

Sept. 30, 1952

H. SOLLOWAY ET AL
ARTICLE PROJECTING FIGURE TOY

2,611,997

Filed Dec. 5, 1949

3 Sheets-Sheet 1

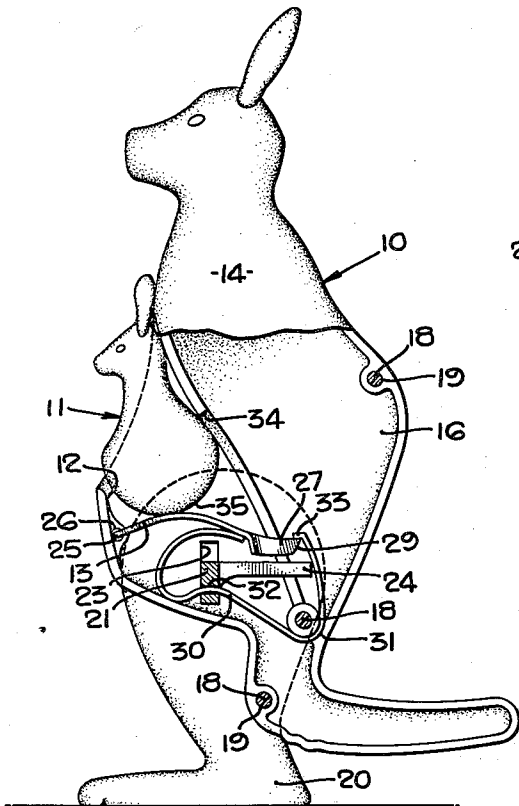


FIG. 1.

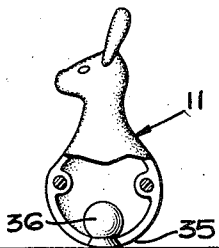


FIG. 2.

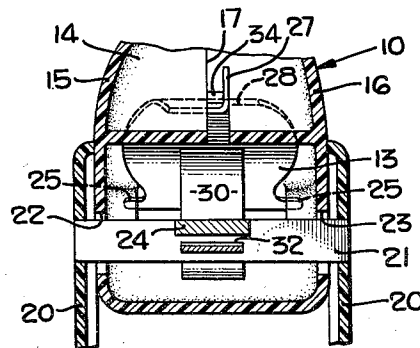
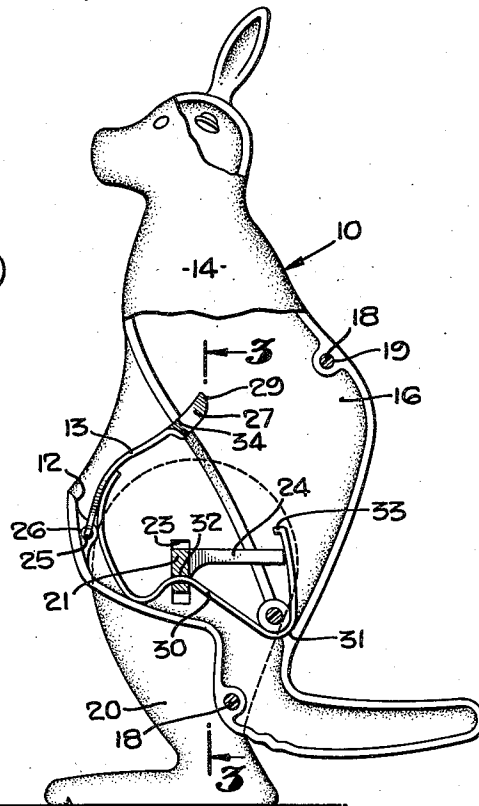


FIG. 3.



