Oct. 24, 1950 W. R. MacDONALD 2,526,886

COMBINATION LAMP PEDESTAL AND DANCING DOLL

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Fig. 1.

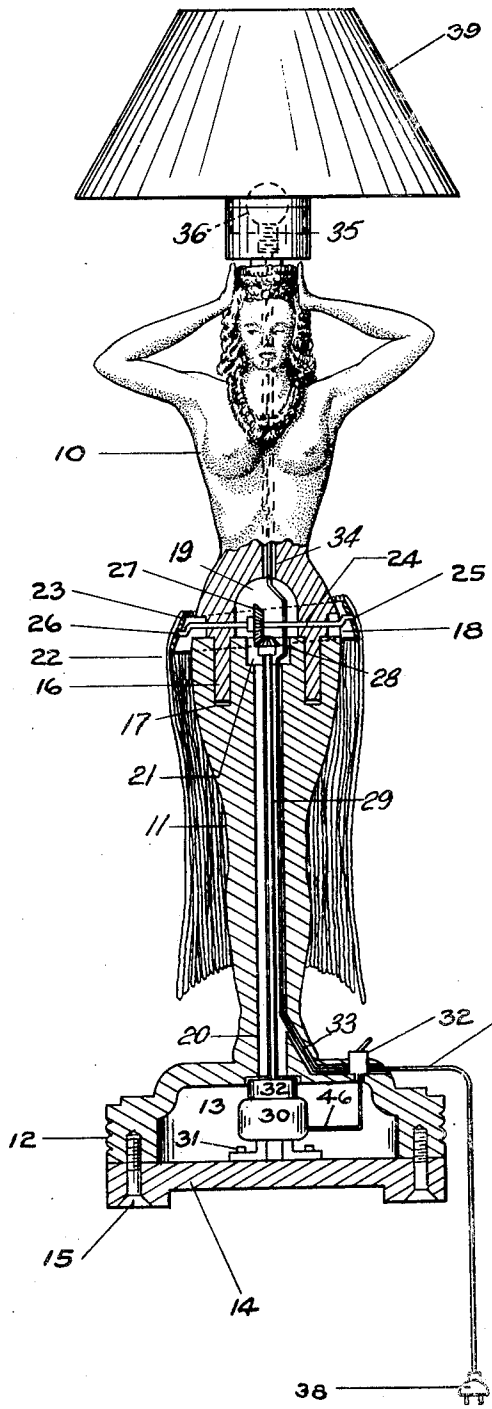
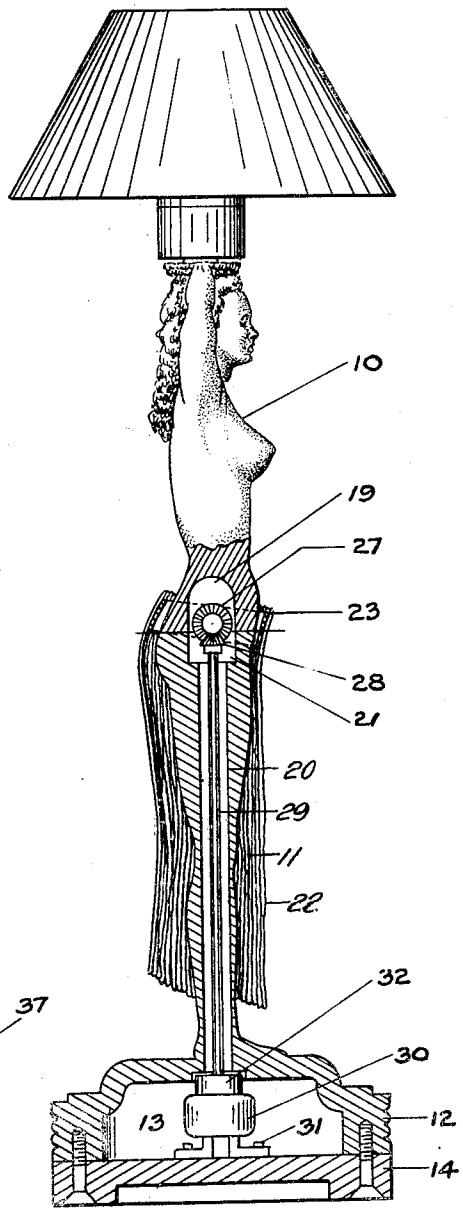


Fig. 2.



INVENTOR.
WILLIAM R. MACDONALD
BY
Edward Healy
ATTORNEY

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COMBINATION LAMP PEDESTAL AND DANCING DOLL

William R. MacDonald, Oakland, Calif.

