

Loose Change™

October 1979
\$3.50



Fun Fair Issue

Attention Mills Slot Machine Owners!

You can now service, repair, and overhaul your own Mills bell slot machine with the

Owner's Pictorial Guide for the Care and Understanding of the Mills Bell Slot Machine

The only complete service and repair manual ever published for the Mills bell slot machine

- ★ 156 Highly Informative Pages
- ★ 387 Detailed Photos
- ★ A Pictorial Glossary for Easy Identification of Parts Including Nomenclature

Actual size is 8 1/2" x 11".

Owner's Pictorial Guide for the Care and Understanding of the Mills Bell Slot Machine

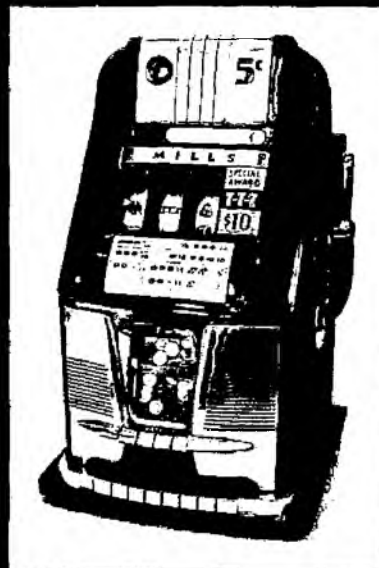
For all machines
manufactured after 1931
as well as many earlier models

Written By

Robert N. Geddes

Illustrated and Edited By

Daniel R. Mead



Even if you have never seen the inside of a slot machine before, this book will enable you to completely disassemble, clean, lubricate, and reassemble your machine, make the proper adjustments necessary, and understand the theory of operation behind your machine. This book can be successfully used to service all escalator type bell machines such as the Black Cherry, Extrabell, Golden Falls, etc., as well as gooseneck coin entry styles which did not employ an escalator. Also, this book can be effectively used to service all Sega and Buckley 3-reel bell type machines. It contains complete information on disassembly, cleaning, lubrication and assembly of the mechanism; the detailed theory of operation of the mechanism; and chapters on reel, jackpot, escalator, handle and pump, and award token assemblies. The full color cover has been plastic coated for longer wear. You can order the **Owner's Pictorial Guide for the Care and Understanding of the Mills Bell Slot Machine** from your dealer or directly from the publisher.

Only
\$24.95

Plus \$2.00 packing and shipping charge.
All books will be shipped United Parcel Service.
California residents please include 6% sales tax.

The Mead Company - Publishers
21176 South Alameda Street
Long Beach, California 90810

82485

Loose Change

21176 South Alameda Street
Long Beach, California 90810
Telephone (213) 549-0730

Volume 2, Number 10
October 1979

Collector's Fun Fair Edition

Cover



How many Pace KITTYS have you seen? It is estimated that there were only one thousand of these unique machines originally produced and that there are probably no more than thirty or forty still in existence today.

There are only two known in Southern California—one of them shown here. It has been completely restored in its original colors and is reproduced here with all its features showing: the "Kitty" on the first reel; the name cast on top of the upper front casting; the kitty itself; and the indicator.

If you are planning on buying one of these machines, better be sure you get one with *all* the kitty operating mechanism intact—there are less kitty operating mechanisms in existence than KITTYS themselves!

This Issue

FEATURES

- The Pace Kitty** 15
Possibly one of the most rare three-reel slot machines, the Pace KITTYS had a novel idea for it's day—a mini jackpot.
- Identifying Slot Machines** 19
Here is a pictorial review of some of the more *common* machines. It's intended for the newcomer to the hobby.
- Gordon Pace's Coin Machine Auction** 40
Here are the auction results: prices, conditions and general comments.
- "Legal States" For Slot Machine Collectors** 43
What is a legal state for slot machine collectors? There is no single answer, because all states are different. Here is the latest as we know it.
- A Quick History of Harolds Club** 44
Harolds Club gave this to us some time ago. It's short and to the point.
- Patents, Early Slots and Gin** 47
Marshall Fey, grandson of slot pioneer Charles Fey, offers a rebuttal to a previous *Loose Change* article.
- Nickel Interlude** 49
One of our readers sent this in some time ago without his name. It's nice.

DEPARTMENTS

- News Briefs** 4
Here is the latest news of interest to the coin machine crowd.
- Mailbox** 9
If you've written a letter recently, it may be here.
- Editors Notes** 11
The editor has a message for newcomers, buyers and exhibitors at the Fun Fair.
- Legal Register** 12
Here is a list of attorneys ready to assist you with your antique gaming machine legal problems.
- Product Review** 13
Remember that wheelbarrow full of tokens at the recent A Auction? Here they are!
- The Bookshelf** 45
Veteran slot collector reports on the new *Owner's Guide*. More books on cheating are also reviewed.
- Classified Advertising** 49
This is the largest source of machines and other nice things to be found anywhere. Are you scanning it closely?

Loose Change Magazine (USPS 427-910) is published monthly by The Mead Company, 21176 S. Alameda Street, Long Beach, CA 90810. Subscription Rates: \$22.00 per year in the United States of America or \$37.00 per year in all other countries. Copyright 1979 under Universal Copyright Convention. All Right Reserved. Second class postage paid at Long Beach, CA. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Mead Company, 21176 S. Alameda Street, Long Beach, CA 90810.

News Briefs

Classified ad rates will increase

Classified advertising rates for *Loose Change* magazine will be increased effective December 1, 1979. All classified advertising received after December 1st will be subject to the new rates.

The new rates will be \$3.00 minimum for the first 25 words, and each additional word will be 15¢. As in the past, all classified advertising is accepted and positioned at the discretion of the publisher. Closing date is the 5th of the month preceeding publication; i.e., advertisements intended for publication in the January issue must be received by the publisher by December 5th.

The three month limitation will be retained, thus continuous running ads will only be accepted for three months, after which the advertisement must be re-submitted.

For purposes of counting words, state and zip code will be counted as two words, two-word cities and states (such as New York) will be counted as one word and area code and phone number will be counted as one word. All advertisements will be listed under either For Sale, Miscellaneous or Wanted. Publisher will not be responsible for errors for any reason whatsoever. Telephone orders and cancellations are not accepted.

There will also be a slight increase in advertising rates for display advertisers effective January 1, 1980. Rate cards are available upon request from Loose Change Advertising, 21176 S. Alameda Street, Long Beach, California 90810.

Fun Fair door prize drawing to be held closing day of Fun Fair

Drawing for the Fun Fair door prizes will be conducted by Don Britt on the last day of the Loose Change Fun Fair, Sunday October 7, 1979. It is not necessary to be present at the drawing in order to win.

To be eligible for the door prize it is necessary to fill out a Door Prize Registration Card available at the front of the Great Western Exhibit Center. Legibility is very important since smaller prizes will be mailed to winners who are not present at the drawing.

Among the prizes planned at press time are an antique gumball machine, seasonal passes to R. G. Canning Shows, one year subscriptions to *Loose Change* magazine and copies of *The Official Loose Change Blue and Red Book* and *Owner's Pictorial Guide for the Care and Understanding of the Mills Bell Slot Machine*.

Full seminar agenda scheduled for Fun Fair

Six speakers will present seminars at the Loose Change Fun Fair. Seminars will be conducted on all three days of the Fair. Some of the speakers will make their presentations on all three days while others will speak on only two. All ticket holders are invited to attend as many of the informative talks as they like, and there is no additional charge for the seminars. Time schedule and days for the various speakers will be found in the Souvenir Program, free to all attending the Fun Fair. Listed in alphabetical order below is a brief synopsis of the speakers and their subject matter.

Richard M. Bueschel

Richard Bueschel is no stranger to collectors of antique slot machines. Well published in a number of historical fields of interest, Mr. Bueschel seems to have all the answers at the snap of a finger when it comes to antique slot machines.

Most recently published by Coin Slot Books of Wheatridge, Colorado, with a series of books entitled *The 100 Most Collectible Slot Machines*, Mr. Bueschel will speak about "Slot Machines 1870-1979: An Instant History". Included in his presentation will be over eighty slides from his collection which will show the very earliest slot of the late 19th century, the color wheel

floor machines of the 1897-1915 period, the early cast iron machines, three-reelers, trade stimulators and classic slots of the thirties and forties, right up to the modern machines of today.

After his formal presentation, Mr. Bueschel will take and answer questions from the floor. His presentation will be presented on all three days of the Fun Fair, vary slightly from day to day.

Mr. Bueschel makes his home in the Chicago, Illinois area with his wife and children.

Donald P. Britt

Donald P. Britt, noted coin machine auctioneer, promotional coordinator and Master of Ceremonies of the Loose Change Fun Fair and president of the Nevada State Auctioneer's Association, will give a presentation that will be extremely interesting to any collector who has ever been to a coin machine auction entitled "How To Successfully Attend An Auction". In a rare move for an auctioneer, Mr. Britt will step down from the auction block and tell his audience how to attend an auction, the importance of inspection of merchandise, how to bid, sign language, tips on bidding, the organization of auctions, methods the auctioneers use and arranging acceptable means of payment.

Mr. Britt will also relate several entertaining stories about the auction business and conduct a short question and answer session of general interest to the entire audience.

Educated in the Los Angeles area, Mr. Britt is now historian and auctioneer for Harrah's Auto Collection in Reno, Nevada, and makes his home in Sparks, Nevada.

Robert N. Geddes

"The Ten Most Likely Things To Go Wrong With Your Slot Machine" will be child's play for Robert N. Geddes. Why? He's just finished a mammoth manual, *Owner's Pictorial Guide for the Care and Understanding of the Mills Bell Slot Machine*, recently published by The Mead Company of Long Beach, California.

Mr. Geddes, a former professional gambler, acquired his first slot machine in 1963, and since that time has either owned, examined, repaired or serviced (and has taken notes about) an estimated four-hundred three reel slot machines! His presentation will be conducted as a group analysis of an actual three-reel slot machine and will show each and every step to correcting

the ten most probable causes of malfunction (which will be simulated on the presentation machine). Mr. Geddes is a firm believer in the premise that if one understands the theory of operation he will be able to diagnose and correct problems more efficiently and will structure his presentation accordingly. If you attend this seminar, be prepared to learn, because Mr. Geddes is also a former college professor.

An electrical engineer and mathematician by profession, Mr. Geddes is now in real estate development and makes his home in Southern California.

Daniel Golden

Daniel Golden is an antique telephone collector and historian, so it is not surprising that his presentation is entitled "Antique Telephony". Mr. Golden's talk will include an introduction to the collecting of antique telephones, a slide presentation showing rare and valuable antique telephones, the value of antique telephones and how to spot reproductions. Following his talk will be general discussion questions and answers pertaining to antique telephony.

Mr. Golden makes his home in the Southern California area.

Robert Hawkins

Have you ever known anyone who was so interested in pinball games that he wrote his thesis about the subject? Now you do—enter Robert Hawkins, probably the most pinball-educated man in the world today.

Mr. Hawkins will speak about "Pinballs: A Collector's Revue" and will include a brief history about pinball games, what to look for when buying a pinball machine, how to fix some of the minor things that will probably go wrong with an antique pinball game and why some games are more valuable than others.

Mr. Hawkins is a professional educator and co-author of the *Pinball Reference Guide*, recently published by The Mead Company of Long Beach, California. He makes his home in Los Angeles, California with his wife and son.

George Stupar - Stanley Wilker

Stanley Wilker and George Stupar are both residents of the Los Angeles area and have a common obsession: Watling slot machines. Their presentation will be "The Watling ROLA-TOP and TREASURY Slot Machines."

Their presentation will discuss the development history and describe the

multitude of models produced. In addition, they will offer tips on what to look for when buying the Watling machines as well as information on how to restore them to their original beauty and operating capability.

ROLA-TOPs and TREASURYs are, without a doubt, the most popular slot machines ever made. In spite of this, many people, including experienced collectors, are generally unaware of the large number of models that exist, which are most valuable and do not know how to avoid mistakes in purchasing. These and many other aspects of the machines will be discussed in depth by Mr. Stupar and Mr. Wilker.

The presentation is promised to be of interest to newcomers and experienced collectors alike, and questions will be accepted and answered from the floor after the presentation.

Mr. Wilker (and his wife, Betty) are authors of the *Official Loose Change Blue Book of Antique Slot Machines* and the *Official Loose Change Red Book of Trade Stimulators and Counter Games*, both published by The Mead Company of Long Beach, California.

Movies offer rest and entertainment at Fun Fair

Sound and silent vintage motion pictures will be shown free of charge at the Loose Change Fun Fair. Both short subjects and feature length films will be shown, many of them considered by film critics to be classics.

A special treat for the children on Friday afternoon will be Children's Film Festival with Mr. Magoo and Dick Tracy cartoons and ending with a color print of the animated story of the Little Tin Soldier.

A complete listing of films and show times will be included in the free Souvenir Program, available at the front door of The Great Western Exhibit Center.

Louisiana judge orders penny slot returned

A Louisiana District Court judge on temporary appointment by the Louisiana Supreme Court, Judge Robert Roland, ordered the state police to return an antique penny slot machine to its owner, insurance adjuster Pat S.

Brown, Jr.

Brown filed suit and obtained a court order to prevent destruction of the machine which was seized from a restroom in an office building after a woman complained of the gambling device. Roland said the device had been stipulated as an operable penny slot machine which is not used for gambling since the coin box was not locked and any penny deposited could be reclaimed by the person depositing it.

The statutes of Louisiana mandate law enforcement officers to confiscate and immediately destroy all gambling devices or machines used for gambling that come to their attention. "Any slot machine" is included in the definition of gambling devices subject to confiscation and destruction according to Roland.

But Brown raised a constitutional objection to both the validity of the search warrant used by the state police and to the statute itself.

Experimental slot course conducted by Jennings

The Jennings Company sponsored a one week experimental slot course for experienced slot mechanics in Reno, Nevada during the week of June 18th thru the 22nd, 1979 to try out the course of study designed by Robert Sertell of Casino Career Institute in Atlantic City.

Casino Career Institute's 200-hour course was condensed into one week with the help of Jennings' factory engineers and was taught by Mr. Sertell.

Twelve different casinos were invited to participate, and collectively they sent forty-seven experienced slot mechanics through the course—including five slot managers. Questionnaires answered by the students at the end of the course indicated that it was well received and very successful. The enrollees had a total of 247 years of slot experience for an average of 5.25 years per student.

Participating casinos were: Cal-Neva Club, Circus-Circus, Gold Club, Gold Dust (downtown), Gold Dust (west), Harolds Club, Harrah's Casino, Mapes Hotel and Casino, Mapes Money Tree, Sahara Reno, Shy Clown Casino and the Sundowner Club.

Record jackpot available

Nearly two years have passed since

Premier Issue \$5.50

The Jukebox A brief but thorough introduction and history of these popular machines.
Arcade Machines Today An interview with one of today's major distributors of arcade games gives inside on the past, present and future.

Is This The Record Return On Nickel Play? A durable little trade stimulator gave its owner 27-years of faithful service.

You Can Refinish Your Own Slot Case Here's how to transform that ugly mess into a piece you can display with pride.

The Fabulous Slot Machines The story of Charles Fey and his pioneering LIBERTY BELL slot machine is an historic turning point in the history of slot machines.

The Seeburg Model "A" This nickelodeon lets you relive the past.

Are Slots For Tots So Bad? A teenager's outlook on kids and slots.

Look Before You Leap So you want to jump into the hobby of collecting coin-operated machines? Great! But heed the advice of someone who has been down this road a long time.

January 1978 \$3.00

Those Wonderful Watlings The Watling slot machines of the 1930s are very popular, especially the ROL-A-TOP.

A Brief History of the Pinball Machine This capsulized history of the pinball machine ranges from 1830 to the present electronic machines with dates, names and gadgets.

The Anatomy of a Bug Slot machine operators were able to change the payout percentage of a machine with a little piece of metal.

The Watling TREASURY and ROL-A-TOP An historical look at the two most popular and sought after slot machines.

We Turn Loose Change Loose If you wonder how this magazine is produced, this behind-the-scenes feature is for you.

The World's Largest Flea Market This special article about the Pasadena Rose Bowl flea market concentrates on its value to the collector.

Good Guy or Outlaw Some states feel pinball games are an important source of tax revenue, but others think they're nothing but a problem.

February \$3.00

It's Time The Laws Were Changed A classic article discusses the legality of antique slot machines.

Are Your Clicks in Order? Get out your stethoscope and give your slot machines a checkup

The Music Box Here is a history featuring Regina music boxes.

If You Can't See It, It's Not Legal An Indiana attorney is disturbed about his state's laws that deal with pinball machines.

This One Is Loaded The Mills BASEBALL FRONT O.K. MINT VENDER slot machine is loaded with special features

Allow Me To Introduce You To My "Master" Master gumball vending machines have captivated one collector

Scoring Big and Resettling Here is how you can fix those inoperative scoring reels on your pinball machine.

March 1978 \$3.00

Gumbells, Peanuts, Etc. A vending machine collector tells his story—with over five dozen machines illustrated and identified

Why Collect Jukeboxes One look at a few of this fellow's jukes explains how he got turned on

It Was A Great Time The Gilgoff's hosted a between-the-auctions party

Is This Really America The plight of a slot machine collector whose machines were confiscated should be of concern to all collectors

Will New York Go Legal? One man in New York began to see the fruits of his efforts

April 1978 \$3.00

What Is A Slot Machine? Those fascinating early machines bear little resemblance to slot machines of today

The Legend of the Triple Imp A fantasy? Does it really exist? Decide for yourself!

Gumballing Valuable information for collectors of gumball machines is contained in this entertaining article

Tomorrow Is Here For Jukebox Tubes You better get those needed tubes before it's too late!

What Are They Worth? For everyone who has ever asked, "What are they worth?" this will come as a pleasant surprise. It's the introduc-

tion of the 5-point rating system for machines and the announcement of the coming of the *Blue Book* price guide. A classic.

We're Off To See The Wizard The Bally Super Shooter story with a complete listing of all finalists.

May 1978 \$3.00

Life Is Just A Game Of Bagatelle This in-depth, extremely comprehensive article on the origins of pinball machines and the earliest models in the most informative yet.

Who Are Those Odd Looking Fellows? Overseas travel can change a slot machine's appearance.

The Biggest Little City Is Growing Up New casinos are popping up all over Reno, Nevada.

June 1978 \$3.00

A Tribute To Yesterday A general store of yesteryear with lots of old store fixtures and merchandise is recreated in Virginia City, Nevada.

The Orchestron Is there really an orchestra in that ornate cabinet? The author illustrates one of these automated musical machines he rebuilt.

The A-1 Supply Company Recent advances in amusement machines are featured

The Slot Machines of San Juan Two independent reports from readers make interesting reading

November 1978 \$4.00

Charles Fey: The Slot Machine Man The great granddaughter of the inventor of the first three-reel payout slot machine relates his story with a fresh new approach featuring photographs of the internal mechanism.

The Story of the D. Gottlieb Company David Gottlieb founded one of today's largest producers of pinball machines. A listing with dates of introduction of all of Gottlieb's pinball machines is included.

A Collector's Guide to Automatic Music Over the years many fascinating automatic musical instruments have been built and nearly forgotten. This truly historic class of instruments is presented in an interesting and informative manner sure to kindle your interest.

January 1979 \$3.00

Behind The Scenes Of Harolds Club To the occasional visitor, a gambling casino operates automatically, and the money just rolls in. For an exact answer to this assumption, we went to Harolds Club, one of Nevada's oldest casinos.

Guinness Sets Its Own Record: Inaccuracy This time the Guinness people really blew it. They don't know anything about slot machines. A veteran story-teller tells why.

A Restoration Primer This excerpt from a new book has some tips for case and mechanism restoration.

A Visit With Donna And John Hermann The Hermann collection is choice since it consists of mostly Caille floor machines and Poik figures. This interview is a glowing account about two people who have been in the collecting game for a long time.

February 1979 \$3.00

The Making of "Tilt" This feature article is about the making of a motion picture. "Tilt" is actress Brooke Shield's name in this pinball film, and this peek preview shows some behind-the-scenes action and tells how "Tilt" got her name

His Hobby Became His Business To many collectors, Roy Arrington means an auction of extraordinary glitter and glamour. Here is Roy's story—a hobby which turned into a business.

Short Changed? Here is the reason some older slots had wishy-washy payouts—9 to 11, 13 to 15, etc.

March 1979 \$3.00

Saga Of The Snake You've probably never heard about the SNAKE machine. This unique slot is pictured before and after restoration, and has left behind a legacy. Must reading for slot collectors

More On The Odd Fellows This "odd" machine has one collector believing that Oliver Twist isn't the only British-trained thief

Beginner's Luck What is "beginner's luck"? A feeling? Innocence? A frame of mind? Here is a true story about a beginner and her luck—or lack of luck

Our First Year At A Glance If you're a newcomer to *Loose Change*, you might be interested in knowing what you missed

The Last Tour Of The Wurlitzer Factory

Yes . . . back issues are available.

Now you can complete your library of *Loose Change* magazine with the back issues listed below. Our dealers may have back issues not listed here. Please include 50¢ per magazine ordered for postage and handling.



ORDER DIRECTLY FROM THE PUBLISHER
THE MEAD COMPANY
21176 SOUTH ALAMEDA STREET
LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA 90810

Imagine taking a tour of a factory—a vacant one. It's pretty exciting if it happens to be as famous as this one.

Moving? Don't Leave Anything Behind Most people are very careful not to leave anything behind when they move. Except for one item—their magazine subscriptions!

April 1979 \$3.00

The Ultimate Coin Operated Machine This comprehensive treatment of mechanical, coin-operated music machines ranges from banjos to pianos, from xylophones to violins. Profusely illustrated with photographs and old catalogue pages.

The Slot Machine Ban Roy Arrington's auction met with a mis-understanding between the Nevada Gaming Control Board, Frontier Hotel and Roy Arrington—so announced the auctioneer. Result: no slot machines! This is the real, documented story.

My First Coin Machine Auction One collector managed to get time and money together for an Arrington auction. Although he went home disappointed and empty-handed, he was looking forward to "next time"

May 1979 \$3.00

The Antique Juke Box Story The founder and owner of a famous Los Angeles business claims he's had a good record of flops. This story is about The Antique Juke Box Company, the nation's largest jukebox restoration facility. Here's how it all happened.

Bordello Body Painters A University of Nevada journalism student went out on an assignment he'll never forget!

Signs Gamblers Read Billboards leading into the nation's gambling cities whet any appetite, from bingo and food to slot machines and a bucket of blood.

Going Legal (Part I) Illinois is legal—that is a fact. But now what? What are its implications to the collectors and dealers? Here are some predictions

Heroes of Rock 'n Roll The most expensive television rock 'n roll production had its beginnings at The Antique Juke Box Company

June 1979 \$3.00

The Little Duke The Jennings LITTLE DUKE machine was fascinating to players in 1932 when it was introduced. Today collectors are charmed by its "different look." No other slot manufacturer ever copied it

Me 'n My Duke This collector prizes his LITTLE DUKE more than any other machine

The Virginia & Truckee Rolls Again This revival of America's most famous short line railroad is bound to catch the interest of anyone with an appreciation of mechanical things

Going Legal (Part II) This is the second part of the previous month's article

July 1979 \$3.00

Patents and the Early Slot Machines This provocative article raises some question about the generally assumed status of the Fey LIBERTY BELL slot machine.

The Gollath Discophone This historical article about an early jukebox comes from Belgium.

How Many Bell Machines Here is a list of several hundred bell style machines offered from 1931 through January 1940.

Buying Slot Machines By Mail A tongue-in-cheek look at "mail salesmen" in the slot collecting business. A dandy—filled with humor, wit and photos.

Restoration of a Wurlitzer 1100 Although not technical in nature, this article offers some good tips.

What Ever Happened To . . . Remember all those "Harolds Club or Bust" signs you used to see?

Mills Dice Machine The Mills DICE machine probably more closely simulated a craps game than any other mechanical machine ever built, but it disappeared soon after its introduction.

August 1979 \$3.00

Cheating Is Not Allowed Here For many reasons "sporting gentlemen", who practiced their professions on the railroads and riverboats of America, have disappeared. But they have left behind an amazing array of gadgetry designed to tip the odds of the game to their favor. You'll love this profusely illustrated revue of "gaffed" gambling equipment

Buckley's Track Odds The console slots are no longer be passed by as "uncollectible" by the advanced machine collectors. They're exciting and loads of fun to play

September 1979 \$3.00

A Rare Mystery Charlie Chan, Sam Spade and the Hardy Boys couldn't have done a better job than this collector in finding out what kind of machine he had; it looked similar to a BEN HUR—but it wasn't!

Auction Protection This article tells some tricks underhanded auctioneers use and describes various ways the buyer as well as the consignor can protect himself

Please
Add 50¢ Per Magazine
Postage and Handling
Thank You!

Harolds Club, a long-time Reno Casino, paid out \$236,756 to a Sacramento, California woman. The jackpot, which was hit in October 1977, was, and still is, the world's biggest for a \$5 progressive slot machine.

But that record is in danger of falling. Currently Harolds Club has a \$5 progressive (in fact, the same machine that paid out for the Sacramento winner) just bursting at the seams. By mid-August the jackpot had grown to \$246,872 but won't stay at that level for long.

According to Doug Lawson, director of slots at Harolds Club, the jackpot has been increasing at the rate of approximately \$2,000 a week. "There has been a tremendous amount of action recently because of the size of the pot," Lawson said. "But how many coins are played, how much action it received and the reels spinning at various lengths are all variables in how long it will take before hitting." Another variable is the flashing payoff arrow which alternates between the record jackpot and a smaller one of \$186,347 with each handle pull.



The machine is a giant Big Bertha with four reels and is located on the first floor of Harolds Club. Although it will accept from one to five coins, the record payoff can only be won by inserting the maximum five "Ike" silver dollars and lining up four covered wagons. "This is by far the largest jackpot we have ever had," Lawson said. "We hope someone hits it and takes it all home."

Ray Graham of Portland, Oregon is shown trying his luck on the Big Bertha progressive. The giant slot machine will pay off the big pot when some lucky player plunks in five silver

dollars and lines up four covered wagons. (Photo by Harry Upson, Upson Studios)

Minnesota firm hosts profit seminar

Sandler Vending Company of Minneapolis, Minnesota hosted a "Profit Seminar" and luncheon recently for some sixty owner/manager operators who responded enthusiastically to talks on "Your Future With The \$1 Coin", "Pinball Management" and "Return on Investment Forum."

Participating in the seminar were Dr. Alan J. Goldman, Assistant Director of the U.S. Mint for Technology; Mr. Bernard Powers, Marketing Field Service Manager, Bally Pinball Division; and Mr. Irving R. Sandler, President of Sandler Vending Company.

The entire event was planned and hosted by Sandler Sales Executives: Irv Sandler, Hy Sandler and David Sandler.

Second chance for Sahara tournament blackjack players

If at first you don't succeed at the Sahara World Championship of Blackjack you can try again—for cash prizes amounting to \$25,000.

A unique "Second Chance Round" is one of the many player-oriented innovations added to this year's blackjack classic, to be held December 9-12 at the three Del Webb Sahara Hotels in Nevada.

More than 3,000 players are expected to compete for the \$200,000 package of cash and prizes. Play will be held simultaneously at the Sahara Hotels in Reno, Lake Tahoe and Las Vegas.

