

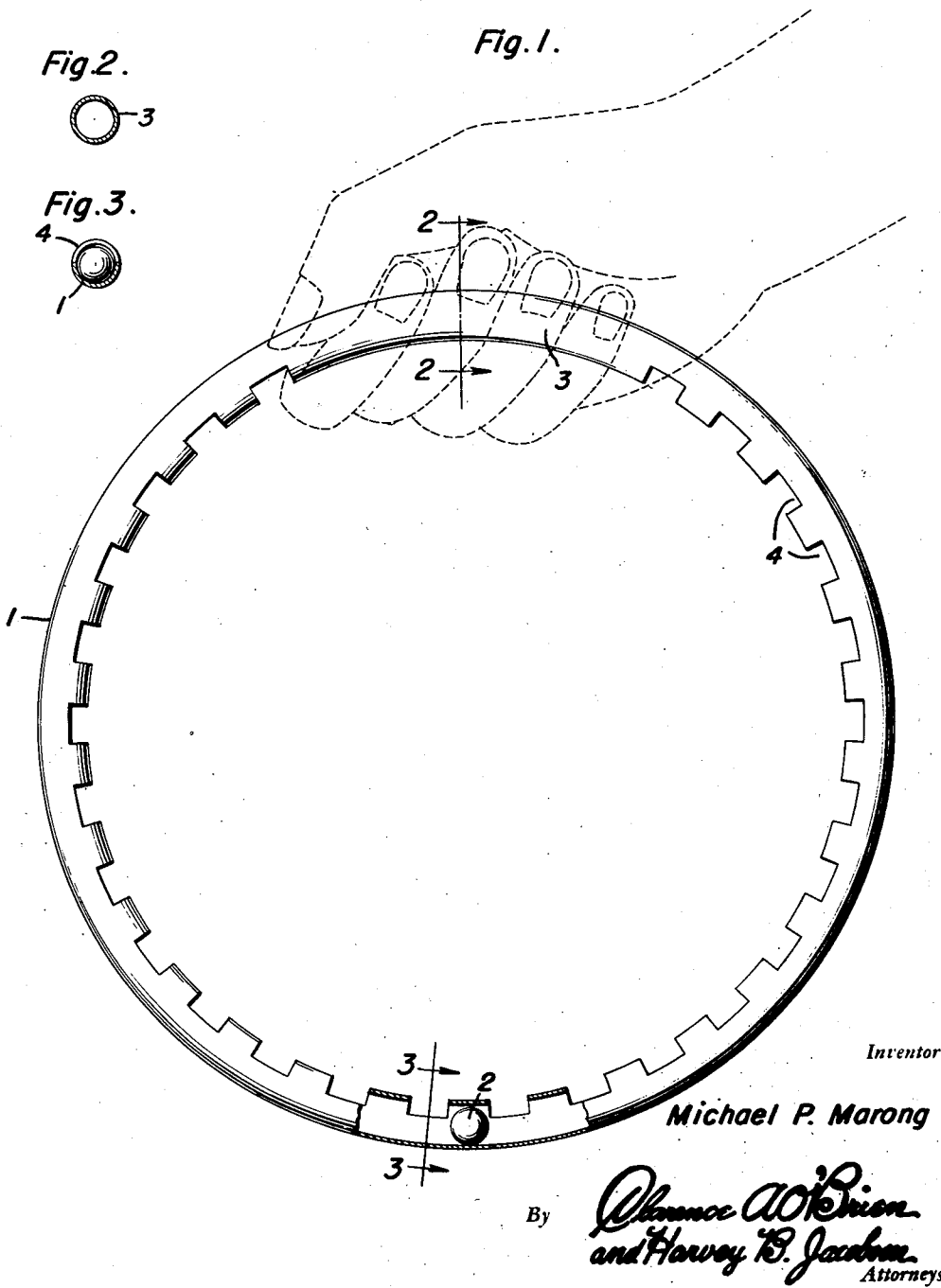
July 7, 1953

M. P. MARONG
BALL AND RUNWAY TOY

2,644,270

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2 Sheets-Sheet 1



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Fig. 4.

