May 12, 1953 H. ARENSON ET AL 2,638,348

PUPPET GOLF BALL PROJECTOR

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Fig. 1.

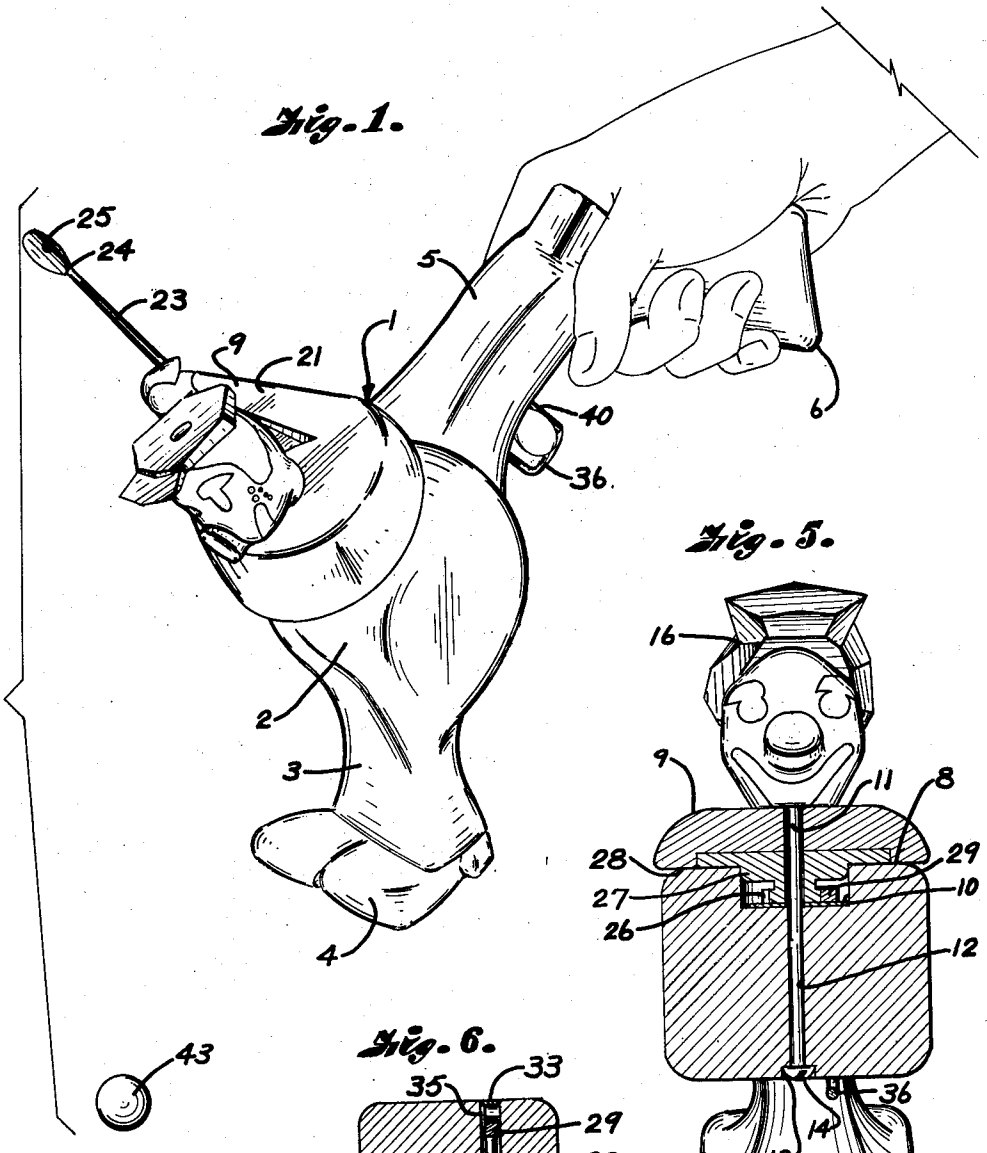
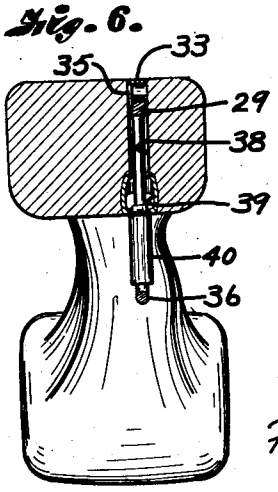


Fig. 5.

