July 5, 1932. E. C. FEY 1,866,021

FINGER STRIKING AMUSEMENT DEVICE

Filed Jan. 27, 1930

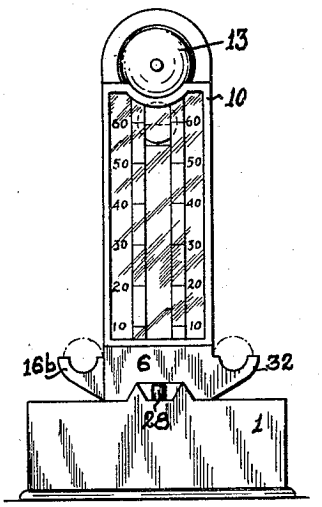


Fig. 1.

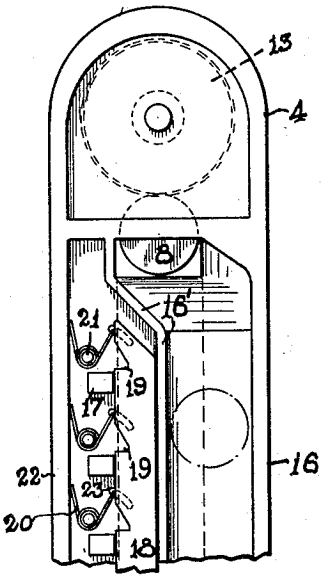


Fig. 3.

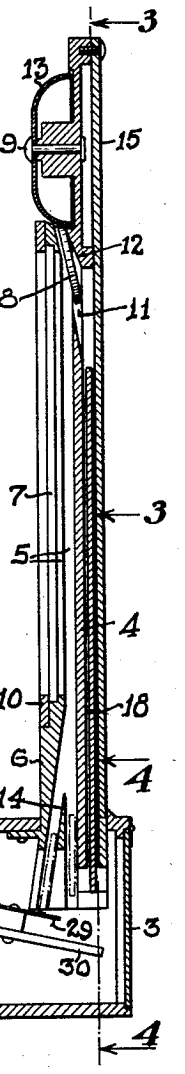


Fig. 2.

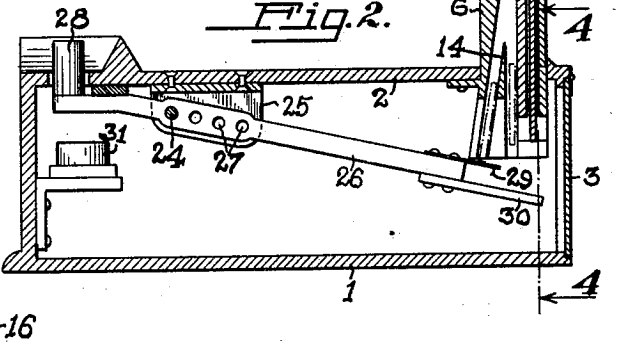
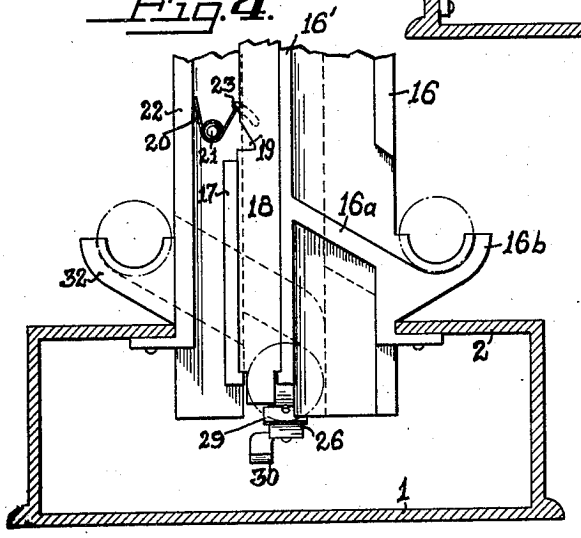


Fig. 4.



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Patented July 5, 1932 1,866,021

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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FINGER STRIKING AMUSEMENT DEVICE

Application filed January 27, 1930. Serial No. 423,746.

This invention relates to an improved finger striking amusement device wherein novel means is provided for testing one's skill in manipulating a coin elevating lever through the use of a finger.

