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ANIMATED FIGURE TOY

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This invention has for its purpose to provide a novel figure toy comprising a hollow air filled compressible body and a head connected therewith, the head including movable facial features and/or other movable elements adapted to be put in motion by streams of air discharged from the body when the latter is compressed, thus producing figure animating effects.

The invention consists in the novel construction and combination of parts of the figure toy whereby the movable elements of a head part of the structure are so arranged as to be respectively put in motion by individual streams of air discharged from a compressible hollow body part, means being provided for properly directing the individual air streams in actuating impingement upon the respective movable elements so as to impart motion thereto.

An illustrative embodiment of the invention is shown in the accompanying drawings, in which:

Fig. 1 is a front elevational view and Fig. 2 is a rear elevational view of a figure toy according to the invention.

Fig. 3 is a fragmentary vertical longitudinal sectional view, taken on line 3—3 in Fig. 1, but drawn on an enlarged scale; Fig. 4 is a longitudinal vertical sectional view, taken on line 4—4 in Fig. 3; and Fig. 5 is a detail sectional view taken on line 5—5 in Fig. 4 on a further enlarged scale.

Similar characters of reference are employed in the above described views, to indicate corresponding parts.

For the purpose of illustration, but without intention of limitation, the figure toy according to this invention is shown and described in the form of a doll simulating the appearance of a circus clown.

The figure toy of this invention comprises a body part 10 and a head part 11. At least the torso section of the body part is hollow, whereby to provide an internal air chamber 12, and is made of soft flexible rubber or like yieldable material so as to be compressible, and yet, by reason of its resiliency, being adapted to automatically resume its normal shape after the deforming compressive force applied thereto has been relaxed. The torso section of the body part 10 terminates at its upper end in an upwardly open tubular neck portion 13.

The head part 11 of the figure toy comprises a hollow member preferably made of a suitable plastic material which is suitably shaped externally to provide a desired facial appearance. The hollow interior of the head part 11 provides a

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lower compartment 14. In the clown doll figure, as shown, the head part 11 terminates at its upper end in a hollow hat formation 15 of desired shape. The wall of the crown portion of the hat formation 15 defines an upper internal compartment 16. This upper compartment 16 is divided from the lower compartment 14 by a transverse perforate partition 17. Said wall of the crown portion of the hat formation 15, in the illustrative embodiment shown, is made of transparent material, so as to make visible movable material which is enclosed within the upper internal compartment 16, as will be subsequently more particularly explained. The wall of the hat formation is provided, adjacent to its upper extremity, with one or more air vent openings 18. The lower end of the head part 11 terminates in a downwardly open tubular neck portion 19 which is suitably joined to and in communication with the tubular neck portion 13 of the torso section of body part 10. The joint effected between said neck portions 13 and 19 is so made as to be air tight. Provided intermediate the lower compartment 14 of the head part 11 and the passage of the neck portion 19 is a transverse partition 20.

Formed in connection with the front wall of the head part 11 is a nose formation 21, and above this nose formation said front wall is further provided with a pair of outwardly open eye socket formations 22 which indent said front wall so as to project into the interior of the lower internal compartment 14 of the head part. These eye socket formations 22, which are located respectively at opposite sides of the nose formation 21, are of elongated form, and are respectively downwardly inclined from their outer ends toward their inner ends which terminate above and adjacent to the nose formation 21. The eye socket formations thus provide internal eye socket chambers 23, in which are movably supported respective eye simulating balls 24. Said eye balls 24 are of spherical shape, and may be made of any suitable light weight material which is adapted to readily yield to the thrust of air streams caused to impinge thereupon, and thus to induce movement thereof within the confines of the eye socket chambers 23. The outer open sides of the eye socket chambers 23 are closed by transparent panels 25, which are suitably secured to the head part, as e. g. by cementing the same in place. Said panels 25 retain the eye balls 24 against displacement from the eye socket chambers, but, being transparent, expose said eye balls and their movements to view. Provided in the lower wall of each eye socket formation 22 is an

opening or slot 26 leading thereinto from the lower internal compartment 14 of the head part 11.