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3 Claims. (Cl. 46—116)

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This invention relates to novelties and more particularly to an improved combination lamp pedestal and dancing doll. The invention also relates to a novel method of imparting animation to reproduced creatures and has for the primary object the provision of a lamp pedestal in the form of a dancing doll having a novel skirt thereon and to provide an electric lamp on the pedestal for illuminating the skirt and a mechanical means for imparting movements to the skirt, whereby illuminated dancing movements, such as the Hawaiian hula dance are simulated.

Another object of the present invention is the provision of a flexible belt, constructed of leather or the like, and to position the said belt loosely around the hip portion of the doll and to secure the upper portion of the skirt to the belt and to further provide a mechanical means for oscillating or otherwise vibrating the same, whereby movements simulating the hula dance or the like are imparted to the skirt.

A further object of the present invention is to horizontally position a revolvable shaft through the hip portion of the doll and to form oppositely disposed cranks on the ends of the said shaft, which cranks are connected to the said belt, means being provided for revolving the shaft for imparting vibrating movements to the belt.

A still further object of the present invention is to revolve the horizontally positioned shaft by an electric motor positioned in the base of the pedestal and to provide a vertical shaft and extend the same from the motor to the horizontal shaft, suitable bevel gears being provided for connecting the shafts one to the other.

A still further object of the present invention is to preferably horizontally divide the doll at the hip portion thereof, means being provided for removably securing the two sections one to the other.

A still further object of the present invention is the provision of a combination lamp pedestal and dancing doll of the character described that is durable, simple in construction, positive in operation, economical to manufacture and highly efficient and serviceable in use.

Other objects and advantages will be apparent during the course of the following description.

In the accompanying drawings forming a part of the specification, wherein for the purpose of illustration like numerals designate like parts throughout the same,

Fig. 1 is a front elevational view of the upper portion of the combination doll and lamp pedestal, the central and lower portion being shown in section to illustrate the mechanism for vibrating the skirt,

Fig. 2 is a side view of the combination doll and lamp pedestal shown partly in elevation and partly in section.

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Referring in detail to the drawings and the numerals thereof, the numeral 10 designates the upper section of the pedestal, the numeral 11 the lower section thereof and the numeral 12 the base supporting the same. The said base is recessed, forming a cavity therein, as at 13, the said cavity being closed by a suitable cover 14 removably secured to the bottom of the base by a plurality of screws 15 as disclosed to advantage in Figs. 1 and 2. The upper section 10 of the device simulates the upper portion of a doll and is formed with a pair of spaced prongs 16, which prongs tightly fit in a pair of spaced apertures 17 formed in the lower section 11, whereby the two sections are rigidly secured one to the other. A recess 18 is formed around the periphery of the lower section, adjacent the bottom thereof and a central cavity 19 is formed in the said bottom as disclosed to advantage in Fig. 1. An elongated vertical passageway 20 extends through the lower section 11 from the cavity 13 in the base 12 to the cavity 19 in the upper section 10, the upper extremity of the said passageway being enlarged as at 21, forming a cavity in communication with the said cavity 19, whereby space is provided for accommodating driving gears which will hereinafter be described.

As hereinbefore stated one of the objects of the present invention is the provision of a dancing doll, which doll will form a lamp pedestal. The numeral 22 designates a skirt member simulating a hula skirt worn by Hawaiian dancers and is made of any suitable fabric or other flexible material that will serve the purpose intended. The numeral 23 designates a belt band made of leather, plastic or any other substantial flexible material and is sewed or otherwise secured to the upper portion of the skirt and is loosely positioned around the hip portion of the doll, whereby the skirt depends therefrom. The means provided for vertically oscillating the belt band and skirt is shown as comprising a crankshaft 24 revolvably positioned through the hip portion of the doll and formed with oppositely disposed members or crank end portions 25 and 26, which end portions are pivoted in the belt band as disclosed in Figs. 1 and 2. The crank ends 25 and 26 serve as eccentrics or cams to impart rotary motion to portions of said belt band. A suitable bevel gear 27 is fixed on the said crank shaft and engages a bevel pinion 28 fixed on the extremity of the vertical shaft 29, which vertical shaft extends from the motor 30 positioned in the hollow base 12 and secured to the cover 14 by suitable screws 31 as disclosed to advantage in Fig. 1. The numeral 32 designates the housing enclosing a conventional gear reduction mechanism for reducing the speed of the vertical drive shaft 29. An insulated electric conducting means 46 leads from the motor 30 to a three way switch 32. A con-

ventional electric cord 33, carrying two conductors leads to and through the passageway 20, through cavities 19 and 21 and through passageway 34 in the upper section 10 to the lamp socket 35 for conveying electrical energy to the electric lamp 36. An electric cord 37, having a standard plug 38 leads from the said switch 32. The said lamp and motor can be operated separately from each other or in unison one with the other if desired.

