June 9, 1964 M. J. RUDERIAN 3,136,549

TOP SUPPORT USED IN COMBINATION WITH A BOOK AS A CHANCE DEVICE

Filed Oct. 9, 1962

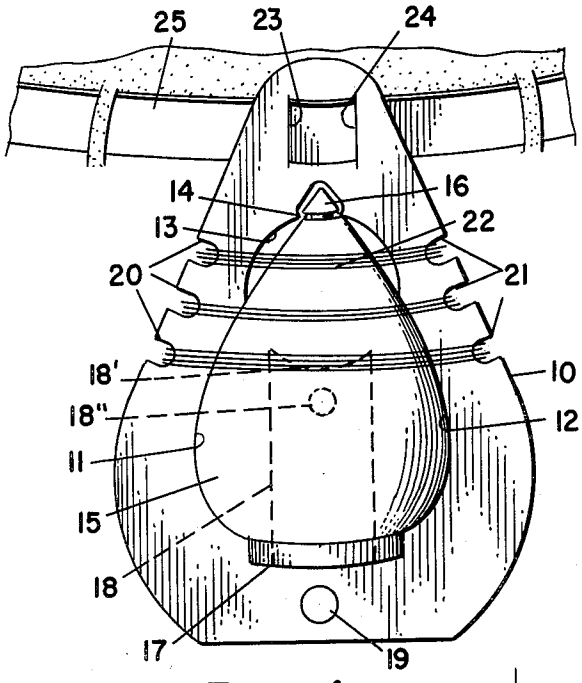


FIG. 1.

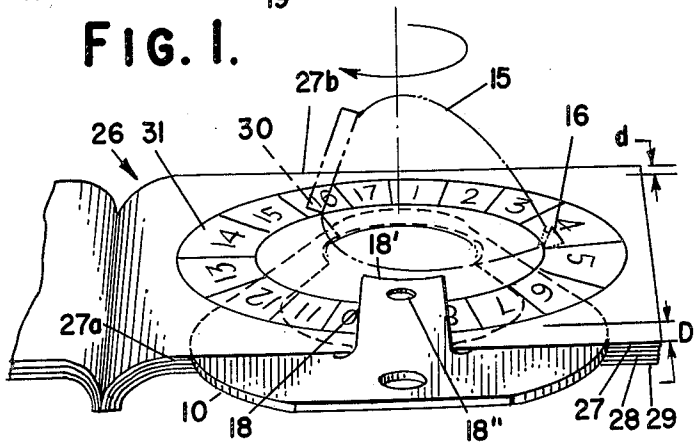


FIG. 2.

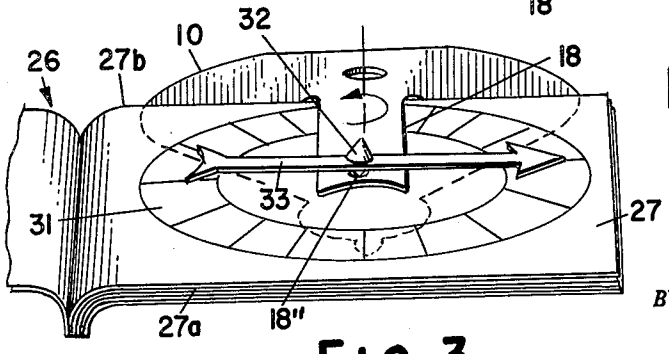


FIG. 3.

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United States Patent Office 3,136,549 Patented June 9, 1964

3,136,549

TOP SUPPORT USED IN COMBINATION WITH A BOOK AS A CHANCE DEVICE

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Filed Oct. 9, 1962, Ser. No. 229,347
6 Claims. (Cl. 273—141)

This invention relates generally to amusement devices and more particularly to a novel spinning device and book combination in which a large variety of games may be played.

In my co-pending patent application Serial No. 222,776, filed September 11, 1962, for Accessory for a top, there is described a unique holding means in the form of an integral stamping enabling a top of generally conical shape to be easily supported and carried about. In another of my co-pending patent applications Serial No. 224,483 filed September 18, 1962, for Accessory Device for Toys, there is described an improved top holding device also serving to support a rotatable type member such as a "Yo-Yo." In this connection, the holder serves additional functions of supporting the "Yo-Yo" so that it may be spun about a stationary axis, a portion of the stamping defining a pointer means to designate any one of several markings on the periphery of the "Yo-Yo." By this arrangement, the holder for the top and "Yo-Yo" serves dual functions in that it enables a game to be played in which a particular marking is designated, this marking serving to designate a particular action for a player.

In still another of my co-pending applications Serial No. 222,854, filed September 11, 1962 for Game Top, there is disclosed a top having flattened side sections such that when it comes to rest after spinning, a particular marking will be visible.

