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Bosley et al.

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[45] **Dec. 23, 1975**

[54] **BOXING APPARATUS FOR FIGURE TOYS**

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[52] **U.S. Cl.** ..... **273/85 B**; 46/142

[51] **Int. Cl.**[2] **A63F 9/14**

[58] **Field of Search** 273/85; 46/142, 143, 148

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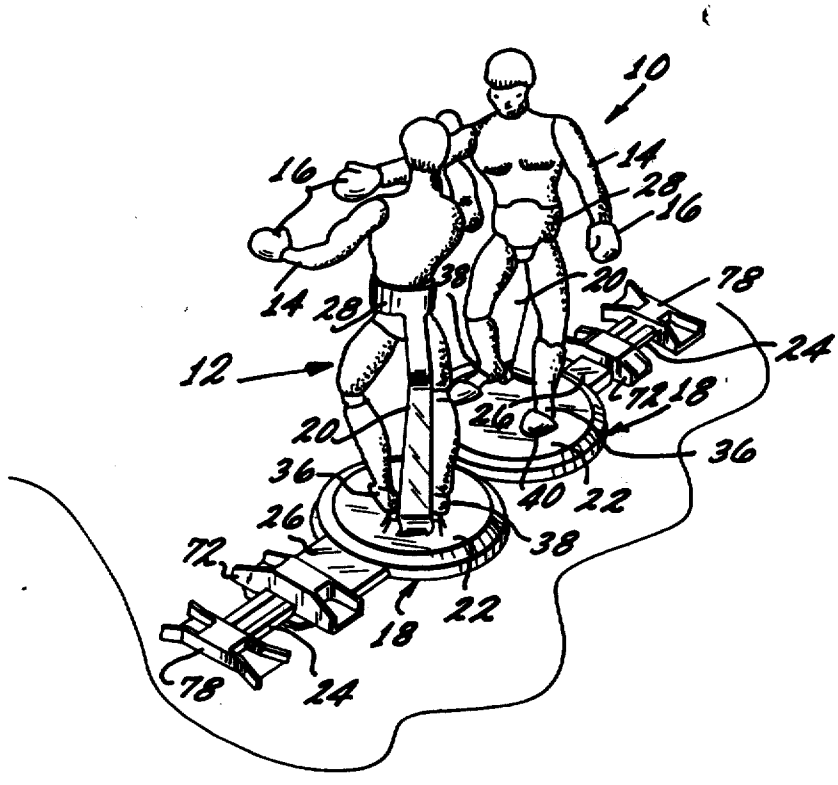
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[57] **ABSTRACT**

Each simulated boxer is maintained in an upright position on a rotatable platform by a swingable pedestal which is locked in an upright position through all but two sectors of the circular path of the platform. Two players compete by maneuvering the boxers into position adjacent each other with arms at least partially extended so the arm of one boxer will strike the other boxer during oscillation of the platforms. The struck boxer will fall down only if its supporting pedestal is at one of the sectors where the pedestal is unlocked. The platforms are oscillated by rack-and-pinion arrangement operated by the players.

