June 1, 1948. J. H. WRIGHT 2,442,526

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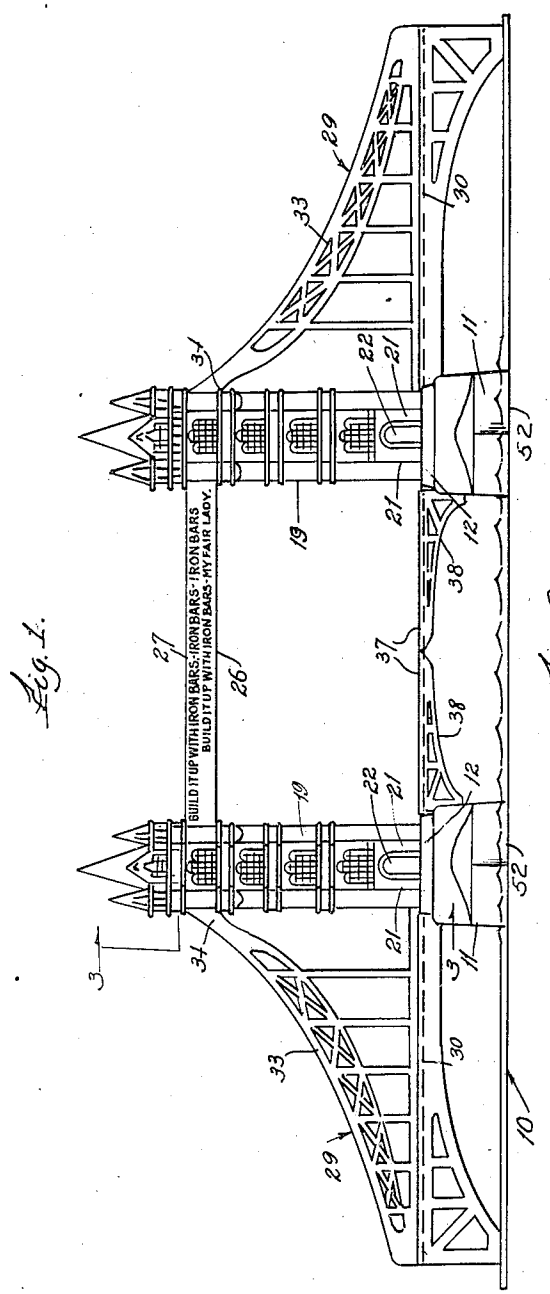


Fig. 1.

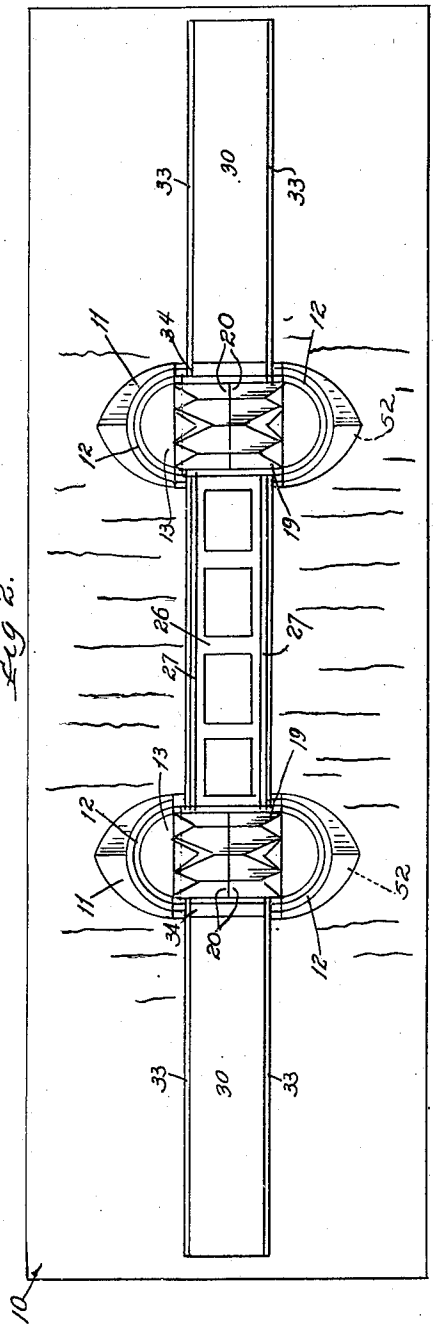


Fig. 2.

