The patent describes a method and apparatus for determining and studying philosophical and oracle responses. It involves a first group of symbols, preferably six, individually visually indicated in order, each of said symbols being taken from a predetermined plurality of symbols, preferably two basic symbols each divided into two subsymbols, preferably as determined by a previous set order of determination including the commonly called element of chance. Simultaneously with the first symbol group indication, a second symbol group of like number is automatically visually indicated, the second symbol group being altered from the first symbol group by use of only a portion of the same individual basic symbol indications of said first symbol group, but the alteration being in an exact predetermined manner. Also, a third symbol group may be simultaneously visually indicated with the first symbol group and of like number, certain of the symbols of the third symbol group being altered from the basic symbols of the first symbol group where said first group symbols are of particular subsymbol forms and not being altered when said first group symbols are not of said particular subsymbol forms. The apparatus may include interconnected first, second and third group slides simultaneously and automatically carrying out the predetermined symbol conversions or alterations upon the mere setting of the first group indicating slides, all of said group slides visually indicating the symbols of that particular group through windows of an apparatus frame.
METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DETERMINING AND STUDYING PHILOSOPHICAL AND ORACLE RESPONSES

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

This invention relates to a method and apparatus particularly arranged wherein a certain originally determined first pattern or grouping of symbols having a defined order and meaning may be visually indicated, and simultaneously therewith, a second altered and related pattern or grouping of said symbols also be automatically visually indicated using only certain of said first symbol group corresponding to a predetermined set plan, with said second symbol group having an additional defined meaning. Also, the method and apparatus may include the further automatic conversion of the first symbol group to form still a third symbol group, said third symbol group having certain of the symbols thereof altered from the like positioned symbols of the first group when said first group symbols are of a particular form, with said third symbol group having still an additional defined meaning. Such method and apparatus of the present invention is particularly adapted for the determination and study of philosophical oracle responses according to the ancient Chinese philosophy of I Ching.

The ancient wisdom and philosophy of I Ching, broadly defined as dealing with change, has been studied for many thousands of years by the Chinese. I Ching scholars define the philosophy and theosophical teachings and oracle responses thereof as a study of the subconscious mind or the knowledge of a person’s internal life experience. They point out that the study of I Ching develops a fuller awareness of the life being experienced and enables a person to live more effectively and abundantly. For instance, it is pointed out that in the solving of problems, a person ordinarily makes use of only a fraction of the information determined by experience available to him, since in making such decisions, his conscious mind only selects that which appears to be rational and logical, but much of a person’s life is shaped and directed by the unexpected so that conscious reason and logic are not always adequate for determining a proper course of action upon being confronted by a particular set of circumstances.

Thus, I Ching is particularly valuable in exploring, understanding and making positive use of the greater wealth of information and experience of a person’s inner or subconscious mind in order to determine and follow the greatest possible advantageous course of action given a particular problem or set of circumstances. Such a philosophical aid or assistance can be most greatly appreciated in the fast moving, modern life experiences. Most adults are confronted in everyday life with problems with which they are not consciously able to deal and solve, and even children of relatively tender years are today confronted with problems and situations for which even their older parents and guardians are not able to consciously provide proper direction.

As used and handed down from the ancient Chinese, I Ching deals with basic alternates, namely, Yin and Yang, which can be likened to male and female, negative and positive, plus and minus, expansion and contraction, the serious and the comic, and so forth, depending on the particular situation involved. Furthermore, the basic Yin and Yang are further subdivided into moving and firm lines for certain purposes so as to form in total a moving Yin line represented by the symbol □, a firm Yang line represented by the symbol △, a firm Yin line represented by the symbol ■, and a moving Yang line represented by the symbol ◯. Still further, by making use of these moving and firm Yin and Yang lines according to a predetermined manner of selection, a group of lines may be formed consisting of six lines arranged in order of selection from first to sixth, which group may be equated to a particular oracle response originating from the I Ching philosophy according to predetermined keying and determined by the particular order of the basic Yin and Yang lines regardless of their subdivisions in the group evolving from the selection.

This six-line group, and other six-line groups determined from this first six-line group, are termed by me “sexinales” made up by a “lower trilineal” constituted by the first three lines in order and an “upper trilineal” made up of the last three lines selected. In addition, this first line group represents the immediate response to the problem posed and is termed by me the “synchronic” response. Also, by use of this exact line arrangement of synchronic response, it is possible, through predetermined procedures of I Ching, to evolve a second six-line group or sexinal formed from only the second through fifth lines of the synchronic sexinal group of the two basic Yin and Yang lines or symbols which may be equated to an oracle response delving into the central portion of the problem and termed by me the “nuclear” response. Finally, if the first or second sexinal is made up of any of the subdividing moving Yin or Yang lines, a still further sexinal may be formed according to a predetermined procedure using the synchronic sexinal by changing all of the moving lines therein to opposite firm lines and equating the same to a still different keyed oracle response. This will give knowledge of how the situation will change by applying the action of the first or synchronic response and permits a determination of what action to take in that changed situation, this latter response being termed by me the “changed” response.

In determining or selecting each of the basic Yin or Yang lines and the subdivisions thereof as to moving or firm, and thereby form the first or immediate or synchronic sexinal of I Ching, the ancient Chinese manipulated fifty yarrow stalks, but for simplification, three Chinese coins may be used which are replicas of ancient coins and each having characters on one side for the number 2 and on the reverse side for the number 3. The moving Yin line or □ is assigned the value of 6, the firm Yang line or △ is assigned the value of 7, the firm Yin line or ■ is assigned the value of 8, and the moving Yang line or ◯ is assigned the value of 9. The three coins are mixed by shaking in the cupped hands and dropped on a flat surface, with the addition of the numerical equivalency of the exposed sides determining the particular line making up the first of the lines of the synchronic sexinal being formed, such procedure being repeated six times for the six lines.

