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(54) **Gaming machines.**

(57) A gaming machine (2) allows a user to place a stake and play a main game, e.g. using a set of reels (10), which may result in one of several win values. The gaming machine (2) is also operable in a stake gamble mode, in which a mechanism, such as a further reel (30), is used to gamble the user's stake before the results of the main game are made known to the user, and preferably before the main game is started. If the gambling operation is successful, the possible win values are increased. In a preferred embodiment, if the gambling operation is unsuccessful a consolation feature is provided.

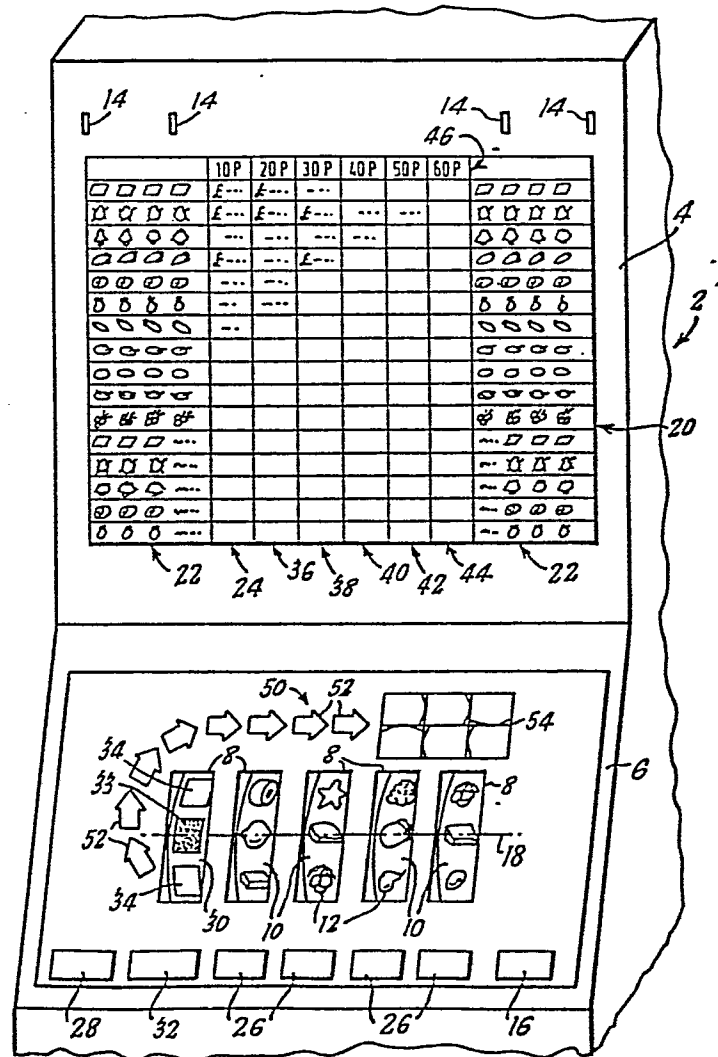


FIG. 1.



DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl.4)
A	GB-A-2 114 347 (ACE COIN EQUIPMENT) * Whole document *	1-5, 10, 14	G 07 F 17/34
A	DE-A-2 938 307 (P. GAUSELMANN)  * Claims; figures; pages 5,6 *	1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 9, 14	
A	GB-A-2 106 293 (SUMMIT COIN)		
A	GB-A-2 098 779 (QUESTENCO)		
A	EP-A-O 062 433 (BARCREST)		TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.4)
A	DE-A-3 213 400 (P. GAUSELMANN)		G 07 F
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 20-11-1986	Examiner DAVID J.Y.H.
<p><b>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</b></p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone  Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category  A : technological background  O : non-written disclosure  P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention  E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date  D : document cited in the application  L : document cited for other reasons  &amp; : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			