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A. G. BALDRIDGE ET AL

DANCING TOY

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Fig. 1.

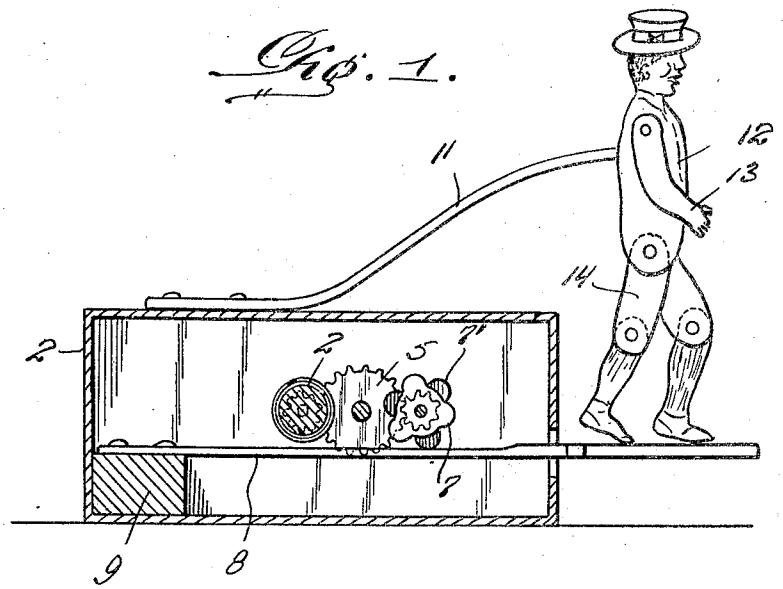
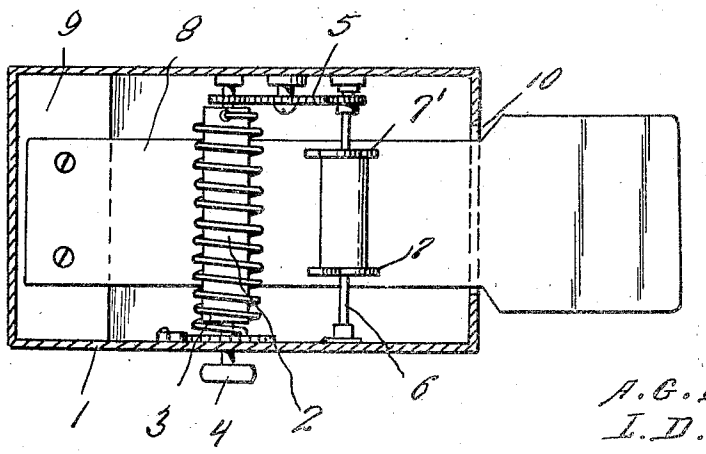


Fig. 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALBERT G. BALDRIDGE AND LOUIE D. ROBERTS, OF FULTON, KENTUCKY; SAID LOUIE D. ROBERTS ASSIGNOR TO J. ALFRED HORNBEAK AND PAUL M. HORNBEAK, BOTH OF FULTON, KENTUCKY.

DANCING TOY.

Application filed April 25, 1924. Serial No. 708,957.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, ALBERT G. BALDRIDGE and LOUIE D. ROBERTS, citizens of the United States, residing at Fulton, in the county of Fulton and State of Kentucky, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Dancing Toys, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to dancing toys, and it consists in the novel features hereinafter described and claimed.

An object of the invention is to provide a toy including a casing, which encloses a spring motor and having a dancing platform extending therefrom, and adapted to be agitated by the motor. A loose jointed figure is resiliently supported from the casing, and the feet of the figure rest upon the platform, so that the figure is caused to execute movement, simulating buck and wing dancing steps, when the toy is in operation.

In the accompanying drawing:

Figure 1 is a transverse sectional view of the dancing toy.

Figure 2 is a horizontal sectional view thereof.

The dancing toy includes a casing 1, in which is housed a spring motor 2. The spring 3 of the said motor may be wound up by using the knob 4, which is disposed beyond the side of the casing 1. A train of gear wheels 5 connects the motor 2, with a shaft 6, which is journalled within the casing 1. The shaft 6 carries a pair of spaced triangular shaped cam members 7 and 7'. The cams on the cam members 7 and 7' are staggered as is clearly shown in Fig. 1.

The toy also includes a platform board or mat 8. This board is of spring material, and is fixed, at one end, to a block 9 mounted in the casing 1. The intermediate portion of the board 9 passes through an opening 10 provided in one of the side boards of the casing 1. A portion of the board 8 is disposed beyond the exterior surface of the casing 1. A spring arm 11 is mounted upon the top side of the casing 1. The body 12 of a figure is carried at the upper outer end of the arm 11. Arms 13 are pivoted to the body 12. Jointed leaf sections 14 are pivotally connected with the body 10, and the lower ends of the lower leg section 14 rest upon that section of the platform board 8, which is disposed beyond the side of the casing 1.

It is apparent that when the motor 2 is wound up, the shaft 6 and the cam members 7 and 7' will be rotated by the said motor. As the cam portions of the members 7 and 7' come in contact with the intermediate portion of the board 8, the said board is vibrated vertically, whereby the outer portion thereof is reciprocated vertically with relation to the casing. Therefore, the board strikes the lower sections of the leg 14 of the figure and the figure will execute steps simulating buck or wing dancing. By depressing the upper free end of the arm 11, the time, in which the plate section of the figure strikes the platform may be varied, and therefore the figure may be caused to dance in time with music produced by a machine or instrument.

As can be seen very readily from an inspection of Fig. 2, the cam members 7 and 7' are disposed one adjacent each side edge of the spring board 9. Since the cam portions of these cam members 7 and 7' are alternately arranged, the sides of the board are alternately engaged by the cam members 7 and 7' respectively, and because of the spring nature of the board, there occurs a slight transverse flexing or twisting. Therefore, the upper side of the board engages to a fuller extent with one of the legs of the toy than with the other at alternate intervals.

Having described the invention, what is claimed is:

A dancing toy comprising a casing, a spring board mounted therein and having an end portion extending beyond the side wall of the casing, a shaft journaled in the casing and disposed transversely across the spring board, spaced cam members mounted upon the shaft and disposed above the opposite side edge portions of the spring board, the said cam members having cam edges which are in staggered relation with respect to each other, the cam edges at one side portion of the spring board being located

opposite the spaces between the cam portions at the other edge portion of the spring board, a motor housed within the casing and operatively connected with said shaft, a flexible arm mounted upon the casing, a body carried by the upper free end of said arm and having pivotally joined sections which engage the spring board beyond the side of the casing.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures.

ALBERT G. BALDRIDGE.
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