

Oct. 27, 1953

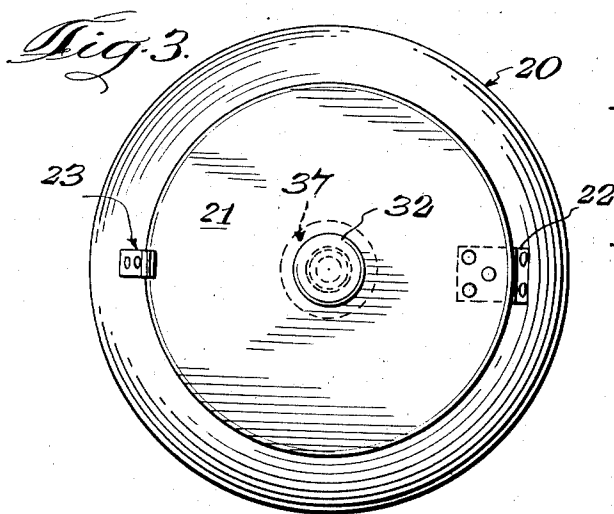
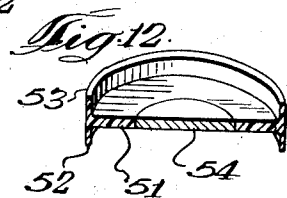
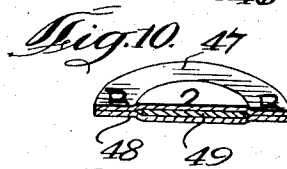
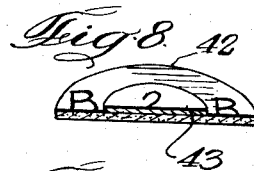
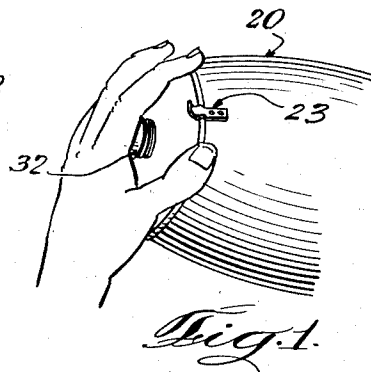
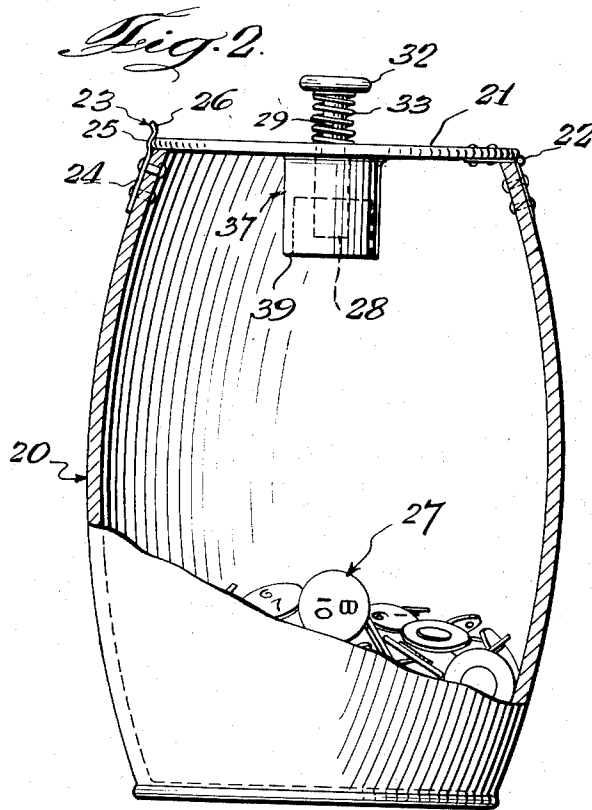
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2,657,059