As the lines for the synchronic sexinal are successively selected, the symbols thereof are arranged preferably in a vertical line progressively from bottom to top, the first selected being at the bottom and the sixth selected being at the top. The bottom three of the sexinal, of course, constitute the lower trilineal and the top three the upper trilineal, eight trilineals being involved. Considering the trilineals, whether upper or lower, and in reverse order of line selection, that is, from sixth to fourth, or from third to first, and still further without regard as to whether they are firm or moving lines, three Yang lines forms Ch‘ien, one Yin and two Yang lines forms Tui, two Yang lines separated by a Yin line forms Li, two Yin and a Yang forms Chen, two Yang and a Yin line forms Sun, two Yin lines separated by a Yang line forms K‘an, a Yang line and two Yin lines forms Ken, and three Yin lines forms K‘un. Various combinations of the trilineals are equated to a collection or book or oracle responses according to I Ching so that every possible form of sexinal, whether synchronic, nuclear or changed, may be equated to a particular oracle response.

Now with this rather brief initial explanation of I Ching and the various terminology thereof, I Ching has been practiced prior to my present inventions, by first determining the synchronic sexinal through successive manipulation of the yarrow stalks or coins, each line being manually recorded by its individual equivalent symbol until the total synchronic sexinal has been formed. The upper and lower trilineals of this synchronic sexinal are then noted and the properly designated or keyed oracle response determined directly from these trilineals, or for greater ease, each of the trilineals is previously keyed to a designated number of an oracle
response in list or chart form with the charts being used to determine the oracle number from which the oracle can be quickly found in an I Ching book of oracles. Furthermore, during the selection of the lines for the sexinalne, the situation to be resolved must be kept firmly in mind with maximum concentration by the person manipulating the coins. In this manner, an immediate response is given by I Ching to the particular situation, circumstance or problem involved.

If, in considering the synchronic sexinalne, it is noted that any of the subdividing moving lines are contained therein, this indicates that the originally determined immediate response will have an effect on the problem or situation so as to change the same and exactly how the situation or problem will be changed can be determined by forming the changed sexinalne. This has been accomplished by mentally changing all previously recorded moving Yang lines to firm Yang lines and changing all previously recorded moving Yin lines to firm Yin lines, and manually recording the changed sexinalne in the same manner as the synchronic sexinalne. From this changed sexinalne, the oracle response giving the changed response can be determined by the same keying as before. Thus, directly from the synchronic sexinalne, by proper changing and recording, insight can be gained as to the manner of change after applying the immediate response.

For an even more thorough study of the immediate response as determined from the synchronic sexinalne, the person will then form the nuclear sexinalne, which is an insight into the central portion of the immediate response. In forming the nuclear sexinalne, a mental conversion or alteration is made wherein the first and sixth lines of the synchronic sexinalne are eliminated, the second line placed first, the third line placed second and fourth, the fourth line placed third and fifth, and the fifth line placed sixth. Further, in forming the nuclear sexinalne, whether the basic Yin and Yang lines are moving or firm is not important and is disregarded, the only consideration being as to the two basic lines. Such rearrangement is, of course, progressively manually recorded by the person forming the nuclear sexinalne until the same is complete, the response central to the situation of the immediate response then being determined from the book of I Ching oracle responses.

**OBJECTS AND SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**

It is, therefore, an object of this invention to provide a method and apparatus wherein a first group of symbols are individually selected from a plurality of determined symbols according to a previous order of determination, said first group of symbols after such selection being visually indicated, and automatically and simultaneously with said first symbol group, a second group of symbols of the same total number as the first group is visually indicated, said second symbol group being altered and rearranged in a predetermined pattern or form, eliminating certain of the symbols of the first group in the formation of the second group and at least twice repeating certain of the other symbols from the first group in the formation of the second group. Each of the first and second group symbols thusly formed have a definite and predetermined meaning, one being related to the other. The result is that these two related symbol groups are simultaneously formed merely through the visual indication of the first group and no later manual calculation and rearrangement is required.

Applying these broader principles of the present invention to the previously discussed example of determining and studying philosophical oracle responses according to the ancient wisdom and philosophy of I Ching, the individual symbols for the first group are selected from a plurality of two basic symbols subdivided into two subsymbols each making a total of four symbols in a manner which will be conventionally and broadly described as chance. Furthermore, the first symbol group formed consists of six symbols designated from first to sixth by order of selection. Simultaneously with the visual indication of the first symbol group using the method and apparatus of the present invention, a second like number symbol group is automatically visually indicated with a predetermined conversion or rearrangement having been automatically automatically made wherein a first and sixth symbols of the first group are not used, the second symbol of the first group becomes the first symbol of the second group, the third symbol of the first group is repeated as the second and fourth symbol of the second group, the third symbol of the first group is repeated as the third and fifth symbols of the second group, and the fifth symbol of the first group becomes the sixth symbol of the second group.

