Mar. 6, 1923. 1,447,926

M. B. CONWAY

ANIMATED FIGURE

Filed Apr. 30, 1921 2 sheets-sheet 1

FIG. 1.

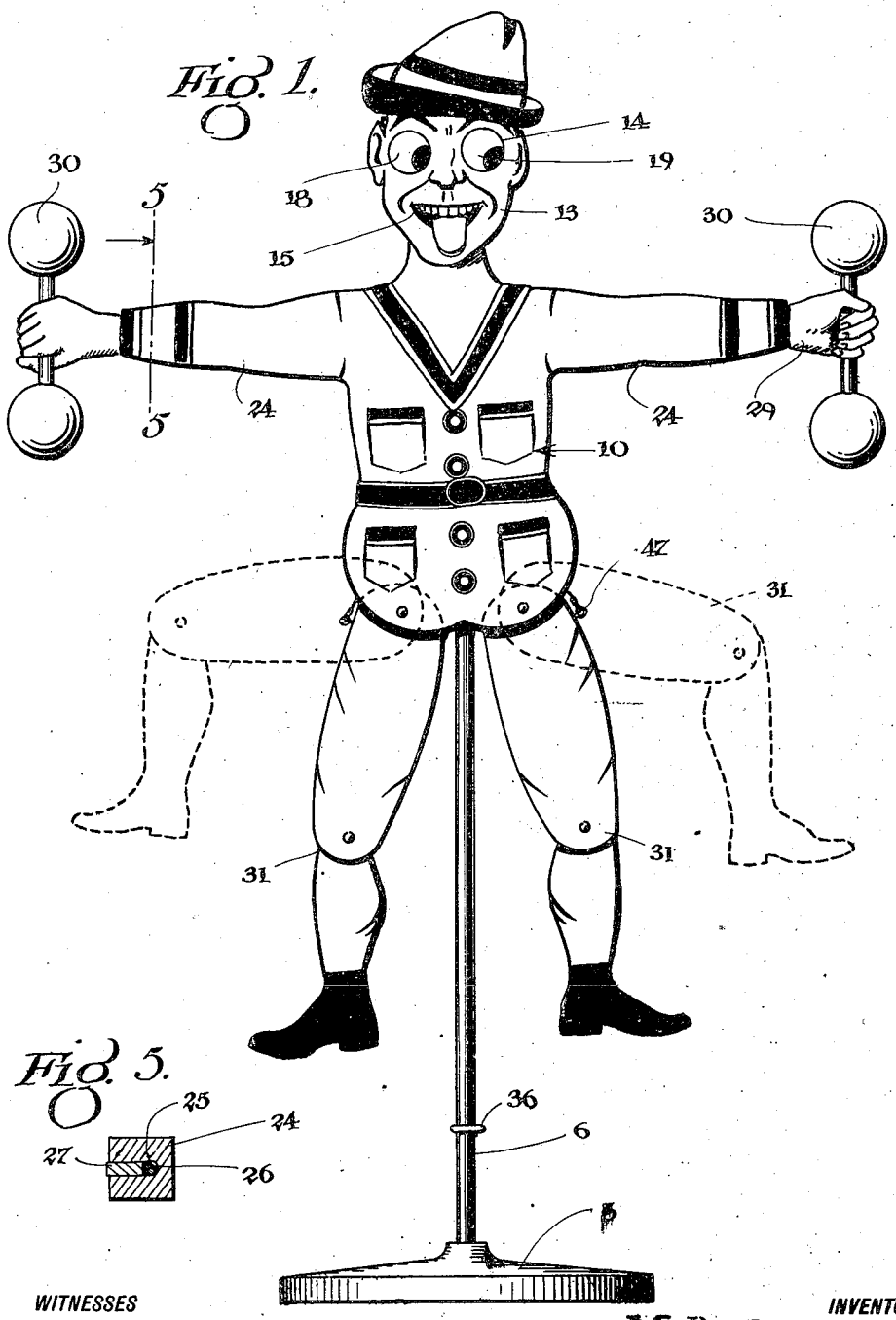

FIG. 5.

