Dec. 29, 1936. R. G. TAHSLER 2,066,239

DANCING DOLL TOY

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Fig. 1.

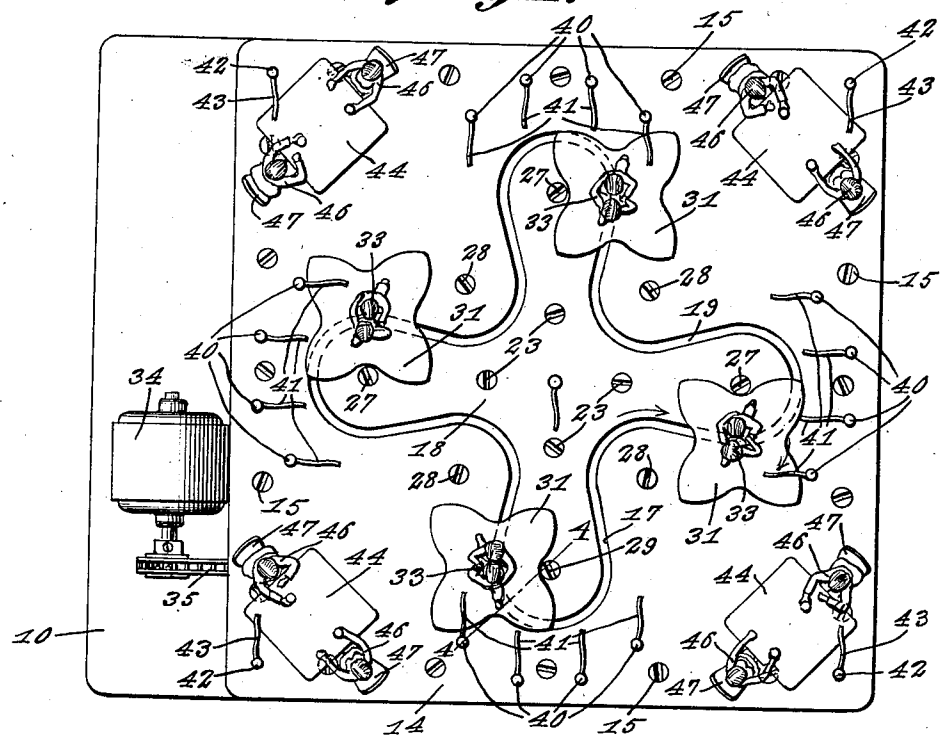
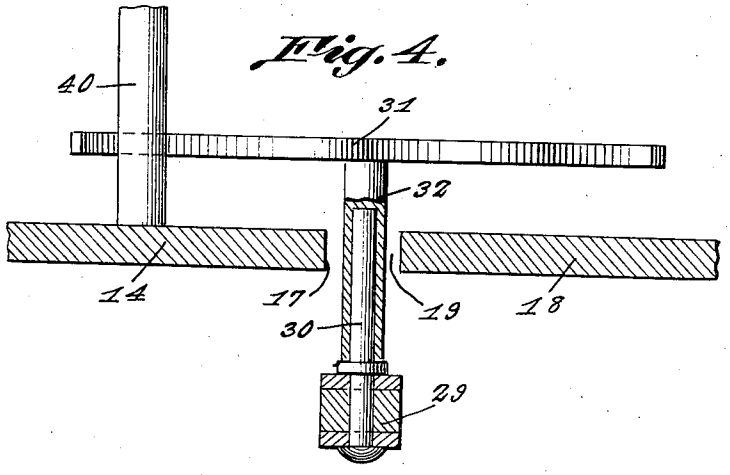


Fig. 4.



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Fig. 2.