8 Claims, 5 Drawing Figures



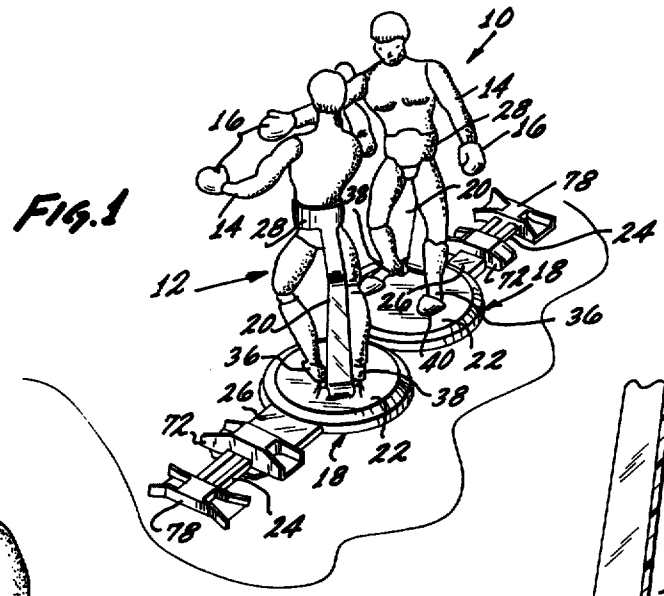


FIG. 1

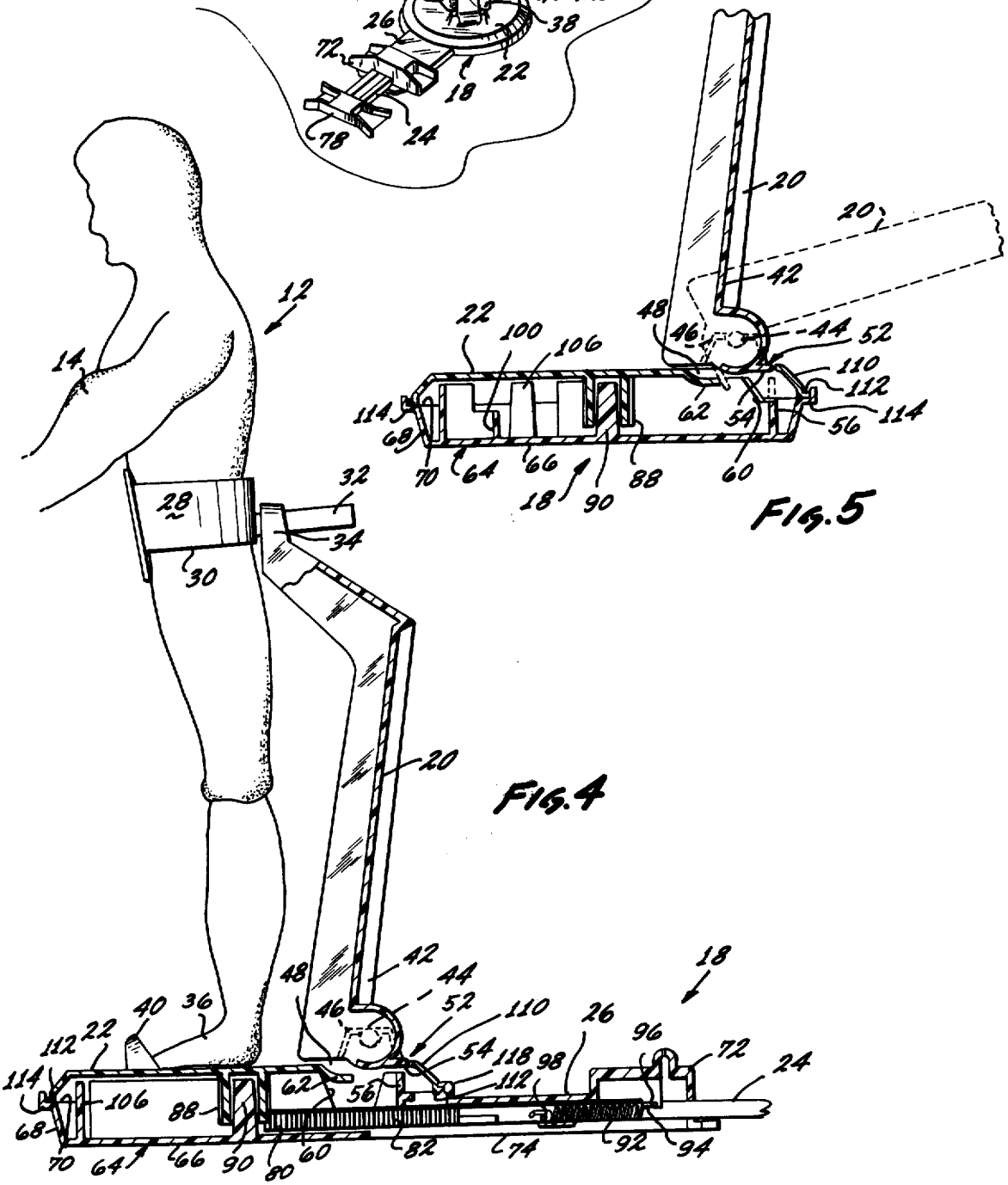


