July 4, 1961 H. E. ZOELLER 2,990,643

TOY BANK

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Fig. 1

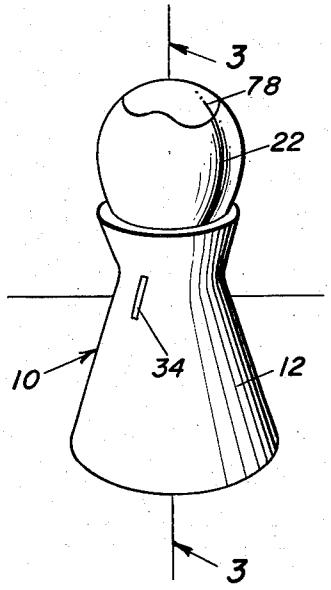


Fig. 2

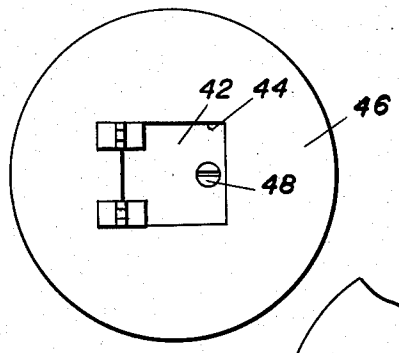


Fig. 3

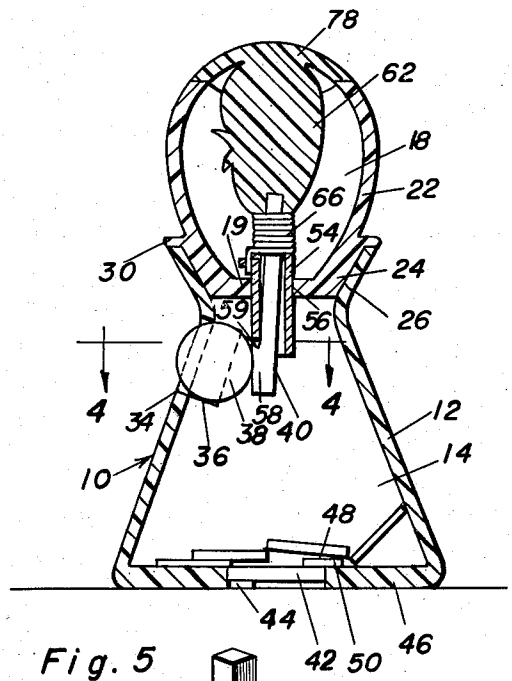


Fig. 4

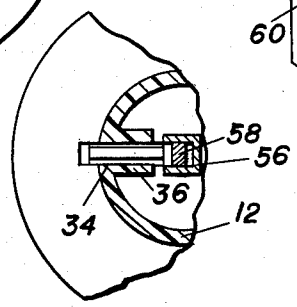
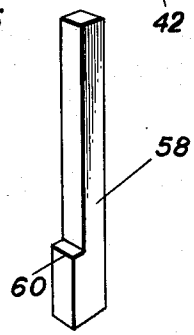