The "Second Chance Round" has been instituted to give all players who lose in the first round another crack at the prize money. Those contestants who fail to win their tables in the first round will have the option of paying an additional entry fee of \$50 to play in a separate round with a guaranteed purse of \$25,000.

A 60 percent increase in the overall cash prizes has generated a wave of registrations that will make the 1979 Sahara World Championship of Blackjack the biggest tournament of its kind ever.

First prize has been raised to \$60,000 and the Tournament has been restructured so that more than 900 players will receive cash or merchandise

prizes.

In acknowledgement of the growing number of women blackjack players, a Mixed Doubles event with a purse for \$5,000 has been added. Another new wrinkle is a "Family Plan" for husband/wife entries.

Players registering for the tournament before October 31, will be rewarded with a reduced entry fee and become eligible for free vacations to the Caribbean, Mexico and Hawaii.

The Sahara World Championship of Blackjack was an overnight success when it was introduced last year. The inaugural tournament attracted 1,400 players and encouraged the sponsors to hold a Summer Classic last July in Las Vegas which drew 2,000 players.

Delton Miller, a Denver resident who says he plays blackjack only occasionally, took home \$58,000 for winning the 1978 championship. The 61-year-old retired plasterer proved that you don't have to be an expert to win a lot of money in the tournament.

The rules are such that any player with a proper amount of skill and luck can go all the way. The players compete against each other as well as the house—trying to amass the most money at their tables in a two-hour period.

Players start each round of the tournament with a \$500 buy-in and cannot introduce new money into the game during that session. Cards are dealt face-up to the players and betting alternates to each person. Minimum bet is \$5 and maximum is \$500. Single, hand-held decks are used by the dealers.

Additional information about the tournament can be obtained by writing to: World Championship of Blackjack, Inc., 19562 Ventura Boulevard, Suite 226, Tarzana, CA 91356; free brochures and entry blanks are available toll free in California by calling (800) 522-1500 or in all other states by calling (800) 854-2003.

Loose Change floral slot machine to be given away at Fun Fair

A special creation of a Watling ROL-A-TOP Cherry Front slot machine made entirely of flowers and other botanical specimens will be given away at the Loose Change Fun Fair door prize drawing which will be held on Sunday afternoon, October 7, 1979.

The full size creation is being created

Continued on page 13

How much money will you bet in your lifetime?

\$1,000...\$10,000...\$100,000

GAMBLING TIMES, the Player's Guide and Gambling News Magazine has gathered some amazing facts you'll find hard to believe!

It may surprise you but chances are \$100,000 is a **small fraction** of what you will wager! In fact, if you are the typical casino patron and travel to Las Vegas or Atlantic City just twice a year, **you will bet more money than you will earn in your entire life!**

Don't believe it, right? Suppose we also told you that the average couple wagers **over \$1,000,000** in their lifetime . . . you'd say we were crazy and bet we are wrong. Well, we'd win that bet.

THE FACTS

Here are the facts: Research shows that the typical couple visiting Nevada or New Jersey drops approximately **\$300 per trip**. That's not hard to believe . . . it's even downright understandable. But in order to leave \$300 in the casinos, how much money do they bet? **Over \$12,000** to be exact. With the action going back and forth as fast as it does in the casino, during the average stay of 2 1/2 days, it's easy to see how 12 grand can be wagered on various games from blackjack and craps to baccarat and poker . . . not to mention the torrent of change they pour into the slots.

So, if you make two trips a year, that means you'll wager a total of \$24,000. And, if you're like most people, the thrill of gambling is with you all your life . . . so, multiply your two trips a year times 40 years of casino enjoyment . . . that equals \$960,000 worth of bets. Add to this the weekly poker games, Bingo and an occasional trip to the track and you now have wagered **over \$1,000,000** . . . and you're still going strong!

YOU'LL LOSE \$24,000

What we have proven is that *the average couple will bet more money than they'll earn during their lifetime* . . . and they'll **lose over \$24,000** doing it. Yet, in spite of this fact, they'll do virtually nothing to learn how to lose a lot less! If that couple would **improve** their game by **just 1%**, they would **save \$10,000**.

Most people are totally unaware of the tremendous amount of money they risk when they gamble. One year's worth of wagering is usually a lot more than the downpayment on a luxury yacht or new home. What couple doesn't spend vast amounts of time looking for the right house to buy? And, when they sell, how

many actually lose money on the real estate deal? One would think the same couple would pay more consideration to those weekend gambling endeavors. After all, they could turn out to be as profitable as any real estate investment.

HELP YOURSELF

That's what GAMBLING TIMES is all about . . . giving its readers sound common sense advice these last three years on how to **minimize** their gambling losses and how to make smart wagers when the odds are in your favor.

GAMBLING TIMES CAN MAKE YOU A WINNER

Yes, you can win, win and win again with **inside secrets** from expert gamblers in every single issue of GAMBLING TIMES. You'll be getting tips from big winners like Tom Ainslie, **Dean of Thoroughbred Handicappers**; Mort Olshan, the nation's **leading sports analyst**; and Stanley Roberts, the **Blackjack Millionaire**.

As a GAMBLING TIMES subscriber, you'll learn how you can **Join Fantastic Free Junkets** to everywhere from Europe to the Orient **Get Expert and Detailed Answers** to all your gambling questions in "Ask Our Experts" **Meet Fascinating People** like Ben Gazarra and O.J. Simpson in our "Superstar Interviews" and **Win Luxurious Accommodations for Two** at Del Webb's Hotel Sahara in Las Vegas in our monthly **FREE keno contest**.

WINNING SYSTEMS

GAMBLING TIMES not only gives you 100 big pages of gambling news, features and entertainment every month, but also a **Winning System in each issue**. Systems on Craps, Roulette, Blackjack, Baccarat, as well as Sports, Thoroughbred, Harness, Greyhound and Jai Alai handicapping. You'll get complete instructions, not just a "digested" version. Each of these systems would ordinarily sell for \$20, \$50, even \$100 or more!

WE GUARANTEE YOU'LL START WINNING NOW

Begin your subscription with the current issue and receive 12 big issues for only \$24 . . . a 20 percent savings over our \$2.50 newsstand price. **You can't lose**. We guarantee we'll show you how

to become an expert at gambling or you can have a **full refund** on unmailed copies.

SUBSCRIBE TODAY. GET A NEVADA VACATION FREE

As a special gift for those who subscribe **within the next 15 days**, we will send a 3-day/2-night vacation certificate **for two** at your choice of Las Vegas, Reno or Lake Tahoe. You will receive 2 nights lodging and other gratuities for two adults at a top quality hotel or motel. A room reservation deposit (which is redeemed over your 3-day stay) is required to guarantee your arrival. This certificate is good until January 1, 1981.

PLUS A SPECIAL BONUS

As soon as we receive your subscription, we'll rush you a **SUPER DELUXE GAMBLING BONUS**, good for \$500 in values including **\$60 in cash**, valid until January 1, 1981 in both Las Vegas and Reno. That's like winning a 20 for 1 bet right off the bat . . . and the cash makes your subscription **BETTER THAN FREE**.

1979 Gambling Times

MAKE YOUR BET COUNT (Cut this out and mail it today!)

GAMBLING TIMES, Dept. A
839 N. Highland Avenue
Hollywood, CA 90038

Add \$5 for Canadian or foreign subscriptions. All monies must be in U.S. currency.

YES, I want to be a **winner**. Begin my subscription to GAMBLING TIMES with the current issue at the special price of \$24 for 12 issues at a \$6 savings. Also, send me the Las Vegas and Reno bonus, and the 3-day/2-night Nevada vacation.

I enclose my check/money order or
 Charge my BankAmericard/VISA
Credit Card #:

Master Charge.

Signature _____ Expiration Date _____

Name (Please Print) _____

Address: (If credit card, give billing address) _____

City/State/Zip _____

Mailbox

Dear Sir:

I've followed your publication since its conception, the Fall of 1977, and think you have a good magazine. However there are some areas in the field of slot machines I wish could be expanded.

Being a novice in the working mechanics of a three wheeler, some help would be of great importance to myself as well as those people who just have a machine in their home. For example, what should one look for if three bars come up and the jackpot in the window doesn't pay out? Or what are the adjustments for the coin slide assembly so the coins don't "double up" as they move across the coin window. The above questions refer to a Mills BLACK CHERRY machine.

Perhaps some of these things will be cleared up in your new *Owner's Pictorial Guide for the Care and Understanding of the Mills Bell Slot Machine* book, but some service information from those who know the machines to we who don't would sure boost the popularity of *Loose Change*. By the way, I'm ordering the new *Mills Owner's Guide* in hopes of getting the ole machine to work a little smoother.

Over the period of your magazine I've noticed that all the action, auctions and sales of the slot machines seem to take place in the west. Aren't there any places in the northeast where one can see in hopes of purchasing a machine? Is it perhaps the dealers are afraid to speak out or advertise here in the east?

Moreover, a list of "legal states" for slots would be helpful. Can one order parts by mail from these states if the machines are legal in his state? Can a person transport a machine to another legal state for the purpose of repairs?

Again, you do have a good magazine and I'm looking forward to the next edition. Thank you for your efforts, and keep up the hard work.

James E. D. Allshouse
Greensburg, Pennsylvania

Dear James:

First of all, James, you must learn

the language; three reels, please, not three wheels.

Everyone of your questions are illustrated and answered in the new Owner's Pictorial Guide for the Care and Understanding of the Mills Bell Slot Machine. You will find that the book has been written as a complete manual of the theory and operation of all the Mills machines manufactured from 1932 through 1971 plus many earlier models. Rather than providing a "symptom and how to fix" trouble-shooting guide, a good understanding of actual machine operation was considered much more practical and desirable. Understanding which assembly is not functioning and how that assembly should work is a more efficient way to fix the machine. After you have thoroughly read the book and studied the pictures, you should be able to go directly to the problem since you will then know what function the various assemblies should be performing. The pictures will also enable you to determine whether your machine is missing any functional parts necessary for proper operation.

The producers of auctions specializing in coin-operated machines and related items seem to be in the west. Gordon Pace, in Illinois, seems to be an exception—he's held two coin machine auctions that we know of (both advertised in Loose Change). A complete report of his latest one appears in this issue.

Another excellent source of antique slot machines will be the Loose Change Fun Fair. I hope you will be able to make it to this important event.

We have included a chart of legal states in this issue for the convenience of Fun Fair visitors. Interstate transportation of slot machines is controlled by the federal government, but I have not heard about any collectors encountering difficulties.

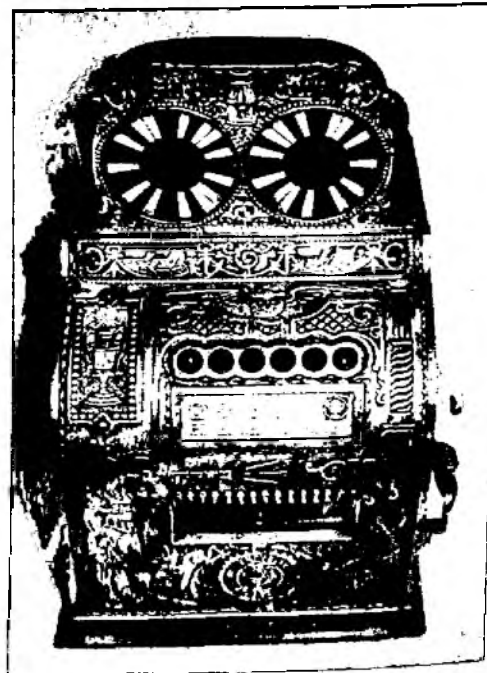
Editor

Dear Sir:

It was nice meeting you yesterday at the Wheeling, Illinois auction. En-

closed please find a photograph of my Mills SILVER CUP slot machine. The machine is all original and totally complete including rear door, lock and key. I am sure it will draw some interesting reader attention.

Arnold Levin
Chicago, Illinois



Dear Arnold:

I doubt if many of our readers have ever seen a machine this rare. It looks, at first glance, like a cross between a CHECK BOY and a DUO.

Editor

Dear Sir:

We wrote to you some time ago regarding a penny machine we have and are attempting to identify. Enclosed is a photo of the machine as you had suggested. Any additional information you can give us will greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your assistance.

David E. Leverentz
Fort Wayne, Indiana

Dear David:

Except for the pattern of the pins at the top, this looks like a Mills LITTLE DREAM. There is also one other slight discrepantcy: the Mills machine I'm familiar with has two additional pockets labeled "2G" which are not present on your machine. The "G" pockets stand for gum payable to the player, and the outer pockets were reserved for bigger rewards.

Perhaps some other reader can pin

this one down more precisely.

Editor



Dear Sir:

Referring to your new book, *Owner's Pictorial Guide for the Care and Understanding of the Mills Bell Slot Machine*, it is nothing short of unbelievable! It has to be the best written works to date on slot machines. I have one of these machines and I've found out things about it I never knew existed!

I can't wait until the other books are finished. Keep up the fantastic work.

George Wytak
Astoria, New York

Dear George:

Thank you for your kind compliments. We've had excellent reception to the new book—so much, in fact, that Bob and I have decided to do the Jennings book next.

There is, as you may know, a higher degree of mechanism sophistication with the Jennings machines, and Bob is developing an outline now which he feels will cover this popular family of machines to their best advantage.

There really isn't any target date on this one yet—too early in the game.

Editor

Dear Sir:

I'm looking for a parts and service manual for a Jennings SUPER DELUXE CHIEF slot machine. I have seen your ads for other parts and service manuals and was hoping you might have this one. Please let me know the price if you do have it or know

PARTS LIST AND SERVICE MANUAL

COVERING BELLS AND VENDERS
"Good Will" is the disposition of the customer to return to the place where he was well treated



THE FACTORY BEHIND THE PRODUCT

PACE MANUFACTURING CO.
INCORPORATED

GENERAL OFFICES AND FACTORY
2901-19 Indiana Avenue
CHICAGO, U.S.A.

SEE PAGES 39-39 FOR DISTRIBUTORS
A BRANCH OF THE UNIVERSAL MACHINERY CO. DIVISION OF THE MEAD COMPANY
THE MEAD COMPANY, 77 THE SHOPS, JEFFERSON STREET, LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA 90801
1937, 1938, 1939

A REPRINT
NOW AVAILABLE



from the publishers of Loose Change

THE 1937 PACE Parts List & Service Manual



40 PAGES

of

PARTS DRAWINGS & LISTS

WITH SPECIAL PHOTO SECTION ON THE ALL-STAR COMET BELL, ALL-STAR SIDE VENDER, ALL-STAR GOLD AWARD BELL, COMET FRONT VENDER, THE DEFERRED-PAY FRONT VENDER, ROYAL COMET AND ARISTO SCALE. OVER ONE THOUSAND PARTS PICTURED, IDENTIFIED AND PRICED!

ONLY \$3.95 EACH
POSTPAID

California
Residents
Please Add
Sales Tax

ORDER DIRECT FROM THE PUBLISHER
THE MEAD COMPANY
21176 SOUTH ALAMEDA STREET
LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA 90810

Please Allow
Four Weeks
For
Delivery

where I might get one. I hope you can help me.

Bill Valdesalice
Franklin, Pennsylvania

Dear Bill:

We'll have a comprehensive *Owner's Guide* sometime next year, but that won't help you now. However, I believe you might try one of our new advertisers, *Astro Slot Machine Literature of Augusta, Georgia*, who makes a full line of reprinted slot service books and pamphlets.

Editor

Dear Sir:

I recently bought your *Red and Blue Books*. I can't seem to locate the enclosed slot. Would you please tell me the name, maker and value of it if you know. It has a B-O-N-U-S above the escalator. I would appreciate the infor-

Continued on page 49

Editor's Notes



Welcome to the first Loose Change Fun Fair! You are attending an event which will ultimately become the most important event of the year to collectors and enthusiasts of coin-operated machines, gambling and old advertising.

This issue of *Loose Change* is directed primarily to the newcomer to the exciting and gratifying hobby of collecting coin-operated machines—especially antique slot machines. Our special pictorial section included in this issue is for one basic reason—to acquaint the new reader with the variety and style of the more common slot machines he is likely to encounter; we have purposely omitted the rare machines—they are usually very expensive and of interest only to the seasoned collector.

The Loose Change Fun Fair is an idea that Don Britt and I discussed and began planning over a year and a half ago. The Fun Fair will serve many purposes for buyers and sellers alike. For sellers who previously relied on the coin machine auctions for exposure to a large buying audience, the Fun Fair is made to order: no longer will they have to take the chance that their valuable merchandise will be sold out from under them at ten or eleven o'clock at night when no one is left to bid; no longer will they have to pay high consignment fees for the privilege of large exposure; and no longer will any seller be forced into buying back his own merchandise if the auction company fails in its endeavor to make a decent sale. Now for one *reasonable* flat fee the seller can be assured of a large, interested audience and can sell or trade his machines and make any deal he feels is to his best interest; in short, the seller is in complete control of his own merchandise.

For the buyer, the Fun Fair will be a veritable department store; thousands of items will be at one single location and at all price levels. And here's the best part: most of the prices will be negotiable. Don't be afraid to make offers to the exhibitors—most of them will expect you to bargain and many will be disappointed if you pass them by because you thought their price was too high.

The Fun Fair is not all buy and sell. You are encouraged and invited to attend any or all of the seminars which have been planned for you. These presentations will be educational and entertaining—delivered by experts—and are intended to be helpful in your exploration of this fascinating hobby. Visit our movie theatre. The program will range from cartoons for the kids to a variety of old time film classics. And don't forget to fill out a card for the drawing for door prizes which will be held Sunday afternoon.

It is our intention that you have fun and enjoy yourself. Talk to the exhibitors. Show them pictures of your own collection if you wish, and ask them questions—most of them have been in this hobby for many years and will be pleased to answer your questions. The Fun Fair has been planned as an enjoyable meeting place for the exchange of information, collectibles and knowledge for people interested in antique coin-operated machines, gambling and old advertising. It is *your* show. Enjoy it, and have fun!

Daniel R. Mead, Editor and Publisher

AMERICA'S
MARKETPLACE
OF UNUSUAL
ITEMS!

WORLD FAMOUS
Rose Bowl
FLEA
MARKET

PASADENA, CA.

FUN & BARGAINS FOR
THE WHOLE FAMILY
9AM to 3PM

2nd SUNDAY
OF
EVERY MONTH

For info call
(213) 588-4411 24 HRS

R.G. CANNING
ENTERPRISES, INC.
P.O. BOX 400 MAYWOOD, CA 90270

WHERE TO BUY
Loose Change

CALIFORNIA

American International Galleries, Inc.
1802 Kettering Street
Irvine, California 92714
Phone (714) 754-1777
* * *

Antique Juke Box Company
2222 East Washington Boulevard
Los Angeles, California 90021
Phone (213) 589-5903
* * *

Eucalyptus Hills Liquor
11626 Riverside Drive
Lakeside, California 92040
Phone (714) 443-8101
* * *

G.A.M.E.S.
6626 Valjean Avenue
Van Nuys, California 91406
Phone (213) 781-1300
* * *

G.A.M.E.S.
10529 Ellis Avenue
Fountain Valley, California 92708
Phone (714) 964-2711
* * *

Games Unlimited
9059 Venice Boulevard
Los Angeles, California 90034
Phone (213) 836-8920
* * *

The Mead Company
21176 South Alameda Street
Long Beach, California 90810
Phone (213) 549-0730
* * *

MICHIGAN

Richard M. Lonski
14241 Michigan Avenue
Dearborn, Michigan 48126
Phone (313) 584-6460
* * *

NEVADA

The Antique Gambler
2400 Tampa Way
Reno, Nevada 89512
Phone (702) 329-2067
* * *

The Antique Gambler
565 East Twain
Las Vegas, Nevada 89109
Phone (702) 733-0035
* * *

A & P Slots
350 North Virginia Street
Reno, Nevada 89501
(702) 322-0662
* * *

Gambler's Book Club
630 South 11th Street
Las Vegas, Nevada 89101
Phone (702) 382-7555
* * *

TEXAS

Jim Cawthorn
14 South 17th Street
McAllen, Texas 78501
Phone (512) 686-2011
* * *

VIRGINIA

Yesterday's Music
1000 White Pine Drive
Chesapeake, Virginia 23323
Phone (804) 487-1601
* * *

WANT TO SELL LOOSE CHANGE?

Write For Our Brochure
LOOSE CHANGE MAGAZINE
21176 SOUTH ALAMEDA STREET
LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA 90810

Floral slot machine

Continued from page 7

especially for the *Loose Change* exhibit, booths 130-131, by Beal's Flower and Gift Shop of Long Beach, California. Starting with a styrofoam base, individual tubes attached to the base and filled with water will hold flowers of various colors which will

OCTOBER 1979

Product Review

This product review section is designed to give our readers some first hand knowledge of products and materials. Each item has been inspected and, where appropriate, tested by our editorial staff. The review is a subjective opinion based on our exposure to the product. If you would like your product reviewed, please contact our editorial offices at 21176 South Alameda Street, Long Beach, California 90810. The following information will be required: Price, warranty information, materials of construction including type of finish (i.e., paint, electroplating, etc.) when applicable, complete name and mailing address of manufacturer, address of where the item can be purchased and shipping costs. We will review each item in the order that it is received at our office.

FRAMED AMUSEMENT MACHINE TOKENS, Circus Promotions Corporation, 808 Tuxedo Lane, Cary, Illinois 60013, \$14.95 post-paid.

Remember that *Loose Change* report which appeared after Roy Arrington's last auction about the fellow from the east who went home with a wheelbarrow full of amusement machine tokens? The tokens just surfaced! And what a wonderful way to display them!

They are mounted in a an attractive printed and die cut cardboard sheet (same thickness as the tokens) and

backed with a second sheet of cardboard. The display mount is then mounted behind glass in a walnut simulated frame trimmed with gold-like foil. The entire unit measures 12 $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 15 $\frac{1}{4}$ " x $\frac{7}{8}$ " thick.

We had our token expert, Steve Alpert, give us his opinion as to the value of the tokens. He said they ranged in value from about 25¢ to "several dollars" each.

The frame holds and displays ten tokens. If it could be assumed that the value of the tokens alone were \$8 to \$10, then the price of the frame, glass and display mount are extremely reasonably priced.

The standard way to display tokens seems to be little cardboard cutouts with cellophane. This may be an efficient way for the true collector to catalog and protect huge quantities of tokens, but this framed method, in our estimation, is a much more decorative and pleasing presentation, especially for the non-collector of tokens who simply would like to have a few displayed for their effect.

The tokens are picked at random for mounting, thus each unit will have ten different tokens. We rate this piece of merchandise as an excellent buy for anyone who would like to have a handful of amusement machine token ready for display.



ultimately form the final design. The piece, which required two weeks to make, will be on display all three days of the Fun Fair.

The drawing will be conducted by Fun Fair Master of Ceremonies Don Britt, and Jennifer and Brenda Mead will draw the lucky winner's name. To be eligible for the floral slot machine, as well as other door prizes, it is necessary to fill out a Door Prize Registration Card at the front of the Great Western Exhibit Center. For this particular prize it is necessary to be present at the drawing to win since it is non-shipable.

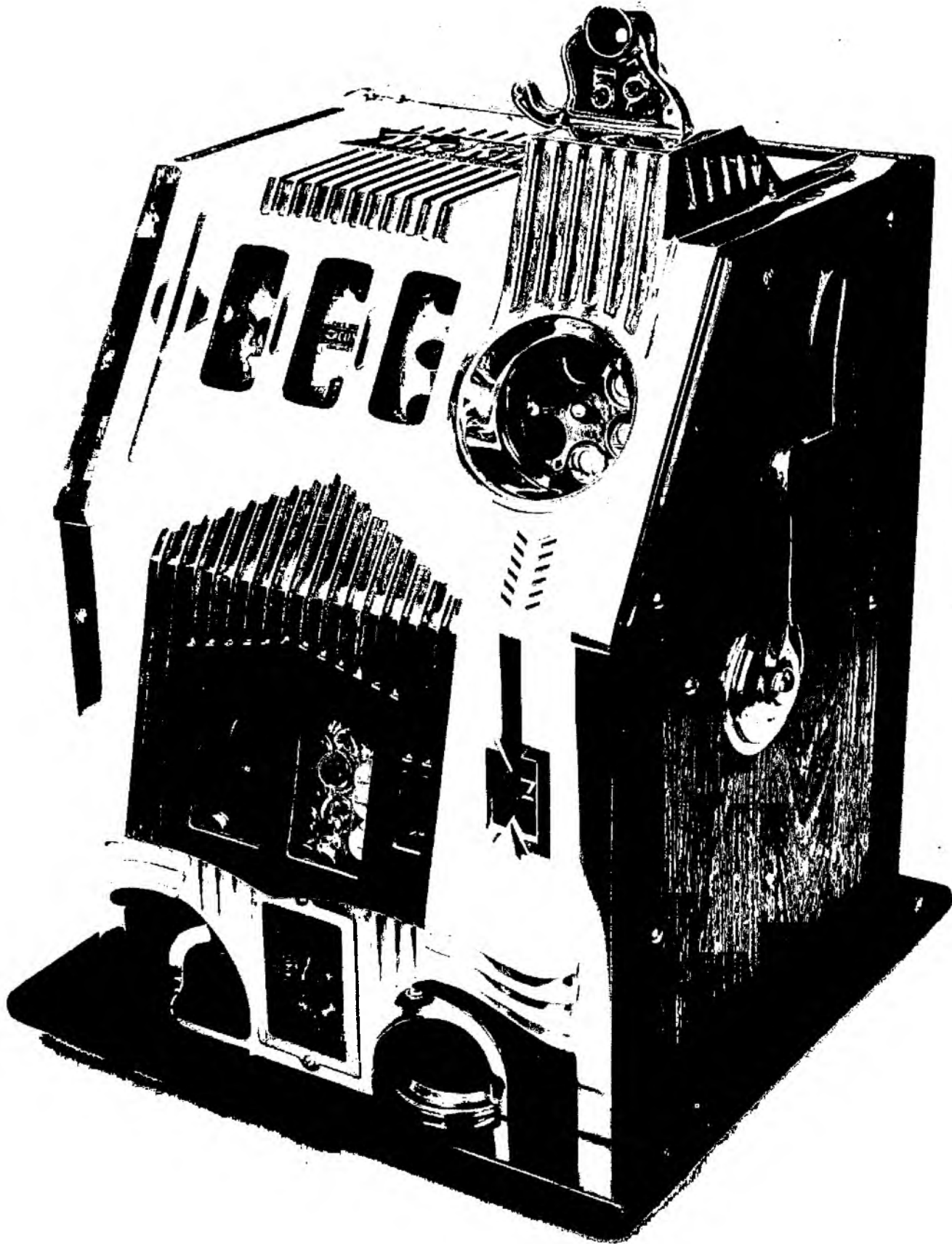
ASTRO Slot Machine Literature

Mills, Jennings, Pace, Sega, Columbia Bells, Consoles, etc.