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3 Sheets-Sheet 2

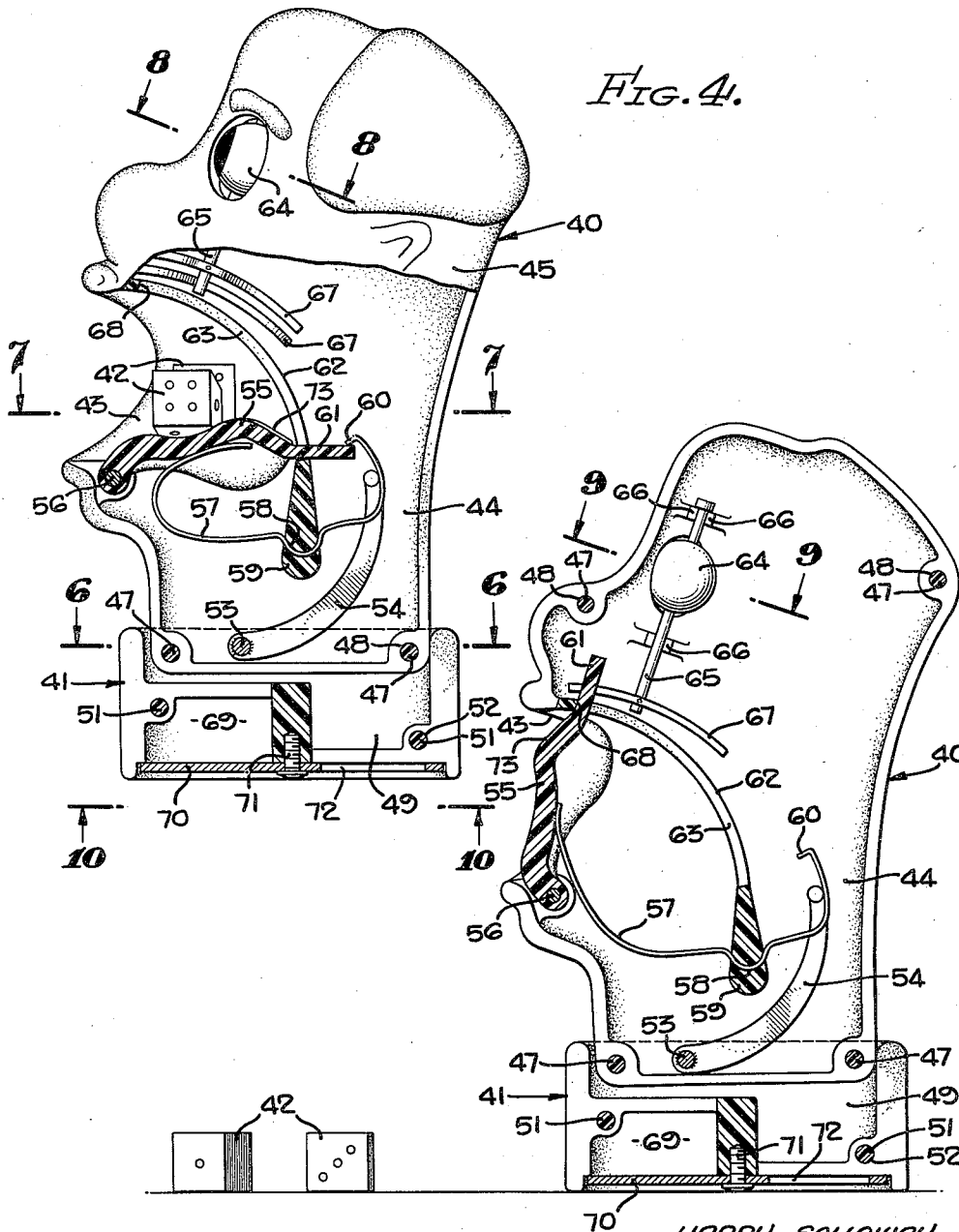


FIG. 5.

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ARTICLE PROJECTING FIGURE TOY

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3 Sheets-Sheet 3

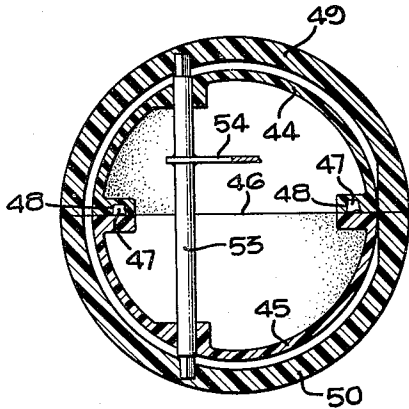


FIG. 6.

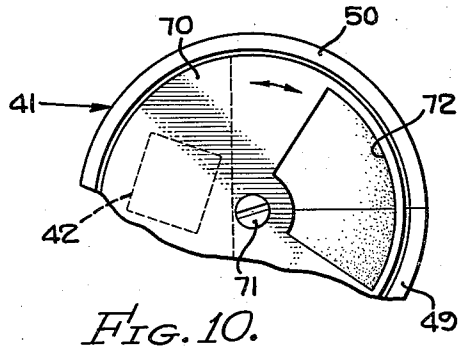


FIG. 10.