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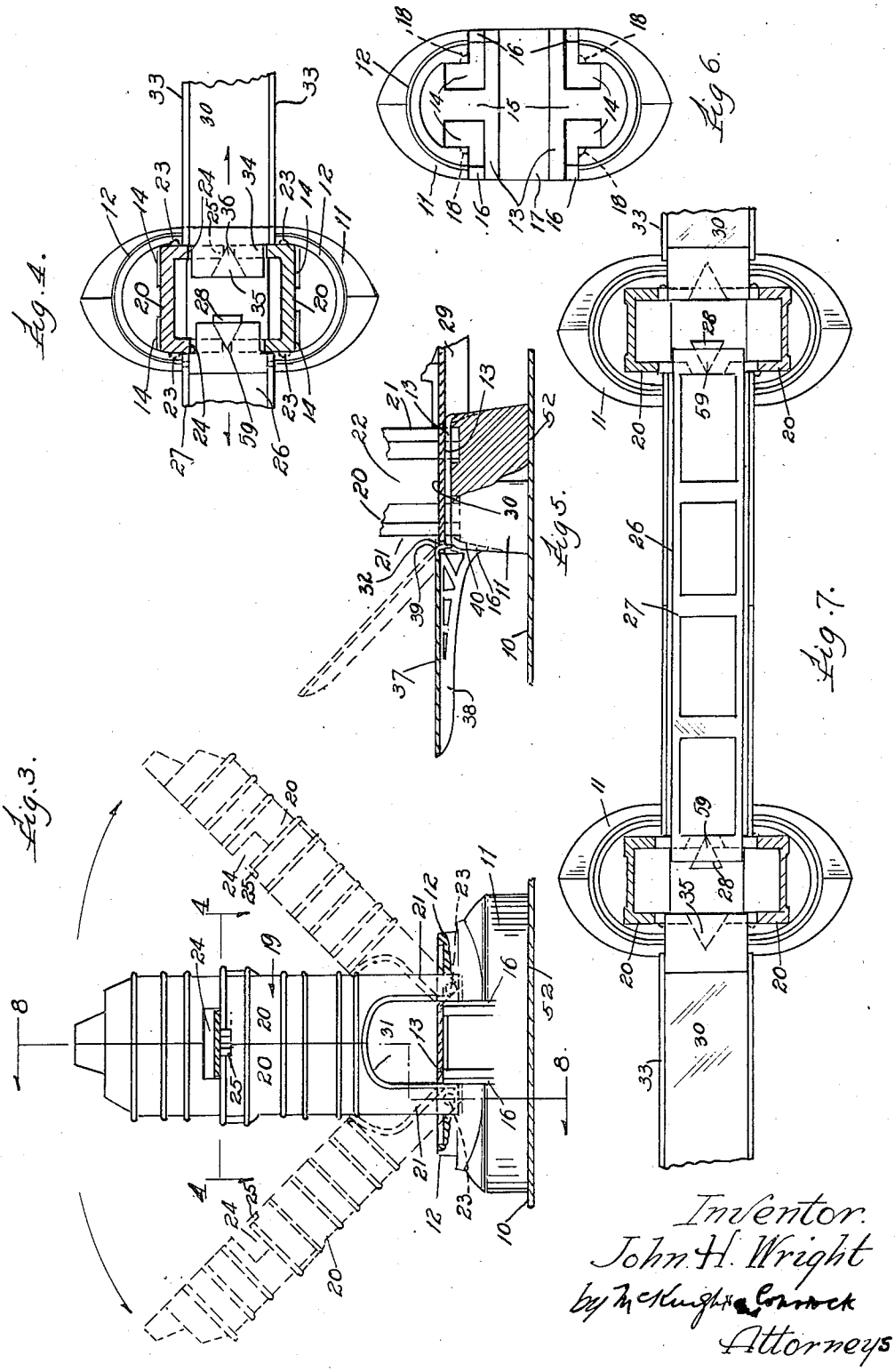


Fig. 3.

Fig. 4.

Fig. 5.

Fig. 6.

Fig. 7.

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Fig. 8.