Send For Catalog

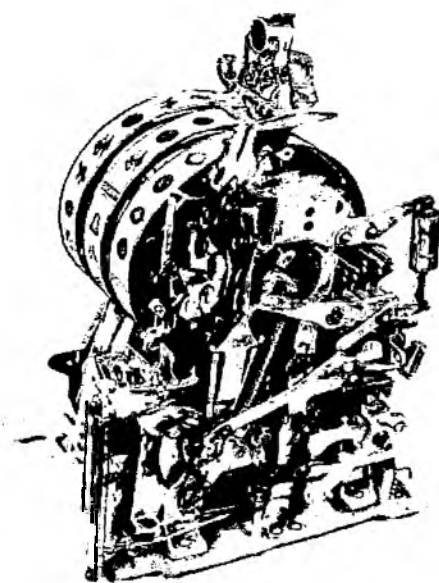
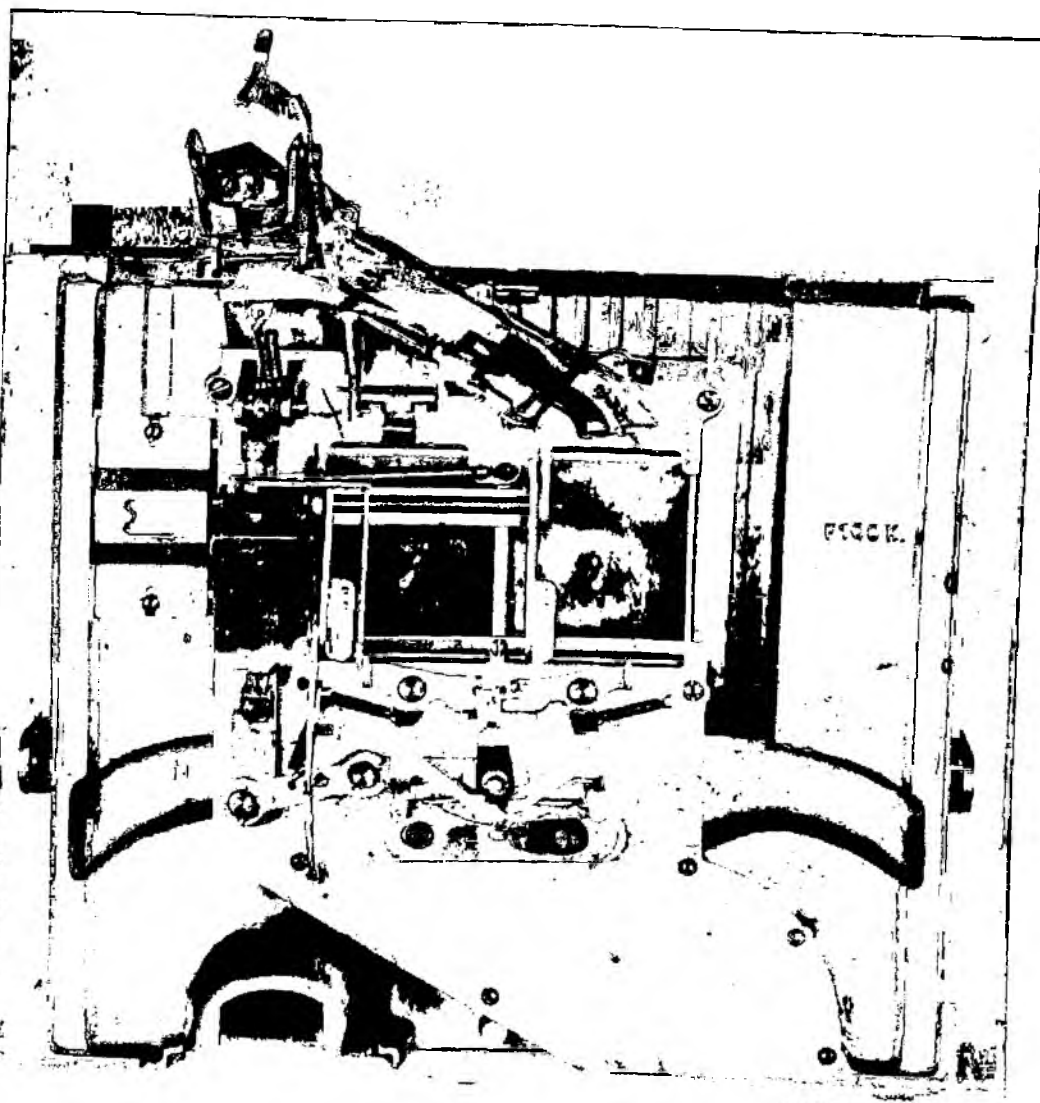
Send 50¢ coin or stamps to cover postage
Deductable from first order

ASTRO
P.O. Box 3761
Augusta, GA 30904



THE PACE KITTY

by Robert N. Geddes



Introduction

The Pace KITTYY possesses a very unusual place among the three reel slot machines manufactured by the major companies in the 1930s. While its mechanism and gadgetry are very unique, the machine has been placed in a relatively attractive cabinet compared to other machines possessing similar mechanical uniqueness. Its scarcity (approximately 1,000) coupled with its mechanical features and aesthetics places the KITTYY in the category of one of the most highly desirable of collectible machines made during the 1930s. As an example of the scarcity of the machine, there are, to the author's knowledge only two known working

This photograph shows the back of the front casting with the jackpot and kitty assemblies with their respective coin diversion chutes. The coins dropped by the kitty were routed to the left money bowl (facing the front of the machine) to separate its paying of coins from standard fruit pays which dropped in the right hand money bowl.



The KITTYY's name is cast right into the top aluminum casting of the KITTYY. Background area around "The Kitty" is blue, and the arrows at either side are golden yellow. The entire background is warm white.

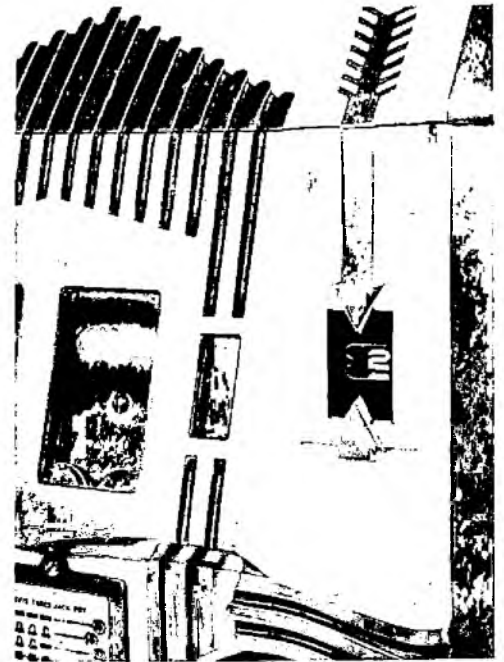
KITTYYs in existence in Southern California. Collectors who own working KITTYYs will never part with them, and price does not seem to be an object. The only KITTYYs that seem to be for sale are ones in which the gimmick mechanism has been removed. It is doubtful if there are over thirty to forty KITTYYs still in existence.

The Method of Play

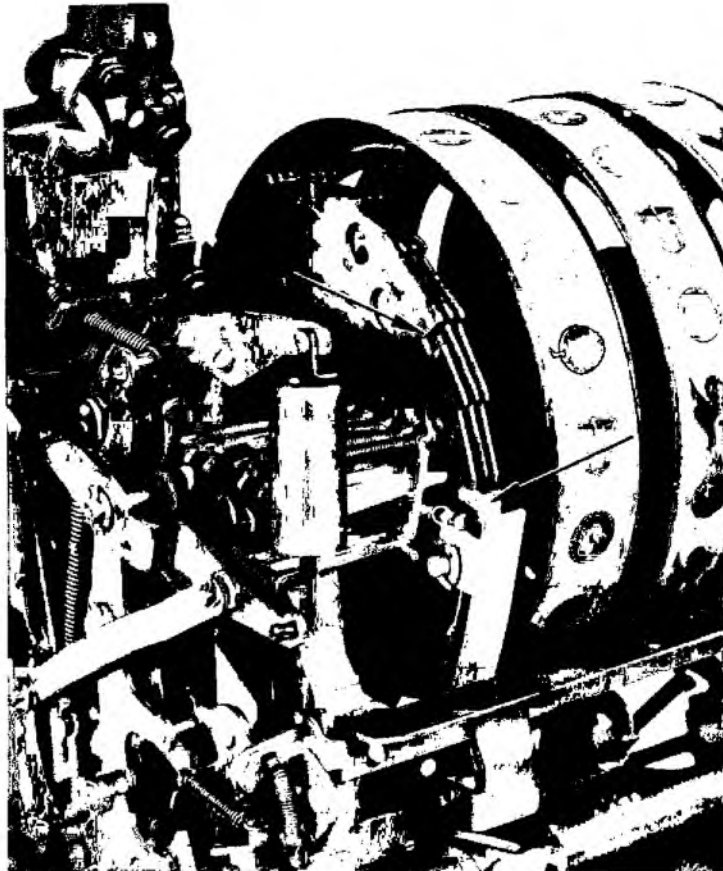
The machine is called the KITTYY (actually cast on top of the machine by the manufacturer) because it poses a

"kitty" or miniature jackpot located to the immediate right of the right hand main jackpot. On the first reel of the machine there are no lemons, but there are four Halloween-style cats (the "kitties"). Whenever the first reel stops on a kitty symbol, one coin from the circular escalator is diverted into the kitty (miniature jackpot). Simultaneously each time the machine is played without a winning combination, the indicator at the far right hand side of the machine is being incremented by one. If the player goes ten plays without a winning combination of any kind, he received all of the coins in the kitty, and the indicator is reset to zero. However, anytime the player gets a winning combination on the payout line, the indicator returns to zero and the kitty retains all its coins. The amount that a player receives when the kitty drops is a random amount of coins and depends completely upon the luck of previous players. Theoretically it could be empty or could hold as many as 50 dimes—less if it were a nickel or quarter machine.

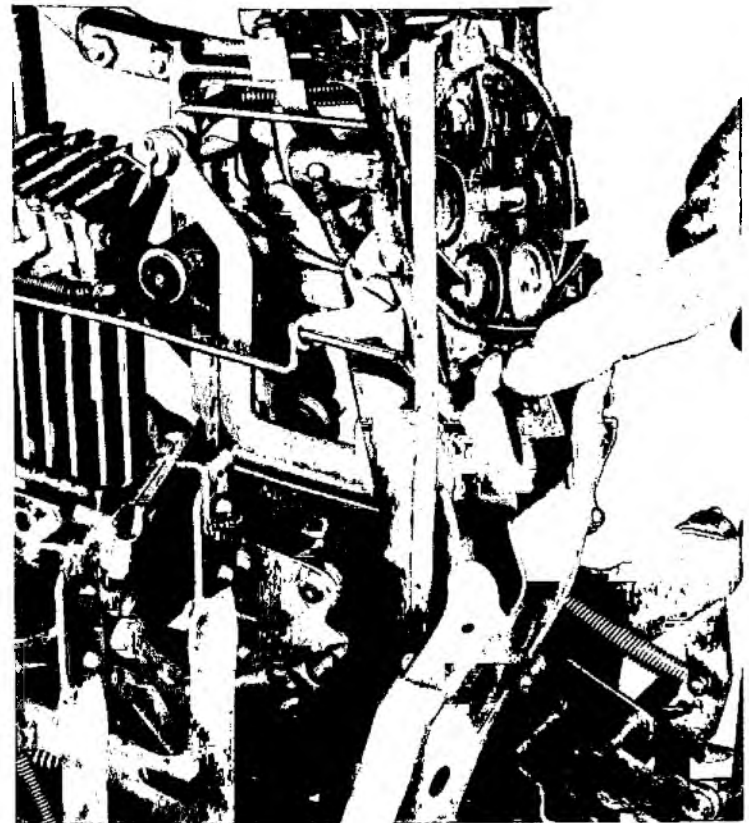
This Pace machine came out a year after the Mills FUTURITY and was obviously meant to compete with it. While the KITTYY didn't "cheat" like



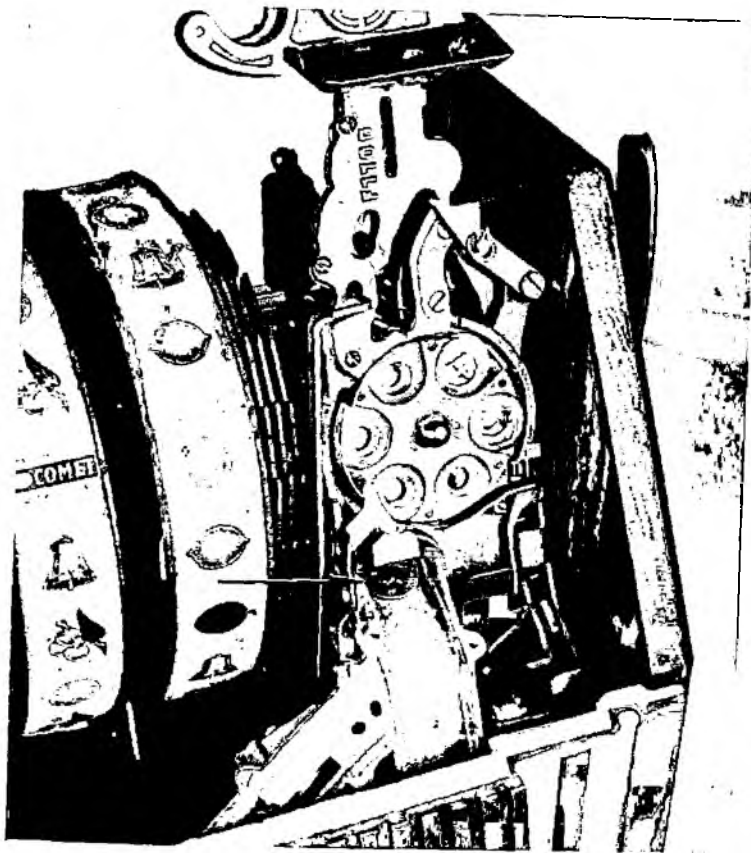
The "kitty" is immediately to the right of the main jackpot, and the indicator is at the far right side of the machine front. The indicator keeps track of how many times the machine has been played without a winning combination. After ten plays without a winner, the player gets all the coins in the kitty, and the indicators returns to zero. The kitty is filled by coins being diverted to it every time a kitty symbol lands on the payline.



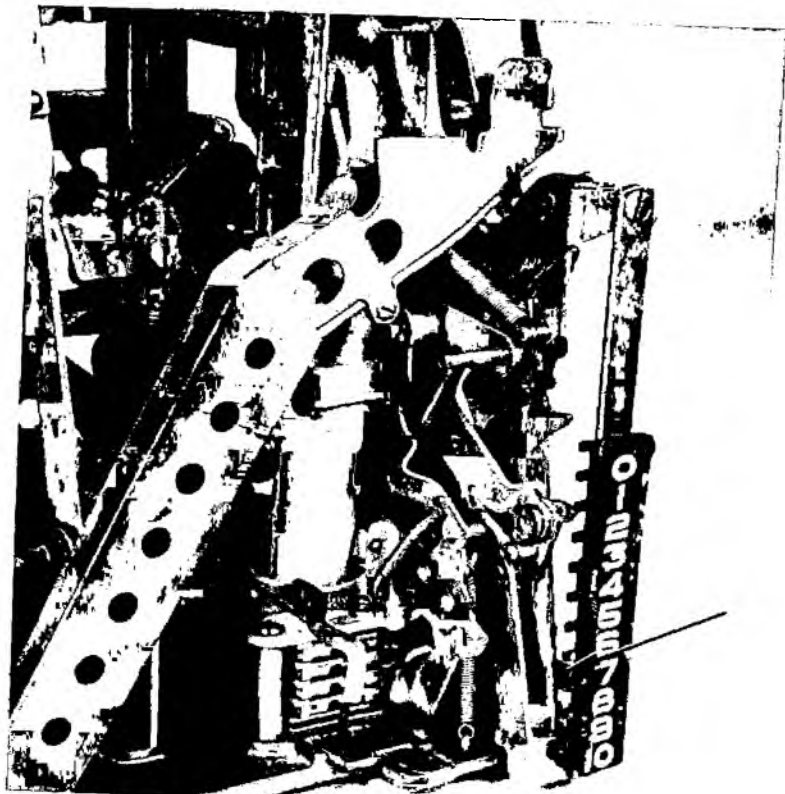
The kitty sensing lever (lower arrow) looks for a peripheral notch (top arrow) on the first reel disk, representing a kitty symbol on the first reel. When it senses this notch, a linkage operates the coin diversion mechanism.



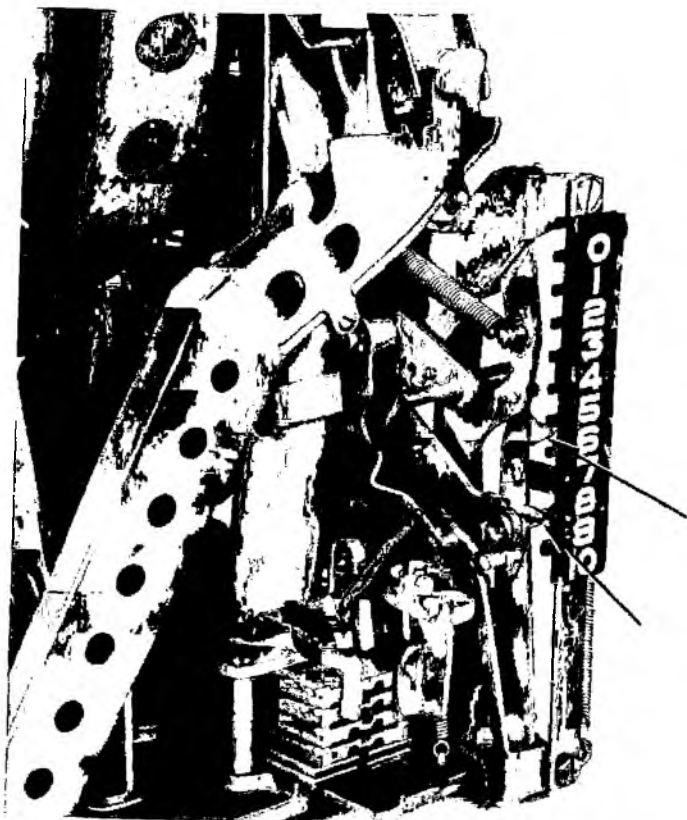
When the kitty sensing lever finds a notch on the first reel disk (indicating a kitty symbol on the first reel), it causes travel of a bar to the front of the machine which operates the coin deflection plate (indicated by forefinger). The coin being released by the rotating escalator can fall into the tube, jackpot or kitty, depending upon the position of the coin deflection plate.



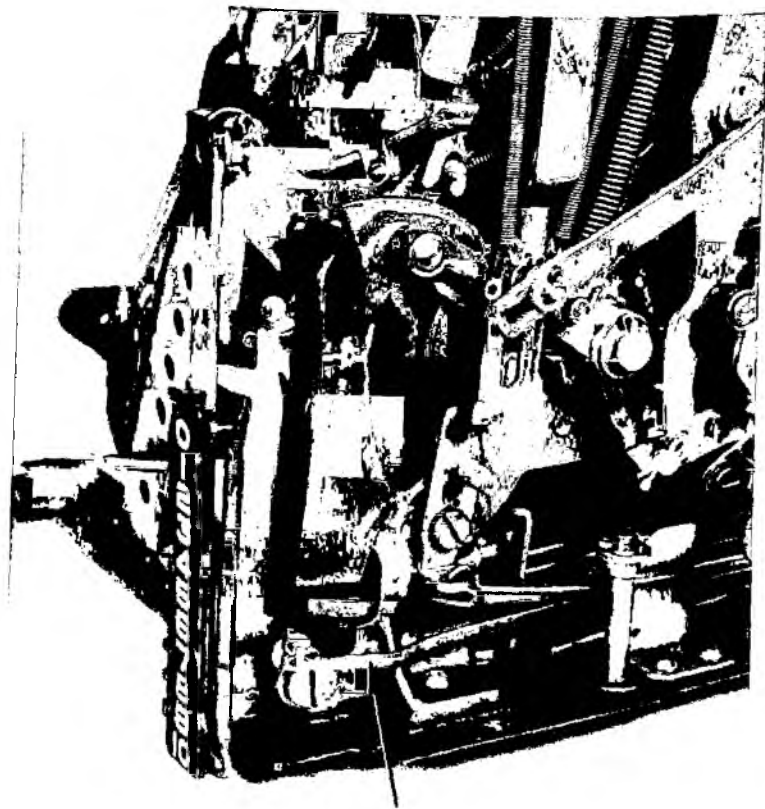
This photo demonstrates action of the coin deflection plate due to the sensing of a kitty symbol on the first reel disk by the kitty sensing lever. Note the coin is being diverted to the kitty diversion chute which leads to the "kitty". Underneath this chute is the is another chute which leads to the jackpots.



The releasing of the indicator can be caused two ways, namely (1) by the upward travel of the indicator triggering the release of the indicator retain lever (shown in the upper photo) or (2) the motion of the ratchet lever by the payout detection bar (shown in the lower photo). In either case the indicator is sprung back to its lower or zero position, and the indicator advance lever assembly is reset on the next play of the machine.



The indicator is indexed upward by the indicator advance pawl (lower arrow) which is operated by a lever connected to the operating fork. Each time the machine is played this pawl moves the indicator up one notch, and it is held there by the indicator retaining lever (upper arrow).



The opening of the kitty door is caused by the upward motion of the release lever when the indicator reaches ten (its uppermost position). The pin on this lever is directly coupled to the kitty door causing it to open. Upon the next play of the machine it is automatically reset allowing the kitty door to close and lock.

the FUTURITY, its main drawback was that the motivation to play the machine was somewhat correlated to how full the kitty was and the position of the indicator. The production run of the machine tells the story of public and operator acceptance. The added complexity of the kitty operating mechanism didn't help maintenance problems, and this factor may well partially account for why the kitty portion of the mechanism is missing from any known KITTYS.

The Mechanism

The mechanism of the KITTY is basically the standard Pace mechanism with add-on parts to provide for its special features. There are three additional mechanical functions to be performed by the KITTY, namely (1) the sensing of a kitty symbol on the first reel and routing one coin to the kitty, (2) management of the indicator by indexing it one digit for each coin played without a winner and resetting it when either a winner occurs or it reaches ten and (3) opening and closing the kitty door when ten plays without a winner is achieved. The mechanisms for each of these three functions are described under the accompanying photographs.

It should be noted that the coins from the kitty are routed across the two jackpots allowing them to be dispensed at the left hand coin bowl as seen from the front of the machine. This selection of coin dropping was probably made to suggest some sort of jackpot had been won.

The Reel Strips

The reel strips used in the kitty were labeled "mystery strips" and neither dated nor quantity indicated with respect to how many were produced.

Coincidentally, however, they were very similar to the Mills SP-1/2/3 with three exceptions and a kitty appearing where the lemons were previously placed on the first reel. There seems to have been only one set of reel strips made for the KITTY, and they were unique in design from other known reel strips. Table 1 shows the reel strip configuration and Table 2 shows the symbol inventory.

The Payout Statistics

While the payout statistics may seem complicated because of the uncertainty of the size of the kitty, it is possible to compute an average return based on the same player playing the machine 8,000 times. Needless to say, the odds are less when the kitty is empty and greater when the kitty is full.

To compute the statistics, assuming there is *no* kitty feature, the odds are computed as in Table 3.

To incorporate the kitty feature, the easiest way is to assume that all of the coins that go into the kitty will eventually be returned to the player. There is a slight possibility that the kitty will overflow and the coins will become the property of the machine, but the coins lost in this manner are relatively negligible and the computation for the inclusion is that out of every 20 plays there will be 4 coins placed in the kitty; or in 8,000 plays there will be $(8,000/20)4 = 1,600$ additional coins returned to the player.

Thus, to summarize:

Regular Play returns 4,876/8,000

Kitty Feature returns 1,600/8,000

Total Returns = 6,476/8000

or an 81% average return.

Comment

An interesting way to look at the statistics is in terms of an operator who feels that he never "loses" the kitty's coins but is only forstalled this profit at the 61% rate. Perhaps more important, however, is that the palyer was reluctant to play a KITTY which had a kitty with no coins in it. It is reasonable to assume that once a player achieved getting the kitty, he left the machine and consequently there were very few "takers" as the next player. The concept of the machine seemed good to the designers, but the KITTY's cleverness probably outsmarted itself.

KISS

This acronym proverb, which is certainly true in the slot machine industry, still remains: "Keep It Simple, Stupid."

TABLE 1
Reel Strip Layout

Reel 1	Reel 2	Reel 3
C	—	O
—	O	L
P	C	P
C	B	B
P	C	O
C	O	L
B	C	P
C	P	O
P	C	B
C	O	P
K	B	L
O	O	O
C	P	P
K	O	O
P	C	—
C	—	L
K	B	P
O	C	O
C	O	B
K	C	L

L	.....	Lemon
C	.....	Cherry
O	.....	Orange
P	.....	Plum
B	.....	Bell
—	.....	Bar
K	.....	Kitty

TABLE 2
Reel Symbol Inventory

Symbol	Reel 1	Reel 2	Reel 3
L	0	0	5
C	8	7	0
O	2	6	6
P	4	2	5
B	1	3	3
—	1	2	1
K	4	0	0
Total	20	20	20

TABLE 3
Computation of Odds

Winning Combinations			Number of Ways				Payout Amounts	
Reel 1	Reel 2	Reel 3	Reel 1	Reel 2	Reel 3	Total	Payout	Total
C	C	Any	8	7	12	672	2	1344
C	C	L/B	8	7	8	448	4	1792
O	O	O	2	6	6	72	8	576
O	O	—	2	6	1	12	8	96
P	P	P	4	2	5	40	12	480
P	P	—	4	2	1	8	12	96
B	B	B	1	3	3	9	16	144
B	B	—	1	3	1	3	16	48
—	—	—	1	2	1	2	20+JP	300

1266

4876

The odds due to the normal play is $4876/8000 = 60.95\%$

When I was about ten years of age, a favorite pastime was identifying automobiles as they passed by. I wasn't very proficient at this sport, and so I asked my father how it was done. He told me to look for small design characteristics the manufacturers seemed to hold over year after year (remember the Buicks with holes?)

Armed with my father's wisdom, I made a renewed effort at the game, and lo and behold—it worked, well, most of the time. LaSalles had a radiator which was unlike any others; Buicks also had a radiator style which was unique. Plymouths, Buicks, and Packards had body styles which were unmistakable.

Slot machines have similar characteristics which pin down the manufacturer. The early Jennings, for instance, had an art style, with depressed, painted areas in the castings which is unlike any other. Mills machines have a special shape, both in the gooseneck and escalator styles, which is unmistakable. Pace can be identified by its famous rotary escalator (for the smaller coins). Speaking of rotary escalators, Watling ROL-A-TOPs have characteristics unlike any other slot machine ever produced. There are exceptions, of course, as there were in the old automobiles, but these exceptions are easily memorized.