It is a further object of this invention to provide a method and apparatus of the foregoing general character for visually indicating symbol groups having predefined meanings wherein simultaneously and automatically with the visual indication of the first symbol group, an additional symbol group is visually indicated, said additional symbol group either being as an alternative to or in addition to the previously discussed second symbol group, depending on the particular arrangement of the method and apparatus. This additional symbol group is simultaneously and automatically rearranged or converted from the particular first symbol group in a manner such that if the particular symbols of the first group are of a predetermined form, said predetermined formed symbols of the first group are automatically changed to other related symbols, the final additional symbol group being again of like number to the first symbol group. Again, therefore, the first symbol group is simultaneously and automatically rearranged in a predetermined manner for visual indication simultaneously with the visual indication of the first group and without the requirement for any manual rearrangement or mental calculation.

In applying this additional symbol group formation to the specific example hereinbefore discussed, if the particular symbols of the first symbol group are of a specific subsymbol, they are automatically converted to a predetermined other symbol in the additional symbol group. If such particular symbols of the first symbol group are of a different specific subsymbol, they are automatically converted to still another specific symbol in the additional symbol group. If, however, certain of the particular symbols in the first symbol group are of either of these two specific forms, then the additional symbol group will not be converted from the first symbol group and will not be usable for any further purpose.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will be apparent from the following specification and the accompanying drawings which are for the purpose of illustration only.

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS**

FIG. 1 is a front elevation view of an embodiment of an apparatus incorporating the principles of the present invention and for carrying out the method or methods of the present invention;

FIG. 2 is a rear elevation view of the apparatus of FIG. 1, but formed by merely rotating the apparatus of FIG. 1 about the lower edge thereof in order to maintain a more clear alignment and showing between apparatus parts;

FIG. 3 is a view similar to FIG. 1 but with parts thereof broken away and certain parts in section to more clearly show internal parts of the apparatus of FIG. 1;

FIG. 4 is a view similar to FIG. 2 but with parts thereof broken away and certain parts in section to further more clearly show internal parts of the apparatus of FIG. 2;

FIG. 5 is a sectional view looking in the direction of the arrows 5–5 in FIG. 3;

FIG. 6 is a sectional view looking in the direction of the arrows 6–6 in FIG. 3;

FIG. 7 is a sectional view looking in the direction of the arrows 7–7 in FIG. 3;

FIG. 8 is a sectional view looking in the direction of the arrows 8–8 in FIG. 3;

FIG. 9 is a sectional view looking in the direction of the arrows 9–9 in FIG. 3;
FIG. 10 is a sectional view looking in the direction of the arrows 10–10 in FIG. 3; 5
FIG. 11 is a sectional view looking in the direction of the arrows 11–11 in FIG. 3; 6
FIG. 12 is a sectional view looking in the direction of the arrows 12–12 in FIG. 3; 5
FIG. 13 is a sectional view looking in the direction of the arrows 13–13 in FIG. 3; 5
FIG. 14 is a sectional view looking in the direction of the arrows 14–14 in FIG. 3; and 10
FIG. 15 is a composite fragmentary elevational view of each of three series of slides removed from the apparatus of FIG. 1, the indicating slides of each of said slide series being shown, for a more clear understanding of the exact configurations of said slides and the particular relationships of certain symbols indicated thereon. 5

DESCRIPTION OF THE BEST EMBODIMENT  
CONTEMPLATED 10

Referring to the drawings, an embodiment of apparatus incorporating the principles of the present invention is illustrated, said apparatus being particularly adapted for visually indicating three related symbol groups in a particular manner for the determination and study of philosophical oracle responses according to the ancient wisdom and philosophy of I Ching, the basic principle thereof being hereinbefore discussed. As shown in the drawings, the apparatus includes a main boxlike frame generally indicated at 20 and having an upper or front wall 22, a lower or rear wall 24, generally longitudinally extending edges 26 and 28, and generally transversely extending edges 30 and 32. The frame front and rear walls 22 and 24 are spaced apart so as to form a hollow interior as shown. A drawer 34 is longitudinally slidably mounted through the transversely extending edge 30 between the front and rear walls 22 and 24 and adjacent the longitudinally extending edge 26, said drawer having three circular receptacles 36 wherein for the storage of three coins 38 which are preferably replicas of Chinese coins. Each of the coins 38 has Chinese characters 40 on the opposite sides thereof, the one character being that for the numeral “2” and the other for the numeral “3.” Thus, as previously discussed, the three coins 38 may be shaken in the cupped hands and dropped onto a flat surface, the additions of the exposed equivalent numerals always equaling one of the totals six, seven, eight or nine for the selection of the respectively equivalent moving Yin line, firm Yang line, firm Yin line and moving Yang line. 5

As best seen in FIGS. 3 and 4, a first series of six slides generally indicated at 42 is mounted within the hollow frame 20 between the front and rear walls 22 and 24. This first series of slides 42 is formed by a first slide 44, a second slide 46, a third slide 48, a fourth slide 50, a fifth slide 52 and a sixth or last slide 54, all of which are longitudinally slideable in the frame 20 and generally transversely aligned. As shown by a comparison of the sectional views of FIGS. 9 through 13, however, transversely adjacent of the first series of slides 42 are positioned within the frame 20 at different levels or distances between the front and rear walls 22 and 24 for a purpose to be hereinafter more apparent, said slides being retained aligned within the frame for their individual longitudinal movements by appropriate partitions 56 and secured operating tabs or buttons 58. 5

