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ACROBATIC FIGURE TOY

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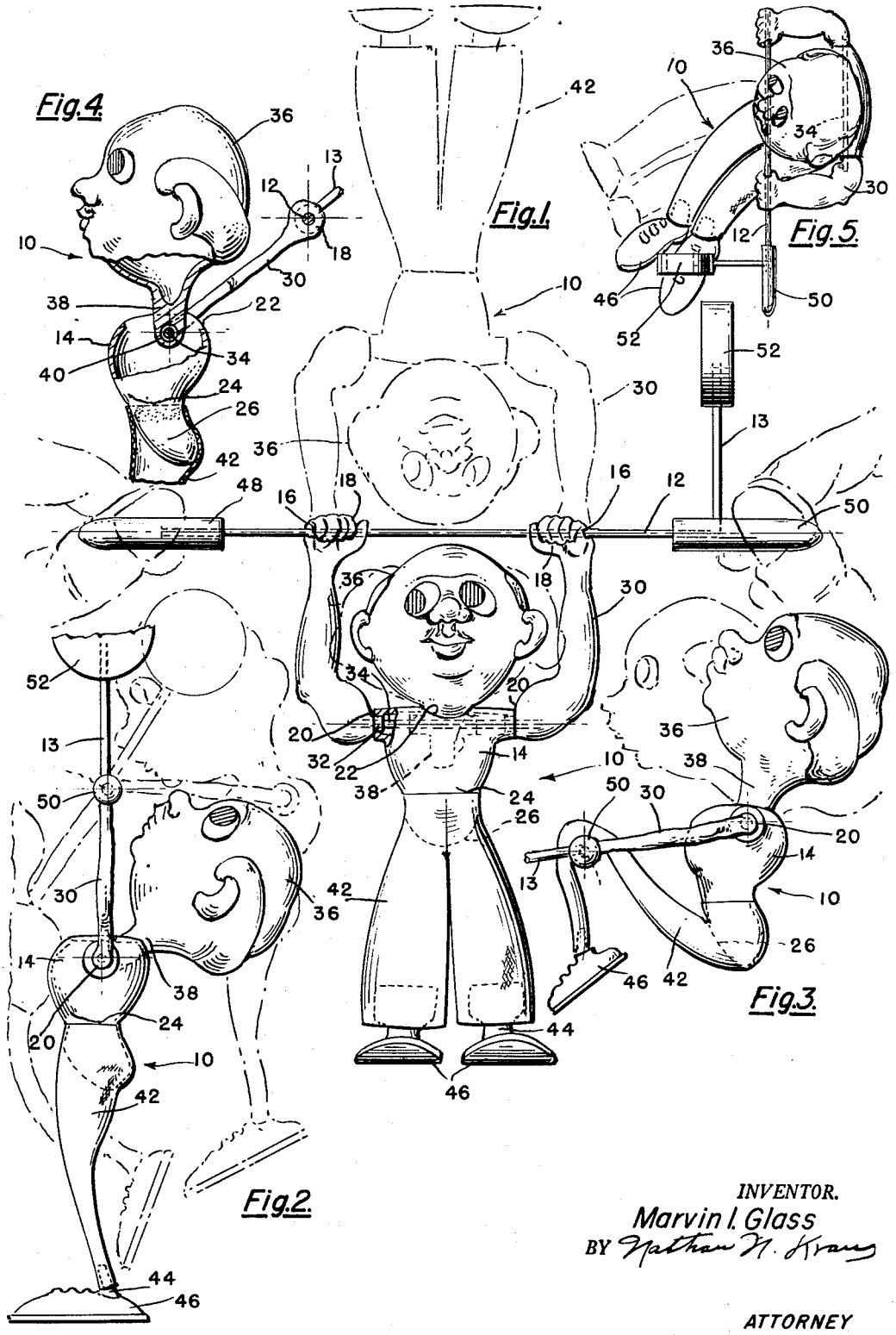

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ACROBATIC FIGURE TOY

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2 Claims. (Cl. 46—133)

This invention relates to toys and more particularly to a toy which may be manually manipulated to perform acrobatics and the like.

One of the objects of this invention is to provide a toy which may be manipulated by the hands to perform acrobatics and assume various positions on a supporting bar.

Another object of this invention is to provide a toy figure supported on a bar, which bar is manually manipulated to cause the supported figure to move in simulation of an acrobat performing on a bar.

Another object is to provide a toy of the foregoing character which is counterweighted so that the weight above the bar is slightly less than the weight below the bar to permit the toy to be operated smoothly and properly.

Another object of this invention is to provide a toy which is very simple and inexpensive to manufacture and which has great play value by virtue of the fact that it may be easily manipulated by a child to cause the toy character to perform various acrobatic motions.

Other objects will become apparent as this description progresses.

In the drawings:

Fig. 1 is a front view of the toy and showing in dotted lines a manipulated position of same,

Fig. 2 is a side view and showing in dotted lines various manipulated positions,

Fig. 3 is a side view in another position,

Fig. 4 is a side view partly in cross section of same, and

Fig. 5 is a view of the toy with the supporting bar held in a vertical position.

