Dec. 9, 1952 C. R. WHITE 2,621,010

DETACHABLE BASE FOR TOY FIGURES

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Fig. 1

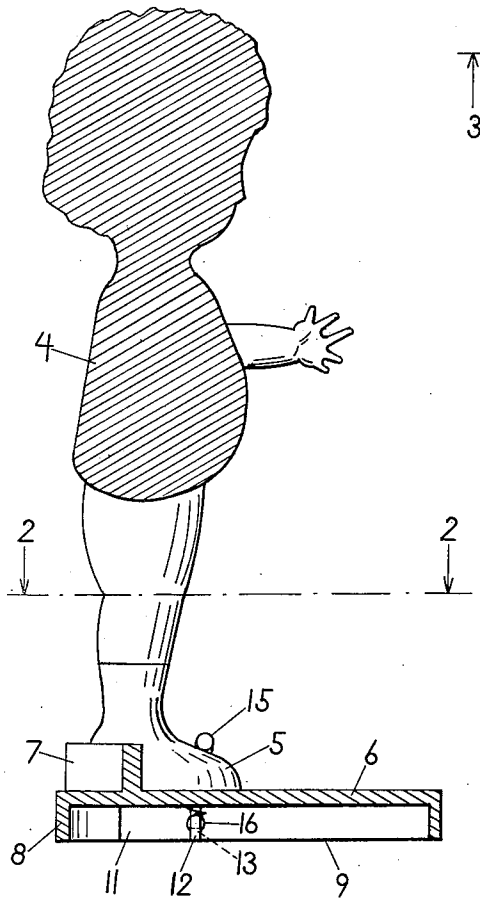


Fig. 2

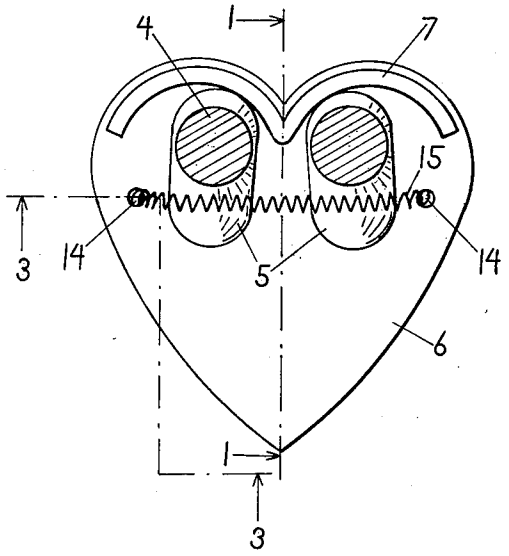
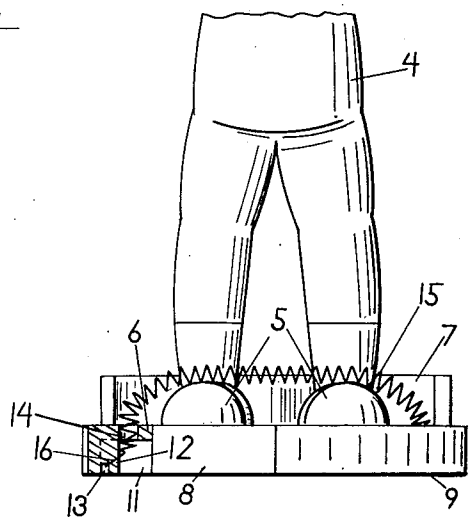


Fig. 3



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DETACHABLE BASE FOR TOY FIGURES

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1 Claim. (Cl. 248—361)

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My invention relates to dolls or similar figures and, more particularly, to figures provided with broad bases in order to enable the figures to stand firmly in erect position.

Objects of my invention are to make possible the optional use of a figure with or without supporting base, thereby to provide a figure that is firmly supported in erect position when the base is attached to the figure and that can be carried or laid down without the base, and thereby to avoid the drawbacks which a broad base has when not positioned horizontally, these drawbacks comprising unnatural appearance and obstruction of correctly lying position of the figure.

Other objects are to connect the figure and the base detachably in such a manner that the figure is reliably secured to the base in a correctly standing position, to avoid any substantial obstruction of the figure's visibility by the base, to facilitate a quick and easy assemblage and disassemblage of figure and base, and to provide a combination between a figure and a base adapted for being used as a toy or for display.

Further objects are to attain these results with simple and inexpensive means, and to provide an article of the nature described that can be easily and quickly manufactured.

Still other objects and advantages will appear from the following description of an exemplifying embodiment of my invention, from the appended claim and from the accompanying drawing in which:

Fig. 1 shows a vertical central cross-section of an illustrative embodiment of my invention, this cross-section being taken along the line 1—1 in Fig. 2.

