

May 30, 1944.

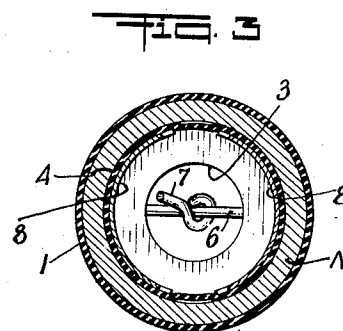
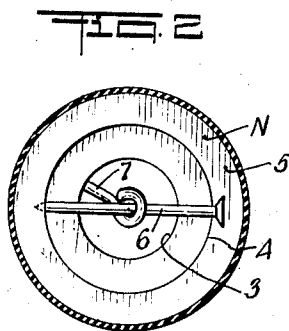
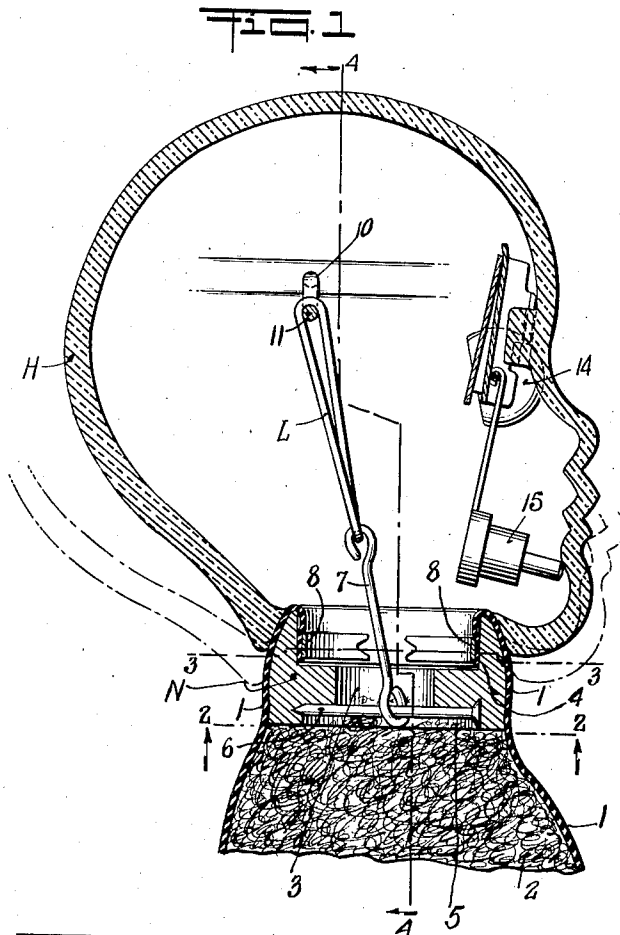
A. M. KATZ

2,350,114

HEAD CONSTRUCTION FOR DOLLS

Filed Jan. 23, 1942

2 Sheets-Sheet 1



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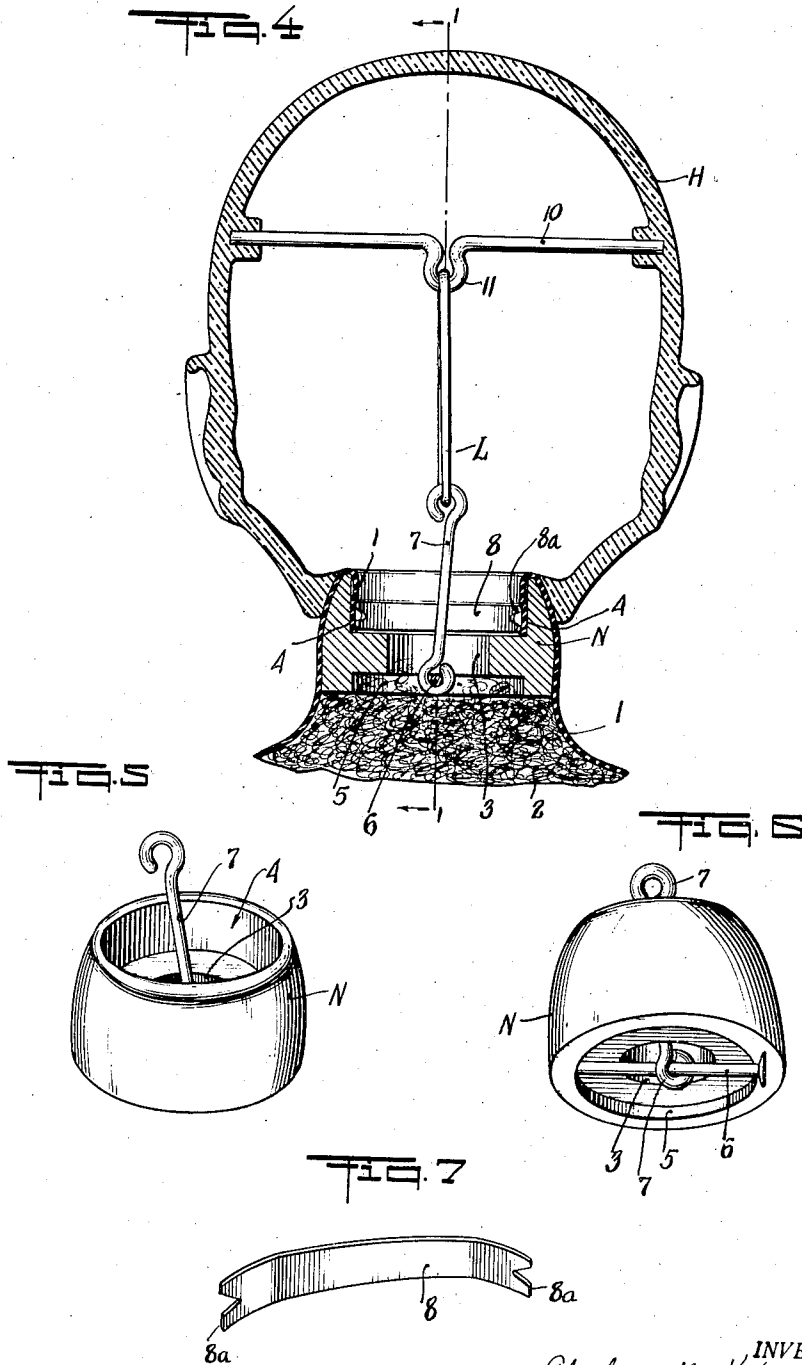
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,350,114

