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STRIP PROJECTING SQUEEZE TOY

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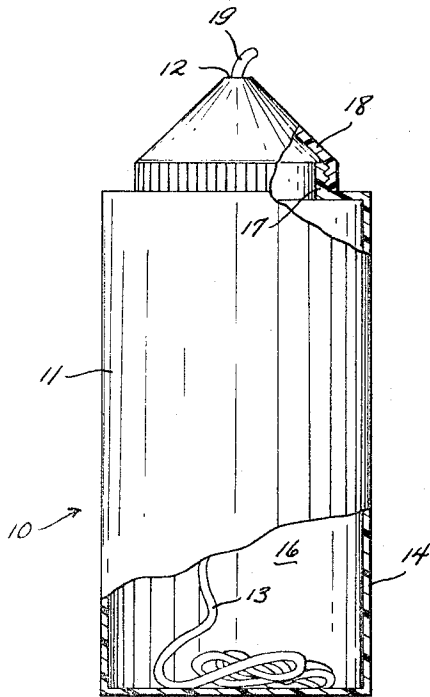


Fig. 1

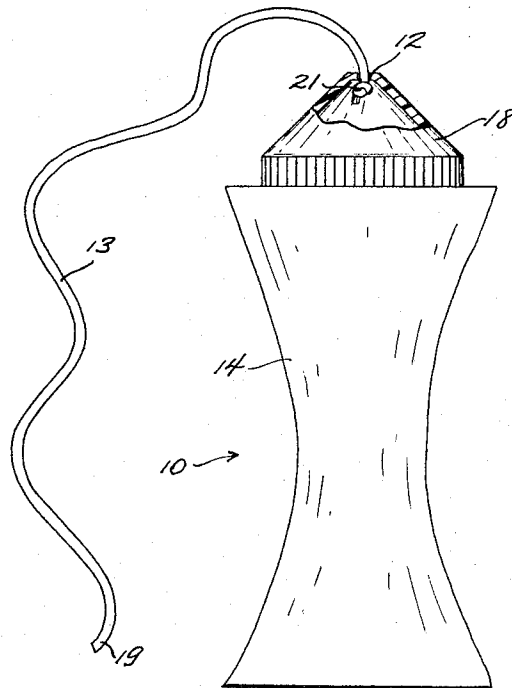


Fig. 2

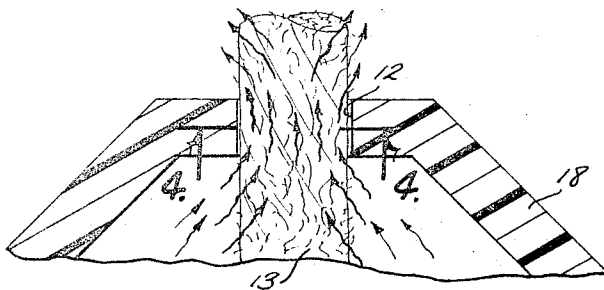


Fig. 3

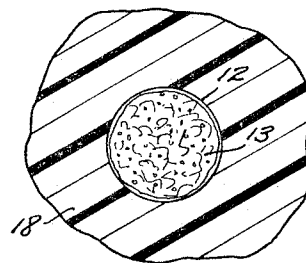


Fig. 4

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STRIP PROJECTING SQUEEZE TOY

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This invention relates generally to a novelty item of a squeeze or pop-out type of toy, and particularly to a squeeze toy employing the element of surprise therewith.

Most of us are familiar with a plastic container for ketchup and mustard, the ketchup container being of a red color and the mustard container of a yellow color, both to match the color of the liquid. This type of container has a generally nozzle-type cap, unscrewable for filling purposes, and adapted when the container is squeezed, to emit a squirt or long thin stream of liquid.

We are also familiar with the tube and/or vacuum packed bottle of shaving cream, icing for cakes and the like. In fact, we are familiar and used to all of these products of an edible or otherwise nature. Should any of these products accidentally come into contact with our clothing we are also familiar with the unhappy fact of the cleaning which must be done to the cloth.

What we are not familiar with is the thought or the act of someone intentionally pointing one of these containers at us and gleefully spewing the contents all over our clothing. Our first thought, due to our fair play nature and heredity, is that it is a joke. To the attainment, therefore, of a novelty which gives the impression just mentioned is an object of this invention.

It is another object of this invention to provide a novelty of the squeeze-type toy wherein manipulation of the toy simulates to the eye a stream of liquid or semi-liquid being emitted from the container, whereas actually only a long piece of harmless fibrous material is the "culprit."

It is another object of this invention to provide a squeeze-type toy comprising a container of plastic or like resilient material with an aperture therein, and where a long piece of yarn or similar material is slidably extended through the aperture, such that squeezing of the container results in the yarn being forced in a spiral nature outwardly of the container, thus simulating to the eye the emission of liquid or semi-liquid therefrom.

Yet another object of this invention is to provide a toy whereby one can play a practical joke on another, without endangering the other in any way, and with the toy being economical to manufacture, easy to operate, and extremely effective in use.

These objects, and other features and advantages of this invention will become readily apparent upon reference to the following description, when taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, wherein:

FIG. 1 is an elevational view of the squeeze toy of this invention, shown partly in section for clarity of illustration.

