Oct. 25, 1955 J. A. PEABODY, SR 2,721,418

SPINNING TOPS

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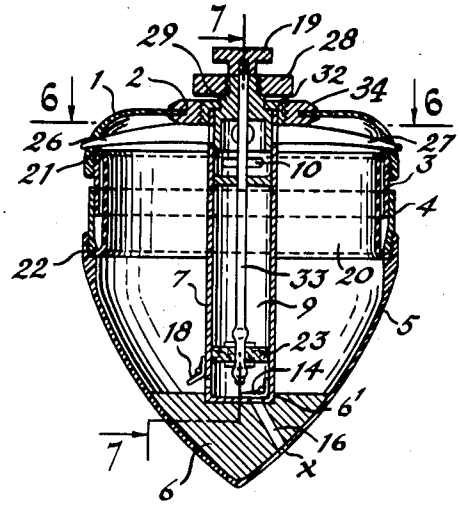


Fig. 1

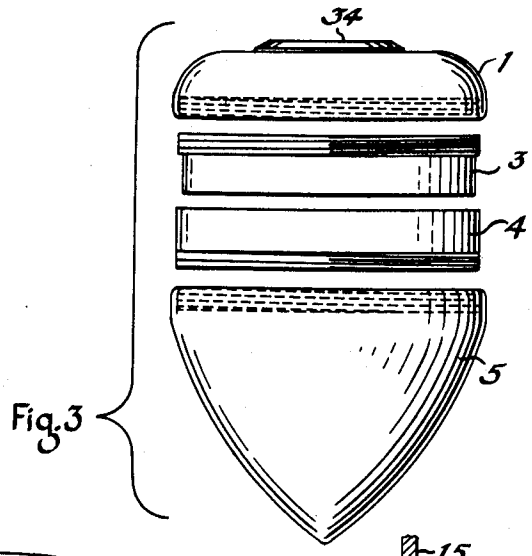


Fig. 3

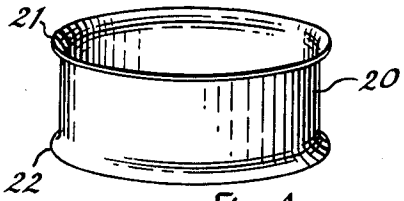


Fig. 4

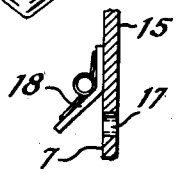


Fig. 8

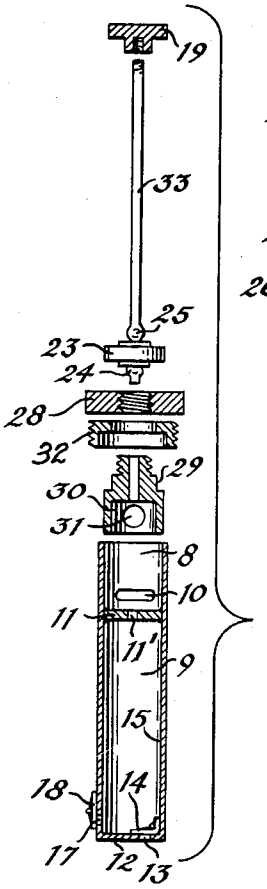


Fig. 2

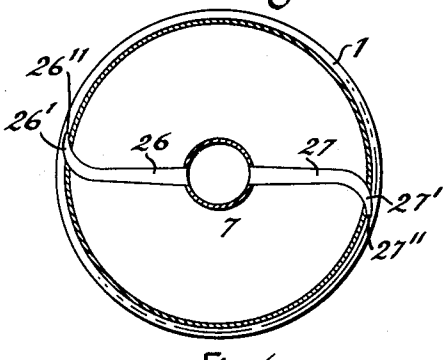


Fig. 6

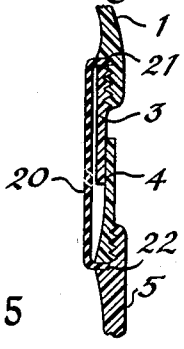


Fig. 5

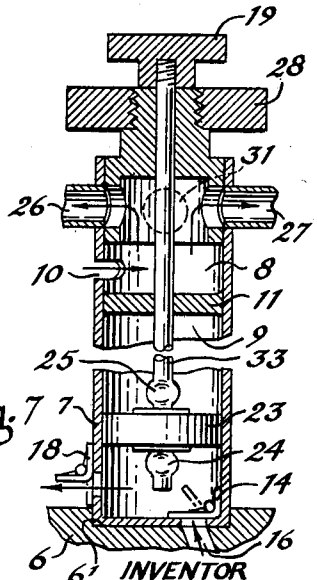


Fig. 7

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SPINNING TOPS

John A. Peabody, Sr., Stockton, Calif.

Application August 22, 1950, Serial No. 180,798

1 Claim. (Cl. 46—67)

My invention relates to spinning tops and relates more particularly to a top adapted to be propelled by means disposed within the body of the top.

It is an object of my invention to provide a top of this character in which the body of the top itself is used as a compression chamber when a free, flowing, compressible substance is compressed or put under pressure and then liberated through jets in such a manner as to cause rotation in a clockwise or counter-clockwise direction.

It is a further object of my invention to control the storage and liberation of the compressed substance used for power in the top.

Still a further object of my invention is to provide expansion and elasticity in the body of the top.

