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G. STROCCO

2,774,598

TURNTABLE DEVICES

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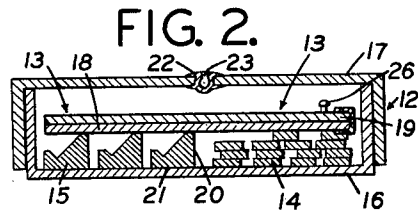
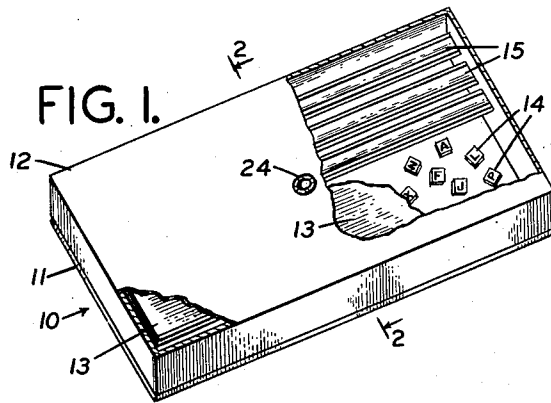


FIG. 3.

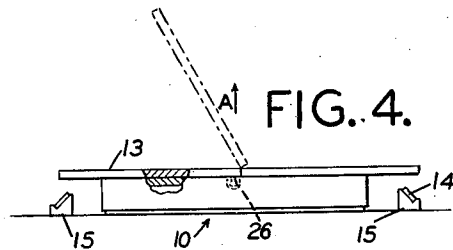
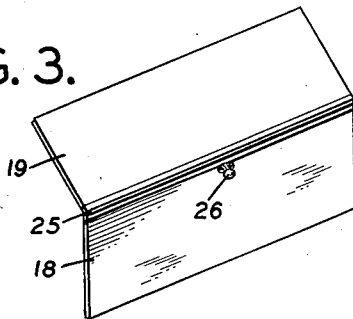


FIG. 7.

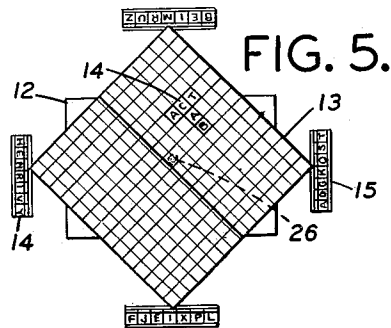
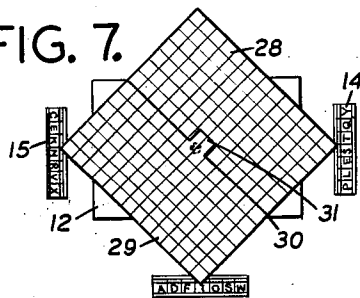


FIG. 8.

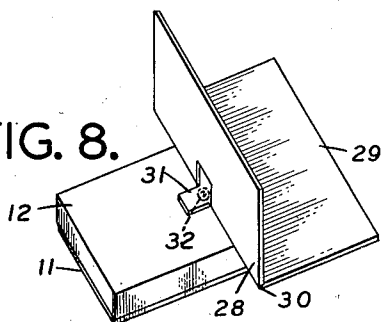
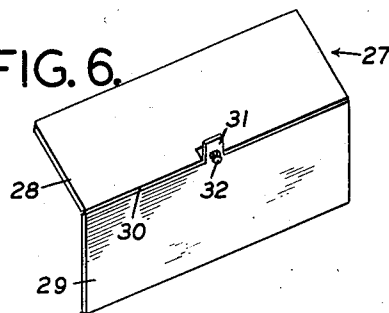


FIG. 6.



INVENTOR
GENE STROCCO
BY *E. H. Strock*
HIS ATTORNEY.

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TURNTABLE DEVICES

Gene Strocchio, Whitestone, N. Y.

