

June 25, 1929.

F. G. MAIN

1,718,792

TOY

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Fig. 1.

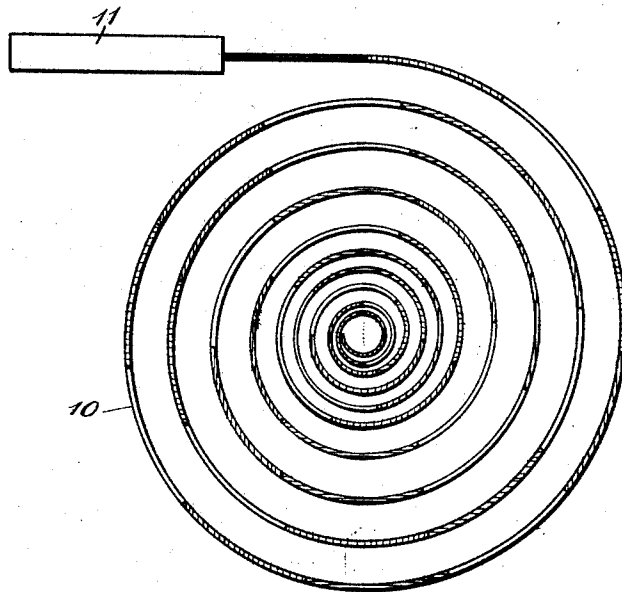
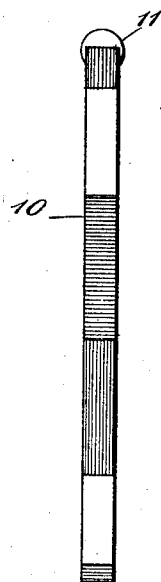


Fig. 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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TOY.

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This invention relates to toys, and more particularly to toys wherein movement accomplished by the flexible quality or energy of an article provides amusement for a child.

5 The object of the present invention is to provide a toy novelty of the character described, wherein simple construction and operation, economical cost, and durability are involved.

10 With the above and other objects in view, as will be apparent, this invention consists in the construction, combination and arrangement of parts all as hereinafter more fully described, claimed and illustrated in the accompanying drawings wherein:

15 Fig. 1 is an edge elevation of a toy constructed in accordance with the present invention, with shaded sections to indicate portions of alternating colors.

20 Fig. 2 is a face elevation of the same.

As is well known, movement amuses and entertains a young child, especially when the movement is varied. The present invention contemplates a toy largely automatic in its nature wherein the movement is easily initiated and is prolonged by reason of the semi-automatic nature of the device, without expending additional force or energy thereon. Among other things, the present invention
25 also contemplates a varied movement wherein the device may have a number of different maneuvers depending on the position in which it is held. The toy may also be suspended in a fixed position and by hitting it
30 a varied and more or less prolonged movement may be produced for the amusement of very young children.

The foregoing is accomplished by a relatively narrow flat tape of spring metal which
40 is coiled in a series of convolutions, the inner convolutions being tighter or more closely wound than the outer convolutions. The free end of the tape terminates in a suitable handle. Thus a coil is produced, all the convolutions of which are, when the coil is passive, within the confines of the width of the tape. By grasping the handle or suspending the device from the handle, a slight movement
45 will cause the coil formed by the tape to unwind and wind, and continue to do so until the force of the original movement given thereto is expended. In the event the coil is suspended from the handle in a fixed position, a slight tap on the coil itself will start the movement.
50 and should the coil be held vertical or at various angles to the vertical, many different

characters of movements may be produced.

Reference being had more particularly to the drawings, 10 represents a flat tape of spring metal which is wound into a coil as shown in Fig. 1. In forming this coil, the tape of spring metal is tightly rolled inwardly from one end thereof into a number of convolutions. Each progressive wind or convolution of the spring metal tape allows
60 a certain increased relaxation in tension over that of the preceding wind or convolution. Thus, when the wound portion of the tape has used up approximately the whole length thereof, the outer or last wound end of the tape is comparatively free from tension.

The said free or outer end of said spring metal tape 10 terminates in a handle 11. By grasping the handle 11 and thereby holding the coil in suspension, the free or outer end
75 of the tape 10 will yield to the weight of the inner or tightly rolled end thereof. Thus, said inner or tightly rolled end retains its coiled form and by a slight movement of the handle 11 may be made to roll down the inner side of the spring metal tape 10 because of the spring reaction formed by the yielding quality thereof. In thus rolling away from the handle 11, the inner or tightly rolled end gains momentum sufficient to cause a series
80 of coiling and recoiling movements.

The coiling and recoiling movements accomplished in the manner set forth above may be applied in obtaining a wide variety of winding and spiral effects. For example, if
85 the movement of the coil is directed in a vertical plane, the effect will be a winding and unwinding of the coil with a swaying movement confined to a vertical plane. While, on the other hand, by directing the movement
90 of the coil laterally, the weight of the inner or tightly wound end of the coil will cause a lateral swaying effect of the tape, in combination with the production of various conical shapes. The foregoing examples
100 may be multiplied indefinitely by moving the coil in planes at different angles to the vertical.

To add to the child's fascination thus produced, the device may be variegated with
105 bright colors (illustrated by the shading on the metal tape 10) so as to combine attractive color effects with the unlimited variety of contortions and shapes possible with this toy.

Owing to its simple construction, and also because of the material of which it is made,

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the present toy may be subjected to extremely rough use without injury to its function, and is therefore manifestly especially adapted to its place in a child's toy collection.

5 What is claimed is:

A toy, including a metal strip coiled into a single plane at one end and having a handle secured to the other end thereof, ar-

ranged substantially tangential to the coiled portion of the strip and resting in the plane 10 of said coiled portion, said coiled portion yielding of its own weight to produce uncoiling and coiling movements upon the movement of the handle.

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