Dec. 24, 1946. A. A. NU DELL 2,413,152

TOY HOUSE

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FIG. 1.

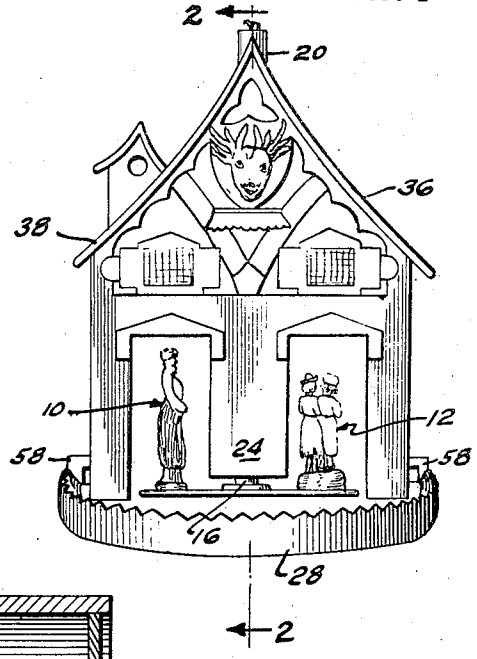
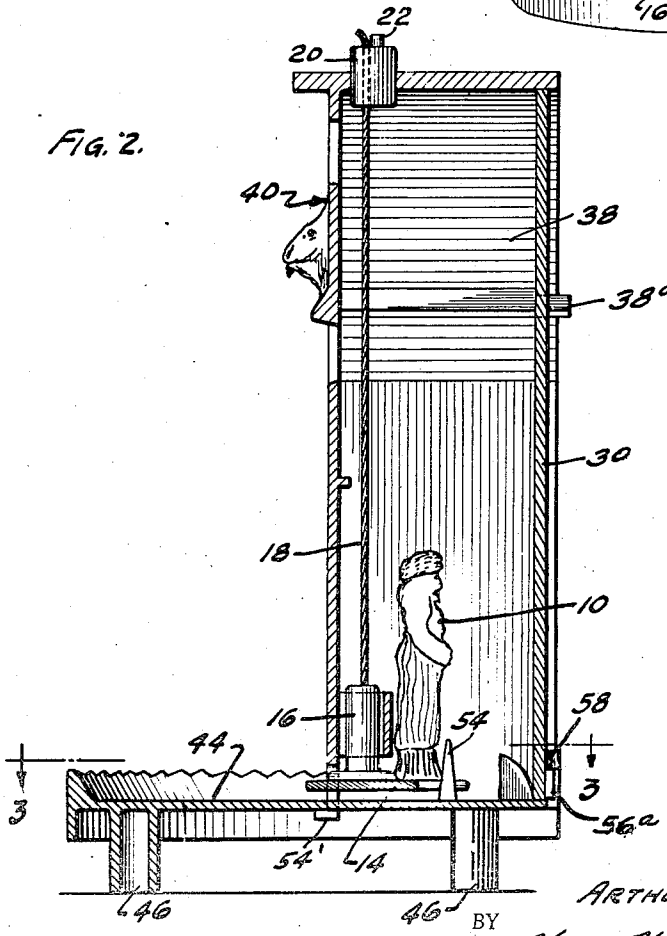


FIG. 2.



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FIG. 4.