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5 Claims. (Cl. 273—136)

This invention relates to portable turntable devices, and particularly, although not exclusively, to games having a container or box member for housing the playing elements and a board which is required to be rotatably shifted into various playing positions to correspond with the respective positions of the players.

In certain games devices employing a board and pieces which are manipulated or placed on the board by the players in accordance with the particular rules of the game, the board must be rotated from player to player. In conventional games the board is manually slid along the table and turned to the required position, with the consequent danger that the playing pieces on the board will be inadvertently displaced from their proper positions due to the difficulty of controlling the said shifting movement. Furthermore, during such sliding movement along the table supporting the board, it is necessary, in such conventional devices, to remove the box and the other components of the game out of the path of the board. This not only makes necessary a rather extensive playing area, but also requires that the players reach to remote parts of the table to gain access to the removed game components.

It is within the contemplation of my invention to provide a portable turntable device adapted for various uses, including that of a conveniently operable turntable game board. And in this aspect of my invention it is an important object, when applied to a game of the aforesaid category, to combine the board with the box for housing the game elements in such a way as to enable the box to serve as a base for rotatably supporting the board at a level at which it will clear the game elements disposed on the table. The arrangement is hence such that both the box and board become components of the game, requiring no special space for accommodating the box—the box being proportioned to accommodate the highest of the playing elements and to maintain the playing board at its aforesaid high level.

It is also an object of my invention to provide means for maintaining the board in slidable or frictional contact with the box during the operative rotation of the board, so as to create a sufficient drag to provide a controlled turning of the board, with the danger of displacement of the playing pieces reduced to a minimum.

It is further within my contemplation to provide extremely simple coacting mounting means on the board and the box, so as to enable the required rotational movement to be as readily effectuated as by the use of the more intricate conventional turntable constructions. And in this aspect of my invention it is an object to provide rotary mounting means with a minimum of protrusion beyond the respective surfaces of the box and board, so as not to interfere either with the playing of the game or the handling of the board and box.

Another object of my invention is to provide, in a game device of the category above-mentioned, rotary mounting means which also serve as attaching means between the board and box. The arrangement of my novel

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construction is hence such that the board may readily be secured to the box in its required operative position by a simple snap action, and may similarly be disassembled by a single operative separating pull. And in accordance with another object of my invention, the said combination mounting and securing means are provided in a readily accessible and visible position, so that the operation of assembling the board and box may easily be effectuated.

It is within my contemplation to employ conventional foldable game boards in conjunction with my invention, thereby not only to facilitate the storing of the board, but also to render the mounting means accessible and visible for the purposes aforesaid. And in one form of my invention I employ a rotary mounting slightly off-center with respect to the medial fold line of the board, thereby facilitating the operative separation of the board from the box.

It is further within my contemplation to enable the turntable construction of my invention to be employed for purposes other than the games hereinabove mentioned, to wit, for use as a lapboard for sewing, where the board may be turned into various positions for the convenience of the sewer, and as a disposable "Lazy Suzan" type of turntable, where units made of paper or similar material incorporating my invention may be fabricated at a low cost.

Other objects, features and advantages will appear from the drawings and the description hereinafter given.

Referring to the drawings:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of an embodiment of my invention in the form of a game comprising a box and other components, the box being shown in its closed position, fragments being broken away for clarity.

Figure 2 is a section of Figure 1 taken substantially along line 2—2.

Figure 3 is a perspective view of the playing board component of the invention, the board being shown in a partly folded condition.

Figure 4 is a side elevation showing the board of Figure 3 operatively mounted on the box component of the game, with rack components arranged in upright playing position; a fragment being removed for clarity, a bent-back section of the board being shown dot-dash.

Figure 5 is a plan view of Figure 4, with the playing board turned partially away from its operative playing position.

Figure 6 is a perspective view, substantially like that of Figure 3, of a modified form of playing board.

Figure 7 is a plan view, substantially like that of Figure 5, showing the playing board of Figure 6 mounted on the box component of the game.

