March 1, 1949. B. P. PALINKAS 2,462,991

NOVEL STIRRING DEVICE

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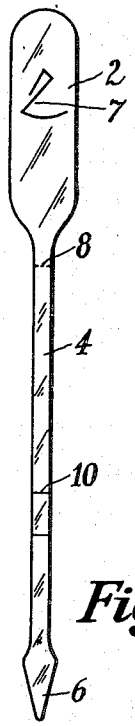


Fig. 1.

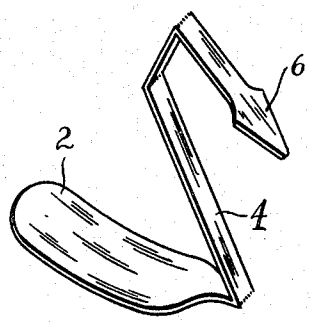


Fig. 2.

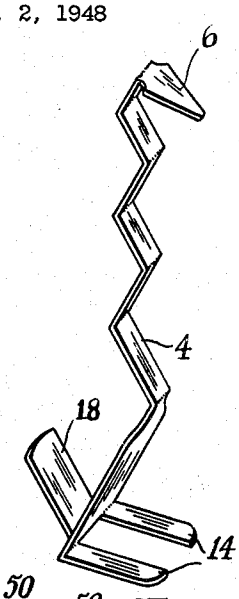


Fig. 4.

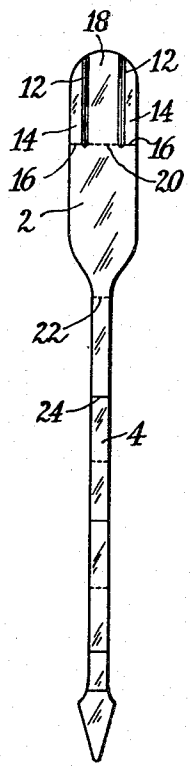


Fig. 3.

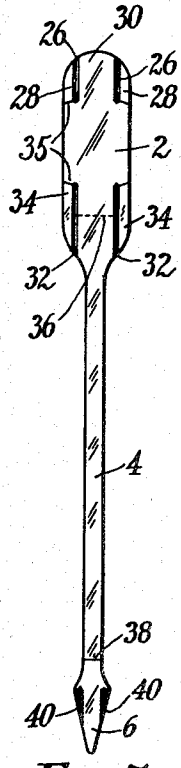


Fig. 5.

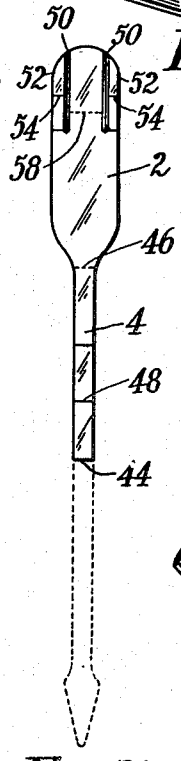


Fig. 7.

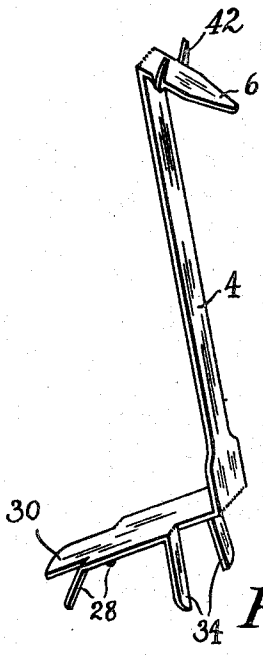


Fig. 6.

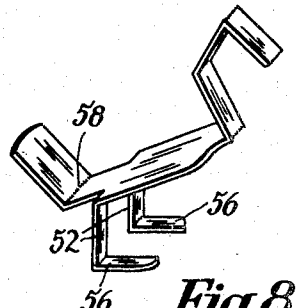


Fig. 8.

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NOVEL STIRRING DEVICE

Bernard P. Palinkas, Trenton, N. J.

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4 Claims. (Cl. 259—144)

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My invention relates to stirring devices or spears such as those frequently served with fruit punch or with mixed drinks such as Old Fashioneds or Manhattans. In particular my invention relates to stirrers which are formed so as to provide an interesting diversion for those to whom drinks are served.

The stirrers or spears normally provided with drinks are formed of wood, fibrous or plastic material, and are discarded after use. When several persons have drinks with which stirrers are provided, there frequently is an accumulation of these stirrers about a table, and during the course of conversation they are often idly bent or broken into various meaningless pieces or shapes so that they clutter up the table and may be brushed onto the floor, presenting an unsightly appearance.

