

April 29, 1930.

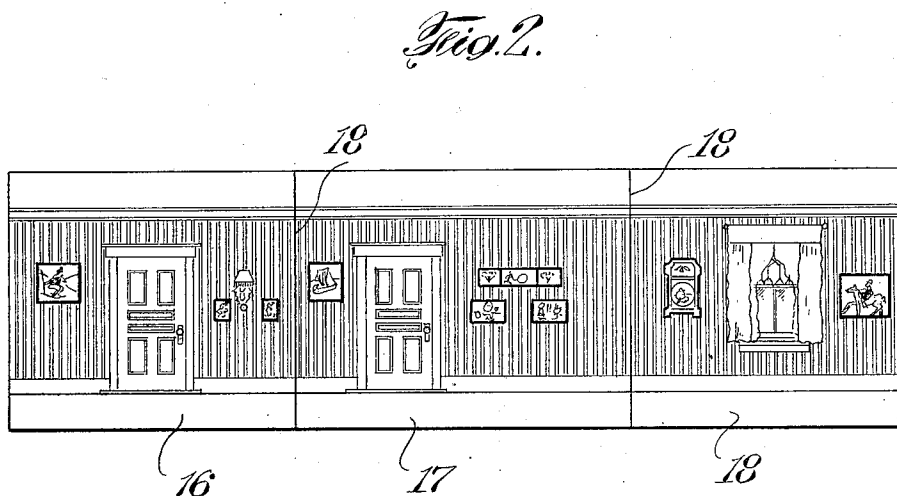
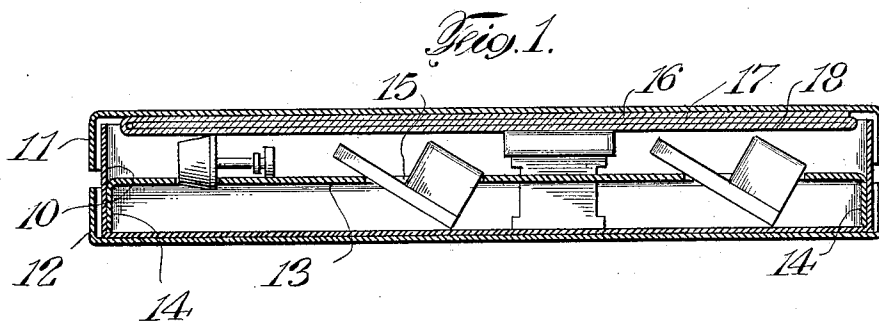
A. THOMPSON

1,756,526

TOY HOUSE

Filed May 19, 1928

2 Sheets-Sheet 1



INVENTOR.

Andrew Thompson

BY

Cooper, Kerr & Dunham

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Fig. 3.

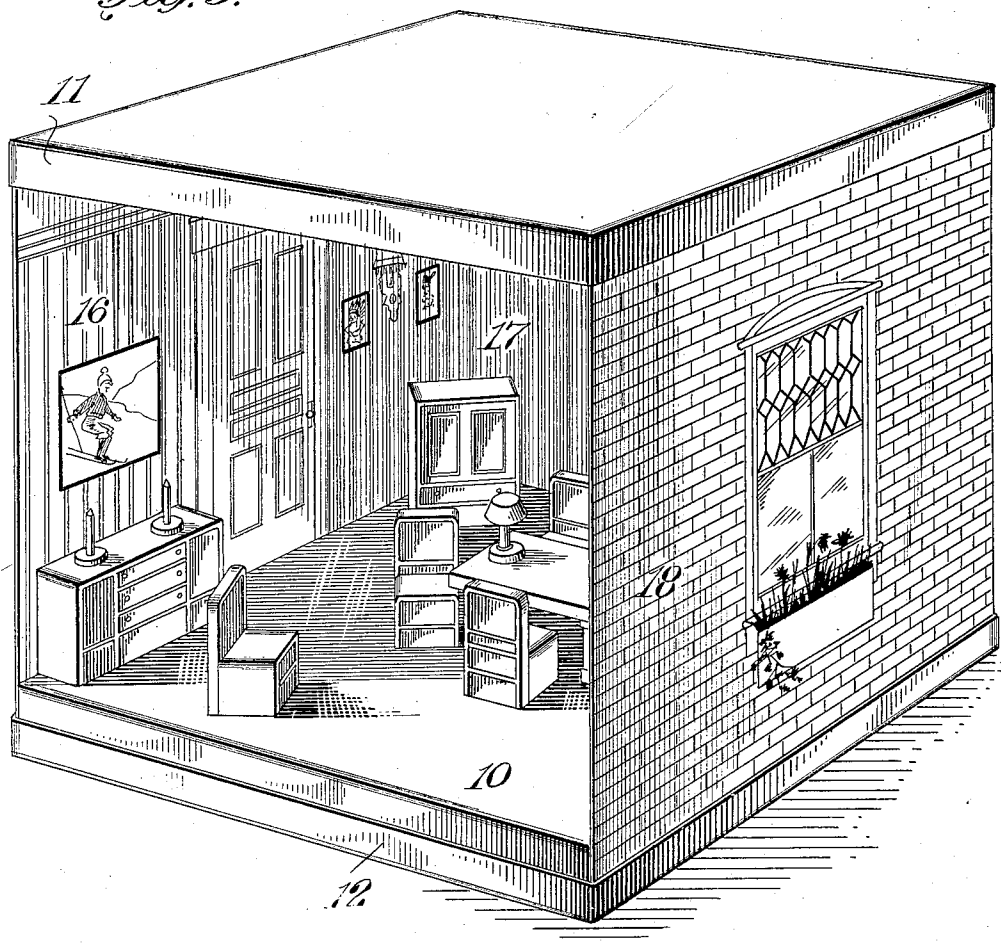
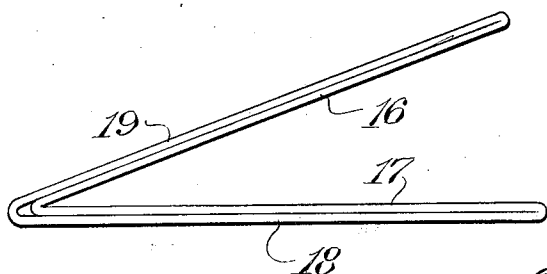


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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TOY HOUSE

Application filed May 19, 1928. Serial No. 278,953.

