F. RUPLE.

DEVICE FOR MAKING FACIAL EXPRESSIONS.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 12, 1907.

902,113. Patented Oct. 27, 1908.

FIG. 1

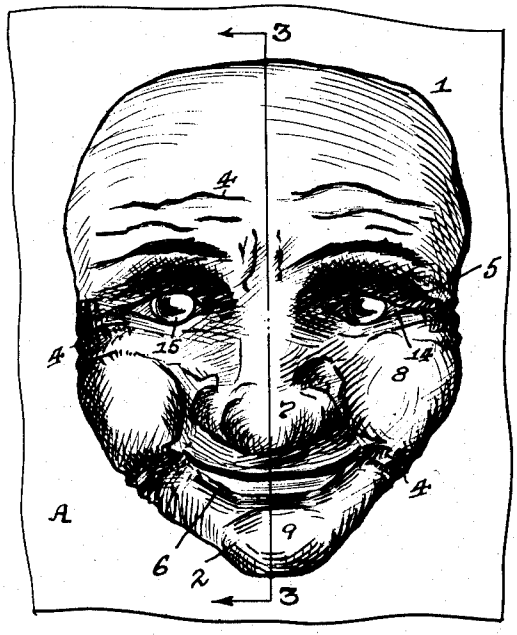


FIG. 3

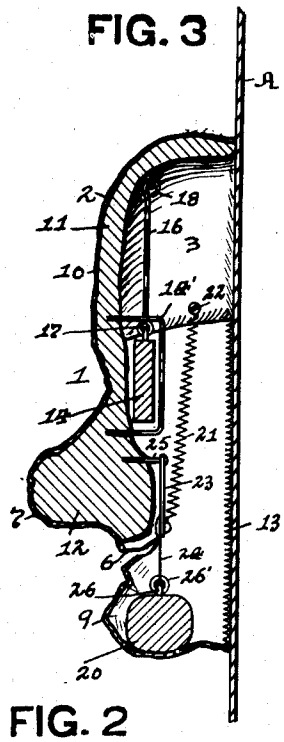


FIG. 4

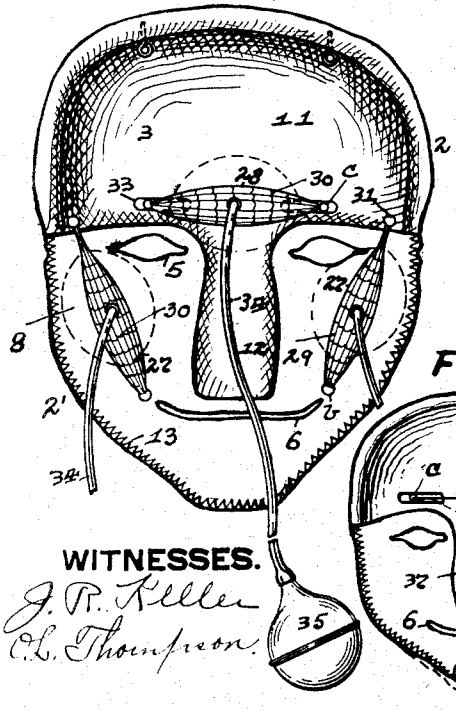


FIG. 5

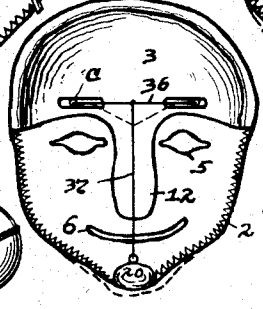
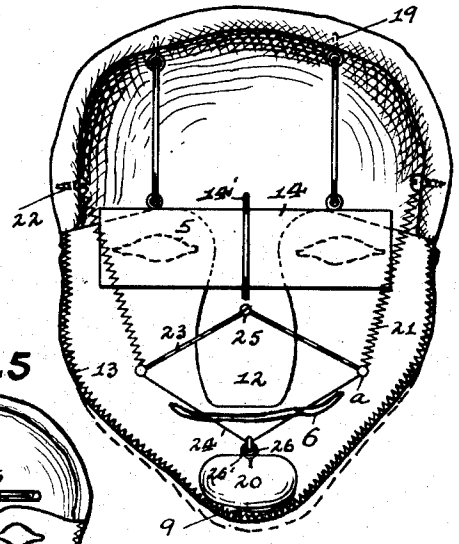


FIG. 2



WITNESSES.

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DEVICE FOR MAKING FACIAL EXPRESSIONS.

No. 902,113. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Oct. 27, 1908.

Application filed June 12, 1907. Serial No. 378,564.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FREDERICK RUPLE, a resident of Pittsburg, in the county of Allegheny and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Devices for Making Facial Expressions; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description thereof.

My invention relates to devices for producing facial expressions, and has for its object to provide a cheap, simple and efficient device for producing different facial expressions for amusement, advertising and other purposes.

My invention consists, generally stated, in the novel arrangement, construction and combination of parts, as hereinafter more specifically set forth and described and particularly pointed out in the claims.