WITNESSES

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ANIMATED FIGURE

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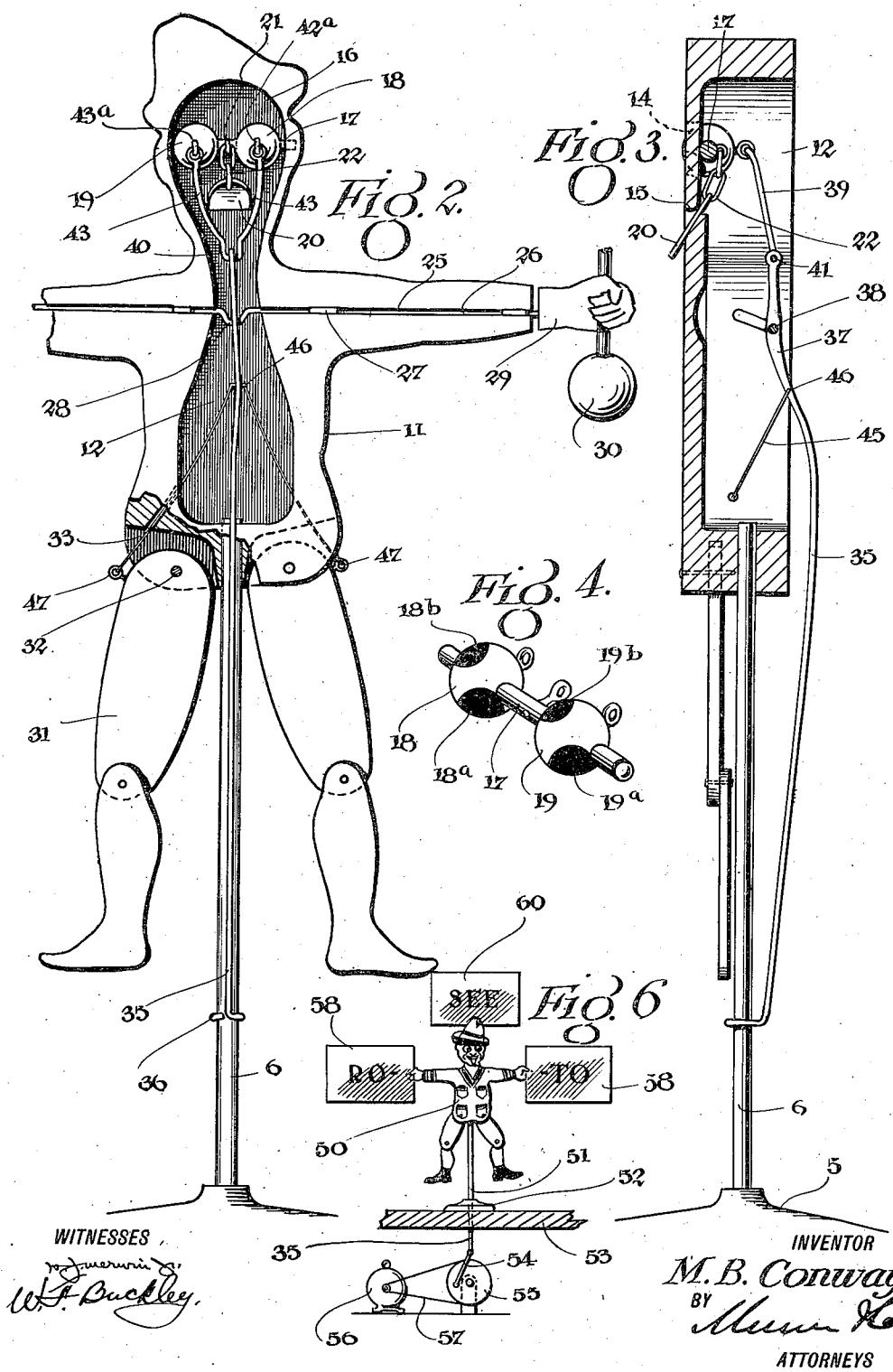

FIG. 2.

FIG. 3.

FIG. 4.

FIG. 6

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Patented Mar. 6, 1923. 1,447,926

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MAGGIE BROWN CONWAY, OF DANVILLE, VIRGINIA.

ANIMATED FIGURE.

Application filed April 30, 1921. Serial No. 465,761.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MAGGIE BROWN CONWAY, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Danville, in the county of Pittsylvania and State of Virginia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Animated Figures, of which the following is a specification.

The present invention relates to animated figures and has for its object to provide an animated figure adapted to partake of original and unusual movements and actions to attract attention and amuse observers whereby it may be used either as a toy or as an advertising device.

Another object is to provide a device of this character which is of simple and durable construction, reliable in operation and easy and inexpensive to manufacture.

Other objects and advantages of the invention reside in certain novel features of construction, combination and arrangement of parts which will be hereinafter more fully described and particularly pointed out in the appended claims, reference being had to the accompanying drawings forming part of this specification, and in which:

Figure 1 is a front elevational view, illustrating an embodiment of the invention;

Figure 2 is a rear elevational view thereof;

Figure 3 is a view in transverse vertical section;

Figure 4 is a detail perspective view of the eyes and their shaft;

Figure 5 is a detail view in transverse section on line 5—5 of Figure 1; and

Figure 6 is a view in front elevation of a slightly modified form of the invention.