Fig. 6.



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Fig. 2.

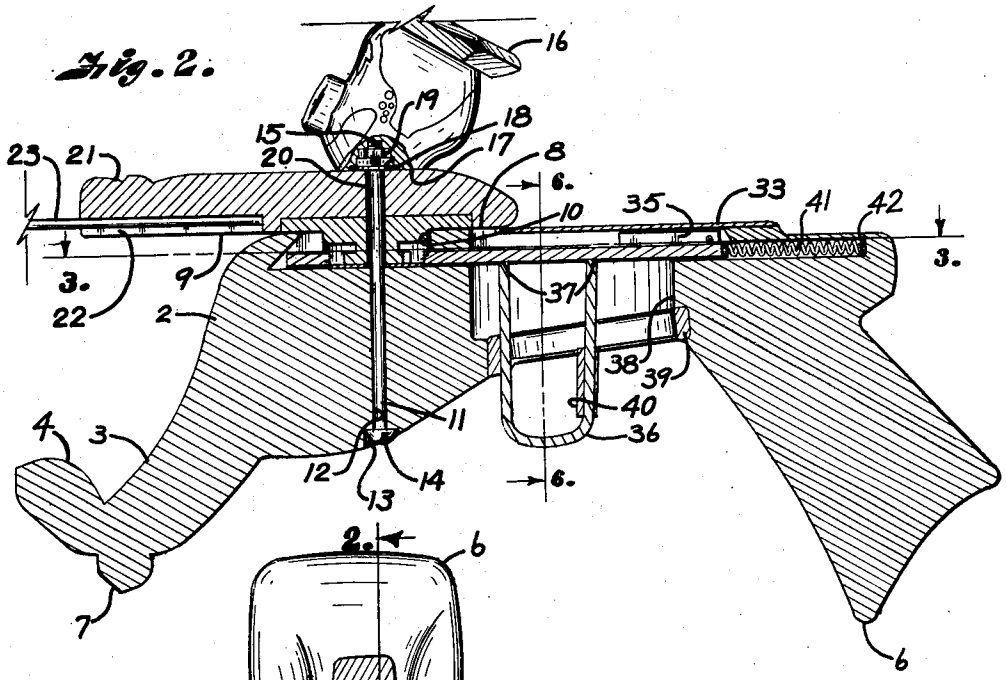


Fig. 3.