FIG. 4

FIG. 5

FIG. 2

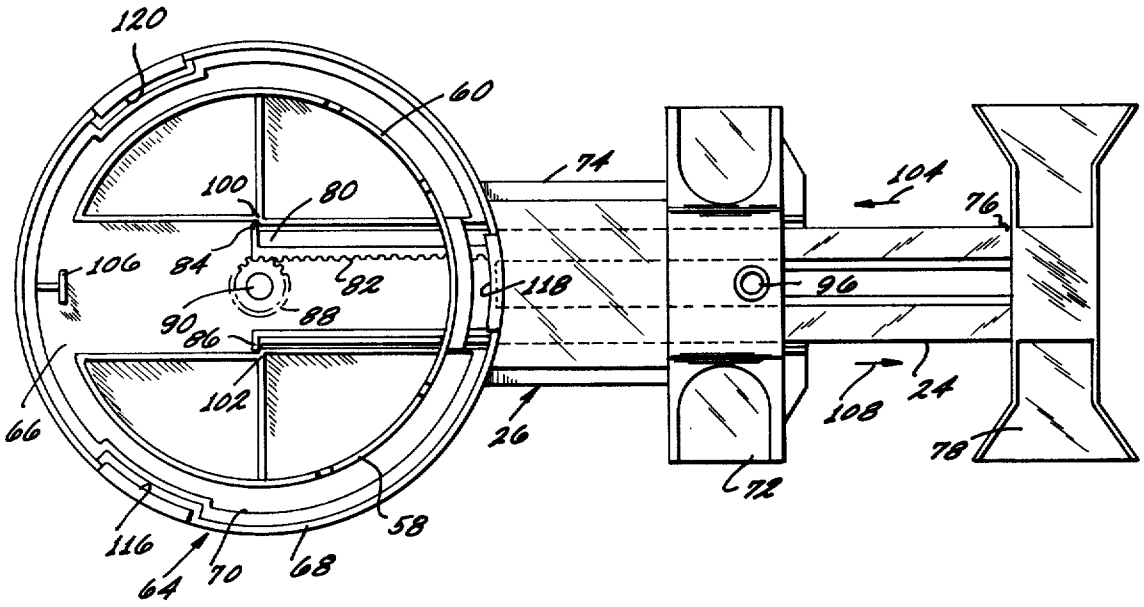
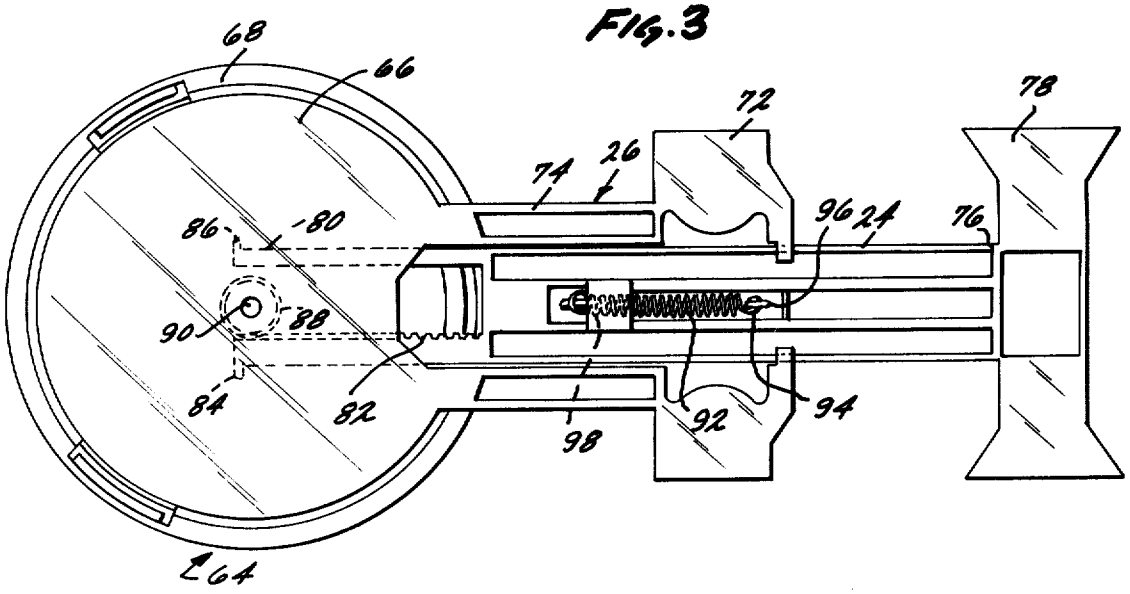