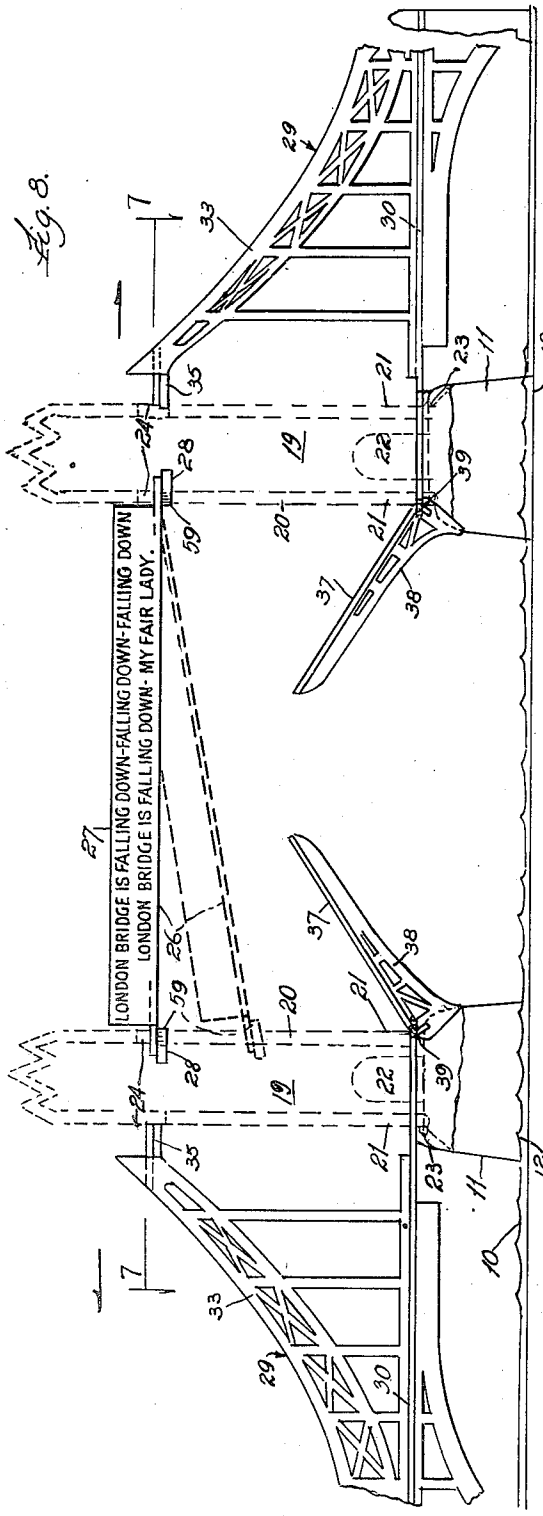
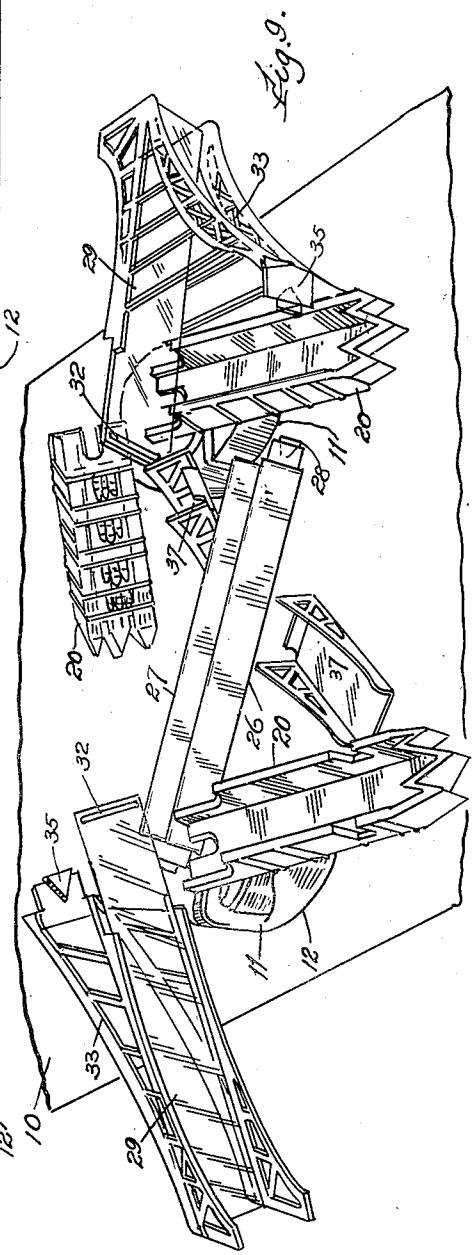


Fig. 9.



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Patented June 1, 1948 2,442,526

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,442,526

TOY

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Application September 23, 1946, Serial No. 698,739

2 Claims. (Cl. 46—17)

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My invention relates to a toy adapted to be pulled apart to simulate falling down and to be reassembled for repeated use.

It is among the objects of this invention to provide a toy for the education and amusement of a child; to supply a toy formed of parts which when pulled will fall apart for the surprise, delight and entertainment of a child; to create such a toy constructed of material that will withstand actual falling down and which can be reassembled for repeated use; to provide a toy which will teach and demonstrate story and action to a child; to create a toy that will satisfy the instincts of a child and instruct rehabilitation and reconstruction.

My invention also contemplates such other objects, advantages and capabilities as will later more fully appear and which are inherently possessed by my invention.

While I have shown in the accompanying drawings a preferred form of my invention, yet I wish it understood that the same is susceptible of modification and change without departing from the spirit of my invention.

