Nov. 1, 1927. 1,647,369

I. MARKS

TOY

Filed Feb. 26, 1927

Fig. 3

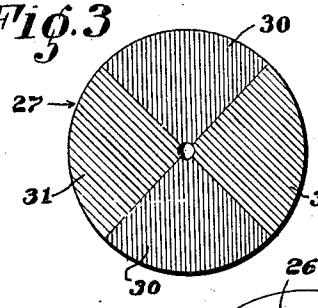


Fig. 4

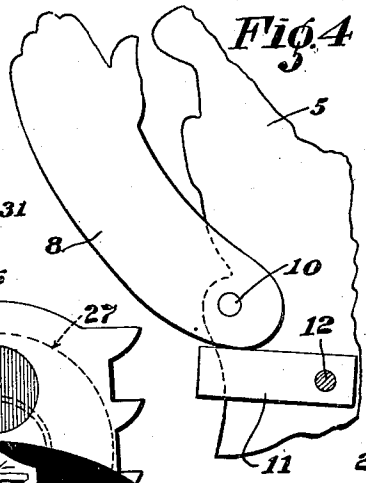


Fig. 2

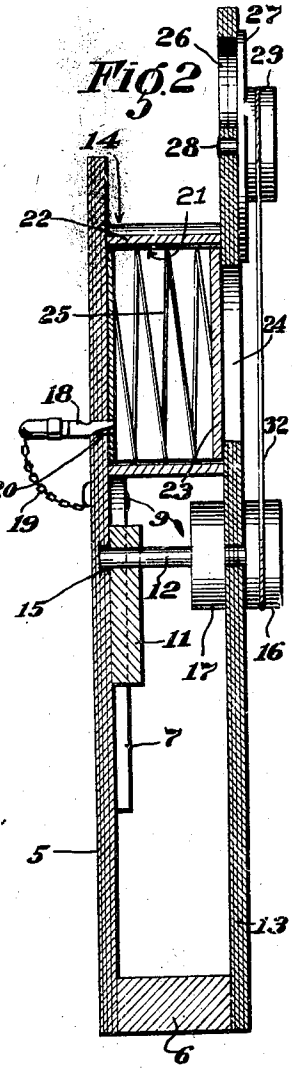
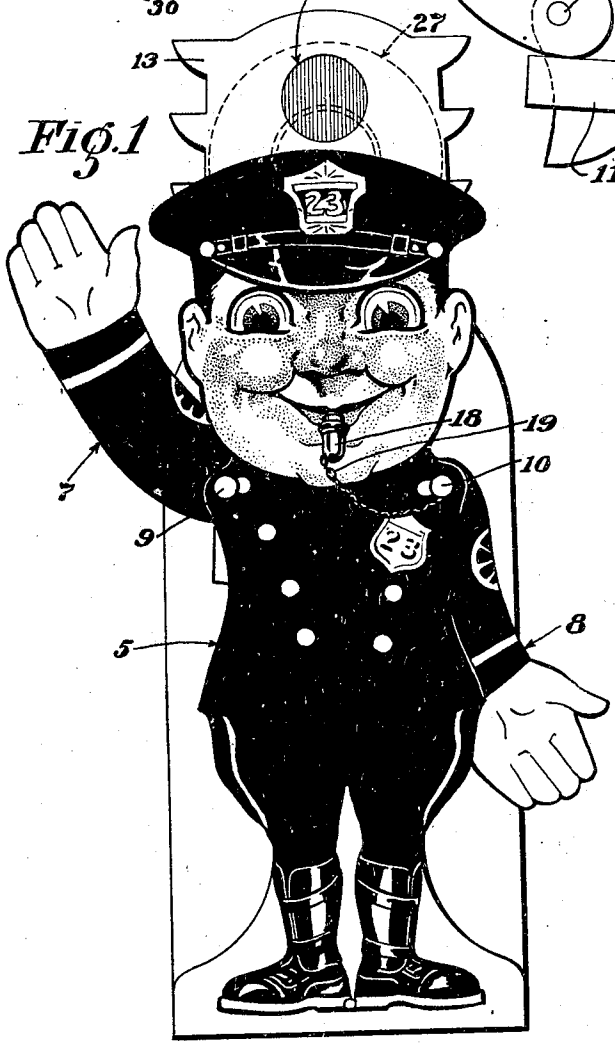


Fig. 1



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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TOY.

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This invention relates to toys and more particularly to a toy made to represent a traffic officer with a whistle, the toy being provided with means for raising and lowering the arms of the officer and for sounding the whistle in simulation of the usual "stop" and "go" signals for directing street traffic.

The object of the invention is to provide an amusing as well as an instructive toy or novelty of the character indicated which is of inexpensive but substantial construction and which is provided with simple operating mechanism that is not liable to get out of order when in the hands of children.

