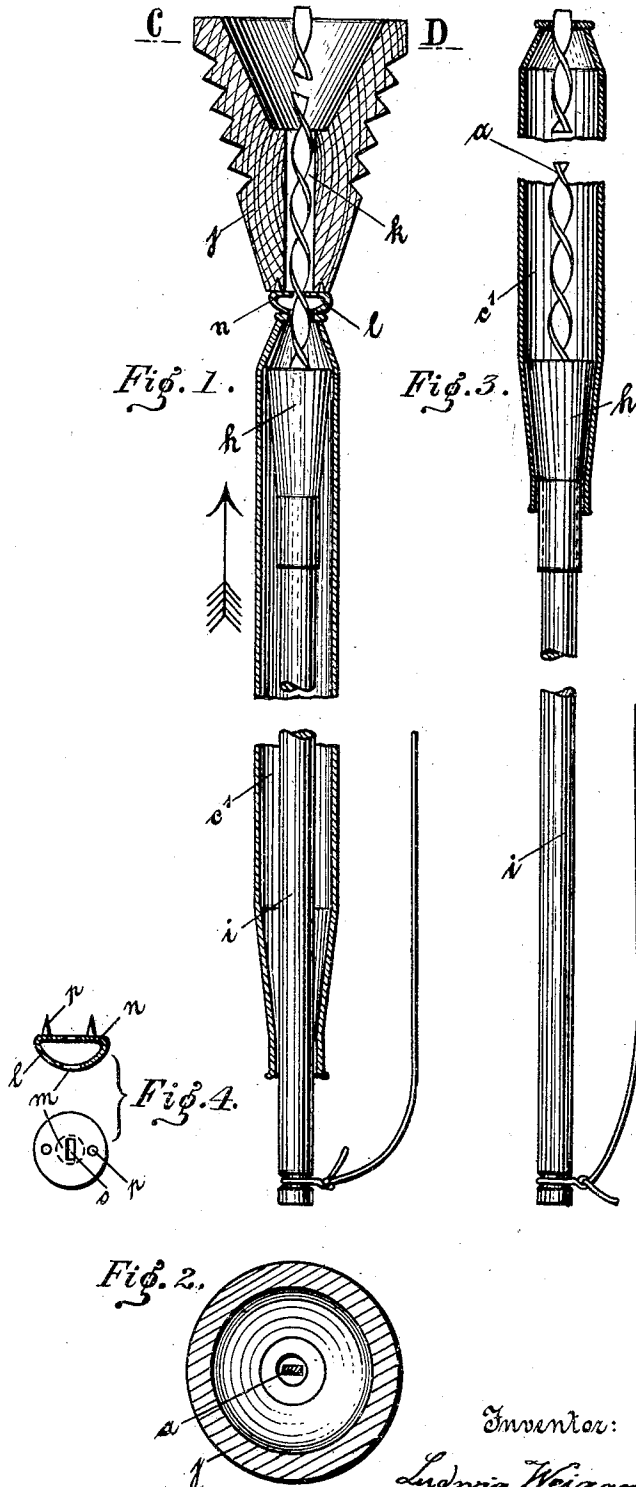


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 DEVICE FOR SETTING TOPS, GIGS, AND THE LIKE IN MOTION.
 APPLICATION FILED MAY 16, 1911.

1,056,309.

Patented Mar. 18, 1913.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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DEVICE FOR SETTING TOPS, GIGS, AND THE LIKE IN MOTION.

1,056,309.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Mar. 18, 1913.

Application filed May 16, 1911. Serial No. 627,571.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LUDWIG WEIGAND, a subject of the King of Prussia and German Emperor, residing at Metternich, near Koblenz-on-the-Rhine, in the Kingdom of Prussia and German Empire, have invented new and useful Improvements in Devices for Setting Tops, Gigs, and the Like in Motion, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in contrivances for setting in motion tops, gigs (musical or singing gigs or the like) and similar devices, of such kind in which a screw-threaded bar or rod is intended to receive the top, gig or other device, the latter being moved outward along said screw-threaded bar so as to be set in rapid rotary motion, until the top, gig and the like leaves the screw-threaded bar, falls on the table, floor or the like and continues thereupon its rotation for a certain time.

According to the improved arrangement forming the object of the present invention, the said screw-threaded bar for setting in motion the top and the like is directly connected with a whip-handle which, until the same gets in such a position as to be ready for use, is kept hidden in the interior of, and locked to, a movable socket forming a part of the new arrangement.

In the accompanying drawing forming a part of this specification, and in which similar letters of reference relate to corresponding parts throughout the several views, Figure 1 is a vertical section of a form of my device shown in its initial position. Fig. 2 is a transverse section of the top represented in the upper part of Fig. 1, on the line C—D of said Fig. 1. Fig. 3 shows the device of Fig. 1 in its final position. Fig. 4 represents a vertical section and a plan of the lower part of a top or gig made according to the present invention.

In my arrangement a rod or bar *a* having windings or a screw-thread is provided, said rod or bar *a* being somewhat longer than the broken off end shown in the Figs. 1 and 3. My improved device comprises further a socket so elongated as to form a handle *c'*, said socket loosely surrounding a wedge-piece *h* carrying at one of its ends the screw-

threaded bar or rod *a*, at the other end a whip-handle *i* made of wood or other suitable material.

Any kind of top or gig may be used in connection with this device. However, in Figs. 1 and 2 a top is represented which, while having a body *j* of usual configuration, is provided with a longitudinal bore or channel *k*, a lower plate *n* fixed to said body *j* by means of pegs *p* and a lower conical or globular run-plate *l* having a rectangular hole of the same diameter as the section of said rod or bar *a*. Owing to this arrangement the top, gig and the like, when set with its lower end provided with the rectangular opening or hole upon the upper end of said bar or rod *a* slides by its own weight with a slow rotary motion into the position shown in Fig. 1.

The mode of operation of my improved device is as follows: After the top, gig or the like and the movable parts of my device have been brought in the position shown in Fig. 1, the rod or bar *a* by pulling on the stick or whip *i* is drawn downwardly through the rectangular hole of the top or gig until the latter springs off *i. e.* leaves said rod *a* and falls upon the floor or the like, where it continues its rotary motion. At the same time, the part *h* by wedge-action is locked in a corresponding recess of said socket *c'*, whereby the parts are brought into the position shown in Fig. 3. Now, the whip *i* which is fixed in its position with regard to the handle-shaped socket *c'* can be used like an ordinary whip for keeping or maintaining in rotary motion the top or gig priorly set in motion by means of my device as described.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States is:—

1. In a device for setting tops in motion, a screw shaped rod *a*, a conical wedge piece *h*, rigidly connected thereto, a whip handle *i* rigidly connected to the wedge piece, a tubular member *c* adapted to inclose said wedge piece, rod and whip handle, said tubular member being provided with a conical recess, said wedge piece adapted to engage said recess when the whip handle is rapidly

withdrawn from the tubular member to spin a top.

2. A top with a longitudinal channel *k*, a lower plate *n* fixed to said top and provided with a rectangular hole *o* and a conical run-plate *l* having a circular hole *m*, substantially as described.

In witness whereof I have hereunto signed my name this 28th day of March 1911 in the presence of two subscribing witnesses. 10
LUDWIG WEIGAND.

Witnesses:

LOUIS VANDORY,
GERTRUD BONA.

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