

P22

TOM:

2/25/18

"THE OWL"

PER THE INFORMATION SHEETS, THIS WAS PURCHASED BY FR. BOLDUC AND WE ENJOYED PLAYING WITH IT. IT WAS QUITE NICE.

LIKE LOTS OF HIS THINGS HE SOLD IT, AND I BELIEVE IT IS IN LAS VAGAS WHERE IT SHOULD BE, AND USED THE MONIES FOR THE CHURCH.

*Prayer. Evers*

## UPRIGHT OWL SLOT MACHINE

This particular model of *The Owl* bearing the *Mills Trademark*, although not excessively rare, is in perfect working condition. The desirability of this particular machine is its pedigree and its unusual features. Seldom, if ever, has a gaming machine been offered in such pristine condition including the following:

### Original Manufacturer's Shipping Crate

*The Owl* (Box #6238) comes complete with the original shipping crate in which it was sent from the manufacturer to Portsmouth, New Hampshire and on to the Weirs, New Hampshire. It is believed that this is the first time that a machine of this vintage has ever been sold with its original shipping crate. The rope handles on the crate are still intact as are the stenciling on the crate which reads, Glass Handle With Care and Huntington Bay.

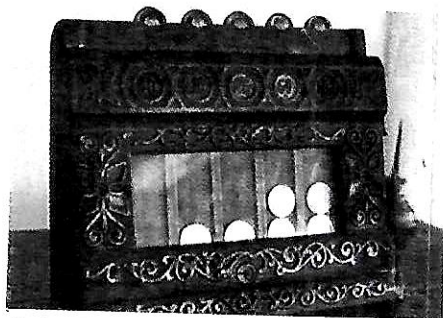
### Original Shipping Labels

Attached to the shipping crate are the original American Express labels showing that the machine was sent C.O.D. with a cash on delivery charge of \$205.00.

### Manufacturer Inspection Sticker

Attached to the interior frame of the machine's works is the original factory inspection sticker which indicates that the machine was manufactured on June 7th and that the first part was installed by T. Weiland. A complete copy of the sticker follows:

Date: 7 June  
Box No. 6238  
Key No.  
1st Part: T. Weiland  
2nd Part: Berndt  
3rd Part:  
4th Part: Schoggerle  
5th Part: Ortner  
6th Part: Mon  
Inspector:  
Date of Inspection:



Coin slot on Owl #6238 showing sperm whale oil can on right.

### Oil Can For Sperm Whale Oil

According to the instructions, *The Owl* slot machine is to be oiled only with *sperm whale oil*. The original sperm whale oil can provided with the machine by the manufacturer is included in this sale. (see illustration)

### Original Instruction and Parts Order Sheet and Operating Instruction and Wrench

Attached to the interior of the removable side panel are the original operating instructions which are still clearly readable. Of interest is the fact that the instructions include directives on what to do if the machine pays too freely. "... put in more

plugs — but don't have all the plugs in at once . . . ."

### The Mills Trademark

On either side of the front of the viewing disk are the original paper stickers showing the Mills Trademark in red and yellow with black lettering. Most machines lack these stickers that have been removed by cleaning, repair or restoration. The two original stickers on Machine #6238 are in mint condition.

Included with the machine are two rare first day covers commemorating the 100th anniversary of the steamer, Mount Washington. One first day cover is cancelled with the R.P.O. (Railway Post Office) cancellation and the R.M.S. (Railroad Mail Service) cancellation. It was cancelled on the Sophie C, the only official floating post office in the world authorized by an act of Congress. The cancellation was made by Mr. Edward Lavallee, now 90 years old, who was the postmaster on the Lake for 48 years. A rare bronze medal (#107) commemorating the

event is also included. The medal depicts the steamer Mt. Washington and contains the following inscription:

#### Obverse

Queen of the Lake  
Steamer Mt. Washington  
Built - Alton Bay, N.H.  
Destroyed by fire  
The Weirs, N.H.  
Dec. 22, 1939



Medal of Mt. Washington #107

#### Reverse

This medal struck to commemorate the one hundredth anniversary of the launching of the Steamer Mount Washington, Lake Winnepesaukee, N.H. In conjunction with the meeting of the Steamship Historical Society of America at the Weirs, July 1, 1972  
1872 - 1972

### History Of The Upright Owl Slot Machine #6238

This particular machine was ordered by the Boston and Maine Railroad Line for their luxury steamer Mount Washington, a pleasure boat which became quite famous for its cruises on Lake Winnepesaukee (Smile of the Great Spirit) in the heart of the Lakes Region in New Hampshire's vacation land. The Mount Washington was built by the famous shipbuilding firm of Smith and Townsend of East Boston, Mass. and launched in the spring of 1872. She had a length of 178 feet and a beam of 49 feet and 4 inches. The Boston and Maine Railroad Line commissioned the boat and named it after New Hampshire's most famous mountain.