MAGNETIC LOT SELECTING DEVICE

Filed Sept. 14, 1951

2 Sheets-Sheet 1



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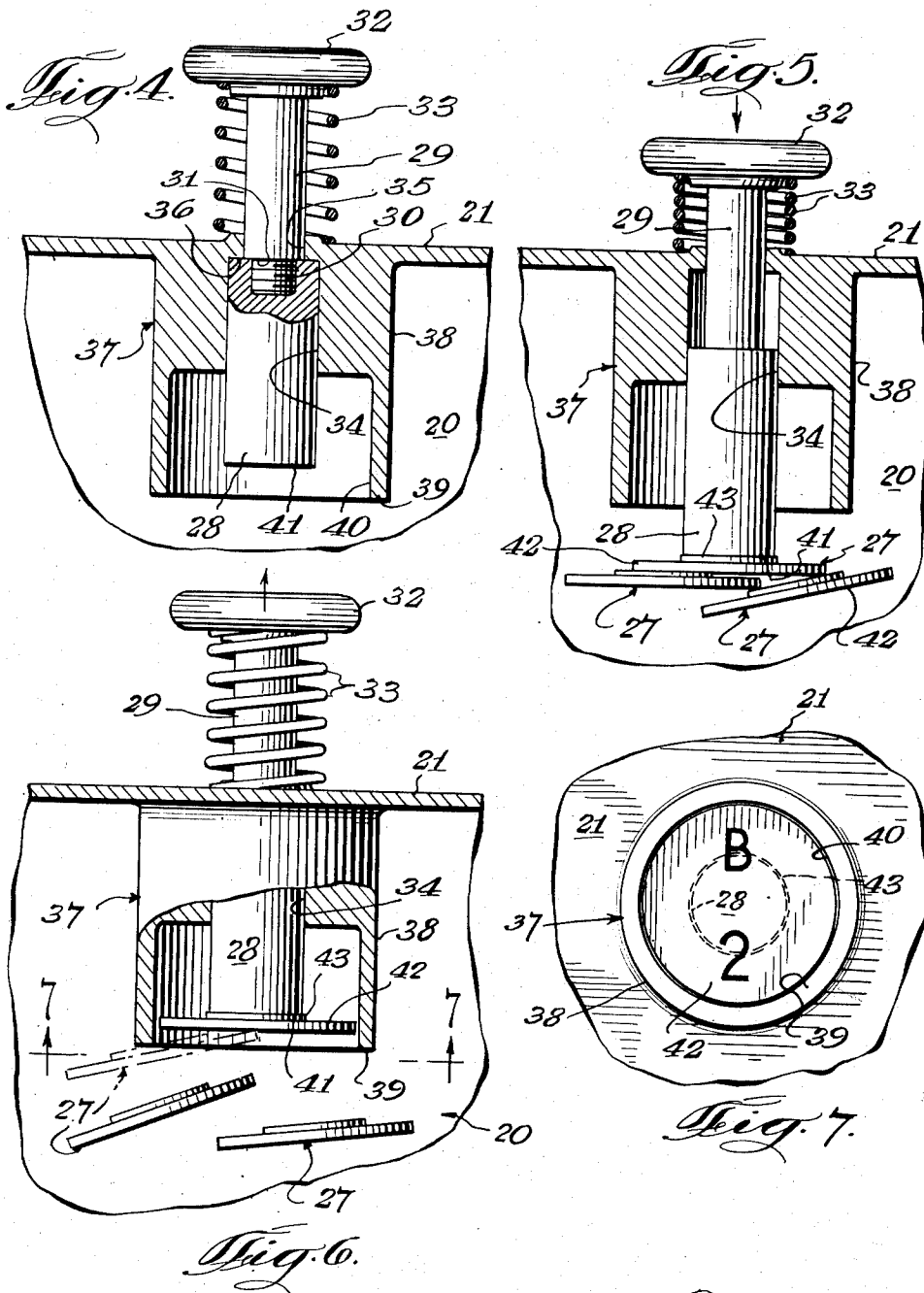
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MAGNETIC LOT SELECTING DEVICE

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2 Sheets-Sheet 2



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MAGNETIC LOT SELECTING DEVICE

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6 Claims. (Cl. 273-144)

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This invention relates to gaming devices and particularly to a device for selecting at random from a group of loose tokens one token at a time, each token bearing different indicia pertinent to the game being played.

The principal object of this invention is to provide a shaker device which will select a token without the token being touched by the player until the selection has been made, thereby eliminating any possibility of fraud.

A more specific object of this invention is to provide a shaker device which will select tokens by magnetic attraction, with means for eliminating all but one token from the magnetic selector.

