

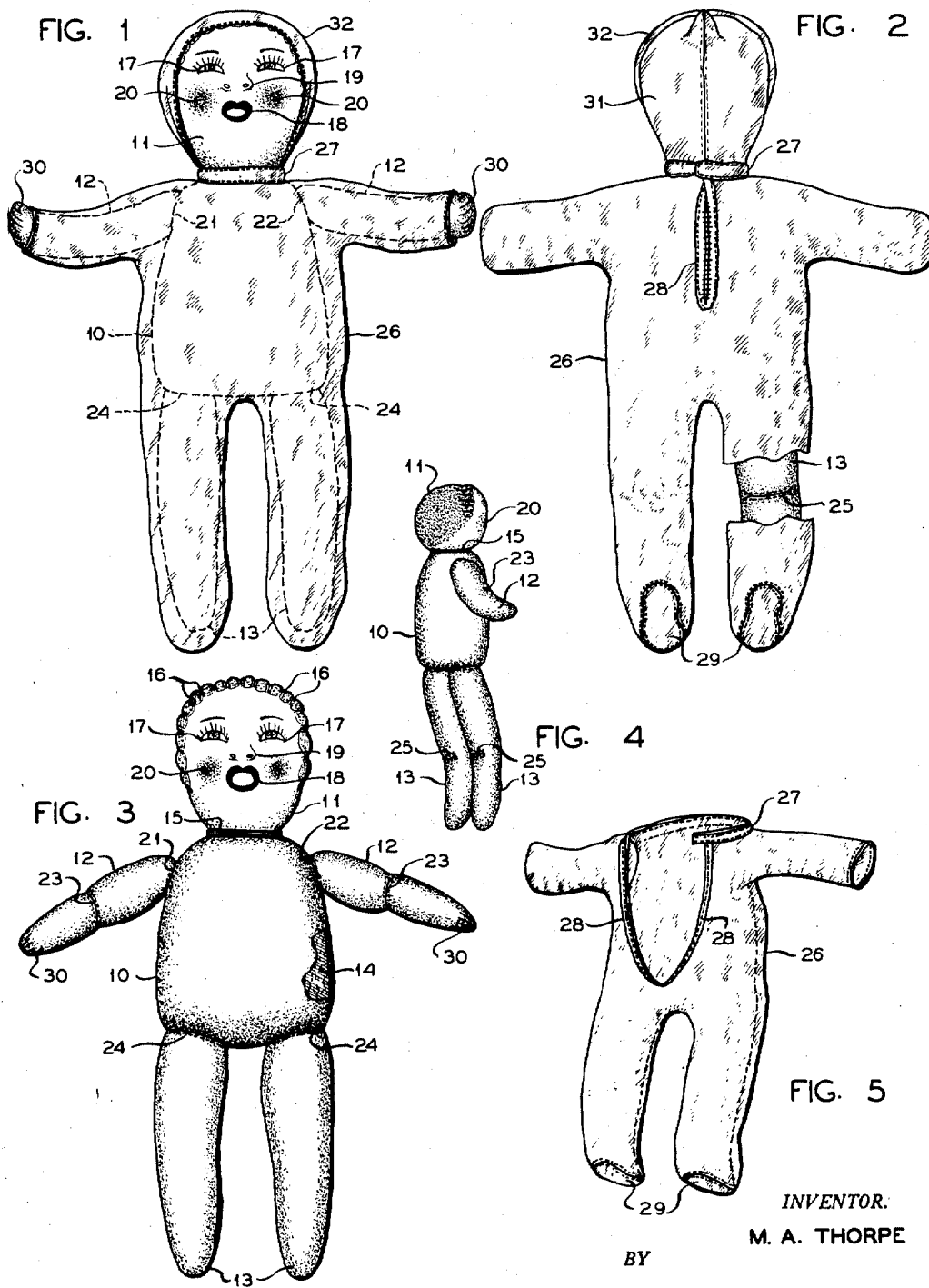
Feb. 6, 1951

M. A. THORPE

2,540,701

DOLL WITH PROTECTIVE COVERING

Filed July 29, 1947



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,540,701

DOLL WITH PROTECTIVE COVERING

Moneta A. Thorpe, Nashville, Tenn.

Application July 29, 1947, Serial No. 764,371

1 Claim. (Cl. 46—151)

1

This invention relates to toys, and more particularly to toys intended for use by infants or small children, and adapted to be held, and especially a doll.

Heretofore, dolls of various and sundry kinds have been produced, some of which simulated humans to a substantial degree, and were provided with characteristics resembling those of humans, as for example, those dolls which produced sounds, those which had eyes which would open and close, and other characteristics intended to give the doll a more natural or life-like appearance.

The characteristics of an individual are largely determined by early training, and it has come more and more to be realized that it is necessary to supply training in a particular manner, in order to obtain the desired end result. It is desirable to train in such a manner that the adult will have peace of mind, devoid of apprehension, restlessness, and other qualities of a similar nature, occasioned by lack of proper mental training and development during childhood.

Various implements are employed in the training of a child, including toys of one kind or another, all of which have not been of maximum usefulness, for one reason or another, such as the likelihood of injury to the infant by the toy, the lack of durability, etc.

It is an object of the invention to provide a doll of a soft, light-weight, washable material, capable of being washed in its entirety without material injury or loss of shape, with nothing in the construction thereof to injure the child, with nothing to be swallowed or to be pulled off, with features added of harmless water-proof paint made of vegetable dye, with an appealing countenance soliciting and giving the appearance of wanting to be taken, with apparel firmly attached but sufficiently loose to permit the doll to be readily picked up or grasped and held, thus affording a feeling of security to the child, psychologists having recognized for years that having something to cling to gives infants a feeling of security.

