May 26, 1959 F. BEYER 2,887,820

MOVABLE FIGURES WITH CHANGING FACE EXPRESSIONS

Filed Dec. 16, 1957

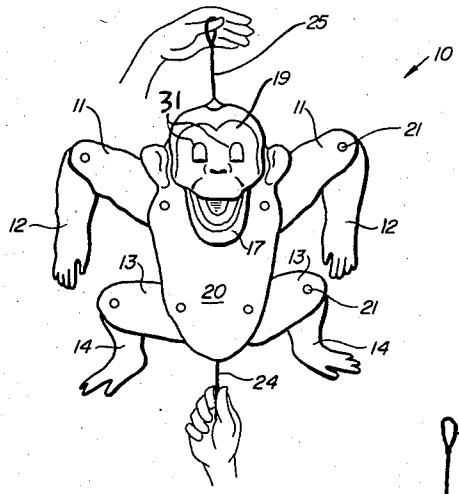


FIG. 1

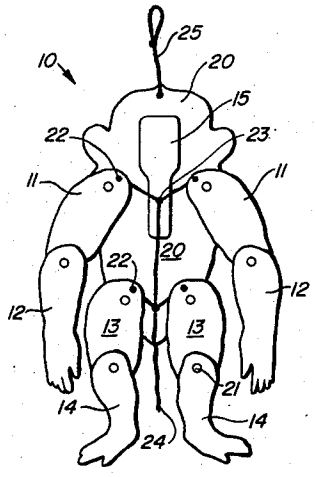


FIG. 2

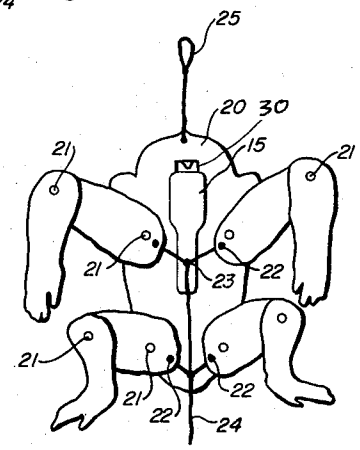


FIG. 3

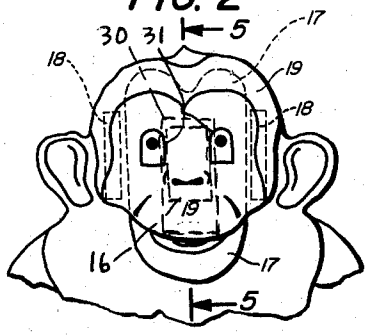


FIG. 4

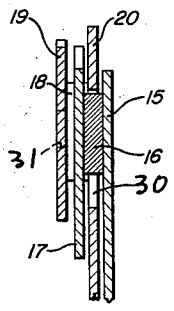


FIG. 5

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United States Patent Office 2,887,820 Patented May 26, 1959

2,887,820

MOVABLE FIGURES WITH CHANGING FACE EXPRESSIONS

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Application December 16, 1957, Serial No. 703,090

2 Claims. (Cl. 46—120)

The present invention relates to improvements in animated toys, and more specifically to toys representing figures of persons or animals, such as cartoon characters or the like.

One object of the present invention is the provision of a device of the character described which, when moving parts representing the limbs of a character, also moves a facial part which is constructed and arranged in such a manner that its movement represents not only a movement of the eyes but also of other parts of the face, so as to change the entire face expression.

Another object of the present invention is the provision of a device of the character described which is primarily flat and consists of simple, inexpensive pieces of cardboard or the like which can be assembled easily and speedily, and which is light in weight, which requires only very little space for storing and shipping, and which can be manipulated easily and without the application of any appreciable amount of skill.

With the foregoing and other objects in view which will appear as the description proceeds, the invention consists of certain novel details of construction and combinations of parts hereinafter more fully described and pointed out in the claims, it being understood that changes may be made in the construction and arrangements of parts without departing from the spirit of the invention as claimed.

In the accompanying drawing a preferred form of the invention has been shown.

In said drawing:

Figure 1 is a front view of a preferred embodiment of my invention shown in a first position;

Fig. 2 is a rear view showing the embodiment in a second position;

Fig. 3 is a rear view showing the device in the first position of Fig. 1;

Fig. 4 is an enlarged partial front view of the device in the second position of Fig. 2; and,

Fig. 5 is a fractional sectional view on the line 5—5 of of Fig. 4.

Similar reference characters refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

The example shown in the drawing and denominated by the numeral **10** represents a monkey figure, or a character known as "Jumping Jack." However, it will be obvious that the principle of my invention can be applied also to any other cardboard figures.