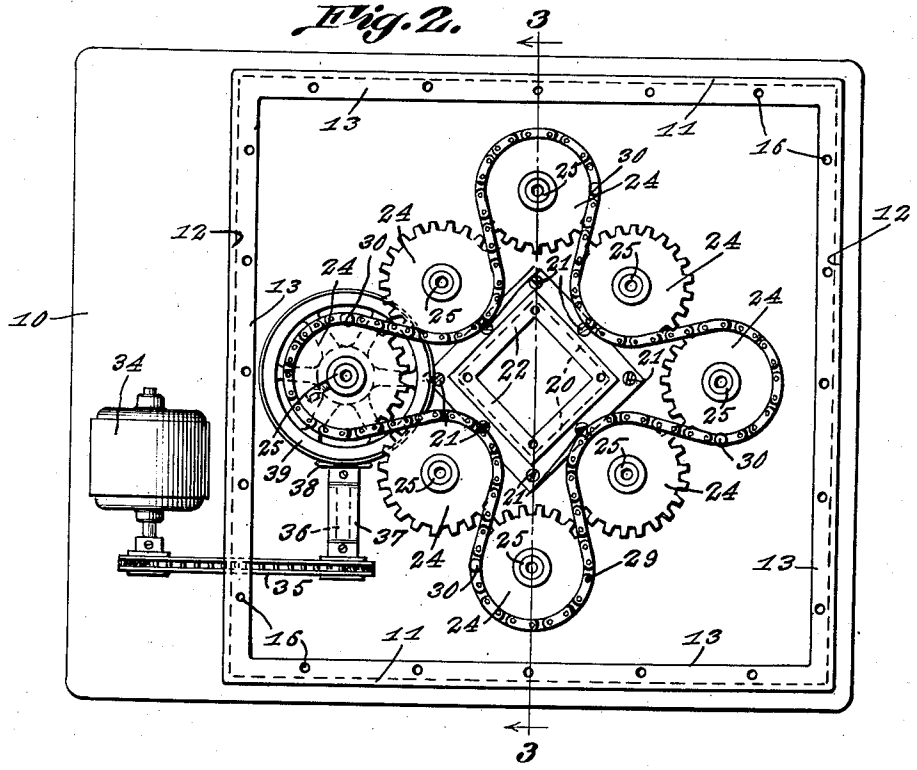
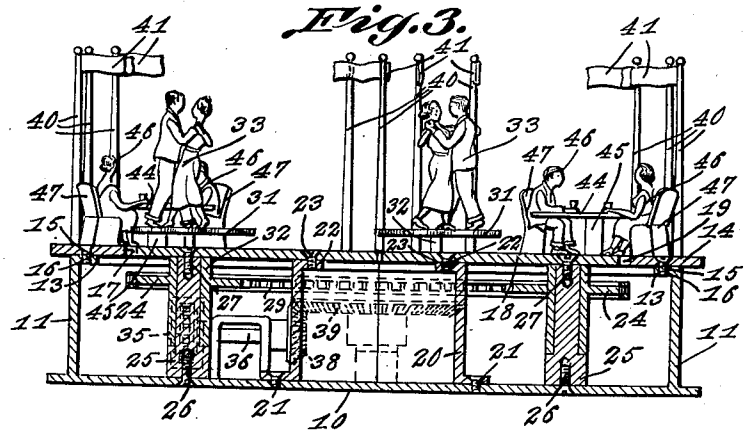


Fig. 3.



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2,066,239

DANCING DOLL TOY

Richard G. Tahsler, Cleveland, Ohio

Application October 21, 1935, Serial No. 46,005

4 Claims. (Cl. 46—140)

This invention relates to toys of the mechanical type and has for an object to provide a mechanical toy including figures representing dancing couples which are moved about in a cruciform path by a novel chain drive and which during such movement will rotate or turn at intervals to simulate the movements of actual couples when dancing.

A further object is to provide a motor driven toy of this character which will be formed of a few strong, simple and durable parts, which will be inexpensive to manufacture, and which will not easily get out of order.

With the above and other objects in view the invention consists of certain novel details of construction and combinations of parts hereinafter fully described and claimed, it being understood that various modifications may be resorted to within the scope of the appended claims without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

In the accompanying drawings forming part of this specification,

Figure 1 is a plan view of a toy constructed in accordance with the invention.

Figure 2 is a plan view of the toy with the cover removed to expose the operating mechanism.

Figure 3 is a cross sectional view taken on the line 3—3 of Figure 2.

Figure 4 is an enlarged cross sectional view taken on the line 4—4 of Figure 1 showing a star wheel and actuating means therefor.

Referring now to the drawings in which like characters of reference designate similar parts in the various views, 10 designates a base from which rises vertical, side and end walls 11 and 12, the vertical walls being provided at the top with respective flanges 13 to which a cover plate 14 is secured by means of screws 15 threaded into suitable openings 16 in the flanges. The cover plate is provided with a substantially cruciform opening 17, the branches of which are sinuous rather than rectilinear as best shown in Figure 1.

A cruciform closure 18 is mounted in the plane of the cover plate and is similar in shape to the cruciform opening 17 but is of smaller superficial area throughout than the opening so that a sinuous cruciform slot 19 exists between the edge of the closure and the inner edge of the cover plate. The closure 18 is mounted on the top of a substantially rectangular box or casing comprising vertical walls 20, best shown in Figure 3, the walls being flanged at the bottom and secured to the base 10 by means of screws 21 passed through the flange and into the base. The walls 20 are provided at the top with flanges 22 which support the closure 18 thereupon and screws 23 are passed through the closure and into the flanges 22 to secure the parts together.

A plurality of sprocket gears 24 are mounted to idle on respective posts 25 secured to the base by screws 26. Certain of the posts are secured at the upper ends to the closure by screws 27 while the remainder are secured to the cover plate by screws 28. Sprocket gears 24 thus are disposed at the ends of the arms of the closure and at the spaces between the arms as best shown in Figures 1 and 2. A sprocket chain 29 is trained over the outer sides of the gears at the ends of the arms of the closure and over the inner sides of the gears between the arms of the closure as best shown in Figure 2, and this chain directly underlies and conforms to the curvature of the sinuous slot 19.