A still more specific object of this invention is to provide a shaker device for games utilizing indicia-bearing tokens, said device comprising a completely enclosed container for the tokens which may be shaken by a player, the container having a hinged or otherwise removable cover to which but one token can adhere so that after the container is shaken, the player merely opens the container by swinging the hinged cover open and then removes the selected token.

These and other objects of this invention will become apparent from the following detailed description when taken together with the accompanying drawings in which:

Fig. 1 is a fragmentary view of a shaker incorporating this invention showing the shaker in use;

Fig. 2 is an elevation partly in section of the shaker;

Fig. 3 is a plan view of the shaker of Fig. 2;

Fig. 4 is an enlarged fragmentary section through the cover of Fig. 1 showing the operating mechanism in released position prior to being used;

Fig. 5 is a view corresponding to Fig. 4 showing the operating mechanism in the first stage of its operation, i. e., after the container has been shaken but before the mechanism has been operated to select only one of the tokens adhering to the mechanism;

Fig. 6 is a view corresponding to Fig. 4 showing the mechanism in its second stage of operation, or after all but one token have been removed from the mechanism;

Fig. 7 is a bottom view taken along line 7-7 of Fig. 6; and

Figs. 8 to 12 show different forms of tokens which may be used with the shaker of Fig. 2.

Referring to the drawings now for a detailed description of the invention, and particularly to Figs. 1 to 3, the shaker is comprised of a container

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in the form of a barrel or any other shape convenient to hold in the hand, the barrel being designated generally by reference character 20. Said barrel 20 is provided with a cover 21 secured to barrel 20 by a hinge 22 so that cover 21 can be swung open after the barrel is shaken. A spring catch 23 diametrically opposed to hinge 22 serves to hold cover 21 in closed position while the barrel is being shaken. In the form chosen for illustration, catch 23 is comprised of a flat strip of spring steel 24 having a bend 25 to receive the edge region of cover 21 and a camming end 26 for starting the said edge region into the catch as well as providing a means by which the operator can release the catch, the releasing being effected by bending the camming end away from the cover until the edge region of the cover clears catch 23.

The tokens used in the game being played are placed in the barrel and are shown at 27. The size of the barrel in relation to the quantity of tokens is so selected that there will be ample space remaining above the tokens to permit the tokens to be thoroughly shaken. The specific form of the tokens may vary with the game being played. For purposes of illustration the tokens are shown as circular in form such as are used in the game known as "Bingo." It is understood that this invention is not limited to tokens used in this game but may be applied to any game using tokens generally circular or polygonal in form which must be selected by chance one at a time. However, when used with "Bingo" tokens, such tokens must be provided with indicia consisting of a letter and a number for each token.

The selecting mechanism is comprised of a plunger 28 (Fig. 4) preferably of circular cross section and of a magnetizable material such that it can be permanently magnetized, and for the purposes of this invention plunger 28 is so permanently magnetized. Said plunger 28 is secured to a stem 29 not necessarily made of magnetizable material to reduce the cost of the mechanism. Said stem 29 may be secured to plunger 28 by a threaded extension 30 on the stem screwed into a correspondingly threaded opening in plunger 28, a shoulder 31 on stem 29 serving to lock the stem to the plunger when the two are tightened on the threads of extension 30. Stem 29 terminates in a knob 32 which is used by the operator to manipulate plunger 28. A spring 33 compressed between knob 32 and cover 21 urges knob 32 away from cover 21 and through stem 29, urges plunger 28 to its withdrawn position as shown in Fig. 4. Plunger 28 is larger in diameter than stem 29 and operates in a larger opening 34 than stem open-

ing 35, the difference in size of openings creating a shoulder 36 which acts as a limit stop for plunger 28 when it is acted upon by spring 33.

Opening 34 is formed in a guard 37 which may consist of an extension 38 secured to or molded as a part of cover 21. If circular tokens are used, extension 38 is preferably circular, though not necessarily, in form and has an open end 39, the opening 40 therein being slightly larger than and of the same general form as the token. The end 41 of plunger 28 in the withdrawn position of the plunger comes to rest a short distance within the open end 39 of extension 38. The plunger 28 is shown in its extended position in Fig. 5. In this extended position, end 41 of magnetic plunger 28 is located beyond the end of guard 37 so that when the container 20 is shaken, the tokens 27 tumble past plunger 28. Said tokens 27 in one form (Fig. 8) are formed of pasteboard discs 42 on one side of which are printed one or more symbols pertinent to the game being played. In the case of the game "Bingo," the symbols are a letter such as "B" (Fig. 7) and a number such as "2." On the other side of the disc 27 is secured by a suitable adhesive a magnetizable disc 43.