Referring to the drawings wherein for the sake of illustration is shown the preferred embodiments of the invention and especially to Figures 1 to 5, the numeral 5 designates a base from which a standard 6 rises.

An animated figure designated generally at 10 is carried by the standard and includes a body portion 11 having its front painted or otherwise adapted to simulate the clothed body of a figure and having a cavity 12 opening to its rear face. A head 13 is carried by the body, preferably integral therewith. The head is provided with eye sockets 14 and a transverse opening 15 formed to simulate a mouth. A cavity is formed in the head member and communicates with the cavity of the body member and like the latter opens to the rear face of the head. A rock shaft 17 is journaled in suitable bearings provided therefor in the head and extends transversely across the head at the rear of the eye sockets. Eyes 18 and 19 are fixed to the shaft and arranged in the eye sockets. The eyes 18 and 19 which are generally of globular form have two or more offset pupils designated at 18^a and 18^b and 19^a and 19^b formed thereon whereby when the shaft 17 is oscillated these pupils alternately traverse the opening of the eye sockets to give the appearance of rolling the eyes.

A tongue 20 is slidably received in the mouth opening 15. Means is provided for imparting motion to the tongue from the rock shaft and includes an arm 21 carried by the rock shaft and a flexible connection 22 between the arm and the tongue, the flexible connection 22 consisting of one or more links pivotally connected at one end to the arm and at the other end to the tongue. The tongue 20 is thus moved back and forth so as to be successively stuck out and withdrawn from the mouth of the figure. This action together with the rolling of the eyes gives the figure a mischievous and strikingly animated expression.

Arms 24 are rigid with the body and preferably are extended and formed integrally with the body. The arms and alined portions of the body are slotted, as at 25, to form a journal for a rotatable shaft 26 arranged in the slotted portion and confined therein by plugs or wedges 27, as clearly shown in Figure 5. The shaft 26 extends across the cavity 12 of the body and in a portion thereof which lies in the cavity a crank 28 is formed for a purpose which will hereinafter more fully appear. The shaft projects beyond the extremities of the arms and on these projecting ends hands 29 are carried, and are rotatable with the shaft. The hands however lie closely adjacent the extremities of the arms and in partaking of the motion of the shaft they appear to be articulated on the arms. The hands carry suitable objects, and in this embodiment they preferably carry dumb-bells designated generally at 30.

Articulated legs 31 are pivotally connected, as at 32 to the body, the body being pro-

vided with slots 33 to accommodate the upper portion of the legs, as clearly shown in Figure 2.

Operating mechanism is provided and includes a rod 35 having an eye 36 formed at its lower end and loosely embracing the standard 6. Intermediate its ends the rod is flattened, as at 37, and has a bearing 38 formed therein which pivotally receives the crank 28 of the shaft 26. A yoke 39 has its bight 40 pivotally connected, as at 41, to the upper end of the rod 35 and the arms 42 and 43 of the yoke are pivotally connected at their ends to the rear of the eyes, as indicated at 42^a and 43^a, respectively. Flexible connections 45 are connected at one end, as at 46, to the rod 35 and are connected at their opposite ends, as at 47, to the legs 31. As the rod 35 is moved up and down as it readily may be by grasping it with the fingers it rotates the shaft 26 through its connection with the crank 28 thereof and in rotating the shaft 26 it turns the hands and the objects which they carry, dumb-bells in this embodiment. Through the yoke 39 it imparts an oscillating movement to the eyes 18 and 19 and to the shaft 17 which carries them and this movement of the shaft 17 is in turn imparted to the tongue 20. At the same time the flexible connections 45 move the legs up and down on their pivots 32 and the legs themselves being articulated partake of the dancing or rhythmic movement, as indicated in dotted lines in Figure 1. These combined movements and actions give to the figure a striking semblance of life and animation and powerfully attract the attention of the observer.