120
60
74
104
76
100
80
106
84
82
118
96
90
86
88
102
66
26
108
24
78
72
58
116
64
70
68

FIG. 3


68
66
72
78
74
26
86
80
96
24
76
90
88
84
82
98
92
94
64

BOXING APPARATUS FOR FIGURE TOYS

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The background of the invention will be set forth in two parts.

1. Field of the Invention

The present invention pertains generally to the field of boxing apparatus for figure toys and more particularly to a new and useful device for supporting a figure toy in an upright position on a rotatable platform which may be rotated by a user of the device in competition with a second user having a similar device supporting an opposing boxer.

2. Description of the Prior Art

The prior art known to applicants is listed by way of illustration, but not of limitation, in separate communications to the United States Patent Office. The present invention exemplifies improvements over this prior art.

OBJECTS AND SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

It is an object of the present invention to provide a new and useful boxing apparatus for figure toys which are maintained in an upright position on a rotatable platform connected to a suitable rotating means manipulated by a user of the apparatus.

It is another object of the present invention to provide a new and useful boxer toy including means for moving a pair of simulated boxers into contact with each other.

According to the present invention, a pair of boxers are each releasably supported by a suitable pedestal means connected to retainer means for locking the pedestal means in a substantially upright position during movement of the simulated boxers along at least one first portion of a boxing path.

The toy includes release means connected to the pedestal means for releasing the simulated boxers from the substantially upright position during movement of the simulated boxers along at least one second portion of the boxing path differing from said first portion, whereby contact of one of the boxers by the other of the boxers while the one boxer is in the first portion of the boxing path fails to score a knock-down and contact of one of the boxers by the other of the boxers while the one boxer is in the second portion of the boxing path scores a knock-down.

The features of the present invention which are believed to be novel are set forth with particularity in the appended claims. The present invention, both as to its organization and manner of operation, together with further objects and advantages thereof, may best be understood by reference to the following description, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings in which like reference characters refer to like elements in the several views.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of a pair of boxing apparatuses for figure toys in operating position with a figure toy connected to each apparatus;

FIG. 2 is an enlarged, plan view, with parts broken away to show internal construction, of one of the apparatuses shown in FIG. 1;

FIG. 3 is a bottom view of the apparatus shown in FIG. 2;

FIG. 4 is an enlarged, vertical cross-sectional view of a portion of the apparatus shown in FIG. 1 with a figure toy in position on the apparatus; and

FIG. 5 is a partial, cross-sectional view of the boxing apparatus of the present invention with its pedestal in an unlocked position.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

Referring again to the drawings, and more particularly to FIG. 1, a pair of figure toys **10, 12** simulate boxers each having at least one arm **14** extending outwardly therefrom and carrying a simulated boxing glove **16** on the end thereof. Each figure toy **10, 12** is releasably supported in a substantially upright position on a boxing apparatus **18** by a suitable pedestal means **20** pivotally connected to a rotatable platform **22** adapted to be oscillated about a circular path by an actuating lever **24** slidably mounted in a base member **26.**

Users of the devices **18** may maneuver figure toys **10, 12** adjacent each other while actuating levers **24** to oscillate figure toys **10, 12** so that the simulated boxing glove **16** of one figure toy will strike the other figure toy. Pedestal means **20** is locked in an upright position in all rotated positions of platform **22** with the exception of two positions which are considered to be positions of "vulnerability" where pedestal means **20** is unlocked so that the figure toy attached thereto will fall down when struck by the other figure toy.