FIG. 2 is a side elevational view of the toy shown in a squeezed condition, the user's hand not showing, and again partly in section for clarity of illustration;

FIG. 3 is an enlarged fragmentary sectional view of the tip end of the nozzle of FIG. 2; and

FIG. 4 is a sectional view taken along the line 4-4 in FIG. 3.

Referring now to the drawings, the squeeze toy of this invention is indicated generally at 10 in FIG. 1 and comprises basically a resilient container 11 with an aperture 12 (FIG. 2) formed in the top thereof, and through which an elongated length of yarn 13 or the like is movably inserted.

In particular, the container 11 includes an elongated hollow, circular housing 14 having thin walls which form

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a contractible chamber 16, and with an externally threaded neck 17. Fluid such as ketchup, mustard, or the like can be placed within the chamber 16 through the open neck 17. To close the neck, a nozzle 18 is provided which screws down on the neck 17 to form a fluid tight seal, with the aperture 12 formed at the tip of the nozzle 18 the only means of egress for the fluid. The aperture 12 is formed on the longitudinal axes of both the nozzle 18 and the housing 14.

The yarn 13 can be of a conventional cotton yarn, and is fibrous as best illustrated in FIGS. 3 and 4, comprising a plurality of slender and greatly elongated natural or synthetic filaments. Its cross-sectional diameter is slightly less than the diameter of the circular aperture. The outer or lead end 19 (FIGS. 1 and 2) of the yarn is shown as being identical to the remainder, although it can be hardened by dipping in plastic cement or the like, and whereby the diameter of the end 19 would be less than the diameter of the remainder of the yarn 13.

The inner end 21 of the yarn 13 is shown knotted so as to comprise a ball of a diameter greater than that of the aperture for a purpose hereinafter described. Conversely, however, for a slightly different effect also as explained hereinafter, the inner end 21 can be un-knotted and identical to the lead or outer end 19.

The squeeze toy 10 is used as follows. A yellow container 11 is provided which is completely hollow, and free and clear of all fluid but air. The yarn 13 is also of a yellow color comparable to the color of the container 11 and of mustard. The yarn 13 is inserted through the aperture 12 with the majority of its length within the container chamber 16, as best illustrated in FIG. 1, and with only the outer end 19 showing.

The container 11 is then grasped firmly by the hand of the user and squeezed toward and into the shape as depicted in FIG. 2. As a result of the squeezing action, some of the air within the chamber 16 is forced outwardly thereof, and due to the compression or decreased capacity of the chamber 16, the air is forced outwardly through the aperture 12 under pressure (see the arrows in FIG. 3). As the yarn is of a fibrous nature, the air impinging thereon actually becomes somewhat interspersed within the yarn 13, and has enough force to impart motion to the yarn in the same direction as the air.

Thus, the yarn 13 is moved outwardly of the aperture 12 until either the air flow is exhausted or until the knotted end 21 strikes the nozzle 18, it immediately spirals and twists. And unless the eyes are focused directly on the yarn, which is generally not the case, it is blurred enough that the impression is one of a swirl of mustard. This is particularly true where a yellow colored yarn is used.

After expulsion of the yarn 13, it is stuffed or poked back into the container 11, which has re-attained its original condition of FIG. 1. If a knotted length of yarn 13 is not used, the entire length would have left the container. In this event, the plasticized lead is recommended to make the re-entry easier. Or, of course, the nozzle 18 can be removed and the yarn 13 replaced in the FIG. 1 position from within. The toy 10 is then ready for another "squirt."

Although a preferred embodiment of this invention has been described and disclosed hereinbefore, it is to be remembered that various modifications and alternate constructions can be made thereto without departing from the true spirit and scope of the invention as defined in the appended claims.

I claim:

1. A squeeze toy device comprising in combination: resilient means having a contractible chamber formed therein, said resilient means having an aperture

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means formed therein which communicates said chamber with the atmosphere; and

elongated fibrous means of diameter slightly less than said aperture means extending through said aperture means and into said chamber, said resilient means squeezable to force air outwardly through said aperture means, said forced air impinging said elongated means at said aperture means, whereby said air only imparts motion to said elongated means at said aperture means in a direction outwardly of said chamber.

2. A squeeze toy device comprising in combination: resilient means having a contractible chamber formed therein, said resilient means having an aperture means formed therein which communicates said chamber with the atmosphere; and

elongated fibrous material means including an elongated piece of said material of diameter slightly less than said aperture means one end of which extends through said aperture means and the other end of which is knotted and disposed within said chamber, said resilient means squeezable to force air outwardly through said aperture means, said forced air impinging said elongated means at said aperture means, whereby said air only imparts motion to said elongated means at said aperture in a direction outwardly of said chamber.

3. A squeeze toy device as defined in claim 2 and further wherein said one end of said elongated piece of said material has a diameter less than the diameter of the remainder of said material.

4. An amusement device comprising a hollow body having a wall with opening means therein, a thin elongated

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means slidably extending through said opening means and movable between a first position in which substantially all of said elongated means is hidden from view relative to the exterior of said hollow body, and a second position in which a substantial portion of said elongated means extends from said hollow body, manually operable means operatively associated with said hollow body for compressing air therewithin, said opening means being cooperable with said elongated means whereby actuation of said manually operable means to compress air within the hollow body will force a stream of said compressed air through said opening means to impinge on said elongated means with said stream of impinging air moving said elongated means from said first position to said second position.

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