

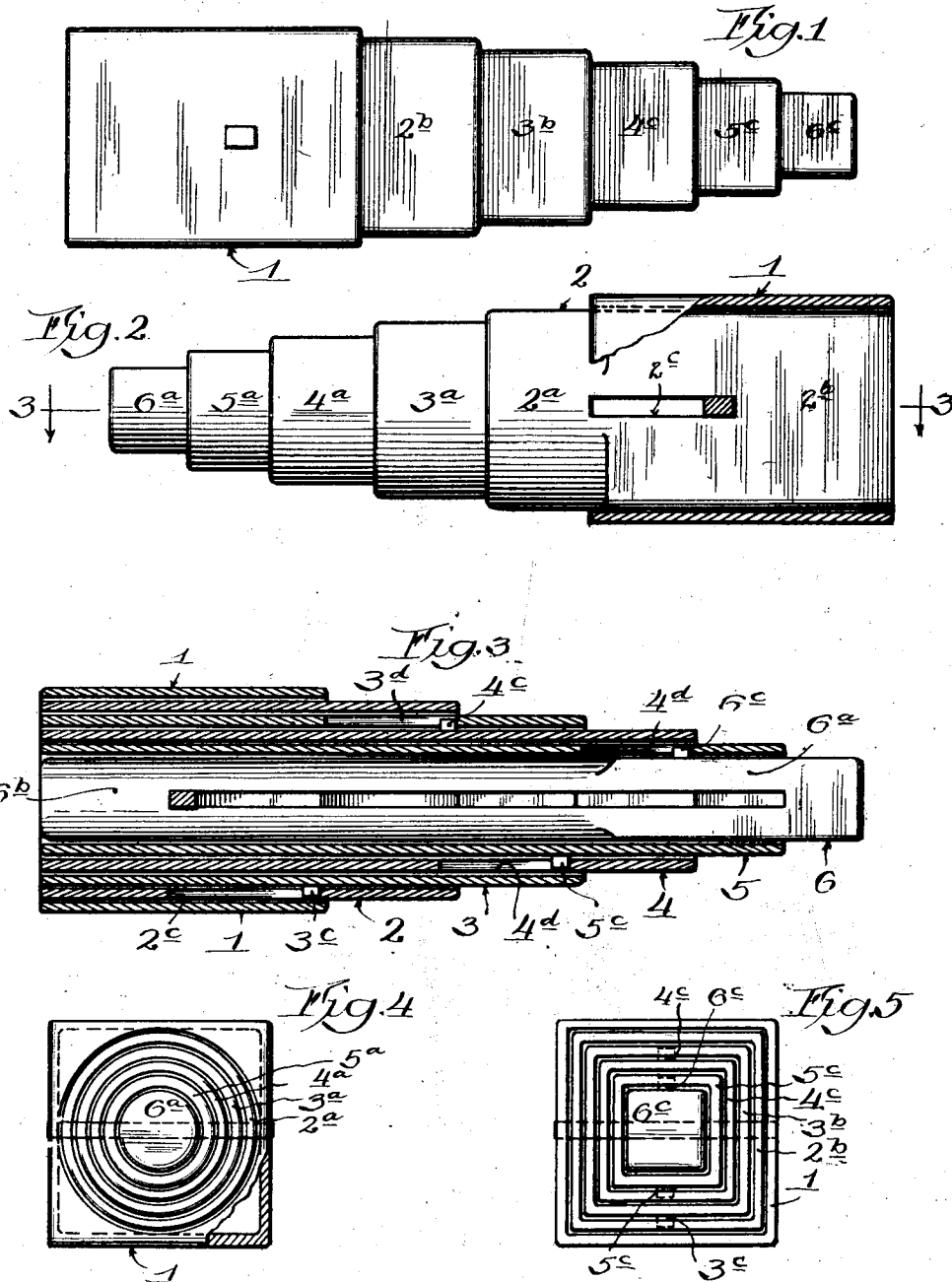
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TOY NOVELTY

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TOY NOVELTY.

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This invention relates to improvements in novelty toys, and more particularly to a toy capable of providing amusement by creating the illusion of simultaneously disappearing and appearing blocks of different shape when the toy is manipulated.

The toy may be generally described as a series or plurality of hollow telescoping blocks, resting one upon another in pyramid fashion, and capable of being shifted endwise in either direction. When the blocks are extended in one direction they appear to be cylindrical in shape, but when the same are collapsed and shifted in the opposite direction, the blocks assume the same pyramid arrangement but square in shape.

A preferred embodiment of a toy of this general character is disclosed in the accompanying drawing, in which

Figure 1 is a view showing the toy extended in one direction giving the effect of a pyramid made up of superimposed square blocks.