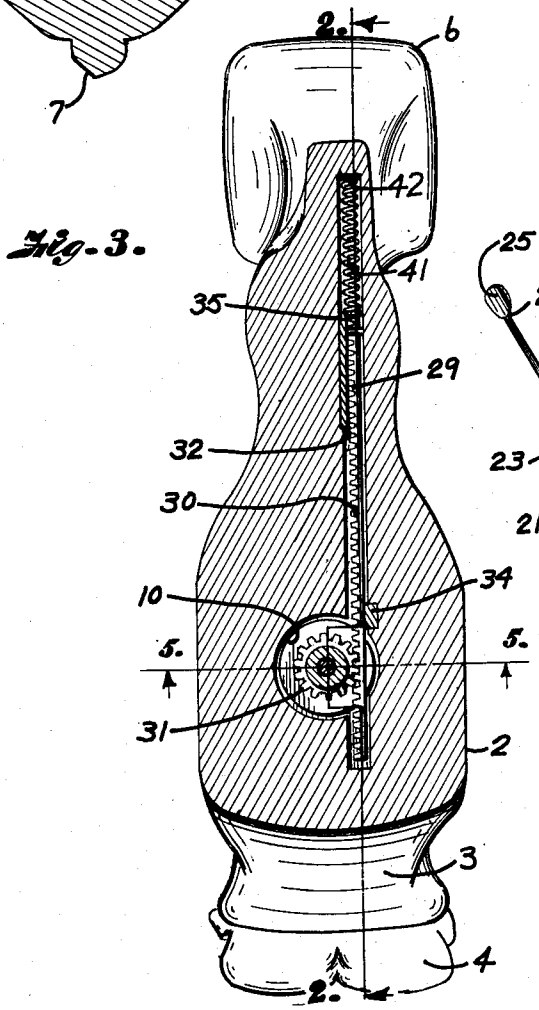
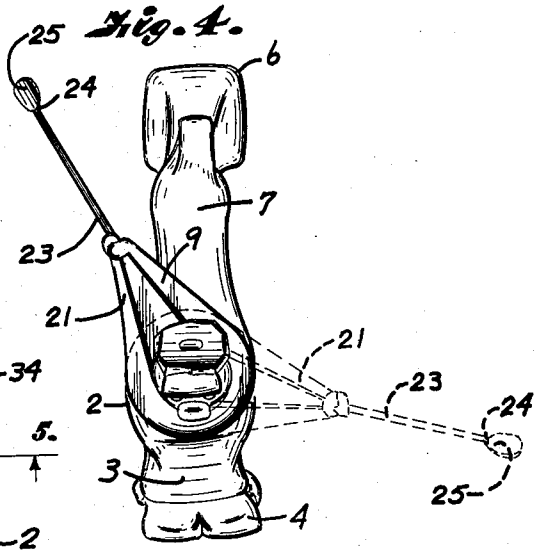


Fig. 4.



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PUPPET GOLF BALL PROJECTOR

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1 Claim. (Cl. 273—87)

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This invention relates to an animated toy, and more particularly to such a toy in the form of a golf puppet having a swinging portion including arms and club that is actuated for striking and projecting balls or other objects in playing a game, such as golf or the like.

The objects of the invention are to provide an amusement toy puppet having a body, feet and head, held in desired position by the hand of an operator or player and a portion rotatable within limits on the body that is actuated to effect swinging movement of arms and club on the rotatable portion for striking a blow on a ball or other loose object in a manner simulating the swing of a golfer; to provide such an amusement toy with a reciprocable member having operating engagement with the rotatable portion and resilient means acting on the reciprocating member to move the rotatable member to its limit of movement in one direction, said reciprocable member being adapted to be moved by an operator to swing the rotatable member to its limit of movement in the other direction; to provide an amusement toy simulating a golfer wherein the head and body member are relatively stationary and the portions simulating the shoulders, arms and golf club are rotatable between limits to simulate a golf swing and strike a ball or the like; and to provide an amusement toy puppet simulating a golfer and animated to provide swinging movement for use in playing games, said toy being of sturdy construction to withstand abuse, yet economical to manufacture.

In accomplishing these and other objects of the present invention, we have provided improved details of structure, the preferred forms of which are illustrated in the accompanying drawings, wherein:

Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a toy puppet embodying the features of the present invention and in operative position for effecting swinging movement of the club and striking of a ball thereby.

Fig. 2 is a longitudinal sectional view through the toy puppet on the line 2—2, Fig. 3.

Fig. 3 is a longitudinal sectional view through the puppet on the line 3—3, Fig. 2, particularly illustrating the rack and pinion arrangement therein.

Fig. 4 is a plan view of the puppet with the swinging portion shown in solid lines at the start of the swinging movement with the position at the end of the swinging movement shown in broken lines.

Fig. 5 is a transverse sectional view through the puppet on the line 5—5, Fig. 3.

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Fig. 6 is a transverse sectional view through the puppet on the line 6—6, Fig. 2.

