

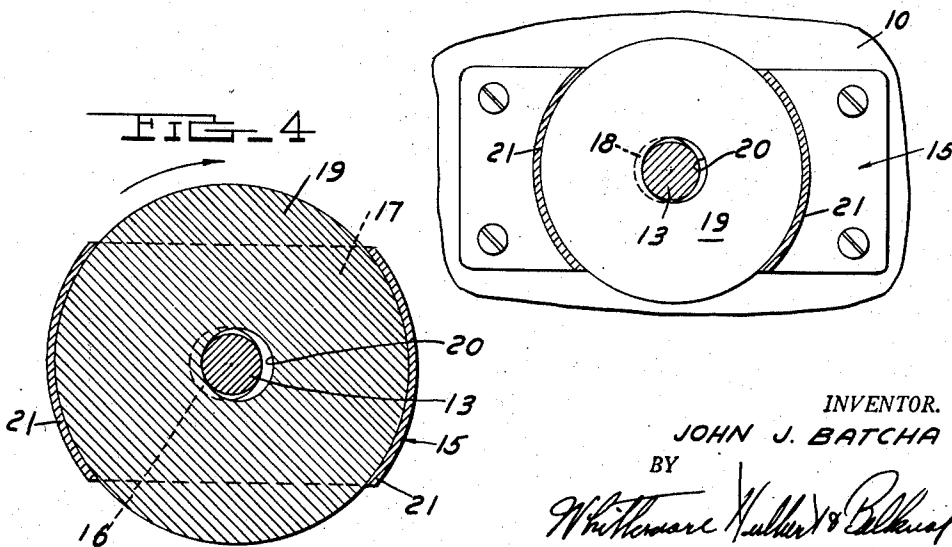
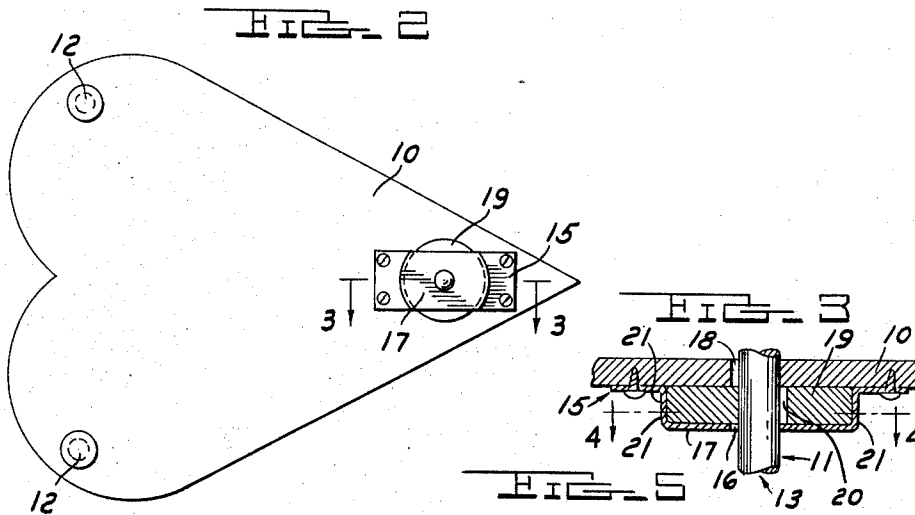
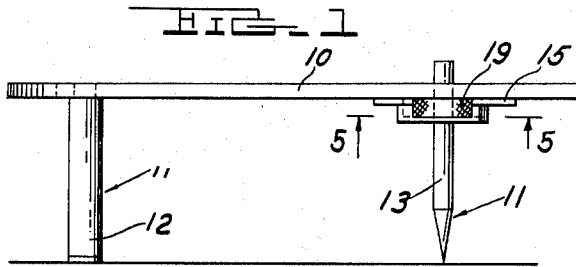
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WRITING GAME PLANCHETTE

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WRITING GAME PLANCHETTE

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4 Claims. (Cl. 273-161)

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This invention relates generally to amusement devices, and refers more particularly to an improved construction of planchette of the type employed in writing games.

Planchettes are usually supported at three points by suitable legs for sliding movement over a writing board or paper, and it is an object of this invention to provide a stylus or writing instrument as one of the supporting legs.

It is another object of this invention to provide a relatively simple, readily operable clamp for firmly holding the writing instrument in place, and at the same time permitting the instrument to be adjusted relative to the planchette or replaced when required.