This invention relates to collapsible toy houses for children's use and it is in the nature of an improvement on the device described in the expired patent of M. E. Campbell, No. 635,994, dated October 31, 1899, in which folding walls and partitions are set upright in a flat box the lid of which fits down over the walls and partitions to form the roof.

One form of my improvement is illustrated in the accompanying drawing, in which—

Fig. 1 is a cross sectional view showing the complete outfit, collapsed.

Fig. 2 is a view of the folding walls, laid out flat.

Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the house set up for use, with toy furniture in place.

The outfit shown comprises a shallow box or receptacle 10 of stout cardboard, rectangular in plan, preferably square or nearly of that shape, provided with an upper lid 11 and a lower lid 12. All three of these parts are used in making the house, as will be explained hereinafter. It will be observed that both lids are shown somewhat larger, in horizontal dimensions, than the box itself, so as to leave a narrow space along at least three adjoining sides. In the box is a platform 13, of cardboard, having its edges bent down as indicated at 14 to support the platform at a suitable height in the box. This platform is designed to hold the several pieces of toy furniture of appropriate size, and for this purpose it is provided with openings, as 15, in which the articles are removably fitted, to prevent the articles shaking about in handling and shipment. The platform may be removable or it may be fastened in place by glue or otherwise, as desired. The walls of the house illustrated are shown at 16, 17, 18, and are composed of cardboard and are made in a single strip, adapted to collapse or fold along two vertical lines 18 for convenient packing in the box 10 as shown in Fig. 1, or, if desired, in the lower lid 12 under the bottom of the box.

To set up the house the furniture is removed and the box, 10, is placed bottom-up in one of the lids, say the lower, 12, as clearly shown in Fig. 3. The walls are now un-

folded and set down into the space between the sides of the box and the sides of the lid 12, and the other lid is inverted on top of the walls to form the ceiling or roof, as in Fig. 3. The furniture can be arranged as desired, on the bottom of the box, which serves as the floor. The "floor" may be printed to represent parquet flooring, with rugs thereon, or otherwise appropriately decorated, if desired, or "rugs" of paper or thin cloth (not shown) may be provided as a part of the outfit, to be placed on the floor in any desired positions. The door shown in the back wall 17 may be cut along the bottom, top and one side edge, and bent to swing on the other side edge. Then another "house" may be erected and set up with its open front against the rear wall 17 of the first, thus forming another room. A third room can be similarly arranged against the side wall 16, the door in the latter having been cut so as to open and close like the first mentioned door.

The walls fit snugly in the space provided for them between the box and the lid and are thus well supported at the bottom and held against bulging inwardly as well as outwardly, thereby permitting the "doors" to be opened or closed by the youthful user without distorting the walls. The floor, formed by the bottom of the box, is at a height which permits all parts of it to be easily seen and allows the furniture to be conveniently shifted about.

Only three walls are shown in Fig. 3—two side walls and a rear wall—but a front wall also may be provided if desired. In that case I prefer to have the ends of the cardboard strip joined, as by means of a cloth hinge, not shown, and arrange the four sections to fold as in Fig. 4, in which the fourth or front wall is designated 19. The front wall would be provided with a door, which could be opened and closed.

The box and lids are preferably made of heavy cardboard, and the corners may be reinforced to give them additional strength. The wall strip is preferably printed to simulate the inner and outer wall surfaces of a real house, including doors, curtained windows, pictures, and sconces.

It is to be understood that the invention is not limited to the specific embodiment illustrated and described herein but can be embodied in other forms without departure from its spirit as defined by the appended
5 claims.

I claim:—

1. A collapsible toy house comprising a shallow box having two lids, in one of which
10 the box is removably arranged bottom up, vertical outer walls consisting of a foldable strip of cardboard inserted between the sides of the box and the adjacent sides of the said lid and supported thereby, and the other lid
15 fitted down over the top of the walls, said foldable strip being adapted when folded to be housed in the box when the house is collapsed.

2. An outfit for making a toy house, comprising a box consisting of a shallow rectangular receptacle and upper and lower lids therefor, of slightly larger horizontal dimensions than the receptacle itself, and a folding
20 strip of cardboard housed in the box and adapted to fit between the sides of the receptacle and the sides of one of the lids to form the outer walls of the house, the other lid being adapted to fit down over the top of the walls of the house to form the ceiling.

3. An outfit for making a toy house comprising a box consisting of a shallow rectangular receptacle and two lids therefor, a folding wall-strip housed in the box and adapted to fit between the sides of the receptacle and the sides of one of the lids to form
35 the outer walls when the receptacle is placed bottom up in such lid, the other lid being adapted to fit down over the top of the wall-strip to form the ceiling, means in the receptacle for removably holding articles of toy
40 furniture of appropriate size, and a plurality of such articles of toy furniture held by said means.

In testimony whereof I hereto affix my signature.
45 nature.

ANDREW THOMPSON.

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