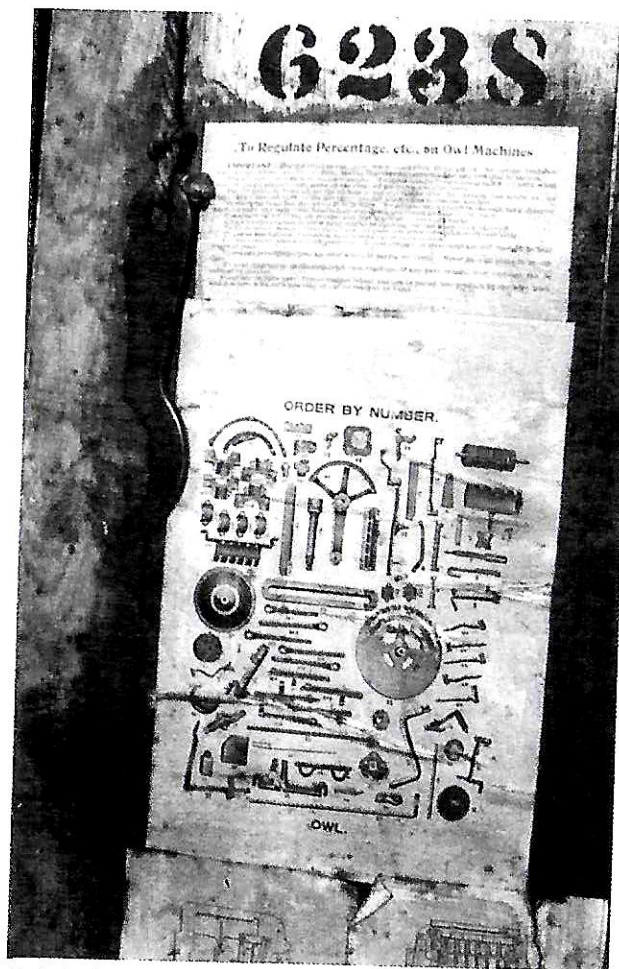
The upright slot machine was installed in the dining room and, according to those who remember the machine when it was in use on the "Mount", it provided lively entertainment for those waiting to be served.

When laws were passed prohibiting slot machines, *The Owl* was removed, returned to its original shipping crate and stored in a barn where it remained until recently, accounting for its pristine condition.

The renowned steamer Mount Washington was destroyed in a tragic fire on December 23, 1939 at the Weirs, New Hampshire. It was later replaced by the motor powered boat Mount Washington II, which still operates on Lake Winnepesaukee.

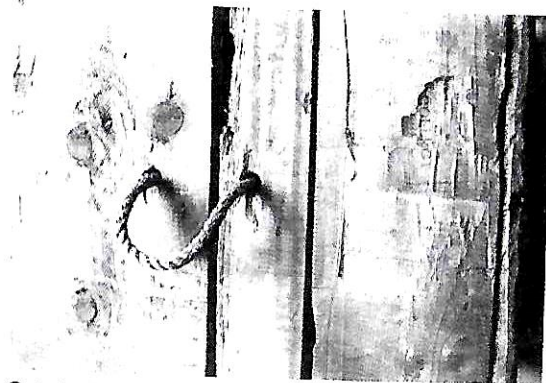
This slot machine was never known to have been repaired and care was taken to leave it in its original condition. No attempt has been made whatever to restore it. When the machine was first opened in the 1970's after some 50 years of being stored, it was found to contain a number of nickels dated 1905 - 1920 in its mechanism. Its small cloth bag, into which nickels fed to the machine were collected, was in place and contained more nickels of the same vintage.

This machine is truly a museum piece with a fascinating history and a pedigree which would make it desirable for the most discerning collector. The seller hopes its new owner will derive as much pleasure from owning it as its previous owner.

