June 30, 1936. H. B. BRUNDAGE 2,045,830

COSTUMED FIGURE

Filed Oct. 10, 1935

Fig. 1.

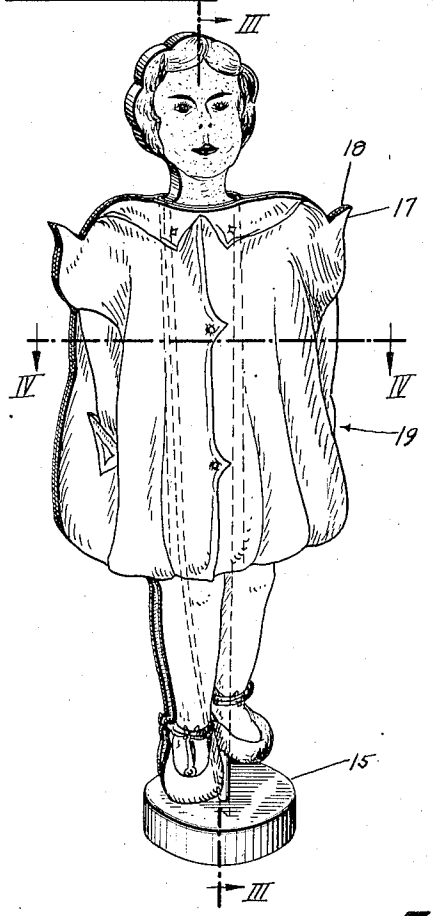


Fig. 2.

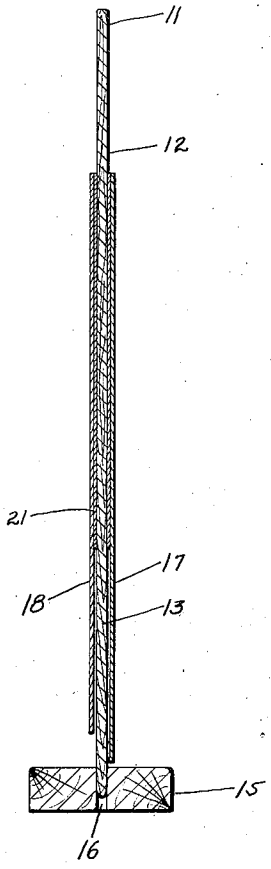


Fig. 3.

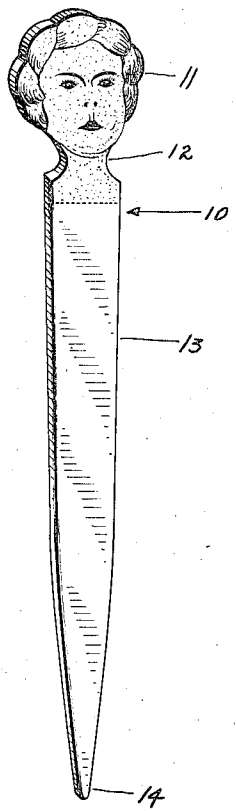


Fig. 5.

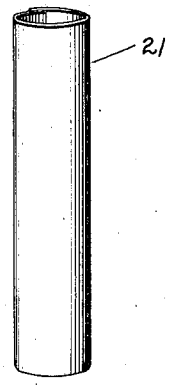
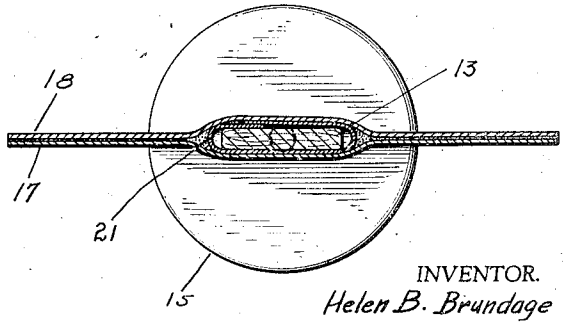


Fig. 4.



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Patented June 30, 1936 2,045,830

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,045,830

COSTUMED FIGURE

Helen B. Brundage, Tryon, N. C.

Application October 10, 1935, Serial No. 44,376

8 Claims. (Cl. 46—115)

This invention relates to the art of figures, costumes and costumed figures. In its more specific aspect the invention is directed to toys having an improved type of figure, an improved type of novel costume construction and to an improved combination of the novel figure and costume to provide a novel manner of changing costume simulating pieces.

