March 30, 1937. J. REIMANN 2,075,134

CARD FOR CONGRATULATION AND ADVERTISEMENT PURPOSES

Filed Jan. 20, 1936

Fig. 1

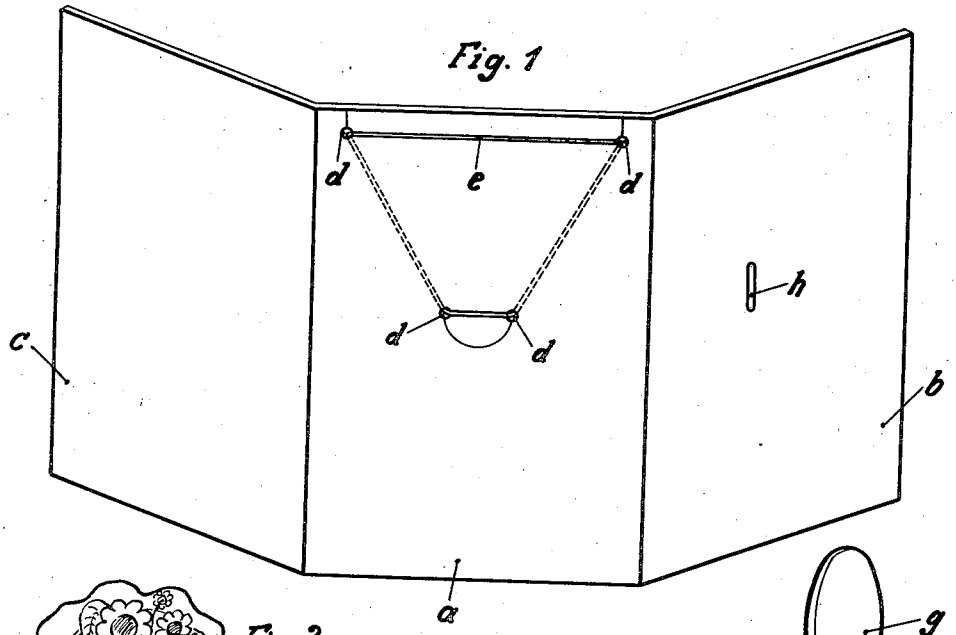


Fig. 2

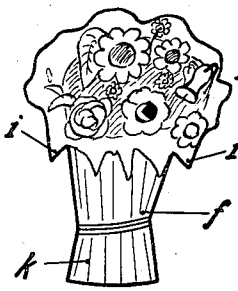


Fig. 3

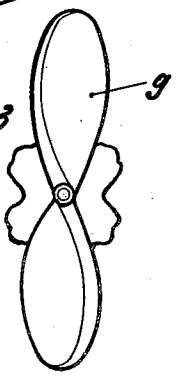


Fig. 4

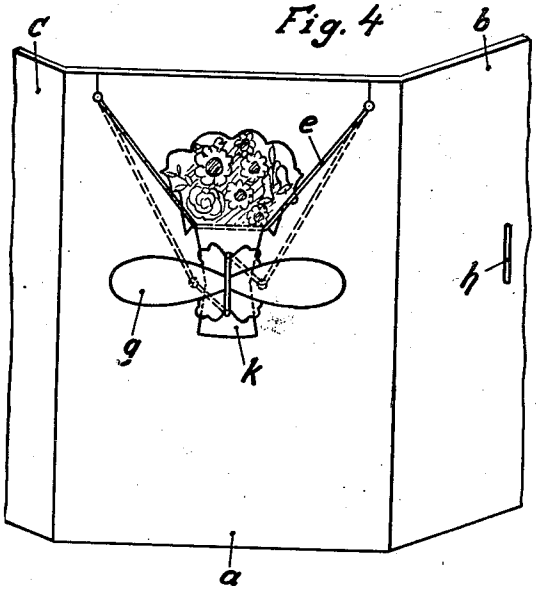
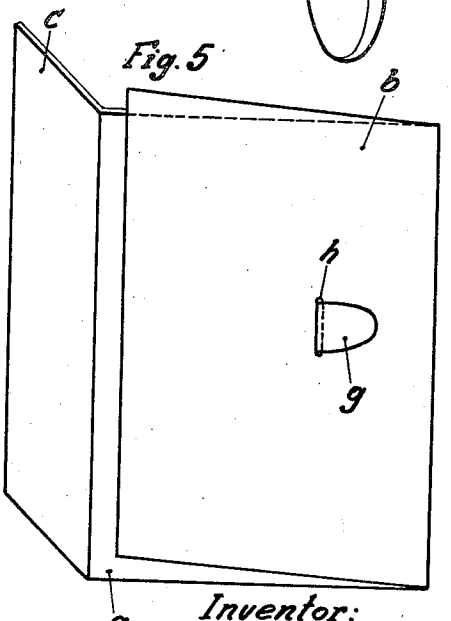


