

Nov. 22, 1938.

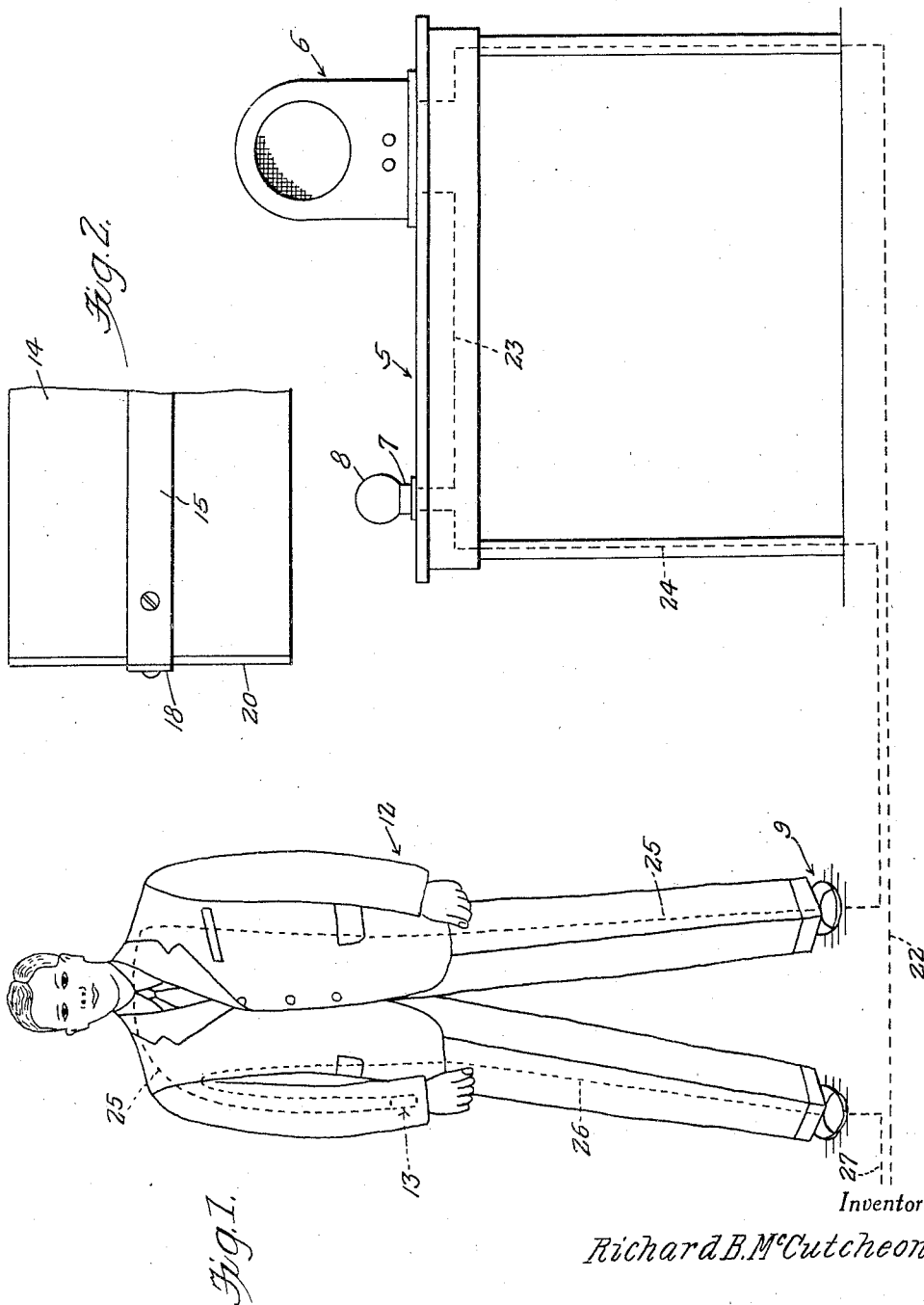
R. B. McCUTCHEON

2,137,345

AMUSEMENT APPARATUS

Filed Dec. 31, 1936

2 Sheets-Sheet 1



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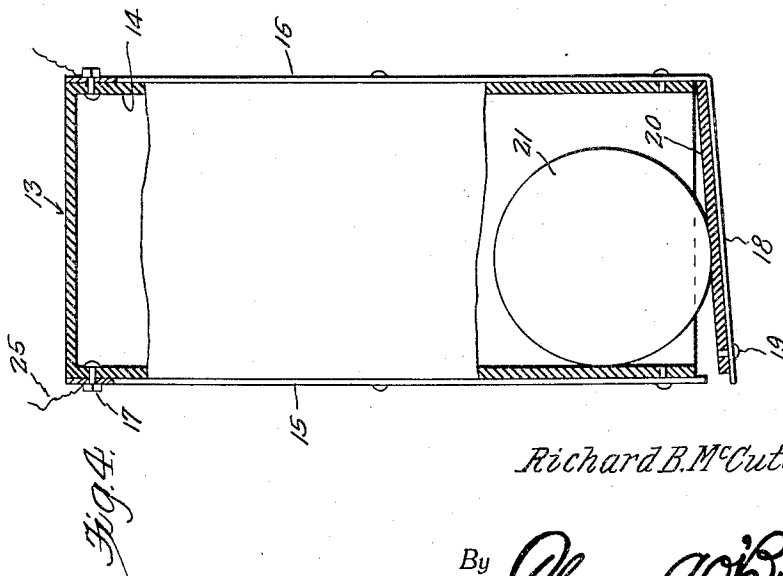
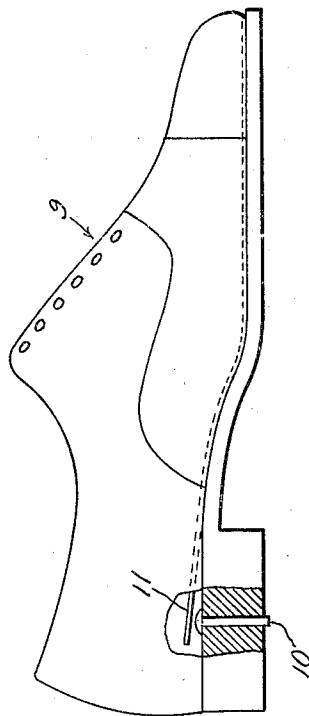
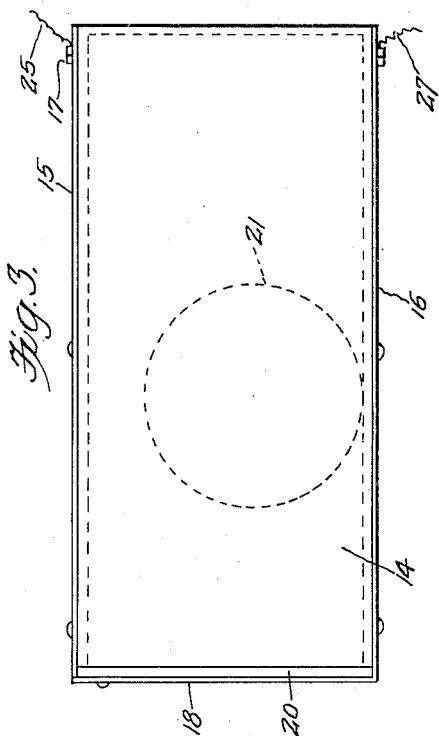
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2 Sheets-Sheet 2



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

2,137,345

AMUSEMENT APPARATUS

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Application December 31, 1936, Serial No. 118,697

1 Claim. (Cl. 200—85)

This invention relates to amusement devices and more particularly to an electrical apparatus for stage effects and its object is to provide a simple device which may be used for controlling the operation of a radio and for lighting and extinguishing an electrical lamp in response to the movements of the person entertaining; and the invention together with its objects and advantages will be best understood from a study of the following description taken in connection with the accompanying drawings wherein:—

Figure 1 illustrates the application of the invention.

