Jan. 12 , 1926. 1,569,752

H. HIRAKAWA

PRIZE GAME APPARATUS

Filed July 17, 1923

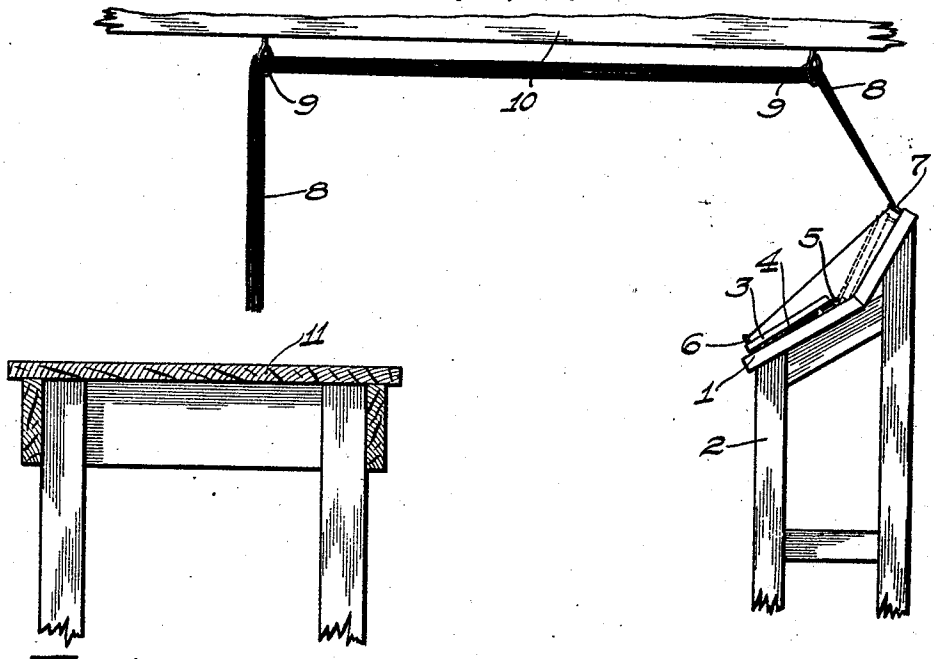


FIG. 1.

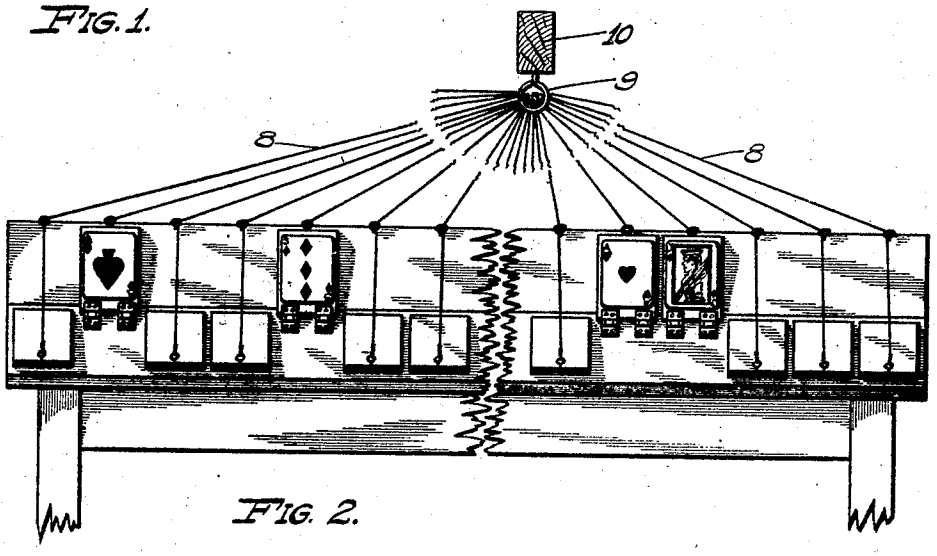


FIG. 2.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HARUE HIRAKAWA, OF SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA.

PRIZE GAME APPARATUS.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HARUE HIRAKAWA, a subject of the Emperor of Japan, residing at San Diego, in the county of San Diego and State of California, have invented a certain new and useful Prize Game Apparatus, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to prize game apparatus, and the objects of my invention are: first, to provide an apparatus of this class which is provided with a plurality of playing cards connected to a means by which the player may pick one or a plurality of said playing cards without knowing the value of the same; second, to provide an apparatus of this class by means of which the player is obliged to choose at random certain playing cards having various purchasing values; third, to provide an apparatus of this class by means of which the player may choose at random a playing card or plurality of playing cards of different inscriptions, the inscriptions of said cards being hidden from view, and which are connected to an equal number of cables or cords which are twisted together or otherwise assembled and disassembled in undistinguishable manner so that the player choosing and pulling one of said cables or cords may not know the inscription of the cards he wishes to choose; fourth, to provide an apparatus of this class having a plurality of movable members, on the one side of which are provided inscriptions corresponding with the inscriptions on the conventional playing cards and to each of which are secured means for moving said members, and which are so arranged that the players may not know which means to move for selecting one or more of said members of the different inscriptions; fifth, to provide an apparatus of this class which is provided with a plurality of members having on one side inscriptions corresponding with the inscriptions on the cards of the conventional playing card deck, and by which means, the one end of which is separated from said members and by means of which the player may choose a plurality of said members of the different inscriptions, the combinations of the inscriptions of the members he may choose may correspond with the valuation of similar combinations of the conventional poker game and thus determine the purchasing value of the combination of members with the various inscriptions he may choose; sixth, to provide a novelly constructed and arranged apparatus of this class, and seventh, to provide an apparatus of this class which is very simple and economical of construction, durable, and which will not readily deteriorate or get out of order.

