Oct. 24, 1939. N. FULTON 2,177,211

TOY

Filed July 27, 1936 3 Sheets-Sheet 1

Fig. 1.

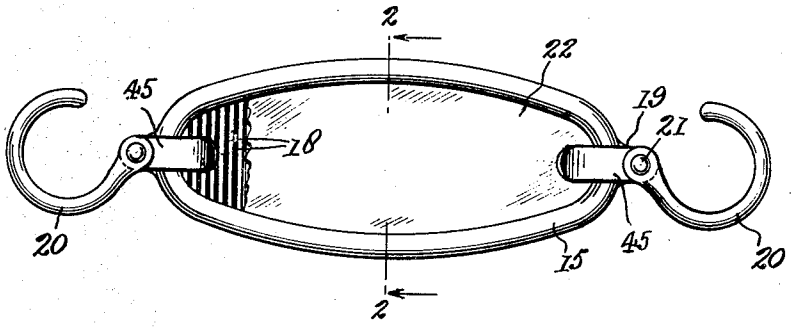


Fig. 2.

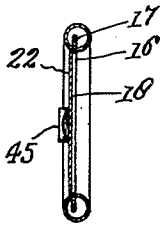


Fig. 3.

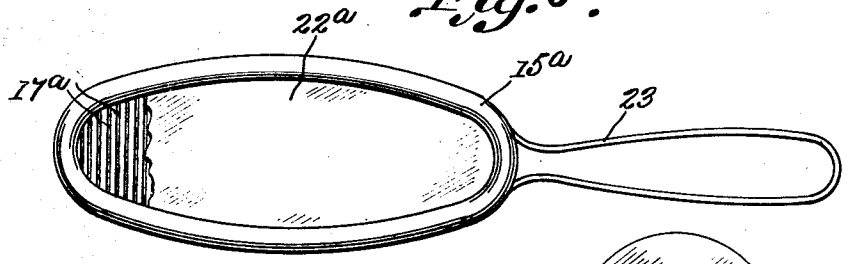


Fig. 5.

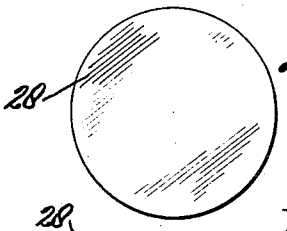
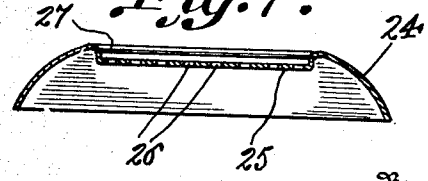


Fig. 6.



Fig. 4.

Fig. 7.



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Fig. 8.

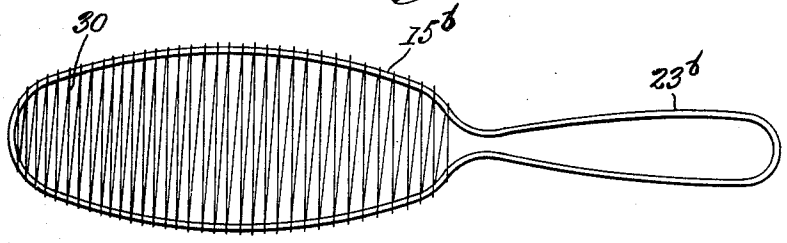




Fig. 9.



Fig. 10.

Fig. 11.

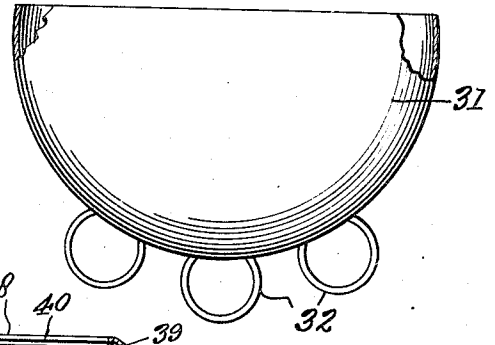
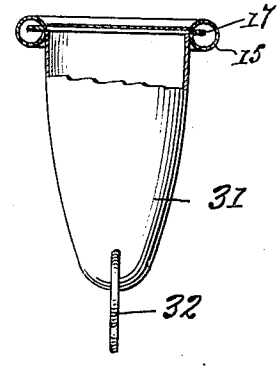


Fig. 12.



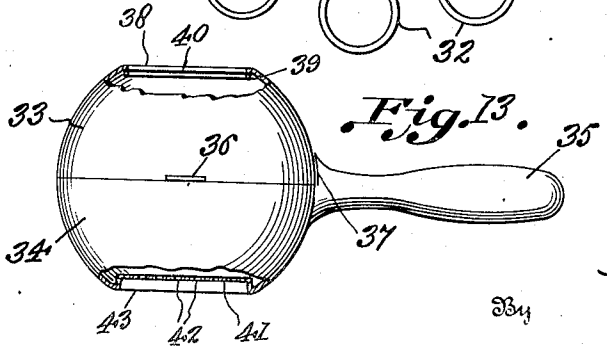


Fig. 13.

