March 15, 1927. 1,621,353

J. J. DAHLSTROM

TOY

Filed July 30, 1926

Fig. 1.

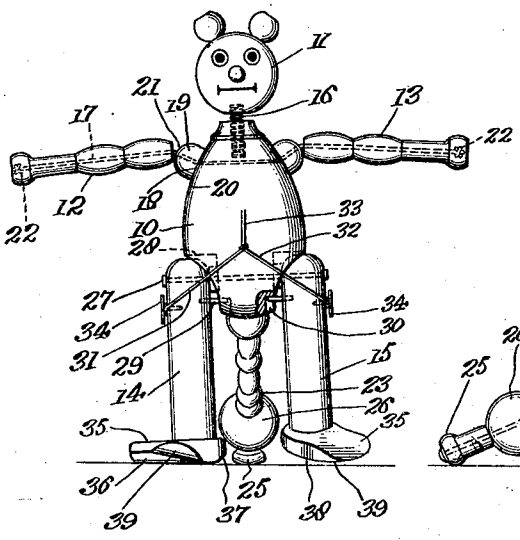


Fig. 2.

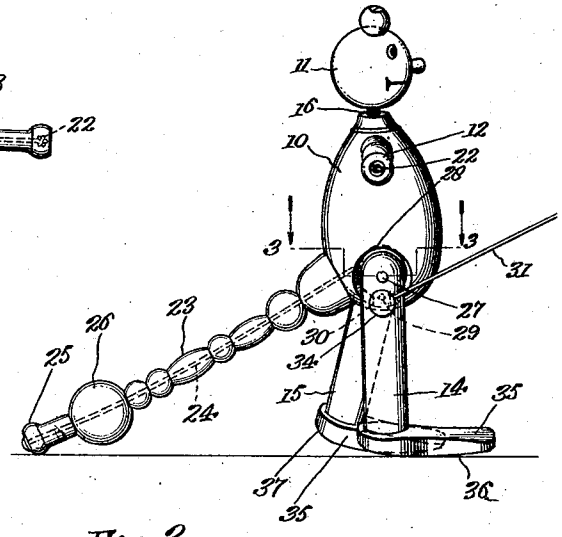


Fig. 3.

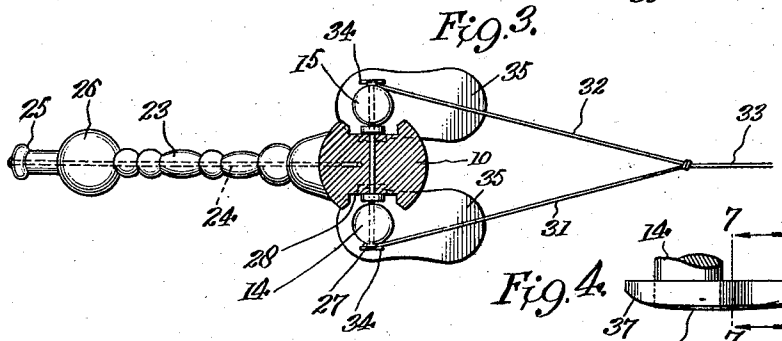


Fig. 4.

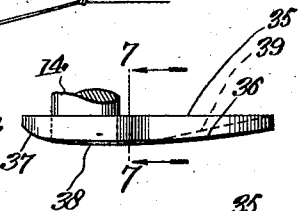


Fig. 8.

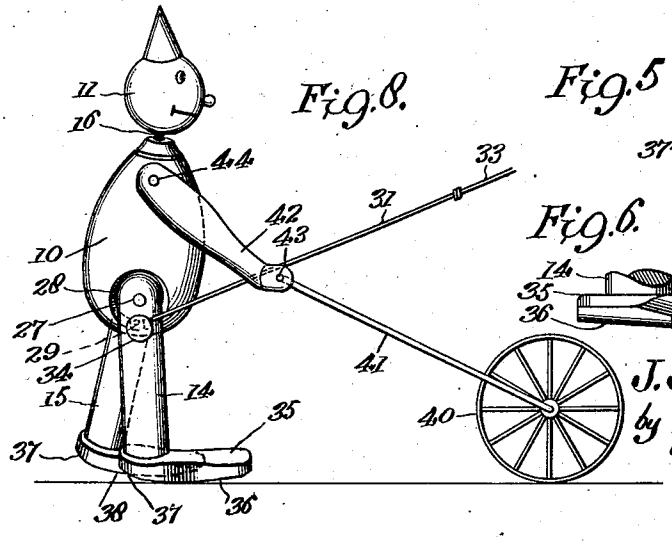


Fig. 5

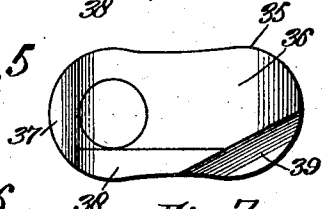


Fig. 6.

