This invention relates to containers and also to toys, and more particularly to a combined figure toy and containers.

The primary object of my invention resides in the provision of a container which is voluminous and useful and yet which forms a part of a figure toy which itself possesses an interest from independently of the utility of the container. For example, a cylindrical container may be used as the body of a simulated human figure which stands upright on two legs, and in such case the container may be used for packaging candy, nuts or the like.

In accordance with still another object of my invention, the various parts of the figure are made detachable. The legs, for example, may consist of dowels with beads slipped thereover. The arms may be formed of beads strung on a flexible cord. The container may be used to carry a supply of additional beads, and the cord used for the arms may be designed to also receive a complete assortment of beads to form a necklace. In such case it may be said that the toy comprises a necklace cord and beads packaged in a container to which limbs formed of some of the beads are added, thus creating a figure toy which is itself attractive and which enhances the play value of the necklace kit.

In accordance with a still further object of my invention, the container is filled not only with additional dowels, simulated heads and the like, and the container is provided with a variety of holes or sockets for the dowels such that the parts may be assembled to form a variety of figures. For example, a two-legged human figure may be simulated, or a four-legged animal figure may be simulated, and in either case the relative proportions of the parts, that is, the length of the limbs, etc. may be varied to alter the appearance of either the two-legged or four-legged figure.

To the accomplishment of the foregoing and such other objects as will hereinafter appear, my invention consists in the figure toy container elements and their relation one to the other as hereinafter are more particularly described in the specification and sought to be defined in the claims. The specification is accompanied by drawings in which:

- Fig. 1 shows my invention as applied to a simulation of an upright body;
- Fig. 2 shows the same with the closure, head and arms removed;
- Fig. 3 shows the construction of the arms;
- Fig. 4 is a section taken in elevation in the plane of the line 4—4 of Fig. 1;
- Fig. 5 is a similar section through one leg, showing how the legs may be lengthened if desired;
- Fig. 6 is a perspective view showing a figure container set up to simulate a horse;
- Fig. 7 is a section taken in the plane of the line 7—7 of Fig. 6; and
- Fig. 8 shows a modification of the proportioning of the parts of the figure to simulate a giraffe.

Referring to the drawings, and more particularly to Figs. 1 through 4, the figure toy container comprises a body B, limbs L, a closure C and a head H. The body B is preferably a cylindrical container made up of a side wall 12, a bottom 14 and a top or closure 16. The side wall 12 is made of cardboard, but may also be made of metal or other suitable material. The bottom 14 is preferably a disc of wood cemented in place, but it will be understood that other materials may be used, for example wood pulp, moulded plastics, or the like. In the present case the closure 16 is also made of wood, it differing from the bottom 14 primarily in the formation of a flange or shoulder 18 which limits the insertion of the closure.

The limbs L may be either stiff or flexible. In the present case the legs are stiff and are capable of supporting the figure, while the arms are flexible. Specifically, each leg is made up of a dowel 20 over which are slipped suitable beads 22. The beads are preferably though not necessarily made of wood, and are of a type already sold in toy kits for the making of a necklace. The ends of the dowel are preferably slitt, as is indicated at 24, thus insuring a tight frictional fit. The upper ends are inserted in mating holes formed in the bottom 14, while the lower ends are inserted in simulated feet 26, which should be of adequate size to support the figure toy in upright position.

The arms are formed of elongated beads 28 terminated by small spherical beads 30 simulating hands. These beads are strung on flexible cord which passes into the body B. Specifically, I prefer to use a single continuous necklace cord 32, best shown in Fig. 3. This cord is passed around beads 30 and through beads 28 in a manner clearly evident from inspection of Fig. 3. Referring to Fig. 3, it will be seen that the container is slitt near its upper edge at 34. The ends of cord 32 are dropped into the container and the double cord at the inner ends of the
arms is forced into slits 84 which function to adequately hold the same in position. The head H consists of a single bead or ball drilled to form a socket 38 which receives the split upper end of a short dowel 38. The neck is simulated by a bead 48 through which dowel 38 passes. The lower end of the dowel is received in an opening 42 drilled through closure 16. When, as is here the case, the simulation of only a human figure is sought, the paper on the outside of cylindrical wall 12 may, if desired, be lithographed and pasted to simulate a coat and necktie, etc. However, when the simulation of a variety of figures is contemplated, the exterior surface is left-plain in order not to be inconsistent with any of the figures.