From the foregoing description taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawing it will be obvious that when the motor 30 is operated revolvable movement will be imparted to the vertical drive shaft 24, which drive shaft is connected to the crankshaft 29 through the bevel gears 27 and 28, causing the said crankshaft to revolve and thus impart a rotary, oscillating or swaying movement to the belt band 23 and skirt 22 thereby causing the skirt to perform movements simulating the hip movements while executing the Hawaiian dance known as the hula dance. The upper part of the skirt and belt in executing the rotary oscillating movement follows the contour of the hip portion of the doll thus creating the illusion as if the hips of the doll would move and carry the skirt along in such movements. The numeral 39 designates a suitable artistic lamp shade positioned over the electric lamp 36. It will be particularly noted that rays of light from the lamp will be reflected against the skirt 22 and as the said skirt can include in its construction materials which will cast reflections an unusually artistic and attractive dancing doll is produced when the device is operated for causing the skirt to perform movements simulating the Hawaiian dance.

The invention is disclosed in connection with a doll clothed with a skirt by way of explanation and not by way of limitation. It may be employed in connection with any reproduction of a living or imaginary creature provided with a covering.

It is to be understood that the form of my invention herewith shown and described is to be taken as a preferred example of the same and that various changes relative to the shape, size, material and arrangement of parts may be resorted to without departing from the spirit of the invention or the scope of the subjoined claims.

Having thus described my invention, I claim:

1. A device of the character described, comprising in combination a pedestal in the form of a doll body, having an enlarged base with a recess therein, an electric motor in said recess, a vertical passageway within the doll body being enlarged at its upper end, a vertical shaft extending from the motor through the vertical passageway, a pinion on the end of the vertical shaft and lying within the enlarged upper end of the vertical passageway, a flexible band loosely surrounding the hip portion of the body, a skirt member secured to said band, a horizontally disposed shaft mounted in said body and having its respective ends extending outwardly past opposite sides of the body, a gear mounted fast on said shaft and meshing with the pinion on the vertical shaft, the horizontal shaft having crank arms at its respective ends which are offset with respect to each other and spaced 180° apart, said crank arms being pivotally connected to the flexible band whereby to impart oscillatory movement to the band and the skirt simultaneously in opposite directions at each hip portion when the motor rotates the vertical shaft.

2. A device of the character described comprising in combination, a pedestal in the form of a doll body, having an enlarged base, with a recess therein, said doll body having a vertical passageway extending upwardly through the body and communicating with the recess, an enlarged recess formed at the midportion of the doll body, an electric motor within the base, a vertical shaft driven by said motor and extending through the passageway, a pinion mounted on the upper end of the shaft and lying within the recess at the mid-portion of the body, a flexible band loosely surrounding the hip portion of the body, a depending skirt member secured to said band, a horizontally disposed shaft extending through the mid-portion of the body, the ends of the shaft having cranks formed thereon and being offset with respect to each other and spaced 180° apart, said crank portions lying outside of the body and being pivotally connected to the opposite sides of the band, a gear mounted on the horizontal shaft and lying within the recess at the mid-portion of the body and meshing with the pinion of the vertical shaft, the band and the skirt having oscillatory movement imparted thereto simultaneously in opposite directions when the motor drives the vertical shaft and pinion.

3. A device of the character described comprising in combination, a pedestal in the form of a doll body, and having an enlarged base, a base plate fitting said base, an electric motor mounted on said base plate, a vertical passageway within the doll body, a vertical shaft extending from the motor through the passage, a pinion mounted on the upper end of said shaft, the vertical passage being of sufficient cross sectional area to allow the shaft and its pinion to pass therethrough, a band loosely surrounding the hip portion of the body, a depending skirt secured to said band, a horizontally disposed shaft extending through the hip portion of the body, the opposite ends of the shaft extending outwardly past the sides of the body and having offset crank portions 180° apart, said band being pivotally attached to the said crank portions, a gear mounted on the shaft and meshing with the pinion of the vertical shaft, the sides of the body having recesses to accommodate the crank portions of the horizontal shaft, the band and skirt having oscillatory movement imparted thereto simultaneously in opposite directions when the motor drives the vertical shaft and pinion.

WILLIAM R. MacDONALD.

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