Referring more in detail to the drawings:

1 designates an amusement toy puppet simulating a golfer having a body portion 2 with a reduced, downwardly extending portion 3 representing legs, with the lower end thereof shaped to simulate feet 4. A rigid member 5, preferably integral with the body 2, extends rearwardly from adjacent the upper end of the body member, said rigid member terminating in a handgrip 6 adapted to be grasped by the hand of an operator. The bottom of the portion representing the feet 4 is preferably provided with flattened portions 7 adapted to be placed on a flat surface such as a floor or table top, and the top 8 of the body member is cut on a plane at an angle to the bottom surfaces 7, as illustrated in Fig. 2, to position a rotatable member 9 as later described.

An open topped cylindrical recess 10 is arranged in the upper portion of the body member 2, and a spindle or the like 11 projects upwardly from the body member substantially axially of the recess 10. In the structure illustrated, the spindle 11 is a bolt which extends through a bore 12 perpendicular to the top face 8, the lower end of the bore 12 being counterbored as at 13 to receive the head 14 of said bolt. The shank of the bolt or spindle extends upwardly and has its upper end threaded as at 15, the threaded portion preferably terminating in spaced relation with the top surface 8 of the body member, as illustrated in Fig. 2.

A head 16 of the puppet has a flattened lower face 17 in which extends a recess 18 of suitable size to receive a nut or the like 19 adapted to be screwed on the threaded spindle, the recess 18 being so shaped that the nut 19 is fixed therein and held in the head against relative rotation. Also the shank of the bolt is a tight fit in the bore 12, or is otherwise fixed to the body member so that when the head 16 and the nut 19 therein are threaded on the shank or spindle to the end of the threaded portion, said head is held stationary relative to the body.

The rotatable member 9 is located between the top face 8 of the body member and the lower face 17 of the head, and is provided with a bore 20 through which the spindle 11 extends to rotatably mount the rotatable member which simulates the shoulders of the puppet. The rotatable member includes an outwardly extending portion 21 which simulates the arms of the puppet, said outwardly extending portion preferably having a slot 22 extending inwardly from the free end

thereof substantially radially of the rotatable member. The slot is of such width to tightly receive a shaft **23** of a golf club simulating member **24**, the shaft **23** being removable from the slot **22** whereby different shaped club members **24** may be utilized.

The club member **24** extends from the rotatable member substantially parallel to the plane of the top face **8** of the body member, and is of such length that when the bottom surfaces **7** are placed on a flat surface rotation of the rotatable member will swing the club member **24** in a path whereby the club head **25** barely clears the flat surface on which the bottom surfaces **7** rest. In the structure illustrated, the rotatable member includes a pinion structure **26** fixed to the rotatable member and extending downwardly therefrom into the recess **10**, said pinion preferably including a cylindrical portion **27** which extends into the recess **10** in engagement with the upper portion of the walls thereof to provide a bearing area which cooperates with the bearing engagement of the bottom face **28** of the rotatable member with the top face **8** of the body member.

Limited rotary movement of the rotatable member **9** is effected by a reciprocable member **29**, preferably in the form of a gear rack which has teeth **30** meshing with the teeth **31** of the pinion **26**. The gear rack is slidably mounted in a longitudinal groove **32** arranged in the body member **2** and rearwardly extending member **5** thereon, said groove intersecting the recess **10** and being of such length relative to the gear rack to permit reciprocation thereof for a distance sufficient for the desired limited rotation or swinging movement of the rotatable member **9** and the golf club member thereon. The groove **32** preferably extends downwardly from the top of the body member and rigid member thereon and the open top of the groove is covered by a suitable closure **33** which is cemented or otherwise secured to the rearwardly extending rigid portion **5**. Spaced bearing members **34** and **35** are arranged in the groove **32** in engagement with opposite faces of the rack to define the path of movement thereof.

