Feb. 11, 1947. P. C. WOLF 2,415,780

GAME APPARATUS

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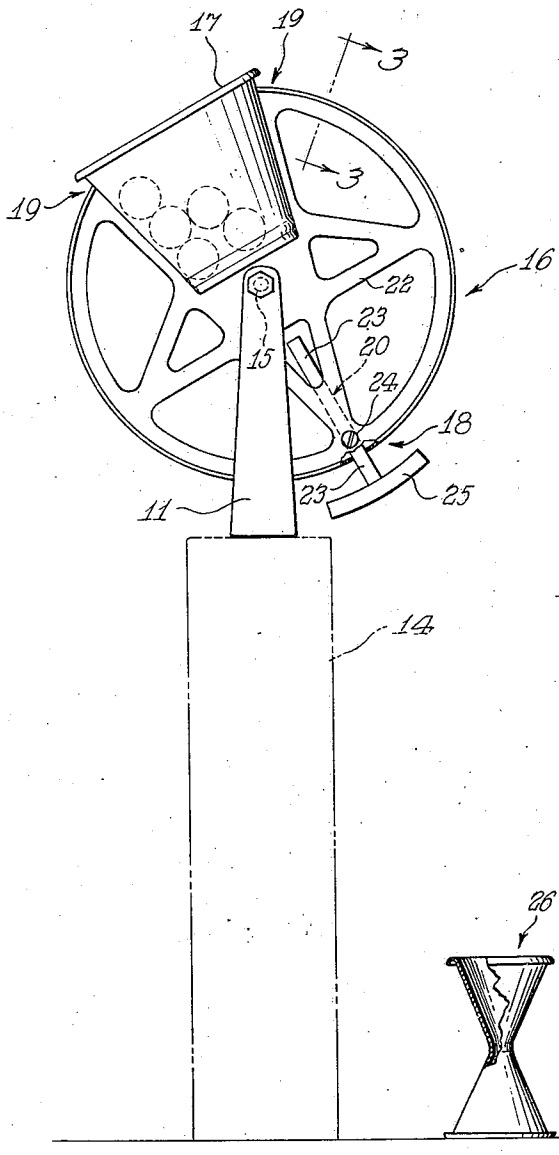


Fig. 1

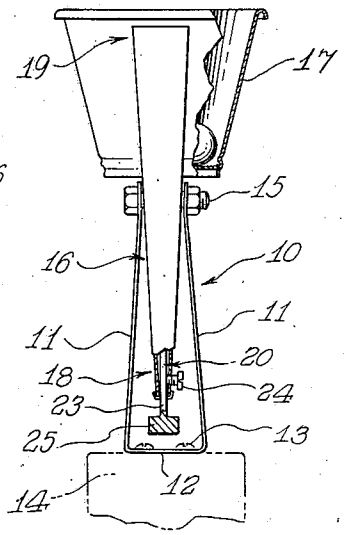


Fig. 2

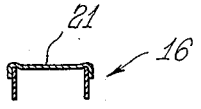


Fig. 3

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GAME APPARATUS

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2 Claims. (Cl. 273—105)

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The invention relates to amusement or game apparatus or devices, and aims to provide a novel and practical device which, together with a number of balls or the like which may be used to play a game, constitutes the apparatus whereby an interesting, entertaining and amusing game may be played by persons of practically all ages above infancy.

The above and other objects will become apparent in the following description, wherein characters of reference refer to like-numbered parts in the accompanying drawing. It is to be noted that the drawing is intended for the purpose of illustration only, and that it is neither desired nor intended to limit the invention in any manner to the specific details of construction shown excepting insofar as they may be deemed essential to the invention.

Referring briefly to the drawing, Fig. 1 is a side elevational view of the device shown mounted above the floor or ground on a post, the latter being shown in broken lines, with the device shown in somewhat tilted position.

Fig. 2 is a fragmentary elevational view taken at right angles to Fig. 1, with parts broken away and partly in section.

Fig. 3 is a cross-sectional view taken on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1.

Referring in detail to the drawing, the numeral 10 indicates the supporting frame or pedestal of the device, comprising two spaced legs 11, 11 downwardly diverging from each other, and having inturned feet 12 which may be joined or formed of one piece. By means of screws 13 or the like, the frame 10 may be mounted on top of a post, as illustrated at 14, or on any sort of stand, support, wall bracket, or the like.

A pivot pin or axle 15 is supported in the upper ends of the legs 11, and pivotally mounted thereon is a wheel 16. A cup 17 in the form of an inverted frustrum of a cone, is formed integrally with the wheel 16 in such manner that the plane through the wheel at right angles to the axle 15 bisects the cup 17, and that portion of the wheel which would thus fall inside the walls of the cup is of course omitted.

The wheel 16 is made unbalanced by varying the thickness thereof progressively from a minimum value at the opposite end of that diameter of the wheel which passes axially through the

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cup, to a maximum at the outside walls of the cup, as indicated at 18 and 19, respectively. Provision is made, however, to control not only the degree of unbalance of the wheel but also to bring the wheel into balance.

At the thinnest portion 18 of the wheel, a diametral slot 20 is formed through the rim of the wheel, 21, and through the spider 22 upon which the rim is mounted, or, rather, with which the rim is formed integrally as illustrated. A rod 23 is slidably mounted in the slot 20, and is adapted to be releasably locked in longitudinal position by a set screw 24. An arcuate weighted extension 25 is secured to, or forms part of, the rod 23. It is apparent that withdrawal of the rod 23 tends to bring the wheel into balance so that the cup 17 stands upright, and pushing the rod in causes the cup to assume a tilted position to bring about balance of the wheel.

In playing the game, a plurality of balls, say one for each player, is used, and a smaller cup, which may be of the form of an hour glass, 26, may be positioned on the floor or ground adjacent the post 14. Each player endeavors to toss his ball into the cup 17 from a distance. At a certain point in the game when the weight of the balls in the cup 17 has further increased the unbalance of the wheel, the weight of the balls will cause the wheel to swing so as to tip the cup and thus cause the balls therein to spill out onto the ground. If each ball has a number identifying the player having tossed that ball, upon expelling of the balls the players may hurry after them, each to recover his own ball, and the one who thus first places his ball in the hour glass cup 26 may be said to have won that match. Of course any other method or rules for playing the game may be devised.

It is apparent that by varying the radial position of the weighted rod 23 the sensitivity of the cup 17 to toppling over and expelling the balls therein is correspondingly varied, and it may also be so adjusted that the cup 17 is upright at the start of the game.

The apparatus above set forth would be suitable for installation in playgrounds, gymnasiums, kindergartens, or in the home, for use iodoors or outdoors.

Obviously modifications in form and structure

may be made without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention.

I claim:

1. A game apparatus comprising a support having a horizontal axle mounted thereon, a wheel pivotally mounted on said axle, said wheel having a cup radially positioned thereon with the open top of said cup facing radially outward, and a radially slidable counterweight mounted on said wheel diametrically opposite said cup.

2. A game apparatus comprising a support having a horizontal axle mounted thereon, a wheel pivotally mounted on said axle, said wheel having a cup radially positioned thereon with the open top of said cup facing radially outward, the thickness of said wheel varying progressively from a minimum at a point diametrically opposite said cup to a maximum adjacent said cup, said wheel having a radial slot therethrough at said point of minimum thickness, a weighted rod slidably mounted in said slot, and means for releasably locking said rod in said slot.

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REFERENCES CITED

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

UNITED STATES PATENTS

Number	Name	Date
469,948	Reed	Mar. 1, 1892