In accordance with my invention such stirrers or spears are formed with scoring, marks or cuts and may have an illustration thereon whereby the user may form the spear into a predetermined figurette which may have any of numerous amusing and attractive shapes, depending upon the particular cuts, scoring or marking provided. The markings or cuts themselves do not generally indicate the shape of the figure which will be produced so that if no illustration or directions are provided each stirrer will present something of a puzzle or surprise for the user, and will afford an interesting and pleasant diversion or entertainment for those seated about a table having drinks. At the same time the stirrers or spears may have a conventional or suitable form for practical use, and are capable of being manufactured economically. In the preferred forms of my invention hereinafter shown and described, the spears or stirrers are designed to be bent or shaped into amusing or grotesque figures or animals which are interesting in themselves and may be arranged in the form of a parade or otherwise for the entertainment of the patrons. In fact, the spears or stirrers are frequently so attractively shaped that they are taken home by the users instead of being scattered about and broken up promiscuously or in a manner to present an untidy appearance at a table.

One of the objects of my invention is to provide a novel type of stirrer or spear such as those served with various drinks.

Another object of my invention is to provide a stirrer which may be formed into the shape of birds, animals, or other figurettes.

A particular object of my invention is to provide a stirrer or spear with predetermined marks, scoring or cuts to indicate the bending necessary to form an interesting or amusing figurette.

These and other objects and features of my invention will appear from the following description thereof in which reference is made to the figures of the accompanying drawing.

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Fig. 1 is a plan view of a typical stirrer embodying my invention and provided with markings to indicate the manner in which it may be bent to simulate a pelican or swan.

Fig. 2 is a perspective view of a figurette produced from the stirrer illustrated in Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a plan view of an alternative form of stirrer embodying my invention and having typical markings and scoring for producing a grotesque bird-like figurette;

Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the figurette produced from the stirrer shown in Fig. 3;

Fig. 5 is an illustration of another type of marking and scoring for a stirrer embodying my invention;

Fig. 6 is a perspective view of a giraffe-like figurette produced from the stirrer shown in Fig. 5;

Fig. 7 is a plan view of a further modified form of stirrer embodying my invention; and

Fig. 8 is a perspective view of a figure produced from the stirrer shown in Fig. 7.

In each of the forms of stirrer illustrated in the drawings the shape of the stirrer or spear is conventional in outline and embodies a paddle portion 2, a shank 4 and a pointed spear portion 6. As shown in each of the figures the spear is marked with transversely extending lines which are illustrated as full lines at those points where the material is to be bent away from the observer, and as dotted lines at those points where the figure is to be bent toward the observer. These lines may consist of scoring, but in order to avoid undue weakening of the stirrers it is generally sufficient to provide markings to indicate the manner in which the article is to be bent. Thus as shown in Figs. 1 and 2 the paddle portion 2 may be bent with respect to the shank 4 in a direction toward the observer along the dotted line 8, and may thereafter be bent away from the observer along the full lines 10. An outline showing the form of the finished figure may be printed on the paddle portion 2 as shown at 7, but the outline may be omitted if the device is to have the character of a puzzle or surprise.

When bent the stirrer will assume the form shown in Fig. 2 so as to simulate a pelican or swan. Furthermore, when the stirrer is formed of wood or fibrous material the paddle portion 2 may be moistened and bent from the dotted line position to the full line position so that paddle portion will be curved and the figurette will rock about the paddle portion as a base in a very amusing and life-like manner.

In the construction shown in Figs. 3 and 4 the paddle portion 2 is scored or cut along the lines 12 extending inward from the end of the paddle portion and parallel to the sides thereof so as to provide foot sections 14 designed to be bent forward along the full lines 16. A central tail portion 18 may then be bent upward along the

dotted line 20. The remainder of the paddle portion 2 and shank 4 of the stirrer is designed to be bent into a zig-zag form along the dotted lines 22 and the full lines 24 so as to produce a grotesque and interesting bird-like figurette of the type shown in Fig. 4.

The stirrer illustrated in Fig. 5 is provided with a paddle portion 2 having two pairs of scoring or cuts in the paddle portion and one pair of cuts in the spear portion. The cuts 26 are arranged to form rear leg portions 28 and a central tail portion 30 whereas the scoring or cuts at 32 provide front leg portions 34 for the figurette. The transverse bend lines 35 where the leg portions are bent may be disposed at a slight angle as shown in order to cause the leg portions to spread apart and provide a better support for the figure. The shank 4 of the stirrer is designed to be bent upward along the line 36 to provide an elongated neck portion for the figure to be made, while the spear portion 6 of the stirrer is designed to be bent forward along the full line 38 to form a head for the resulting giraffe-like figurette. The cuts or scoring 40 in the spear portion 6 are located on opposite sides hereof so as to provide ear or horn simulating projections 42 when bent upwardly as shown.