In the form of the invention shown in Figure 6, the animated figure is shown at 50 and is constructed strictly in accordance with the figure hereinabove described, the figure being carried as before on a standard here designated at 51 which uprises from a base 52 setting on the floor or the like designated at 53. In this form of the invention however the rod 35 instead of terminating in an eye at its lower end is extended downwardly, as shown and is pivotally connected to one end of a pitman 54 driven from a crank disk 55 which is actuated from an electric motor or the like 56 by means of bevel gearing or the like. The hands instead of carrying dumb-bells carry advertising display designated at 58, which moves with them. A stationary panel 60 is also carried by the head of the figure. In this form of the invention the animated figure operates in precisely the same manner as hereinabove-described except that the rod 35 instead of being actuated by the hands or fingers of the operator is actuated from the electric motor 56 by means of gearing 57, crank disk 55, and pitman 54 and that instead of the dumb bells being rotated to give the appearance of participation in calisthenics the advertising matter is rotated to catch the eye of the observer.

I claim:

1. In a device of the character described, an animated figure comprising a body, a head having eye sockets and an opening simulating a mouth, a rock shaft extending transversely in the rear of the eye sockets, eyes carried by the shaft and received in said sockets, a tongue received in the mouth opening, means for transmitting motion to the tongue from the shaft, extended arms fixed to the body portion, a rotatable shaft journaled in said arms and having a crank intermediate said arms, hands carried by the ends of said shaft and rotatable therewith, articulated legs pivotally carried by said body portion, a movable rod having a connection with said crank, a yoke pivotally connected to said rods and having arms pivotally connected with said eyes and flexible connections between the rod and the legs.

2. In a device of the character described, an animated figure comprising a body, a head having eye sockets and an opening simulating a mouth, a rock shaft, eyes carried by the rock shaft and received in the sockets, a tongue received in the mouth opening, means transmitting motion to the tongue from the rock shaft, arms fixed to the body portion, and a rotatable shaft having a crank, hands at the ends of said arms and carried by said rotatable shaft, articulated legs carried by the body, a movable rod having a connection to said crank, means connecting the rod to the eyes and flexible connection between the rod and the legs.

3. In a device of the character described, an animated figure comprising a body, a head having eye sockets and an opening simulating a mouth, eyes received in said eye sockets, a tongue received in said mouth opening, arms carried by the body, articulated hands at the extremities of said arms, articulated legs carried by the body and operating mechanism including a rod, common means for transmitting motion from said rod to said eyes and said tongue, means for operating said hands from said rod, and means for operating said legs from said rod.

4. In a device of the character described, an animated figure comprising a body, a head having eye sockets and an opening simulating a mouth, eyes received in said sockets, a tongue received in the mouth opening, arms fixed to the body portion, a shaft journaled in said arms, hands carried by the ends of said shaft and rotatable therewith, and operating mechanism including a movable rod, common means for transmitting the motion of said rod to said eyes and said tongue, and means for transmitting motion from said rod to said rotatable shaft.

5. In a device of the character described,

a body, a head having eye sockets and an opening simulating a mouth, a rock shaft extending transversely of the head at the rear of the eye sockets, eyes carried on the shaft and fitting in said sockets, a tongue slidably mounted in the mouth opening, means for transmitting motion from said rock shaft to said tongue, and means for operating said eyes and said rock shaft.

6. In a device of the character described, an animated figure including a body, rigid arms extended from said body, a rotary shaft journaled in said arms and projecting from the extremities thereof, hands carried by the projecting end of said shaft, a slidable rod, and means connecting said shaft and rod for transmitting the motion of the rod to the shaft.

7. In a device of the character described, an animated figure including a body, rigid arms extending therefrom, rotatable hands, objects carried in said hands, and means for rotating said hands.

8. In a device of the character described, an animated figure including rolling eyes, a reciprocating tongue and movable hands, and means operably connecting said eyes, tongue and hands to cause them to act simultaneously.

9. In a device of the character described, an animated figure including a body, a head, rolling eyes arranged in said head, a movable tongue carried by said head, rotatable hands connected with the body and articulated legs connected with the body, and means operably connecting said eyes, tongue, hands and legs to cause them to act simultaneously.

10. In a device of the character described, an animated figure including a head having eye sockets, oscillatory eyes received in said sockets, means for simultaneously oscillating said eyes, each of said eyes having a pair of pupils thereon, the pupils of each pair so positioned on each eye and relatively to each other as to give the effect of rolling the eyes, when so oscillated.

11. In a device of the character described, an animated figure including a head having eye sockets, curved oscillatory eyes received in said eye sockets, each eye having a pair of laterally offset pupils, and means for simultaneously oscillating said eyes whereby said offset pupils are presented to the opening of said eye sockets to give the effect of rolling the eyes.

12. In a device of the character described, an animated figure including oscillatory eyes and a reciprocating tongue, means for oscillating said eyes, and flexible means operatively connecting said eyes and tongue, whereby to cause them to act simultaneously.

MAGGIE BROWN CONWAY.