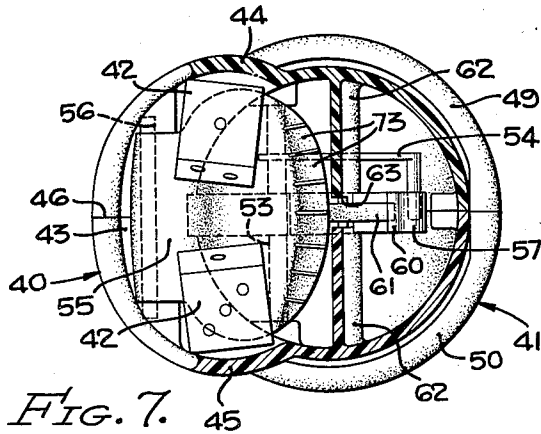


FIG. 7.

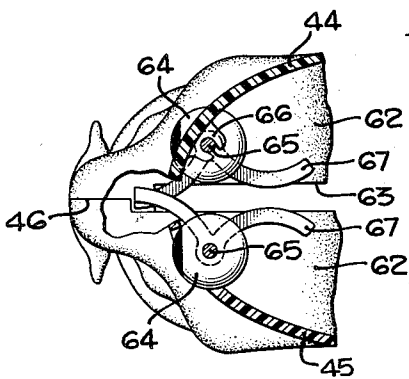


FIG. 8.

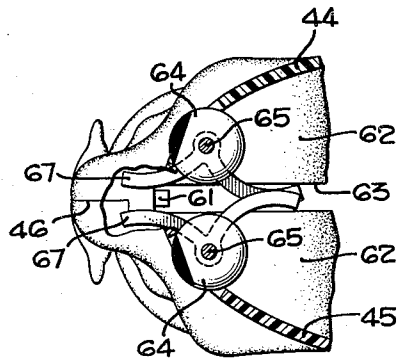


FIG. 9.

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ARTICLE PROJECTING FIGURE TOY

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Application December 5, 1949, Serial No. 131,104

7 Claims. (Cl. 46-123)

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This invention relates to toys and has particular reference to a toy in which a figure or object is discharged, or catapulted therefrom.

One of the objects of our invention is to provide novel means for discharging or catapulting an object or figure from a parent object or figure.

Another object of our invention is to provide a novel catapulting device of simple and rugged construction.

A further object of our invention is to provide a novel toy in which an object or objects may be catapulted therefrom, the catapulting platform having novel means coacting therewith to produce amusing effects on the toy itself.

Yet another object of our invention is to provide a novel catapulting toy which is inexpensive and adapted to manufacture on a quantity basis.

Other objects and advantages it is believed will be apparent from the following detailed description of preferred embodiments thereof as illustrated in the accompanying drawings.

In the drawings:

Figure 1 is a side elevation, partly in section, of a preferred embodiment of our invention, illustrating the catapulting platform in the operative or cocked position;

Figure 2 is a side elevation, partly in section, illustrating the position of the catapult platform and actuating device after release of the object;

Figure 3 is a sectional view taken substantially on the line 3-3 of Figure 2;

Figure 4 is a side elevation, partly in section, of a modified form of our invention, illustrating the catapulting platform in operative or cocked position;

Figure 5 is a side elevation, partly in section, illustrating the position of the catapulting platform and actuating device after release of the object;

Figure 6 is a sectional view taken substantially on the line 6-6 of Figure 4;

Figure 7 is a sectional view taken substantially on the line 7-7 of Figure 4;

Figure 8 is a sectional view taken substantially on the line 8-8 of Figure 4;

Figure 9 is a sectional view taken substantially on the line 9-9 of Figure 5; and

Figure 10 is a sectional view taken substantially on the line 10-10 of Figure 4.

Referring now to the drawings, particularly Figures 1, 2 and 3, it will be seen that our invention may be embodied in a figure of a mother kangaroo 10 with a smaller figure 11, designed to represent a baby kangaroo, carried in the pouch 12, the bottom of which is defined by the catapult platform 13, described more fully below.

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The body 14, which is preferably molded of plastic in two sections 15 and 16 joined on a central vertical line 17 by means of pins 18 and corresponding apertures 19, is supported on a base consisting of a pair of legs 20. These legs 20 are connected together in spaced relation by means of a transverse bar 21, which is vertically slidably secured to the body 14 through elongated apertures 22 and 23 in sections 15 and 16, respectively. A trigger member 24, integral with the transverse bar 21 extends rearwardly therefrom.

