

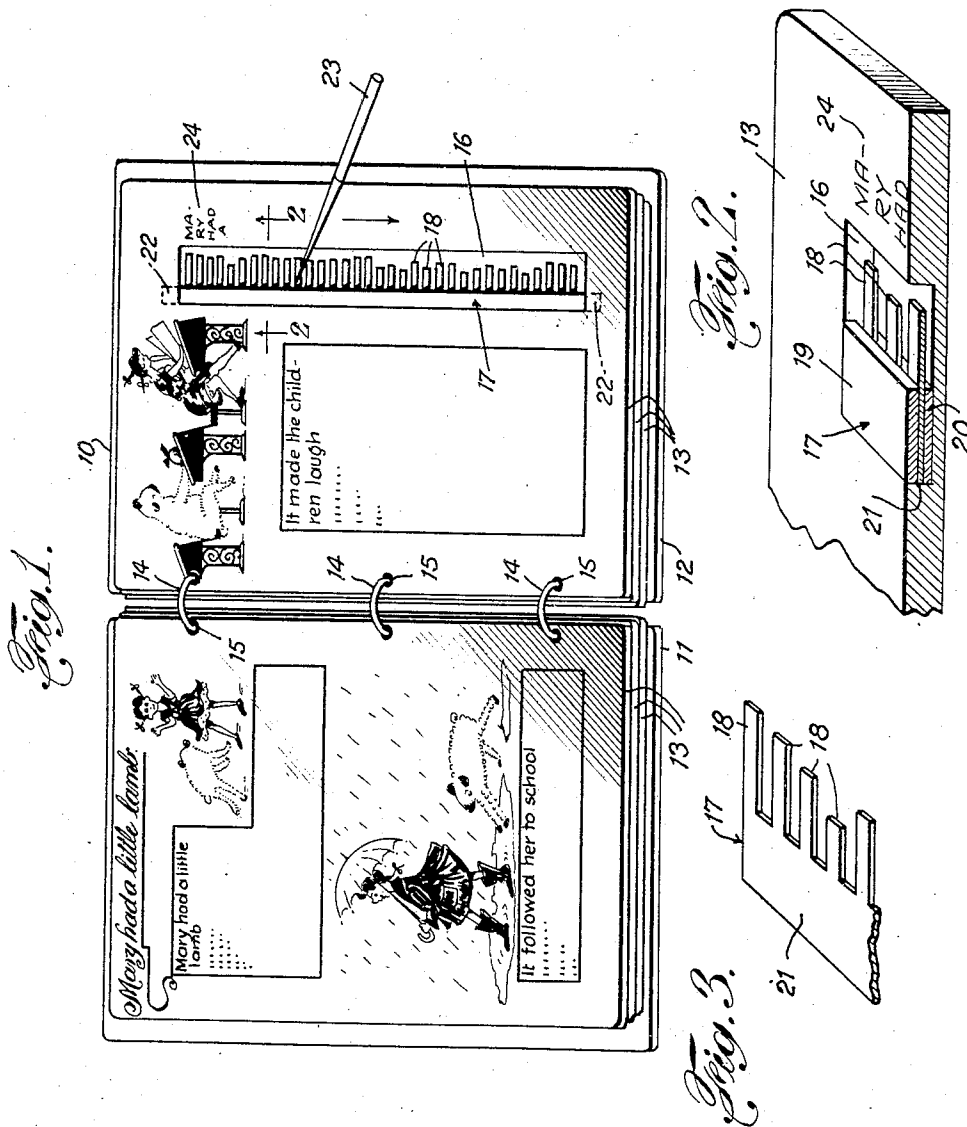
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MUSICAL TOY

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MUSICAL TOY

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2 Claims. (Cl. 84-408)

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This invention relates to musical toys.

It is an object of the invention to provide a toy having educational as well as amusement value.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will appear hereinafter.

A preferred embodiment of the invention selected for purposes of illustration is shown in the accompanying drawings, in which,

Figure 1 is a perspective plan view of a book embodying the invention.