Fig. 7.



Inventor

J. J. Dahlstrom

by Wilkinson & Giusta

Attorneys.

Patented Mar. 15, 1927. 1,621,353

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN JAMES DAHLSTROM, OF NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA, ASSIGNOR TO WALKEE TOY & NOVELTY CO., INC., OF NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA, A CORPORATION OF LOUISIANA.

TOY.

Application filed July 30, 1926. Serial No. 126,009.

The present invention relates to improvements in toys and has for an object to provide a walking novelty toy in which the toy may be made to represent a grotesque human figure having movable legs attached to a drawing string, and the legs being so mounted and the string being so connected therewith as to produce a walking action in the toy upon the pulling of the string.

Another object of the invention resides in providing an improved toy movement in which the balance of the toy will be at all times preserved throughout the walking movement thereof and in which the mechanical walking movement will be reliable and subject to economical manufacture.

With the foregoing and other objects in view, the invention will be more fully described hereinafter, and will be more particularly pointed out in the claims appended hereto.

In the drawings, wherein like symbols refer to like or corresponding parts throughout the several views.

Figure 1 is a front elevation of an improved walking toy constructed according to the present invention.

Figure 2 is a side view of the same.

Figure 3 is a horizontal section taken on the line 3—3 in Figure 2.

Figure 4 is an enlarged edge view of one of the feet with a portion of the leg broken away.

Figure 5 is a bottom plan view of said foot.

Figure 6 is a front edge of the foot.

Figure 7 is a cross section taken on the line 7—7 in Figure 4, and

Figure 8 is a side view showing a slight modification.

Referring more particularly to the drawings 10 designates the trunk or body of the improved toy having the head 11, arms 12 and 13 and the legs 14 and 15. The outline configuration of the toy may be made in any fanciful or bizarre way and the head is preferably supported flexibily upon the coil spring 16, while the arms 12 and 13 are made up of beads or small elongated ornamental sleeves strung over the flexible wires or cords 17. The arms are preferably outstretched and maintained in this outstretched position for purpose of balance as hereinafter described.

The out-stretched condition of the arms is secured by the engagement of the concave faces 18 of the innermost beads 19 with the curved downwardly bulging surface 20 of the upper portion of the body 10. The outer surface 21 of such bead 19 is convex and the inner end of the first ornamental sleeve is adapted to rest against this convex surface 21, being held tightly thereagainst by means of the flexible cord 17. One cord will generally suffice for both arms and is made to pass entirely through the body 10 as indicated in Figure 1, the flexible cord being knotted as indicated at 22 at its outer ends to prevent it pulling through the ornamental sleeves. The tight engagement of one sleeve against the next will hold said sleeves in extended position.

The figure also preferably carries a tail 23 joined with a rear lower portion of the body 10 as indicated in Figures 2 and 3, and this tail may also advantageously be made up of the beads or ornamental sleeves strung upon the flexible cable or wire 24. The outer portion of the tail is provided with the sleeve having the enlarged or bulbous portion 25 having a rounded exterior surface for resting upon the ground and for enabling the tail to slide laterally. Preferably adjacent this bulbous sleeve is an enlarged ball 26 adapted to engage raised portions of uneven surfaces and also adapted to add weight at the rear most portion of the tail which is rather long in order to properly balance the figure and to prevent the figure from falling backwards. The weight of the tail will also prevent the figure from falling forwards and the tail is adapted to slide laterally from one side to the other on the rounded surface 25 as the figure is in the act of walking which also prevents the figure from toppling sidewise.

The legs 14 and 15 are pivoted to the body upon the pivot pin 27, although separate pivot pins may be employed and the lower portion of the body is cut away at both sides

to provide sockets 28 in which to receive the upper preferably rounded portions of the legs, the sockets being wider than the legs in order to permit free swinging movement of the legs about the pin 27. The inner upper portions of the legs are provided with the pins 29 adapted to move in sockets 30, the end walls of which engage the pins 29 to limit the swinging movement of the legs. The legs are connected just below the pivot pin 27 by the branches 31 and 32 of the string 33 by which the figure is led or pulled forwardly. The branches of the string are preferably wound about the thumb tacks 34 which are pushed into the sides of the legs.