The actuating member **36**, preferably in the form of a U, has its upper ends suitably secured as at **37** to the gear rack **29**, said actuating member extending downwardly through a slot **38** that extends from the groove **32** and opens from the bottom of the rigid member **5**, the actuating member **36** being positioned to be engaged by a finger of the hand on the handgrip **6**. The lower portion of the slot **38** is provided with a suitable liner **39** to define the path of the actuating member **36**, the ends of the liner serving as stops to limit the extent of reciprocation of the gear rack **29**. One of the legs of the actuating member **36** is preferably provided with a cushion member **40** sleeved thereon for engagement of the finger of the operator.

A resilient member **41** is arranged to act on the body member, actuating member and rack to urge the rack to one limit of its movement. In the illustrated structure the resilient member may be a coil spring or the like in the groove **32** and having one end engaging the end of the rack and the other end of the spring engaging the end **42** of the groove **32**. With this arrangement the resilient member is compressed when the actuating member is moved rearwardly and then said spring urges the rack and rotatable members to their starting positions. Obviously the resilient member may be otherwise located

in the figure in such a manner as to return the rotatable member **9** to its starting position.

In using a toy puppet constructed as described, the operator or player grasps the handgrip **6** with one finger engaging the cushion member **40** of the actuating member **36**, which the resilient member **41** has urged forwardly to the position shown in Fig. 2. The toy puppet is then placed on a flat surface with the bottom faces **7** in engagement therewith a suitable distance from a ball or the like **43**. The actuating member is preferably pulled slowly rearwardly, moving the rack **29** and through its engagement with the pinion **26** slowly rotating the rotatable member **9** to swing the golf club member **24** into a position substantially at the lower portion of the swing of said golf club member whereby proper alignment with the ball may be obtained. The pull on the actuating member is then released whereby the resilient member **41** moves same to the forward end of its path whereby the rotatable member **9** and the golf club member **24** are swung to their starting position as shown in solid lines in Fig. 4. The actuating member is then quickly drawn rearwardly to the other limit of its movement, thereby moving the rack **29** which effects rotation of the pinion **26** and the rotatable member **9** to quickly swing the golf club member **24** whereby the head **25** thereon strikes the ball **43** and moves same through the air in a simulated golf shot, the rotatable member and golf club member swinging to the other limit of their movement as shown in the broken lines in Fig. 4. The actuating member **36** is then released whereby the resilient member **41** will return the operating structure to the starting position.

It is believed obvious that we have provided an amusement toy simulating a golfer that may be utilized in playing games or otherwise serving as a source of enjoyment.

What we claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

A device of the character described comprising, a puppet figurine having a rigid body with a depending portion simulating legs and feet, the bottom surface of which is adapted to be placed on a flat surface, the top of the body being on a plane at an acute angle to said bottom surface, a rigid member integral with the body and extending rearwardly from the upper portion thereof substantially parallel with the plane of the top of the body, a handgrip on the rearmost portion of said rigid member, said body having a cylindrical recess in the top thereof, said body and rigid member having an open top groove substantially longitudinally thereof and communicating with the recess in the body, said rigid member having an elongated slot opening at the bottom thereof and communicating with said groove, a cover closing the open top of the groove, a spindle fixed in the body and projecting upwardly at the top of the body substantially axially of the cylindrical recess, a head fixed on the spindle above the body and spaced therefrom, a swinging member simulating shoulders of the puppet rotatably mounted on the spindle between the head and body, a radially extending portion simulating arms integral with the shoulder members, a golf club-like member removably mounted adjacent the end of the radially extending portion for movement therewith, said golf club-like member extending radially, a pinion fixed on the shoulder simulating member coaxial with the spindle and depending from said shoulder simulating member into the cylindrical

recess in the body, a rack reciprocable in the longitudinal groove and having operating engagement with the pinion, means fixed to the rack and extending from the slot and actuatable by the finger of the operator's hand grasping the handgrip for moving the rack and effecting rotary movement of the shoulder simulating portion and golf club-like member to swing same to strike a ball or the like, resilient means on the body and acting on the actuating member to urge return movement of the rack and swinging member to their original position, and means limiting movement of the actuating member, rack and swinging member.

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