Cooperative with each eye socket formation 22 is an air stream directing or air jet tube 27. These air jet tubes 27 are respectively footed by their lower ends in and through the bottom partition 20 of the head part 11, so as to communicate with the air chamber 12 of the torso section of the body part 10. The upper free ends of the air jet tubes 27 are respectively directed toward and terminate adjacent to the bottom openings or slots 26 of the respective eye socket formations 22. To further assure entrance of air from the air jet tubes 27 into the eye socket chambers 23, deflector baffles 28 may be provided for extension from the lower walls of the eye socket formations 22 for disposition in overhanging relation to the discharge ends of said air jet tubes 27.

Below the nose formation 21 of the head part 11, the wall of the latter is provided with a mouth opening which is preferably defined by a transparent panel 29 suitably secured to the head part, as e. g. by cementing the same in place. Affixed by their lower ends to the bottom partition 20 of the head part 11, to upstand therefrom within the lower internal chamber 14 of the head part 11, and in laterally spaced apart relation behind and spaced from the mouth defining panel 29, is a pair of supporting posts 30. Said supporting posts 30 are each provided with suitably located annular shoulders or stop portions 31 intermediate their ends. Mounted on and between said posts 30, so as to be supported by the shoulders or stop projections 31 for oscillatory movement in vertical plane, is a carrier plate 32, having openings 33 through which the upper end portions of the posts 30 extend. Said carrier plate projects from the posts 30 toward and so as to terminate adjacent to the front wall of the head part 11, and carried by the forward end of the carrier plate is a flange 34 which is suitably formed and colored to simulate a row of teeth. The tooth flange will, at proper times, be visible through the transparent mouth panel 29, and can be caused to move up and down relative to the latter by oscillatory movement of the carrier plate 32. Footed by its lower end in and through the bottom partition 20 of the head part 11, so as to communicate with the air chamber 12 of the torso section of the body part 10, is another air stream directing or air jet tube 35 which extends upwardly into the lower internal compartment 14 of the head part 11, with its discharge end directed toward and terminating beneath the carrier plate 32.

If desired, the head part of the figure toy may be provided with movable elements limited to the movable eye and teeth simulating parts, but it will be understood that other movable facial features adapted to be actuated by air streams or jets in similar manner may also be provided. Furthermore, added novelty may be attained if desired, especially in the clown form of figure toy illustratively shown, by provision of a deposit of additional movable material within the crown portion of the hat formation 15 above the perforate partition 17, and exposed to view through the transparent walls of said crown portion when said walls are made transparent for such purpose. Movable material adapted for such disposition preferably comprises a discrete mass of light weight bodies, particles or flakes 36, such e. g. as paper confetti; the pieces of which may be of the same or of two or more different colors.

Footed by its lower end in and through the bottom partition 20 of the head part 11, so as to communicate with the air chamber 12 of the torso section of the body part 10, is still another air stream directing or air jet tube 37 which extends upwardly into the lower internal compartment 14 of the head part 11, with its discharge end directed toward and terminating adjacently beneath the perforate partition 17 of the head part 11.

As shown, the body part 10 of the figure toy may be suitably clothed in appropriate apparel or costume 38, which may be arranged to be secured to the body part by any suitable means.

In the operation of the figure toy, whereby to produce the animating effects provided for, the operator compresses the body part 10, thus putting the air contained in its internal air chamber 12 under pressure. The compression of air in the air chamber 12 causes air to discharge through the air jet tubes 27, 35 and 37 into the interior of the head part 11.

As a consequence of the above described operation, air jets discharged from the air jet tubes 27 are respectively directed toward the respective eye socket formations 22, so that the discharged air enters through the slots 26 into the eye socket chambers 23, whereby to impinge upon and exert thrust against the eye balls 24, thus causing the latter to be put in motion within the eye socket chambers 23 with amusing animating effect.