Figure 2 is a similar view in elevation showing the same toy extended in the opposite direction and giving the effect of a pyramid made up of a series of superimposed cylindric blocks.

Figure 3 is a view in longitudinal section, taken on line 3—3 of Figure 2.

Figure 4 is a view in end elevation as viewed from the left of Figures 1 and 2; and

Figure 5 is a view in end elevation from the opposite or right-hand of Figures 1 and 2.

As shown in Figures 2 and 3, the blocks are hollow, and of increasing length from the outermost to the innermost blocks, the ends of the blocks being open. The blocks are preferably of wood, although they may be made of other materials, and suitably decorated, if desired, to enhance their appearance.

The outer block 1 is square or cubical in shape, and may be considered as the stationary portion of the toy, that is, the base member of the device. Within the outer or base block is another block 2, slightly less in cross-sectional dimensions, and approximately one-third longer. This block is likewise hollow, and has one end portion 2^a (the left end in Figure 2) cylindric in shape whereas the remaining portion 2^b is square, these two portions merging into each other with the diameter of the cylindric portion

conforming to the transverse dimension of the square portion. Midway between the ends of the block 2, and in opposite faces thereof are slots 2^c, 2^c, equal in length to the distance said block is to slide relative to the outer block 1.

In like manner, a third hollow block 3 slides within the block 2, its cross-sectional dimensions being decreased and its length being increased in the same proportion. Moreover, this block has a cylindric end portion 3^a and a square portion 3^b. The second and third blocks 2 and 3 are limited to a definite relative endwise movement by a sliding pin-and-slot connection, the slot 2^a being preferably cut in the block 2, and the pin 3^c projecting from the block 3.

In the same manner, a fourth block 4 slides within the third block 3 and a fifth block 5 within block 4, each being successively increased in length with a proportional decrease in transverse dimension. Moreover the same pin-and-slot connections join the blocks together, thus the pin 4^c of the block 4 slides in the slot 3^a of the block 3 and pin 5^c of block 5 slides in slot 4^a of block 4.

The last or inner block 6 is an elongated solid member having a relatively long cylindric portion 6^a and a somewhat shorter square portion 6^b. Extending practically the full length of the center block 6 is a transverse slot 6^c which terminates just short of the exposed ends when the blocks are fully extended. Registering with this slot 6^c in the center block 6 is a pair of oppositely disposed slots 2^c in the block 2, and also corresponding pairs of slots 3^c, 4^c and 5^c in each of the intermediate blocks 3, 4 and 5, respectively, these slots being of proportionally increased length to equal the full endwise movement of its block relative to the outer or base block 1.

Through these registering slots 2^c to 6^c, inclusive, extends a pin 7, having its ends fixed in opposite side walls of the outer block 1. This pin 7 acts to connect the outer and inner blocks together, and to limit the movement of the latter in both directions. The separate pin-and-slot connections between the intermediate blocks serve in the same manner so that each extends the proper distance beyond the adjacent block when all are shifted.

Thus when the toy stands upright on one end the lower ends of all the blocks lie in

the same plane with their opposite ends projecting upwardly in pyramid fashion, which will be either cylindric or square, depending on which end blocks are resting. The shifting may be accomplished either by gravity or by a slight pressure since the blocks are made to slide freely within each other.

Having disclosed the construction of the toy embodying my invention, I claim:

10 1. A toy, comprising a plurality of telescoping members of different lengths slidable endwise relative to each other for predetermined distances in opposite directions, whereby the exposed end portions of said
15 members assume the appearance of graduated blocks in pyramid formation in the shifting of said members in either direction.

2. A toy comprising a plurality of hollow telescoping members of increased length
20 from the outer to the inner member, and joined together for limited endwise sliding movement relative to each other, whereby the end portions of said members are alternately arranged in pyramid formation in
25 the shifting of the same in opposite directions.

3. A toy comprising a plurality of hollow telescoping members of increased length
30 from the outer to the inner member and joined together for predetermined endwise sliding movement relative to each other, said

members having end portions of different cross-sectional contour and adapted to arrange themselves in pyramid formation in the shifting of said members in either direction.

4. A toy comprising tubular members, consisting of a relatively stationary outer member and a series of inner members of uniformly increasing length, telescoping
40 within each other and slidable endwise relative to each other and said outer member, each of said members having pin and slot connection with its adjacent members for limiting the relative sliding movement in
45 one direction.

5. A toy comprising tubular members, consisting of a relatively stationary outer member and a series of inner members of uniformly increasing length, telescoping
50 within each other and slidable endwise relative to each other and said outer member, each of said members having their corresponding end portions of the same cross-sectional contour but differing from the contour
55 of their opposite end portions, and means for connecting said members together for predetermined endwise movement relative to each other.

Signed at Chicago, Ill., this 22nd day of
June, 1926.

WILLIAM O. YANCEY.