The operating tabs 58 extend upwardly from their particular of the first series of slides 42 for exposure above the frame front wall 22 having reduced portions extending through longitudinally extending slots 60 in the frame front wall. Furthermore, each of the operating tabs 58 is appropriately marked with one of the numerals 1 through 6 to properly identify its particular first through sixth slide 44 through 54. As shown in FIG. 3 and in plan layout in FIG. 15, the operating tabs 58 are secured to each of the first series of slides 42 at the right-hand longitudinal ends thereof as viewed in FIG. 3 and longitudinally adjacent the operating tabs, each of this first series of 5
slides is formed imprinted or marked or otherwise indicated at the upper or front surfaces 62 thereof with two basic Yin line symbols, a moving Yin line symbol 64 and a firm Yin line 66, longitudinally followed by two basic Yang line symbols, a moving Yang line symbol 68 and a firm Yang line symbol 70. Such plural symbol indication on each of the first series of slides 42, therefore, consists of a pair of the basic Yin line symbols and a pair of the basic Yang line symbols in order from the operating tabs 58, each pair being subdivided into subsymbols of moving following by firm line symbols. A series of six indicating windows 72, designated as “synchronic,” are formed through the frame front wall 22, said windows being transversely aligned and directly overlying the individual of the first series of slides 42, there being one window for each slide. As can be seen in FIGS. 2 and 3, when the slides of the first series of slides 42 are moved completely to the right with the operating tabs 58 thereof at the right hand end of the longitudinal slots 60, blank portions of the slides are longitudinally aligned with the indicating windows 72 so that none of the symbols 64 through 70 are visually indicated. When, however, one of the operating tabs 58 is caused to be moved to traverse alignment with the numeral 7 inscribed on the frame front wall 22, that slide indicates the firm Yang line symbol 70 through its indicating window 72, when moved to the numeral 9 it indicates the moving Yang line symbol 68, when moved to the numeral 8 it indicates the firm Yin line symbol 66, and when moved to the numeral 6 it indicates the moving Yin line symbol 64, thereby visually indicating the appropriate symbols of the appropriate basic symbols as determined or selected by the coins 38. 25

Again as shown in FIG. 3 and in plan layout in FIG. 15, a second series of slides 74 is mounted in the frame 20 beneath the front wall 22, said second series consisting in order of a first slide 76, a second slide 78, a third slide 80, a fourth slide 82, a fifth slide 84 and a sixth slide 86. Each of the second series of slides 74 have longitudinally adjacent on front surfaces thereof a pair of basic Yin line symbols 88 joined by a pair of basic Yang line symbols 90 in the same order as the on the slides of the first series of slides 42. Thus, the second series of slides 74 has the same order of symbols thereon as the first series of slides 42, the only difference being that only the basic symbols are indicated without subdividing into the moving and firm sub symbols for the reason that such subdivision is not important to this second series of slides as will be hereinafter more fully explained. 35

A second series of six indicating windows 94 is appropriately positioned in transverse alignment similar to the first series of indicating windows 72, this second series of indicating windows being designated on the frame front wall as “nuclear” and there being one window aligned with each of the second series of slides 74 as before. Most important, and as can be determined from FIGS. 3 and 15, the first slide 44 of the first series is not connected to any of the second series of slides 74, the second slide 46 of the first series is secured, preferably integral, with the first slide 76 of the second series, the third slide 48 of the first series secured with the second and fourth slides 78 and 82 of the second series, the fourth slide 50 of the first series secured with the third and fifth slides 80 and 84 of the second series, the fifth slide 52 of the first series secured with the sixth slide 86 of the second series, and the sixth slide 54 of the first series not being connected with any of the second series of slides. As shown in FIG. 3 and FIGS. 5 through 8, this unique securement or connection between various of the first and second series of slides 42 and 74 is accomplished by widening certain of the slides of the second series, by connecting certain others while retaining the same spaced apart by forming other slides integral with each other and by positioning certain of said slides overlying others of said slides, the total result being that the various of the first series of slides 42 are properly connected to the second series of slides 74 as described. As also shown in FIG. 3, the various symbols of the second series of slides 74 are properly longitudinally positioned rela-
tive to the second series of indicating windows 94 or nuclear indicating windows, and relative to the symbols of the first series of slides 42 and their synchronic indicating windows 72 so that when one of the second through fifth of the first series of slides 42 is not visually indicating a symbol through one of the synchronic indicating windows 72, its connected slide or slides of the second series of slides 74 is not indicating a symbol through one of the nuclear indicating windows 94. At the same time, however, when one of the second through fifth slides of the first series of slides 42 is moved longitudinally by the operating tab 58 thereof to visually indicate one of the basic symbols through one of the synchronic indicating windows 72, its connected slide or slides of the second series of slides 74 is simultaneously and automatically moved to indicate the same basic symbol through one of the nuclear indicating windows 94. As previously pointed out, the symbols indicated through the synchronic indicating windows 72 are basic symbols subdivided into subsymbols, but the symbols indicated through the nuclear indicating windows 94 are merely the same basic symbols, such subdividing not being necessary for the nuclear visual indications as will hereinafter explained.

Thus, with the particular slide connections as described, visual indication by the first slide 44 of the first series does not bring a consequent visual indication by the second series. Visual indication of the second slide 46 of the first series brings an identical basic symbol indication by the first slide 76 of the second series, a visual indication by the third slide 48 of the first series brings an identical basic symbol indication by the second and fourth slide 78 and 82 of the second series, a visual indication by the fourth slide 50 of the first series brings an identical visual basic symbol indication by the third and fifth slides 80 and 84 of the second series, and visual indication by the fifth slide 52 of the first series brings an identical visual basic symbol indication on the sixth slide 86 of the second series. A visual indication of the sixth slide 54 of the first series does not result in any indication on the second series of slides 74.