Heretofore in the arts of advertising and toys it has been proposed to provide a flat wooden figure simulating a person in contour. Interchangeable costumes have been provided therefor and these costumes have elongated narrow straps at the shoulders and waists. The costume may be mounted on the figure by placing the costume thereon and the straps are bent over the shoulders and at the waist and the ends thereof are tied at their ends. The disadvantages inherent in this type of structure are among others, the flatness of the complete unit, but one side of the mounted element simulates a costume and the other side is unseemly because of the straps and in addition the straps are too readily torn by the children who play with the costumes. These, besides other obvious disadvantages are inherent in prior art structures.

It was in order to overcome the disadvantages of prior art structures that I developed the following invention hereinafter described.

An object of my invention is to provide a novel figure adapted to be combined with novel costumes simulating figures.

Another object of my invention is to provide an inexpensive and novel doll figure combined with a novel type costume, which combination may be carried out by young children.

Another object of my invention is to provide a doll figure which may be inexpensively manufactured from cheap materials.

A still further object of my invention is to provide a novel type of costume simulations.

These and other objects of my invention will be readily apparent from the following description and appended drawing wherein,

Figure 1 represents a perspective view of a costumed doll embodying my invention.

Figure 2 represents a cross-sectional view taken on line III—III of Figure 1 in the direction of the arrows.

Figure 3 represents a perspective view of a doll figure embodying my invention.

Figure 4 represents a cross sectional view taken on line IV—IV of Fig. 1 in the direction of the arrows.

Figure 5 represents a perspective view of the tubing which may be employed as an element of my invention.

As shown in the drawing my novel doll figure may be a flat unit 10, whose upper part is in the shape of a head 11 with inwardly directed arcuate cut-outs corresponding to the human neck line. Projecting downwardly from the neck portion 12 is an elongated tapering body portion 13 terminating in a tip 14 of relatively small cross sectional area as compared with the upper portion of the spike 13.

In accordance with my invention I prefer that the figure 10 be of sufficient rigidity that it may be supported at the tip 14 and will remain in an upright position without bending over along its length. Although the tip 14 need not be reenforced in all instances, in some cases I propose to cap the same with a thin metallic cap which will prevent scoring of the same. The figure 10 may be composed of rubber that is of proper rigidity and also is sufficiently flexible so that if a child carrying the same falls thereon, he will not be pierced therewith. It also may be composed of bakelite, wood, heavy cardboard or any other type of material which may be punched out, cast or saw cut. The front face of head 11 and neck 12 may be painted with appropriate colors to simulate the face and front of the neck and the opposite surface of the head and neck portions may also be painted to simulate the back of the head and neck. In addition that portion of the head and neck which defines the contour of the same may be appropriately painted. I prefer not to paint the major portion of the taper 13. Instead of painting the figure 10, where practical I may print or lithograph the same or printed or lithographed light paper may be secured thereto in order that the desired effect is obtained. In order that the figure 10 may be maintained in an erect position I provide a base 15 which may be in the form of a wheel having an opening 16 in which is inserted the tip 14.

Another aspect of my invention is the costume simulations and the novel type of supporting means for a costume simulation. The costume may comprise a pair of elements 17 and 18 of identical contour, with the element 17 bearing an appropriate design thereon simulating the front of a dress, legs, hose and shoes, for example, and the element 18 bearing an appropriate design thereon simulating the back of a dress, legs, shoes and hose.

The contour of these two elements will simulate the front and back views respectively of a dress. The designs may be attained by printing, litho-

graphing, painting or in any other known manner. The plain faces of these elements 18 and 17 are placed adjacent each other with the corners of the same coinciding with each other to form an apparently single unit. These elements are secured to each other in any known manner, as for example, by an adhesive such as glue, but care is taken to leave unsecured that portion of the elements along the longitudinal center of the elements so that an elongated opening or passage way is provided for the insertion of the spike 13. One method that I have employed to secure the elements 17 and 18 together is to coat with an adhesive, such as glue, the entire inner or plain face of the element 17 with the exception of the longitudinal center strip thereof. The width thereof depends upon the cross sectional dimensions of the spike 13.

Thereafter the back of the dress or element 18 is placed in congruity with each other, with the plain or inner surfaces of the elements 17 and 18 facing each other and being in contact with the adhesive throughout their entire areas except the longitudinal center strips thereof. These unadhered areas form a passageway adapted to accommodate the spike 13 and with the portions of the elements 17 and 18 adapted to press against the spike 13 when mounted thereon to hold the unit 19 in position.

Units 19 of different contours, color and design may be interchangeably combined with the figure 10. The assembly may be made by inserting at the neck line the tip 14 of the figure 10 into the passageway.