The legs 14 and 15 carry at their lower ends the feet 35, which feet are preferably long and wide to give a grotesque appearance to the figure and a humorous appearance to its walking movement. The length and breadth of the feet, however, also subserve a useful purpose in retaining the balance of the figure and in enabling the figure to progress along in a walking movement. Each foot, as shown, in Figures 4 to 7, is secured in the leg at its rear portion and is slightly covex along its longitudinal sole 36, as shown in Figure 4, the intermediate portion of the longitudinal sole being approximately flat, however, while a greater convexity exists at the front portion of the foot. The rear portion of the longitudinal sole is also abruptly curved up away from the supported surface as shown at 37. Moreover the sole is beveled or inclined transversely as indicated at 38 in Figure 7. This inclination take place upwardly and outwardly of the foot. This transverse inclination is only a gentle one but in combination with the longitudinally extending convexity it provides the lowest sole surface at the rear inner portion of the foot. As shown in Figures 5 and 6, the inner front portion of the foot is beveled forwardly and upwardly as represented at 39 in order to tilt the figure laterally when coming forward upon the one foot; in other words to cant the figure over upon the opposite foot.

In Figure 8, the parts are all the same and are similarly numbered except that the external appearance of the figure is changed being that of a clown and the tail has been removed and replaced by the leading wheel 40 carried in the shaft 41, which is pivotally connected with the arms 42 of the figure. The pivotal connection is indicated at 43. In this case also the arms are not outstretched, but they are pivoted to the upper portion of the body as indicated at 44 and extend downwardly and forwardly. The wheel 40 serves to balance the figure in this instance.

In the action of the device, the string 33 is simply pulled upon and acts to lead the figure, so that the pulling action is upon the legs below the pivot pin 27 thereof thus having a tendency to swing the legs forwardly. The figure shifts from one foot to the other. In Figure 1 the toy is shown as reposing on the right foot. The further pulling of the string will act to swing the leg 15 forwardly and when the limiting pin 29 strikes the forward wall of its socket the string will draw the whole figure forwardly upon the right foot, the figure being enabled to rock forward by reason of the longitudinal convexity 36 of said foot. As the figure gets up upon the toe portion of the right foot, the inclined toe 39 will direct the figure over onto the left foot, the leg 15 having been brought forward so that the figure will swing over upon the rounded heel portion 37 of this left foot and this rounded portion will rapidly throw the figure forward upon the high area of the sole, this condition being assisted by the transverse curvature or inclination 38 of the foot which will also assist the toe portion 39 of the opposite foot to swing the weight on the left foot and thus leave the leg 14 free to be pulled forwardly by its branch string 31, while its right foot is out of contact with the supporting surface. In other words the toy will rock laterally from one foot to the other and while its weight is sustained on one foot the other foot and leg will be swung forwardly in position to receive the weight of the forwardly moving figure. The entire action is automatic taking place by pulling of the lead string 33. The out-stretched arms will serve to balance the figure in this lateral shifting movement and the tail as before stated will prevent the figure from falling backwards or from toppling forward.

It is obvious that various changes and modifications may be made in the details of construction and design of the above specifically described embodiment of this invention without departing from the spirit thereof, such changes and modifications being restricted only by the scope of the following claims.

What is claimed is:—

1. A walking toy figure comprising a body, a flexibly supported head, out-stretched flexible arms, a long tail extending from the body and having a bulbous portion at its rear for sliding laterally on the supporting surface and a weighted member forwardly of the bulbous portion, pivoted legs on the body of the figure, and means connected to the legs for drawing the figure forwardly.

2. In a walking toy figure, the combination of a body, a pair of legs pivoted to the lower portion of the body at opposite sides thereof, feet carried by the legs having inclined lower surfaces to effect stepping of the feet by the forward motion of the body, means for limiting the forward swinging movements of the legs, a support projecting

rearwardly from the body adapted to engage the ground and maintain the body from over-balancing in a forward and rearward direction, outwardly extending arms carried upon the opposite sides of the body near the top of the figure for counter-balancing the same against tilting sidewise, and a draw string having branches attached to said legs at points beneath the pivotal connections of the legs with the body for normally urging the legs in a forward direction and for disposing the line of draft of the figure beneath the pivotal connections of the legs with the body.

JOHN JAMES DAHLSTROM.