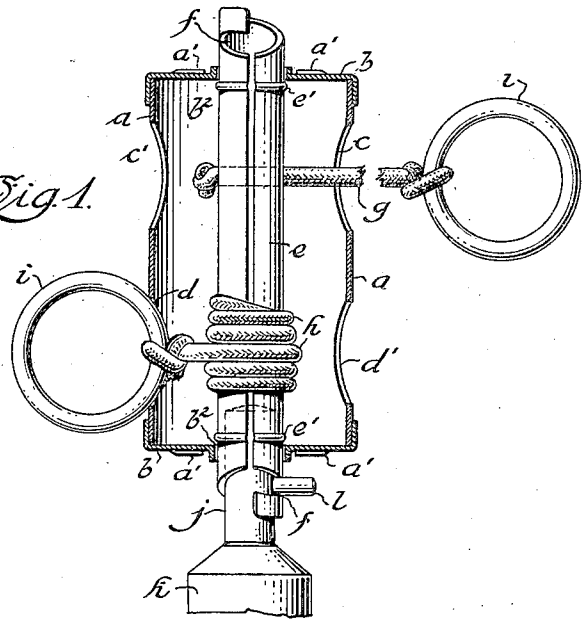
J. W. WHITELEY AND W. T. MOULD.

DEVICE FOR SPINNING TOPS AND THE LIKE.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 22, 1921.

1,436,634. Patented Nov. 21, 1922.

Fig. 1.



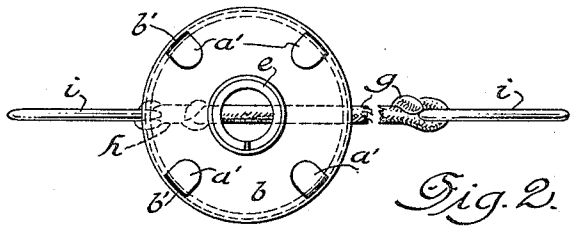
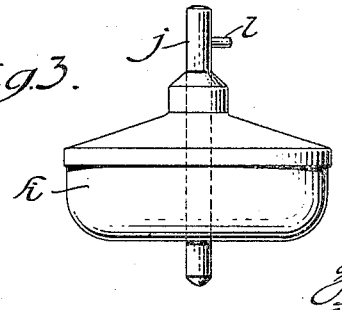


Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES WILLIAM WHITELEY, OF FAIRFIELD, LIVERPOOL, AND WILLIAM THOMAS MOULD, OF WAVERTREE, LIVERPOOL, ENGLAND, ASSIGNORS TO WHITELEY, TANSLEY AND COMPANY LIMITED, OF LIVERPOOL, ENGLAND.

DEVICE FOR SPINNING TOPS AND THE LIKE.

Application filed January 22, 1921. Serial No. 439,273.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, JAMES WILLIAM WHITELEY, a subject of the King of England, residing at Beech Street, Fairfield, Liverpool, in the county of Lancaster, England, and WILLIAM THOMAS MOULD, a subject of the King of England, residing at 142 Alderson Road, Wavertree, Liverpool, in the county of Lancaster, England, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in or Relating to Devices for Spinning Tops and the like, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to toys, but more particularly spinning tops, and has for its object to provide a new or improved device or appliance, or means, whereby rotary or spinning motion may be imparted thereto.

According to our invention, and in one arrangement:—

There is provided a casing wherein are formed suitably located, and (if of cylindrical form) preferably diametrally opposed, openings or apertures; extending longitudinally of said casing is a revolubly positioned rod or spindle which is—or the outer portions whereof are—of tubular construction, and in each end whereof is formed an open lateral slot adapted to receive a lateral pin or like projection provided on a vertical post of the toy, said post being adapted to enter a tubular outer portion of said revoluble rod or spindle in order that its detachable engagement with said rod or spindle may be effected: two pieces of twine, or the like, are secured to said revoluble rod or spindle, one piece, on an end being secured to said rod or spindle, passing through one of said openings, or apertures, of the casing, and the other piece, on an end being secured to said rod or spindle, being passed through the other opening or aperture of the casing.

We will further describe our invention with the aid of the accompanying sheet of explanatory drawings, which illustrate, by way of examples only, three modes of embodying same.

In said drawings:—

Fig. 1 represents in longitudinal section a spinning appliance and the upper portion of a spinning top. Fig. 2 is a plan view. Fig. 3 illustrates the complete top drawn on a reduced scale as compared with Figs. 1 and 2.

a, b, b, represent a sheet metal casing, comprising a cylindrical portion a and end closure or cap members b, b, which are locked to cylinder a by means of tongues a^1 created in the stamping or blanking out of said cylinder a; said tongues a^1 are passed through slots b^1 in the caps and then turned downwards. In said cylinder a, there are formed two pairs, c, c^1, and d^1, d^1 of diametrally opposed openings or apertures.

Extending longitudinally through said casing is a rod or spindle e constructed of sheet metal bent into tubular formation; the end portions of said rod or spindle e project through central apertures b^2, b^2 provided in the end cap closures b, and the spindle e is revolubly housed or positioned in the casing by means of annular enlargements or shoulders e^1, e^1 created thereon.

In each projecting or protruding end of said tubular rod or spindle e there is formed an open lateral slot or recess f which is—for convenience in manufacture—created by cutting the spindle end into the form of a single helical screw thread, as shown.

g, h, respectively, denote pieces of twine which are secured to said revoluble spindle e, one piece g after an end has been secured to said spindle e being passed through the aperture c of the casing and the other piece h after an end has been secured to the spindle e and a portion wound around same, passing through the aperture d of the casing. i, i denote finger rings to which the outer ends of the twine are secured.

If, therefore, the casing be held stationary and twine h be pulled said spindle e will be revolved in the unwinding operation, the other piece of twine g being automatically and simultaneously wound round the spindle; consequently said spindle e may at all times be revolved by the simple action of pulling the free end of the twine which is then wound thereon.

j denotes a post which extends through the centre of the top k to which post a lateral pin l is secured.

In use, said pin l of post j is engaged in a slot f of one of the spindle ends (the tubular construction of such spindle permitting the insertion of the upper part of the post j to effect such pin engagement) and—the casing being held in one hand of the user—the free end of the (then) wound twine h is

pulled by the other hand to cause spindle *e* and with it, the top *k* to rotate; the lateral pin *l* of post *j* then disengages itself from the spindle slot *f* and the top *k* falls on to a table, floor, or other surface, where it continues to spin for a time.

In spinning the top, the casing is so held that the, then, wound twine is lowermost, that is nearest to that end of the spindle *e* with which the top is engaged.

The object in forming said casing apertures *c*, c^1 and *d*, d^1 in pairs is to facilitate the securing of the pieces of twine to the revoluble spindle *e*.

Having now described our invention, what we claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:—

A device for spinning a top comprising a casing having a cylindrical portion, centrally apertured cap members secured at opposite ends of the cylindrical portion, a tubular spindle revolubly mounted in said cap members and having annular shoulders arranged to lie between said cap members and to engage therewith to limit axial movement of said spindle, said spindle having at each end thereof an open lateral slot adapted to receive a projection upon the post of a top, said casing having two pairs of diametrally opposed apertures, and two pieces of twine or like flexible elements, one being passed through one aperture of one pair of apertures, and the other being passed through one aperture of the other pair of apertures, and each being secured to the spindle.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures in the presence of two witnesses.

JAMES WILLIAM WHITELEY.
WILLIAM THOMAS MOULD.

Witnesses:
EMILY BURRETT,
FANNY SNODDON.