Referring now to FIG. **4,** since each boxing apparatus **18** is identical, only the one associated with figure toy **12** will be described in detail. Figure toy **12** is connected to pedestal means **20** by a belt **28** encompassing the waist **30** of figure toy **12** and including a rearwardly-extending portion **32** affixed to the upper end **34** of pedestal means **20.** The feet **36, 38** (FIG. **1**) of figure toy **12** rest on platform **22** and are prevented from becoming dislodged therefrom by centrifugal force when platform **22** is oscillated by suitable toe cups, like the one shown at **40** in FIG. **4.**

Pedestal means **20** includes a lower end **42** which carries a suitable pin means **44** journalled in a bracket **46** affixed to platform **22** adjacent an opening **48** provided therein. The lower end **42** of pedestal means **20** is provided with a suitable retainer means **52** for locking figure toy **12** in a substantially upright position during movement of figure toy **12** along at least one first portion of a boxing path defined by the oscillating path-of-travel of platform **22** and for releasing figure toy **12** during movement thereof along at least one second portion of the boxing path differing from the first portion so that contact of figure toy **12** by figure toy **10** while figure toy **12** is in the first portion of the boxing path fails to score a knock-down and contact of figure toy **12** by figure toy **10** while figure toy **12** is in the second portion of the boxing path scores a knock-down. Retainer means **52** includes a tab **54** extending outwardly from end **42** of pedestal means **20** and an upstanding annular rib **56** which may be engaged by tab **54** in all positions of rotation of platform **22** except two. In these two positions, annular rib **56** is cut away as shown at **58, 60** in FIG. **2** so that tab **54** will clear rib **56** and move to the broken line position shown in FIG. **5** where tab **54** engages a stop member **62** depending from platform **22** in opening **48.**

Referring now to FIGS. **2–5,** base member **26** includes a housing **64** having a closed bottom wall **66,**

and encompassing, upstanding side wall **68** and an open top **70.** Base member **26** also includes a fixed hand grip **72** connected to housing **64** by a fixed way **74** in which lever **24** is reciprocably mounted.

Lever **24** includes a first end **76,** which carries a thumb-engaging member **78,** and a second end **80,** which is provided with a rack **82** and a pair of outwardly-extending stop fingers **84, 86.** Rack **82** engages a pinion **88** depending from platform **22** and rotatably mounted on a post **90** extending upwardly from bottom wall **66** of base member **26.** Lever **24** is biased to the extended position shown in FIG. **2** by a spring **92** having a first end **94,** which is affixed to a pin **96** depending from fixed hand grip **72,** and a second end **98,** which is affixed to lever **24.** Stop fingers **84, 86** engage reinforcing ribs **100, 102,** respectively, which are provided on bottom wall **66** for reinforcing annular rib **56,** to prevent spring **92** from pulling rack **82** out of engagement with pinion **88.** A child-user may move lever **24** in the direction of arrow **104** (FIG. **2**) against the bias of spring **92** by engaging hand grip **72** with two fingers and thumb-engaging member **78** with a thumb. Rack **82** will then rotate pinion **88** and will move in the direction of arrow **104** until end **80** of lever **24** bottoms-out against side wall **68.** It should be noted that annular rib **56** is interrupted sufficiently to permit end **80** to pass beyond rib **56** while straddling a T-shaped member **106** serving as a continuation of rib **56** to prevent pedestal means **20** from moving to its FIG. **5,** broken-line position. The child-user may then release thumb-grip **78** so that spring **92** will rapidly move lever **24** in the direction of arrow **108** causing rack **82** to reversely-rotate pinion **88.** Thus, lever **24** may be reciprocated to oscillate platform **22** through about 180° in opposite directions.

Referring now to FIGS. **4** and **5,** platform **22** includes a depending, encompassing side wall **110** which carries an outwardly-extending annular flange **112** adapted to ride on a similar flange **114** provided on side wall **68** of housing **64** at open top **70.** Platform **22** is prevented from becoming disengaged from housing **64** by three clips **116, 118,** and **120** (FIG. **2**) which engage flange **112,** as shown in FIG. **4** for the clip **118.**

Operation of the boxing apparatus of the present invention will be described in connection with FIG. **1.** One child-user may select figure toy **10** and another child-user may select figure toy **12.** Each child-user may place his fingers on finger grip **72** and his thumb on thumb grip **78** and maneuver his apparatus **18** adjacent the apparatus **18** of the other user while reciprocating lever **24** to oscillate platform **22** and its associated figure toy so that the arm **14** of one figure toy will strike the other figure toy. If a figure toy is struck while tab **54** is over one of the cut out portions **58, 60,** retainer means **52** will release pedestal means **20** from its locked position so that the struck figure toy will be knocked down. If, on the other hand, a struck figure toy is in a rotated position where tab **54** will engage annular rib **56** or T-shaped member **106,** retainer means **52** will remain locked and the struck figure toy will remain in a substantially upright position.

