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COMBINED TRAY OR THE LIKE AND AMUSEMENT DEVICE

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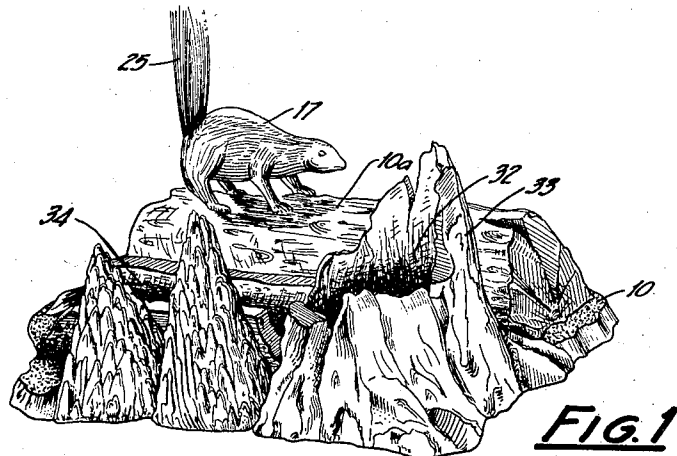


FIG. 1

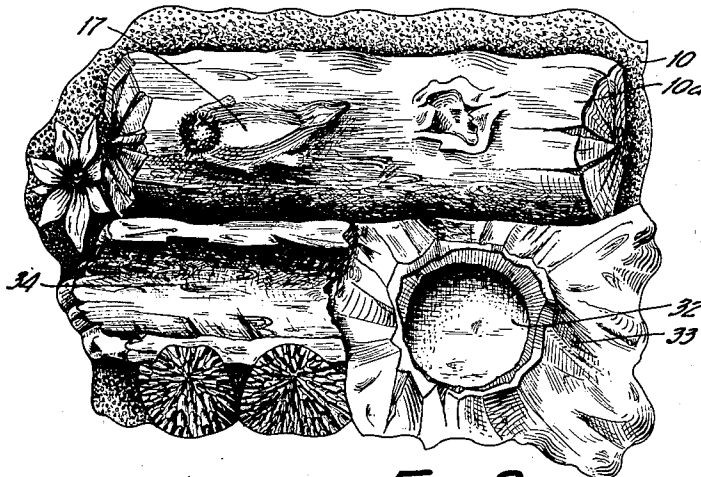


FIG. 2

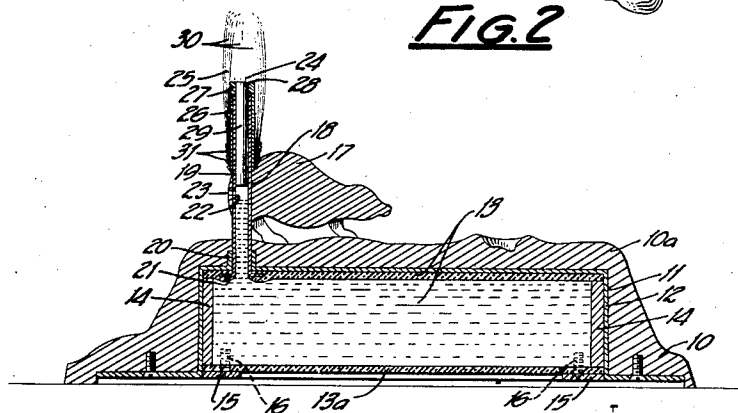


FIG. 3

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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COMBINED TRAY OR THE LIKE AND
AMUSEMENT DEVICE

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7 Claims. (Cl. 46-40)

My invention more particularly relates to an amusement device in which a figure simulating an animal is mounted on a base and normally invisible means provided for expelling a jet of liquid from a portion of the animal. The base may advantageously be formed as a tray for ashes, cigarettes and the like and may also be designed to simulate a woodland scene.

Other objects of my invention will appear in the specification and will be particularly pointed out in the claims.