The rigid flat unit 10 is forced through the passageway until the tip 14 extends beyond the lowermost part of the unit 19. In so doing the spike 13 spreads the unattached portions of elements 17 and 18 apart, but the cross sectional area of the passageway, equal throughout its length, is such with respect to that of the spike that the spike may be readily inserted therein but will frictionally engage the spike 13 to maintain the same in position. I have found that an improved unit 19 may be obtained by having a resilient tubing 21 composed of heavy paper or the like secured in the space forming the passageway. In this construction the passageway is defined by the tubing 21, which may be secured to either element 17 or 18 or both by means of an adhesive such as glue. At the neck line of the unit 19, there may be provided a reenforcing strip of cloth, paper or light metal which will prevent tearing of the elements 17 and 18 when the tip 14 is first inserted in the passageway. In this construction the reenforcement is in the form of a collar secured to the outer faces of elements 17 and 18 at their neck lines and to the interior thereof or to the tubing if the tubing is employed.

The elements 17 and 18 may be composed of paper, leather, stiff cloth or the like. When the tube 21 is employed it is also feasible to employ light weight, soft materials. The assembled unit consists of a costume 19 having element 17 depicting the front thereof and element 18 depicting the back thereof, with the spike 13 being located in the passageway defined by these two elements which are secured to each other.

The face of the head of the figure 10 is on the same side as the element 17 and the back of the head of the figure 10 is on the same side as the element 18. Thus when viewed on one side, the front view of a costumed person is simulated and when viewed on the other side, the back view of a costumed person is simulated. The legs, shoes and hose simulations although not attached together adequately mask the spike 13. The combination is mounted on the base by inserting the tip 14 in the opening 16 of the base 15.

If it is desired to change the costume, the child or operator removes the base, slides off the unit 19 by moving the same in the direction of the tip 14 and sliding another costume in the direction of the head and mounting the same on the base. The only precaution to be taken is that the front of the new costume shall be on the same side as the face of the figure 10.

Although I have described my invention in detail, it is to be limited only by the prior art.

What is claimed is:

1. A costume comprising a front member and a back member, said front and back members being secured to each other over a large portion of their areas, the inner extremities of said secured portions of said members located inwardly a considerable distance from the outer side edges of said members, a narrow and elongated passageway extending along the approximate longitudinal centers of said members, adapting the costume to be removably secured by friction to a supporting member.

2. A costumed figure comprising a figure having head and body portions, a costume having front and back members, said members being secured to each other along a material portion of the lengths thereof and defining an elongated and narrow passageway therebetween, said body portion being located in said passageway, said body portion being tapered, said figure and costume being demountably connected to each other for maintaining said figure and costume in definite relation with respect to each other, said body portion extending along a major portion of said passageway.

3. A costumed figure comprising a figure having head and body portions, a costume having a front member and a back member, said members being secured to each other along a material portion of the lengths thereof, and defining an elongated and narrow passageway therebetween, said body portion being located in said passageway and engaged by that portion of said members defining said passageway to maintain said costume in position.

4. A costumed figure comprising a figure having head and body portions, a costume having a front member and a back member, said members being secured to each other and defining a passageway therebetween, a reenforcing means located in said passageway, said reenforcing means having an elongated and narrow opening therein, said body portion being located in said opening and being engaged by said reenforcing means to maintain said costume in position.

5. A doll comprising a flat figure having head and body portions, a clothing simulating means therefor, said means including a front and back member secured to each other along a material portion of the lengths thereof and defining an elongated and narrow passageway, said body portion adapted to be inserted in said passageway, said body portion being located in said passageway and engaged by that portion of said members defining said passageway, and a base connected to said body portion to maintain the costumed figure erect.

6. A doll comprising a flat figure having head, neck and body portions, and dress simulating means therefor, said means including front and

back members, secured to each other along a material portion of the lengths thereof and defining a passageway therebetween, said body portion being in the form of a spike, said body portion being located in said passageway and being engaged by that portion of said means defining said passageway to maintain said means in proper longitudinal position and a demountable base connected to said spike to maintain erect said figure and means.

7. A costume comprising a front member and a back member, said front and back members being secured to each other over a large portion of their areas, the inner extremities of said secured portions of said members located inwardly a considerable distance from the outer side edges of said members, a narrow and elongated passageway extending along the approximate longitudinal centers of said members, adapting the costume to be removably secured by friction a supporting member, the major portions of said front and back members being approximately coextensive.

8. A doll comprising a flat figure having head, neck and body portions, and dress simulating means therefor, said means including front and back members, secured to each other along a material portion of the lengths thereof and defining a passageway therebetween, the major portion of said front and back members being substantially coextensive, said body portion being in the form of a spike, said body portion being located in said passageway and being engaged by that portion of said means defining said passageway to maintain said means in proper longitudinal position and a demountable base connected to said spike to maintain erect said figure and means.

HELEN B. BRUNDAGE.