It will be apparent that those discs within the sphere of influence of the plunger 28 will be magnetically attracted to the said plunger and will adhere to the plunger. It is possible that several discs will adhere as shown in Fig. 5. When the knob 32 is released by the operator, plunger 28 will be withdrawn within the confines of guard 37 because of the action of spring 33. As the plunger moves into the guard 37, those discs which are not centered on plunger 28 so as to pass within the confines of said guard will be knocked off by guard 37, particularly by the end 39 thereof as shown in Fig. 6. It has been found that one disc will always adhere to the withdrawn plunger despite the seeming improbability of a disc adhering in exactly centered position on the end 41 of plunger 28. After the container 20 is shaken and knob 32 is released, the container is righted as shown in Fig. 2 and catch 23 is sprung open, thereby allowing cover 21 to be swung on its hinge 22 to its open position. The adhering disc is then removed and the indicia read or otherwise utilized in the playing of the game.

It is understood that although guard 37 is shown in Fig. 2 as extending entirely within container 20, it may be so formed that only a part of it extends into the container, the remainder being disposed above or outside of cover 21, and in fact, it may be entirely in the cover so that edge 39 is flush with the interior of cover 21. This latter form may be desirable where only a few discs are used in the game and hence it becomes desirable to have all of the discs pass before the end 41 of plunger 28 without becoming lodged in the space between end 39 of guard 37 and the interior of the cover 21 where guard 37 prevents the discs from contacting the plunger 28. Other devices for preventing the lodging of the discs on the exterior of guard 37, such as filling the space between the end 39 and cover 21, will suggest themselves to those skilled in the art.

The discs 27 may take any one of a number of forms within the scope of this invention. Some of these other forms are shown in Figs. 9-12 inclusive to which reference is now made. In Fig. 9 the disc is comprised of a plastic washer 44 into the opening 45 of which is pressed a metallic,

magnetic disc 46. In Fig. 10, two sheets of relatively heavy paper in disc form 47, 48 are pasted over a disc 49 of magnetic material. In Fig. 11, the entire disc 50 is made of magnetic material with the indicia lithographed on one or both of the surfaces of the disc. The form shown in Fig. 12 comprises a disc 51 made of non-magnetizable material such as any one of the well known artificial resins, the disc having raised edges 52 and 53 and a metallic disc 54 pressed into an opening in the center of the disc.

It is understood that the foregoing description is merely illustrative of preferred embodiments of this invention and that the scope of the invention is not to be limited thereto, but is to be determined by the appended claims.

I claim:

1. A device for shaking and selecting one indicia-bearing token from a group of such tokens, said device comprising a container in which a plurality of tokens is received, a removable cover for the container, a magnetized reciprocable plunger in the container, means for operating the plunger from the exterior of the cover, at least a portion of each token being made of magnetizable material such that the tokens within the sphere of influence of the plunger will be attracted to the plunger, and an open-ended guard around the plunger, said plunger being reciprocable into and out of the open end of said guard, said guard being sufficiently large to receive one token within its confines, said guard serving to remove all but one token from the plunger upon reciprocation of the plunger into the guard.

2. A device as described in claim 1, said plunger having a stem which extends through the cover to the exterior thereof for manipulation by the operator.

3. A device as described in claim 1, said guard comprising a collar of rigid material secured to the cover.

4. A device as described in claim 1, said plunger having a stem which extend through the cover to the exterior thereof for manipulation by the operator, resilient means acting upon the stem and urging the plunger out of the container, and means for limiting the outward movement of the plunger.

5. A device as described in claim 1, said plunger having a stem which extends through the cover to the exterior thereof for manipulation by the operator, and said guard comprising a collar of rigid material secured to the cover.

6. A device as described in claim 1, said plunger having a stem which extends through the cover to the exterior thereof for manipulation by the operator, resilient means acting upon the stem and urging the plunger out of the container, means for limiting the outward movement of the plunger, and said guard comprising a collar of rigid material secured to the cover, the collar extending into the container a greater distance than the plunger when the plunger is moved outward to its limiting position.

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