The catapult platform 13, which may be stamped of sheet metal, is pivotally connected to the body 14 by means of ears 25 which are engaged in apertures 26. A latching member 27 is provided at the inner end of the catapult platform 13, and may be formed by cutting along the transverse line 28 and then bending the portion thus freed at a right angle as shown. The end portion of the latching member 27 is beveled as at 29.

A spring 30, curved as shown in the drawings, is secured to the body section 16, which is provided with a groove 31 in which the spring is held. The spring 30 extends forwardly through an aperture 32 provided in the transverse bar 21. One end of the spring under compression, as shown in Figure 1, contacts the underside of the catapult platform 13, while the other end is bent into a catch 33 for the latching member 27.

The operation of the toy is as follows: The object to be catapulted, such as the figure 11 is placed in the pouch 12, with the catapult platform in cocked position, as shown in Figure 1. A downward pressure on the body 14 will cause it to move downwardly with respect to the legs 20 and hence also with respect to the transverse bar 21, since the bar is secured to the legs. The trigger member 24 forces the spring catch 33 rearwardly, releasing the catapult platform and throwing the figure 11 clear of the pouch. The shoulder 34 on body section 16 acts as a stop to prevent further forward motion of the catapult platform 13. The figure 11 may be provided with a rounded bottom 35 and a weight 36 so that it will always come to rest in an upright position. The device may be recocked simply by pressing downwardly on the catapult platform 13 until the latching bar 27 engages under the catch 33.

A modification of our invention is illustrated in Figures 4-10, and includes a body portion in the form of a figure of an open-mouthed head generally designated at 40, which is pivotally connected to a base 41. An object or objects such as a pair of dice 42 may be inserted into the mouth 43, and discharged therefrom by means of a cata-

putting device substantially similar to that described above.

The head 40 is preferably molded of plastic and includes two sections 44 and 45 joined on a central vertical line 46 by means of pins 47 and corresponding apertures 48. The supporting base 41 may likewise be molded in two sections 49 and 50 connected together by pins 51 and apertures 52. The head 40 is journaled on a transverse bar or shaft 53 which is secured to the base sections 49 and 50 (see Figure 6). A curved L-shaped trigger bar 54 is secured to the shaft 53.

The catapult platform 55, designed to simulate the tongue of the figure is pivoted to the head on pin 56 and actuated by a spring 57 similar to that described above. The spring 57 is secured in a groove 58 cut in a projecting portion 59 of the head section 44 and provides a catch 60 for the latching bar 61 which is integral with the catapult platform 55 and extends rearwardly therefrom. The upper portion of the inside of the mouth is defined by curved walls 62 which are spaced to provide a channel 63 for the travel of the latching bar 61.

Means are provided by which the eyes 64 may be caused to be rolled in an amusing fashion when the device is actuated. The eyes are mounted on a pair of shafts 65 which are journaled in bearing brackets 66. A V-shaped lever 67 is carried on each of the shafts 65, one lever being slightly below the other so that clearance is provided therebetween.

The operation of this modification is as follows: The objects to be catapulted, such as the pair of dice 42, are placed in the open mouth 43 with the catapult platform 55 in the cocked position as shown in Figure 4. A slight forward pivotal motion of the head will cause the catch 60 to be released since the trigger bar 54 remains stationary; holding the catch end of the spring 57, while the catapult platform and latching bar 61 move forwardly and out from under the catch 60. The platform 55 is then forcibly pivoted upwardly by the action of the compressed portion of the spring 57, discharging the dice 43. Simultaneously, the latching bar moves upwardly through the channel 63 and strikes the forward ends of the levers 67, causing the shafts 65 to rotate and the eyes 64 to roll outwardly (see Figures 8 and 9). Shoulder 68 provides a stop for the latching bar 61. It should be noted that as the device is being re-cocked, the latching bar 61 will strike the rearward ends of the levers 67 causing the eyes 64 to roll to the position shown in Figure 8.

The rear portion of the catapult platform 55 may be shaped and colored to simulate teeth 73, so that when the platform is in the uncocked position (see Figure 5), the teeth are visible and furnish further amusement to the observer.

The base 41 is provided with a compartment 69 in which the dice may be kept when the toy is not in use. The circular bottom plate 70 of the base 41 is rotatably mounted thereon by means of threaded pin 71 and is provided with an aperture 72 which may be rotated to provide access to the compartment 69.