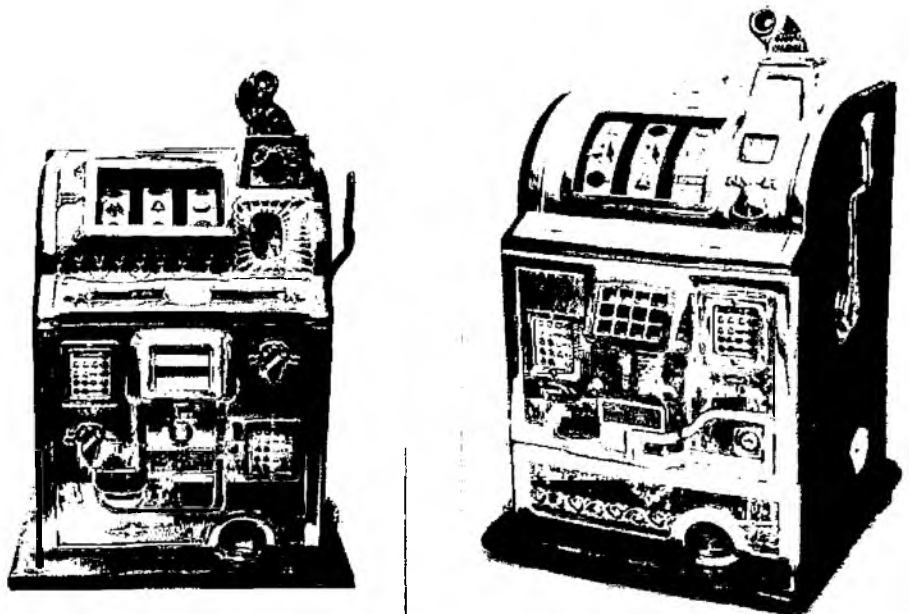
And now for the various models within a manufacturer's group. Most of the problems will come with the 1920 vintage OPERATORS BELLS (from all manufacturers of that era) and the later Mills Hi-Tops (BLACK BEAUTY, JEWEL BELL, 21 BELL, etc.) These are the ones you will simply have to study and retain in your memory. They are like similar looking people—similar but different in their personal characteristics.

The balance of this article is pictorial in nature. The photographs are so that you can become familiar with the more common payout type slot machines you are likely to encounter. Purposely omitted from this pictorial guide are most of the ultra rare and seldom seen machines which are normally sought after only by seasoned and experienced collectors. Many of the machines shown may, in actuality, have minor variances. For instance, the Jennings LITTLE DUKE came in five different models over its manufacturing lifespan. Study the details and general design characteristics. After a short study session you'll easily be able to differentiate between the various machines.

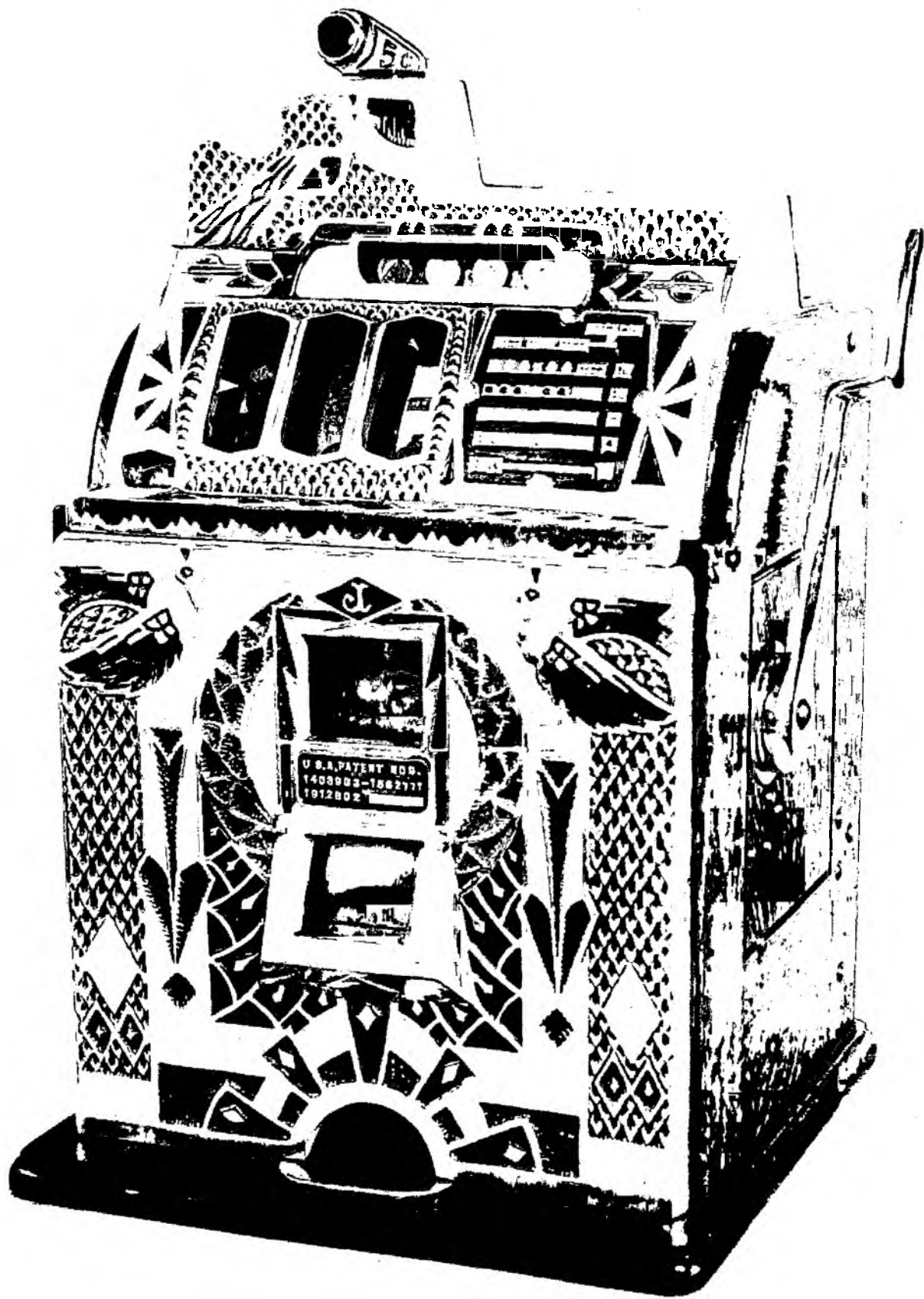
Good luck! Happy looking!

Identifying Slot Machines

by Daniel R. Mead

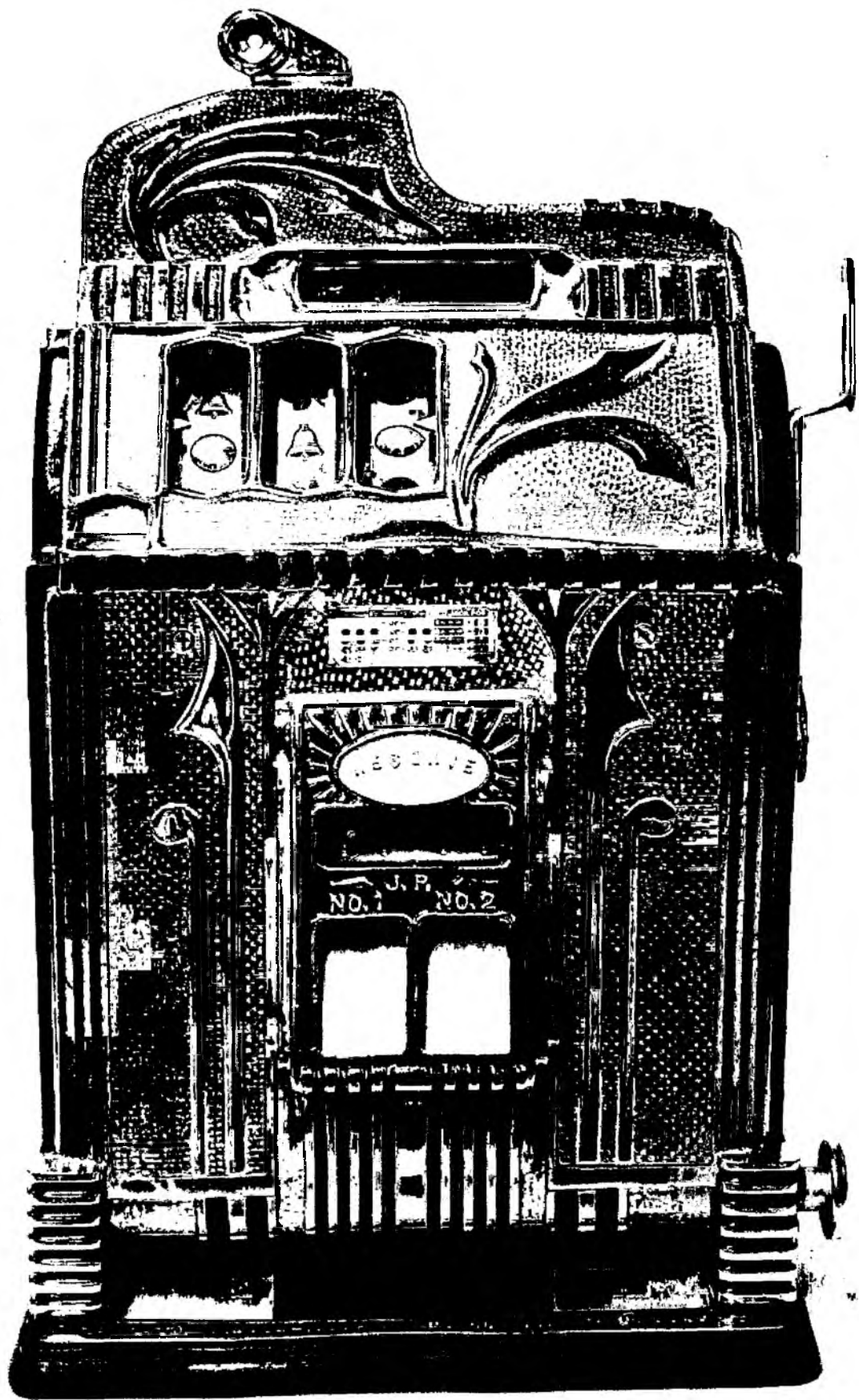


Don't be confused with the revamps and conversion fronts. Both of the above machines began life as OPERATORS BELLS—the one on the left by Mills and the one on the right by Jennings. But now they're called ROCK-OLA RESERVE JACKPOTS. If you'll remember to look for the design characteristics—coin entry shape, upper casting design, etc.—you won't have any problems. Similar conversions were made by Roberts Novelty and Bull Durham Novelty.