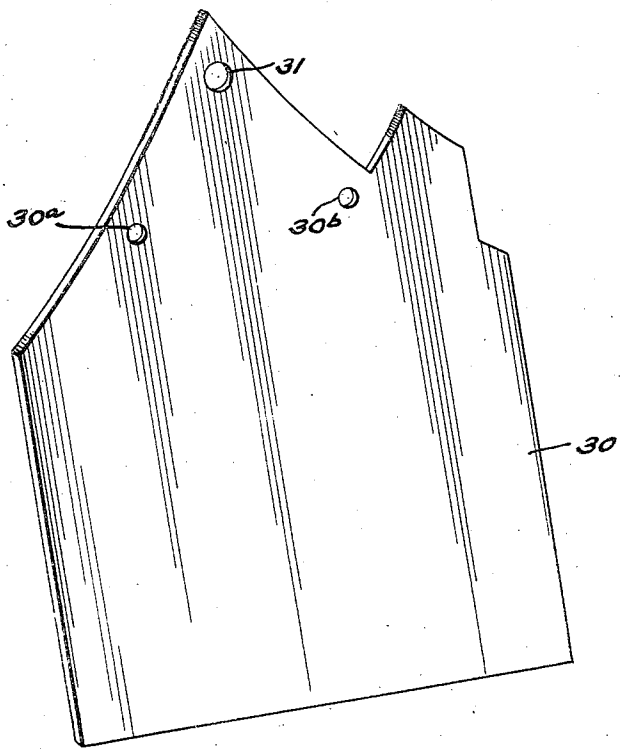
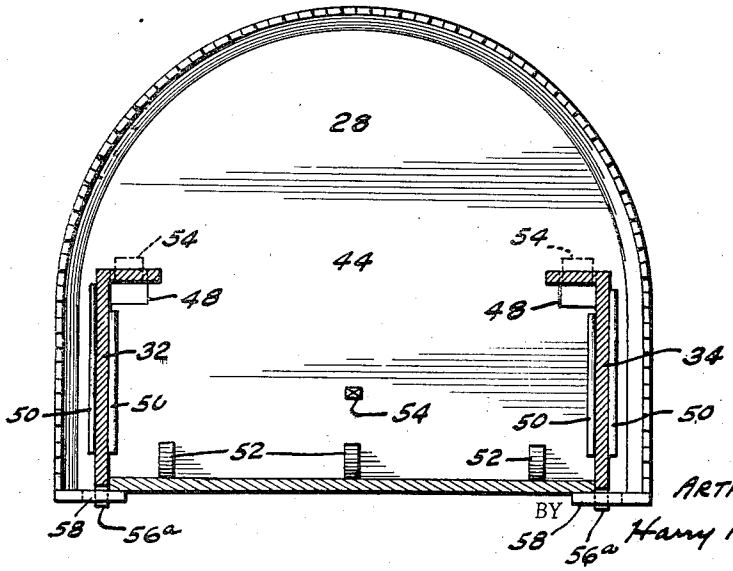


FIG. 3.



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FIG. 5.

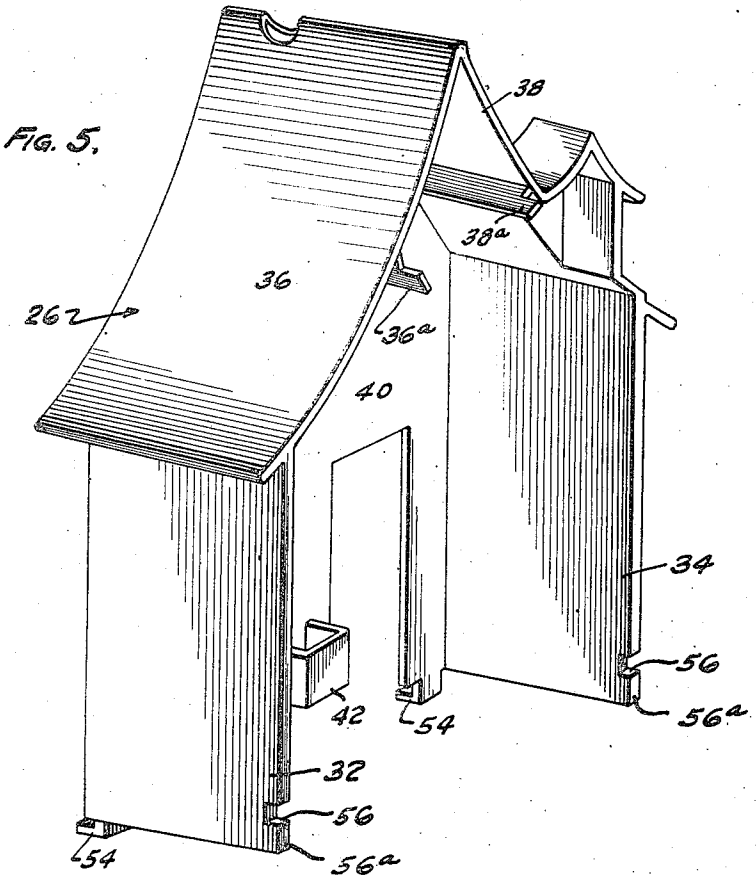
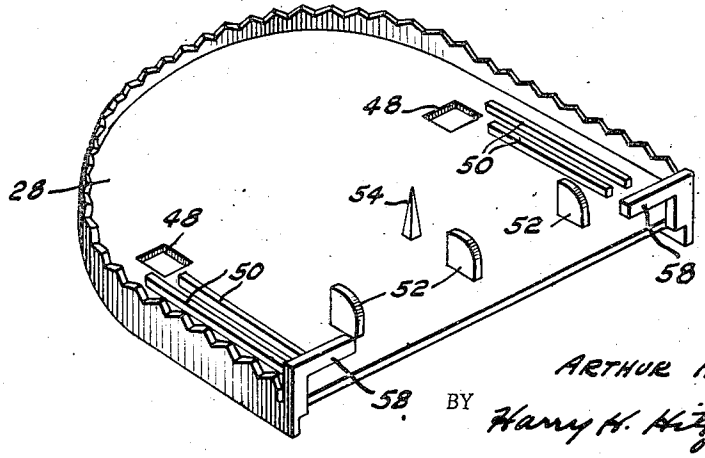


FIG. 6.