Fig. 5



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Fig. 6

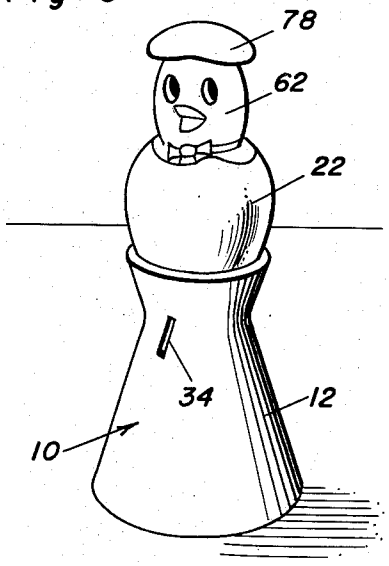


Fig. 8

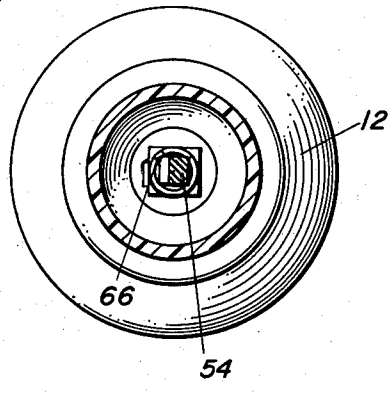


Fig. 9

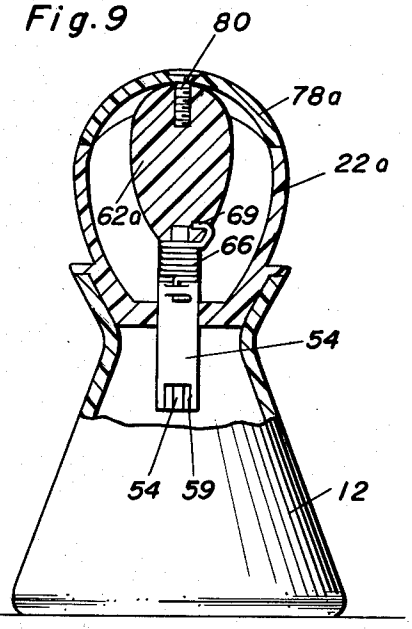
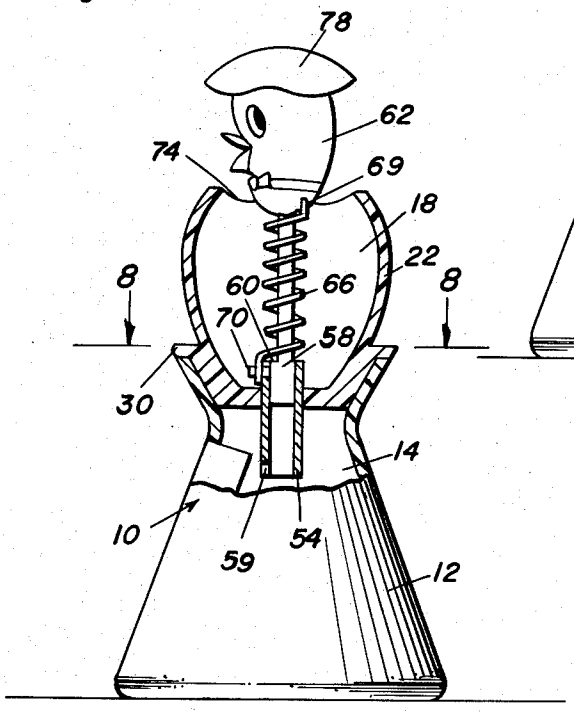


Fig. 7



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TOY BANK

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2 Claims. (Cl. 46—3)

This invention relates to toys and more particularly to a toy bank.

An object of the invention is to provide an attractive, amusing toy which functions in response to the deposit of a coin in a coin box of the toy. As the coin is deposited, means are rendered operative to release a latch and enable a spring to eject at least a portion of a figurine upwardly in a direction to attract the attention of a child. The upward extent of travel of the figurine or partial figurine is limited by means of the same spring which ejects the figurine.

Another object of the invention is to provide an amusement device preferably made as a toy bank, and which may be made very simple in construction but which is attractive and neat and quite appealing to the eye both when at rest and when in use.

These together with other objects and advantages which will become subsequently apparent reside in the details of construction and operation as more fully hereinafter described and claimed, reference being had to the accompanying drawings forming a part hereof, wherein like numerals refer to like parts throughout, and in which:

FIGURE 1 is a perspective view of a toy bank constructed in accordance with the invention.

FIGURE 2 is a bottom plan view of the bank in FIGURE 1.

FIGURE 3 is a sectional view taken on the line 3—3 of FIGURE 1.

FIGURE 4 is a fragmentary sectional view taken on the line 4—4 of FIGURE 3.

FIGURE 5 is a perspective view of a latch bar constituting part of a latch of the toy bank.

FIGURE 6 is a perspective view showing the toy bank in the operated position, i.e. just after a coin has been inserted in the coin slot of the bank.

FIGURE 7 is a longitudinal sectional view, parts shown in elevation, of the toy bank in FIGURE 6.

FIGURE 8 is a cross sectional view taken on the line 8—8 of FIGURE 7.

FIGURE 9 is a partially sectional and partially elevational view showing a modification of the invention.

In the accompanying drawings reference is first made to FIGURES 1–8. Toy bank **10** is preferably made of plastic or other lightweight material and is composed of body **12** having a coin receptacle or box **14** and a shell or figurine cavity **18**. The coin box is made in the form of an egg cup while the cavity **18** is enclosed by a wall **22** in the shape of an egg with the lower part **24** thereof fitted in the upwardly opening and outwardly flared upper section **26** of the egg cup shaped body. The top part of the body (FIGURE 3) may be made as a separate part from the bottom in order to facilitate manufacture, with the juncture being between parts **24** and **26**. A lateral flange **30** extending from the side wall **22** preferably seats on the upper edge of part **26** and is sealed in place, for instance by a plasticizing cement or by some other ordinary plastic securing technique.

Coin slot **34** is formed in a side wall of the body and is in registry with the coin box **14**. An open ended coin guide **36** is attached to the side wall of the coin box and is in registry with slot **34** in order to guide typical coin **38** toward the central axis of the coin box to make sure that latch **40** will be released each time that a coin is inserted in the coin box. In order to remove the coins from the coin box, there is a door **42** mounted in an

opening **44** in the bottom wall **46** of the coin box. A swinging latch **48** carried by door **42** and having an angular inner part **50**, releasably holds door **42** in a closed position. In order to operate the latch **48** a screwdriver is required to be fitted in the screw kerf at the lower part of the latch **48** whereby the latch may be rotated until the angulated part **50** thereof clears the inner surface of the bottom wall **46** of the coin box, whence door **42** may be moved to the open position.