Figure 8 is a perspective view of the assembly of Figure 7 with one section of the game board raised above the supporting surface of the box.

In the form of my invention illustrated in Figures 1 to 5, the game components are the box 10 comprising a bottom portion 11 and cover portion 12, a foldable game board 13, playing pieces 14 and racks 15 for supporting said playing pieces.

The height of the box 11 with the cover in place is sufficient to accommodate therein the folded gameboard 13 and at least one tier of racks 15 when disposed in their upright or playing position. More specifically, as will be seen from Figure 2, the height of the box from base 16 to the top 17 of the cover 12 is greater than (although it may be equal to) the combined thickness of the two sections 18 and 19 of the folded playing board 13 and the vertical wall 20 of a rack 15, said rack being shown with the bottom 21 thereof resting upon the base 16, the playing pieces 14 being preferably positioned below said game board 13.

It will be further noted that the top 17 of cover 12 contains, at the center thereof, a socket 22 with a cavity 23 formed by a segmented annular wall 24, substantially of the construction of the female element of a snap fastener combination. Adjacent the medially disposed fold line 25 of the board is the outwardly extending round-headed lug 26 proportioned to be rotatably accommodated within the said cavity 23 of member 22, said lug 26 being adapted frictionally to engage the annular segmented wall 24 when said lug 26 is being operatively inserted within said cavity 23. The lug 26 is constructed substantially like the male element in a snap fastener, so that it will coact with the female element 22 to effect a ready attachment of the board 13 to the said top 17 of cover 12, as well as a ready detachment of said two components of my invention. It is thus apparent that the said cover of box 10 and the playing board 13 are provided with convenient inexpensive rotary mounting means which permit both a ready assembly and disassembly of the board and box, as well as a rotation of the board relative to the box.

Figures 4 and 5 illustrate the operative position of the board upon the box, the components being shown in their playing position. The racks 15 are disposed adjacent the box 10 and below the outer or marginal portions of the board; and since said racks are necessarily lower than the height of the box in its closed position, the board 13 will always clear said rack during a rotation of the board in accordance with the requirements of the game.

Hence there is no need to place the racks in inconvenient remote positions as is required in conventional games; and there is no danger of having the board during its rotation inadvertently strike the rack and disrupt the pieces thereupon. The use of the turntable construction above-described is obviously more convenient than that of the conventional method of placing the board directly on the table and shifting it from place to place, with the consequent need to keep shifting the said racks 15; and the use of the snap fastener rotary and mounting means is obviously considerably less expensive than the comparatively complex conventional turntable construction. And it is further to be noted that the box 10 itself serves as a component part of the game, since it not only rotatably supports the playing board 13, but also maintains it at a sufficiently high level above the rack components as to prevent interference with the latter.

Since the sections 18 and 19 of the board are rotatably supported only at a relatively small central portion of the box, said sections will rest upon the upper surface of top 17 thereof. The arrangement is hence such that a frictional drag is created upon the operative rotation of board 13, enabling the turning of the board to be controlled, with the danger of a displacement of playing pieces on the board reduced to a minimum.

Since the rotary mounting means 24, 26 are placed adjacent the said fold line 25 of board 13, it is a very simple and convenient step operatively to attach the board 13 to the supporting wall 17, or detach it therefrom. If the section 18 is folded back to the position illustrated by the dot-dash lines in Figure 4, the snap fastener lug 26, being positioned close to said fold edge 25, can readily be seen, so that it may be inserted in place without any of the guess-work or probing as would be required if said snap fastener were not visibly exposed as illustrated. In the event it is desired to detach the playing board from the box, all that need be done is to swing the section 18 of the board to a vertical position, and apply an upward pull in the direction of arrow A (Figure 4). This direct pull will enable the separation of the board from the box to be accomplished with less effort and less danger of damage to the parts than would be the case if a separation were attempted to be effected by applying separating pulls to the lateral edges of the playing board.