HEAD CONSTRUCTION FOR DOLLS

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Application January 23, 1942, Serial No. 427,865

4 Claims. (Cl. 46—173)

My invention relates to a new and improved head construction for dolls.

The principal objects of my invention are to provide a simple and efficient construction whereby the head of a doll is securely and movably assembled with a doll-body, which is preferably stuffed and which preferably has an outer skin which is made of rubber. By means of the improved construction, the head of the doll can be tilted forwards and backwards and also sideways relative to the body, and the head can also be completely rotated relative to the body.

Other objects of the invention will be stated in the annexed description and drawings.

Fig. 1 is a sectional view on the line 1—1 of Fig. 4.

Fig. 2 is a sectional view on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a sectional view on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 4 is a sectional view on the line 4—4 of Fig. 1.

Fig. 5 is a top perspective view of the neck block.

Fig. 6 is a bottom perspective view of the neck block, showing the nail 6 in its initial inclined position in which its head abuts the bottom wall of the neck block N, and before said nail is forced under pressure into the final position which is shown in Fig. 1.

Fig. 7 is a perspective view of the clamping spring.

The body of the doll is provided with an outer skin 1, which is made of flexible material, such as resilient and flexible rubber. The skin 1 is provided with a stuffing 2. The doll is of the general construction which is described in U. S. Patent No. 2,252,077 and my co-pending application Serial No. 426,075 filed on January 8, 1942.

The skin 1 is provided with a neck portion, in which a neck block N is located. This neck block N is preferably made of wood or of other relatively yieldable material, into which the nail 6 can be forced, so as to fix the nail 6 to said neck block N. For convenience, the device will be described with reference to the vertical position thereof which is shown in Figs. 1 and 4. The top of the neck block N is recessed, so as to provide a top annular flange 4. The bottom of the neck block is also recessed, in order to provide a bottom annular flange 5. The neck block is provided with a vertical bore 3.

The nail 6 is fixed to the neck block N, by means of suitable pressure. This pressure forces the head of the nail 6 and the adjacent part of

the shank of said nail, into the material of the bottom annular flange 5, so as to form a T-shaped recess. The point of the nail is preferably embedded in the longitudinal or vertical inner wall of the flange 5. As shown in Fig. 6, the head of the nail 6 can be contacted with the bottom wall of the neck block N, while the axis of the shank of said nail 6 is inclined to the axis of the bore 3. By then applying suitable pressure, the nail 6 is forced into its final position, with the point of the nail slightly embedded in the material of the neck block N.

The closed loop of a hook 7 is assembled with the shank of the nail 6, before the nail 6 is thus fixed to the neck block N. This closed loop of the hook 7 is freely slidable and turnable relative to the shank of the nail 6. The bore 3 is of sufficient transverse diameter to permit a substantial movement of the hook 7 relative to the shank of the nail 6. The drawings are substantially to scale, and reference is made thereto for further details.

The top portion of the skin 1 is bent inwardly, as shown in Fig. 1, so as to abut the inner wall of the flange 4. This inwardly turned flap of the skin 1 is held in position by means of a pair of springs 8, one of which is shown in Fig. 7. Each of these springs 8 is provided with fingers 8a, at each end thereof. These springs 8 are made of any suitable resilient metal and they are bent and forced into abutting relation with the flap of the skin 1, so that said springs 8 are frictionally retained in position. The fingers 8a of said springs preferably abut each other, so that the frictionally held springs 8 abut substantially the entire periphery of the flap of the skin 1.

This construction securely and frictionally retains the neck block N in position, and it also securely holds the flap of the skin 1 against the inner wall of the top flange 4.

The neck block N can be readily inserted through the open top of the skin 1, so as to circumferentially stretch the skin 1. The neck block N then rests upon the top of the stuffing 2, which is sufficiently firm to hold the neck block against further downward movement.