While the present specimen of the toy is not intended to simulate other figures, such as four-legged animal figures, the human figure may be varied by changing the relative proportioning of the parts. For example, the arms or the legs may be lengthened or shortened. The manner in which the arms or the legs may be lengthened or shortened is obvious, it being merely necessary to add or to subtract beads. The length of the legs may be changed by using different dowels, and a supply of dowels as well as a supply of beads is incorporated with the toy, as will be evident from inspection of FIG. 3 or a section toy. Referring to FIG. 5, it will be seen that the legs have been lengthened by using dowels 44 and 46 in end to end relation, the dowels being held together by a bead 48. The upper end of dowel 48 is inserted in the bottom 14 of the container, and the bottom of the figure may also be lengthened by using a dowel longer than dowel 38 and adding one or more beads.

Referring now to FIGS. 6 and 7, I show a modified form of the invention in which a horse is simulated. The container is made up, as before, of a cardboard cylindrical wall 58, a wood bottom 52 and a wood closure 54. Dowels 66 are used for the forelegs, the upper ends being received in holes drilled through the side of the container and into bottom 52. Dowels 86 are used as hind legs, the lower ends being received in holes drilled into the closure 54. Beads 86 are fitted at the lower ends of the dowels to simulate hoofs. If desired, beads may be placed over the dowels.

The tail is formed by a series of beads 62 strung on the necklace cord 64 previously referred to, the said cord being received in container 66 as by drawing the same through a slit 66, just as was described in connection with the arms of FIGS. 1 through 4. The head 88 is a special block provided with a hole or socket 78 which receives the upper end of a dowel 72, the lower end of which is received in a hole 74 drilled in the bottom 14. A bead 76 may be placed around dowel 72 to better simulate the neck of the animal.

The animal figure being simulated may be modified by changing the proportional dimensions of the parts. For example, in FIG. 4, the sides and the tail are modified to simulate a giraffe. In this case the head 76 is mounted at the upper end of a single long dowel or a group of dowels placed end to end (as was described in connection with FIG. 5), and a series of elongated beads 80 is used for the neck simulation. A pair of dowels 82 is used for the forelegs, these dowels being longer than dowels 84 shown in FIG. 6. They are also longer than the dowels 86 which act as the hind legs. This elevates the forward end of the body and better simulates a giraffe.

The tail 84 may be formed as before, but all of the beads are omitted except a terminal bead 88, thus helping to indicate the difference between the bushy tail of a horse and the slender tail of a giraffe.

A single toy may be constructed for simulation of either a human or an animal figure, and that illustrated in FIGS. 6 through 8 is such a toy. Specifically, the bottom 14 is provided with holes 24 which are adapted to receive the upper ends of dowels forming the two legs of the human figure as described in connection with FIGS. 1 through 4. The closure 84 is provided with a central hole not visible in the drawing, which is adapted to receive the neck dowel when using the container body for a human figure. Similarly, the upper edge of the container wall is provided with the slits 84 previously referred to as receiving the arms of the figure.

It is believed that the construction and manner of assembly, as well as the many advantages of my improved figure toy container, will be apparent from the foregoing detailed description thereof. The container body is voluminous and itself useful to carry a large supply of beads and dowels, which give the toy a wide range of utility as a construction toy. This container body may also be used to package candy, nuts and the like when the toy is not intended to be used as a construction toy. The beads and dowels may be used together to form a necklace or the like.

The varied supply of beads and dowels may also be used to form an upright two-legged figure of varying proportions, or a four-legged animal figure of varied proportions. The toy is marketed and sold as a figure toy, and this forms an attractive way to merchandise the same.

It will be apparent that while I have shown and described my invention in preferred forms, many changes and modifications may be made in the structures disclosed without departing from the spirit of the invention defined in the following claims.

I claim:

1. A combined figure toy and container comprising a hollow cylindrical container-like body having bottom 14 and side wall 12, said bottom and side wall being made of wood and said side wall being made of cardboard, simulated legs detachably attached to the bottom of said container and extending downwardly therefrom, said legs being formed of dowels with beads attached thereto, the upper ends of the dowels being received in relatively deep mating holes formed in the wood bottom of the container, and the lower ends of said dowels being received in simulated feet of sufficient size to hold the figure toy upright on two legs, simulated arms, attached to the exterior of said container, said container acting as the torso of the figure, and a head to complete the simulation of an upright figure.