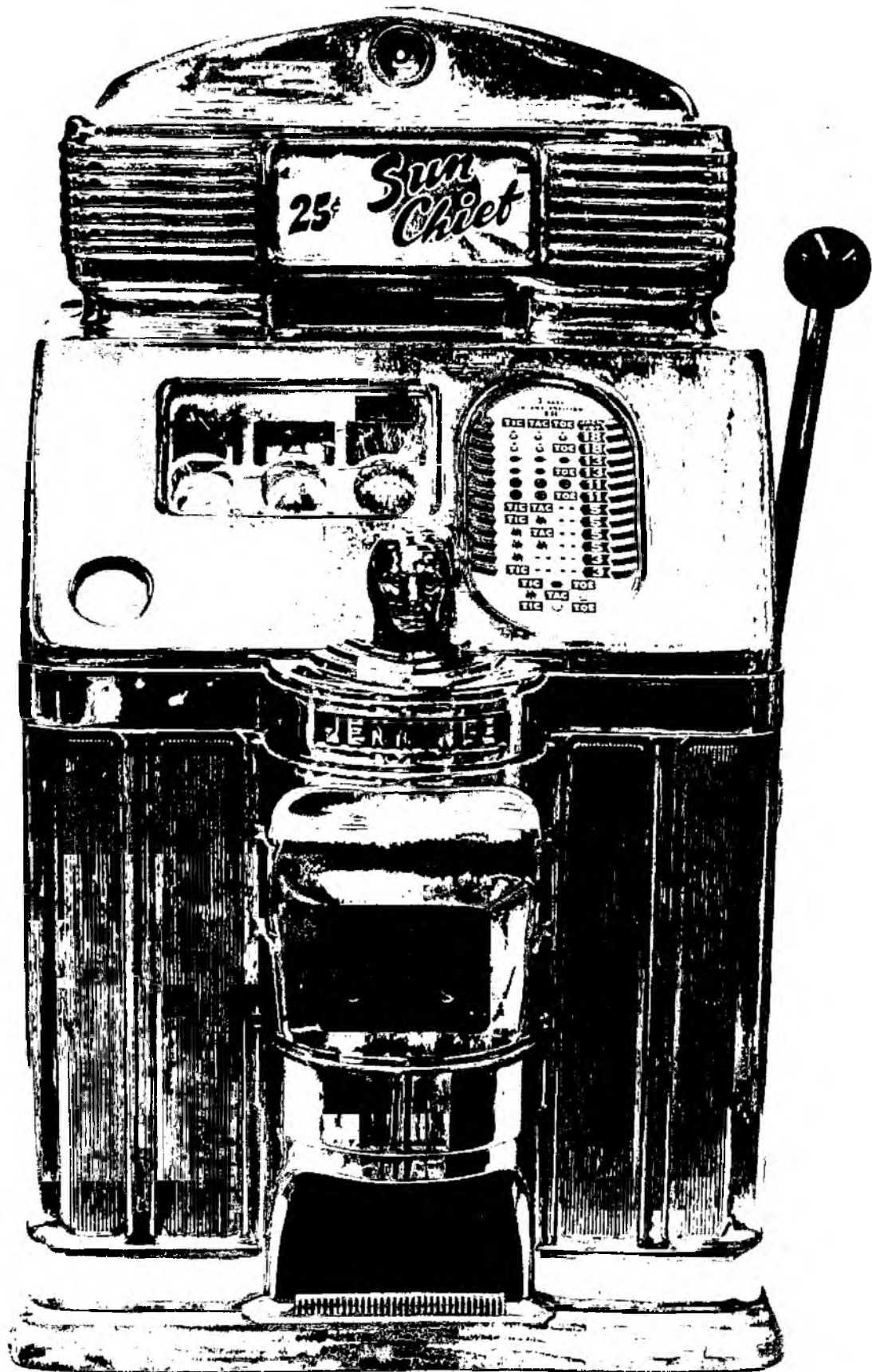


Jennings VICTORIA SILENT JACKPOT BELL

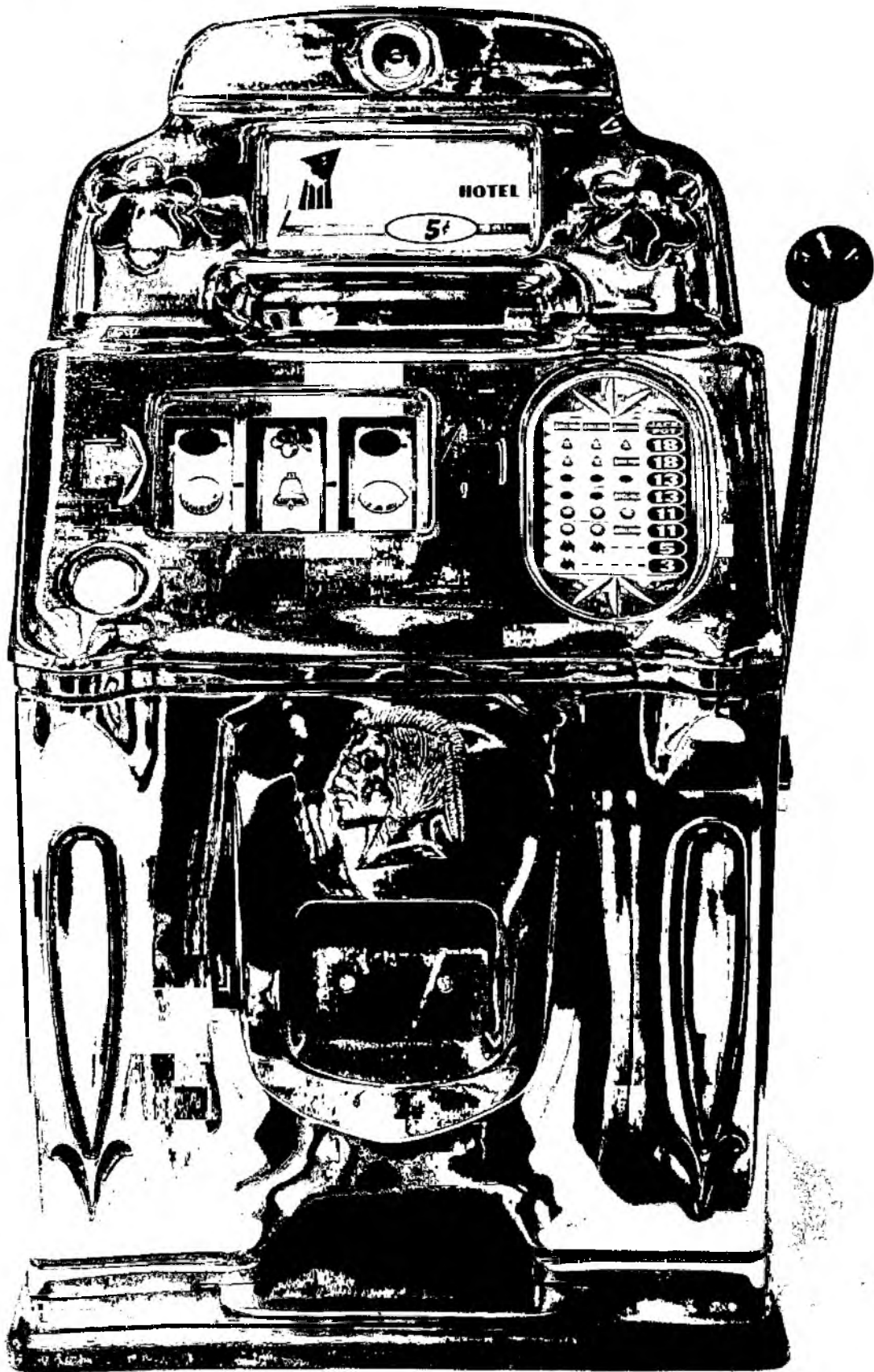
LOOSE CHANGE



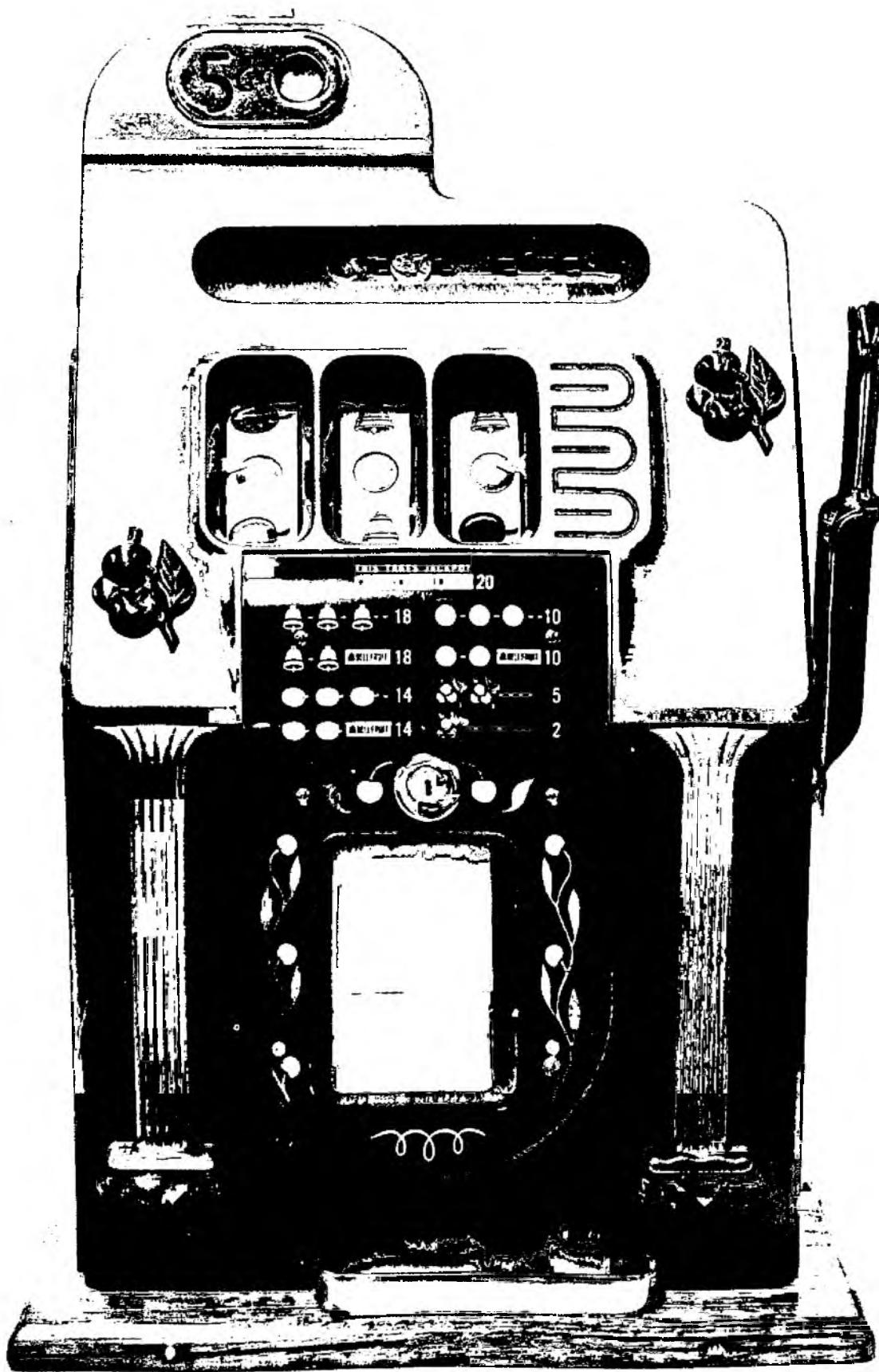
Jennings CENTURY BELL



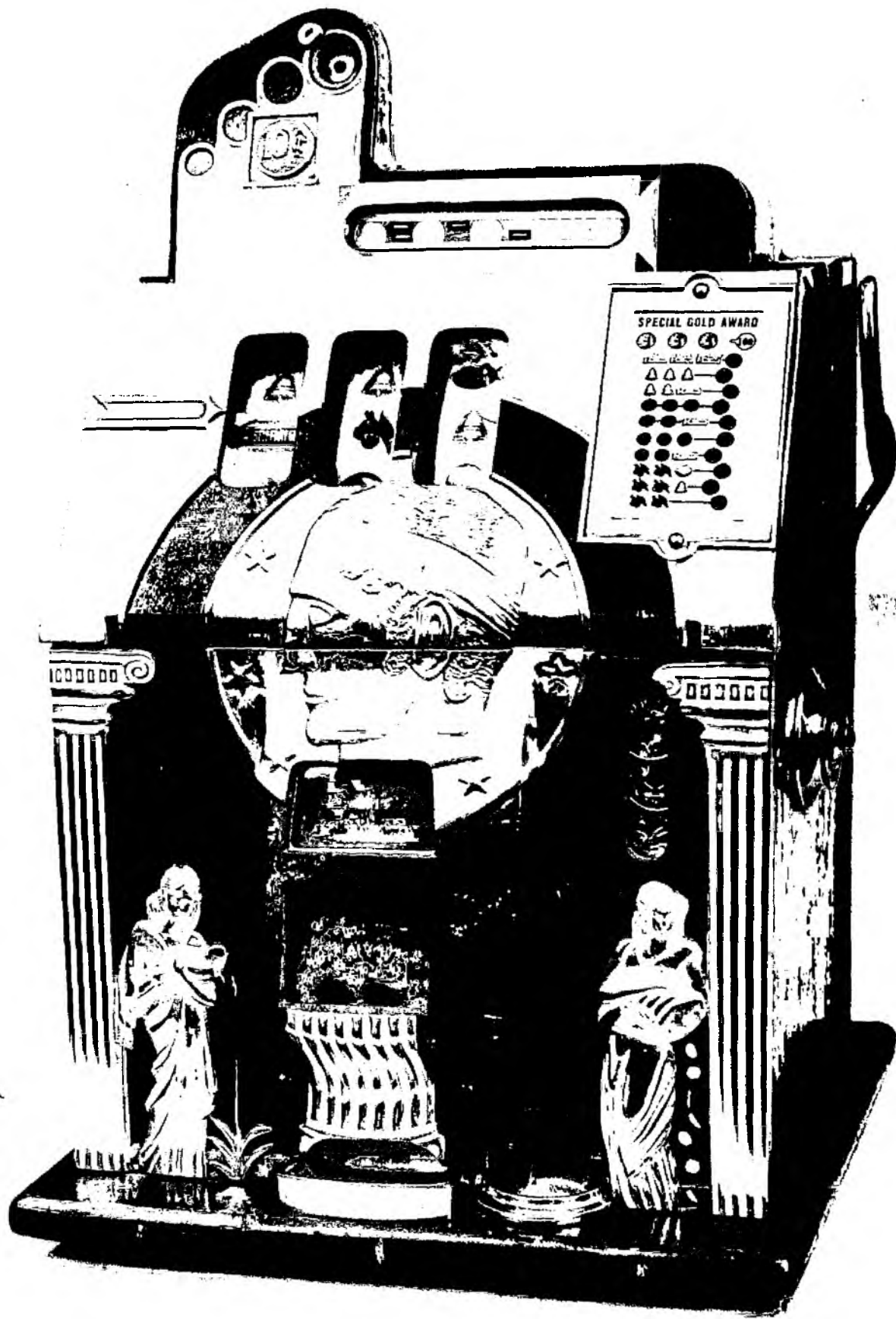
Jennings SUN CHIEF



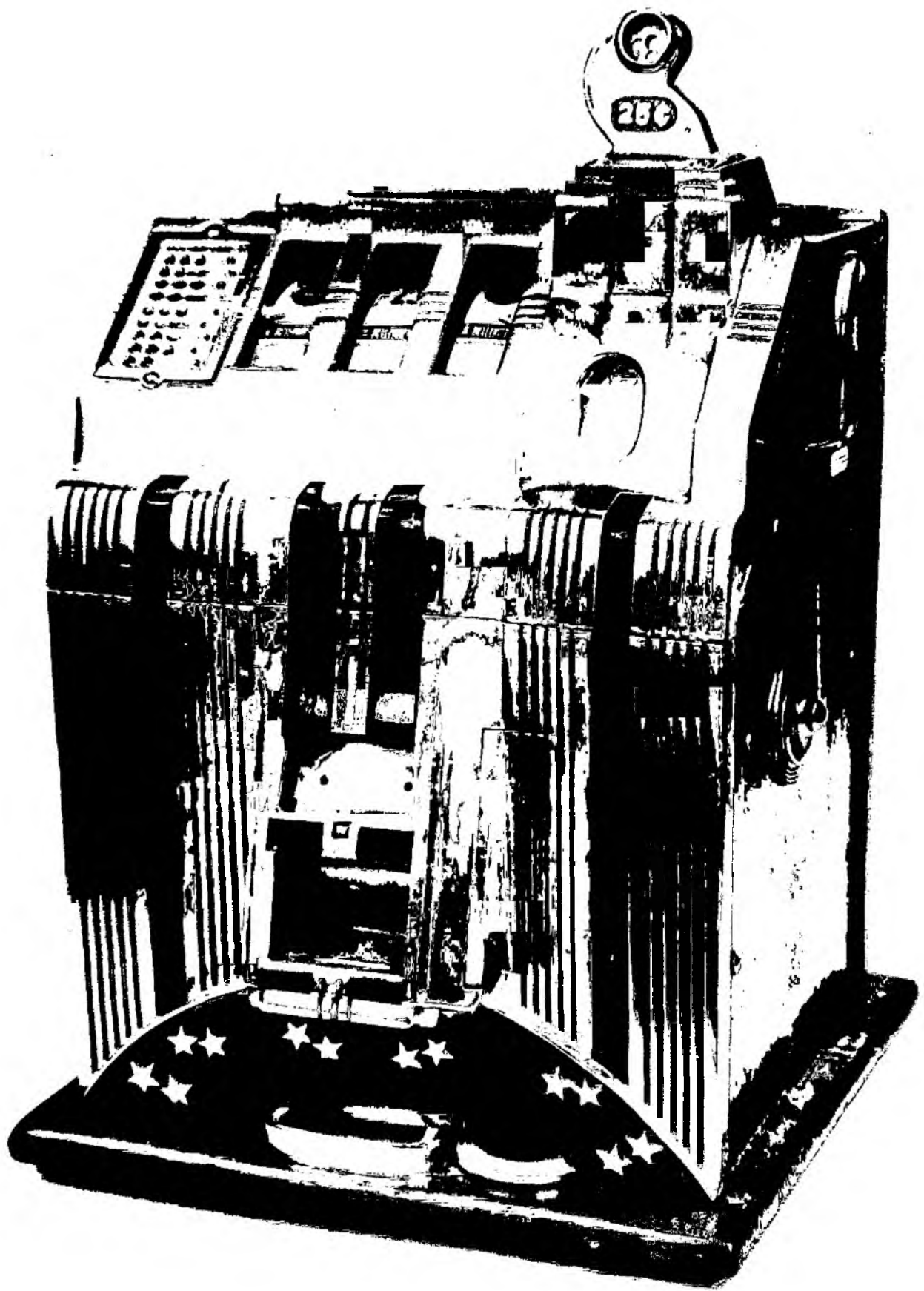
Jennings STANDARD CHIEF



Mills GOLDEN FALLS

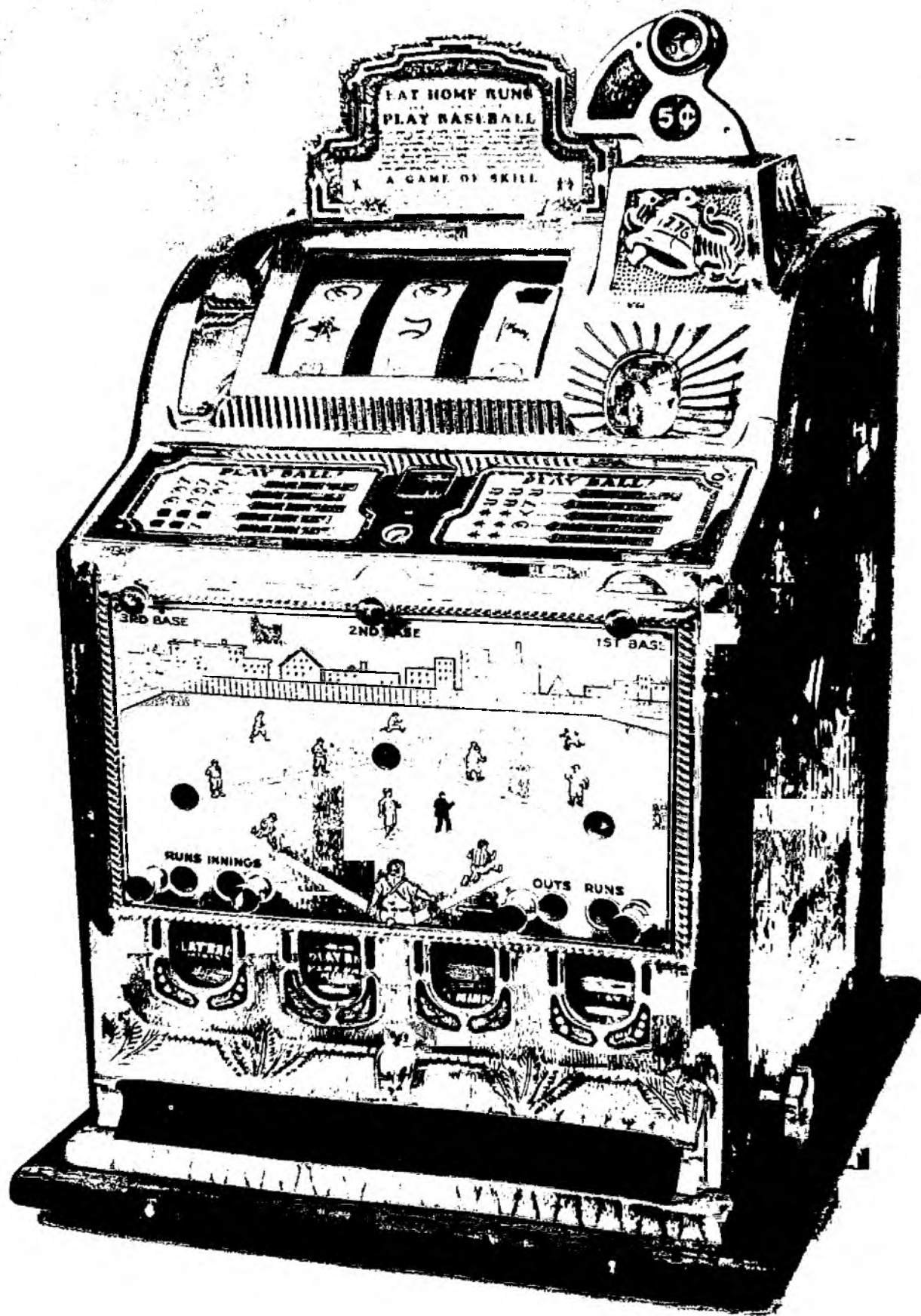


Mills SILENT GOLDEN BELL

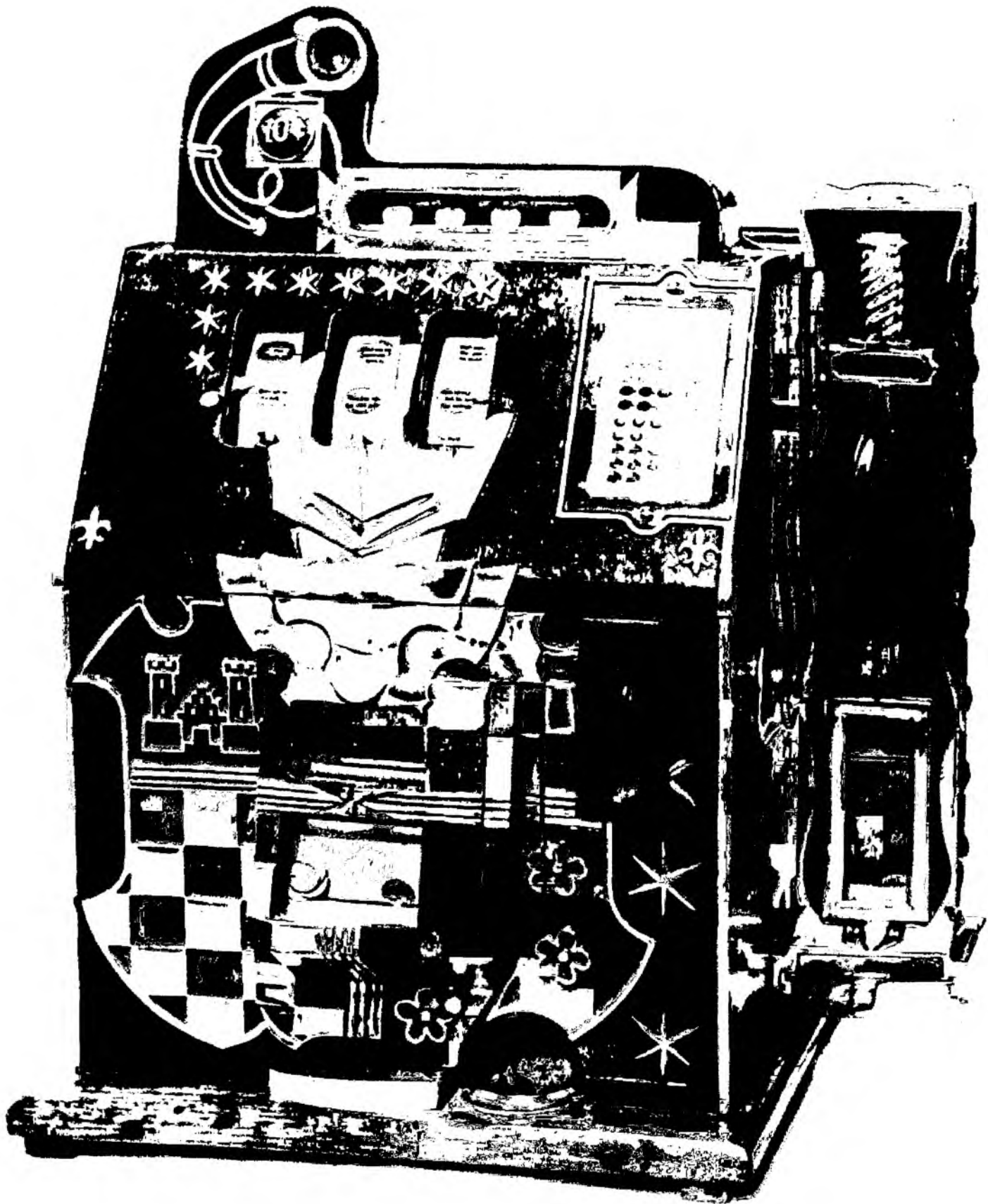


Mills GOOSENECK SILENT BELL "Skyscraper"

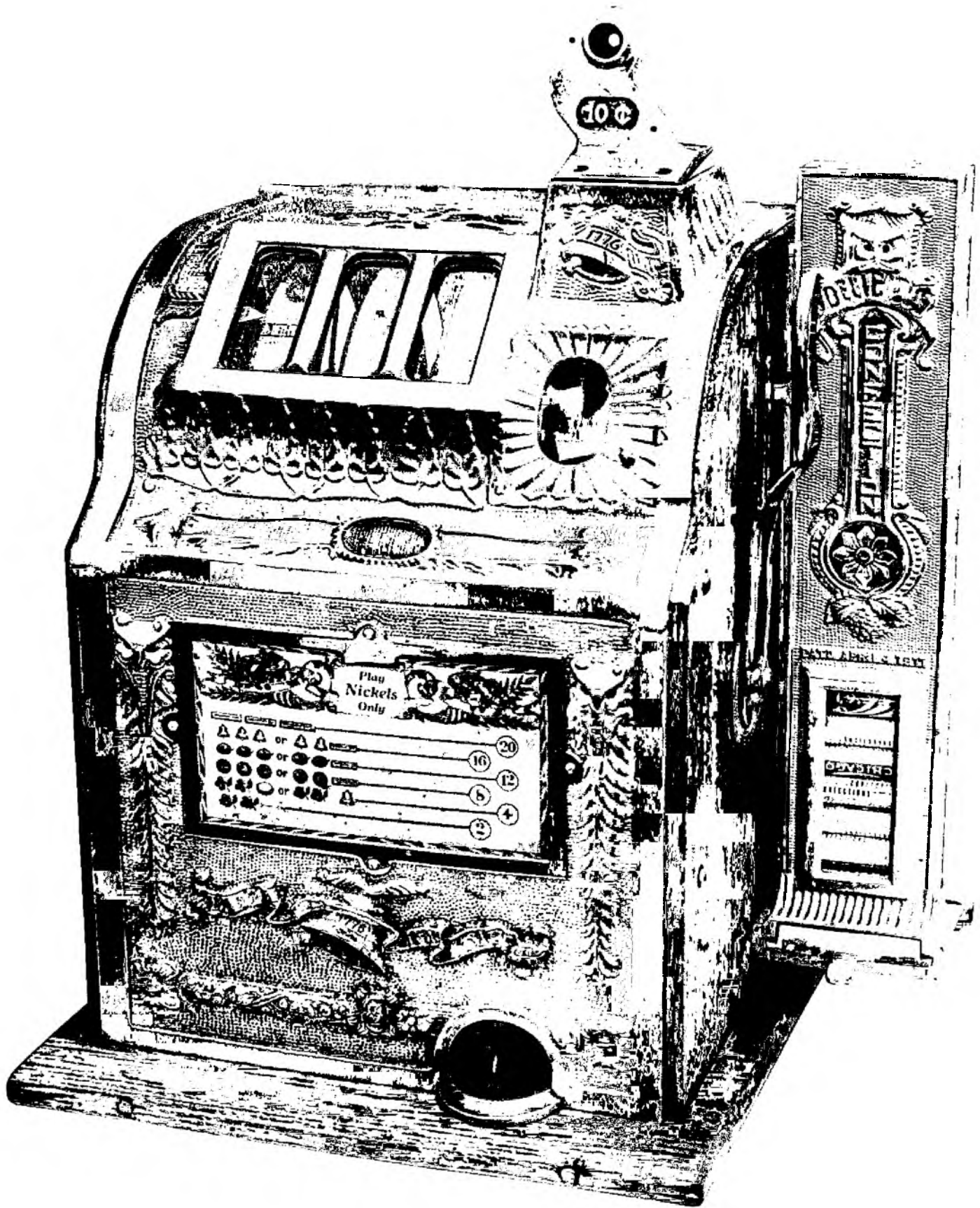
LOOSE CHANGE



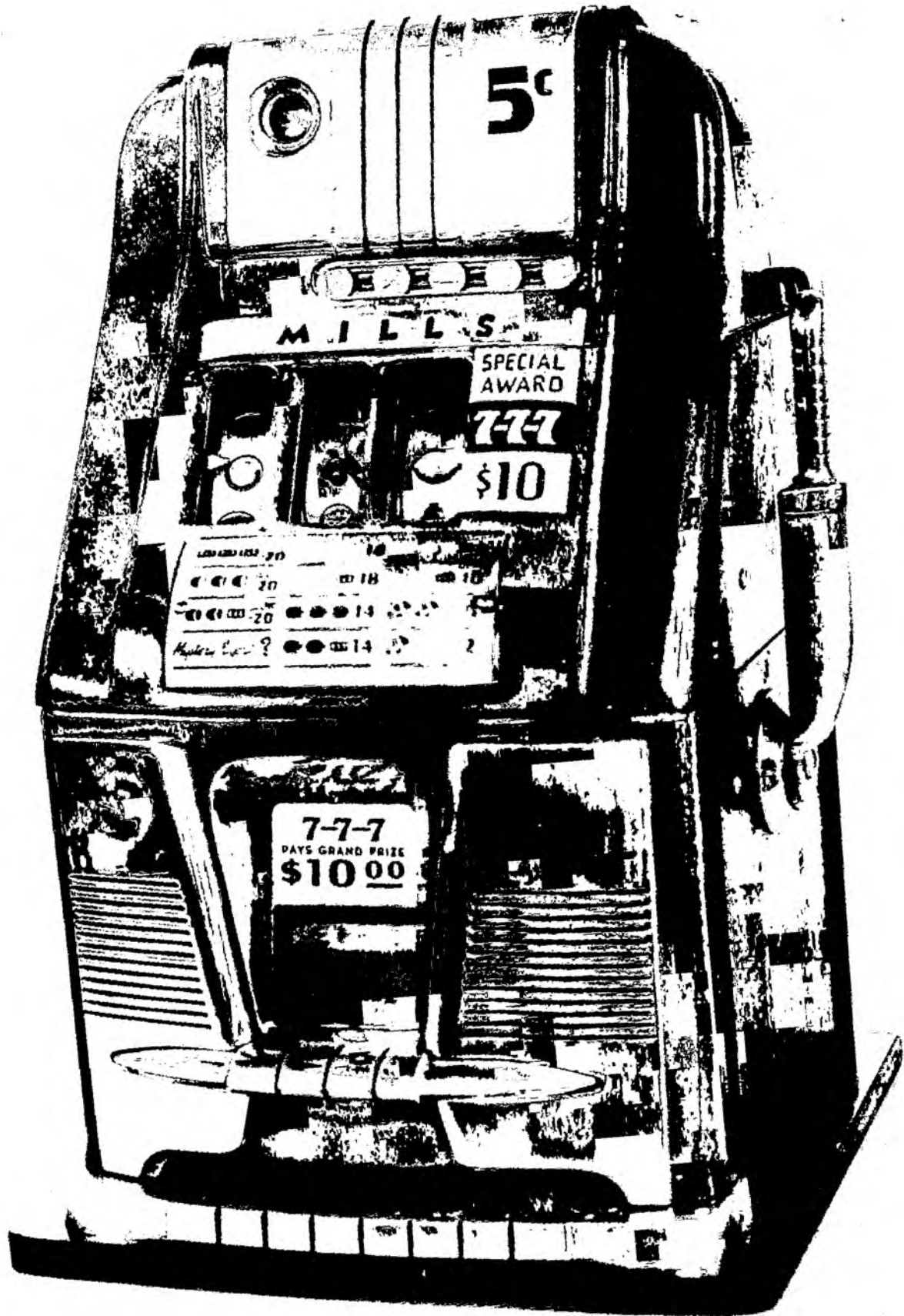
Mills BASEBALL VENDER



Mills MYSTERY "Blue Front"

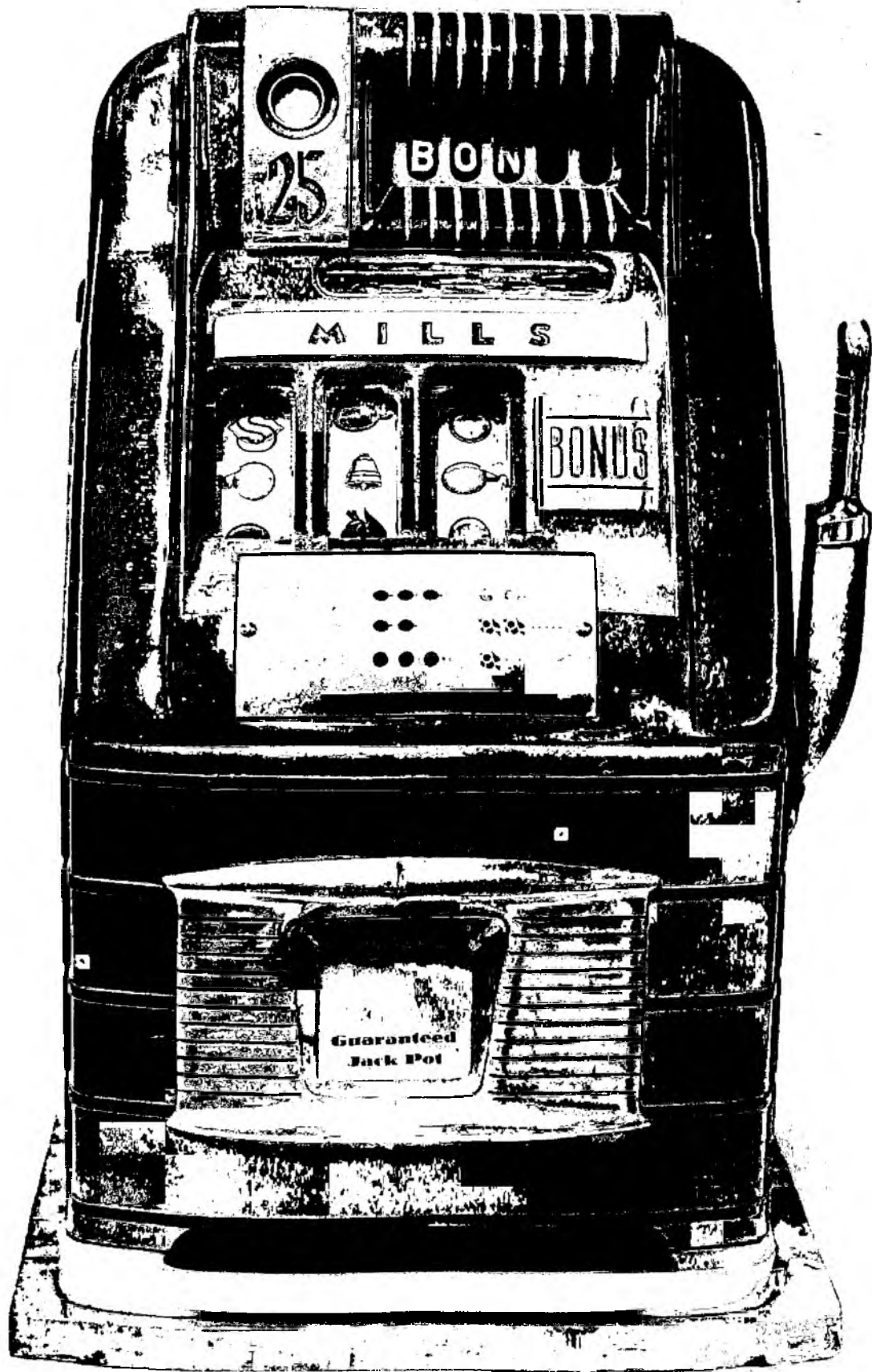


Mills OPERATORS BELL

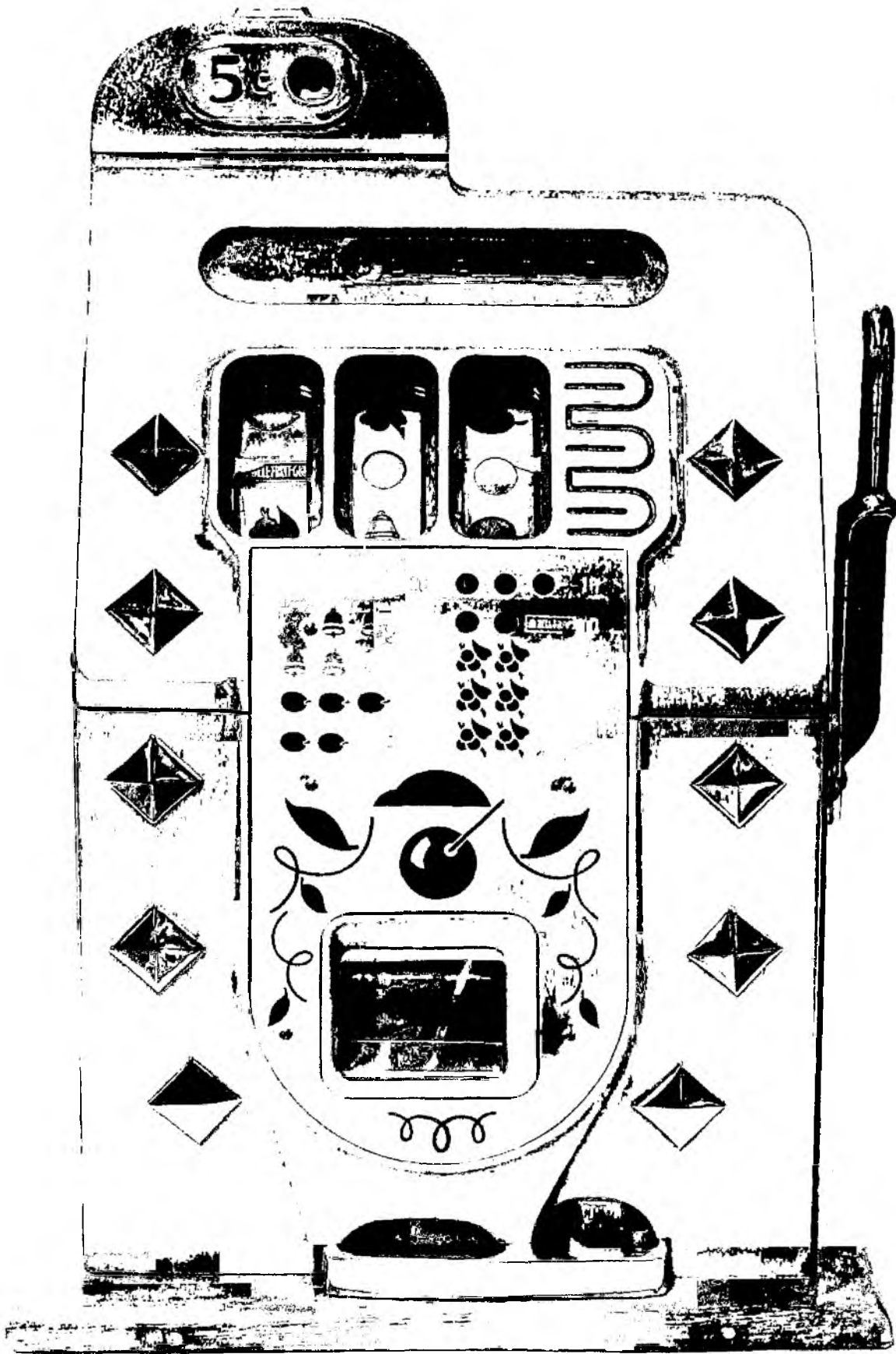


Mills 21 BELL "Hi-Top"

LOOSE CHANGE



Mills BONUS BELL "Hi-Top"

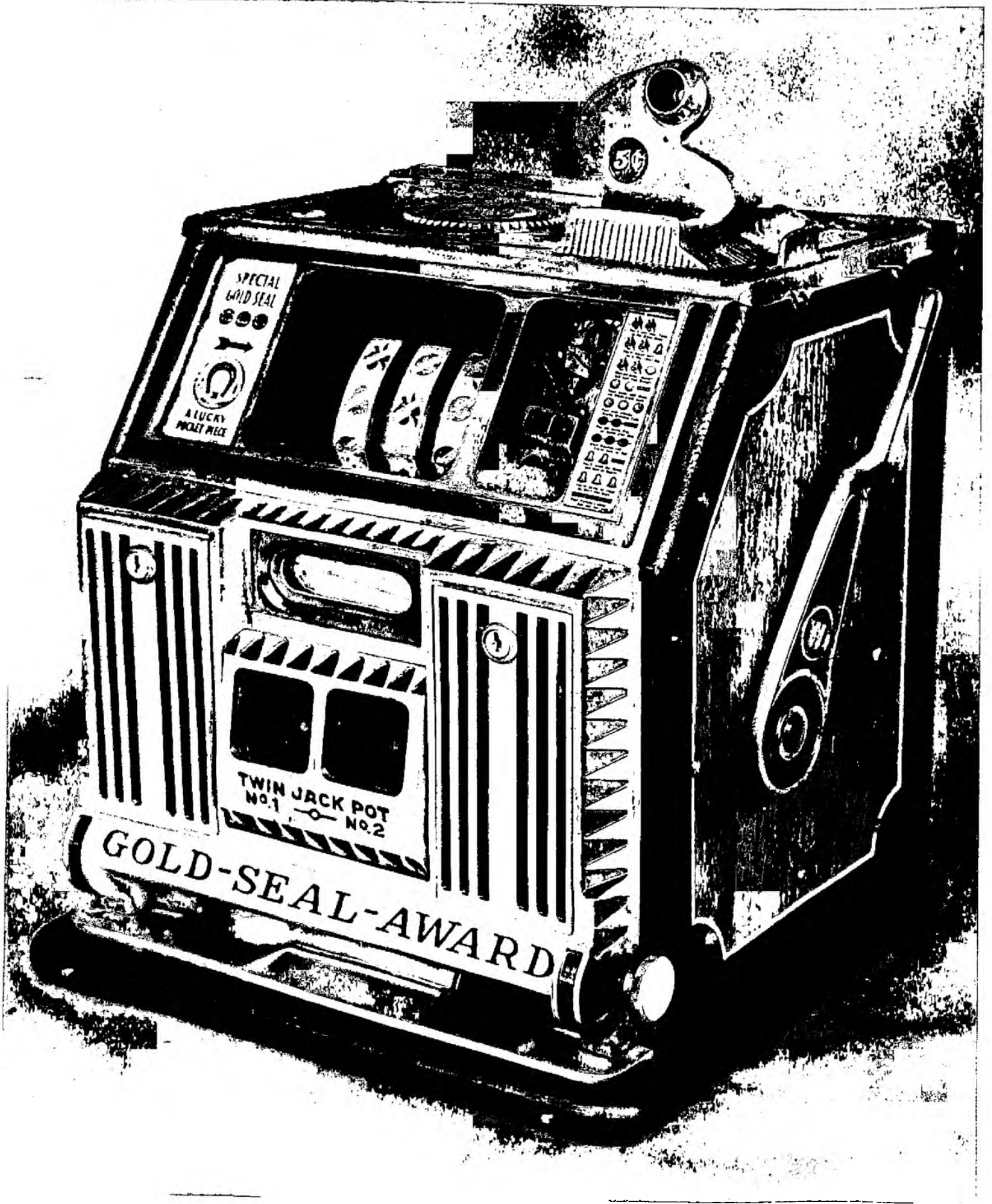


Mills CHROME BELL "Diamond Front"

