July 22, 1924. 1,501,912

F. B. MEEHAN

DANCING DOLL

Filed June 21, 1920

Fig. 1

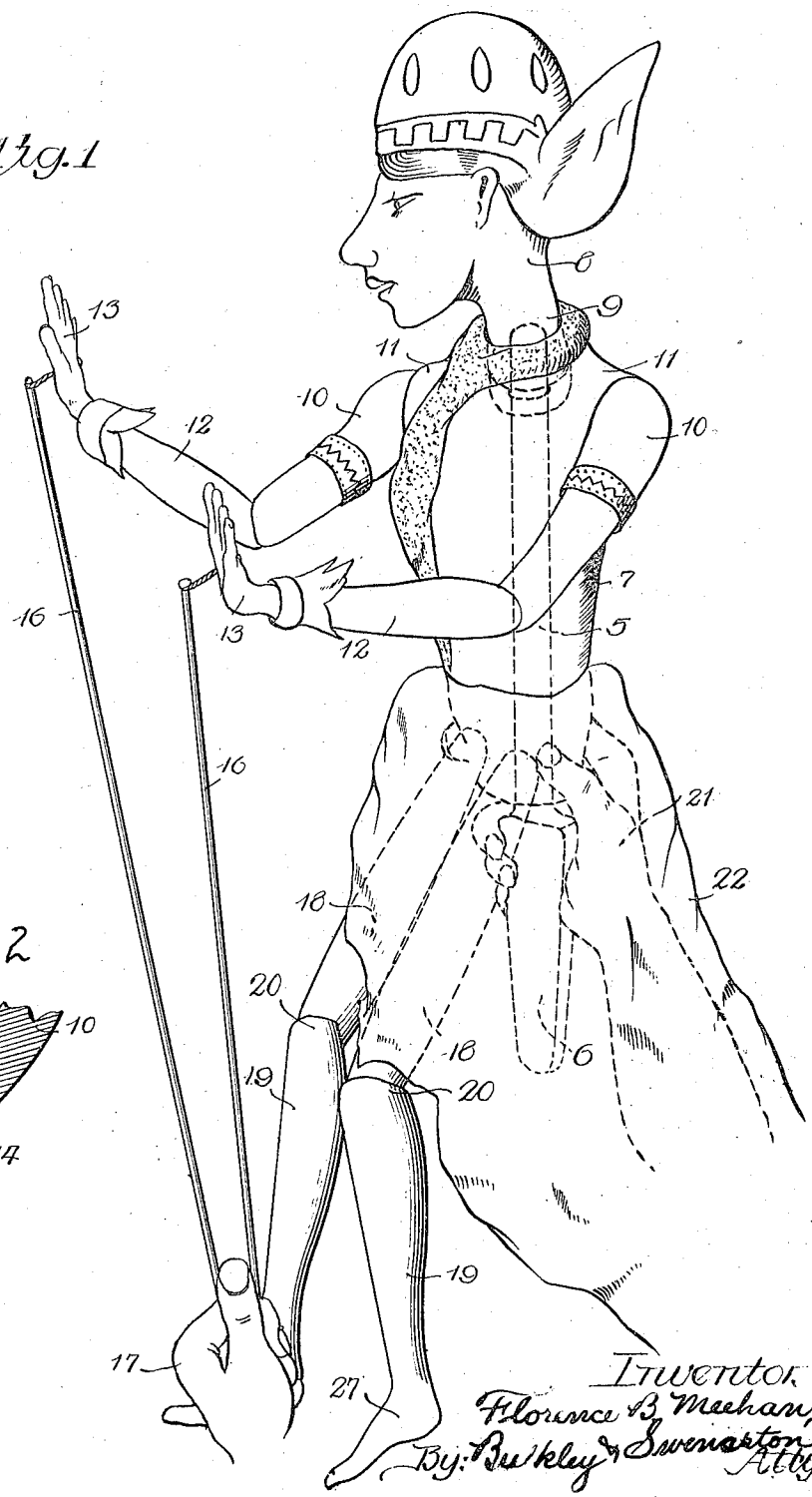
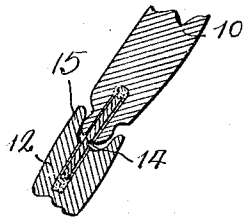


Fig. 2



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Patented July 22, 1924. 1,501,912

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FLORENCE B. MEEHAN, OF HIGHLAND PARK, ILLINOIS.

DANCING DOLL.

Application filed June 21, 1920. Serial No. 390,534.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FLORENCE BURGESS MEEHAN, a citizen of the United States of America, and resident of Highland Park, Lake County, Illinois, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Dancing Dolls, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to an improvement in dancing dolls—that is, to a toy figure which may be operated so as to cause it to similate various dancing movements.

