Jan. 5, 1926. 1,568,469

H. DE L. RAPSON

FIGURE TOY

Filed March 9, 1922

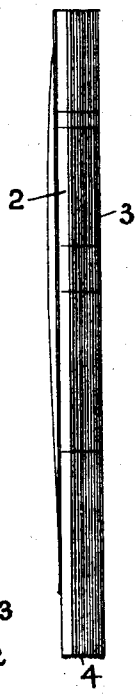


FIG. 2

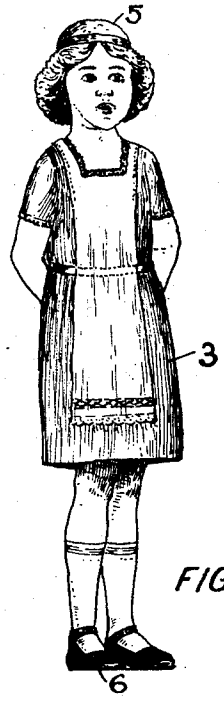


FIG. 1



FIG. 4

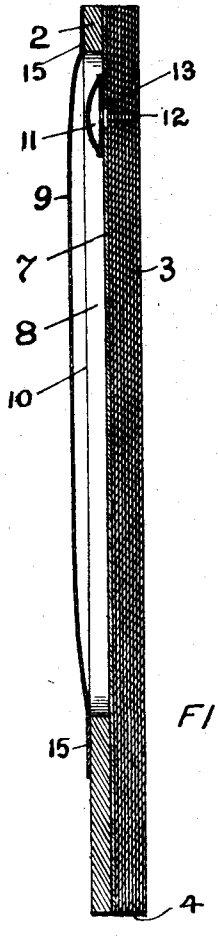


FIG. 3

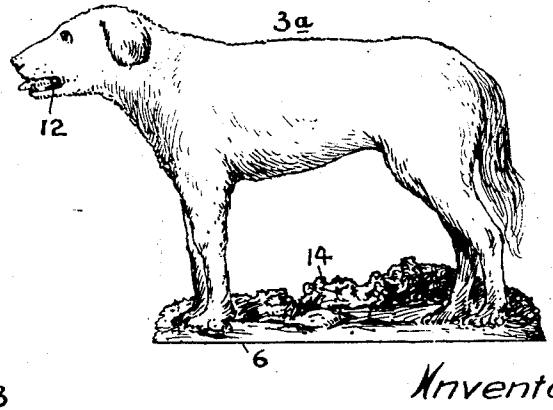


FIG. 5

Inventor

Hobart Delancey Rapson.

By

Attorney.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HOBART DE LANCEY RAPSON, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

FIGURE TOY.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HOBART DE LANCEY RAPSON, a citizen of the United States, and resident of Philadelphia, county of Philadelphia, and State of Pennsylvania, have invented an Improvement in Figure Toys, of which the following is a specification.

My invention has for its object the production of a toy object representing a doll or other figure which may be subdivided into a plurality of parts, each of which furnishes a duplicate of the original in the same or different color ornamentation.

My invention is further so constructed as to provide an aperture through the plurality of superposed figures and at the rear of said figures arranging a bellows and whistle for causing sounds to be emitted through the aperture.

With a toy of this character, sold as a single object, the child may readily separate its elements to provide several distinct dolls or objects, all more or less similar and which may be separately handled. For example, the toy object may represent a doll child having one design of dress, yet a number of similar dolls may be stripped or split off, one at a time, to provide a series of dolls each dressed differently though of the same general outline; or the object may represent a petty officer of army or navy and when stripped or split off exposes the picture of a blue jacket or a marine which is duplicated by the remaining splitting or stripping so as to provide a military or naval company or detail of men.

The toy object is cheap to construct, easily handled and transported, instructive and interesting to a child.

With the above and other objects in view, the nature of which will be more fully understood from the description hereinafter, the invention consists in the novel construction of toys, as hereinafter more fully described and defined in the claims.

Referring to the drawings:—Fig. 1 is a front view of my improved toy object; Fig. 2 is a side or edge view of the same; Fig. 3 is a vertical sectional view of the same; Fig. 4 is an elevation of a portion of the toy object shown in Fig. 1; and Fig. 5 is an elevation of my invention as applied to illustrations of a dog or other animal.

3 represents a plurality of stamped out figures, which in Fig. 1 are as dolls and Fig. 5 as animals. These doll figures all have the same outline and superposed and united at the edges by glue 4, which preferably terminates near the top of the head so as to leave free edges to the sheets at the crown of the head as at 5, whereby they may be successively detached. The application of the glue may be otherwise located about the edges, but preferably so as to leave one or more places where the finger nail may be inserted when it is desired to strip off one of the sheets. It is also to be understood that the doll sheets may be detachably secured together in any other way, as by a weak transparent adhesive between the layers of doll sheets. To make the assembled stampings more rigid for storage and shipping and against warping or curling, they may be attached to a stiff backing card 2 which is also stamped with the same outline as the dolls and the glue 4 is extended to include the edges of the said card backing.