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Fig. 14.

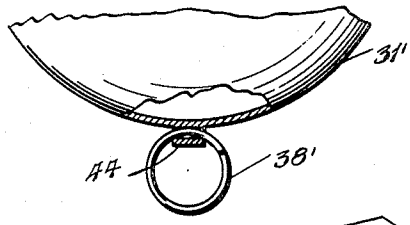


Fig. 15.

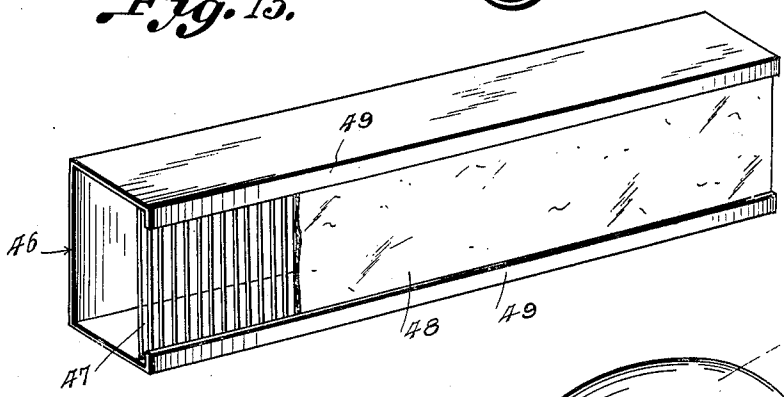


Fig. 17.

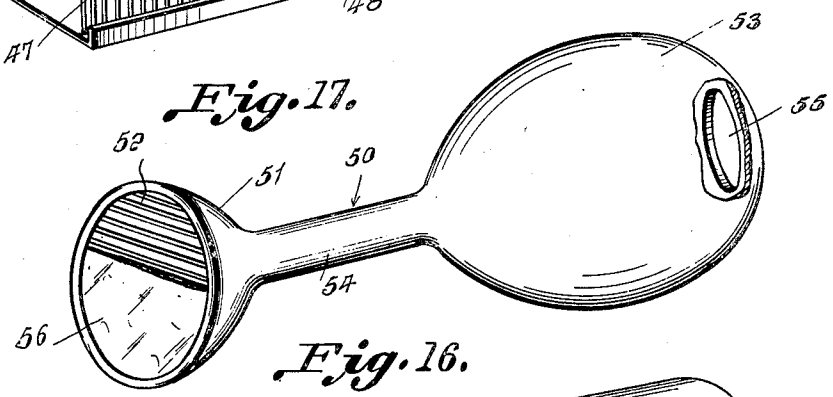
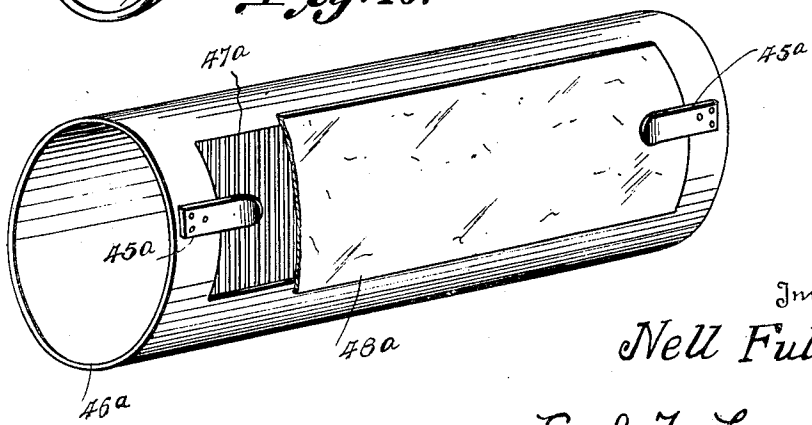


Fig. 16.



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Patented Oct. 24, 1939 2,177,211

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,177,211

TOY

Nell Fulton, New York, N. Y.

Application July 27, 1936, Serial No. 92,868

5 Claims. (Cl. 46—180)

This invention relates to toys, and more particularly to toys of the sounding type.

An object of this invention is to provide a toy which may be readily used by children, or even by grown-ups, as a source of amusement.

Another object of this invention is to provide a toy which can be made of relatively light weight material which can be readily cleansed to keep the toy in a sanitary condition.

A further object of this invention is to provide in combination with a sounding toy of this character means whereby the tone of the sound may be varied by the player.

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 top plan, partly broken away, of a device constructed according to an embodiment of this invention.