Another object of the invention is to provide a doll that cannot smother, strangle, or entangle the infant, and one which suggests sleep to the child, thus improving the discipline and consequently giving the child something to cling or hold onto instead of resorting to thumbsucking, which is injurious to facial features and tooth arrangement leading to overbite and other ailments.

It is a further object of this invention to pro-

2

vide a doll of completely sanitary character, which may be thoroughly sterilized and sold in sanitary cellophane-sealed packages and which may be laundered and thereby maintained in a sanitary condition.

A further object of this invention is to provide a doll which is of simple, unbreakable construction with legs and arms having a curved life-like appearance.

Further objects and advantages of the invention will be apparent from the following specification taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings wherein:

Fig. 1 is a front elevation of a dressed doll in accordance with the present invention;

Fig. 2, a rear elevation;

Fig. 3, a front elevation of the undressed doll;

Fig. 4, a side elevation on a reduced scale; and,

Fig. 5, a rear perspective of the knitted garment for the body, arms and legs.

With continued reference to the drawings, the doll comprises a body or torso 10, a head 11, arms 12, and legs 13. The doll is preferably formed in its entirety of knitted material, of which the head and body are of integral construction or are of one piece. Likewise, the different parts or members of the doll are stuffed with lightweight, launderable, material 14, with less stuffing at the neckline, and with a band 15 maintaining the neck portion restricted or maintaining a line of demarcation between the head and the body.

The head is provided upon its top and rear with a quilted portion 16 to resemble hair. This quilted portion is preferably colored with a harmless or non-poisonous, waterproof paint composed of vegetable dye to give it a more natural appearance. The head is likewise provided with eyes 17, a mouth 18, and nose or nostrils 19, and cheeks 20 likewise painted on by the use of a waterproof, vegetable paint of a non-poisonous nature, for adding realistic effect.

The arms 12 and legs 13 are independently formed with the arms attached along the angular lines 21 and 22 at the right and left of the body. The arms are provided with transverse stitches 23 across the front of the same for giving a cupped or slightly bent appearance in order to simulate a baby holding its arms in speechless but eloquent appeal to be taken.

The legs are also attached to the body along angular lines 24, and with tucks 25 to cause the legs to have the appearance of being slightly bent, and therefore more natural in order to contribute to the total effect.

A knitted, one-piece, garment 26, receives the body, arms, and legs, individually and is provided with a neckband 27 which snugly encircles the neck and serves to maintain the garment in position. The upper and rear portions of the union-type, coverall, garment is provided with a placket or split portion 28, so that in the manufacture of the doll this garment can be manufactured independently and applied by merely sewing the split portion 28 and the neckband 27 together. The split portion 28 gives the appearance of an opening, by means of which the doll can be undressed, although the garment is sewn in place. The knitted coverall garment may be formed with seams along the outer sides of the same, and with sole portions 29 which represent the bottoms of the feet.

When the doll is invested with its knitted coverall garment 26, it is enclosed except for the outer tips of the arms and the head. These outer tips of the arms may have waterproof, vegetable, paint to give the appearance of hands 30.

A hood or cap 31, covers the head, except for the face or forward portion, and this hood is held in position by means of the neck-engaging portion 27 of the cover, to which the hood is secured or fastened. The hood or cap has a head band or flap 32, which may be turned forwardly or rearwardly to give a change in the appearance or style of the dress of the doll. This band or flap is relatively soft as is the entire doll and is the only projection unless the arms, legs and head are thus so designated.

An attractive sanitary doll of lightweight, unitary, unbreakable and durable character is thus provided. There is noticeably nothing to injure an infant or to become detached and swallowed. Due to the nature of its construction this doll will give an infant a great degree of pleasure, satisfaction, comfort and peace of mind.

It will be obvious to those skilled in the art that various changes may be made in the invention without departing from the spirit and scope thereof and therefore the invention is not limited by that which is shown in the drawings and described in the specification but only as indicated in the appended claim.

What is claimed is:

A washable doll comprising a body, a head, and arms and legs, said body and head being of

integral construction and said arms and legs each being of independent construction, a constricted neckband defining a line of demarcation between said head and body, said head having painted, quilted portions simulating hair and painted facial features of harmless, waterproof paint composed of vegetable dye, said arms having tucks in their forward portions for giving them a slight forward curvature, and said legs having tucks in their rear portions for giving them a slight rearward curvature, the ends of said arms having the representation of hands painted thereon of harmless, water-proof paint composed of vegetable dye, and an outer washable covering for said doll comprising a one-piece garment including a neck-engaging portion and arm and leg-receiving portions, the ends of the arms of the doll being adapted to extend through the arm-receiving portions and curve forwardly thereof by reason of the forward curvature of the arms, each leg portion terminating in a closure representing the sole of a foot, the said neck-engaging portion having an elongated extremity designed to overlap the opposed extremity of the neck-engaging portion and sewn thereto in position to maintain the cover upon the doll, and a hood for covering the top, back, and sides of the head of the doll positioned on said head and extending to the neck-engaging portion and a headband secured to the front edge of the hood and adapted to be turned forwardly or rearwardly for changing the appearance of the doll, said outer covering and hood serving to protect the major portion of the doll from becoming soiled, said cover and doll being made of relatively soft, light-weight, washable knitted material.

MONETA A. THORPE.

REFERENCES CITED

The following references are of record in the file of this patent:

UNITED STATES PATENTS

Number	Name	Date
1,292,789	Jack	Jan. 28, 1919
1,307,218	Spencer	June 17, 1919
1,327,884	Shinn	Jan. 13, 1920
1,399,840	Barnard	Dec. 13, 1921
1,485,638	Smith	Mar. 4, 1924