To enable others skilled in the art to which my invention appertains to construct and use my improved device for producing facial expressions, I will describe the same more fully, referring to the accompanying drawing, in which—

Figure 1 is a front elevation of my improved device for producing facial expressions. Fig. 2 is a rear elevation of the same. Fig. 3 is a vertical central section on the line 3—3 Fig. 1 looking in the direction of the arrows. Figs. 4 and 5 are rear views of the device showing other forms of my invention.

Like symbols of reference herein indicate like parts in each of the figures of the drawing.

As illustrated in said drawing 1 represents the device for making facial expressions which consists of the facial portion 2 formed of thin and flexible material, such as rubber or other suitable material, and such portion is secured in any suitable manner to a rounded body or base 3 at the back of the same. The flexible portion 2 is formed or molded in a hollow shape to represent the human face and with the wrinkles 4 within the same wherever they may be desired to appear, while eye and mouth openings 5 and 6 are also formed or molded within said portion, as well as the extending or protruding nose, cheek and chin portions 7, 8 and 9 respectively. The body or base 3 is formed of papier-mâché, plaster of paris or other suitable material and molded to shape to form the upper or forehead portion 11 for the forehead portion 10 of the flexible portion 2, and with the lower or nose portion 12 thereon for the securing of the nose portion 7 on said portion 2 thereto, such portion 10 fitting loosely over the portion 11 of the base 3 and being secured at the sides and upper end of the same in any suitable manner.

The edges of the facial portion 2 can be provided with a wire spring 13 or other suitable device for supporting the depending or swinging portion 2′ below the forehead portion 10 on the same and for allowing movement of the said portion 2′. Within the facial portion 2 and at the back of the same is the eye-plate 14, which extends across the eye openings 5 in the portion 2 and is provided with the eyes 15 thereon and positioned opposite said openings. This eye-plate 14 is adapted to swing laterally within a guide 14′ secured on the base 3 through rods 16 loosely connected thereto through looped portions 17 at the lower end of said rods and on said plate, and through like looped portions 18 at the upper ends of said rods and on pins 19 which are secured to the upper end of the body or base 3.

Within the chin portion 9 of the facial portion 2 is the weight or block 20 which is hung from the side walls of the base 3 through wire springs 21 secured to said walls by the screw-pins 22 at their upper ends, and the lower ends of these springs are connected to one end of rods 23 and to a cord 24 at a point *a* where they are secured by cementing or in any suitable manner to the depending portion 2′. The rods 23 extend up at angle from the lower ends of the springs 21 and are loosely secured at their opposite ends to a pin 25 on the nose portion 12 of the base 3, while the cord 24 extends down at an angle from the said points *a* and is loosely connected to a pin 26 on the weight or block 20 by passing through a ring 26′ on said pin 26.

The manner of using and operating my improved device for producing facial expressions is as follows:—When the device 1 is assembled as shown in the drawing it can be removably hung from a suitable support A, as shown in Fig. 3, in any suitable manner, and connected to the base 3, or can be secured to said support through said base, and when in position and carried by a moving object, such as an electric, steam or other vehicle or object the movement of the object

will act to shake the depending portion 2′ of the flexible facial portion 2. By reason of the movement of the object and the shaking of the portion 2′ on the flexible portion 2, the eye-plate 14 will be swung laterally through the rods 16, so that the eyes 15 on said plate will travel from side to side with said plate and give expressions through the openings 5 in the portion 2′, while the weighted block 20 in the chin portion 9 on said portion 2′ will act to move said portion in different positions through the springs 21, rods 23 and cord 24. By the movement of the said portion 9 through the weight 20 it will move the facial portion and give different expressions to the eye and mouth openings 5 and 6, chin portion 9 and cheek portion 8 through the said weight being connected or hung from the portion 2′ of said portion 2 at the points *a* through the rods 23 and cord 24 and such expressions will be assisted by the wrinkles 4 in the portion 2.

In Fig. 4 is shown another form of my invention which can be used for getting expressions of the face for artists and other such work, and this consists in placing on the rear of the facial portion 2 the flexible cheek and forehead bags 27 and 28, these bags being preferably of flat or oblong shape when in their normal state and having a netting formed over the same of taut longitudinal strands 29 and loose cross-strands 30 connecting said strands 29. The cheek bags 27 are rigidly connected to a pin 31 on the base 3 and extend inwardly along the cheek portion at an angle and are connected to the facial portion 2 at a point *b* below the cheek portion 8 by cementing or in any other suitable manner. The bag 28 for the forehead portion 10 of the facial portion 2 is placed horizontally along the base 3 and is connected at its ends through slots 33 in said base to points *c* which are secured to said forehead portion 10 by cementing or in any other suitable manner.