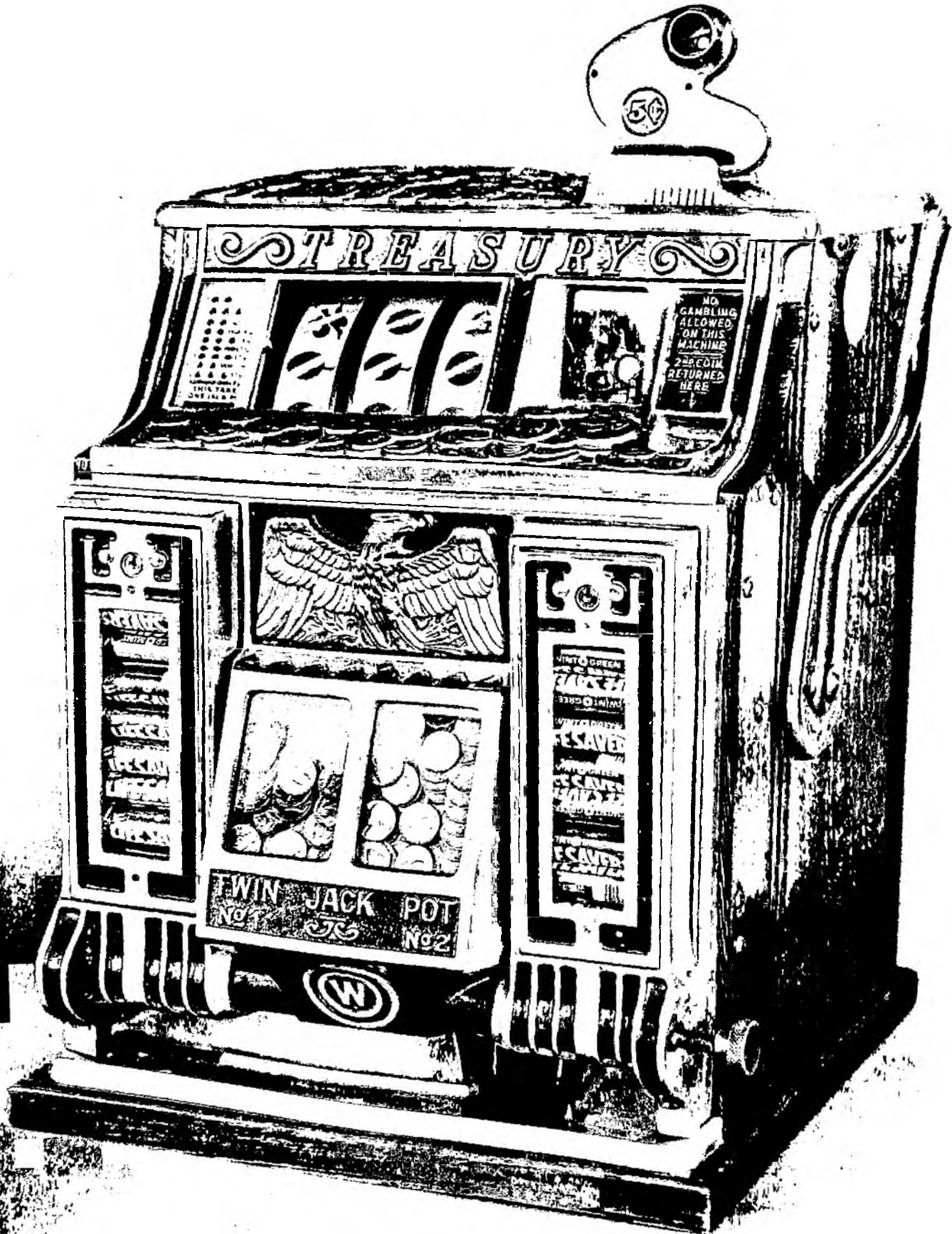
LOOSE CHANGE



Watling TWIN JACKPOT BALL GUM VENDER BELL



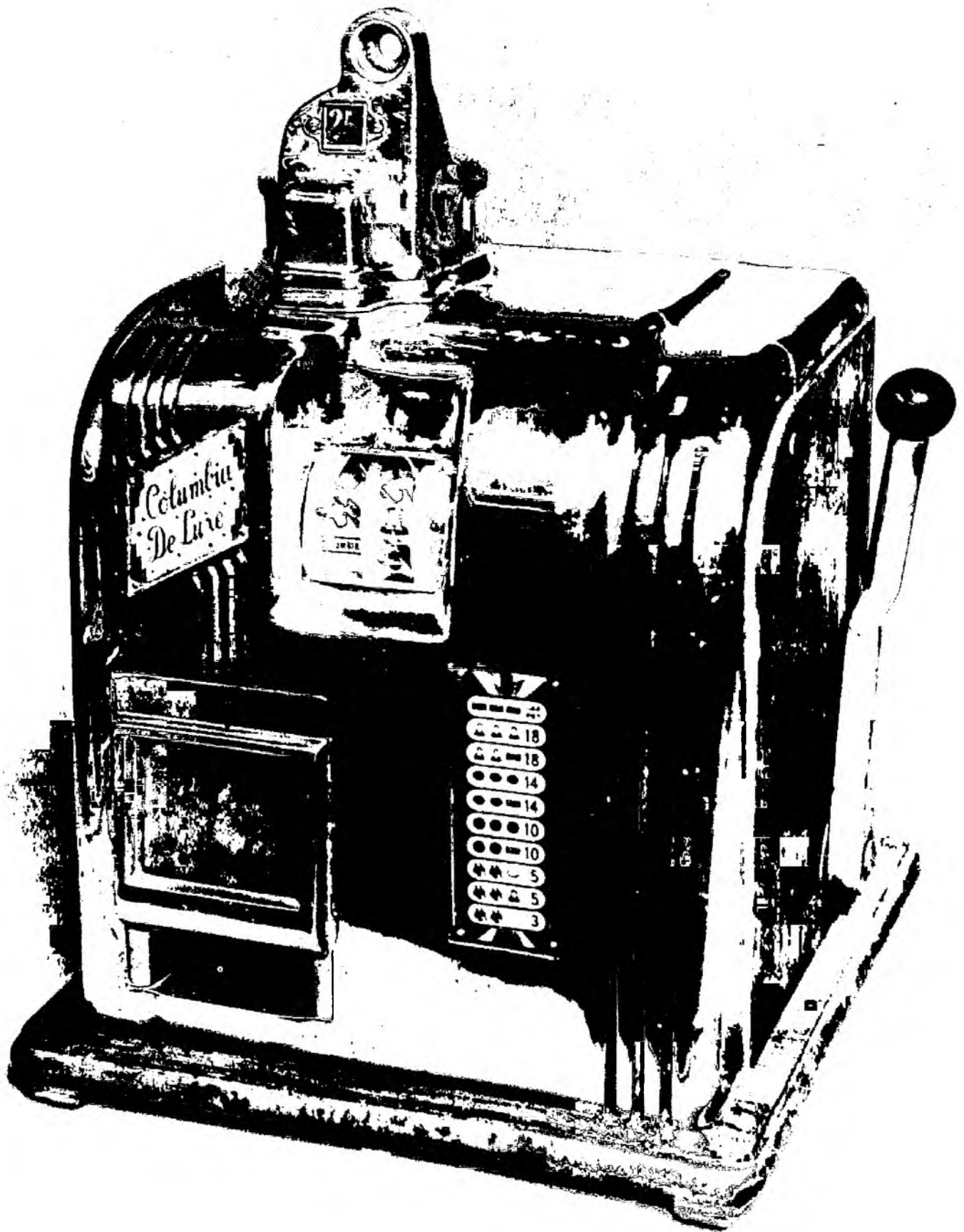
Watling BABY GOLD AWARD TWIN JACKPOT BELL



Watling TREASURY



Watling ROL-A-TOP (Coin Front)



Groetchen COLUMBIA DELUXE BELL

Once again Victorian Casino Antiques has gathered together the world's greatest array of coin operated machines and collectables.

We are pleased to highlight in our 7th Collectors Auction a 1912 Cretors/Buda Popcorn Vending Truck.

This Cretors/Buda Popcorn Vending Truck with steam engine is the first one built in 1912 and cost then the astronomical sum of \$3,000. It is also the most original and still features the original generator engine which is operable and mounted on the side. The generator provides electricity and other parts are powered by the self-contained steam plant.

Custom built in Chicago, Ill. and being the first of only eight built, the entire unit is in pristine condition.

Also featured is a 1906 Cretors Special Model 'C' Horsedrawn Popcorn & Peanut Roaster wagon in mint condition, ready for operation.

Rare antique gaming machines include Musical Cabinet Deweys, a Musical Puck and a fine assortment of other floor models.

Our two day sale has many hundreds of items including old advertising, drug store bottles, black Americana, Musical pieces, general store items, the finest leaded glass windows, back bars, and many, many more unique items.

A large number of antique gasoline globes from the 20s & 30s will also be offered.

Our policy - no minimums - no reserves - no buy backs - every item will be sold!

The 7th Victorian Casino Antiques Collectors Auction will be held for two breathtaking days in the Americana Room at the Frontier Hotel in Las Vegas, Nevada. Rooms are limited - and it is suggested that you make reservations either directly or through us as soon as possible.

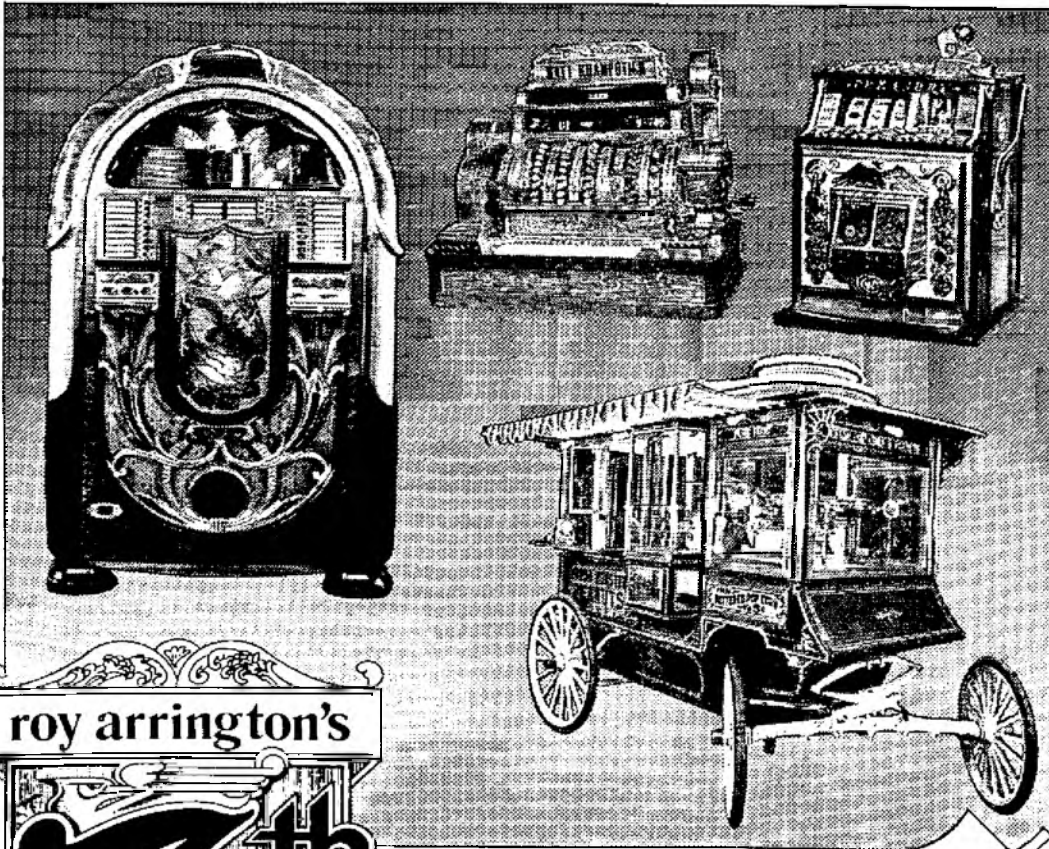
The first session will be held Saturday, November 17th followed by the second session Sunday, November 18th. Our exhibition preview will be held Friday, November 16th. Complimentary foods & beverages are provided for all registered bidders on all days of the auction.

A copy of our color catalogue, may be obtained by sending \$5.00 to the address below.

Roy Arrington
Victorian Casino Antiques
Donald Mudd, Auctioneer
1421 South Main Street
Las Vegas, Nevada 89104
(702) 382-2466

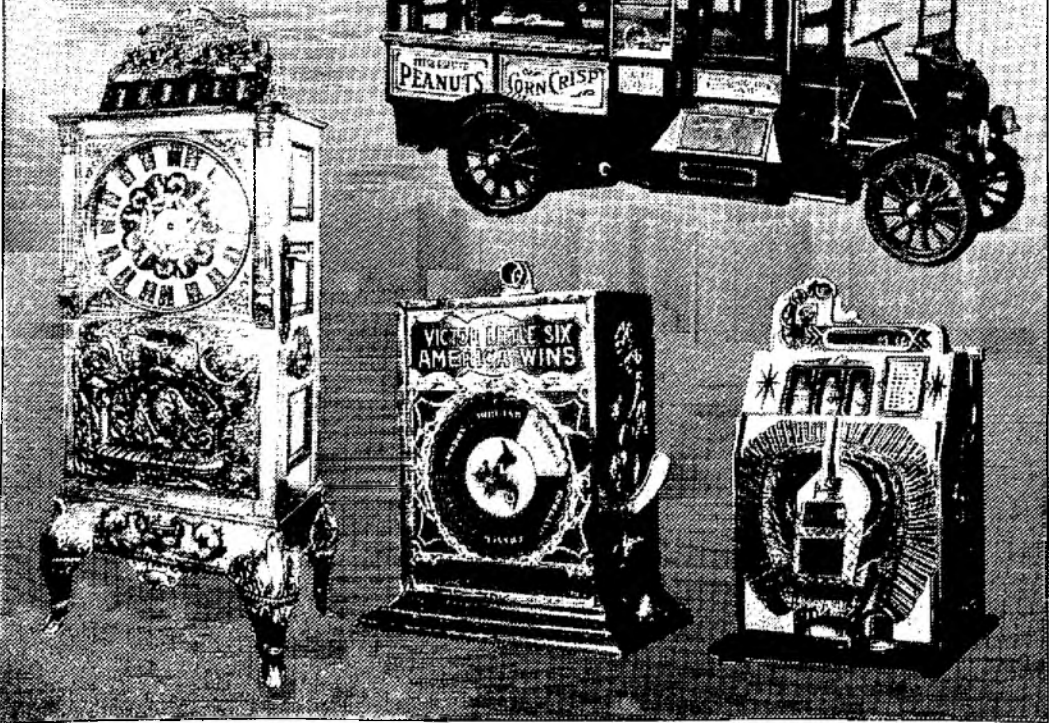
NOTICE

All gambling machines will be sold on a cash & carry basis. NO after purchase inspection will be required by the Nevada State Agency(s). All Auction Participants are urged to check with the legality of possession and/or shipment of gambling devices to their state of residence. Federal law prohibits the inner state transportation or possession of gambling devices, unless the purchaser's state of residence has legalized the possession of antique gaming devices.

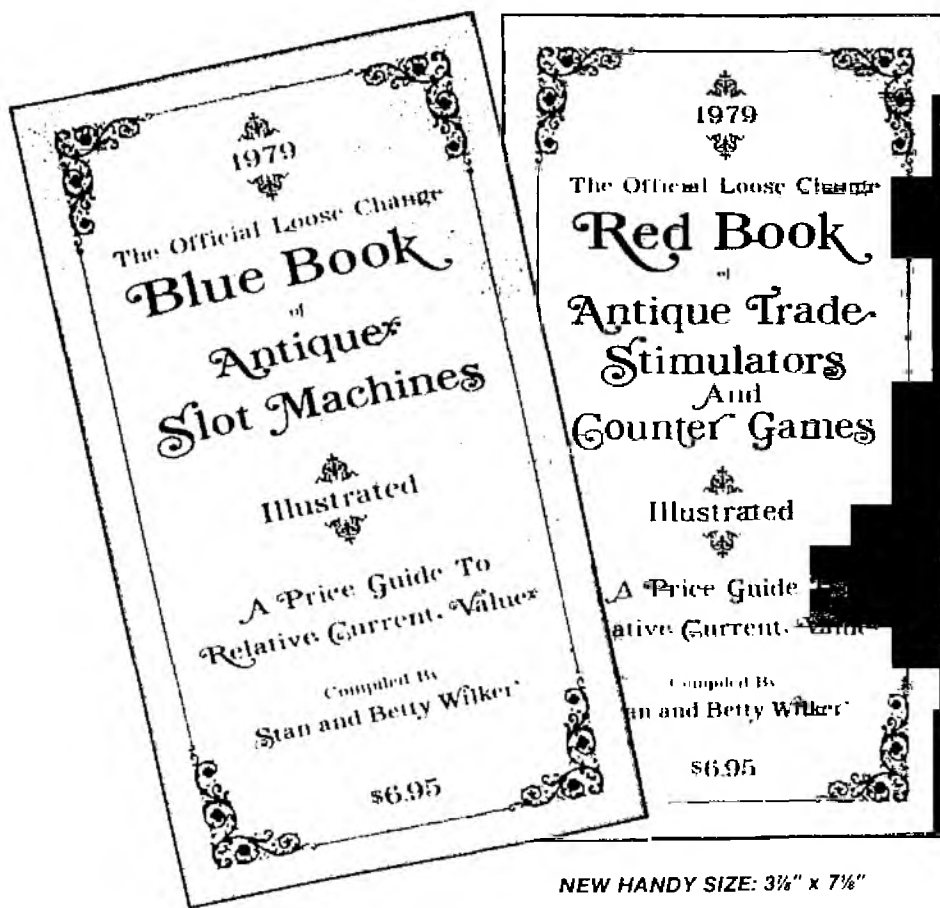


roy arrington's
7th

victorian casino antiques
 collectors antique auction



Auction Reservations Accepted at Loose Change Fun Fair Booths 247-248



NEW HANDY SIZE: 3 1/2" x 7 1/2"

**How much
are the old
machines
really
worth?**

There is much speculation about how much the old slot machines, trade stimulators and counter games are worth. But these price guides are based not on speculation — but on facts . . . from auctions, private sales and public sales . . . from all over the country. This is what makes the *Blue Book* and the *Red Book* such good, solid bargains. Take the *Blue Book*, for instance. It lists 1,750 prices for 350 different slot machines; and this doesn't include the value added pricing guide for such options as award token payout devices, mint and gum venders, fortune telling reels or skill stops. The *Red Book* lists 1,065 prices for 213 different trade stimulators and counter games. Both guides contain a generous pictorial glossary and a reprint of the widely accepted *Grading Specification*. And each one has a "trade-in" stamp on the back cover so that you can buy the 1980 price guides at a favorable discount. If you ever expect to buy or sell these popular antiques, you'll need these important publications. Remember, they are based on facts, not feelings!

EITHER BOOKLET \$6.95 EACH POSTPAID

ORDER FROM YOUR DEALER OR DIRECT FROM THE PUBLISHER

THE MEAD COMPANY

21176 SOUTH ALAMEDA STREET • LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA 90810

CALIFORNIA RESIDENTS MUST INCLUDE SALES TAX



Gordon Pace's Coin Machine Auction

Labor Day, September 1, 1979



Auctioneer Gordon Pace (right) trades some pre-auction gossip with Chicago collector Allan Pail.

Chevy Chase Country Club
Wheeling, Illinois

For residents of the Chicago area and a fair number of out-of-towners, the recent Labor Day weekend was a chance to attend an auction which offered some true bargains as well as some near record-breaking prices.

For the auction-goers used to the Western glitter shows, this auction had some real surprises—many of which were pleasurable experiences.

For those who always ask themselves why they have to pay to attend an auction where it is expected they will spend their money, this auction must have been a dream-come-true; the registration fee was zero! "You can't get away with that around here," auctioneer Gordon Pace grinned. "It isn't

necessary anyway, and it just drives people away," he added.

Although every item was assigned a lot number and there was ample preview time, bidders had to be awake and alert since lots were not sold in their consecutive numerical order. For bidders used to pre-planning their stay-in-the-chair, this must have been disturbing.

Gordon Pace is an excellent auctioneer, very fast and efficient—sometimes too fast. On several occasions, bidders lost track of the bid, and the bidding was reopened.

The first day, Saturday, was devoted entirely to coin operated machines, music machines and old advertising items; the stained glass was offered only on Sunday. Although this practice separated the buying audience, it



Pace took everyone outside to sell the Creators popcorn wagon. It was bought back by its consignor for \$6,300.

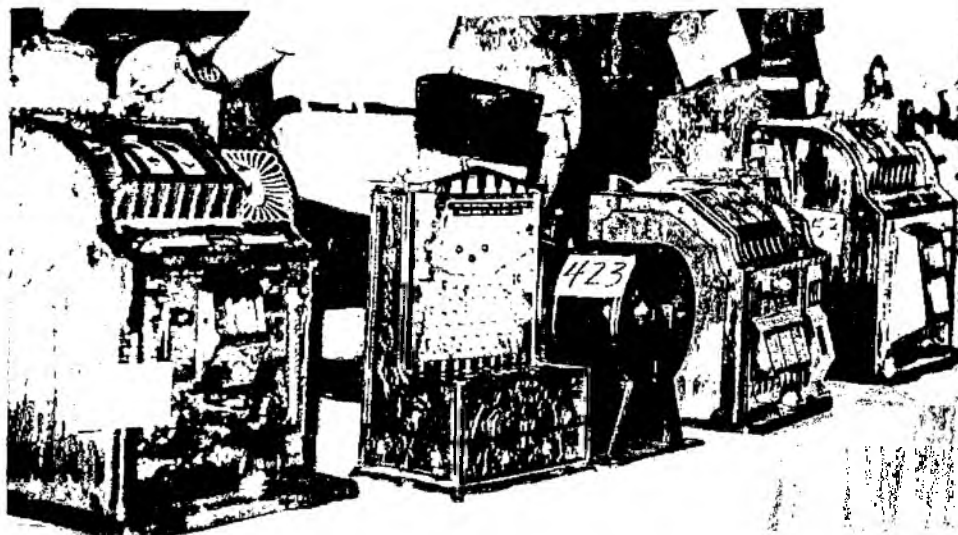


allowed the machine buyers to be on their way after one day of bidding.

Most of the slot machines sold at predictable prices, all except the Watlings. A TREASURY in Grade 2½ (at best) condition went for a whopping \$3,700, and a Grade 3 Watling ROL-A-TOP Bird of Paradise followed at \$2,600. In the lesser-known category, a Roberts Novelty conversion in nice shape, Grade 1½, brought \$1,700, while a Grade 3 Groetchen COLUMBIA stirred someone into a winning bid of \$450.

Jennings machines were well represented, both in models offered and the prices they brought. A STANDARD CHIEF and two CLUB CHIEFs, all Grade 2½, went for \$950 each, while a genuine 50¢ (not an English penny) CLUB CHIEF went for \$700. Another CLUB CHIEF in Grade 3 condition managed a winning bid of \$1,000. A

Continued on page 48



After the auction, many collectors accepted an invitation by Chicago collectors Peter and Dorothy Hansen to see and enjoy their beautifully recreated 1920s saloon with its many interesting appointments. Many collectors feel gatherings such as this are the most important part of the coin machine auctions—a chance to renew old friendships, swap stories and exchange information about the hobby.

Good Literature

Mills Bell Machine Parts & Service Manual

If you have one of the famous Mills HI-TOP slot machines, you'll need one of these expertly reprinted circa 1952 manuals containing general instructions and trouble shooting guide. Also included are nine full pages of parts and assembly photographs with complete listing of over 400 parts by catalog number and name. This is the basic HI-TOP manual published by the Mills Novelty Company. Attractive dusk rose two color cover, 24-pages, 8½" x 11".

No. 101 Postpaid: \$3.95

Mills Bell Machine Service Parts Price List with Supplement Parts & Service Manual

Actually two publications in one, this Mills HI-TOP manual will round out your HI-TOP paper collection. This reprint was originally issued in 1958 and covers all three and four reel machines, including the little-known four reel FOUR CROWN machine with art deco styling. Eleven photographs and over a thousand parts with part name, number and price are listed. Attractive tan two color cover, 8½" by 11"

No. 102 Postpaid: \$3.95

Mike Munves Arcade Supply Catalog

This 1956 catalog of arcade and amusement machines had just about everything, new and old: kiddie rides, card venders, animated games, shooting galleries, popcorn vender, cigarette machines, photo and recording booths, microscope, drop picture machines, fortune tellers, jukeboxes, scales, strength machines, punching bags, counter games, gum and peanut venders, pinballs, tools and coin counting machines. This authentic reprint has 249 illustrations and is printed with blue ink on white paper, just like the original (missing pgs. 13-16), 8½" x 11".

No. 103 Postpaid: \$3.95

Kernan Manufacturing Company Catalog

This catalog was originally issued in 1901 by the Kernan Manufacturing Company, dealer in supplies for saloons, billiard halls and club rooms. Printed on simulated old paper, the reprint duplicates the original exactly. There are over 300 pictures of such items as coin operated machines, gambling devices, talking machines, guns, knives, dice, cards, wheels, trade checks and police goods. With 64-pages, this one is a must for the true collector, 5½" x 8½".

No. 104 Postpaid: \$5.95

Pace Parts List & Service Manual

Here is a rather rare booklet that was originally issued in 1937 by the Pace Manufacturing Company of Chicago, the original manufacturers of the Pace slot machine. It contains a special photo section showing the ALL-STAR COMET, ALL-STAR SIDE VENDER, ALL-STAR GOLD AWARD BELL, THE COMET FRONT VENDER, DEFERRED-PAY FRONT VENDER, ROYAL COMET and the ARISTO scale. And it's filled with over a thousand pictured parts, all identified and priced! This authentic reproduction contains 40-pages, 5½" x 8½".

No. 105 Postpaid: \$3.95

Caille Brothers Company - Catalog 311

This authentic reproduction of this famous 1911 gambling machine catalog is simply unmatched for detailed representation of the Caille gaming machine line. More than 150 clear, sharp photographs on 72-pages of detailed descriptions, code names and explanations make this piece an absolute must — it even has the original tear-out price list. Printed on glossy paper with multi-color cover, 5½" x 8½"

No. 106 Postpaid: \$7.95

Caille Amusement Machines - Catalog 512

Here is another authentic reproduction — it even has the special roll-over fold, just like the original which was published in 1912. More than 35 illustrations of various arcade and amusement machines grace the pages of this unique piece. Included are scales, peep shows, lung and strength testers, electricity devices, candy/peanut vender, pedestals and money changers. Printed on glossy paper with multi-cover, 5½" x 7½".