Figure 2 is a section through one leaf of the book, taken on the line 2-2 of Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a fragmentary perspective view of the musical comb.

According to the present invention, I provide a musical comb having teeth cut to dimensions such that when the individual teeth are vibrated successively, and in sequence, the successive musical notes sounded thereby will play a simple tune or melody. By positioning the words of a song in proper relation to the teeth of the comb the toy may be used to teach children simple songs.

Thus, referring to the drawings, I have illustrated the invention as embodied in a book 10 having a pair of covers 11 and 12 and a plurality of fairly thick cardboard leaves 13 held together by means of the conventional loose leaf binding rings 14 which pass through holes 15 in the covers 11 and 12, and leaves 13. Each leaf of the book, or certain selected leaves thereof, is provided with a longitudinal recess 16 adapted to receive a musical comb assembly 17.

The arrangement or position of the recess 16 and comb 17 may be varied as desired, but as illustrated the recess is located in the right hand page, thus leaving the left hand page and the balance of the right hand page free for printed matter and illustrations of the nature indicated, and related to the tune played by vibrating the teeth of the comb.

The comb 17 consists of a flat, thin strip of metal such as tempered steel which is initially stamped with all the integral teeth 18 at uniform maximum length. It is then restamped in a suitable die so that the teeth will be cut in different lengths suitable to play the notes of the selected melody.

After the comb is restamped it is clamped tightly between two longitudinal plates 19 and 20 which substantially cover the back portion 21 of the comb 17, so that the full length of the teeth will be exposed or projected beyond the plates 19 and 20. The plates 19 and 20 may be

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clamped to the back portion 21 of the comb by riveting, spot welding or in any other suitable manner. The comb assembly may be secured in the recess in any suitable manner, as by mak-

ing the bottom plate 20 slightly longer than the top plate 19 to provide protruding ends 22 which may be inserted between the laminations of cardboard in the leaves 13, which hold the comb 17 rigidly in the recess 16. When the comb assembly 17 is inserted in the recess 16 the top face of the upper plate 19 is in the same plane as the face of the leaf so that when the book is closed, the leaves all lie flatwise, and face to face.

Referring to Figure 2, it will be seen that the teeth 18 are spaced from the bottom of the recess 16 by the bottom plate 20 so as to permit the teeth to vibrate freely. The plates 19 and 20 produce harmonics of the fundamental tones of the teeth and produce tones of good musical quality.

Also, referring to Figure 1, it will be seen that in the space to the right of the recess 16, the words 24 of a song are printed in a column, with each word or syllable of a word placed opposite the respective tooth which sounds the musical note to be associated with that particular word or syllable.

When it is desired to play the music or song on the musical comb 17, it is only necessary to vibrate the teeth 18 of the comb 17 by picking the teeth with a stylus 23. The stylus should vibrate the teeth successively from the top of the comb downwardly in the direction of arrow to sound each individual note of the song a sequence corresponding to the words or syllables 24 printed opposite the teeth. Because of the association between the teeth and the words or syllables, it is very easy for a child to learn a song.

It will be understood that the invention may be variously modified and embodied within the scope of the subjoined claims.

I claim as my invention:

1. A musical toy comprising, a musical comb having teeth thereon of irregular dimensions, the dimensions of successive teeth being such that when said teeth are vibrated successively in sequence from one end of the comb to the other, a musical melody may be played, said comb being mounted in a member having words of a song printed thereon, each word or syllable of the song being printed opposite the tooth of the comb to which it is musically related.

2. A musical toy comprising a book having a

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fairly thick leaf therein, a recess in said leaf, a musical comb mounted in said recess having teeth of irregular length projecting from one edge thereof, the length of successive teeth being such that when said teeth are vibrated successively in sequence from one end of the comb to the other, a musical melody may be played, said teeth being spaced from the bottom of said recess by one of said backing plates so that said teeth may vibrate freely, said leaf having words of a song printed thereon, each word or syllable of the song being printed opposite the tooth of the comb to which it is musically related.

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