Referring to FIG. 4 and as shown in plan layout in FIG. 15, a third series of slides 96 are longitudinally mounted in the frame 20 preferably rearwardly aligned with the first series of slides 42, one each of the three series preferably being formed integral with one each of the first series. The third series of slides consists, therefore, of a first slide 98 simultaneously movable with the first slide 44 of the first series, a second slide 100 simultaneously movable with the second slide 46 of the first series, a third slide 102 simultaneously movable with the third slide 48 of the first series, a fourth slide 104 simultaneously movable with the fourth slide 50 of the first series, a fifth slide 106 simultaneously movable with the fifth slide 52 of the first series, and a sixth slide 108 simultaneously movable with the sixth slide 54 of the first series.

Each of the slides of the third series 96 is formed on a rear surface 110 thereof with the same pairs of basic Yin and Yang line symbols 112 and 114, such symbols being again longitudinally adjacent. Different from the first series of slides 42, the symbols of the slides of this third series of slides 96 are in the order of a Yang line symbol, two Yin line symbols and a Yang line symbol starting from the right-hand end of this third series of slides as viewed in FIGS. 4 and 15, the consequences of which will be pointed out.

The rear surfaces 110 of the third series of slides 96 directly overlie the frame rear wall 24 and the third series of transparently aligned indicating windows 116 are formed through said frame rear wall, this being designated as "changed." These changed indicating windows 116 are preferably exactly aligned with the corresponding synchronic indicating windows 72 on the frame front wall 22 and with the symbols 112 and 114 of the third series of slides 96 responding to the symbols 64, 66, 68 and 70 of the first series of slides 42, a corresponding one of the symbols of the third series of slides will be visually indicated through one of the changed indicating windows simultaneously and automatically with the indication of one of the symbols of the first series of slides being indicated through one of the synchronic indicating windows 72. The basic difference between the third series of slides 96 and the first series of slides 42 is, however, the difference in order of certain of the basic Yin and Yang line symbols, such difference being clearly evident from the plan layout in FIG. 15 wherein the front surfaces 62 of the slides of the first series of slides 42 are exposed and the rear surfaces 110 of the slides of the third series of slides 96 are exposed.

Referring to FIG. 15, and comparing one of the third series of slides 96 with its corresponding of the first series of slides 42, the moving Yin line symbol or subsymbol 64 of the first series slide corresponds with one of the basic Yang line symbols 114 of the second series slide, the firm Yin line symbol 66 of the first series corresponds with one of the basic Yin line symbols 112 of the second series, the moving Yang line symbol 68 of the first series corresponds with one of the basic Yin line symbols of the second series, and the firm Yang line symbol 70 of the first series corresponds with one of the basic Yang line symbols of the second series. Thus, when the moving Yin line 64 is visually indicated on one of the first series of slides 42, it is automatically converted to a basic Yang line symbol 114 for visual indication on the corresponding of the third series of slides 96, and when the moving Yang line symbol 68 is visually indicated on one of the first series it is automatically converted to a basic Yin line symbol 112 for visual indication on the corresponding of the third series. Visual indication of either of the firm Yin or Yang line symbols 66 or 70 on one of the first series of slides 42 results in an identical indication on the corresponding of the third series of slides 96.

As previously discussed with reference to the wisdom and philosophy of I Ching, each series of six symbols visually indicated by each of the first, second and third series of slides 42, 74 and 96, is termed by me "a sexaline," the first through third symbols making up a lower "trilineal" and the fourth through sixth symbols making up an upper trilineal. Considering only the basic Yin and Yang line symbols and without regard to them being moving or firm as visually indicated at the synchronic indicating window 72, all of the eight possible trilineals are marked on the frame front wall 22 as shown in FIG. 1, equally spaced circumferentially about the periphery of a circular, rotatable indexing dial 118. Also, these same eight trilineals are marked on the indexing dial 118 radially adjacent the periphery thereof and equally circumferentially spaced so that the trilineals stationary on the frame and movable with the indexing dial are radially alignable.

A series of indexing dial windows 120 are formed through the indexing dial 118, there being one of said windows radially aligned with each of the trilineals on the indexing dial, but each of said windows being positioned a different radial distance from the center of rotation of the indexing dial. When any given upper trilineal on the frame front wall 22 is aligned with any lower trilineal on the indexing dial 118 by the proper rotation of the indexing dial, an appropriate oracle response index number (not shown) is exposed through the indexing dial window 120 radially aligned with the aligned upper and lower trilineals, which, according to I Ching, may be equated to a particular specific philosophical oracle response in a book of oracle responses (not shown) derived from I Ching.

In use of the apparatus shown and described, and according to the teachings and philosophy of I Ching, the person using the apparatus concentrates on the problem or circumstance to be studied and solved while manipulating the coins 38 in the manner previously described to select each of the moving or firm Yin or Yang line symbols 64, 66, 68 or 70 and progressively sets up each of the first series of slides 42 to ultimately visually indicate the proper synchronic sexaline through the synchronic indicating windows 72. Simultaneously therewith, both third series being clearly compared by the plan layout 15, the changed sexaline is automatically indicated through the changed indicating windows 116, the latter being of consequence only if the synchronic sexaline contains any of the
moving Yin or Yang line symbols 64 or 68. According to the particular slide and line symbol arrangement previously described, the synchrohaxialine indicated at the synchrohaxialine windows 72 is automatically converted and visually indicated as a nuclear synchrohaxialine at the nuclear indicating windows 94 and, if the synchrohaxialine contains any of the moving Yin or Yang line symbols, such moving symbols are converted to opposite Yin or Yang line symbols for the indication of the changed synchrohaxialine at the changed indicating windows 116, otherwise there will be no changed synchrohaxialine in view of it being the same as the synchrohaxialine.