With the foregoing in mind, it is a primary object of this invention to provide a yet further improved combination holder and game structure in which a far greater number of games may be played.

More particularly, it is an object to provide an improved holder for a top which also serves as a bearing support for the top in cooperation with a book including various markings so that the top may be spun on its side to designate any one of the several markings on any one of the several pages of the book with which the holder is used.

A broader object of this invention is to provide a combination stamping and book structure together with a pointer means in which any one of a plurality of pages may be employed in conjunction with the stamping to provide a bearing means for the pointer to the end that a wide variety of games may be played.

Other objects of the invention are to provide a holding device in the form of a stamping which serves several different functions and yet which may be manufactured extremely economically.

Briefly, these and many other objects and advantages of this invention are attained by providing a single integral stamping having a central cutout area and including a portion defining a tongue extending into the coutout area. The arrangement is such that the tongue may be flexed out of the plane of the stamping. The tongue itself includes a bearing means for supporting at least in part a pointer or a top so that the pointer or top may be spun.

Cooperating with the above stamping is a book including a plurality of pages, each page including markings radially spaced from a center point. The arrangement is such that the tongue of the stamping may be flexed out of the plane of the stamping and the stamping inserted under any one page with the tongue extending over the top of the page. The top or pointer as the case

may be may then be cradled by the bearing means at the end of the tongue and spun so that the apex of the top or the pointer will come to rest in a position designating any one of the particular markings on that page. This marking may be employed to designate a particular action such as in a game of baseball, or other similar game. Alternatively, the markings may be of an educational character wherein different foreign words are spaced about a central point, and when the pointer or top comes to rest designating one of the words, a player is required to translate the same.

In the preferred embodiment of the invention, the holder also serves to support the top to facilitate carrying the top about in a manner similar to that described in the above-mentioned co-pending application for an Accessory for a Top.

A better understanding of the invention will be had by now referring to a preferred embodiment thereof as illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which:

FIGURE 1 is a front elevational view illustrating the single stamping constituting part of the spinning game of this invention for supporting a top;

FIGURE 2 is a fragmentary perspective view illustrating one manner in which the stamping of FIGURE 1 is employed in conjunction with a book to play a game using the top; and,

FIGURE 3 is a view similar to FIGURE 2 illustrating a modification wherein a substitute pointing means is provided in lieu of a top in cooperation with the stamping and book.

Referring first to FIGURE 1, there is shown a top holder in the form of a flat stamping **10** including inner, curved, cutout edges **11** and **12** extending upwardly and terminating in arcuate portions defining the periphery of a circle **13**. The extreme upper end of the circle includes a small apex opening **14**. The curved edges **11** and **12** together with the peripheral portion of the circle **13** define a central cutout area in the stamping **10** dimensioned to correspond at least in part to opposite sides of a top **15**. The apex portion **16** of the top **15** is received within the upper cutout **14** as shown.

The lower or base end of the top, which is generally conically shaped, includes a slot-like cavity **17** to receive a tongue **18** forming an integral extension of the sheet **10** within the cutout area. The tongue **18** terminates in a concave end **18'** forming part of the circle **13**. Below the base portion of the top, there is provided a small opening **19** in the stamping **10** adapted to receive an extra tip for the top.

With the above arrangement, the tongue **18** may be inserted within the cavity **17** of the top and the top urged into the cutout area with the curved opposite inner side edges **11** and **12** cradling the top as shown. Further securement of the top within the sheet **10** is achieved by providing a series of notches **20** and **21** on opposite exterior sides of the stamping **10** about which a top string **22** may be wound to straddle the upper portion of the top as shown.

The extreme end of the stamping **10** terminates in a fastening means in the form of a pair of parallel slots **23** and **24** for receiving a belt **25** of a person. The top together with an extra tip may thus be easily carried about.

Referring now to FIGURE 2, there is illustrated a book **26** having a plurality of pages such as indicated at **27**, **28**, and **29**. Each of these pages includes a diagram as shown which may take the form of a series of markings such as the digits 1, 2, 3, etc., radially spaced from a center point on the top of the page. With this arrangement, the top **15** may be removed from the stamping **10** of FIGURE 1 and the stamping inserted under one side of a page such as the side **27***a* of the page **27** with the tongue **18** extending over the top of the page. The dimensioning of the

stamping 10 is such that the circular peripheral portion 13 of FIGURE 1 forms an impression 30 in cooperation with the concave portion 18' of the tongue. This impression is concentric with any suitable type circular diagram on the page such as at 31. The circular impression 30 is arranged to cradle a curved side portion of the top 15 so that the same may be placed on its side and spun about a vertical axis as indicated by the arrow. The apex 16 of the top will then come to rest opposite one of the various markings in the diagram 31 so that a game may be played. In this connection, a desired action such as in a baseball game may be dictated by the particular marking at which the apex of the top comes to rest.