Generally, the toy comprises a toy figure generally indicated at **10** which is secured to and suspended from cross bar **12**, which cross bar is held and manipulated by the hands to cause the toy figure to perform various acrobatics on said bar. More specifically, the toy figure generally indicated at **10** comprises an upper hollow body portion **14** formed of two half sections jointed together. The half sections when joined together provide two circular shoulder openings or sockets **20** and a circular top opening **22**. The upper body portion **14** is widest at the shoulder portion and tapers inwardly as at **24** and then outwardly as at **26** to provide a waist portion **28**.

Fixedly secured to the bar **12** as at **16** are the hands **18** of a pair of upper limb members or arm **30** each somewhat L shaped and each having cylindrical terminating stubs **32** which are positioned and secured within the annular sockets or openings **20**. The two arms are joined together by a cross member **34** extending inside the hollow body portion, which is securely fixed at its opposite ends to the inner ends of the stubs **32**.

A head **36** has an annular depending neck portion **38**, which passes through the opening **22**. The neck portion has a transverse opening **40** through which the cross member **34** extends and whereby said head is secured to said body. It will be noted that the transverse opening **40** is larger than the circumference of the cross member **34** and the opening **22** is larger than the neck **38** to permit the head to rock back and forth as well as move sidewise.

Secured to the body **14** at the waist **28** and extending downwardly therefrom is a flexible cloth member **42** which in the representation shown forms the trousers of the figure. Secured to the lower portions of the cloth trousers are a pair of legs **44** having weighted feet **46**.

The bar **12** has one end upturned as at **13** at right angles to the bar. A handle member **48** is secured to one end of the cross bar **12** and another handle **50** is secured to the other longitudinal end of the cross bar. The handle **50** may be slotted at its end and pushed in adjacent the upturned end and may be closed by means of a plug which when securely fastened as by glue or otherwise locks said handle on the end of the cross bar and forms the other handle portion. Mounted on the upturned end **13** of the bar is a circular metal weight **52** which forms a counterweight. The counterweight is positioned 180° from the vertical plane of the suspended figure when same is suspended. The counterweight is slightly less than the weight of the suspended figure and its purpose is to distribute the weight above and below the bar so that when the toy is held in the hands and rotated the rotation will be uniform thus facilitating the operation of the toy.

When the handles **48** and **50** are engaged and the cross bar **12** is twirled or rotated in either direction the arms or upper limbs **30** are rotated therewith. The stubs **32** of the arms will rotate in the sockets **20** with respect to said body **14**. Rotating of the bar **12** will therefore cause the suspended arms to rotate therewith and thereby move said arms from a suspended position to any position above, below or forwardly or rearwardly of the bar. By elevating the arms above the bar (dotted lines Fig. 1), the head **36**, body **14** and the rest of the figure are correspondingly moved with respect to the bar, and various acrobatic positions are assumed by the figure with respect to the cross bar, simulating that of a person moving about on a horizontal gymnastic bar. Since the lower portion of the figure, represented by the flexible cloth portion is weighted down by the legs and feet it will swing freely and move with respect to the upper portion of the body. Since the top of the head **36** is spaced slightly from the cross bar **12** the body **14** as well as the head **36** moves around said cross bar, that is, moves under and above said cross bar **12**. As the cross bar is manipulated the head **36** will rock back and forth as well as sidewise, thus providing additional interest for the toy.

The dotted line position of Fig. 1 shows the momentary position of the figure when same has been manipulated to position the arms above the bar. The cloth **42** and feet **46** will immediately drop either in front or to the rear of the body **14** by virtue of the flexibility of the cloth **42** and the weight of the feet **46** and will cause the body **14** to rotate correspondingly. Fig. 3 shows the figure positioned rearwardly of the bar with the legs draped over the bar. Fig. 5 shows the toy manipulated with the bar held in a vertical position.

By virtue of the construction, the body **14** is free to rotate with respect to the stationary arms and correspondingly the head on the body moves and rotates with said body. The flexible portion **42** and weighted feet **46** in a measure control the rotation of the body and add to the unusual acrobatic positions of the figure.

It will be understood that various changes may be made without departing from the spirit and scope of the appended claims.

I claim:

1. In a portable manually suspended acrobatic toy

comprising a bar having a pair of handle members secured to the opposite ends thereof and by which said bar is manually supported and manipulated, a counterweight extending above said bar, a toy figure supported below said bar, said toy figure having a pair of arms fixedly secured to said bar to rotate therewith, a body member having means for receiving the inner ends of said arms, said body member being rotatable with respect to said arms, a head member secured to the top of said body member, a lower portion formed of a flexible cloth secured to said body portion, and weighted feet members secured to the lower end of said cloth member, said counterweight being positioned approximately 180° with respect to said figure and so constructed and arranged that the weight of the counterweight is slightly less than the weight of said figure.

2. In a portable manually suspended acrobatic toy of the character described comprising a bar having handle engaging ends at the opposite ends thereof and by which said bar is manually supported and manipulated, a

counterweight member positioned above said bar, a toy figure secured to said bar below the top thereof, said toy figure having a pair of arm members fixedly secured to said bar, said arm members having socket engaging ends, a hollow body portion having sockets to receive said socket engaging ends, a transverse connecting member within said body and secured to the opposite ends of said socket engaging ends, a head having a depending neck, said neck having a transverse opening whereby said head is secured to said transverse connecting member, a cloth lower body portion secured to said body, and a pair of feet members secured to the lower end of said cloth body.

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