In the form of my invention illustrated in Figures 6 to 8, the same box component 10 and playing members are employed, except that a somewhat differently constructed playing board 27 is used. This board contains sections 28 and 29 abutting at medial fold line 30. Section 29, however, has integral therewith, and in the plane thereof, the extension 31, said extension carrying the male snap fastener element 32 thereon. The position of said element 32 is in alignment with fold line 30, as clearly illustrated in Figure 7. The parts can be assembled and disassembled in the manner of the form first above-described, and the board 27 can be rotatably manipulated in similar manner. However, whereas in the first form of my invention the snap fastener rotary mounting means are disposed offset with respect to the medial fold line of the playing board, the corresponding rotary mounting means of the modification are disposed precisely on the fold line, so that there is no eccentric rotation of the board.

In the above description, the invention has been disclosed merely by way of example and in preferred manner; but obviously many variations and modifications may be made therein. It is to be understood, therefore, that the invention is not limited to any specific form or manner of practicing same, except insofar as such limitations are specified in the appended claims.

I claim:

1. In a game device, a box member, and a foldable game board comprising two sections meeting at a medial fold line, one of said sections having a central extension extending beyond said fold line, the other of said sections having a central recess proportioned and positioned to receive said extension when said two sections are operatively in one plane; said box member being of a width sufficient to accommodate therein said game board when folded; said box having a cover with a horizontal wall thereon the upper surface of which is adapted to underlie and be in frictional supporting engagement with both sections of said game board when the latter is operatively placed over said wall; and rotary mounting means on said board and wall, said means comprising coacting male and female snap fastener elements proportioned for relative rotary movement when said elements are in operative engagement, said female snap fastener element being attached to substantially the central portion of the wall of said cover with the cavity portion of the element disposed below the upper surface of said wall, whereby said wall is relatively flat and free from protrusions, said male element being attached to the game board on said extension thereof, whereby the board is rotatable about said cover and the said cover sections are in frictional rotatable engagement with the wall of said cover.

2. In a game device, a box member and a game board; said box member being of a width sufficient to receive therein said game board; said box having a horizontal wall thereon extending across the entire extent of the box, the upper surface of said wall being adapted to underlie and be in supporting engagement with said game board, the latter being an independently movable member operatively movable into and out of said box and adapted for positioning upon said horizontal wall; and rotary mounting means on said board and wall, said means comprising two coacting male and female snap fastener elements proportioned for relative rotary movement when said elements are in operative engagement, one of said elements being only on said horizontal wall and the other only on said board, whereby the board is rotatably supported by said wall.

3. In a game, the combination according to claim 2, said box having a cover removably disposed thereover, said horizontal wall being an integral part of said cover, said female snap fastener element being attached to the wall of said cover with the cavity portion thereof disposed below the upper surface of said wall, whereby said wall is relatively flat and free from protrusions, said male

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element being attached to said game board, whereby when said snap fastener elements are in operative engagement the board is rotatably supported by said wall.

4. In a game device, a box member, and a foldable game board comprising two sections meeting at a medial fold line; said box member being of a width sufficient to receive therein said game board when folded; said box having a cover with a horizontal wall thereon extending across the entire extent of the box, the upper surface of said horizontal wall being adapted to underlie and be in supporting engagement with said game board, the latter being an independently movable member operatively movable into and out of said box and adapted for positioning upon said horizontal wall; and rotary mounting means on said board and said wall, said means comprising two coacting male and female snap fastener elements proportioned for relative rotary movement when said elements are in operative engagement, one of said elements being at substantially the central portion of the wall of said cover, the other of said elements being on said board adjacent said fold line, whereby the board is rotatable about said cover and the said cover sections are in frictional rotatable engagement with the wall of said cover.

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5. In a game, the combination according to claim 4, said female snap fastener element being attached to substantially the central portion of the wall of said cover with the cavity portion of the element disposed below the upper surface of said wall, whereby said wall is relatively flat and free from protrusions, said male element being attached to the game board adjacent said fold line.

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