To the accomplishment of this object and such others as may hereinafter appear the invention resides in the features of construction and combinations of parts hereinafter described and particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

The features of the invention will be best understood from a description of the preferred embodiment thereof, illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 2 is a view, in front elevation, of the toy or device showing one of the arms of the officer in upraised position;

Fig. 2 is a view in central vertical section of the device;

Fig. 3 is a face view of a signal disk hereinafter referred to; and

Fig. 4 is a detailed view of a portion of the device as seen from the rear, illustrating particularly the manner of operating the arms of the officer.

Referring to the drawings, 5 designates an animate figure which is built up of four-ply cardboard, the front ply of which is lithographed to represent a traffic officer in uniform. The figure is secured at its lower end to the forward edge of a base block 6 which serves to support it in upright position. Arms 7 and 8 are formed separately from the body of the figure and are loosely pivoted to its shoulder portions at the rear thereof by means of pins or rivets 9 and 10 so that either arm may be swung from a lowered or pendant position at the side of the body to an upraised position, such as that indicated in Fig. 1, to simulate the customary "stop" signal of a traffic officer.

The means for raising the arms of the figure comprises an actuator in the form of a crank 11 which is located behind the body and between the arms 7 and 8. The crank 11 is fast upon a horizontal rock shaft 12 and this shaft is journalled in spaced bearings one of which is formed in the cardboard forming the body of the officer while the other is formed by perforating an upright 13 which is secured to the rear edge of the base block 6. The upright 13 is also conveniently made of four-ply cardboard and is held in parallel spaced relation to the figure of the officer by means including a pair of brace rods or spacers back of the head one of which is shown at 14 in Fig. 2. As shown, the bearing for the front end of the shaft 12 may consist of a metallic eyelet 15 (Fig. 2) which is inserted in a perforation that extends through only the two rearmost of the four layers of cardboard constituting the figure of the officer. With this construction the layers of cardboard in front of the eyelet 15 cover both the front of the eyelet and the front end of the shaft so that neither is visible from the front of the device. The shaft 12 extends rearwardly beyond the upright 13 and the protruding end of the shaft has secured thereto a handle or knob 16 by means of which the shaft and the crank 11 may be turned. The knob 16 and the crank 11, as well as the layers of cardboard which extend across the forward end of the rock shaft 12, serve to prevent forward endwise displacement of the shaft, while a collar 17 secured to the shaft just forward of the upright 13, prevents rearward displacement thereof.

When the knob 16 is rotated the free end of the crank 11 will engage the inner edge of one of the officer's arms 7 or 8 and as the crank continues its upward movement it will gradually lift the officer's arm until it assumes the upraised signaling position shown in Figs. 1 and 4. By merely turning the knob 16 in the opposite direction the upraised arm of the officer will be lowered by gravity to its normal pendant position. By rotating the knob 16 so as to engage the crank 11 with the officer's other arm, the latter may be raised and then lowered in a similar manner. Either arm may thus be raised and lowered selectively at the will of the operator of the toy and in a very lifelike manner.

In order to make the simulation of a traffic officer still more realistic and lifelike and thus further to increase the charm of the de-

vice as a toy, a miniature whistle 18 is attached by a chain 19 to a portion of the figure made to represent the coat of the officer; a mouth opening 20 is formed in the head portion of the figure, and means is provided whereby the operator of the toy, by manipulation of a bellows at the back of the device may cause the whistle to be sounded. To this end the mouth opening 20 extends entirely through the several layers of cardboard constituting the figure 5 and is shaped to fit the mouthpiece of the whistle so that the whistle may be retained by a frictional fit of the mouth opening. A tubular bellows 21 is arranged within a cylindrical protective shell 22 to a front disk that may be glued, the front end of the bellows being attached to the head of the officer, at the rear thereof, while the rear end of the bellows is atttached to a disk-shaped rear head 23. The bellows surrounds the mouth aperture 20 and this aperture which is extended through the front disk is the only outlet for the air contained within the bellows. The rear head 23 of the bellows fits loosely and is freely slidable within the shell 22 and is accessible to the operator of the toy through an opening 24, somewhat smaller than the head 23, in the upright 13. The operator, by the use of one or more fingers may push the head 23 forwardly in the shell, thus collapsing the bellows, and if the whistle at this time is in position in the mouth aperture 20 it will be sounded. A light coiled spring 25 within the bellows serves to expand the latter and to return the head 23 to its normal position bearing against the rear upright 13 when the pressure upon the head is relieved. The shell 22 is secured at its front end to the figure of the officer and at its rear to the upright 13, thereby connecting the figure and the upright in such a manner as to strengthen the entire structure.

It will be noticed that the head of the bellows is located closely adjacent to the knob 16 by means of which the arms of the officer are operated, thus enabling an operator of the toy to turn the knob 16 with a finger and thumb while at the same time working the bellows with another finger of the same hand. In this way one of the arms of the officer may be raised while a single blast is being sounded on the whistle as a "stop" signal or two blasts of the whistle may be given while the arm of the officer is being lowered as a signal for the traffic to "go". The effect of such movement of the officer's arm and simultaneous sounding of the whistle is very realistic and is particularly effective in amusing children.