While we have shown and described specific embodiments of our invention, we do not limit ourselves to the exact details of the constructions set forth, and the invention embraces such changes, modifications and equivalents of the parts and their formation and arrangement as

come within the purview of the appended claims. We claim:

1. In a toy, the combination of: a base member, a body member operatively connected to said base member, said body member having a recess therein, a catapult platform pivotally connected to said body in said recess, a spring member secured to the body in said recess, one end of said spring member adapted to be compressed to provide propellant means for said catapult platform, the other end of said spring member being formed into a catch whereby said catapult platform may be cocked in operative position, and means on said base member adapted to release said catch member upon movement of the body member with respect to the base member.

2. In a toy, the combination of: a body having a recess therein, a base member, a transverse bar secured to said base member and operatively connecting said body to said base member, a catapult platform pivotally connected to the body in said recess, a spring member secured to the body in said recess, one end of said spring member adapted to be compressed to provide propellant means for said catapult platform, the other end of said spring member being formed into a catch whereby said catapult platform may be cocked in operative position, and a trigger member carried on said transverse bar and adapted to release the catch when the body is moved with respect to the base member, whereby said catapult platform may be forcibly pivoted in said recess to catapult an object therefrom.

3. In a toy, the combination of: a body having a recess therein, a base member, a transverse bar secured to said base member and operatively connecting said body to said base member, a catapult platform pivotally connected to the body in said recess, a spring member secured to the body in said recess, one end of said spring member adapted to be compressed to provide propellant means for said catapult platform, the other end of said spring member being formed into a catch whereby said catapult platform may be cocked in operative position, a trigger member carried on said transverse bar and adapted to release the catch when the body is moved with respect to the base member, whereby said catapult platform may be forcibly pivoted in said recess to catapult an object therefrom, and a stop in said recess adapted to limit pivotal movement of the catapult platform.

4. In a toy, the combination of a body having a recess therein, a base member, a transverse bar secured to said base member and vertically slidably connecting said body to said base member, a catapult platform pivotally connected to the body in said recess, a spring member secured to the body in said recess, one end of said spring member adapted to be compressed to provide propellant means for said catapult platform, the other end of said spring member being formed into a catch whereby said catapult platform may be cocked in operative position, and a trigger member carried on said transverse bar and adapted to release the catch when the body is moved downwardly with respect to the base member, whereby said catapult platform may be forcibly pivoted in said recess to catapult an object therefrom.

5. In a toy, the combination of: a body having a recess therein, a base member, a transverse bar secured to said base member and vertically slidably connecting said body to said base mem-

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ber, a catapult platform pivotally connected to the body in said recess, a spring member secured to the body in said recess, one end of said spring member adapted to be compressed to provide propellent means for said catapult platform, the other end of said spring member being formed into a catch whereby said catapult platform may be cocked in operative position, the middle portion of the spring member normally tending to restrict downward motion of the body with respect to the base member, and a trigger member carried on said transverse bar and adapted to release the catch when the body is moved downwardly with respect to the base member, whereby said catapult platform may be forcibly pivoted in said recess to catapult an object therefrom.

6. In a toy, the combination of: a body having a recess therein, a base member, a transverse bar secured to said base member and vertically slidably connecting said body to said base member, a catapult platform pivotally connected to the body in said recess, a spring member secured to the body in said recess, one end of said spring member adapted to be compressed to provide propellent means for said catapult platform, the other end of said spring member being formed into a catch whereby said catapult platform may be cocked in operative position, the middle portion of the spring member normally tending to restrict downward motion of the body with respect to the base member, a trigger member carried on said transverse bar and adapted to release the catch when the body is moved downwardly with respect to the base member, whereby said catapult platform may be forcibly pivoted

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in said recess to catapult an object therefrom, and a stop in said recess adapted to limit pivotal movement of the catapult platform.

7. In a toy, the combination of: a body having a recess therein, a base member, a transverse bar secured to said base member and pivotally connecting said body to said base member, a catapult platform pivotally connected to the body in said recess, a spring member secured to the body in said recess, one end of said spring member adapted to be compressed to provide propellent means for said catapult platform, the other end of said spring member being formed into a catch whereby said catapult platform may be cocked in operative position, and a trigger member carried on said transverse bar and adapted to release the catch when the body is pivoted with respect to the base member, whereby said catapult platform may be forcibly pivoted in said recess to catapult an object therefrom.

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