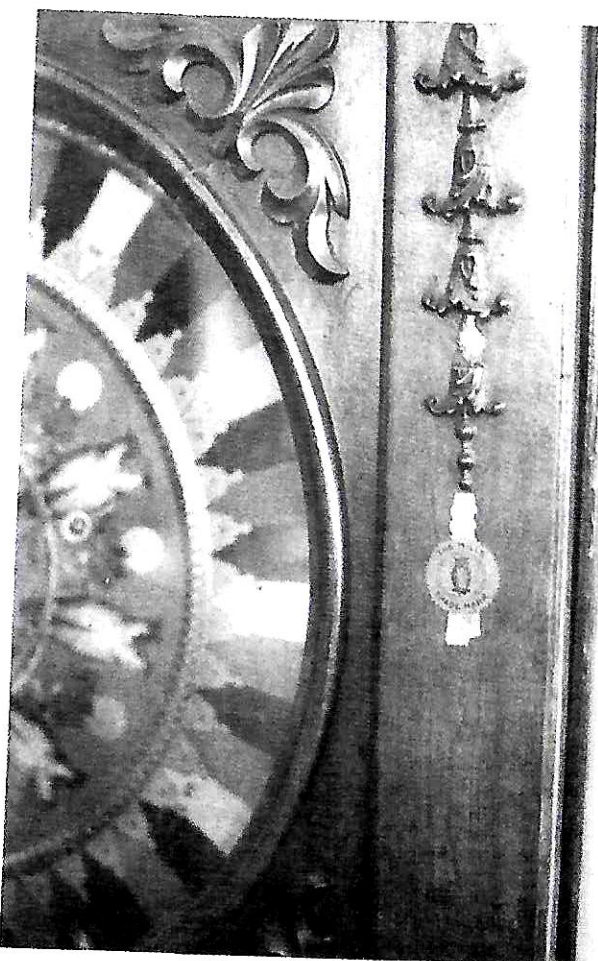


Original instructions and parts order sheet





*Original packing crate and shipping labels*



*Original The Mills Trade Mark*

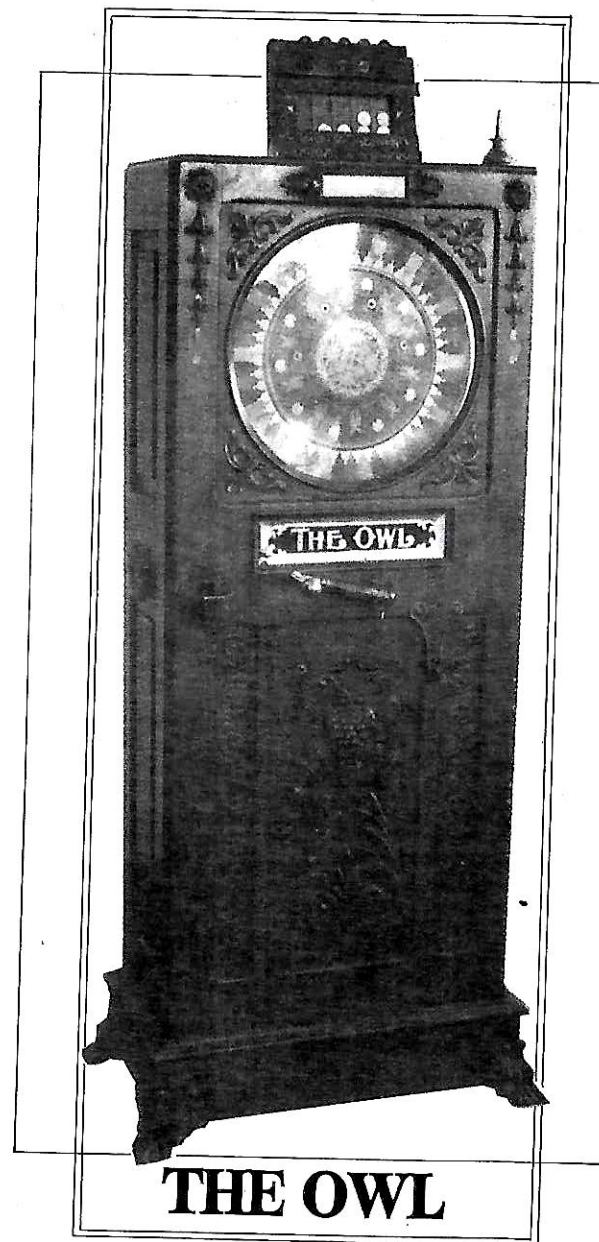


*The Owl #6328 showing case and works (note original factory inspection tag)*

**Auction at Riviera Hotel  
April 30 - May 1**

By Victorian Casino Antiques  
1421 S. Main St.  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89104  
(702) 382-2466

*Presenting an Outstanding  
and Unique  
Slot Machine*



**THE OWL**

Serial #6328  
The Mills Trade Mark  
Patented November 8, 1898