The sprocket chain is equipped with pins 30 at four equally spaced points and these pins rise through the slot 19. Star wheels 31 are provided with hubs 32 which are loosely fitted over associated pins 30 so that each star wheel is free to turn on the associated pin as a vertical axis. As best shown in Figure 3 dancing couples 33 in the form of dolls are mounted on the star wheels.

An electric motor 34 is mounted on the base 10 and is connected by a chain drive 35 to a shaft 36 which is mounted in a bearing 37 that rises from the base 10. The shaft is equipped with a bevel pinion 38 which meshes with a bevel gear 39 that is fixed to the hub of one of the sprocket gears 24. When the motor is started the sprocket chain 29 will be caused to travel below the slot 19 and will move the star wheels 31 along the slot.

For causing the star wheels to rotate and thus simulate turning of the dancing couples at spaced intervals during travel along the slot 19, a plurality of abutments 40, preferably four in number, are arranged around the ends of the arms of the closure 18 and extend in an arc on the cover plate 14, said arc being concentric with the post 25 which supports the adjacent sprocket wheel 24 at the end of the closure arm as best shown in Figure 1. Consequently, as each star wheel progresses along the slot 19 the arms of the star wheel will be struck in sequence by the four abutments near the end of each arm of the cruciform closure so that the star wheel will make a complete revolution. As there are four arms

to the closure 18 each star wheel and the associated dolls thereon will make a complete turn while being moved around the periphery of the end of each arm of the closure so that four complete turns will be made during each cycle or complete circuit of the slot 19. For ornamentation pennants 41 are disposed on the tops of the abutments 40 so that the abutments are flag poles.

Flag poles 42 are arranged at the four corners of the cover plate and are provided with pennants 43. At each corner of the cover plate preferably a miniature table 44 is supported upon a standard 45 which rises from the cover plate and at the table two dolls 46 are seated in miniature chairs 47, to simulate persons watching the dancers.

In operation the motor is started to feed the chain 29 along the idling sprocket gears 24 and advance the star wheels 31 progressively around the cruciform sinuous slot 19. As each star wheel in succession encounters the series of four abutments or flag poles at the end of each arm of the slot, the star wheel will be rotated through a complete turn and the dancing dolls thereon turned accordingly to simulate the turns made by the dancing couples at the corners of a dance floor.

From the above description it is thought that the construction and operation of the invention will be fully understood without further explanation.

What is claimed is:

1. A dancing doll toy comprising a support, a plurality of star wheels on the support, dolls in couples in waltz position on the star wheels, an endless carrier on the support mounting the star wheels at predetermined intervals apart, means for moving the endless carrier to advance the star wheels progressively in a sinuous path on the support, and upstanding pins on the support intercepting the spokes of the star wheels and rotating the star wheels on their axes through one revolution at predetermined points in the path of travel of the star wheels.

2. A dancing doll toy comprising a support, a plurality of sprocket wheels on the support arranged in the form of a rectangle, means for rotating one of the sprocket wheels, a sprocket chain trained around the outer side of certain of the sprocket wheels and around the inner sides of others of the sprocket wheels, whereby the sprocket chain assumes a cruciform shape, a cover for the support having a slot of the same shape as the sprocket chain and exposing the sprocket chain, revoluble star wheels mounted on the sprocket chain at spaced intervals and extending above the cover, dolls in couples in waltz position on the star wheels, and pins on the cover at spaced intervals apart for intercepting the star wheels while being moved around the periphery of the end of each arm of the cruciform shaped sprocket chain for rotating the star wheels through a complete revolution to simulate waltz turns being made by the dancing couples of dolls.

3. A dancing doll toy comprising a hollow support, a plurality of sprocket wheels concealed between the top and the bottom of the support, an endless sprocket chain trained over said sprocket wheels in a cruciform path, a motor on the support connected to one of the sprocket wheels for driving said chain, there being a cruciform slot in the top of the support exposing the chain, pins on the chain and spaced at intervals apart forming axles, star wheels having hubs loose on said axles, dolls in couples in waltz position on the star wheels, and stationary pins on the top of the support at the ends of the arms of the cruciform chain intercepting the spokes of the star wheels and rotating the star wheels through a complete revolution to simulate waltz turns being made by the dancing couples while being moved around the periphery of the ends of the arms of the cruciform chain.

4. A dancing doll toy comprising a support, an endless sprocket chain, sprocket wheels arranged in the form of a rectangle, the sprocket chain being trained over the sprocket wheels in a cruciform path, means operatively connected to one of the sprocket wheels for driving the sprocket chain in a cruciform path, a cover on the support concealing the sprocket wheels and having a cruiciform slot exposing the chain, star wheels disposed at intervals along the chain and exposed above said cover, the star wheels being adapted to turn on their axes, dolls in couples in waltz position on the star wheels, pins on the cover located on an arc concentric with the loop formed by the end of each arm of the cruciform slot and adapted to intercept an advancing star wheel and impart a complete revolution to the star wheel during its progress around said loop whereby to simulate waltz turns being made by the dancing couple on the star wheel.

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