An object of this invention is to provide an improved finger striking amusement device embodying novel means for testing one's skill in striking a coin elevating lever.

Another object of this invention is to provide an amusement device embodying novel means for indicating the skill exercised by one in striking his finger against a coin elevating lever.

A further object of this invention is to provide a novel amusement device embodying a novel finger actuated means for testing one's skill in elevating a coin or other device to a certain height.

A still further object of this invention is to provide a novel finger striking amusement device embodying means for rewarding the skillful operation thereof.

Other objects more or less apparent will present themselves or will be specifically pointed out in the description to follow.

In the accompanying drawing:

Figure 1 is a front view of a finger striking amusement device constructed in accordance with my invention;

Figure 2 is a vertical sectional view of the same;

Figure 3 is a sectional view taken on the line 3—3 of Figure 2; and

Figure 4 is a sectional view taken on the line 4—4 of Figure 2.

Referring to the drawing the numeral 1 represents an enclosing casing having a top 2 and a rear hinged door 3 through which the interior of the casing is made accessible.

The rear part of the top 2 is provided with a slot, at the side edges of which is secured a vertically extending front panel 4 having forward and inwardly disposed coin or token guides 5 secured thereto. The guides 5 are separated from each other for a sufficient distance to provide a vertically extending passageway through which a coin or token of particular size may proceed. Suitably mounted on a support 6 secured to the top 2 and positioned in front of the panel 4, is an enclosing glass plate 7 through which a moving coin or token 8 is plainly visible. The guides 5 at points behind the glass plate are provided with marks or lines and figures to denote specific distances or divisions. The glass plate is firmly held in position on the support 6 and against the guides 5 by a rectangular shaped rim 10 which is suitably secured to the support as by screws.

The front panel 4 at its upper end is provided with an obliquely disposed slot 11, the upper surface or edge 12 of which is inclined toward and terminates adjacent a bell 13 secured as by a pin 9 to the forward side of the said panel near its top part. The inclined surface 12 gradually projects in a forward direction in such a manner that a coin passing upwardly between the guides and panel 4 strikes the said inclined surface and is thereby directed against the bell 13. The upper rear edge of the support 6 at points between the guides 5 is cut away on an incline to provide a surface which is separated from, but is approximately parallel with the inclined surface 12. The support 6 at its lower end is provided with a triangular shaped projection 14, the front surface of which is slightly inclined from the perpendicular and is sufficiently separated from the rear surface of the support 4 so as to provide an inclined slot through which a coin or token may proceed upwardly prior to its entry into the vertical passageway located between the guides 5. The rear side of the projection 14 is sufficiently separated from the panel 4 to permit a coin or token to pass downwardly into the interior of the casing 1.

Secured as by screws to the front panel 4 and extending upwardly in a vertical direction, is a rear panel 15 having its front surface in contact with a number of rearwardly projecting guide members 16, 16′ and 17 located on the front panel 4. Two of the guides 16 and 16′ extend upwardly for a certain distance in parallel relationship to each other and serve to guide the coin or token in a downward direction after it has passed through the slot 11 in the front panel 4. The guide 16′ at its lower end is provided with an

outwardly disposed part shown at 16*a*, the latter terminating in a curved grooved projection 16*b* which serves to retain the coin after it has passed downwardly between the guides 16 and 16′. Located in vertical alignment and in spaced relationship to the guide 16′, are a plurality of guiding members 17, which together with the guide 16′ serves to confine the movement of a bar 18 in a vertically straight path. The bar 18 is provided at one side thereof with a plurality of separated notches 19 which are adapted to receive the ends of a number of springs 20. The springs 20 are mounted in spaced relationship to each other on pins 21 secured to the rear side of the front panel 4. One end of each of the springs bears against a projection 22 extending from the front panel 4, while the opposite end extends through a slot 23 located in the front panel. The slots 23 permit the ends of the springs 20 to move downwardly and pass into the notches 19 of the bar 18 when the said bar is moved upwardly to certain positions.