2. A combined figure toy and container comprising a hollow cylindrical container-like body having bottom 14 and side wall 12, said bottom and side wall being made of cardboard, simulated legs detachably attached to the bottom of said container, and extending downwardly therefrom said legs being formed of dowels with beads attached thereto, the upper ends of the dowels being received in mating holes formed in the bottom of the container, and the lower ends of said dowels being received in simulated feet of sufficient size to hold the figure toy upright on two legs, simulated arms formed of beads strung on flexible cord, and attached to the exterior of said container, said container acting as
the torso of the figure, said cord passing into and being secured to said container by forcing the same into slits at the upper edge of the container adjacent the removable closure, and a head to complete the simulation of an upright figure.

3. A combined figure toy and container comprising a hollow elongated cylindrical container-like body having bottom and side walls and a removable closure, simulated limbs detachably attached to the exterior of said container, the container acting as the body of the figure, some of said limbs being formed of dowels with beads slipped thereover, the ends of the dowels being fixedly received in relatively deep mating holes formed in the container, and other limbs being formed of beads strung on flexible cord, a head detachably attached to the container to complete the figure simulation, and an additional supply of beads and dowels carried within said container.

4. A combined figure toy and container comprising a hollow container-like body having bottom and side walls and a removable closure, said bottom and closure being made of wood and said side wall of cardboard, simulated limbs detachably attached to the exterior of said container, the container acting as the body of the figure, some of said limbs being formed of dowels with beads slipped thereover, the ends of the dowels being received in mating holes formed in the wooden parts of said container, and other limbs being formed of beads strung on flexible cord, said cord passing into and being secured to said container by forcing the same into a slit in the edge of the container adjacent the removable closure, and a head detachably attached to the container to complete the figure simulation, and an additional supply of beads and dowels carried within said container, the various beads and dowels being interchangeable so as to permit changing the proportional dimensions of the parts of the figure, or changing the nature of the figure being simulated, and the wooden parts of said body having openings such as to facilitate the animation of either a two-legged or a four-legged figure.

5. A combined figure toy and container comprising a cylindrical piece of cardboard or paper board, relatively thick wooden discs permanently closing one end and removably closing the other end to form a useful container-like body, a plurality of limb-simulating dowels and a neck dowel, said discs being provided with relatively deep holes to fixedly receive said dowels, and a simulated head secured to said neck dowel.

6. A combined figure toy and container comprising a cylindrical piece of cardboard or paper board, relatively thick wooden discs permanently closing one end and removably closing the other end to form a useful container-like body, a plurality of limb-simulating dowels and a neck dowel, said discs being provided with relatively deep holes to fixedly receive said dowels, and a simulated head secured to said neck dowel.

7. A combined figure toy and container comprising a cylindrical piece of cardboard or paper board, relatively thick wooden discs permanently closing one end and removably closing the other end to form a useful container-like body, a plurality of limb-simulating dowels and a neck dowel, said discs being provided with relatively deep holes to fixedly receive said dowels, and a simulated head secured to said neck dowel.

8. A combined figure toy and container comprising a cylindrical piece of cardboard or paper board, a relatively thick wooden bottom disc permanently closing one end and a relatively thick wooden top disc removably closing the other end to form a useful container-like body, two leg dowels, said bottom disc being provided with relatively deep holes to fixedly receive the upper ends of said dowels, beads received on said dowels, simulated feet having holes to receive the lower ends of said dowels and large enough in area to support said body in an upright position, and a simulated head secured to said top disc.

9. A combined figure toy and container comprising a hollow container-like body having bottom and side walls and a removable closure, said side wall being a cylinder made of cardboard, paper board or the like, and said bottom and closure being relatively thick wooden discs having holes adapted to receive dowels, the container acting as the body of the figure, simulated limbs detachably attached to the exterior of said container, some of said limbs including dowels received in the aforesaid holes, other of said limbs being formed of beads strung on flexible cord, and a head detachably attached to the container by means of a dowel to complete the figure simulation.