In the construction shown in Figs. 7 and 8 the dotted line portion of the stirrer may be removed by breaking off the spear portion of the stirrer along the line 44. The remainder of the shank 4 may then be bent toward the observer along the lines 46 and away from the observer along the full lines 48. The paddle portion 2 is scored or cut along the lines 50 to present leg portions 52 which are bent at 54 to produce feet 56 for the figurette. Similarly the central tail portion is bent along the dotted line 58 as shown in Figs. 7 and 8. Thus a very interesting form of duck-like figurette is produced from the stirrer.

It will be apparent that numerous other types of marking, cutting and scoring may be employed so as to enable the user to make numerous alternative figures which are interesting, attractive or amusing. Instead of applying transverse bend lines to the blank such as those shown at 8, 10, 16 and 35, the adjacent portions may be contrastingly colored to indicate the locations of the bends. Thus in forming the figures shown in Figs. 4 and 6 the spear portion 6 may be red, while the shank 4 is yellow, or some other contrasting color. Similarly, the leg portions 14, 28 and 34 may be red or yellow, while the balance of the paddle portion 2 of the blank may be green or some other contrasting color to produce a figure which is of grotesque or amusing appearance, and one in which no score lines are necessarily employed.

It will further be evident that the material of which the stirrer is formed may be wood, fibrous material, or various plastics capable of being bent or otherwise shaped or deformed to produce the figures desired. When the stirrer is formed of wood with the grain extending longitudinally of the paddle portion and shank the score lines preferably extend parallel to the grain of the wood and to the sides of the paddle portion so that the wood may be split or severed easily without danger of breaking the fingernails. The bend lines extending across the grain of the wood and the score lines usually terminate adjacent a bend line. When using wood or fibrous material it is generally unnecessary to provide scoring at the bend lines to insure proper formation of a figure.

The stirrer portion may, of course, be provided with an advertising or design, and thus lend itself to identification so that when carried home from a hotel or tavern it will inform or remind observers of the source of such an attractive figure. The advertising advantages of the stirrers and the possible incentive provided to purchase drinks at a particular establishment therefore is of outstanding value.

For these reasons it will be apparent that my invention may be embodied in numerous types of stirrers, spears and the like for amusement and advertising purposes, and is capable of many modifications in form and construction. It should therefore be understood that the particular embodiments of my invention shown in the drawings are intended to be illustrative only and are not intended to limit the scope of my invention.

I claim:

1. A stirring device made of deformable material and having bend lines located thereon in predetermined positions, score lines formed in said material and each extending from one edge of the device to one of said bend lines and positioned so that when said material is severed along said score line and bent along said bend lines a figurette of predetermined shape will be produced.

2. A stirring device made of deformable material and having a paddle portion and a spear portion connected by an elongated shank, bend lines located on the paddle portion and shank and extending transversely thereof at predetermined points, leg forming sections located on opposite sides of the paddle portion and defined by lines extending parallel to said sides from one end of the paddle portion to one of said transversely extending lines, said sections and lines being positioned so that bending of said material along the bend lines will result in the formation of a figurette of predetermined shape.

3. A stirrer made of deformable material and having a paddle portion and a spear portion connected by an elongated shank, bend lines located on said shank and paddle portion and extending transversely thereof, a pair of score lines extending from one end of said paddle portion to one of said bed lines parallel to the edges of said paddle portion to define leg sections and said score lines and bend lines being arranged in predetermined positions such that severing of said material along said score lines and bending thereof on said bend lines will result in the formation of a figurette of predetermined shape.

4. A stirring device having a paddle portion and a spear portion connected by an elongated shank, said device being formed of wood having the grain thereof extending longitudinally of the paddle portion and shank, bend lines located in predetermined positions on the paddle portion and shank and extending across the grain of the wood and transversely of the paddle portion and shank, and a pair of score lines extending parallel to the grain of said wood and to the sides of the paddle portion from one end of the paddle portion to one of said bend lines, said score lines and bend lines being positioned so that when the wood is severed along said score lines and bent along said bend lines a figurette of predetermined shape will be produced.

BERNARD P. PALINKAS.

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