Each of the synchrohaxialine, changed and nuclear synchrohaxialines may be set up by the proper rotation of the indexing dial 118, placing the upper trilinear in radial alignment with the lower trilinear by such indexing dial rotation. The proper oracle response indexing number will thereby be read through the indexing dial window 120 radially aligned with such synchrohaxialine and in this manner the proper oracle response determined in the book of oracle responses for study in solving the problem or making a proper decision under the set of circumstances.

According to the present invention, therefore, an apparatus is provided carrying out a particular unique method whereby a first series of symbols may be determined and visually indicated, and simultaneously therewith a second series of symbols altered according to predetermined rules is automatically visually indicated. Furthermore, still another or third series of symbols may also be automatically visually indicated simultaneously with the visual indication of the first group of symbols, said third group of symbols being altered from the first according to predetermined rules when the first group of symbols contains certain forms of symbols. As a result of the application of the principles of the present invention, certain conversions are automatically carried out in a single series of operations which heretofore have required a multiplicity of said series of operations with the addition of both mental and manual operating steps.

I claim:

1. A method of indicating certain related individual groups of symbols taken from a preset series of groups of said symbols, each individual group of said symbols having a predetermined meaning, the steps of: selecting one symbol out of a plurality of individually different symbols by means of chance by use of symbol selecting means; visually indicating by use of a first indicating means said one selected symbol out of said plurality of individually different symbols; selecting certain of the same and others of the said plurality of individually different symbols by means of chance by use of said symbol selecting means; repeating said visual indication by use of said first indicating means of said selected certain of the same and others of said symbols taken from said same plurality of said symbols finally resulting in a visual indication by use of said first indicating means of a first group of said symbols taken from a series of preset symbol groups with each group having the same number of said symbols therein; simultaneously with the visual indication by use of said first indicating means of certain of said symbols of said first group, at least twice visually indicating by use of a second indicating means said certain symbols to form parts of a second group taken from said series of preset symbol groups; and simultaneously with the visual indication by use of said first indicating means of certain others of said symbols of said first group, singularly indicating by use of said second indicating means said certain other symbols to form other parts of said second group, said twice indicated and said singularly indicated symbols completing said second group whereby said second group is formed by only a determined part of said first group.

2. The method of indicating as defined in claim 1 in which said steps of selecting said symbol for each of said visual indications to form said first group include selecting from a plurality of two basic individually different symbols by chance through use of said symbol selecting means, in which said steps of visually indicating said symbols for said first group includes the steps of visually indicating six symbols for said first group and arranging said symbols in said first group in order from first to sixth during use of said first indicating means; in which said step of simultaneously with the visual indication of certain said symbols of said first group, at least twice visually indicating said certain symbols includes the steps of simultaneously with the visual indication of the third symbol of said first group, twice visually indicating said third symbol of said first group as a second and fourth symbol in order in said second group during use of said second indicating means, and simultaneously with the visual indication of said fourth symbol of said first group, indicating said fourth symbol of said first group as a third and fifth symbol in order in said second group during use of said second indicating means; in which said step of simultaneously with the visual indication of certain others of said symbols of said first group, singularly indicating said certain other symbols includes the steps of simultaneously with the visual indication of the second symbol of said first group, singularly indicating said second symbol of said first group as a first symbol in order of said second group during use of said second indicating means, and simultaneously with the visual indication of the fifth symbol of said first group, singularly indicating said fifth symbol of said first group as the sixth symbol of said second group during use of said second indicating means; and in which said method includes the steps of searching out and equating said first and second groups of symbols after the visual indication thereof to specific keyed philosophical oracles determined by a specific order of said symbols in said groups and using a predetermined schedule of different orders of symbols in groups keyed equivalent to different oracles.

3. The method of indicating as defined in claim 1 in which said steps of selecting said symbol for each of said visual indications to form said first group include selecting from a plurality of two basic individually different symbols by chance through use of said symbol selecting means; in which said steps of visually indicating said symbols for said first group includes the steps of visually indicating six symbols for said first group and arranging said symbols in said first group in order from first to sixth during use of said first indicating means; in which said step of simultaneously with the visual indication of certain said symbols of said first group, at least twice visually indicating said certain symbols includes the steps of simultaneously with the visual indication of the third symbol of said first group, twice visually indicating said third symbol of said first group as a second and fourth symbol in order in said second group during use of said second indicating means, and simultaneously with the visual indication of said fourth symbol of said first group, indicating said fourth symbol of said first group as a third and fifth symbol in order in said second group during use of said second indicating means; in which said step of simultaneously with the visual indication of certain others of said symbols of said first group, singularly indicating said certain other symbols includes the steps of simultaneously with the visual indication of the second symbol of said first group, singularly indicating said second symbol of said first group as a first symbol in order of said second group during use of said second indicating means, and simultaneously with the visual indication of the fifth symbol of said first group, singularly indicating said fifth symbol of said first group as the sixth symbol of said second group during use of said second indicating means; and in which said method includes the steps of searching out and equating said first and second groups of symbols after the visual indication thereof to specific keyed philosophical oracles determined by a specific order of said symbols in said groups and using a predetermined schedule of different orders of symbols in groups keyed equivalent to different oracles.
said first group as the sixth symbol of said second group during use of said second indicating means; in which said method includes the further step of simultaneously with the visual indication of each of said symbols of said first group, visually indicating by use of a third indicating means a corresponding symbol to form a part of said third group taken from said series of preset symbol groups, said corresponding symbol being different in basic symbol form from said first group symbol when said first group symbol is one of certain subsymbols of said plurality of symbols and with said corresponding symbol being the same in basic symbol form as said first group symbol when said first group symbol is not one of said certain subsymbols of said plurality of symbols; and in which said method includes the steps of after said visual indication of said first and second and third groups of symbols, searching out and equating said first and second and third groups of symbols to specific keyed philosophical oracles determined by the specific symbol orders of basic symbols in said first and second and third groups and using a predetermined schedule of different order basic symbols groups key equivalent to different oracles.