My invention will best be understood by reference to the accompanying drawing in which I have illustrated one embodiment thereof and in which—

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a device embodying my invention;

Fig. 2 is a plan view; and

Fig. 3 is a longitudinal vertical section.

Like reference characters indicate like parts throughout the drawing.

Referring to the drawing 10 is a base made of any suitable material such as plaster of Paris or cast iron the exposed surface of which in the embodiment illustrated is formed to simulate the appearance of a section of woodland.

The lower portion of the base is provided with a recess 11 which is preferably lined with sheet metal 12 or other suitable material. The wall defining the recess may conveniently be formed of a substantially cylindrical member 10a simulating in appearance a section of a log. Mounted within the recess is a normally inaccessible fluid tight receptacle 13 the lower wall 13a of which is collapsible and is exposed on the lower side of the device thereby enabling the person who is handling it to press the wall 13a upwardly. The receptacle 13 may conveniently be formed of a tube of rubber or other collapsible material, the ends of which are closed and made fluid tight by suitable plugs or discs 14. The receptacle is supported in position by cross straps 15 which may be secured to the base 10 as by screws 16. It will, of course, be understood that the receptacle 13 may be made, and in practice I prefer to make it in the form of a continuous bulb.

On the upper side of the base is mounted a Figure 17 which simulates an animal in shape and appearance. The figure in the embodiment illustrated is that of a skunk although it will, of course, be understood that figures of other animals may likewise be used.

The Figure 17 is provided with an opening 18 which preferably extends therethrough. A tube 19 extends through the opening and communi-

cates with the receptacle 13 and preferably extends upwardly beyond the figure to provide a convenient inlet through which the receptacle may be filled with a suitable liquid. The sheet metal lining 11 is preferably provided with an upwardly extending lug 20 provided with an opening in which the tube 19 is received, the lower end of the tube preferably being flanged outwardly as at 21 and cemented or otherwise secured to the receptacle 13. The tube 19 is preferably provided with an opening 22 in the wall thereof which communicates with an orifice 23 with which the Figure 17 is provided.

The fluid with which the receptacle is filled preferably contains material having an agreeable scent which forms a pleasant contrast to that which is secreted in and expelled from the perineal glands of the skunk. The upper end of the tubular member is normally closed by a stopper indicated generally at 24 which forms a part of the tail 25 or other member of the animal. In the embodiment illustrated, a sleeve 26 fits over the tube 19 and is provided at its upper end with a cap 27 provided with an opening 28 in which is secured a plug or stopper 29 which is received in the tubular member 19. The bristles or hairs 30 which simulate the tail of the skunk may be secured to the sleeve 26 as by a thread or wire 31, the tail or other member of the figure thus serving to conceal the end of the tube.

The device is also preferably provided with an ash tray 32 which is located in a member 33 simulating a hollow stump, and is also provided with a substantially semi-cylindrical element 34 simulating a section of a hollow tree which may receive a cigar, pipe, or cigarette.

Initially the receptacle 13 and the tube 19 are filled through the tube with a liquid preferably to a level slightly below that of the orifice 23 as indicated in Fig. 3.

By lifting the device, the lower wall of the receptacle 13 is accessible to the hand of the user although invisible to a spectator, and by collapsing the wall 13a of the receptacle 13, fluid is forced through the orifice 23 to simulate the jet of the secretion which is expelled from the perineal glands of the skunk. The stopper for the tube 26 permits sufficient pressure to be built up within the receptacle to force the jet or spray from the orifice 23.

The device is also useful, particularly when used in a smoker's set as in the embodiment illustrated, for extinguishing a cigarette or cigar. It is well known that a cigarette butt when thrown away continues to burn and give off offensive odors.

The jet may conveniently be used for extinguishing the cigarette butt before being placed in the ash receiver.

While I have illustrated my invention in connection with an ash tray, it will, of course, be understood that it may be used in connection with other devices such, for example, as a fountain pen stand.

While I have described my invention in its preferred embodiment, it is to be understood that the words which I have used are words of description rather than of limitation and that the drawing is merely illustrative. Hence changes within the purview of the appended claims may be made without departing from the true scope and spirit of my invention in its broader aspects.