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Arthur A. Nu Dell, Chicago, Ill.

Application December 6, 1944, Serial No. 566,945

7 Claims. (Cl. 46—19)

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My invention relates to improvements in the construction of miniature buildings or assembly of buildings together with other equipment such, for example, as the well known weather forecaster which is at present on the market.

In constructing weather forecasters or other similar novelty devices, a considerable part of the actual cost of the same lies in the assembly. Wooden and metal forecasters and other miniature building constructions have been made which require an unusual amount of assembly work, thereby making the cost of the same prohibitive to a large number of people. Accordingly the principal object of the present invention is to provide an improved construction of miniature buildings or miniature buildings and assemblies associated therewith such as weather forecasters.

A further object of the present invention is to provide an improved type of construction for buildings of the type described wherein the number of parts which are employed is reduced to a minimum.

A further object of the present invention is to provide such a building construction wherein the parts of the same may be assembled together without the use of glue, nails or other fastening means.

A further object of the present invention is to provide a miniature building construction embodying the use of plastic whereby different parts of the building, such as the base, the back wall and the building proper are made of single molded parts so constructed that they can be assembled together and frictionally held without the use of any other fastening means.

A further object of the present invention is to provide an improved miniature building structure of the type described wherein the minimum of parts are used, the assembly is easily and simply effected, yet the finished product will be rigid and durable and will not easily become broken or out of order.

Other objects and advantages will be more apparent from the following description wherein reference is had to the accompanying three sheets of drawings upon which:

Fig. 1 is a front view of a weather forecaster constructed in accordance with my invention;

Fig. 2 is a cross sectional view thereof taken generally on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is a plan sectional view taken generally on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2;

Fig. 4 is a front perspective view of one type of back wall which I employ;

Fig. 5 is a generally front perspective view of the miniature building complete except for back wall and base; and

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Fig. 6 is a front perspective view of the base which I employ with the building structure shown.

In the embodiment of the invention which I have chosen to illustrate, in Fig. 1 I have shown a building structure which may be in the nature of a weather forecaster provided with the figurettes 10 and 12 which are mounted on a platform 14 upon opposite sides of a central post 16 to which a moisture absorbent, such as the catgut 1, is attached. The catgut extends upwardly to a member 20 within which the same may be fastened by a plug 22.

In the usual type of weather forecaster, which is now popular, figurette 10 may represent an old witch and figurette 12 a boy and girl and in regulating the weather forecaster the figures are lined up upon opposite sides of a central wall 24 and suspended by the catgut 1.

The miniature house and platform which has formerly been associated with weather forecasters of this type has usually been of wood and cardboard, thereby necessitating considerable nailing, gluing and other fastening which consumed a considerable length of time in the assembly of the unit.

In the assembly of the instant unit, I provide three sections, namely, the house proper 26, the base 28 and the back wall 30. The house 26 may be provided with a pair of side walls 32 and 34, the roof sections 36 and 38 and the front wall section 40. As shown in Fig. 1, the front wall section may be ornamented in any suitable or desirable manner. The portion 24 of the front wall is provided with a rearwardly disposed passageway 42 within which the pivot 16 of the figurettes is suspended and aligned.

The base 28 may be formed with a floor 44 supported by a plurality of posts 46. The floor has a pair of comparatively square openings 48 therein and parallel guide ledges 50 upon opposite sides of the same extending rearwardly from the openings 48. Three upright arcuately shaped posts 52 are also located upon the floor aligned adjacent the rear edge of the same. A post 54 is provided to limit the circular movement of the platform 14 and the figurettes.

The house frame 26 may have a pair of downwardly and forwardly extending ledges 54' formed in the front wall 40 which are adapted to extend through the openings 48 in the floor and hook under the same as most clearly shown in Fig. 2.

The side walls 32 and 34 of the house are formed with notches 56 located in their rear edges, said notches adapted when the house is assembled on the base to receive the aligned arms 58 which are formed integral with the base 28. The house and base, as thus assembled together, has the portions 56a of the back wall positioned below the arms 58 and the ledges 54 resting below the floor 44 of the base, thus firmly holding the house and base together. In this position the side walls 32 and 34 are positioned in the slots provided by the ledges 50.

The back wall 30 may now be placed in position and fixedly held there by means of rearwardly extending ledges 36a and 38a formed in the roof portions of the house, the posts 52 and the arms 58, the contour of the back being such that it snugly fits into the open rear end of the house 26. The ledges 36a and 38a extend through the openings 30a and 30b formed in the back wall 30. An opening 31 is also provided adjacent the top of the back wall, so that the weather forecaster may be suspended on a hook if desired.