5. In a method of indicating certain related individual groups of symbols taken from a preset series of groups of said symbols, each individual group of said symbols having a predetermined meaning, the steps of: selecting one symbol out of a plurality of individually different symbols by means of chance by use of symbol selecting means; visually indicating by use of a first indicating means said one selected symbol out of said plurality of individually different symbols; selecting certain of the same and others of the said plurality of individually different symbols by means of chance by use of said symbol selecting means; repeating said visual indication by use of said first indicating means of said selected certain of the same and others of said symbols taken from said same plurality of said symbols finally resulting in a visual indication of a first group of said symbols taken from a series of preset symbol groups with each group having the same number of said symbols thereon; and simultaneously with the visual indication of each of said symbols of said first group, visually indicating by use of a second indicating means a corresponding symbol to form a part of a second group taken from said series of preset symbol groups with said corresponding symbol being different from said first group symbol when said first group symbol is one of certain of said plurality of symbols and with said corresponding symbol being the same as said first group symbol when said first group symbol is not one of said certain of said plurality of symbols.

6. The method of indicating as defined in claim 5 in which said steps of selecting said symbol for each visual indication for said first group include selecting from a plurality of four individually different symbols by means of chance by use of said symbol selecting means; in which said steps of visually indicating said symbols for said first group include the steps of visually indicating six symbols in order of selection for forming said first group during use of said first indicating means; in which said steps of simultaneously visually indicating said corresponding symbols to form said second group include the steps of visually indicating said corresponding symbols in order during use of said second indicating means; and in which said method includes the further steps of searching out and equating said first and second groups of symbols to specific keyed philosophical oracles determined by the specific orders of symbols in said groups and using a predetermined schedule of different order groups key equivalent to different oracles.

7. In a device for visually indicating certain related individual groups of determined symbols taken from a preset series of groups of said symbols, each individual group of said symbols having a predetermined meaning, the combination of: a frame; a series of movable first symbol visual indicators on said frame each having the same plurality of the same basic individually different symbols operably associated therewith and visually individually indicatable thereby as determined by movement thereof, said series of said first symbol indicators being equal in number to the number of said symbols in each of a series of preset symbol groups with each group having the same number of said symbols therein; first moving means operably connected to each of said first symbol indicators for individually moving said each of said first symbol indicators to visually indicate one of said symbols as selected according to a previous ordered determination, said first symbol indicators after said individual movements visually indicating as a series one of said symbol groups; a series of movable second symbol visual indicators on said main frame equal in number to said series of said first symbol indicators and each having the same plurality of said basic symbols operably associated therewith and visually individually indicatable thereby as determined by movement thereof; and second moving means operably connected to said first moving means for simultaneously moving at least two of said second symbol indicators with movement of certain single of said first symbol indicators and simultaneously moving only single certain others of said second symbol indicators with movement of single others of said first symbol indicators, at least certain of said first symbol indicators being movable without consequent movement of any of said second symbol indicators, said second symbol indicators after said movements visually indicating as a series one of said symbol groups.

8. A device for visually indicating as defined in claim 7 in which each of said series of first and second symbol indicators includes a movable slide and a stationary indicator on said frame cooperate with said slide.

9. A device for visually indicating as defined in claim 7 in which said series of first symbol indicators includes a series of longitudinally extending and longitudinally movable slides on said frame, said slides having said plurality of individually different symbols formed thereon positioned longitudinally adjacent along said slide; and in which said series of second symbol indicators includes a series of longitudinally extending and longitudinally movable slides, said slides having said plurality of said individually different symbols formed thereon longitudinally adjacent along said slides.

10. A device for visually indicating as defined in claim 7 in which said series of first symbol indicators and said series of second symbol indicators each include a series of slides on said frame, said first symbol indicator slides being generally aligned, said second symbol indicator slides being generally aligned, said second symbol indicator slides being secured to and slideable with certain of said first symbol indicator slides with said second moving means being constituted by secured slide parts between said first and second symbol indicator slides, said second moving means being operably connected to said first moving means through said first symbol indicator slides, said series of first symbol indicator slides cooperating with a series of windows in said frame to visually indicate said symbols, said series of second symbol indicator slides cooperating with a series of windows in said frame to visually indicate said symbols.

11. A device for visually indicating as defined in claim 7 in which said series of first symbol indicators include a series of generally laterally adjacent and longitudinally extending slides longitudinally slidably movable on said frame, said same plurality of said same individually different basic symbols being formed on each of said slides, a series of laterally aligned windows on said frame, each window being longitudinally aligned with one of said slides and permitting indication of said slide symbols therethrough one at a time during longitudinal movement of said slides, and in which said series of second symbol indicators include a series of generally laterally aligned and longitudinally extending slides longitudinally movably mounted on said frame, each of said slides having said same plurality of said same individually different basic symbols formed thereon longitudinally adjacent along said slide, a series of laterally aligned windows in said frame, one of said windows being longitudinally aligned with each of said slides and permitting indication of said slide symbols therethrough one at
a time upon longitudinal movement of said slides, each of said series of second symbol indicator slides being secured to certain of said first symbol indicator slides with said second moving means being constituted by secured slide parts and said second moving means being operably connected to said first moving means through said first symbol indicator slide.