Fig. 5



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CARD FOR CONGRATULATION AND ADVERTISEMENT PURPOSES

Julius Reimann, Hamm, Germany

Application January 20, 1936, Serial No. 59,943

5 Claims. (Cl. 40—28)

The object of the invention is to provide a foldable card or cardboard, strong paper or like material, which can be used for congratulation as well as for advertisement purposes, and which can be also be used as a toy. Said card according to the invention is provided with an india rubber mechanism or other suitable flexible means, which can be stretched and fixed in its stretched condition to the interior of the card by suitable means when the card is folded. As long as the card remains in folded condition the mechanism will remain stretched, but as soon as the folded card is opened the mechanism will return to its normal condition. Furthermore the card, according to the invention, contains an article which is connected with the india rubber mechanism in such a way that the same will be thrown out and away from the card by the india rubber mechanism as soon as the card is opened.

The article to be thrown out from the card by the india rubber mechanism may be of any suitable form. For instance, when using the card for congratulation purposes, the article may consist of a bouquet of flowers punched out of paper or cardboard, or for the same purpose it may be the representation of a lucky fellow or the like. When the card is used for advertisement purposes, the article may be an imitation of the commending goods, also punched out of paper or any other suitable material.

Preferably, the india rubber mechanism is formed and fastened to the card as follows:

In the middle section of the card four holes are provided, which are located in said section in a manner corresponding to the four end points of a trapeze. Through said four holes an endless india rubber or other flexible card is drawn in such a way that on the inside of the card, that is the picture side, a short and a long piece of the india rubber cord corresponding to the parallel sides of the trapeze are visible. The article to be thrown out is provided at one end portion with suitable prongs or tacks, which are adapted to be placed over and engage the longer piece of the india rubber cord, and on its lower end portion or lower side, the article is provided with a small foot which is adapted to be placed under the shorter india rubber piece, whereby the longer piece of the cord will be drawn toward the shorter piece. Under the smaller india rubber piece, I arrange an elongated article or member which is adapted to be rotated in a manner hereinafter described. This rotatable member is twisted once or several times with the short india rubber cord, and then one of its ends is passed through a slot in one of the side sections of the card to be folded over the picture or central section. In this way the india rubber mechanism is stretched and held in its stretched condition on the central section of the folded card. Now then, if the card is opened, the end of the rotatable member is pushed out of the slot in the outer card section or cover, whereby the india rubber mechanism is disengaged, so that the article showing the congratulation or advertisement is thrown out from the card.

In the accompanying drawing by way of example a form of construction of the card according to the invention is illustrated, wherein pictures or letters usually appearing on such cards are omitted as they are unessential for the invention.

Fig. 1 is a front elevation of my device showing the inside of the opened card.

Fig. 2 is a plan view of the article to be thrown out, for instance an imitation of a boquet of flowers punched out of cardboard or the like material.

Fig. 3 is a plan view of an elongated member in the form of a propeller for stretching and holding the india rubber mechanism in position.

Fig. 4 is a view similar to Fig. 1, but showing the parts in position on the central section of the card.

Fig. 5 is a front elevation of my improved card in partly folded condition.

The card consists of the middle or central section *a*, and the side or outer sections *b* and *c*, which can be folded one over the other. In the middle section *a* four holes *d* are provided, which are distributed over said part or section in a manner corresponding to the four end points of a trapeze. Through these four holes an endless india rubber cord or other flexible means *e* is drawn or threaded in such a way that a short and a long piece of said cord *e* corresponding to the parallel sides of the trapeze are visible on the inside of the card. On this card I arrange an article *f* to be thrown out by the india rubber mechanism (in the example shown the article represents an imitation of a boquet of flowers), and an elongated member *g* (in the example given the member being in the form of a propeller) for stretching the india rubber mechanism and causing the latter to hold the article in position on the card. In the side section *b* of the card a slot *h* is provided.