Still further to simulate customary methods of traffic control and as an additional means for attracting and holding a child's interest, the illustrated toy is provided with means for producing the effect of the red and green signal lights which are commonly used as "stop" and "go" signals in a traffic tower. To this end the rear upright 13 is shaped, and if desired its forward face may also be lithographed or otherwise treated to represent a traffic tower and the top of the tower, which is plainly visible above the head of the officer, has a circular sight-opening 26 formed therein through which a portion of a signal disk 27 may be seen. The disk 27 is pivoted behind the upright 13 and at a point 28 just beneath the sight-opening 26 and a handle or knob 29 is secured to the rear of the disk to provide a convenient means by which the disk may be rotated. The disk 27 is provided upon its front side with four colored segments 30, 30 and 31, 31 (Fig. 3) the segments 30, 30 being red and the segments 31, 31 being green. Obviously by turning the disk 27 a red segment or a green segment may be exposed at will through the opening 26 thus very effectively simulating the flashing of red or green signal lights. As shown in Fig. 2, the knobs 16 and 29 may be peripherally grooved to adapt them to receive a cord or belt 32 which connects the two knobs for rotary movements in unison so that when either of the knobs is turned the other knob, together with the operating parts associated therewith, will be turned in synchrony therewith. The signal disk may be angularly adjusted relatively to the rock shaft 12 so that a red signal will be displayed through the sight-opening 26 when either arm of the officer is upraised and a green signal will be displayed through the opening 26 when both of the officer's arms are lowered.

The above described toy with its provision for simulating both audible and visible traffic signals, the latter including the colored tower signals and also those produced by movements of the officer's arms, never fails to delight children and is instructive as well as entertaining.

The invention has been disclosed herein for illustrative purposes in an embodiment at present preferred, but the true scope of the invention is defined by the appended claims rather than by the foregoing description.

What is claimed is:

1. A toy comprising the figure of a traffic officer having arms capable of being raised and lowered, a crank movable between said arms for raising them selectively, a device having "stop" and "go" signals, and mechanism connected with said crank for displaying a "stop" signal when either of said arms is in raised position and for displaying a "go" signal when either of said arms is in lowered position.

2. A toy comprising the figure of a traffic officer having arms each movable between two positions, a device operable to show dif-

ferent traffic signals, means between said arms for controlling the movement of said arms, and means for operating the signal device to show one traffic signal when an arm is held in one position and for showing another traffic signal when said arm is held in another position.

3. A toy comprising the figure of a traffic officer having an arm arranged to be raised and lowered, mechanism for controlling the movements of the arm, a member having a sight-opening visible from in front of the figure, a movable disk on said member for showing "stop" and "go" signals at said sight-opening for the guidance of street traffic, and means for moving the signal device to show a "stop" signal at the time that the arm of the figure is raised and to show a "go" signal at the time that the arm is lowered.

4. A toy comprising the figure of a traffic officer having a mouth aperture and a movable arm, a whistle adapted to be inserted in said mouth aperture, a bellows for operating the whistle through said mouth aperture, and means for moving the arm into position to simulate a traffic signal, said bellows and said means being so constructed and relatively arranged that both may be operated simultaneously by the fingers of one hand.

5. A toy comprising a cut-out figure simulating a traffic officer and having pivoted arms capable of being raised and lowered, an upright rising from the base behind said figure, a rock shaft journaled in bearings in said upright and in said figure below the pivots of the arms, a crank on the rock shaft adapted to be turned into sliding engagement with either of the arms, and a handle on the rock shaft behind said upright for turning said crank.

6. A toy comprising a cut-out figure simulating a traffic officer and having an arm capable of being raised and lowered, an upright behind said figure made to simulate a traffic tower and having a signal opening therein above the head of said figure, means for supporting said figure and said upright in spaced relation, a signal disk rotatably mounted on said upright and having differently colored signals thereon arranged to be successively displayed through said opening as the disk is turned, an oscillatory actuator for raising said arm at will, and an actuator for rotating said signal disk at will.

7. A toy comprising a figure cut out of sheet material, the figure having a normally pendant, movable arm and a mouth opening and being made to simulate a traffic officer, a miniature whistle having a mouthpiece shaped to fit within said mouth opening, a chain attaching the whistle to said figure but permitting it to be inserted in said mouth opening, a support for said figure, an upright secured to said support behind said figure and spaced therefrom, an actuator shaft extending through a perforation in said upright and journaled at its forward end in the sheet material of said figure, an actuator on said shaft arranged to engage and raise said arm when the shaft is turned, means for turning said shaft, and a bellows secured to the rear of said mouth opening operable to force air through the whistle when the latter is positioned in said mouth opening.

ISIDORE MARKS.