The features and objects of my invention will be more readily understood by having reference to the accompanying drawings, in which I have illustrated one embodiment of my invention.

Figure 1 is a front elevation of a doll embodying the features of my invention.

Fig. 2 is a detail view showing the construction of the loose joints employed.

As illustrated, my improved doll consists essentially of a holding and supporting member formed of a cylindrical rod 5 of wood or other suitable material provided at its lower end with a handle portion 6. Loosely mounted upon this supporting member, so as to be freely movable thereon, there is a body member or torso 7. Supported on the upper end of this supporting member is a head 8, which head is provided with a neck portion 9 which fits loosely within a cylindrical opening in the upper portion of the torso 7. A pair of arms consisting of upper sections 10—10 are loosely connected to the shoulders 11 of the torso and loosely connected to the lower end of these arm sections 10 are fore-arm sections 12—12 which carry the hands 13—13. The joints in these arms are preferably made very free and loose, as shown, for example, in Fig. 2, in which the upper arm section 10 is secured to the fore-arm section 12 by a string or other flexible connecting device 14, this string being hidden from view by means of the extension 15 on the fore-arm section, which extends loosely over the lower end of the upper arm section. Secured to the palms of the hands 13—13 are a pair of rods 16—16 which extend downward and may be grasped by the hand 17 of the manipulator. Secured to the lower part of the torso are a pair of loosely jointed legs 18—18, the lower sections 19—19 of which are connected to the upper sections through the medium of loose knee joints 20, preferably constructed similar to the joint indicated in Fig. 2.

In order to manipulate the figure, the handle portion 6 is grasped by one hand of the operator, indicated at 21, while the other hand 17 of the operator grasps the lower end of the rods 16. The arm and hand 21 of the operator are concealed from view by means of the dress 22, which is provided with a slit in the front thereof to permit the legs to project through. The lower portion of the torso can be gripped between the thumb and first finger and moved upwardly and downwardly on the rod 5 or rotated slightly back and forth on this supporting rod so as to similate various dancing movements, and the arms can be caused to move through various contortions by means of the rods 16 and by turning the supporting member 5 the head can be caused to turn to various angles. The legs are permitted to move freely and during the movement of the figure will tend to dance upon the table or other object upon which the feet 27 may engage. While the eyes of the figure illustrated are stationary, it will be understood that the various well known forms of movable eyes could be employed to add to the effect produced.

While I have illustrated and described one specific embodiment of my invention, it will, of course, be understood that the form of the same may be modified and different shapes of torso, heads and limbs employed, and I do not limit my invention to a human figure, as the various parts could be formed to similate animals of different forms. Other changes and modifications also may be made without departing from the spirit and intent of my invention.

What I claim as my invention is:

1. In a toy figure, a supporting member consisting of an upwardly extending rod and a handle portion at the lower end thereof a head supported upon the upper end of said rod, and a body portion loosely mounted upon said rod between said head and said handle portion, said body portion being adapted to be reciprocated freely up and down on said rod and to be rotated thereon, and limbs loosely connected to said body portion.

2. In a toy figure, a supporting member, a body member loosely supported upon said supporting member and adapted to be moved vertically thereon and rotated there-

on, two pairs of limbs loosely connected to said body member, and manipulating rods connected to the free ends of one pair of said limbs.

3. In a toy figure, a supporting member consisting of an upwardly extending rod and a handle portion at the lower end thereof, a head supported upon the upper end of said rod, and a body portion loosely mounted upon said rod between said head and said handle portion, said body portion being adapted to be reciprocated freely up and down on said rod and to be rotated thereon, two pairs of limbs loosely connected to said body portion, and manipulating rods connected to the free ends of one pair of said limbs.

4. In a doll, a supporting member consisting of a central rod and a handle portion at the lower end thereof, a head mounted upon the upper end of said rod, a torso loosely mounted upon said rod between said head and said handle portion and adapted to be reciprocated thereon and freely rotated thereon, a pair of loosely jointed legs secured to the lower portion of said torso, a pair of loosely jointed arms connected to the shoulder portions of said torso, hands secured to the free ends of said arms, and manipulating rods secured to said hands for operating said arms.

5. In a toy figure, an upwardly extending rod having a handle portion at the lower end thereof, a head supported upon the upper end of said rod, a body portion adjacent said handle and below said head and adapted to be rotated and moved up and down in respect to both said head and handle, and a pair of limbs supported on said body portion.

Signed by me at Chicago Illinois, this 10 day of June, 1920.

FLORENCE B. MEEHAN.