It will be understood that the several doll sheets are preferably colored differently to provide the suggestion of the child being dressed in different kinds of clothes to increase the pleasure of the child and its interest of anticipation in this respect as each doll is stripped or torn off from those of the remaining dolls. Of course, in the case of dolls representing soldiers, sailors, or other uniformed figures, they may all be colored alike or with such variation as to provide one officer and a plurality of men of lesser rank.

As a further improvement, the backing card 2 may have its central portion stamped out as at 8 to provide an air space, which is closed on the outer side by a flexible back or closure 9, which may be made of tough but flexible paper, the same being glued about the opening 8 at 15. As an additional feature of construction, I provide the opposite side of the card board backing 2 with a paper closure 7 which is glued tightly in place and insure an enclosed air chamber 8 having the yielding wall 9. Within this chamber, I provide a whistle 11 comprising a metal chamber having holes through its opposite walls so as to give a whistling sound when the flexible back 9 is subjected to intermittent pressure or bellows action. To permit the sounds to issue properly, the outlet hole of the whistle 11 is in alinement with a passage 12 through the several dolls and constituting openings through the mouth thereof. The sheet 7 is also provided with

an opening 13 in alinement with the passage 12 and whistle opening so as to avoid any obstruction to the passage of the air or sound. It will be understood that one of the doll sheets 3 may be left connected with the back 2 as a permanent toy and it also is to be understood that the sheet 7 may, under such conditions, consist of one of the printed sheets 3.

The child may play with the device as a single doll, or may separate the plurality of doll stampings 3 to provide a number of dolls, leaving however one of the doll figures permanently attached to the backing.

The backing 2 may, if desired, be made solid and continuous and without the use of the whistling device, and further the means for emitting a sound may be made in any other suitable manner if so desired.

In respect to the animal figures shown, in Fig. 5, I have illustrated by way of example, a dog. The body of the figure 3^a is stamped out as in Fig. 1 and in general construction, the building up of the layers would be the same. It will be understood, however, that whereas in Fig. 1 the base 6 is only the two feet of the figure, the construction in Fig. 5 would have the base 6 extended sufficient to connect all of the feet to provide a substantial foundation upon which the article may be set up. As shown, the base terminates at 14 on its upper portion leaving an open space between it and the body of the animal, though I do not restrict myself in this respect.

It will now be apparent that I have devised a novel and useful construction which embodies the features of advantage enumerated as desirable, and while I have in the present instance shown and described the preferred embodiment thereof which has been found in practice to give satisfactory and reliable results, it is to be understood that I do not restrict myself to the details, as the same are susceptible of modification in various particulars without departing from the spirit or scope of the invention.

Having now described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:—

1. A toy of the character stated, comprising a plurality of separately formed printed sheets as independent objects with the same general irregular outline and wherein the sheets are printed throughout their front surfaces with the representation of animate objects and the bounding edges of the sheets are in all material respects the outer bounding lines of the printed objects depicted thereon, said sheets superposed with all of the printed surfaces facing in the same direction and detachably connected along their perimeters by cement so as to be normally retained in close contact but easily and successively separated by rupture of the cemented union to provide a plurality of disconnected similar objects having the same irregular outline.

2. The invention according to claim 1, wherein the detachable sheets in superposed attachment are provided at the back with a stiff supporting backing sheet of substantially the same outline as the superposed sheets and having its central portion removed and also having a thin sheet covering on its rear side.

3. A toy of the character stated, comprising a plurality of printed sheets with the same general irregular outline superposed and detachably connected along their perimeters so as to be normally retained in close contact but easily separated to provide a plurality of disconnected smaller objects having the same irregular outline, said sheets being formed as to their outline and bounding edges and printed surface to give distinctive picture effects to the object, and wherein the bounding edges of the sheets are in all material respects the outer bounding lines of the objects depicted thereon, the said superposed and attached sheets being provided at the back with a stiff supporting backing sheet of substantially the same outline as the superposed sheets and connected thereto, and wherein the backing sheet is recessed to provide an air chamber and is further provided with a flexible bellows sheet attached to its back, and a whistle structure having communication with both the air chamber and atmosphere through which the air is caused to pass to and from the air chamber.

4. A toy of the character stated, comprising a plurality of sheets having the same general outline superposed and detachably connected to be normally retained in position but easily separated to provide a plurality of similar objects, said sheets being formed with surface printing to give distinctive picture effects to the object, and wherein further there is provided at the back of the plurality of superposed sheets a stiff backing furnished with a bellows and whistle, and an aperture extending from the whistle and continuing through the plurality of superposed sheets and constituting in each a mouth opening through the objects represented upon the said sheets by the printing thereof.

In testimony of which invention, I hereunto set my hand.

HOBART DE LANCEY RAPSON.