No. 107 Postpaid: \$4.95

The Official Loose Change Blue Book of Antique Slot Machines Price Guide

This was the first and remains the most complete price guide for payout type slot machines: single wheel, three reels and other coin-operated gaming machines. This remarkable book-let is filled with prices for almost 350 slot machines — nearly two thousand prices! Also included is a Pictorial Glossary so you can identify some of the more common machines which you are likely to encounter as well as a complete copy and explanation of the widely accepted

Official Loose Change Grading System. And there is a Value Added Pricing Guide for many optional features such as slide venders, music boxes and fortune telling reels. If you ever expect to buy or sell any type of slot machine, you'll need this important guide. New edition yearly — always up to date. Price includes discount stamp for discount on next year's edition. Convenient purse or pocket size: 3¼" x 7¼".

No. 108-79 Postpaid: \$6.95

The Official Loose Change Red Book of Antique Trade Stimulators and Counter Games Price Guide

This companion volume to the Blue Book lists over two hundred old trade stimulators and counter games and provides nearly a thousand up-to-date prices. Thirty-four of these machines are identified with photographs in the Pictorial Glossary. The machines are arranged by name, in one alphabetical list which also gives the name of the manufacturer, type of machine and tabulation of values. The brand new Official Loose Change Grading System For Trade Stimulators and Counter Games with an introduction for its use is also included in this informative booklet. New edition yearly — always up to date. Price includes discount stamp for discount on next year's edition. Convenient purse or pocket size: 3¼" x 7¼".

No. 109-79 Postpaid: \$6.95

Mills Model Code and General Instructions and Part Numbers for the Vest Pocket Bell

The mechanically mysterious little VEST POCKET slot machine is a favorite of many collectors, who will welcome this beautifully printed 16-page reprint. It was originally issued in 1949 by the Bell-O-Matic Corporation as publication A-258. The manual describes twelve different models of the Mills VEST POCKET machines, and includes detailed operating, maintenance and repair instructions. Numerous approximately life-size photographs illustrate and identify all the parts of the machine. Attractive redesigned two color cover features photograph of machine, 8½" x 11".

No. 110 Postpaid: \$3.95

Pinball Reference Guide

With this handy guide you'll never again have to guess about the manufacturer or date of introduction of any pinball game. It not only incorporates the month and year of release of 2,500 different pinball machines from over 200 different manufacturers, but it also identifies and describes many historical aspects as well. All entries are listed alphabetically with all historical and feature notes numbered and explained in the back of the book. This 72-page book contains 95% of all pinball machines including gambling, console and payout types. Convenient purse or pocket size: 3¼" x 7¼".

ISBN 0-934422-19-2 Postpaid: \$7.95

Owner's Pictorial Guide For The Care and Understanding of the Mills Bell Slot Machine

This mammoth book is the most comprehensive work ever published about any slot machine; but it is specifically directed to the owner of any 3-reel Mills bell machine manufactured after 1931. Nearly 400 detailed photographs are accompanied by step-by-step instructions for all routine maintenance operations as well as complete disassembly, overhaul, lubrication, assembly and theory of operation. The book is organized into 14-chapters, 2-appendices (for machine part variances) and an extensive glossary for parts identification. Whether you have one or many machines, you'll want this long-needed manual, with it and a few simple tools you'll be able to analyze and correct over 95% of the problems you may encounter with your machine. Book contains 164 total pages (including an extensive table of contents and introductory material), 8½" x 11", square-back bound with attractive full color, plastic coated cover. Shipped insured via United Parcel Service.

ISBN 0-934422-21-4 \$24.95
Packing and Shipping Charges (U.P.S.) \$2.00

Amusement Tokens of the United States and Canada

This is the first comprehensive reference book about slot, pinball, arcade, jukebox and other amusement tokens. Over 10,000 different tokens are listed and valued. Over 500 of the tokens are illustrated as well as many of the antique slot machines which used the tokens. Listed by the Atwood system, coverage ranges from the 1890s through modern arcade tokens of the late 1970s. Extensive background information about the tokens, the machines in which they were used and the machine manufacturers makes this book a "must" for all token and antique coin machine collectors, dealers and enthusiasts. Book contains 144 pages, 8½" x 11" and is square back bound with colorful, plastic coated cover. Shipped insured via United Parcel Service.

ISBN 0-934422-20-6 \$24.95
Packing and Shipping Charges (U.P.S.) \$2.00

THE MEAD COMPANY

21176 SOUTH ALAMEDA STREET • LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA 90810

CALIFORNIA RESIDENTS MUST INCLUDE SALES TAX

LOOSE CHANGE

SPECIAL REPORT

"Legal States"

For Slot Machine Collectors

If you've been in the slot machine collecting game for more than a week you probably already know what the laws in your state have to say about the subject. As a potential slot machine collector, the first thing you need to know is whether you reside in an illegal or legal state. This one fact will form the basis for your collection, if you intend to have a collection.

The obvious answer is this: If you live in an illegal state, don't buy a slot machine. This particular answer, however, seems very arbitrary and extremely un-American. After all, the slot machine is an American invention, and it should be possible for any American to own, buy, sell, trade or display their treasured piece of Americana with collectors from other states. This happens to be a country where the laws are intended to serve the people. But remember, many of these laws were made a long time ago, and laws have an unpleasant aspect—they stay on the books until someone takes them off. Removing laws from the books is much more difficult than it sounds.

What is a legal state? Although the laws vary, the basic law of all states is that the machines be used for collecting purposes only, and that they *not* be used for gambling. Other additions to the various laws also define an antique slot machine. In some states, such as California, this definition is any machine manufactured prior to 1941; at the same time, however, the California law *does not* specify that those manufactured after 1941 are illegal! In other states, such as Illinois, there is a 25-year law; in other words, any slot machine manufactured over 25-years ago is considered an antique. In reality, however, many machines manufactured only ten years ago have been considered by many courts to be antiques since they were part of a historic collection and were not used for gambling purposes. The mere fact that these mechanical and electromechanical slot machines are no longer manufactured makes them antiques. In most states, the only reference to slot machines is in the criminal code and is classified under gambling. These laws were not originally directed at private ownership of the machines. They were

intended to control or wipe out professional crime and illegal gambling. Not all states had laws such as this. You may, in fact, live in a state that permits the collecting of slot machines and not even know it since, in many cases, the laws are not clearly defined. On the other hand, in many states possession alone can be an offense.

Let's get down to specifics. The states listed here are, to the best of our knowledge, legal for the collection of antique slot machines provided they are not used for gambling purposes. For absolute protection, you are advised to contact the Secretary of State of your state for specific wording of your state's laws.

California Any machine manufactured prior to 1941 is presumed to be an antique.

Colorado Any machine manufactured prior to 1950 is presumed to be an antique.

Connecticut The laws presently apply to gambling but are not clearly defined. Possession alone does not seem to be an offense.

Florida Any machine manufactured prior to 1941 is presumed to be an antique.

Illinois Any machine manufactured 25-years ago or earlier is presumed to be an antique.

Kansas A favorable bill has passed the House Committee and went to the Senate Committee. Full details are not yet known.

Maine Late information seems to indicate antique slot machines are legal. Details are not completely known.

Michigan Existing laws seem to allow antique slot machines of any year of manufacture. Possession alone does not seem to be an offense.

Minnesota Existing laws permit private ownership of antique slot machines of any year of manufacture.

Mississippi Test cases have established the right to own slot machines provided they are used for amusement and not for profit.

Missouri Any machine over 30-years old is presumed to be an antique.

Nebraska Although the law states possession alone is an offense, it further indicates that the offense is based on possession or transactions in any gambling device knowing that it shall be used in the advancement of

unlawful gambling activity.

Nevada Existing laws permit private ownership of slot machines of any vintage provided they are used for amusement and not profit. A license from the Nevada Gaming Commission is required for selling or distributing. Since gambling is legal in Nevada, the laws are clearly defined for all types gambling activity and the manufacture, sale and distribution of the physical tools of the business—poker chips to roulette wheels.

New Hampshire Any machine manufactured prior to 1941 is presumed to be an antique.

New Jersey This law, with a 20-year old clause, is reported to have just passed. Complete details are not yet known.

New York Any machine manufactured prior to 1941 is presumed to be an antique.

Ohio Present laws allow slot machines of any vintage but forbid anyone to acquire, possess, control or operate a slot machine for profit.

Oregon Any machine manufactured prior to 1941 is presumed to be an antique.

Pennsylvania Any machine manufactured prior to 1941 is presumed to be an antique.

South Dakota Any machine manufactured prior to 1941 is presumed to be an antique.

Texas Any machine manufactured prior to 1940 is presumed to be an antique.

Utah Possession alone is not an offense. Collectors may own slot machines provided they are not used for gambling.

Virginia Present laws are unclear, but possession of slot machines alone does not seem to be an offense provided they are not used for gambling.

Washington Any machine manufactured prior to January 1, 1941 is presumed to be an antique.

Wisconsin Slot machines manufactured 25-years ago or earlier are presumed to be an antique.

The above listing is merely a capsulization of the actual laws for each "legal" state. You are encouraged to make your own determination of how the laws of your particular state apply to your collection.

A Quick History Of



In a state unique for its direct economic alliance with gaming and tourism, Harolds Club has long stood out as one of the state's leading industries.

From a modest inception in 1935 as a "hole-in-the-wall" one-room gaming hall, Harolds has grown into one of the world's largest and most famous casinos. Rising seven stories in the center of Reno's downtown complex of casinos on busy Virginia Street, Harolds hosts millions of visitors each year from all fifty states and practically every foreign country.

The club is noted for many firsts in the gaming industry: first to employ women dealers, first to introduce \$5 slot machines, first to institute campaigns to promote both Reno and the club on a nationwide basis and first to liberalize slot machine payoff odds to give the customer a better break.

Highway signs advertising Harolds Club have stretched from the Canadian border in Washington, east to Maine, south into Florida and west to the Mexican border in the Southwest. The program, at its peak, was the most extensive outdoor sign campaign ever undertaken and few motorists have not seen one of the 2,315 billboards exhorting "Reno or Bust!" Due to the federal Highway Beautification Act many of the signs have been dismantled, but the fame of Harolds Club has been firmly implanted in the minds of millions of people.

Club executives attribute Harolds Club's continuing growth not only to campaigns designed to attract visitors not only to Harolds but to Reno, and to the many services it provides and to the friendliness of its personnel. It's easier to get friendly with Harolds' employees because you'll always see familiar faces. More than 19 per cent of them have been with the club for 10

years or longer.

Top name entertainers and critically acclaimed shows in the Silver Dollar Showroom are favorites of tourists and locals alike.

The seventh floor Prime Rib Room is rated as one of Reno's most elegant facilities for specialty dining, providing a combination of excellent service and superb cuisine with an extensive choice of wines.

Dining in the popular third floor Rose Room is an easy decision — the difficult decision is choosing from more than 100 menu items, complete from your morning egg to a delicious

filet mignon. And, every meal is available 24 hours a day.

For persons interested in the history of firearms, one of the nation's finest collections of antique guns is displayed on the second floor.

Courtesy and customer relations are the club's main concerns and is evidenced by the many loyal peoples who have been customers of Harolds Club for decades. In following these principles, the club has maintained an information center for the customer's convenience since 1959. Help is available here from sewing on a button to road reports.

The Antique Gambler

Specialists In

Restorations and Sales

- Antique Slot Machines
- Early 1900 Gaming Devices
- Other Coin Operated Devices
- Gambling Related Items
- Wide Selection of Award Cards
- Parts, Parts, Parts, Parts

The Antique Gambler

2400 Tampa Way
Reno, Nevada 89512
Phone (702) 329-2061



OPEN MONDAY THRU FRIDAY 8:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M.

The Bookshelf

This book review section is designed to give our readers some first hand knowledge of the book in terms of content, authorship, printing quality, typography and binding. Each book has been inspected and read by our editorial staff. The review is a subjective opinion based on our exposure to the book. If you would like your book reviewed, please send a non-returnable copy to our editorial offices at 21176 South Alameda Street, Long Beach, California 90810. Please send the following information: Publisher's complete name and mailing address, price, warranty information, where the book can be ordered from and shipping costs, if any. We will review each book in the order that is received.

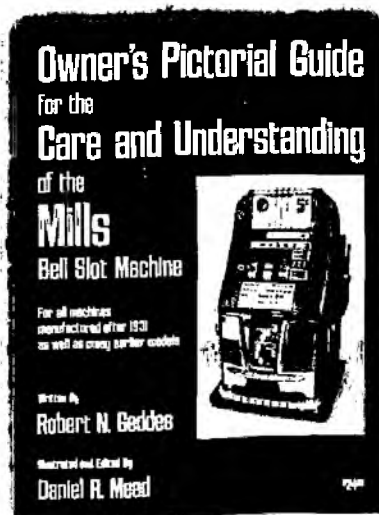
OWNER'S PICTORIAL GUIDE FOR THE CARE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE MILLS BELL SLOT MACHINE, by Robert N. Geddes and Daniel R. Mead, The Mead Company, 21176 South Alameda Street, Long Beach, California 90810, 156 pages, \$24.95 plus \$2.00 packing and shipping.

The *Owner's Pictorial Guide for the Care and Understanding of the Mills Bell Slot Machine*, written by Robert N. Geddes and illustrated by Daniel R. Mead, is the most comprehensive and complete book on the slot machine that has ever been published. Whether you be the owner of a single slot machine, or a professional restorer, this book is a "must" for you. Even if you have restored dozens and dozens of machines, I am sure that Bob Geddes will help you do a better job, with less aggravation and a great saving of time.

I have read the book from cover to cover, and although I am not a "pro" by any means, I sure wish I had this book when I started rrestoring slot machines five years ago. I learned many new tricks—many easier ways to remove and replace certain parts—and I know this book will prove very helpful the next time I get into problems. I also learned ways to disassemble parts that heretofore were never torn down and properly cleaned. Chapter 3, General Theory of Operation, is a must and probably worth the price of the book alone. I can now see why I had problems at times; I never took the time to teach myself the theory behind the machine: what does what, what action causes a certain reaction. I plan on reading this chapter again and again until I understand everything—this should save time next time a machine malfunctions.

Chapter 6 tells you how to strip a machine down to the bare bones. I do not completely subscribe to this theory;

I feel, "If it works, don't fix it!" But, some collectors will *want* to completely strip a machine, polish or plate each part, then re-assemble. If you concur to this theory, yet have been afraid to try it, you can now do it if the *Owner's Pictorial Guide for the Care and Understanding of the Mills Bell Slot Machine* is at your side. (Note: I sure wish authors of slot machine books would stick to shorter titles; this one has 14 words—takes up more space on the cover than the picture of the slot machine! Hope collectors come up with a shorter name; this title would take up an entire line in the many letters I write!)



Of course Bob also tells you how to assemble the machine, after it has been taken apart and is just as complete and thorough in this phase of the book as

all the other chapters. After a slot machine is assembled, they sometimes still do not operate too well, but Chapter 14, *Machine Adjustments*, lets you make the final tune up, so necessary for good operation and lack of problems later on. Jackpots have always given me "fits", but I feel that the chapter on jackpots will be extremely helpful the next time I have jackpot troubles. (Jennings jackpots give me even more troubles, so I am anxiously awaiting Bob's treatise on Jennings machines, when he writes it.)

I feel that anyone with a decent comprehension of the written English language can now repair his own Mills mechanisms with the help of this book. It appears to me that everything is pretty well covered. Yes, I know that some of the nit-pickers in this hobby will condemn the book for a couple of inaccuracies that are bound to be there, but this is wrong; give the authors credit for the 99% they did correctly! While Bob Geddes is very thorough in his text, the piece-de-resistance of this book is the almost 400 photographs that show you how it is done. Dan Mead is an expert photographer, and his clear illustrations vividly show you exactly what to do. Remember, this is original 1979 photography—not a reprint of a worn out old factory service manual that has pictures so "muddy" that only the outlines are discernible. Every detail is easily seen in these clear pictures.

I first met Bob Geddes and Dan Mead at the Arrington Auction in March. Bob described his book, but I really did not know what to expect. After all, most of us have those reprinted factory "Owners Manuals" which always seem to show you everything *except* what you need to know to fix a machine! Was this to be another re-hash of a factory manual? Or, a factory manual with some new photos by

Just Published!

PINBALL REFERENCE GUIDE

A List of Manufacturers and Dates of Introduction
For Approximately 2,500 Pinball Games
From Over 200 Different Manufacturers!

Compiled By

Donald Mueting and Robert Hawkins

AVAILABLE AT YOUR DEALER OR DIRECT FROM PUBLISHER

THE MEAD COMPANY

21176 South Alameda Street
Long Beach, California 90810
California Residents Must Include State Sales Tax



This is Gottlieb's 1932 PLAYBOY
Did you know there were
three other PLAYBOYS?

ONLY
\$7.95
POSTPAID

Dan Mead? Frankly, both Bob and Dan have outdone themselves in the thoroughness of this project. After reading the back cover, you will know why; both have engineering degrees, and the graphic thoroughness of a pair of professional engineers is quite evident.

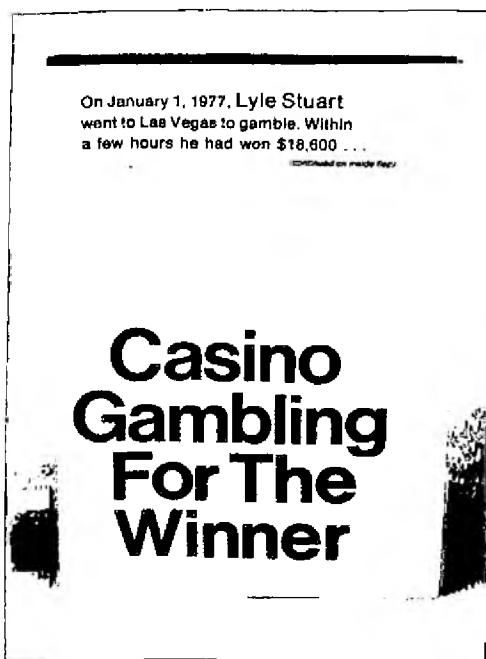
This is a book that every slot collector should have. Maybe you do not need it today; but with these old slots you are eventually going to have troubles, and a few minutes with this book can save you hours of cut and try repair work. I have restored about 30 Mills machines—learned it the hard way—but I have picked up several pointers that will help me. I can't wait to start on the next Mills "real disaster" case, just to prove how Bob Geddes and Dan Mead will bail me out. Bob, when is the book on Cailles coming out? I have two restored ones that do not work perfectly—two that do not work at all—and three disasters to restore!

I'll be looking forward to *all* the *Owner's Pictorial Guide* books Bob and Dan turn out—how about you?

—Dave Evans

CASINO GAMBLING FOR THE WINNER, by Lyle Stuart, Lyle Stuart, Inc., 120 Enterprise Avenue, Secaucus, New Jersey 07094, 208 pages, \$12.00.

In this book, author/publisher Lyle Stuart reveals his secrets of being a consistent winner at the casinos, learned from 21 years of casino gambling experience. He considers the



games of craps and baccarat the only ones worthy of the serious gambler's

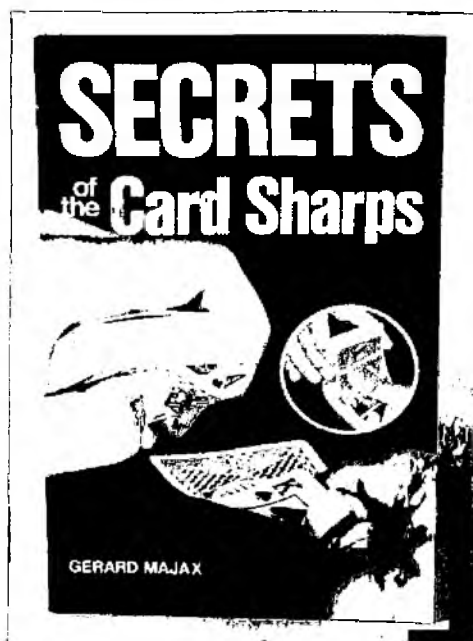
attention, as they offer the player the best odds.

Stuart relates his entire casino gambling background, from his early years as a big loser to his recent winning streaks (winning \$166,505 in his first ten trips to Las Vegas in 1977).

Basic principles he expounds include ones such as always leave the table a winner, don't be greedy, predetermine a limit of losses should you lose, never gamble when you are tired or unhappy, go to Las Vegas alone and there are no guaranteed systems. The book contains pointers and suggestions for winning at craps and baccarat but not detailed systems. He believes that the players attitude and knowledge of how and when to bet are of utmost importance. The book abounds with anecdotes.

There are no illustrations in this hard covered book other than a few tables and the photo of Lyle Stuart at a craps table on the back of the dust jacket.

SECRETS OF THE CARD SHARPS, by Gerard Majax, Sterling Publishing Co. Inc., Two Park Avenue, New York, New York 10016 (Review copy submitted by Gambler's Book Club, Box 4115, Las Vegas Nevada 89106), 156 pages, \$5.95.



Many fascinating secrets of card sharps are revealed in this up-to-date work. Here you can see and learn about marked cards (made by the manufacturer or added by the cheater—physically, chemically or optically), hidden mirrors, electronic devices and chemicals to reduce the guard of the other players. There is also a large sec-

tion on the manipulations of cards used by those unscrupulous players. Hand and finger exercises and acupuncture are discussed as a means of increasing ones manual dexterity. And stories of the world's greatest card cheats are also included in the book.

Everything described thus far is profusely illustrated by over 200 excellent large photographs. If you're a card player unaware of what you may be up against, this soft-covered book will give you an instant education and forever open your eyes to these deceptions.

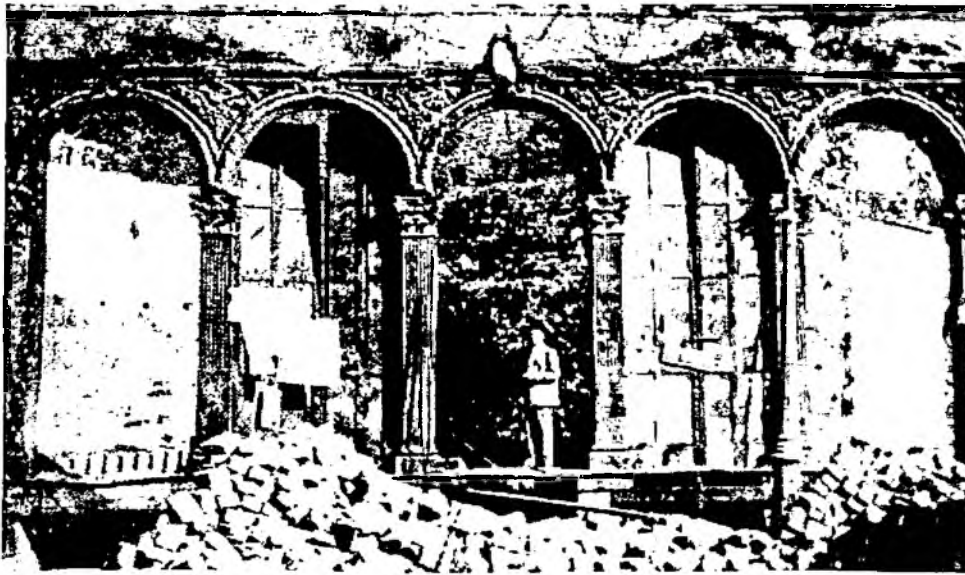
THE EXPERT AT THE CARD TABLE, by S. W. Erdnase, Gamblers Book Club, Box 4115, Las Vegas, Nevada 89106, 218 pages, \$2.50.

This "Treatise on the Science and Art of Manipulating Cards" was first published in 1902. The author, E. S. Andrews, reversed the letters of his name to arrive at the pseudonym he published under. Over the years this book has had several uses. It is a complete course in card cheating. Others have used it to learn the cheater's secrets so they can spot someone trying to cheat them. And the book has been a long-time favorite of magicians, as it is a fine source for many illusionary card tricks.



After a lengthy introduction, the first section covers shuffles, cuts, dealing and retaining cards in the deck or palm. The second section is devoted to Legerdemain, various methods of manipulating cards for performing card tricks. This is followed by instruc-

Continued on page 49



The Charles Fey & Company factory, located at 406 Market Street, San Francisco, was completely destroyed in the 1906 earthquake and fire. Charles Fey is shown in this early photograph standing in the ruins of the building where he had manufactured and serviced LIBERTY BELLS and other Fey machines since 1896. The Fey LIBERTY BELL was operated, as well as manufactured, by the Charles Fey Company; hence no pictures of their machines appeared in "machine catalogs" of those times.

PATENTS, EARLY SLOTS AND GIN

BY MARSHALL FEY

I am "stepping out of the forest" to comment on Bob Otnes fine article "Patents and the Early Slot Machines" that appeared in the July 1979 issue of *Loose Change*. I feel that this article is a credit to the magazine even though I do not necessarily agree with a few of his conclusions.

First, being in the saloon business I would like to remark on a very important point. Otnes concluding paragraph commented on the many ways of preparing a martini. For the connoisseur of the perfect martini our clandestine recipe is as follows: 2 shots of LIBERTY BELLE Gin (our private label), 2 drops of Boissiere dry vermouth (French import), gently poured over the cubes with TLC, olive or twist of lemon—preferential option.

Next, the photograph of the ornate slot, accompanying the article on page 8, was easy to identify as it has been in the LIBERTY BELLE collection for almost twenty years. This rare classic is a two wheel Watling. Gustav Schultze, whose operator's card is on the machine, was with Charles Fey & Company from 1899-1903 (San Francisco City Directory) and was listed as a manufacturer and operator of slots in San Francisco from 1904 until 1909 when he moved his operation to the east bay.

In the article Bob Otnes asks, "who invented the slot machine," and then lists a number of suggested contribu-

tors. I think all knowledgeable persons will agree that the bell (automatic paying three-reel) slot evolved from other slots. A good correlation of the credit of the invention of the bell slot might be the creation of the automobile. When the Duryea Brothers adapted the internal combustion engine (not their invention) to propel a carriage (also not their invention) they were credited with inventing the first automobile. When Fey adapted an automatic payout (automatic payouts were already in use) to a three reel machine (multi-reel non paying machines were already in use) he was credited with inventing the first bell machine.

I would also like to bring out a few points on dating the Fey LIBERTY BELL. First, Fey originally built his slot machines to operate himself and *not to sell*, thus accounting for the years he had an exclusive on the bell machine. Second, Fey was building cast iron machines as early as 1901. The surviving production Fey LIBERTY BELL machines are sheet metal with brass sides. If he built it in 1905 as Burt Mills claims, why didn't he use a cast iron case? But Burt Mills states Fey did have a cast iron case with a cracked LIBERTY BELL on the front casting when he visited the Mills factory. If Burt Mills' recollections are valid this would indicate Fey built a revised cast iron version of his original LIBERTY BELL in 1905 or '06. Fey

built at least two models of the sheet metal LIBERTY BELL so a third cast iron LIBERTY BELL is a possibility.

This brings forth another possibility of misdating. I would date the first Mills LIBERTY BELL in 1905 or 1906, depending on a couple of factors. First, the Mills LIBERTY BELL may have been as early as 1905 if a Fey Liberty Bell was stolen from a location as written in some early articles on slots. Secondly, in April of 1906 the disastrous conflagration that followed the San Francisco earthquake completely destroyed Fey's factory at 406 Market Street and the great majority of his slots on location. It would have been at this time that Fey would have gone to the Mills factory. Burt Mills could have easily mistaken the year and Fey would have desperately needed machines to replace the destroyed ones. Whether Fey traded off his invention for fifty machines or purchased fifty machines, I would prefer to leave to conjecture. Further confirming the earlier date of the first Mills LIBERTY BELL machine is an earlier model of the Mills LIBERTY BELL shown in the 1909 Mills Automatic Money Makers Catalog. Now who would believe that there were no bell machines manufactured for the three years between 1906 and 1909?