Figure 2 is a sectional view taken on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1.

Figure 3 is a top plan, partly broken away, of a modified form of this invention.

Figure 4 is a top plan of a further form of this invention.

Figure 5 is a top plan of the sounding disc used with the device shown in Fig. 4.

Figure 6 is an end elevation of the sounding disc.

Figure 7 is a sectional view taken on the line 7—7 of Fig. 4.

Figure 8 is a top plan of a further modification of this invention.

Figure 9 is a top plan of the sounding plate or member used with the forms shown in Figs. 1, 3 and 8.

Figure 10 is an end elevation of the sounding member shown in Fig. 9.

Figure 11 is a detail side elevation, partly broken away and in section, of a tone modulator for use with this invention.

Figure 12 is a front elevation, partly broken away and in section, of the tone modulator combined with the sounding device.

Figure 13 is a detail side elevation, partly broken away and in section, of a further modification of this invention.

Figure 14 is a fragmentary side elevation, partly broken away and in section, of a modified form of tone modulator.

Figure 15 is a perspective view of another form of this invention.

Figure 16 is a perspective view of a further form of this invention.

Figure 17 is a perspective view, partly broken away, of a further form of this invention.

Referring to the drawings, wherein like symbols refer to like parts throughout the several views, the numeral 15 designates generally an oval or elliptical frame which is preferably constructed of a tube, and which is provided with a slot 16 on the inner portion thereof in which a plate 17 is mounted. The plate 17 is constructed of relatively thin metal, and the body of the plate 17 is provided with a plurality of spaced apart and transversely extending parallel slots 18 which form sounding reeds after the manner of a comb.

The opposite ends of the frame member 15 are provided with outstanding lugs or enlargements 19, and a handle 20 in the form of a hook or loop is secured as by a rivet or other fastening device 21. A sounding plate or member 22 in the form of an oval or elliptical shaped sheet of paper is adapted to engage within the frame 15 against one side of the plate 17. The device is then placed against the lips of a person, with the sheet 22 pressed against the lips and a buzzing sound made which will have the effect of causing the sheet 22 to vibrate and produce a pleasing sound which can readily be varied by the voice of the player.

In Figure 3 there is disclosed a frame structure 15*a* which is similar in every detail to the frame 15 of Figure 1, having a slotted plate 17*a* secured therein, and a sounding sheet 22*a* is adapted to engage within the frame 15*a* and to be pressed against the lips of the player. The frame 15*a* has an elongated looped handle 23 secured to one end thereof, the handle 23 being preferably made from a piece of relatively stiff wire with the ends thereof welded or otherwise secured to an end of the frame 15*a*.

The toy disclosed in Figure 4 is constructed in the form of an inverted cup-shaped member, and comprises a convex annular frame member 24 having an inwardly offset central portion 25 provided with a plurality of holes 26. This offset central portion 25 is flat, and a plurality of parallel bars or rods 27 are secured within the recessed portion 25, being disposed in outwardly spaced relation to the flat perforate portion 25. By offsetting the central portion of the frame member 24 there is provided a seat to receive a sounding disc 28, shown in Figures 5 and 6, in

the form of a sheet of paper of suitable thickness cut in the form of a disc. The frame **24** has a handle **29** secured thereto, the handle **29** being welded or otherwise secured to the frame **24**.

In Figure 8 there is disclosed a further form of this invention, and in this form the frame of the device is constructed from a piece of wire which is looped or bent to form a looped frame member **15***b*, and one end of the frame **15***b* is continued to form a looped handle **23***b*. A wire **30** is wound about the frame **15***b* with the strands of wire spaced apart the desired distance to form sounding reeds. The sounding sheet **22***b* shown in Figures 9 and 10 is adapted to be used with this form of the toy and is placed against one side thereof in contact with the wire **30**.

Figure 11 shows a tone modulating means for use with this device, and this modulating means comprises a cup-shaped resilient body provided with an open side which is adapted to engage against a side of the reed, and this body **31** is shaped in side elevation as a fragmentary sphere, and in end elevation the body **31** is shaped as a parabola. A plurality of gripping members in the form of rings **32** are secured to the bottom of the modulator **31**, and the fingers of the player are adapted to extend through these rings **32** so that the modulator **31** may be firmly held in one hand. Figure 12 shows the manner in which the modulator is used, being placed on the toy on the side of the reed opposite from the sounding sheet.

Figure 13 shows a further form of this invention, and in this form the body of the device is constructed in the shape of a ball, including the semi-spherical frame sections **33** and **34**. The frame section **34** is provided with a handle **35** which is fixed thereto, and the frame section **33** is hinged as at **36** to the frame section **34**, the handle **35** being cut out as at **37** so as to permit the two frame sections **33** and **34** to snugly engage each other. Suitable locking means (not shown) may be provided to secure the frame members **33** and **34** together.