From the above and foregoing description it will be apparent to those skilled in the art that I have provided an extremely simple construction for a miniature house, the interconnecting parts being so arranged that the assembly of the same is easily and quickly accomplished and yet when assembled the house will be comparatively rigid so that it will not fall apart or easily become broken. While it is preferable to make all of the parts of the same of a molded plastic, it may be done of pressed cardboard or other material that is suitable for shaping in a mold.

While I have illustrated and described a specific embodiment of the invention, it will be apparent to those skilled in the art that changes and modifications may be made in the exact details shown and I do not wish to limit myself in any particular; rather what I desire to secure and protect by Letters Patent of the United States is:

1. A miniature house construction having openings in the front wall thereof for figurettes on a platform suspended by a catgut and adapted to swing about a pivot and emerge through either of the openings in the front wall of the house, said construction comprising in combination a house portion having roof sections, a front wall and side walls, said front wall having a pivot for the platform of said statuettes and a pair of openings therein on opposite sides of the pivot, a flat back wall portion adapted to fit in the inside edge of the house portion at its open rear end, a pair of openings in said wall portion and a pair of lugs on the roof sections of said house portion adapted to engage in said openings to support said back wall portion, a base portion having a floor with a pair of openings therein, guide ledges aligned with said openings, said house portion having downwardly and forwardly projecting lugs adapted to engage in said openings, a notch in the back edge of each of the side wall portions of the house portion, vertically and horizontally disposed lugs on the back edge of said base adapted to engage said notches, a space between the back edge of the side walls and said horizontal lugs to receive the back wall portion, and posts on the floor of said base against which said back wall rests.

2. In miniature house construction the combination of a house portion having roof sections, a front and side walls, of a flat back wall portion and of a base portion, said base portion having a floor with a pair of square openings therein and parallel guide ledges aligned with said openings, said house portion having downwardly and forwardly projecting lugs adapted to engage said square openings, a pair of notches in the rear edge of the side walls of the house unit, vertically and horizontally extending lugs on said base adapted to engage said notches whereby said house unit and said base unit are rigidly assembled together.

3. In miniature house construction the combination of a house portion having roof sections, a front and side walls, of a flat back wall portion and of a base portion, said base portion having a floor with a pair of square openings therein, a pair of spaced parallel guide ledges aligned with said openings, said house portion having downwardly and forwardly projecting lugs adapted to engage said square openings, a pair of notches in the rear edge of the side walls of the house unit, vertically and horizontally extending lugs, ledges on said base adapted to engage said notches whereby said house unit and said base unit are rigidly assembled together with the side walls of said house portion positioned on the floor of said base and held between said pairs of parallel guide ledges.

4. In miniature house construction the combination of a house portion having roof sections, a front and side walls, of a flat back wall portion and of a base portion, said base portion having a floor with a pair of square openings therein, a pair of spaced parallel guide ledges aligned with said openings, said house portion having downwardly and forwardly projecting lugs adapted to engage said square openings, a pair of notches in the rear edges of the side walls of the house unit vertically and horizontally extending lugs on said base adapted to engage said notches whereby said house unit and said base unit are rigidly assembled together with the side walls of said house portion positioned on the floor of said base and held between said pairs of parallel guide ledges, said back wall portion adapted to be fitted in the open back end of said house portion and held by said upwardly extending base lugs.

5. A miniature house comprising in combination a roof portion, a front wall and side walls, a flat back wall portion adapted to fit in the inside edge of the house portion at its open rear end, a pair of openings in said wall portion and a pair of outstanding lugs on the roof sections of said house portion adapted to engage in said openings to support said back wall portion, a base portion having a floor with a pair of openings therein, guide ledges aligned with said openings, said house portion having downwardly and forwardly projecting lugs adapted to engage in said openings, a notch in the back edge of each of the side wall portions of the house portion, vertically and horizontally disposed lugs on the back edge of said base adapted to engage said notches to rigidly connect the house and base portions together.

6. In miniature house construction the combination of a house unit having roof sections, a front and side walls, of a flat back wall portion and a base portion, said base portion having a floor with a pair of rectangular openings therein and parallel guide ledges aligned with said openings, said house portion having downwardly and laterally projecting lugs adapted to engage said openings, and cooperating notches and lugs on the side walls of said house and said base for

rigidly assembling said house unit and said base unit together.

7. In miniature house construction the combination of a house unit having a roof section, a front wall and side walls, of a flat back wall portion and a base portion, said base portion having a floor with a pair of openings therein, a pair of spaced parallel guide ledges aligned with said openings, said house portion having downwardly projecting lugs adapted to engage

in said openings, a pair of notches in the rear edge of the side walls of the house unit, horizontally extending lugs on said base adapted to engage said notches whereby said house unit and said base unit are rigidly assembled together with the side walls of said house portion positioned on the floor of said base and held between said pairs of parallel guide ledges.

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