What I claim is:

1. In an ornamental amusement device, a substantially rigid supporting base provided in its lower portion with a recess, a normally invisible and inaccessible substantially fluid tight receptacle mounted in said recess and provided with a collapsible wall exposed only on the lower side of the device, and a figure simulating an animal in shape and appearance mounted on said base, said figure being provided with an opening, and a single tube received in said opening and communicating with said receptacle and with the surrounding medium.

2. In an ornamental amusement device, a substantially rigid supporting base provided in its lower portion with a recess, a normally invisible and inaccessible receptacle mounted in said recess, said receptacle being provided on its lower side with a collapsible wall exposed only on the lower side of the base by which liquid may be expelled from the receptacle, and a figure simulating an animal in shape and appearance mounted on said base, said figure being provided with an opening, and a single tube communicating with said receptacle and received in said opening, said figure being provided with a lateral orifice connecting said opening to the surrounding medium, and said tube being provided with an opening communicating with said orifice.

3. In an amusement device, a substantially rigid supporting base provided in its lower portion with a recess, a normally invisible and inaccessible receptacle mounted in said recess, said receptacle being provided on its lower side with a collapsible wall exposed only on the lower side of the device and by which liquid may be expelled from the receptacle, and a figure simulating an animal in shape and appearance mounted on said base, said figure being provided with an opening communicating with said receptacle and with two passages furnishing communication between said opening and the surrounding medium, one of said passages serving as an inlet through which said receptacle may be filled and the other passage being in direct communication with said medium.

4. In an amusement device, a substantially rigid supporting base provided in its lower portion with a recess, a normally invisible and inaccessible receptacle mounted in said recess, said receptacle

being provided on its lower side with a collapsible wall exposed only on the lower side of the device and by which fluid may be expelled from the receptacle, and a figure simulating an animal in shape and appearance mounted on said base, said figure being provided with a single opening communicating with said receptacle and with two passages furnishing communication between said opening and the surrounding medium, one of said passages serving as an inlet through which said receptacle may be filled, and the other passage being in permanent communication with said medium.

5. In an amusement device, a supporting base provided in its lower portion with a recess, a normally inaccessible receptacle mounted in said recess, said receptacle being provided on its lower side with a collapsible wall exposed on the lower side of the device and by which fluid may be expelled from the receptacle, and a figure simulating an animal in shape and appearance mounted on said base, said figure being provided with an opening communicating with said receptacle and with two passages furnishing communication between said opening and the surrounding medium, one of said passages serving as an inlet through which said receptacle may be filled, a member of said figure being provided with a stopper for said inlet passage, and the other passage being in permanent communication with said medium.

6. In an amusement device, a supporting base provided on its lower side with a recess, a normally inaccessible receptacle mounted within said recess, a figure simulating an animal in shape and appearance mounted on said base, said receptacle being provided with a collapsible wall, said figure being provided with an opening, a tube communicating with said receptacle and extending upwardly through said opening, said figure being provided with an orifice communicating with said opening and the surrounding medium and said tube being provided with a lateral opening communicating with said orifice, said tube having an opening at its end, and a stopper for said latter opening whereby pressure applied to the wall of said receptacle expels liquid through said orifice.

7. In an amusement device, a supporting base provided on its lower side with a recess, a normally inaccessible receptacle mounted within said recess, a figure simulating an animal in shape and appearance mounted on said base, said receptacle being provided with a collapsible wall, said figure being provided with an opening, a tube communicating with said receptacle and extending upwardly through said opening, said figure being provided with an orifice communicating with said opening and the surrounding medium and said tube being provided with a lateral opening communicating with said orifice, a member of said figure being provided with a stopper for the exposed end of said tubular element and constructed and arranged to conceal said tube, whereby pressure applied to the collapsible wall of said receptacle expels a jet of fluid from the orifice of said figure.

CHARLES T. JOSLIN.