The numerals **11** and **12** denote movable arm portions and the numerals **13** and **14** denote movable leg portions, while the numeral **15** denotes a movable longitudinal member, which by means of a plate **16** (Fig. 5) is attached to a face portion **17**, illustrating a pair of eyes, eyelids and a chin with a lower mouth portion. A pair of plates **18** are secured at one side to an upper face portion **19**, representing the face from the upper lip and nose to the forehead and hair, and at the other side to a main body plate **20** at either side of the element **17**, so that the element **17** is guided between the plates **18** when

it slides up and down between the elements **19** and **20**. Intermediate the plates **18** there is provided in the plate **20** an upright slot **30** through which extends slidably the plate **16**, which joins the element **17** to the member **15**. The elements **11** and **12** as well as **13** and **14** are pivotally connected to each other, and the elements **11** and **13** are pivotally connected to the body plate **20** by means of rivets **21** or by any other suitable means. A full string **24** has a substantially straight main portion and two pairs of branch portions, of which one pair extends laterally, in opposite direction from each other, from the upper extremity of the string **24** whereas the other pair of branch portions extends from a section of the string **24** which section is in spaced relation to the aforesaid upper extremity thereof. Eccentric sections **22** of the elements **11** and **13** are connected to the outer extremities of said branch portions of the string **24**, and a section **23** of the member **15** is connected to the main portion of the pull string **24**. To the upper portion of the body plate **20** is secured a suspension string **25**. If a person holds the device at the string **25** with one hand, while pulling the string **24** with the other hand, as is illustrated in Fig. 1 the parts **11**, **12**, **13**, **14**, **15**, **16** and **17** move from their respective positions shown in Figs. 2, 4 and 5 to the positions shown in Figs. 1 and 2. The extent of this movement is limited by the plate **16** sliding in the slot **30**. The element **19** has eye-shaped window holes **31** at the area of the eyes. Through the holes **31** are visible the eyes and eye brows shown on the element **17**, while the lower mouth portion and the chin on the element **17** protrude beyond the lower edge of the element **19**. Thus, while pulling the string **24**, the mouth appears wide open and the eyes appear reduced or partially or entirely closed as if the character were screaming, shouting, singing, laughing or crying.

As soon as the string **24** is released, the weight of the arm and leg portions **11** to **14** causes them to swing downwardly thereby pulling the parts **15**, **16** and **17** upwardly, so as to regain the normal face expression shown in Fig. 4.

While in the present instance only window holes representing eye openings have been shown, it is obvious that also other window holes on the body or face of a character could be utilized in the same manner as explained above for letting appear and disappear any designs, images, slogans, advertising matter or the like.

Since certain changes may be made in the above article and different embodiments of the invention could be made without departing from the scope thereof, it is intended that all matter contained in the above description or shown in the accompanying drawing shall be interpreted as illustrative and not in a limiting sense.

It is also to be understood that the following claims are intended to cover all of the generic and specific features of the invention herein described, and all statements of the scope of the invention which as a matter of language might be said to fall therebetween.

Having thus fully described my said invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A movable figure with changing face expressions comprising a substantially flat body member having a trunk portion and a head portion provided with a vertical slot, a pair of guide members parallel to said slot being secured at either side of the slot to said body member, an upper face member having eye holes and being secured to said guide members so as to cover the head portion of said body member and to be in spaced relation thereto, a first plate representing a pair of eyes with eyelashes and a lower mouth portion and being shiftably interposed between said guide members and said face and body members, a block slidably extended through said slot being secured to said first plate, a second plate being slidable on the back of said body member and secured to said block, limbs pivoted to said body member, and a string

extending beyond the lower end of the figure and having a main portion as well as branch portions laterally extending from said main portion and having said branch portions connected to eccentric sections to said limbs while said main portion is connected to said second plate so as to cause by pulling said string an upwards swinging of the limbs and a downward movement of said plates, thereby changing the position of the eyes, eye lashes and mouth portion on said first plate relative to said upper face member to such an extent as to simulate a changing of the entire face expression of the figure.

2. A device of the character described comprising a body member having an opening, an upper face member having eye holes being attached to one side of said body member and in spaced relation thereto, a first plate slidably interposed between said body member and said upper face member and representing eyes with eye lashes and a lower mouth portion, a second plate being slidable on the back of said body member and being connected through said opening to said first plate, limbs pivoted to said body member, and a string having a main portion and

two pairs of branch portions extending from sections of said main portion which are in spaced relation to each other and having said branch portions eccentrically connected to said limbs while said main portion is connected to said second plate in such a manner that said limbs and plates are allowed to assume a first position by means of gravity as long as said string is released, but that said limbs together with said plates are moved into respective second positions upon pulling of said string.

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