The foregoing as well as other objects will be made more apparent as this description proceeds, especially when considered in connection with the accompanying drawing, wherein:

Figure 1 is a side elevational view of an amusement device embodying the features of this invention;

Figure 2 is a bottom plan view of the device shown in Figure 1;

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

Figure 4 is an enlarged sectional view taken on the line 4-4 of Figure 3; and

Figure 5 is a fragmentary bottom plan view partly in section of the stylus holding means.

The amusement device forming the subject matter of this invention comprises a planchette having a heart-shaped hand engaging support 10 formed of any suitable material such, for example, as wood, and supported in an elevated position at three points by feet 11. Two of the feet 12 are fastened to the rear of the planchette in a common vertical plane, and the third foot 13 is supported at the front or tip of the heart-shaped support between the feet 12, as shown in Figure 2 of the drawing. The feet 11 cooperate to support the planchette in a horizontal plane, and are of a nature to slide over a writing board or paper not shown.

The foot 13 is in the form of a stylus or writing instrument, such for example, as a conventional pencil supported with the writing end at the bottom in a position to engage the writing board or paper. The writing instrument 13 is adjustable vertically relative to the planchette, and is also detachable from the planchette to permit replacement. In the present instance a channel-shaped bracket 15 is secured to the underside of the planchette at the tip or front end of the latter with the channel opening upwardly and

having an opening 16 through the base 17 aligned with an opening 18 in the planchette.

Seated within the channel is a clamping disc 19 having an opening 20 registerable with the aligned openings 16 and 18 to freely receive the instrument 13. The side flanges 21 of the channel-shaped bracket 15 are curved to provide a bearing for the peripheral surface of the disc 19, and the opening 20 through said disc is eccentrically positioned with respect to the periphery of the disc. The arrangement is such that the opening 20 in the disc 19 is in alignment with the openings 16 and 18 in one rotative position of the disc 19 to freely receive the instrument 13, and is eccentrically disposed to the openings 16 and 18 in a second rotative position of the disc 19 to clamp the instrument 13 in place. The width of the bracket 15 is sufficiently less than the diameter of the disc 19 to permit opposite side portions of the disc to project beyond the bracket so that it may be readily manipulated by the user.

In use the device is supported in the position shown in Figure 1 of the drawing on a writing board or sheet of paper and the fingers of one or more persons are lightly pressed against the top surface of the planchette. The device is free to move over the writing surface and upon such movement the instrument 13 produces marks on the writing surface.

What I claim as my invention is:

1. An amusement device comprising a planchette having an opening therethrough, a supporting part secured to the underside of the planchette and having a portion spaced below the planchette, an opening through said portion in alignment with the opening in the planchette, a rotatable disc member positioned between the underside of the planchette and the portion aforesaid of the supporting part and having an opening therethrough registering with the openings in the planchette and supporting part, a writing instrument extending freely through said openings, and means on the supporting part for guiding rotation of the member about an axis offset laterally with respect to the axis of the aligned openings in the planchette and supporting part for clamping the writing instrument to the planchette.

2. The amusement device set forth in claim 1 in which the writing instrument constitutes one of the supports for the planchette.

3. An amusement device comprising a planchette having support engaging legs and having an opening therethrough spaced from the legs,

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a channel-shaped bracket secured to the under-
 side of the planchette opposite the opening with
 the channel opening upwardly and having an
 opening through the base portion aligned with
 the opening in the planchette, a rotatable disc
 seated in the channel and having an opening
 therethrough registerable with the aligned open-
 ings, a writing instrument extending through said
 openings, said bracket having the flanges of the
 channel curved about a common axis offset later-
 ally with respect to the aligned axes of the open-
 ings in the planchette and base of the channel
 and providing a bearing for rotatably supporting
 the disc whereby rotation of the disc in opposite
 directions relative to the bracket respectively
 clamps the writing instrument to and releases
 the same from the planchette.

4. An amusement device comprising a plan-
 chette having support engaging legs and having
 an opening therethrough spaced from the legs,
 a channel shaped bracket secured to the under-
 side of the planchette opposite the opening with
 the channel opening upwardly and having an
 opening through the base portion aligned with

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the opening in the planchette, a writing instru-
 ment extending through the aligned openings,
 means for clamping the writing instrument to
 the planchette including a disc rotatably sup-
 ported in the channel by the side flanges of the
 channel and having an opening therethrough for
 receiving the writing instrument, the opening
 through the disc being eccentrically located with
 respect to the aligned axes of the openings in the
 planchette and base of the channel for shifting
 the writing instrument laterally against one side
 of the last named openings upon rotation of the
 disc in one direction.

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The following references are of record in the
 file of this patent:

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