It will be evident, of course, that the stamping may be repositioned to sandwich other pages so that different types of diagrams are available for use with the spinning top serving as a pointer.

Referring now to FIGURE 3, there is illustrated another means in which a game may be played wherein a pointer is employed instead of a top. Towards this end, the tongue portion is provided with a small opening 18'' spaced from the center of the circular diagram 31 a given distance. The diagram 31 is positioned towards the opposite side 27*b* of the page 27 by a distance "*d*" different from the distance "D" of the diagram from the first side of the page 27*a*. This difference in distance equals the given distance of the spacing of the opening 18'' from the center of the diagram 31. By so positioning the diagram on the page in this manner, the stamping 10 may be removed and inserted to sandwich the opposite side of the page 27*b* therebetween as illustrated in FIGURE 3. In this position, the opening 18'' coincides with the center of the diagram 31 and will serve as a bearing for a suitable bearing means 32 to support a pointer member in the form of an arrow 33. The bearing member may constitute the extra tip 32 for the top of FIGURE 1 normally retained within the opening 19. The pointer 33 itself may simply include a small opening 33' intermediate its ends to receive the tip portion of the bearing member 32 and thus permit spinning of the pointer.

The operation of the spinning game and book combination will be evident from the foregoing description. With the stamping structure as described in conjunction with FIGURE 1, the top 15 may easily be carried about on a user's belt. The user, if he desires to play with the top, need only unwind the string 22, remove the top, and spin the top with the string in a conventional manner. Further, if the user wishes to play a game, he may employ the book 26 shown in FIGURE 2 in cooperation with the stamping 10 to support the top on its side and employ the top as a pointer. Alternatively, and as described in conjunction with FIGURE 3, another type pointer means may be employed with the same stamping structure. The stamping, in addition to its function as a holder for the top and as a bearing guide, may also be used as a simple book mark.

It should be understood that any other suitable means for supporting the bearing means could be used when the pointer is employed in lieu of the top. Thus, the center of the pages may be provided with a hole to receive the top tip for supporting the pointer.

While only one particular embodiment of the invention has been shown and described, various modifications that fall within the scope and spirit of the invention will occur to those skilled in the art. The spinnnig game and book combination are therefore not to be thought of as limited to the exact embodiment set forth merely for illustrative purposes.

What is claimed is:

1. A spinning game and book comprising, in combination: a stamping having a portion adapted to be flexed out of the plane of said stamping; a pointer means adapted to be rotatably guided at least in part by said portion; and a book including at least one page having markings radially spaced from a center point, whereby said stamping may be inserted under said page with said portion extending over the top of said page and said pointer means rotatably guided at least in part by said portion so that it may be spun to come to rest in a position designating any one of said markings.

2. A spinning game and book comprising, in combination: a flat stamping having a cutout area defining a tongue adapted to be flexed out of the plane of said stamping, the end portion of said tongue defining a bearing means; a rotatable pointer member; and a book having a plurality of pages each including markings radially spaced about a center point, whereby said stamping may be inserted under any one page with said tongue extending over the top of said page and said pointer member positioned against said bearing means and spun to come to rest in a position designating one of said markings to provide a game in which certain actions to be taken are dictated by the particular marking designated by said pointer member, said bearing means serving as a guide for said pointer member when spun.

3. A spinning game and book comprising, in combination: a flat stamping having an internal cutout area and a tongue extending into said area; a top of conical shape; and a book having a plurality of pages each including a diagram with the various markings radially spaced from a center point, said tongue including bearing means for cradling at least in part a side portion of said top, whereby said stamping may be inserted under any one page with said tongue extending over the top of said page and said top placed against said bearing means and spun on its side so that its apex will come to rest in a position designating one of said markings.

4. A spinning game and book, according to claim 3, in which said tongue has an opening defining an additional bearing means adapted to support a pointer.

5. A spinning game and book comprising, in combination: a flat stamping having an internal cutout area defining, at least in part, the periphery of a circle, said stamping including a tongue projecting into said area and terminating in a concave arc forming part of said periphery; a top in the form of a conically shaped member, and a book having a plurality of pages each page having a circular diagram thereon and markings distributed thereabout such that said stamping may be inserted under one side of any one page with said tongue extending over the top of said page to sandwich said page therebetween with the center of said circle coinciding with the center of said circular diagram, whereby said top may be positioned with a side surface cradled within said periphery of said circle and spun on its side so that its apex comes to rest pointing to a particular one of said markings on said circular diagram.

6. A spinning game and book according to claim 5, in which said tongue includes an opening spaced inwardly from the center of said circle a given distance, said circular diagram being positioned closer to the opposite side of said page than to said one side by said given distance whereby said stamping may be repositioned to sandwich said opposite side of said page therebetween so that said opening is positioned at the center of said circular diagram for supporting a pointer.

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