With these and other objects in view, as will appear hereinafter, my invention consists of certain novel features of construction, combination and arrangement of parts and portions, as will be hereinafter described in detail and particularly set forth in the appended claims, reference being had to the accompanying drawings and to the characters of reference thereon, which form a part of this application, in which:

Figure 1 is a side elevational view of my apparatus, and Fig. 2 is a fragmentary front elevational view thereof.

Like characters of reference refer to similar parts and portions throughout the several views of the drawings.

The table member 1, support 2, card supports 3, cards 4, hinge members 5, eye members 6 and 7, cables 8, supports 9 and 10, and the counter 11, constitute the principal parts and portions of my game apparatus.

The cards 4, which correspond with the cards of a conventional playing card deck, preferably a poker deck, being 52 or 53 in number, are secured on the one side of the card supports 3 with their faces out, which supports are pivotally mounted by means of the hinges 5 on the upper side and intermediate the front and back edges of the table member 1. Said table member 1 is supported on any convenient support 2 so that the table member 1 may be inclined at an angle with the horizontal plane so that the inscriptions of the cards 4 may be readily discerned by the player standing behind the counter 11. It will be noted that the table member 1 is preferably inclined at an angle at its upper portion with the lower portion thereof upon which the cards normally rest. The card supports 3 are provided at the back side of their free ends with eye members 6 to which are secured the cables 8, which extend backwardly therefrom and through eye members 7, which are positioned near the back edges of the table member 1. From the eye members 7 the cables 8 extend through other supports 9, preferably rings, which are supported at any convenient place above the cards or ta-

ble member 1, preferably on the support 10, forming a part of the building. From the supports or rings 9 the cables extend downwardly toward the counter 11, so that the player may easily reach the same when standing back of the counter.

It is obvious that with a plurality of cables or cords 8, numbering 52 or 53, they will become twisted or intermingled with each other in such a manner that the individual cord cannot be readily followed to the cards or card supports to which they are connected, and therefore the player may not know which card he is choosing when pulling a certain cable. It is further obvious that when pulling a certain cable the card and card support to which it is connected will be shifted about its pivotal mounting to a position beyond the vertical plane and will be retained in such position by gravity so that the value of the combination of a number of cards, positioned as described, may be readily determined.

It will be noted that the card support 3 is preferably made of light weight so that by pulling one of the cards slightly the card support will not fall downwardly to its original position by reason of its weight. The cables 8 being twisted or intermingled also facilitates the holding of the card supports 3 in any position when raised from their original downward position. The members 3 when shifted to the backward position in which the inscriptions of the cards are exposed are manually shifted to the original downward position.

It is obvious from the drawings and foregoing description that there is provided a prize game apparatus as aimed at and set forth in the objects of this invention, and though I have shown and described a particular construction, combination and arrangement of parts and portions, I do not wish to be limited to this particular construction, combination and arrangement, but desire to include in the scope of my invention, the construction, combination and arrangement substantially as set forth in the appended claims.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. In a game apparatus, an inclined support, a plurality of game members, having playing cards on their normally concealed sides, pivotally mounted on said support intermediate its upper and lower edges, and means for independently shifting said game members about their pivotal axes for exposing their normally concealed sides.

2. An apparatus of the class described, including a support, a plurality of movable members, having playing card inscriptions on one side, pivotally mounted on said support, and intermingling string means, connected to said members for independently moving the same.

3. In a game apparatus, a support, a plurality of game members pivotally mounted at the one side of said support with their one sides normally concealed, said game members having playing card inscriptions on their normally concealed sides, and means for independently shifting said game members about their pivotal axes for exposing the playing card inscriptions on said game members.

4. An apparatus of the class described, including an inclined support, card supports pivotally mounted on said support intermediate its upper and lower edges, playing cards secured to the normally lower sides of said card supports, and means for independently shifting said card supports.

5. An apparatus of the class described, including an inclined support, card supports pivotally mounted on said support intermediate its upper and lower edges, playing cards secured to the normally lower sides of said card supports, cables connected to each of said card supports, extending therefrom, and means for directing and supporting said cables.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand at San Diego, California, this 12th day of July, 1923.

HARUE HIRAKAWA.