Figure 2 is a fragmentary plan view of a switch.

Figure 3 is a side elevational view of the switch.

Figure 4 is a view of the switch with parts broken away and shown in section and with the switch in open position and

Figure 5 is a side elevational view of a shoe having a switch associated therewith and with certain parts broken away and shown in section.

Referring to the drawings by reference numerals it will be seen that 5 indicates generally a table or other suitable support which may be set up on the stage. Mounted on the table is a conventional radio 6 and an electric lamp socket 7 that accommodates an electric lamp 8.

A shoe is indicated by the reference numeral 9 and on the heel of the shoe is a stationary contact pin 10. A movable or spring contact element 11 is affixed internally of the shoe to the sole of the shoe and projecting back to the stationary contact 10 as shown.

In Figure 1 I have shown the actor or entertainer indicated by the reference numeral 12 as being provided with a pair of such shoes 9.

The reference numeral 13 indicates a switch which consists of a rectangular casing 14 of dielectric or insulating material. Riveted or otherwise secured to opposite sides of the casing 14 are contact strips 15 and 16 respectively and equipped with terminals 17.

One of the strips, for example the strip 16 has an angular end 18 that is riveted or otherwise secured as at 19 to a cover or lid member 20 provided for one end of the receptacle 14. It will thus be seen that the contact strip 16 and its extension 18 tends to properly seat the cover 20 for closing the receptacle 13 and when the cover 20 is in closed condition contact extension 18 engages the adjacent end of the contact 15 for completing an electrical circuit. A ball or other suitable element 21 of a suitable weight is confined within the receptacle 13 and when

the receptacle 14 is in, for example, the vertical position shown in Figure 4 with the lid 20 at the bottom end of the receptacle, the member 21 will act on the lid 20 to move the same to a partially open position for separating contact extension 18 and contact 15 for interrupting the electrical circuit.

In Figure 1 the wires of the electrical circuit embodying the radio 6, light 8, contacts 10 and 11, and contacts 15 and 18 as shown in broken line, the electrical supply being obtained from any suitable external source, the wire 22 leading from said source and connected with one side of the radio 6. One side of the electric socket 7 is connected with the radio 6 through the medium of a wire 23 while the other side of the socket 7 is connected through the medium of a wire 24 with the metallic floor or surface upon which the entertainer performs. The movable contact 11 in said one shoe is connected with the contact 15 through the medium of a wire 25 that extends upwardly through a trouser leg of the dancer, and across the shoulders of the dancer down through one sleeve of his coat as clearly suggested in Figure 1. Contact 16 is connected through the medium of a wire 26 that extends through said one sleeve of the coat and down through the other leg of the trousers to the contact 11 in the other shoe 9. The metallic flooring is connected to the negative side of the source of current supply through the medium of the wire 27.

The operation of the device is thought to be obvious. When the contacts 11 are engaged with the contacts 16, and the arm of the dancer carrying the switch 13, concealed by the coat sleeve, is elevated to extend the horizontal position so that contacts 15 and 18 are engaged the circuit will be completed through the radio 6 and the lamp 8 so that the radio 6 and the lamp 8 will be respectively alternately turned on and illuminated in a spectacular manner.

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

A switch of the class described comprising a casing having one end open, said casing being formed of non-conducting material, a closure of non-conducting material for said open end, a strip of conducting material connected to one side of the casing and having a part projecting beyond the open end thereof, a second strip of conducting material connected to the opposite side of the casing and having a part bent at substantially right angles to extend across the open end of the casing and said part being connected

with the closure member and resilient to hold the closure member in position closing the open end of the casing, said bent part also having its free end projecting from the closure member to
5 contact the first strip at its projecting end, when the closure member is in closing position, and a

ball weight in the casing and acting to move the closure member to partly open position to separate the contact strips when said ball is resting on the closure member.

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