Sept. 17, 1957 S. M. FORD 2,806,322

KNOCKDOWN TOY TELEPHONE

Filed July 28, 1954 2 Sheets-Sheet 1

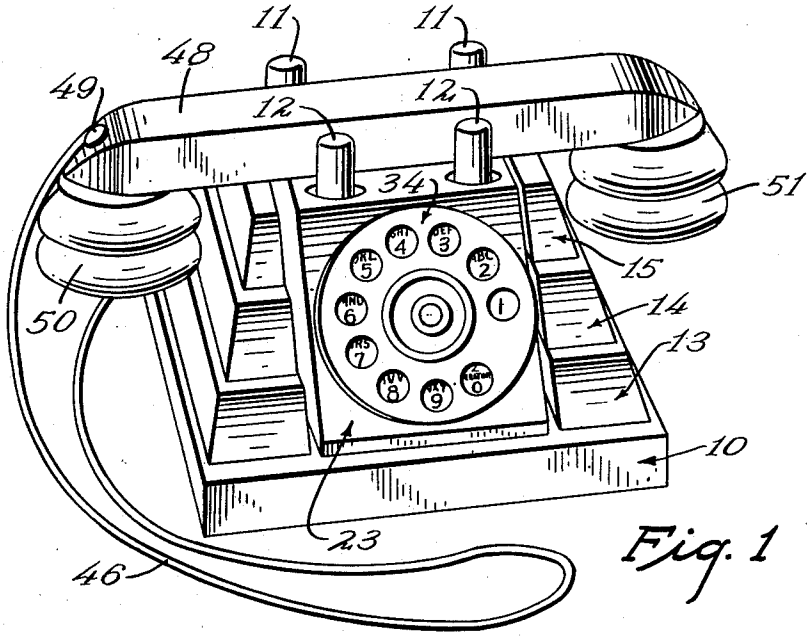


Fig. 1

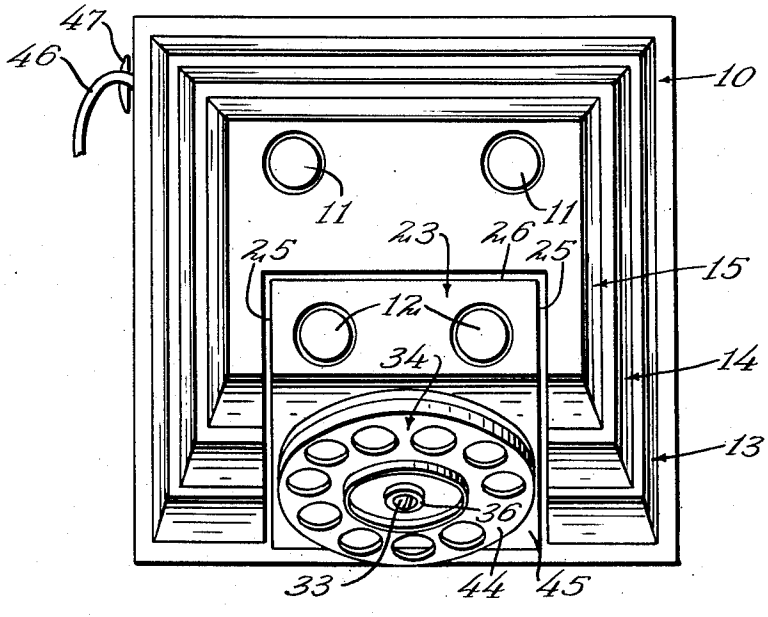


Fig. 2

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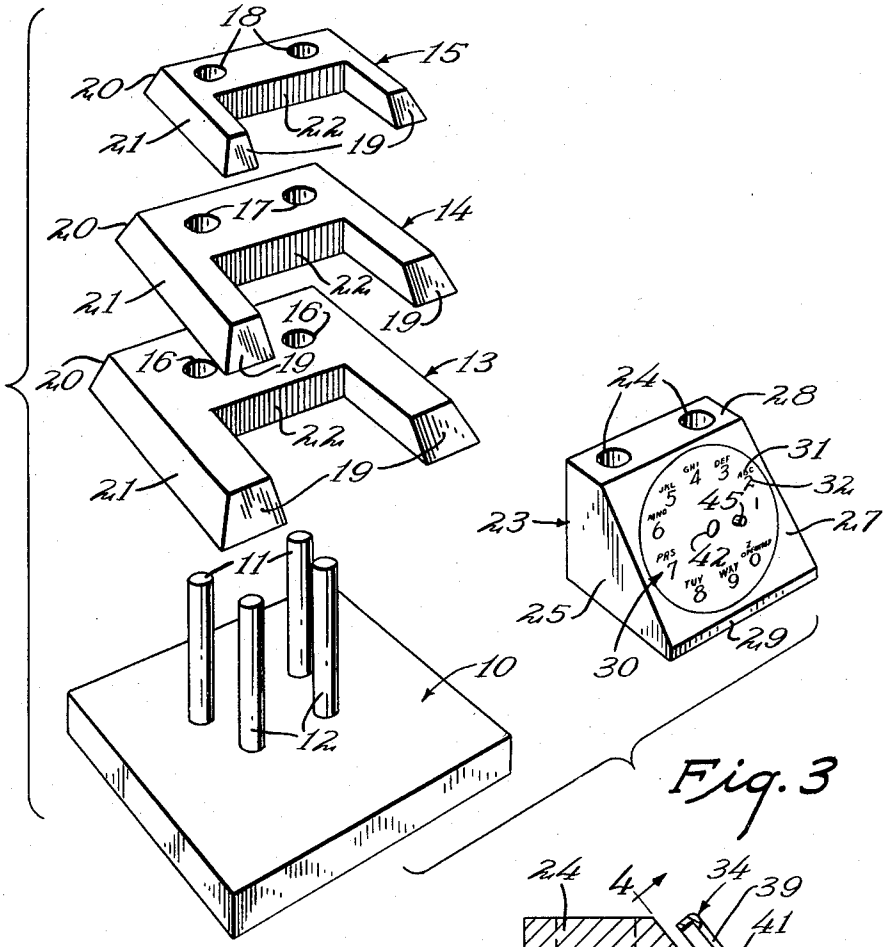


Fig. 3

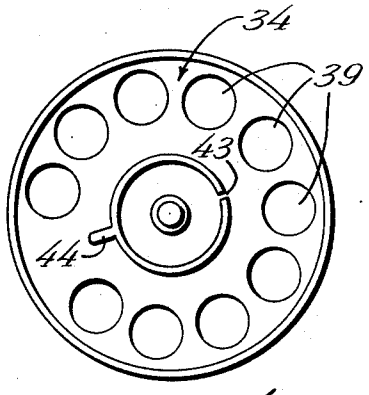


Fig. 4

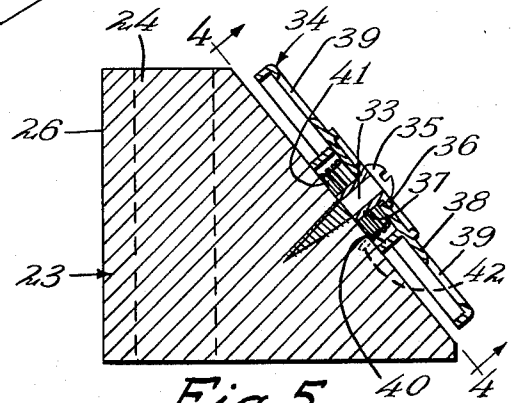


Fig. 5

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United States Patent Office 2,806,322
Patented Sept. 17, 1957

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KNOCKDOWN TOY TELEPHONE

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Application July 28, 1954, Serial No. 446,354
7 Claims. (Cl. 46—17)

This invention relates to a constructive and entertaining toy telephone, and more particularly to a toy telephone structure in sectional blocks which are to be dismantled and reassembled or fitted to form a simulated dial telephone.