There are many facets of slot machine patents. Machines were not patented explicitly as gaming devices, but as coin controlled devices, vending machines, amusement machines etc. They definitely were not binding and I feel no one would risk a law suit on something illegal. Many manufacturers had machines copied with no recourse. An excellent example of replication is the Mills, Watling, Caille and Jennings cast iron LIBERTY BELLS all using identical cases and the 1910 Mills copyrighted fruit symbols.

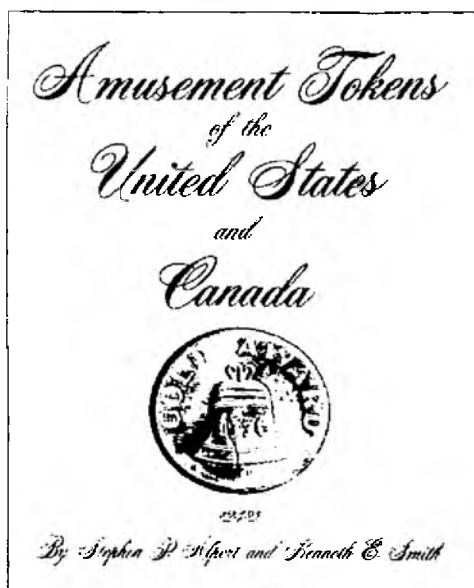
I would like again to compliment the Bob Otnes article for the research, the good thought material and the significant patents. Using the 1890 Kennedy or the 1891 Strobel (they do have an amazing resemblance to the shape of the Fey LIBERTY BELL) and adding a payout already present in the 1893 Lighthipe, the 1893 Schultze and many other machines of this period and with hundreds of inventors developing new slot innovations, how many years do you think it would have taken to create a 3 reel automatic payout machine? Two years? Five years? Twelve years? Sit down—have a martini (if LIBERTY BELL gin is not available use an inferior grade of therapeutic spiritus frumenti) and think about it!

A valuable reference book for both token and antique coin machine enthusiasts

Amusement Tokens of the United States and Canada

The first comprehensive reference book on amusement tokens

- 144 pages
- Over 10,000 different tokens listed with a given catalog value
- More than 500 enlarged photos of tokens
- Plus photos of many of the antique slot machines that used tokens



Actual size is 8" x 11"

The book covers the earliest slot machine payout tokens of the 1890's through the modern penny arcade tokens of the late 1970's. All tokens used in slot machines, pinball machines, penny arcade machines, jukeboxes and other amusement-related coin-operated machines are cataloged using the Atwood system. The large amount of background information on the tokens, the specific machines they were used in, and the manufacturers of the machines makes this volume a valuable reference book for both token and antique coin machine enthusiasts. The cover is plastic coated for longer wear. **Amusement Tokens of the United States and Canada** will be ready for shipment on October 4, 1979, and can be ordered from your dealer or directly from the publisher.

Only
\$24.95

Plus \$2.00 packing and shipping charge
All books will be shipped United Parcel Service.
California residents please include 6% sales tax.

The Mead Company - Publishers
2170 South Mameda Street
Long Beach, California 90810

Pace auction report

Continued from page 41

nice Tic-Tac-Toe STANDARD CHIEF in Grade 1½ condition could only entice a \$1,000 bid, however, while a Grade

3½ one managed \$800—for no apparent reason. Two new-looking (Grade 1 and 1½ respectively—from the outside) GOVERNORS brought \$1,000 and \$950; perhaps they looked too new! The few older Jennings machines didn't

seem to arouse any extraordinary interest either. A FOUR STAR CHIEF in Grade 2½ went to its new owner for \$950, while a couple of PERFECTED JACKPOTS (Dutch Boys) in Grade 2½-3 condition went on their way at \$1,050 and \$1,000; another one with a repro award card and in similar condition made its new owner happy at \$950.

Several Pace machines were represented. An ALL STAR COMET in slightly below average condition, Grade 3½, brought \$775 while a newer EIGHT STAR BELL in Grade 3 brought \$800. A cute BANTAM in restored Grade 1¾ condition managed to bring a winning bid of \$1,050.

Mills machines seemed to be in similar price categories. A nice Roman Head (SILENT GOLDEN) in Grade 2 condition with skill stops and token dispenser went for \$950. BLUE FRONTS were priced at \$1,000 in average to slightly above average condition, while a dug-out-of-a-scrap-heap Grade 4 BROWN FRONT managed to get a high bid of \$850. A reconditioned, but still below average Hi-Top brought \$1,150. The \$900 range seemed to handle all of the other average condition Mills offerings, including a JACKPOT (Poinsetta), GOOSENECK SILENT (Skyscraper), CHROME, BLACK CHERRY and SILENT GOOSENECK (Lion Head).

The musical items played a sweeter tune for their consignors. A beautifully restored Wurlitzer 1015 sold for \$3,200, and a Victory model in gorgeous shape went for \$4,000. The Seeburg KT, which needed work, brought \$10,500, while the smaller model L brought \$6,100.

In the miscellaneous department, a circa 1880 Wooten Desk sold for \$16,000, a 1911 International open vehicle was purchased by a Chicago collector for \$14,725 and the Creators popcorn wagon was bought back by its owner for \$6,300.

This auction was the first major coin machine auction held in Illinois since passage of the new antique slot machine legislation. Gordon Pace seems to have a good feel for the value of the items he offers. Nothing rare and in superb condition was offered at this event, but it was probably not missed by the majority of local people who attended. Most seemed pleased to have "something" reasonably priced to take home to play with. These same people will be back next time with their sights set a little higher. If Gordon sets his sights for quality consignments a little higher next time, he'll have a good thing going in Illinois.

NICKEL INTERLUDE

(Author Unknown)

"America's favorite nickel's worth of fun" was one of the most well known slogans in the United States from 1937 through 1947. The slogan was no more well known, however, than the truth it evidenced.

The famous slogan was born several years after the inception of a strange, wooden box built at North Tonawanda, New York, by a company long known for many musical instruments including pipe organs — the Wurlitzer Company. The year was 1933, and the creation was one of the most entertaining and illuminating sources of amusement ever devised by man — the jukebox.

The first Wurlitzer jukebox was a nondescript, rectangular piece of furniture made entirely of wood. At first, solid and veneer wood of preferred stock were used in their construction by master craftsmen, and the finished product looked quite like an old console radio, except one could see a round selection unit on the front, and a stack of ten records held in place by trays which were on top and behind glass. This arrangement was used by Wurlitzer and others until the mid-fifties. The peculiar and common principle of the machines was that the records were

Mailbox

Continued from page 11

mation and the picture returned.

R. L. Nellis
Heltonville, Indiana

Dear R. L.:

This is an easy one! Unfortunately your photo is not suitable for publication, but your slot is a Mills BONUS (Horsehead) bell machine. It can be found on the middle of page 11, listed under this name. There is also a picture of it in the Pictorial Glossary, the bottom of page 35.

The Mills company also made a B-O-N-U-S Hi-Top model machine which is also listed on page 11.

The Mills machines can be easily identified by looking at the mechanism castings for the "MLB" markings. They stand for "Mills Liberty Bell".

Editor

OCTOBER 1979

played horizontally and only on one side. The mechanism which guided this procedure was used during the entire era and even until 1953.

The most beautiful of these machines is debatable. Would it be the 750? Or the 800? How about the Peacock (850)? Or perhaps the 950? Or the Victory?

Certainly, one of the most beautiful was the 800. It was sedate, powerful, colorful and offered far more than any other machine before its time. It was introduced in 1940. This model was the heaviest of all, too, because of the art deco ornamentation, motors, which pulled its revolving, colored lights and heaters, which produced bubbles in the bubble tubes; additionally, the large record-playing mechanism and chassis, contributed approximately one hundred pounds to its weight. The tone arm alone weighed a pound! It also was the biggest machine to be introduced, and the widest, because of the intricate diffusing system used in its two pilasters which was a first for such color arrangement.

Even though these machines were inviting to look at, dancing with bubbles and brilliantly casting colored shadows on a dimly lit dancefloor, the fun always began when a coin (usually a nickel) was pushed into its slot. When this was done, an extra volley of lights,

"playing lights", would automatically come on fully illuminating the machine. Actually, the "playing lights" were light bulbs behind the polasters. They were hot, and if left on, could damage the plastics which created the unusual effects. Great anticipation followed until the record reached the tone arm, awaiting the contact. The truest and most beautiful sounds emanated from its 15 inch speaker, and not until the advent of stereo did recorded music ever improve.

Dancing couples, serious listeners and fun seekers enjoyed jukeboxes in this era, 1937 through 1947, because jukeboxes did more than play music — they "moved" with the dancers and provided the most enjoyable interlude that a nickel could afford.

Bookshelf

Continued from page 46

tions for 15 card tricks. This final part of the book is a reprint of critical comments on the Erdnase method by Professor Hoffman, an authority of magic.

This soft covered book is illustrated with over 100 line drawings and is invaluable to anyone interested in card cheating or tricks. But don't expect to be able to duplicate the card maneuvers right away. This takes lots of practice!

Classified Advertisements

All classified advertising is accepted and positioned at the discretion of the publisher. Closing date is the 5th of the month preceding publication; i.e., advertisements intended for publication in the January issue must be received by the publisher by December 5th. Cost is \$2.00 minimum for the first 25 words; each additional word is 10¢. Blind box advertisements are not accepted. Continuous running ads will only be accepted for three months, after which the advertisement must be re-submitted. For purposes of counting as one word and area code and phone number will be counted as one word. All advertisements will be listed under either FOR SALE, WANTED or MISCELLANEOUS; please specify which classification you desire. Publisher is not responsible for errors for any reason whatsoever. Telephone orders and cancellations are not accepted. Send your advertisement with remittance to: Loose Change Classified Advertising, 21176 South Alameda Street, Long Beach, California 90810. Rate card for display advertising is available upon request.

FOR SALE

Paces Races 5¢ gold award style. Late model unrestored. Plus several other rare machines. (312) 233-3205 days.

We have over 300 Jukeboxes and lots of extra parts. Some 78s, some 45s. The following items listed are new. 6L6GC tubes, \$4.95 each. Stereo Compatible cartridge for Seeburg models B thru 210, \$35.00 each. Wurlitzer Stereo compatible Cobra cartridge, \$9.95 each. Jukebox Junkyard, P.O. Box 181, Lizella, Georgia 31052. Phone (912) 935-2721.

Slot machines in good working condition, \$795.00. Trade stimulators and game machines, write for list, Chip, Box 1507, St. Augustine, Florida 32084. Photos \$1.00. (904) 829-8679, 824-1417.

FOR SALE

Punchboards: We have thousands of old unused punchboards out of the 30s, 40s and 50s. They are colorful eye catchers for shows and shops. Proven to be fast sellers! Send \$15 for 4 assorted and catalogue of these unusual trade stimulators. Amusement Sales, 127 North Main, Midvale, Utah 84047. (801) 255-4731.

Rare trade Stimulators and other rare machines. Call for listing and prices. (312) 233-3205.

Western Electric Derby Race Horse (gambling) nickelodeon. Eight cast iron horses race as music plays loudly. Professional restoration of an original machine. Must see and hear this classic. \$8,000 firm. Steve Hecht, 2424 Rebecca, Glenview, Illinois 60025. (312) 564-2332.

FOR SALE

Imp reel tapes, original: cigarette or fruit, \$4/set plus SASE. Imp award cards, original: cigarette or fruit, \$4/set plus SASE. Goodspeed, 500 West King, York, PA 17404.

Candy bar reel tapes, use as decals or as paper strips, for Imp, Cub and other small gumball slots. \$4/set plus SASE. Goodspeed, 500 West King, York, PA 17404.

Pinball Reference Guide. New booklet lists nearly 2,500 pinball games with over 200 manufacturers and dates of introduction. Special notes and other information. \$7.95 postpaid plus sales tax if California resident. The Mead Company, 21176 S. Alameda Street, Long Beach, CA 90810.

Acorn gumball machine lids and globe rings, twenty sets, \$25 postpaid. Goodspeed, 500 West King, York, PA 17404.

Columbus gumball machine literature. Reprints of catalog, price and parts list. \$2 plus stamp. Goodspeed, 500 West King, York, PA 17404.

Advance gumball machine parts. No globes. Send list of wants. Goodspeed, 500 West King, York, PA 17404.

Trade Stimulator collectors I have 20/30 unusual trade stimulators for sale \$150 up. List for SSAE. Russell 2404 W. 111th St., Chicago 60655 (312-233-3205)

Approximately 25 Seeburg 100 Jukes, models A's B's C's G's R's K's etc. All in very nice original cond. Plus a life time of original Seeburg 100 cabinet and mechanical parts to numerous to mention. Send for list to Joe Rossi, P.O. Box 1846, Bloomfield, N.J. 07003 or call 201-746-2255 or 201-485-9430.

Pinball collectors. Add a payout to your bingo type pinball game. Compact unit attaches easily. Details SASE, photos \$1.00. TILT, Box 391, Hampton, VA 23669.

More new reel strips, Mills CC-537, 539, Mills Gold Awards, High Top Bonus strips, on buff, silver or gold—\$15-20 per set. SASE for info on new items; or 28¢ stamps for information on complete line—Dave Evans, 7999 Keller, Cincinnati, Ohio 45243.

Marked cards and crooked dice from Old San Francisco Card Co. Send \$1 for descriptive list. G. Foster 7389 Bush Lake Road, Edina, MN 55435. Also buying old, unusual, or crooked gambling items of any type.

Columbus gumball pamphlet - 3-part color. \$5.95 Other literature also. Gumball machines for sale. One Penny Wonder, 805 Terraceview Lane, Wayzata, Minnesota 55391. 612-473-3871.

Trade stimulators, goose neck slots, some parts, also side venders, all for sale. Call days, (312-233-3205)

A Pictorial Guide of Collectable Jukeboxes. Handy size to carry around to identify almost 80 collectable jukeboxes. Contains pictures, dimensions, model name & date manufactured of each jukebox. Invaluable! Only \$5 ea. Jukebox Junction, Box 1081, Des Moines, Iowa 50311.

Black Jack (21) reel tapes for gumball slot, 5 tapes, 1/2 inch wide, 6 3/4 inches long, \$5.50 set ppd., Goodspeed, 500 W. King, York, PA 17404.

FOR SALE

Coin operated fan. G.E. Coin operated perfume machine. Has oval mirror. Van-Lite 1¢ lighter fluid Dispenser. Cast Iron 1¢ operated Dixie cup dispenser. Early 6 column 5¢ operated aspirin dispenser. Three 1¢ operated match book dispensers. 1¢ operated countertop baseball machine. Mint original 5¢ Mills Hi-Top. Arnold Levin, 2835 W. North Shore, Chicago, Illinois 60645. Phone (312) 262-5965.

Imperial crane. Evans money wheel. Beautifully restored. Also early Bally one ball "Victory Special". Want Little Duke, Dutchess. R. Bond, 24892 del Monte, Laguna Hills, CA 92653. (714) 831-8008.

Mills Ferris Wheel, \$1,200. Wurlitzer 500, \$1,100. Gabels Jr. Humbolt, \$850. Bally Gayety Bingo, \$800. Al or Rae Martal, c/o Jukebox Connection, P.O. Box 2819, Mission Viejo, CA 92690. (714) 768-3029.

Seeburg 100B jukebox mirror set for around grill (1/2" x 1" mirror squares on cloth backing), \$30. R. Shaw, 1142 Scotland Drive, Cupertino, California 95014.

Slots! Jennings Standard Chief, Mills Golden Falls, Peanut machines—Columbus, Masters. S.A.S.E. Phil Balkan, 5860 Tobias Avenue, Van Nuys, CA 91411. Also buy same, price, describe.

Beautiful sterling silver slot machine charms, \$9.00 each postpaid. Satisfaction guaranteed. Send check to The Jewel Belle, 1622 Mills Avenue, North Muskegon, Michigan 49445.

Premium penny drop, Ken Rubin Book, page 51, extremely rare. Make offer. (312) 233-3205. Also other rare machines.

Quality reproduction award cards for trade stimulators. Over 50 to choose from. Sixteen new additions. More to follow. Also poker machine reel strips. Send 28¢ S.A.S.E. for list. Bill Whelan, Box 617, Daly City, California 94015.

Mint (repro) punch cards for Mills "Tickette", 360 card assortment (enough to fill machine compartment). \$12.00 ppd. Bill Whelan, Box 617, Daly City, California 94015.

Slot machine reel strips. Have Mills, Jennings, Watling, Pace, award cards, decals, springs, manuals. \$1 puts you on my mailing list. Jay Mihelich, 1622 Mills, N. Muskegon, MI 49445. (616) 744-9214.

Mills Check Boy, Bally Reliance, wooden Zeno, Smilin Sam from Alabam. Send \$1 per photo to Bob Cook, 1500 W. Fairmount, #205, Long View, Texas, 75601.

Bingo machine—United's "Mexico" restored to excellent condition, \$450. Peter Graulich, 212 Union Mill Road, R.D. #1, Mt. Laurel, N.J. 08054. (609) 234-0849 or (609) 234-1742 leave message.

1935 Model P-30 Wurlitzer jukebox completely restored, \$2,000. 1899 Peerless 44-note nickel piano with seven rolls, \$2,000. Richard Gager, 315 Maple Avenue, Ridgway, PA 15853. (814) 776-1493.

MISCELLANEOUS

Buy-sell-trade: if it is operated by a coin regardless of condition. All types of coin operated machines. Parts, mechanisms, cabinets, speakers, machines

MISCELLANEOUS

and records, etc. Counter games, jukeboxes, vending machines, arcade machines, trade stimulators, pinballs, amusement and music machines, etc. Tony's Trading Post, 209 East Park Street, Butte, Montana 59701, Phone (406) 723-9824.

Give the gift this Christmas that will be enjoyed all year long—a gift subscription to *Loose Change*. We'll send a beautiful gift card. All you have to do is send us your name and address and the names and addresses of those who are to receive the gift subscriptions and enclose \$22 for each one. Effective with the December 1979 issue subscription rates will go up to \$25, so hurry and beat the deadline! Nora Mead, Loose Change Gift Subscriptions, 21176 S. Alameda Street, Long Beach, CA 90810.

WANTED

78 R.P.M. Vogue picture records. Will pay \$25 each. Also I buy and sell any kind of gambling items. Jim Aufenthie, 27 - 9th Avenue N.E., Rochester, MN 55901.

Watling Treasury cabinet complete buy or trade for complete Rol-A-Top cabinet, Jennings Standard Chief silver dollar cabinet or dollar entrance frame. Yeager Restorations, 7090 W. 5th Ave., Lakewood, Colorado 80226. 303-233-9298.

Front door for Caille Aristocrat Counter Roulette - see page 98 Volume 2 Bueschel 100 Most Collectable Slots. Cash box and back door for Watling - Case for Caille Cadet - see page 111, from the same volume above. W.L. Bishop, Rt. #1, Middletown, MD 21769. 301-371-5261.

Original unused set of Mills 10-stop reel strips. I have many other original unused Mills reel strips to trade or name your price. Jack Prince, 491 Evergreen Dr., Tonawanda, NY 14150. (716) 694-3254.

Seeburg 147M two (2) white domes. Two (2) upper plastic corners for Rock-Ola Master 40. Write or call Al or Rae Mattal, c/o Jukebox Connection, P.O. Box 2819, Mission Viejo, CA 92690. (714) 768-3029.

Backglass for 1952 Gottlieb Quartette. Also interested in early arcade games. Send list and color photos (photos returned), J.R. Hill, 220 S. State, Westerville, Ohio 43081.

Flat glass wanted for Bally Double-Up console, 1947 Series, 5¢ machine, also wiring diagram needed. J.H. Mikoski, South 3725 Stone, Spokane, Washington 99203.

Gambling memorabilia. Seeking quality items depicting gambling, poker, and playing cards: catalogs, books, postcards, poker chips and gambling equipment. Especially interested in buying or trading antique American playing cards. Similar collectors please write Leonard Schneir, 184 - 6th Avenue, N.Y.C., NY 10013.

Space Invaders by Midway (any condition—prefer not working). Price and description first letter. Peter Graulich, Union Mill Road, R.D. #1, Mt. Laurel, NJ 08054. (609) 234-0849 or (609) 234-1742 leave message.

Johnny Cash and Eddie Arnold 78 R.P.M. records for jukebox. Ed Weidner, 3151 - 21st Avenue, Sacramento, CA 95820. Weekdays: (916) 452-6123.

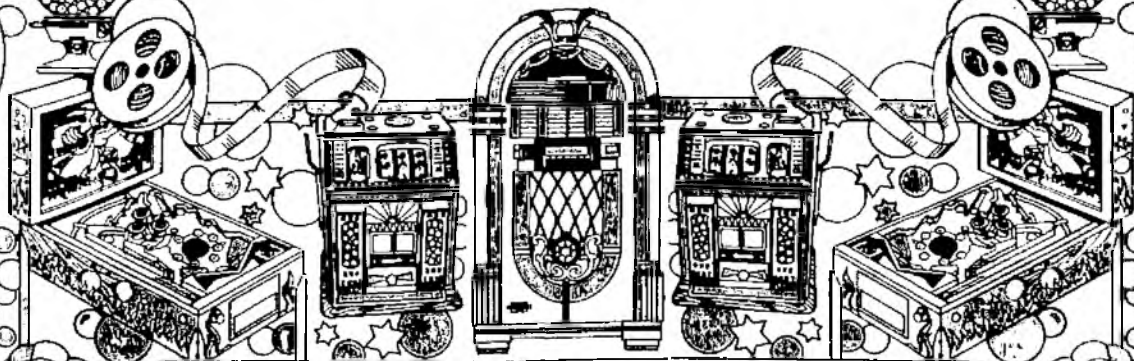
Games

UNLIMITED

**RETURNS THE FUN
OF YESTERDAY —
& INVESTS IN TOMORROW**
(All at the drop of a coin)

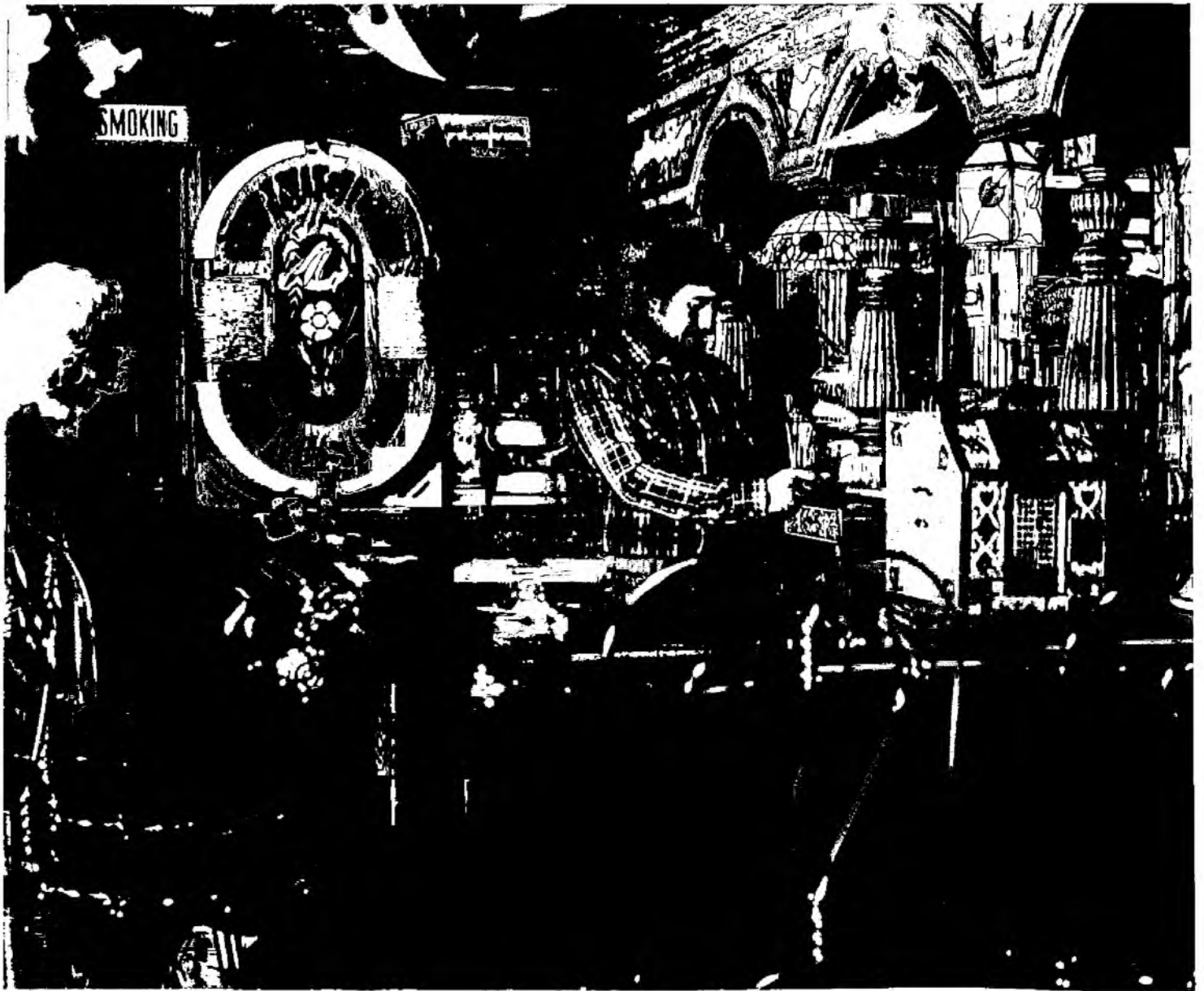
Our beautiful West Los Angeles showroom houses a magnificent selection of slot machines, juke boxes, pinballs, electronic video games, brass cash registers, barber chairs, trade stimulators, advertising pieces, gumball machines, arcade machines, old-style Coca-Cola machines, antique-style ceiling fans, wrought iron wine and baker's rakes, street lamps and other unique decorator items, some dating back to the turn of the century. Each is a piece of history and an excellent investment, and what's more, one you can enjoy.

*Daily 10-6, Sun. 11-5, Fri. 10-9
3 Blocks West Of The Antique Guild*



Games Unlimited

9059 Venice Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90034 (213) 836-8920



Pizzazz — Razzmatazz — and all that Jazz!

The Electric Light Speakers™ we build deliver the show! Imagine this: a handcrafted solid oak cabinet — hours of sanding, staining, sealing, finishing and polishing to deliver the best in oak furniture; add to it illuminated tri-coloured plastics, a colorful floral center glass panel and hundreds of illuminating bubbles floating up the flower stems. Enclosed in all that pizzazz and razzmatazz is the jazz. This Model P-580 is a two way system consisting of two Altec 8-inch full range speakers and two phenolic tweeters. It can be used as a compact stereo speaker with 30-watts per channel or a heavy duty one channel unit with 60-watts and 4-ohms in parallel.

ANTIQUÉ JUKE BOX CO.

2222 East Washington Boulevard • Los Angeles, California 90021 • (213) 589-5905

OPEN MONDAY THRU SATURDAY - 9:00 A.M. TO 5:30 P.M. CLOSED SUNDAY