While the particular boxing apparatus for figure toys herein shown and described in detail is fully capable of attaining the objects and providing the advantages hereinbefore stated, it is to be understood that it is merely illustrative of the presently preferred embodiment of the invention and that no limitations are intended to the details of construction or design herein shown other than as defined in the appended claims which form a part of this disclosure.

Whenever the term "means" is employed in these claims, this term is to be interpreted as defining the corresponding structure illustrated and described in this specification or the equivalent of the same.

What is claimed is:

1. In a boxing apparatus toy for use with a boxer figure toy, the improvement which comprises:

a base member;

a platform member movably connected to said base member;

means for producing relative motion between said base member and said platform member;

upright pedestal means hingeably connected to said platform member for providing a support for a boxer figure toy; and

release means associated with said pedestal means and said base for preventing hinged motion of said hinged pedestal means when said platform is in a first range of positions with respect to said base and for permitting hinged motion of said pedestal means to a non-upright position when said platform is in a second range of positions with respect to said base,

whereby a boxer figure toy supported by said pedestal means is rigidly supported in a substantially upright position when said platform is within said first range of positions and therefore is invulnerable if hit, and

whereby said figure toy may fall to a knocked-down position when said platform is within said second range of positions and therefore is vulnerable if hit.

2. The improvement as stated in claim **1** wherein said relative motion is oscillatory and said release means comprises:

an annular rib upstanding from said base member beneath said platform, said annular rib having at least one uninterrupted portion defining said first range of positions and at least one interrupted portion defining said second range of positions;

an opening in said platform adjacent the lower end of said pedestal means; and

a tab on said lower end of said pedestal means, said tab extending through said opening in said platform and into sliding engagement with said annular rib,

whereby said tab and said rib cooperate to lock said boxer figure toy in said substantially upright position until said tab reaches an interrupted portion of said rib.

3. The improvement as stated in claim **2** wherein said annular rib has at least two interrupted portions defining two distinct regions of vulnerability.

4. The improvement as stated in claim **1** wherein:

said base member has an upstanding post provided thereon;

said platform is rotatably mounted on said post; and

said means for producing motion comprises a lever and gear means for oscillating said platform.

5. The improvement as stated in claim **4** wherein said lever and gear means further comprises a spring connected to a lever for rapidly returning said lever to a normally-extended position after said lever has been moved away from said normally-extended position.

6. The improvement as stated in claim **4** wherein said lever and gear means further comprises:

a pinion gear on said platform in encompassing relationship with said post; and

a rack on said lever in driving engagement with said pinion.

7. Boxing apparatus for use with a removeable figure toy, comprising:

a base member having an upstanding post and an annular rib encompassing said post, said rib having at least one interrupted portion;

a lever reciprocably mounted on said base member;

a platform rotatably mounted on said post, said platform being provided with an opening overlying said rib;

connecting means drivingly connecting said lever to said platform for oscillating said platform when said lever is reciprocated;

a pedestal having an upper end and a lower end;

hinge means swingably connecting said lower end of said pedestal to said platform adjacent said opening;

a tab mounted on said lower end of said pedestal, said tab extending through said opening in said platform and into sliding engagement with said annular rib, whereby said tab will retain said pedestal in an upright position until said tab reaches said at least one interrupted portion; and

means provided at the upper end of said pedestal for removeably attaching a figure toy to said pedestal.

8. A boxing game comprising a pair of the boxing apparatuses as claimed in claim **7**, and further comprising:

a pair of toy boxing figures, each associated with a respective one of said boxing apparatuses; and

a pair of belts, one for each of said boxing figures, for attaching the respective boxing figure to the respective attachment means provided at the upper end of the respective pedestal,

whereby the first figure falls to a knockdown position when its respective pedestal means swings down from its upright position upon being hit by the oscillating second figure, provided said first figure is in a vulnerable position at the moment of impact.

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