, a ring-actuating plate pivotally supported from the base plate on a horizontal axis, a post projecting upward from the base-plate and extending through a hole in the ring-actuating plate, pins projecting from the post,

and a ring strung upon the post above the ring-actuating plate.

3. A toy comprising a base-plate, a post projecting upward therefrom, pins on the post, said pins extending obliquely upward, a ring strung upon the post, and hand-controlled ring-actuating means adapted to project the ring upward along the post, whereby the ring in its descent will catch upon one of the pins.

4. A toy comprising a base-plate, a ring-actuating plate pivoted on the base plate, a post projecting upward from the base-plate, a ring strung upon the post, and a series of pins arranged in vertical alinement along the front of the post and extending obliquely upward.

5. A toy comprising a base-plate, a post projecting upward from the rear thereof, a ring strung upon the post, a ring-actuating plate pivotally supported from the front part of the base-plate on a horizontal axis and provided in its rear portion with a hole through which the post extends, a series of pins arranged along the front of the post, and a cap on the top of the post.

In testimony of which invention, I have hereunto set my hand, at Philadelphia, on this 25th day of September, 1914.

GEORGE W. GERDING.

Witnesses:
E. E. WALL,
M. M. HAMILTON.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."