The toy telephones in present use are molded or cast models of substantially one piece structure which afford children only the pleasure of turning a dial without other benefit. There is need for additional useful toys which entertain and amuse as well as encourage constructive thought and training in building and dismantling. The problem of creating instructional toys which will at the same time amuse and keep a child's attention is a constant one that is not easy to solve.

Accordingly, it is an object of the present invention to provide a novel toy telephone which affords entertainment and amusement.

Another object of this invention is to provide children with a novel building structure which aids and encourages thought constructiveness, effort and training, while affording entertainment.

Other objects and advantages will be recognized from the following description of the accompanying drawings wherein:

Fig. 1 is a front perspective view of the toy telephone assembly embodied in this invention.

Fig. 2 is a top plan view of the toy telephone embodied in this invention.

Fig. 3 is a view of the toy telephone with the parts shown in disassembled relationship.

Figure 4 is a bottom plan view of the reverse side of the telephone dial as it would appear in full section from line 4—4 of Figure 5.

Figure 5 is a cross-sectional side view of the telephone dial and its mounting block.

With reference to the several figures like parts will be indicated by similar numbers.

The assembled toy telephone herein described is formed of an assembly comprising a wood base **10** having a pair of aligned guide back pegs **11** and a pair of front aligned guide pegs **12** secured in holes in the base **10**. The particular placement and manner of fastening the guide pegs **11** and **12** on the base **10** may be optional with respect to alignment with cooperating parts as hereinafter described. The guide pegs **11** and **12** may be secured by being wedged into holes in the base **10**, or otherwise by screw threads on the respective guide pegs **11** and **12** and cooperating screw holes in base **10**, pins, screws and other conventional fastening devices as desired.

Mounted on the guide pegs **11** are a series of wood blocks **13**, **14**, and **15**, which are provided with aligned pairs of guide holes or passages **16**, **17**, and **18**, respectively. The guide holes **16**, **17**, and **18**, have an internal diameter slightly larger than the diameter of the pegs **11**, to allow the blocks **13**, **14**, and **15**, to slide freely on and off the pegs **11**.

As more clearly shown in Figure 3, the blocks **13**, **14**, and **15**, are of decreasing size with their peripherial edges, shown as front **19**, back **20**, and side **21**, inclined at an angle which produces a pyramid effect or structural arrangement having, in the assembled state, the appearance of a commercial desk telephone. The blocks **13**, **14**, and **15**, are provided with equal sized rectangular cut-out, or U-like sections **22** to provide a space for mounting a wood dial block **23** on base **10**, by aligning holes **24** in block **23** with guide pegs **12** and sliding the pegs **12** through the holes **24**. In assembling the telephone, the blocks **13**, **14**, and **15**, are placed in the order named by the slippage of guide pegs **11** through the openings **16**, **17**, and **18**, respectively. In dismantling the blocks **13**, **14**, and **15**, are removed in the reverse order, which may be before, after, or intermediate with, the mounting on, or removal of block **23** with respect to base **10**.

The side portions **25** and back portion **26** of dial blocks **23** slide freely in and out of the cut-out sections **22** of the telephone building blocks **13**, **14**, and **15**. The face side **27** is cut on an angle with respect to top **28** and side edge **29**. The angle or slope of the dial block face **27** is substantially the same as the angle of side edges **19**, **20**, and **21**, of blocks **13**, **14**, and **15**, respectively; to create the pyramidal effect or simulated appearance of a modern business telephone.

The dial face **30** is printed on the side **27** with the usual letters **31** and numbers **32**. Other insignia or amusing indicia may be substituted for the letters **31** and numbers **32**. A holding screw **33** fastens the plastic dialing ring **34** to the dial face **30**. The head **35** of screw **33** holds flange **36** of metal mounting ring **37** against the face **38** of dialing ring **34**. The coefficient of friction between the holding screw mounting ring **37** and dial **34** allows the dialing ring **34** to be turned in the usual manner by placement of a finger in a conventional opening **39** in the dialing ring **34**.