Pivotally mounted on a pin 24 secured to a projection 25 extending downwardly from the underneath side of the top 2, is a lever member 26 having a number of holes 27 therein which permit the change of the pivotal point of attachment to the projection. One end of the lever member is provided with an upwardly extending finger piece 28 which extends through an opening in the top 2. The opposite or rearwardly disposed end of the lever member 26 at its top edge is provided with a resilient bar 29 which is positioned to intercept a coin or token located between the triangular projection 14 and the rear surface of the support 6. The underneath side of the end of the lever member 26 is provided with an end piece 30 which extends for a distance in a rearward direction beyond the end of resilient bar 29, the said piece 30 being adapted to strike the lower end of the bar 18 when the finger piece 28 is moved in a downward direction. A buffer 31 extending from the front side of the casing 1 at a point beneath the finger piece 28, serves to intercept the end of the lever member 26 and prevent possible damage to the device when the finger piece is depressed.

A coin chute 32 provided on the front panel 4 serves to guide a coin or token 8 into the passageway located between the front inclined surface of 14 and the rear surface of support 6, where it rests on resilient bar 29. The lever member 26 is so disposed with reference to its pivotal point that the finger piece 28 is normally elevated and the opposite end thereof normally depressed. To actuate the coin or token in an upward direction, the finger piece 28 is struck downwardly by the finger, thereby causing the resilient bar 29 to throw the coin or token upwardly between the guides 5. Immediately after the coin is moved upwardly by the bar 29, the piece 30 strikes the downwardly disposed end of the bar 18 and moves the same upwardly between guides 16′ and 17. If the finger piece 28 is maintained in a downward position after being struck, the bar 18 likewise will be held in a suspended position. When it is so held in an upwardly suspended position, the ends of the springs move downwardly in their slots 23, this being due to the fact that the said ends of the springs are allowed to enter the notches 19 of the bar 18. The ends of the springs extend beyond the front surface of the front panel 4 and move inwardly and downwardly between the coin or token guides 5, thereby intercepting a coin or token immediately after it commences to proceed downwardly between the said guides. The coin or token is maintained in a suspended position between the guides 5 by a certain spring 20 until the finger piece 28 is released and the bar 18 drops by gravity to its normal position. Should a person strike the finger piece 28 with sufficient skill to move the coin or token up the entire passageway between the guides 5 to the bell 13, the inclined surface 12 will cause the said coin to become positioned at a slightly inclined angle immediately before and after striking the bell, as shown in Figure 2. The coin, in such an instance and upon its return descent, passes through the slot 11 in the front panel 4 and thereafter proceeds between the guides 16 and 16′ to the projecting member 16*b* where the operator may recover the same and be rewarded for his skillful manipulation of the device.

Should the coin or token be elevated only a partial distance toward the bell 13, it will, upon release of the finger piece, pass downwardly between the guides 5 and through the slot or opening between the triangular projection 14 and the front panel 4 to the inside of the casing 1.

It is obvious to those skilled in the art that my improved finger striking amusement device may be embodied in a number of forms equally as efficient as the one shown and described, so for this and other apparent reasons I desire my invention included broadly within the spirit of the appended claims.

Having described my invention what I claim is:

1. An amusement device comprising a plurality of substantially vertical guides between which a coin or token may move, a lever member for moving the coin or token in an upward direction between the guides, and means actuated by the lever member for temporarily maintaining the coin or token in a suspended position between the guides.

2. An amusement device comprising a casing having a vertical coin chute thereon, a lever member pivotally mounted on the casing for moving a coin in an upward direc-

tion in the chute, means actuated by the lever member and mounted on the casing for temporarily supporting a coin in the chute, and means for directing a coin away from the coin chute.

3. An amusement device comprising a casing having a vertical panel mounted thereon, a coin chute located on the panel, a finger operated lever member for moving a coin through the chute, means actuated by the lever member for temporarily preventing a coin from returning through the chute, a second coin chute intercepting the first mentioned coin chute, the said second coin chute being adapted to direct a coin externally of the casing.

4. An amusement device comprising a casing having vertical coin chute mounted thereon, a lever member positioned adjacent the lower end of the chute for actuating a coin upwardly, means actuated by the lever member for temporarily supporting a coin in the chute, means located at the top end of the chute for indicating the movement of the coin to a point at the upper end of the chute, and means for guiding a coin away from the chute.

In testimony whereof I have affixed my signature.

EDMUND C. FEY.