An open ended tube **54** is mounted in an opening **56** in the bottom wall **19** of cavity **18**. It is held firmly in place by cementing or other standard fastening means. Latch bar or plunger **58** is mounted within the open ended tube **56** and has a hook or shoulder **60** near its lower end. The upper end of the latch bar has a figurine **62** fixed thereto and located within cavity **18**. The lower end of latch bar **58**, including shoulder **60** is located in the coin box **14**. Although various selections of figurines may be made, it is preferred that the figurine be in the form of a baby chick to be commensurate with the egg and egg cup motif.

A spring **66** is concentrically mounted on latch bar **58** and has one end anchored as at **69** to figurine **62** (FIGURE 7). The anchorage is made by simply fitting one end of spring **66** in a cavity in the figurine. The lower end of the spring is secured to a laterally projecting pin **70** attached to the side wall of tube **54**. Spring **66** functions to quickly elevate the figurine in response to release of latch **40**.

As illustrated best in FIGURE 7, there is an opening **74** at the top of cavity **18**. This opening is irregular in its outline separating the top part of the smooth egg shaped wall **22** from the lower part thereof. A small section **78** of wall **22** is made integral with or otherwise secured to the top of the figurine **62** and functions as a closure for the opening **74**. Consequently, section **78** elevates simultaneously with the figurine **62** so that the appearance of the toy bank is of a chick breaking through an egg shell, each time that a coin is deposited in the coin slot **34**.

It was stated that the section **78** of the wall **22** may be otherwise secured to the figurine. By this is meant numerous fastening means may be resorted to in this connection, one of which is shown in FIGURE 9. The wall **22*a*** in the embodiment of FIGURE 9 has a movable section **78*a*** attached to figurine **62*a*** by means of a screw **80**. Other fastening expedients may be resorted to without departing from the invention.

Latch **40** is made of latch bar **58** and a notch **59** in the side wall of tube **56**. Shoulder **60** engages the upper wall of notch **59** and thereby holds the latch bar **58** depressed as shown in FIGURE 3, under the loading of spring **66**. When a coin **38** is pushed into coin slot **34** it is guided by guide **36** to have the edge thereof abut the lower part of latch bar **58**. This pushes the latch bar toward the longitudinal central axis of tube **54** or at least, a distance sufficient to disengage shoulder **60** from the upper wall of notch **59**. As soon as this happens spring **66** extends thereby promptly pushing the latch bar **58**, figurine **62** and wall section **78** upwardly. To restore the figurine **62** and wall section **78** to the lowered position as shown in FIGURE 3, the wall section **78** is simply pushed downwardly. In order for the edges of the wall section and opening **74** to match, the latch bar **58** will be tilted properly, i.e. a sufficient amount so that shoulder **60** again engages the upper edge of notch **59**.

The foregoing is considered as illustrative only of the principles of the invention. Further, since numerous modifications and changes will readily occur to those skilled in the art, it is not desired to limit the invention to the exact construction and operation shown and de-

scribed, and accordingly all suitable modifications and equivalents may be resorted to, falling within the scope of the invention as claimed.

What is claimed as new is as follows:

1. A novelty toy bank comprising a receptacle representing an egg cup and having a slot therein for the insertion of a coin, a shell representing an egg fixed in the top portion of said receptacle and having an irregularly shaped opening in its upper portion, a vertical tube in the lower portion of the shell extending downwardly into the receptacle, a laterally rockable plunger extending through the tube, a figurine representing a chick on the upper end of said plunger, a coil spring encircling the plunger and operatively connected to the figurine for projecting same upwardly through the opening, a hook on the lower end of the plunger engageable beneath the lower end of the tube for releasably anchoring the figurine in retracted position against the tension of the spring and engageable by a coin being inserted for disengagement thereby from the tube for releasing the figurine, and a complementally shaped closure for the opening fixed on the figurine and seatable in said opening for closing the shell and engaging the hook with the tube.

2. A novelty toy bank including a receptacle having a coin slot therein, a shell mounted on the upper portion of the receptacle and having an opening in its upper portion, a vertical tube in the shell having communication with the receptacle, a plunger loosely mounted in said tube, a figurine on the upper end portion of the plunger, resilient means yieldingly urging said figurine upwardly through the opening, a hook on the plunger engageable with the tube for releasably anchoring the figurine in retracted position and operable by a coin entering through the slot for disengagement thereby from said tube, and a closure on the figurine seatable in the opening for closing the shell and engaging the hook with the tube.

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