A still further object of my invention is to provide a top which will be economical to manufacture, being composed of but few parts, and highly efficient and entertaining in use.

Other objects of my invention and the invention itself will become more readily apparent by reference to the following description in which description reference will be made to the appended drawings, in which drawings:

Fig. 1 is a vertical sectional view of the top of my invention;

Fig. 2 is a separated view of the valve and cylinder of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a side plan view of the shell portions of the top of Fig. 1;

Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the rubber band of Fig. 1;

Fig. 5 is an enlargement of a portion of Fig. 1;

Fig. 6 is a top sectional view of the shell and jet tubes of my invention taken on the line 6—6 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 7 is a view of the top of Fig. 1 taken on the line 7—7 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 8 is an enlarged, fragmentary view of the outlet valve of Fig. 1.

Referring now more particularly to the figures of drawing in all of which like parts will be designated by like reference characters, the top of my invention illustrated in Figs. 1 to 7, inclusive, comprises a plurality of body portions; a disc-like top portion **1** centrally apertured at **2** to afford an opening through which a cylinder **7** may be projected, a pair of cylindrical band elements **3** and **4** and a pear-shaped lower body section **5**. The body portion **5** is weighted at **6** as best shown in Fig. 1. The top portion **1** is internally threaded to receive the threaded upper periphery of the band element **3** and the section **5** is likewise internally threaded to receive the threaded lower periphery of the band element **4**. The band **3** is of slightly less diameter than the band **4** and is telescopably disposed within a portion of the said band **4**. A resilient band **20**, preferably of rubber composition, and provided with outwardly flared rim portions **21** and **22** is adapted to have said rim portions snapped over the threaded ends of said bands to permit a limited expansion of the top body during rotation thereof.

Spinning movement is imparted to the said top by means of air propulsion achieved by piston means now to be described.

A cylinder **7** is seated within a recessed portion **6'** provided in the weighted base portion **6** of the section **5** and said cylinder is provided with an upper cylinder portion **8** and a lower cylinder portion **9**. The wall of the upper cylinder is provided with a horizontally extending slot **10** for a purpose later to be described herein and the upper and lower cylinder portions are separated by a disc **11** centrally perforated at **11'**. The base **12** of the cylinder is perforated at **13** and an inwardly operating flap valve **14** is hingedly secured to the inner wall **15** of the cylinder to admit air into the cylinder **7** by means of an inclined bore **16** communicating therewith. A perforation **17** on the opposite wall of the cylinder adjacent the base portion thereof is provided to express air into the body of the top by means of a valve flap **18** secured to the outer wall of the cylinder adjacent the side perforation **17**.

A piston **33** is provided with a T-shaped handle portion **19** screw-threaded thereon at the outer end and carries a gasket **23** adjacent its lowermost end portion, said gasket being telescoped over the end of said piston and retained thereon by a pair of knob-like protuberances, **24** and **25**.

A pair of air discharge jet conduits **26**, **27** centrally mounted upon the upper end of the cylinder **7** and communicating with the upper cylinder portion **8** are provided with reversely bent tapered ends **26'** and **27'** and discharge air pumped into the cylinder **7** during rotation of the top.

A handle **28** is screw-threaded over a stepped sleeve **29** having a socket portion **30** and said socket is provided with an aperture **31** which opens into the jets **26** and **27** when the sleeve **29** is telescoped within the upper cylinder portion **8**. The portion of the sleeve **29** which is adapted to be inserted within the cylinder portion **8** is of such diameter as to be press-fitted within said cylinder portion and is provided with a portion of lesser diameter immediately above such cylinder telescoped portion which is fitted within an inwardly stepped retainer ring **32** which is outwardly threaded to be secured to an inwardly threaded collar **34** fitted over the inner periphery of the main body portion **1**.

In operation, the handle **28** is so disposed as to close the jets and the piston is reciprocated within the cylinder until pressure of air admitted at "x" and drawn into the expansible top body by means of the valve **18** and into the upper portion of the cylinder **10** is built up, then the handle **28** is turned until the opening **31** is aligned with the jets **26**, **27** and the top will begin rotation.

During rotation, air is drawn through the cylinder and expressed through the jets **26** and **27** and the port openings **26''** and **27''** being disposed in an opposite direction will maintain a steady rotation of the top; air is expressed therethrough by the pressure built up in the body of the top as previously described.

Further, due to the flexible connection afforded by the flexible band **20** being employed to secure intermediate portions **3** and **4** of the top together, the top, in effect, has a certain expansion and elasticity which aids in the turning of the top about its axis.

It will be obvious that numerous and extensive departures may be made from the embodiments herein illustrated and described, without, however, departing from the spirit of my invention and the scope of the appended claim.

I claim:

A spinning top comprising a substantially hollow generally pear-shaped body portion, a weighted point portion, a cylinder disposed longitudinally medially of said body

portion, an air inlet disposed in said weighted portion and communicating with the atmosphere, the said cylinder being provided with a pair of apertures, one aperture communicating with said air inlet and the other aperture with the body portion of the top, piston means disposed vertically within said cylinder, a pair of air jets centrally mounted upon the uppermost end of the said cylinder and communicating therewith, said jets being disposed transversely within the uppermost portion of the body portion and projecting outwardly thereof, said jets having reversely bent ends and adapted to eject air received from said cylinder tangentially from said top body portion into the atmosphere to spin the top.

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