When folding the card the india rubber mechanism is stretched as follows (see Fig. 4 of the drawing): The article *f* to be thrown out is provided at its upper end portion with tacks or prongs *i* and on its lower side with a narrowed part *k*. With said tacks or prongs *i* the article *f* is suspended over the greater visible part of the india rubber cord *e* and is then pulled downwardly toward the smaller visible part until its narrowed part *k* comes under the smaller visible part of said cord *e*. The elongated member *g* is also positioned under the smaller part of the india rubber cord *e* between said cord and the foot *k* of the article *f*. Thereupon, the member *g*, for the purpose of stretching the india rubber cord *e*, is turned once or several times for instance, in a clockwise direction. Afterwards the outer sections *b*, *c*, are folded over the central section *a* of the card, and one end of the member *g* is passed through the slot *h* of the card cover or section *b*. If now the cover of the card is opened, the member *g* will be released from the slot *h*, and swing in a counter-clockwise direction. The stretched india rubber cord *e* will return to its normal unstretched condition, thereby throwing the article *f* showing the congratulation or advertisement out of the card.

What I claim is:

1. In a device of the character described, a card, an elastic band loosely connected to the card and having a plurality of spaced strip portions, an article engaging one of said strip portions and adapted to hold the same temporarily under tension and in bowed condition, a rotatable member twisted about the other strip portion for clamping said article to the card, and a flap on the card having means engageable with the rotatable member for holding the same under tension exerted by the last mentioned strip portion, whereby when the flap is opened the rotatable member will be released and the elastic band in contracting will turn the rotatable member to allow it to release the article and the article will be propelled by the band.

2. In a device of the character described, a card including a central section and a folding flap, an elastic band loosely connected to the central section and having an upper strand portion and a lower strand portion, said strand portions being arranged parallel to one another, an article engaging the upper strand portion and adapted to hold the same temporarily under tension and in bowed condition, a rotatable member twisted about the lower strand portion for clamping the article to the card, and means on said folding flap engageable with the rotatable member for holding the same under tension exerted by the lower strand portion, whereby when the flap is opened the rotatable member will be released and the lower strand portion in contracting will turn the rotatable member to allow it to release the article and the article will be propelled by the upper strand portion.

3. In a device of the character described, a card, an elastic band loosely connected to the card, said elastic band having spaced parallel strip portions arranged on the upper surface of said card and other strip portions arranged on the under surface of said card and joining the ends of said parallel strip portions, an article engaging one of said parallel strip portions and adapted to hold the same temporarily under tension and in bowed condition, a rotatable member twisted about the other parallel strip portion for clamping said article to the upper surface of the card, and a flap on the card having means engageable with the rotatable member for holding the same under tension exerted by the last mentioned strip portion, whereby when the flap is opened the rotatable member will be released and the elastic band in contracting will turn the rotatable member to allow it to release the article and the article will be propelled by the band.

4. In a device of the character described, a card, an elastic band loosely connected to the card and having a plurality of spaced strip portions, an article engaging one of said strip portions and adapted to hold the same temporarily under tension and in bowed condition, a rotatable member twisted about the other strip portion for clamping said article to the card, said member having wing portions at its outer end, and a flap on the card having a slot engageable with one wing portion of the rotatable member for holding the member under tension exerted by the last mentioned strip portion, whereby when the flap is opened the rotatable member will be released and the elastic band in contracting will turn the rotatable member to allow it to release the article and the article will be propelled by the band.

5. In a device of the character described, a card having a central section and a folding flap, an elastic band loosely connected to the central section and having an upper strip portion and a lower strip portion, said strip portions being arranged parallel to one another and in spaced relation, an article arranged between said strip portions, detachably engaging the upper strip portion and adapted to hold the same temporarily under tension and in bowed condition, a rotatable member twisted about the lower strip portion for clamping the article to the card, said folding flap having a slot engageable with the rotatable member for holding the same under tension exerted by the lower strip portion, whereby when the flap is opened the rotatable member will be released and the lower strip portion in contracting will turn the rotatable member to allow it to release the article and the article will be propelled by the upper strip portion.

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