12. A device for visually indicating as defined in claim 7 in which said series of first symbol indicators include a series of generally laterally adjacent and longitudinally extending slides longitudinally slidably movable on said frame, said same plurality of said same individually different basic symbols being formed on each of said slides, a series of laterally aligned windows on said frame, each window being longitudinally aligned with one of said slides and permitting indication of said slide symbols therethrough one at a time upon longitudinal movement of said slides; in which said series of second symbol indicator slides being secured to certain of said first symbol indicator slides with said second moving means constituted by secured slide parts and said second moving means being operably connected to said first moving means through said first symbol indicator slide; in which each of said series of said first and second symbol indicator slides are formed through an upper wall of said frame; and in which at least portions of said second and fourth slides of said second series are spaced from said frame upper wall a different distance than at least certain portions of said third and fifth slides of said second series.

14. A device of visually indicating as defined in claim 7 in which said plurality of said basic symbols of said first symbol indicators is formed by at least two basic symbols at least each once repeated, certain of said basic symbols each being subdivided into at least two subsymbols while still being identifiable as that particular basic symbol; in which a series of movable third symbol visual indicators are on said main frame equal in number of said series of said first symbol indicators and each having the same plurality of said basic symbols operably associated therewith and visually individually indicable thereby as determined by movement thereof; and in which third moving means is operably connected to said first moving means for simultaneously moving each of said third symbol indicators upon movement of a corresponding of said first symbol indicators to visually indicate a different of said basic symbols on said each third symbol indicator from that then being indicated on its said corresponding first symbol indicator indicating one of said second subsymbols and to visually indicate the same of said basic symbols on said each third symbol indicator as that then being indicated on its corresponding first symbol indicator in the event said corresponding first symbol indicator is indicating others of said subsymbols different from said certain subsymbols, said third symbol indicators after said movements visually indicating as a series one of said symbol groups.

15. A device for visually indicating as defined in claim 7 in which said plurality of said basic symbols of said first symbol indicators is formed by at least two basic symbols at least each once repeated, certain of said basic symbols each being subdivided into at least two subsymbols while still being identifiable as that particular basic symbol; in which a series of movable third symbol visual indicators are on said main frame equal in number to said series of said first symbol indicators and each having the same plurality of said basic symbols operably associated therewith and visually individually indicable thereby as determined by movement thereof; and in which third moving means is operably connected to said first moving means for simultaneously moving each of said third symbol indicators upon movement of a corresponding of said first symbol indicators to visually indicate a different of said basic symbols on said each third symbol indicator from that then being indicated on its said corresponding first symbol indicator indicating one of said second subsymbols and to visually indicate the same of said basic symbols on said each third symbol indicator as that then being indicated on its corresponding first symbol indicator in the event said corresponding first symbol indicator is indicating others of said subsymbols different from said certain subsymbols, said third symbol indicators after said movements visually indicating as a series one of said symbol groups.
16. A device for visually indicating as defined in claim 7 in which said plurality of said basic symbols of said first symbol indicators is formed by at least two basic symbols at least each once repeated, certain of said basic symbols each being subdivided into at least two subsymbols while still being identifiable as that particular basic symbol; in which a series of moveable third symbol visual indicators are on said main frame equal in number of said series of said first symbol indicators and each having the same plurality of said basic symbols operably associated therewith and visually individually indicatable thereby as determined by movement thereof; and in which third moving means is operably connected to said first moving means for simultaneously moving each of said third symbol indicators upon movement of a corresponding of said first symbol indicators to visually indicate a different of said basic symbols on said each third symbol indicator from that then being indicated on its said corresponding first symbol indicator in the event said corresponding first symbol indicator is indicating one of certain of said subsymbols and to visually indicate the same of said basic symbols on said each third symbol indicator as that then being indicated on its corresponding first symbol indicator in the event said corresponding first symbol indicator is indicating others of said subsymbols different from said certain subsymbols, said third symbol indicators after said movements visually indicating a series one of said symbol groups; in which each of said series of first and second and third symbol indicators includes a series of slides moveable on said frame, each of said second series slides being secured to certain of said first series slides with said second moving means being constituted by secured slide parts and being operably connected to said first moving means through said certain first series slides, said first and second series slides each having said same plurality of said same individually different basic symbols formed on upper surfaces thereof and indicatable through windows formed upwardly through an upper wall of said frame, said third series slides each being secured to and beneath a different one of said first series slides with said third moving means being constituted by secured slide parts and being operably connected to said first moving means through said first series slides, said third series slides each having said same plurality of said same individually different basic symbols formed on lower surfaces thereof indicatable downwardly through downwardly opening windows in a lower wall of said frame, and in which each of said first and second and third series of symbol indicator slides is constituted by six slides identifiable in order from first to sixth, each of said slides of each of said series being longitudinally movable on said frame and said slides of each series being generally laterally adjacent one another, the second slide of said second series, the third slide of said first being secured to the second and fourth slides of said second series, the fourth slide of said first series being secured to the third and fifth slides of said second series, the fifth slide of said first series being secured to said sixth slide of said second series.