Fig. 2 shows a horizontal cross-section of the same embodiment, taken along the line 2—2 in Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 shows a partly sectional front view of the same embodiment, the sectionally represented part being cut along the broken line 3—3 in Fig. 2, the upper part of the figure being broken off.

Referring to the drawing, numeral 4 indicates a figure simulating a child standing on two feet 5. The lower sides of these feet constitute a surface which, when the feet are measured according to true proportions of the figure, is necessarily small in comparison with the distance of the figure's center of gravity from the surface. Hence the feet 5 can not support the figure firmly; but the figure is apt to topple or to fall down upon any slight touch or push or when the feet are placed on a surface that is not accurately

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horizontal. According to my invention, a firm support of the figure is established by attaching the feet 5 to a base constituted by the parts described in the following.

The main body of this base is formed by a plate 6 positioned under the feet 5 and extending horizontally over an area that is much broader and longer than the surface area constituted by the lower sides of the feet 5. The circumference of the plate 6 may be shaped like a heart of which the point lies in front of the feet and of which the central line of symmetry lies in the same vertical plane as the central line of symmetry of the feet.

An abutment 7 forms an integral upward extension of the plate 6. This abutment is positioned near the rear side of the plate, and its front contacts the rear side of the feet 5. Preferably, the abutment 7 has a uniform small height and forms two identical and symmetrically positioned arcs which are concave at the front side and meet between the feet 5.

A rim 8 extends from the circumference of the plate 6 downwardly and has a lower horizontal and even surface 9 adapted to support the plate and the figure when the latter is attached to the plate. A shallow cavity 11 is positioned under the plate 6 and within the rim 8.

Two small posts 12 extend vertically along the inner side of the rim 8 and are integrally connected with this rim and with the plate 6. Preferably, these posts are positioned at symmetrically opposite sides of the cavity 11 and laterally with respect to the feet 5. Each post 12 has a small recess 13 in its lower surface whereby the post forms a hook which is open at the bottom. The plate 6 has two openings 14 which are positioned symmetrically at opposite outer sides of the feet 5. Preferably, each opening 14 is positioned adjacently to the inner side of one of the posts 12.

An elongated and resiliently stretchable element 15 is preferably constituted by a narrow coiled spring which is diagrammatically shown in the drawing. The terminal windings of this spring are bent into the shape of loops or rings 16. These loops are hooked into the recesses 13. From the hooked ends, the element 15 extends through the openings 14 and, between these openings, spans over the front portions of the feet 5. The length of the element 15 is so measured that it extends under some tension in an arc from one opening 14 over the feet to the other opening 14.

The resilient pressure exerted by the element

15 holds the feet 5 in the shown position in which the bottoms of the feet contact the plate 6 and the rear sides of the feet contact the abutment 7. The curved shape of the element 15 co-operates with the curved shape of the abutment 7 in counteracting lateral dislocation of the feet whereby the figure 4 is secured in a position symmetric with respect to the supporting base. In this position, the base extends broadly to all sides around the vertical line passing through the center of gravity of the figure 4 and, hence, supports the figure firmly.

The figure can be easily separated from the base by a slight pull which draws the feet 5 out of the arc formed by the element 15. When the feet are removed in this manner, the element 15 will slightly shorten its length. For renewed attachment, the feet are pressed under the median part of the element 15 while the latter is resiliently stretched so far as necessary to receive and to secure the feet.

I desire it understood that my invention is not confined to the particular embodiment shown and described, the same being merely illustrative, and that my invention may be carried out in other ways without departing from the spirit of my invention as it is obvious that the particular embodiment shown and described is only one of the many that may be employed to attain the objects of my invention.

Having described the nature of my invention, what I claim and desire to protect by Letters Patent is:

A base for supporting a figure having feet; said base comprising a plate having an even top surface for supporting the feet of a figure thereon, an abutment member extending upwardly from said top surface adjacent the rear edge of the latter and including two forwardly concave portions meeting at the center thereof for contact with the heels of the supported feet, and a continuous elongated coil spring member extending transversely across the top of said plate adjacent said abutment and anchored to said plate at its opposite ends for providing a tensioned arc to span the supported feet to urge the latter downwardly onto said even top surface and rearwardly against said abutment, said base also including a downwardly extending marginal rim on said plate, said plate having an opening extending therethrough adjacent each of the side edges thereof to receive the opposite end portions of said spring member, and a post formed inside said rim adjacent each of said openings to receive the coil at the adjacent end of said spring member thereby providing a hidden attachment for said spring member to said plate.

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