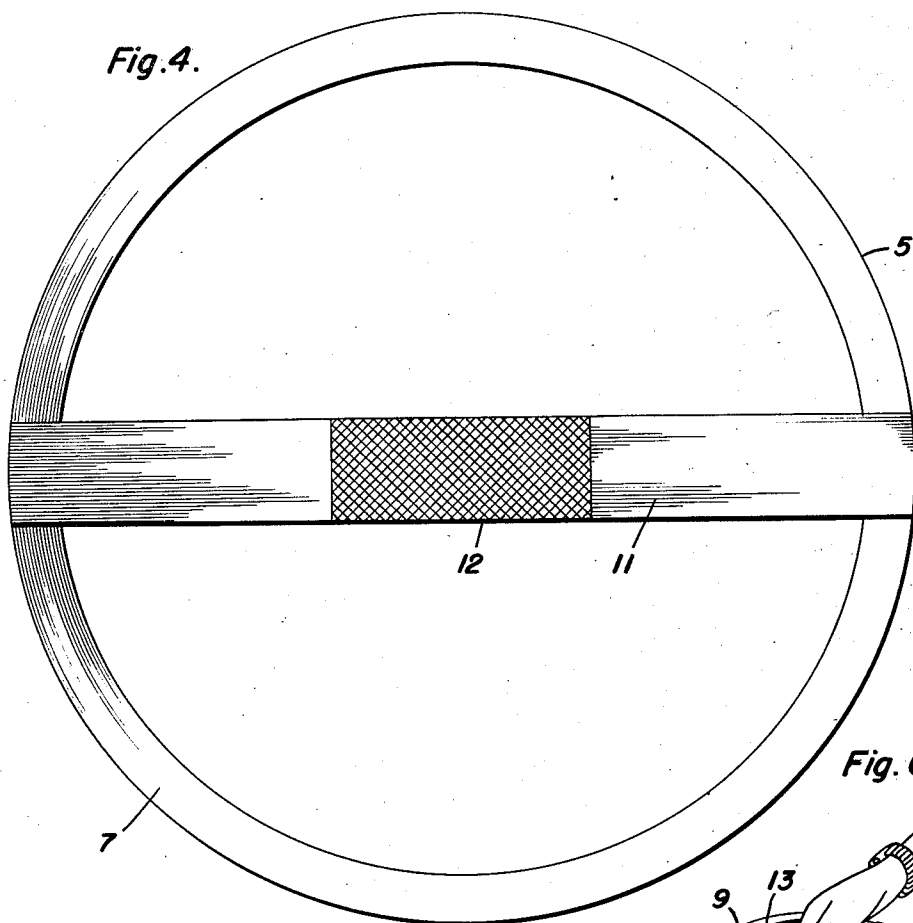


Fig. 6.

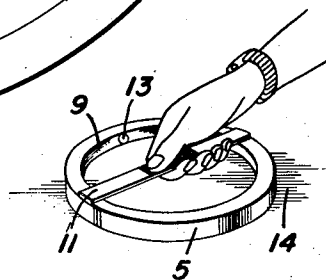
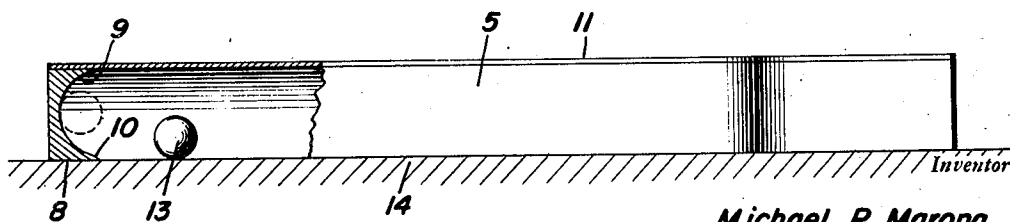


Fig. 5.



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BALL AND RUNWAY TOY

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3 Claims. (Cl. 46-43)

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My invention relates to ball and runway toys and is designed as an improvement over the toy of my U. S. Patent No. 2,466,116 dated April 5, 1949.

The primary object of my invention is to provide a simplified amusing toy of the type in which a ball is caused to travel in a manipulated runway member, and which requires less dexterity in manipulation so that the toy will appeal to children especially.

Other and subordinate objects, within the purview of my invention, together with the precise nature of my improvements will be readily understood when the succeeding description and claims are read with reference to the drawings accompanying and forming part of this specification.

In said drawings;

Figure 1 is a view in side elevation, partly broken away and shown in section, of my improved toy in the preferred embodiment thereof;

Figure 2 is a view in transverse section taken on the line 2-2 of Figure 1;

Figure 3 is a similar view taken on the line 3-3 of Figure 1;

Figure 4 is a view in plan of a modified embodiment of my improved toy;

Figure 5 is a view in edge elevation partly broken away and shown in section;

Figure 6 is a view in perspective drawn to a smaller scale and illustrating the manner in which the toy is used, in the modified embodiment.

Referring now to the drawings by numerals, and first to Figures 1, 2 and 3, my improved toy in the preferred embodiment thereof, comprises an annular, hollow runway member 1 for a ball 2 fitting loosely therein.

The runway member 1 comprises a tubular segment 3 of sufficient length to provide a hand grip and by means of which the ball 2 may roll in the runway member 1 through a hand grasping said segment 3. The remainder of the runway member 1 is substantially tubular and provided with internal, preferably square, notches 4 spaced apart equidistantly around the inner circumferential portion of said member to provide sight openings spaced around the member substantially in correspondence with the length of the notches circumferentially of said member 1. The notches 4 are slightly larger than the diameter of the ball 2 to permit said ball to enter said member through any notch 4.