Referring to the drawings, Fig. 1 is a side elevational view of my bridge built up; Fig. 2 a top plan view of same; Fig. 3 an enlarged detailed view of a pillar on line 3—3 of Fig. 1, showing falling parts in dotted lines; Fig. 4 a detailed sectional view on line 4—4 of Fig. 3; Fig. 5 a detailed sectional view through drawbridge and tower; Fig. 6 a top plan view of one pier; Fig. 7 a detailed sectional view on line 7—7 of Fig. 8, with ends being pulled apart; Fig. 8 a side elevational view of bridge, showing falling parts in dotted lines; Fig. 9 a perspective view of fallen bridge.

The embodiment selected to illustrate my invention comprises a strip 10 of flexible material such as plastic sheeting or the like. Said strip is formed to simulate a river.

A pair of piers or bases 11 has bottoms 52 permanently attached to strip 10. Said bases 11 are spaced adjacent opposite sides of the strip 10.

The bases 11 each have curved guard walls 12 at opposite ends, extending above floor 13, in which are a plurality of recesses 14, with adjacent recesses spaced by ribs 15. The recesses 14 extend outwardly to and beyond guard walls 12 to communicate with grooves 16. Floor 13 has a central depressed portion 17. Adjacent the inner ends of each of the guard walls 12 are dents 18.

For each of the bases 11, a tower 19 is provided. Each tower is divided into two separable segments 20 with edge contact.

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Each of the segments 20 of the towers 19 has a pair of legs 21 spaced by a curved opening 22. The bottoms of legs 21 fit within recesses 14, and adjacent the bottoms of legs 21 are pimples 23 positioned to engage dents 18.

Adjacent the upper portions of each of the segments 20 of towers 19 are inner and outer slots 24, each with a keyway 25 at and communicating with the lower portion of the adjacent slot 24.

A center span 26 has a channel portion 27 on which appears the following legend, "London bridge is falling down, falling down, falling down, London bridge is falling down, my fair lady. Build it up with iron bars, iron bars, iron bars, Build it up with iron bars, my fair lady." Said span 26 also has opposite end portions to the undersurfaces of which are attached triangular keys 28 having points 59 pointing inwardly.

The ends of span 26 extend within inner slots 24 of towers 19 and keys 28 are positioned in keyways 25 adjacent said inner slots 24.

A pair of road approaches 29 have inner roadways 30 which rest on floors 13 of opposite bases 11 and extend through arches 31 of towers 19. Said roadways 30 have at their inner ends slits 32.

Each of said road approaches 29 has side cable spans 33 with a front top portion 34, to which is attached a wedge shaped member 35 having a point 36 pointing outwardly. These top portions 34 extend within outer slots 24 of towers 19 and wedges 35 engage keyways 25.

A pair of drawbridges 37 have curved side flanges 38 and on their outer end have tongues 39 which engage within slits 32. The ends 40 of flanges 38 pivot within grooves 16.

In use, the above named parts are properly assembled as heretofore set forth. The child then grasps the outer ends of road approaches 29 and pulls outwardly thereon. This causes the draw bridges 37 to pivot upwardly on bases 11. The wedges 35 being moved outwardly move the upper portions of the towers 19 outwardly and separate segments 20 of towers 19. This moves the upper portions of the towers 19 away from central span 26 so that keys 28 also act to separate segments 20 of towers 19. The result is that the segments 20 of the towers finally fall away from the bases 11 onto the strip 10. The central span also falls onto the strip. As the child lets go of the road approaches they and the drawbridges also fall into the simulated river. London bridge has then fallen down.

The aforesaid parts of my toy may be repeatedly assembled and separated by the falls for

a child's amusement and instruction. My toy also reenacts for the child the legend of the nursery rhyme, London Bridge is Falling Down.

Having thus described my invention, I claim:

1. A falling bridge toy comprising a flexible strip simulating a river, a pair of spaced bases attached to said strip, a pair of towers supported on said bases, said towers each divided into a pair of contacting segments, said towers having inner and outer slots with keyways therebelow, a center span having triangular ends with inwardly pointing keys, said span mounted on said towers with its ends extending within the inner slots of said towers, and its keys in the adjacent keyways of said towers, a pair of road approaches having roadways, side cable portions and top front ends with outwardly pointing wedges, said roadways mounted on said bases, said front ends mounted on said towers and extending within the outer slots of said towers with their wedges in

the adjacent keyways of said towers, a pair of draw bridges attached to the inner ends of said roadways and pivotally mounted on said bases, said cable portions upon being moved outwardly adapted to pull the towers outwardly and apart by said wedges and said keys until said towers fall apart into segments and said center span also falls upon said strip.

2. A falling bridge toy comprising a river simulating strip, a pair of spaced piers attached to said strip, a pair of towers mounted on said piers, said towers divided into segments, a central span mounted on said towers, a pair of road approaches mounted on said piers and said towers, and a pair of draw bridges mounted on said road approaches, said road approaches, upon being moved outwardly, adapted to pull down said towers and center span onto said river strip.

JOHN H. WRIGHT.