The frame member **33** has an annular cut out portion **38**, and an inwardly extending flange **39** defines the edges of this cut out portion, and also provides a means for holding a plurality of parallel bars or wires **40** which form sounding reeds.

The frame member **34** has a cut out portion **41** directly opposite from the cut out portion **38** of the frame member **33**, and a perforate plate **42** is secured to a flange **43**. A disc similar to the disc **28** is adapted to be used with this ball shaped toy, the disc **28** being placed against the reeds formed by the bars or wires **40**, whereas a hand may be placed against the open portion of the frame member **34** and moved back and forth, that is toward or away from the plate **42**, thus serving as a modulating means for the sound passing through the device.

In the use of this device, where the devices shown in Figures 1, 2, 3 and 8 are used, the sounding sheet is placed against the reeds within the frame, and the sheet then pressed against the lips of the player. The player may then make a sound through his lips which will act as a means to vibrate the sheet against the reeds. Where the device shown in Figures 4 and 7 is used, the sheet **28** is placed in the recessed central portion against the reeds formed by the bars **27**. One hand may be placed against the opposite or concave side of the frame **24** and moved toward or away from the frame **24** so as to modulate the tones passing through the holes **26** in the plate **25**.

The modulator **31** may be used with any of the open frame constructions, and the modulator **31** may be compressed during the playing of the device or may be rocked on one edge thereof, or may be moved toward or away from the reeds, thereby forming a modulator which may be used in any desired manner to vary the tone or sound from the reeds.

In Figure 14 there is shown a modulator **31'** similar to the modulator **31**, except that the rings **32** are replaced by a ring **38'** which engages in an offset portion **44** which is struck from the material of the modulator **31'**.

The paper **22** which in Figure **1** engages against the reeds **18** may be firmly held against the reeds by means of opposed clips **45** which engage over the frame **15** and have their outer ends secured by the rivets **21**. In this manner the player need not hold the sheet **22** against the reeds **18** during the playing of the instrument.

Figure 15 shows another form of this toy in which there is provided a hollow body **46** which is open at each end and is substantially rectangular in transverse section. This body **46** is provided with reeds **47** along one side thereof, and longitudinal guides **49** are disposed along the opposite edges of the reeds **47**. A sheet of paper **48** is adapted to be positioned against the front side of the reeds **47** with the opposite edges thereof engaging in the guides **49**. This paper **48** is inserted in the guides **49** from either end thereof. In this form the open ends of the body **46** provide means whereby the hands of the player may be used to alternately cover and uncover these ends so as to vary the character of the sound produced by the vibration of the paper **48** against the reeds **47**.

A hollow body **46***a* is shown in Figure 16 which is round in transverse section, being constructed from a tube or the like. A reed **47***a* is carried by the body **46***a* and a sheet of paper **48***a* is adapted to be held against the reeds **47***a* by means of clips **45***a*.

Another form of this toy is shown in Figure 17, wherein there is provided a body **50** of hollow construction which is provided with an inner reed carrying portion **51** in which reeds **52** are mounted. An outer enlarged body **53** is secured to the inner portion **51** by means of a reduced neck portion **54**, and this outer portion **53** is provided with an opening **55** through which the sound is adapted to pass. A paper disc **56** is positioned against the reeds **52**, and this inner end **51** is adapted to be placed in the mouth of the player, or may be placed against the lips, with the neck **54** constituting a handle for holding the toy. A hand may be placed against the opening **55** so as to alternately cover or uncover this opening and thus vary the sound passing through the body **50**.

What is claimed is:

1. A toy as set forth comprising in combination, a frame, reeds in the frame, a sheet removably held within the frame and engaging against one side of the reeds, and a yieldable modulating means disposed on the side of the reed opposite said sheet, said modulating means comprising a hollow body having an open side confronting said reeds.

2. A toy as set forth comprising in combination, a frame, a reed means carried by the frame, an imperforate sheet engageable against said reed means, and a hollow modulating member re-

movably engageable against the side of the reed means opposite said sheet, said modulating member having an open side adapted to confront said reed means.

3. A toy as set forth comprising in combination, a frame, a reed means carried by the frame, an imperforate sheet engageable against said reed means, a hollow yieldable modulating member engageable against the side of the reed means opposite said sheet, and finger engaging means carried by said member.

4. A toy as set forth comprising in combination, a frame, a reed means carried by the frame, an imperforate sheet engageable against said reed means, a hollow yieldable modulating member having an open side engageable against the side of the reed means opposite said sheet, and a plurality of rings carried by said modulating member.

5. A toy as set forth comprising in combination a frame, reed means carried by the frame, an imperforate sheet engageable against said reed means, a hollow yieldable modulating member having an open side engageable against the side of the reed means opposite said sheet, and a finger engaging ring fixed to said modulating member.

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