The runway member 1 may be formed of light,

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strong material, such as plastic, and the ball 2 formed of similar material contrasting in color to that of said member.

In using the described toy, the ball 2 may be inserted in the runway member 1 through any notch 4, the segment, or hand grip 3, grasped by one hand, as shown in dotted lines, in Figure 1, and the runway member 1 manipulated with a circular motion cause the ball 2 to roll around said member 1 and be retained therein under the action of centrifugal force, the ball being intermittently visible through the notches 4 and hidden from view intermediate said notches. If it is desired that the ball 2 shall not be touched by hand, in entering the same in the runway member 1, said member 1 may be laid flat on a table, or the like, with the ball 2 within the confines thereof and said member then slid to move a notch 4 toward the ball 2 to enter said ball in the notch for picking up by manipulation of said member 1 with a circular motion. As will be seen, the invention provides for the ball 2 rolling around the runway member 1 while said member is grasped in the hand and thereby obviates providing a separate handle on said member. The notches 4 obviously provide for flash visibility of the ball 2 which, together with the dexterity required to keep the ball 2 rolling and in the runway member 1, makes the toy particularly interesting and appealing to children.

In the modified embodiment of the toy illustrated in Figures 4, 5 and 6, an annular runway member 5 is provided with flat top and bottom sides 7 and 8, respectively, and an internal transversely arcuate groove 9 extending around said member and forming with the bottom side 8 a bottom feathered edge 10 on said member. A diametrical handle bar 11 is suitably fixed to the top side 7 of the runway member 5 with a knurled central hand grip section 12. A ball 13, substantially smaller in diameter than the groove 9 is provided for rolling around said groove.

In using the modified embodiment of the toy, the runway member 5 is laid flat on a table or other flat surface 14 with the ball 13 on said surface and within the confines of said member. The handle bar 11 is then grasped, and the runway member slid toward the ball 13 and said ball picked up with a circular motion of said member to lift the ball into the groove 9 by means of the feather edge 10, after which said member 5 may be manipulated with a rotary circular motion to keep the ball 13 rolling in the groove 9 under the action of centrifugal force.

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The foregoing will, it is believed, suffice to impart a clear understanding of my invention, without further explanation.

Manifestly, the invention, as described, is susceptible of modification, without departing from the inventive concept, and right is herein reserved to such modifications as fall within the scope of the appended claims.

Having described the invention, what is claimed as new is:

1. A toy comprising a ball, an annular hollow runway member for the ball in which said ball is visible and for manipulation with a circular motion to cause said ball to roll around the member and be retained therein under the action of centrifugal force, and a handle on said member for manipulating the same, said member being substantially tubular with circumferential notches spaced around the inner circumferential portion thereof providing for flash visibility of the ball as it rolls around said member.

2. A toy comprising a ball, an annular hollow runway member for the ball in which said ball is visible and for manipulation with a circular

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motion to cause said ball to roll around the member and be retained therein under the action of centrifugal force, and a handle on said member for manipulating the same, said member being substantially tubular with circumferential notches spaced around the inner circumferential portion thereof providing for flash visibility of the ball as it rolls around said member, said handle comprising a tubular segmental portion of said member extending between two of said notches with a solid circumferential portion.

3. A toy according to claim 1 wherein said notches are of a size to pass said ball there-through into and out of said member.

MICHAEL P. MARONG.

References Cited in the file of this patent

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Number	Name	Date
591,876	Face	Oct. 19, 1897
1,815,378	Menkus et al.	July 21, 1931
2,466,116	Marong	Apr. 5, 1949
2,536,393	Regenold	Jan. 2, 1951

The foregoing will, it is believed, suffice to impart a clear understanding of my invention, without further explanation. Manifestly, the invention, as described, is susceptible of modification, without departing from the inventive concept, and right is herein reserved to such modifications as fall within the scope of the appended claims. Having described the invention, what is claimed as new is: 1. A toy comprising a ball, an annular hollow runway member for the ball in which said ball is visible and for manipulation with a circular motion to cause said ball to roll around the member and be retained therein under the action of centrifugal force, and a handle on said member for manipulating the same, said member being substantially tubular with circumferential notches spaced around the inner circumferential portion thereof providing for flash visibility of the ball as it rolls around said member. 2. A toy comprising a ball, an annular hollow runway member for the ball in which said ball is visible and for manipulation with a circular

motion to cause said ball to roll around the member and be retained therein under the action of centrifugal force, and a handle on said member for manipulating the same, said member being substantially tubular with circumferential notches spaced around the inner circumferential portion thereof providing for flash visibility of the ball as it rolls around said member, said handle comprising a tubular segmental portion of said member extending between two of said notches with a solid circumferential portion. 3. A toy according to claim 1 wherein said notches are of a size to pass said ball there-through into and out of said member. MICHAEL P. MARONG. References Cited in the file of this patent UNITED STATES PATENTS