Similarly, the air jet discharged from the air jet tube 35 is directed against the carrier plate 32, causing the same to oscillate or move on the supports therefor, and thereby producing movement of the tooth flange 34 relative to the transparent mouth panel 29 with additional amusing animating effect.

When the hot formation 15 includes the mass of confetti or like mass of similar discrete material 36, the air jet discharged from the air jet tube 37 is directed toward the perforate partition 17, so as to flow upwardly through the perforations thereof, and thus in thrusting impingement upon the confetti or like material 36, thereby agitating the latter to cause dancing movement thereof within the compartment 16 with further amusing effect. Since air vents or openings 18 are provided in the upper portion of the hat formation, the air discharged into the compartment is not compressed or its motion blocked, but is kept in motion so as to, in turn, produce the desired motion of the confetti or like material 36.

From the above description it will be understood that the instant invention provides a novel construction of figure toy so devised and characterized as to be operative to obtain amusing animating effects.

Having now described my invention, I claim:

1. A figure toy comprising a hollow compressible air filled body part, a hollow head part connected with said body part, laterally spaced outwardly open elongated chambered eye socket means formed on the inner side of the front wall of said head part, said chambered eye socket means being downwardly inclined from their outer toward their inner ends, transparent panels closing the outer open sides of said chambered eye socket means, eye balls movable within said eye socket means, said eye socket means having air admission slots in their under sides for communication with the interior of the head part, said eye balls being adapted to be moved by im-

pingement thereupon of air streams brought into contact therewith, and air jet discharging means leading from the interior of the body part and directed toward the openings of said eye socket means, compression of said body part being adapted to discharge air therefrom through said air jet discharging means.

2. A figure toy as defined in claim 1, wherein each eye socket means is provided with a projecting baffle element adjacent its air admission slot and overhanging the air discharging means directed toward said slot.

3. A figure toy comprising a hollow compressible air filled body part, a hollow head part connected with said body part, said head part having eye structures and teeth simulating structure mounted within the interior thereof so as to be visible from an exterior thereof, said eye structures including movable eye balls, said teeth simulating structure being also movable, said eye balls and the movable teeth simulating structure being adapted to be moved by impingement of air streams brought into contact therewith, and air jet tubes leading from the interior of the body part and respectively directed toward the respective eye structures and toward the movable teeth simulating structure, compression of the body part being adapted to discharge air therefrom through said air jet tubes whereby to move the eye balls and the teeth simulating structure.

4. A figure toy comprising a hollow compressible air filled body part, a hollow head part connected with said body part, said head part having a hollow transparent hat formation at its top, a perforate partition between the interior of said hat formation and the interior of the head part, a discrete mass of material within the interior of the hat formation, said material being adapted to be put in motion by impingement thereupon of an air stream moving through said perforate partition, and an air jet discharging means leading from the interior of the body part into the interior of the head part and directed

toward said perforate partition, compression of said body part being adapted to discharge air therefrom through said air jet discharging means.

5. A figure toy comprising a hollow compressible air filled body part, a hollow head part connected with said body part, said head part having a hollow transparent hat formation at its top, a perforate partition between the interior of said hat formation and the interior of the head part, a discrete mass of material within the interior of the hat formation, said head part having eye structures and teeth simulating structure mounted within the interior thereof so as to be visible from the exterior thereof, said eye structures including movable eye balls, said teeth structure being also movable, said material within the hat formation, said eye balls, and said movable teeth simulating structure being adapted to be put in movement by impingement thereupon of air streams brought into contact therewith, and a plurality of air jet tubes leading from the interior of the body part and respectively directed toward the perforate partition of the hat formation, toward the respective eye structures and toward the movable teeth simulating structure, compression of the body part being adapted to discharge air therefrom through said air jet tubes.

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