By removing the springs 8, and applying suitable upward force, the neck block can be readily removed from the skin, if this is desired at any time. Since the skin 1 is under tension, where it abuts the outer surface of the neck block N, said neck block N is thus securely held against rotating or otherwise shifting relative to the skin 1.

The head H is made of any suitable rigid ma-

terial, such as plastic or the like. The bottom of said head has a socket wall which snugly fits against the respective part of the skin 1.

The outer upstanding wall of the neck block N is upwardly tapered so that the top of the neck block is of smaller diameter than the bottom of the neck block. The longitudinal linear elements of the outer surface of the neck block are of curved and convex shape.

The head H can therefore be tilted forwards and backwards relative to the skin 1 and the neck block N, and said head can also be tilted sideways and rotated freely relative to the neck block N and the skin 1. A transverse bar 10 has its ends embedded in rigid bosses of the head H, so that the bar 10 is fixed rigidly to the head H. Said bar 10 has an open loop 11. An elastic loop L has its respective ends connected to the upper part of the hook 7 and to the open loop 11. This elastic loop L is assembled with the bar 10, before the bar 10 is fixed to the inner bosses or projections of the head H.

The head of the doll is provided with the conventional sleeping eye construction, which includes eyeball members 14 and a weight 15. This sleeping eye construction is conventional and the details thereof are therefore not described.

The stretched and elastic loop L, which can be made of rubber or other suitable material, holds the head H in assembled position with the neck block, while permitting universal movement of the head H relative to the neck block.

It is clear that a simple and convenient construction is provided for assembling the head of the doll with the body thereof.

The portion of the skin in which the neck block N is located, is designated as the neck portion of the skin. The neck block N is horizontally or laterally oversized relative to said neck portion of the skin, so that said neck portion is maintained under lateral circumferential tension, when the neck block is inserted into the neck portion of the skin. The holding means 8 can be replaced by adhesive or any other suitable holding means. While the neck block is preferably made of wood or metal or plastic or other rigid material, it may be made of yieldable and resilient material.

The skin 1 may be made of fabric or other material which has little or no resilience and numerous other changes can be made from the preferred embodiment described herein, without departing from the invention.

When I refer to a rigid neck block N, I include a neck block which is made of any material which has sufficient rigidity to maintain said neck block N in predetermined normal shape. Such material of the neck block can therefore be resilient or yieldable, if sufficient force is applied thereto.

The invention covers not only the complete combination described herein, but various sub-combinations thereof.

I claim:

1. A doll body having a skin made of elastic material, said skin having a stuffing, said skin having a neck portion, the top of said stuffing being at the bottom of said neck portion, a rigid neck block located in said neck portion, said neck block being laterally oversized relative to the neck portion of the skin, said neck portion of the

skin being laterally stretched and snugly abutting and frictionally gripping the outer wall of said neck block, said neck block being insertable into said neck portion through the top of said neck portion, said neck block having a top recess and also having a bottom recess and also having a vertical bore, a transverse holding member located in said bottom recess and embedded into the material of said neck block, said holding member being thus rigidly fixed to said neck block, a hook member which is partially located in said bore and which extends above the top of said neck member, said hook member having a loop at its bottom end, said holding member being located in said loop, said hook member being slidable and turnable relative to said holding member, the top portion of said skin being bent into the top recess of said neck block, holding means which hold the inwardly bent portion of the skin against the inner wall of said top recess, the longitudinal elements of the outer wall of said neck block being convex at the top of said neck block, a rigid head which is open at its bottom, the wall of said head at the open portion thereof abutting and interfitting the respective part of said skin, said head having a universal movement relative to said skin and to said neck block, elastic means movably connecting said head to said hook member above the top of said neck block.

2. A doll having a body which has a stuffing and a flexible skin, said skin having a neck portion which is free from said stuffing, a rigid block located in said neck portion, the inner wall of said neck portion abutting the outer wall of said block, the top of said block having a recess, a portion of said skin being bent inwardly into said recess, means securing said inwardly bent portion of the skin to the inner wall of said recess, said doll having a head which is open at its bottom, the wall of said head at its open bottom having substantially the same shape as the respective portion of the neck block and abutting the respective part of said skin, the wall of the head at its open bottom and the respective portion of the wall of the neck block being shaped so that the head is tiltable and turnable relative to the neck block, holding means maintaining the head assembled with the body, said holding means including an elastic and tensed member.

3. A doll according to claim 2 in which said holding means also include a rigid hook which engages said elastic member and a holding device which anchors the lower end of said hook to said neck block, said neck block having a bore in which a part of the hook is located, said hook being movable relative to said neck block.

4. A doll body having an outer flexible skin and interior stuffing, said skin having a top neck portion which is free from said stuffing, a rigid neck block having a bore located in said neck portion, said neck block having a recess at the bottom thereof, a holding member having a shank and a head, the point of said shank and the head of said holding member contacting the vertical inner wall of said bottom recessed neck block, the top of said neck block having a recess, a portion of said skin being bent inwardly into said top recess, and means securing said inwardly bent portion of the skin to the inner wall of said recess.

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