Beneath the surface of the face **38** of dialing ring **34** a circular mounting ring **40**, which may or may not be formed integral with surface portion **38**, serves to support the dial **34** and also provides a housing for the spring **41**. One end of the spring **41** is fastened in hole **42** in block **23**, and its opposite end fastened, for example, in slot **43**, in mounting ring **40**. The spring **41** serves to return the dialing ring **34** to its normal resting position with the letters **31** and numerals **32** in alignment with openings **30** after the dial **34** has been turned to cause the protruding stop **44** on mounting ring **40** to be stopped upon contacting, for example, the stop pin **45**.

A conventional type one piece receiver and speaker combination is simulated by attaching one end of a cord **46**, by staple **47**, to the block assembly as at base **10** and the opposite end of the cord **46** onto a hand bar **48**, at **49**, adjacent the simulated mouth piece **50**, and providing a simulated hearing piece **51** at the opposite end of the hand bar **48**. As illustrated in Figure 1 the hand bar **48** rests between the pegs **11** and pegs **12**.

With this new construction block toy there is provided a novel building block structure that educates, trains, and furnishes amusement to children at an early imaginative age. The different parts of the structural toy, as described, may be formed of wood, plastic, or metal, and painted in bright and attractive colors, as desired.

In accordance with the patent statutes, the principles of construction and operation of the stacking telephone have been described and while it has been endeavored to set forth the best embodiment thereof, it is desired to have it understood that obvious changes may be made within the scope of the following claims without departing from the spirit of the present invention.

I claim:

1. A toy telephone including a base, a pair of pegs projecting upwardly from said base, a series of building blocks slidably supported on said pegs to overlie said base, said blocks being arranged in superimposed relation and being of sequentially diminishing size to produce a frusto-pyramidal body, a simulated telephone handpiece proportioned to overlie said blocks, and a flexible cord connecting said handpiece and base, said cord being of sufficient length so that the handpiece may be moved a substantial distance from said base.

2. A toy telephone including a base, a first pair of pegs projecting upwardly from said base, a series of generally U-shaped blocks slidably supported on said pegs in superimposed relation, said blocks being of sequentially diminishing size to produce a generally frusto-pyramidal body, a second pair of pegs extending upwardly from said base between the spaced sides of said U-shaped blocks, a block slidably supported on said second pair of pegs, said last named block substantially filling the space between the spaced sides of said U-shaped blocks and having an upwardly and inwardly tapered wall generally following the taper of the ends of the spaced sides of the U-shaped block, a simulated telephone handpiece overlying the body, and a flexible cord connecting said handpiece and said base.

3. The structure of claim 2 and in which the said last named block and said U-shaped blocks extend to substantially the same height above said base.

4. The structure of claim 2 and including a simulated telephone dial on the tapered wall of said last mentioned block.

5. The structure of claim 2 and in which the pegs project above the level of said blocks and are arranged in parallel spaced vertical planes, the upper ends of the pegs forming guides between which the handpiece extends.

6. A toy telephone including a base, a first pair of pegs projecting upwardly from said base, a series of generally U-shaped blocks slidably supported on said pegs in superimposed relation, said blocks being of sequentially diminishing size to produce a generally frusto-pyramidal body, a second pair of pegs extending upwardly from said base between the spaced sides of said U-shaped blocks, a block slidably supported on said second pair of pegs, said last named block substantially filling the space between the spaced sides of said U-shaped blocks and having an upwardly and inwardly tapered wall generally following the taper of the ends of the spaced sides of the U-shaped block, said pegs extending above the level of said blocks and being arranged in spaced parallel vertical planes, an elongated simulated telephone handpiece including a simulated telephone receiver and a simulated telephone mouth piece thereon at opposite ends thereof, said handpiece overlying said blocks between the first pair of pegs and the second pair of pegs, said pegs holding said handpiece from twisting.

7. The structure of claim 6 and in which the pegs of one pair are spaced apart a different distance from the pegs of the other pair.

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