Flexible tubes 34 are connected one to each one of the bags 27 and 28 and on the end of each tube is a flexible bulb like that shown at 35, so that each of said bags can be expanded, as shown by the dotted lines, to give the expression desired for the cheek portions 8 on the facial portion 2 or for the forehead portion 10 on said portion 2. In the expanding of the cheek bags 27 the lower end of the cheek portions 8 on the flexible portion 2 will be drawn upward through the points *b* to produce the expression in said portion 8 by inflating such cheek portions and drawing the corners of the mouth opening 6 upward, while in the expanding of the bags 28, the ends of said bag will travel along the slots 33 to produce the expression by vertical wrinkles in the flexible forehead portion 10 through the points *c* being drawn toward each other, and by drawing upward the outer corners of the eye openings 5.

In Fig. 5 is shown another form of my invention in which sealing points *c* on the forehead portion 10 of the flexible facial portion 2 have a cord 36 connected between the same through the slots 33 and this cord by extending horizontally across the base 3 allows for a vertical cord 37 to be connected thereto and to the weighted block 20, so that in any downward movement of said block the portion 9′ on the portion 2 in being pressed downward, as shown in dotted lines, will also draw down the cord 37. As this cord 37 is also drawn down it will also act to draw down the central connected portion of the cord 36 as shown in dotted lines, and thereby draw towards each other the sealing points *c*, so that the flexible forehead portion 10 will produce an expression by vertical wrinkles therein, and by the outer corners of the eye openings 5 being drawn upward.

Various other modifications and changes in the use, design and construction of my improved device for producing facial expressions may be resorted to, without departing from the spirit of the invention or sacrificing any of its advantages.

It will thus be seen that my improved device for producing facial expressions is of such a form and construction that a variety of facial expressions can be produced automatically or otherwise thereby, and when in use can be entertaining and useful for a great many purposes, such as in forming part of advertising cards and for assisting artists and portrait painters in obtaining different expressions of the human face for their work. It can be easily handled without injury to the parts composing the same and will not get out of order. The working parts are easily made and when set in position there is no liability of breakage in handling or when in use, while the form and material for the facial portion of the device is of such design and nature that it can be made or molded to represent the different shapes or forms of human faces easily and without great expense.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In a device for producing facial expressions, the combination of a supporting head portion having a nose portion thereon, and a thin flexible facial portion over and depending from said head and nose portion and adapted to have expressions formed therein.

2. In a device for producing facial expressions, the combination of a supporting head portion having a nose portion thereon, and a thin flexible facial portion over and depending from said head and nose portion and adapted to be engaged interiorly to form different expressions therein.

3. In a device for producing facial expressions, the combination of a supporting head portion having a nose portion thereon, a thin flexible facial portion over and depending from said head and nose portion, and means interiorly engaging with said flexible portion for moving the same to form different expressions therein.

4. In a device for producing facial expressions, the combination of a supporting head portion having a nose portion thereon, a thin flexible facial portion over and depending from said head and nose portion, and means connected to said head portion and engaging with the back of said flexible portion for moving the same to form different expressions therein.

5. In a device for producing facial expressions, the combination of a supporting head portion having a nose portion thereon, a thin flexible facial portion over and depending from said head and nose portion, and means on the back of said facial portion and engaging with the chin portion thereof for moving the same to form different expressions therein.

6. In a device for producing facial expressions, the combination of a supporting head portion having a nose portion thereon, a thin flexible facial portion over and depending from said head and nose portion, and means depending from said head portion and engaging with the chin portion of said flexible portion for moving the same to form different expressions therein.

7. In a device for producing facial expressions, the combination of a supporting head portion having a nose portion thereon, a flexible facial portion over and depending from said head and nose portion, and a weight or block depending from said head portion and engaging with the chin portion of said flexible portion for moving the same to form different expressions therein.

8. In a device for producing facial expressions, the combination of a supporting head portion having a nose portion thereon, a flexible facial portion over and depending from said head and nose portion, and a weight or block depending from said head portion and from said flexible facial portion and engaging with the chin portion of said flexible portion for moving the same to form different expressions therein.

9. In a device for producing facial expressions, the combination of a supporting head portion having a nose portion thereon, a thin flexible facial portion over and depending from said head and nose portion adapted to be vibrated to form different expressions therein, said head and facial portions having eye openings therein, and laterally swinging eyes for moving along said openings to form different expressions therein.

10. In a device for producing expressions, the combination of a supporting head portion having a nose portion thereon, a thin flexible facial portion over and depending from said head and nose portion adapted to be vibrated to form different expressions therein, said head and facial portions having eye openings therein, and a laterally swinging plate having eyes thereon for moving along said openings to form different expressions therein.

11. In a device for producing expressions, the combination of a supporting head portion having a nose portion thereon, a thin flexible facial portion over and depending from said head and nose portion adapted to be vibrated to form different expressions therein, said head and facial portions having eye openings therein, and a laterally swinging plate depending from said head portion having eyes thereon for moving along said openings to form different expressions therein.

In testimony whereof, I, the said FREDERICK RUPLE have hereunto set my hand.

FREDERICK RUPLE.

Witnesses:
J. N. COOKE,
JAMES L. WEHN.