

C. G. HELLSTROM.

TOY.

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899,866.

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Fig. 1

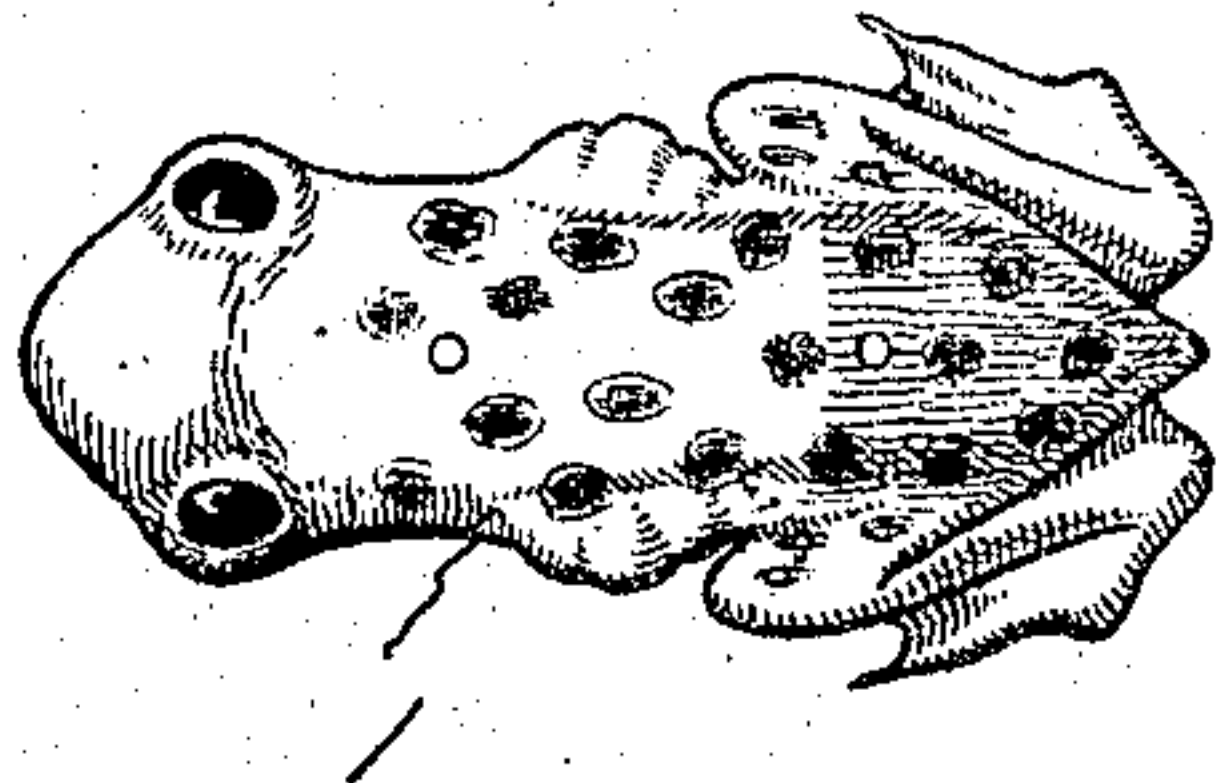


Fig. 2

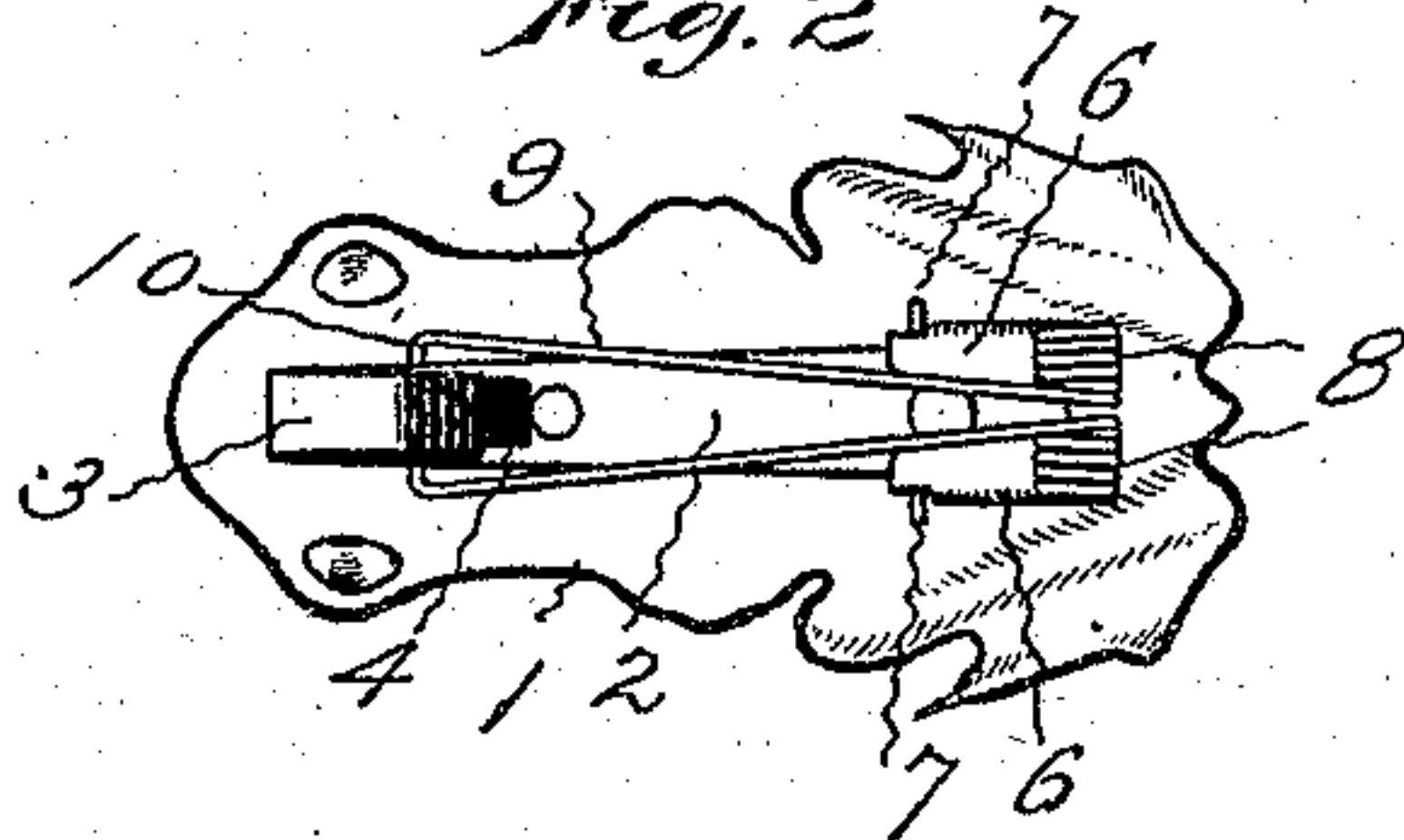


Fig. 3

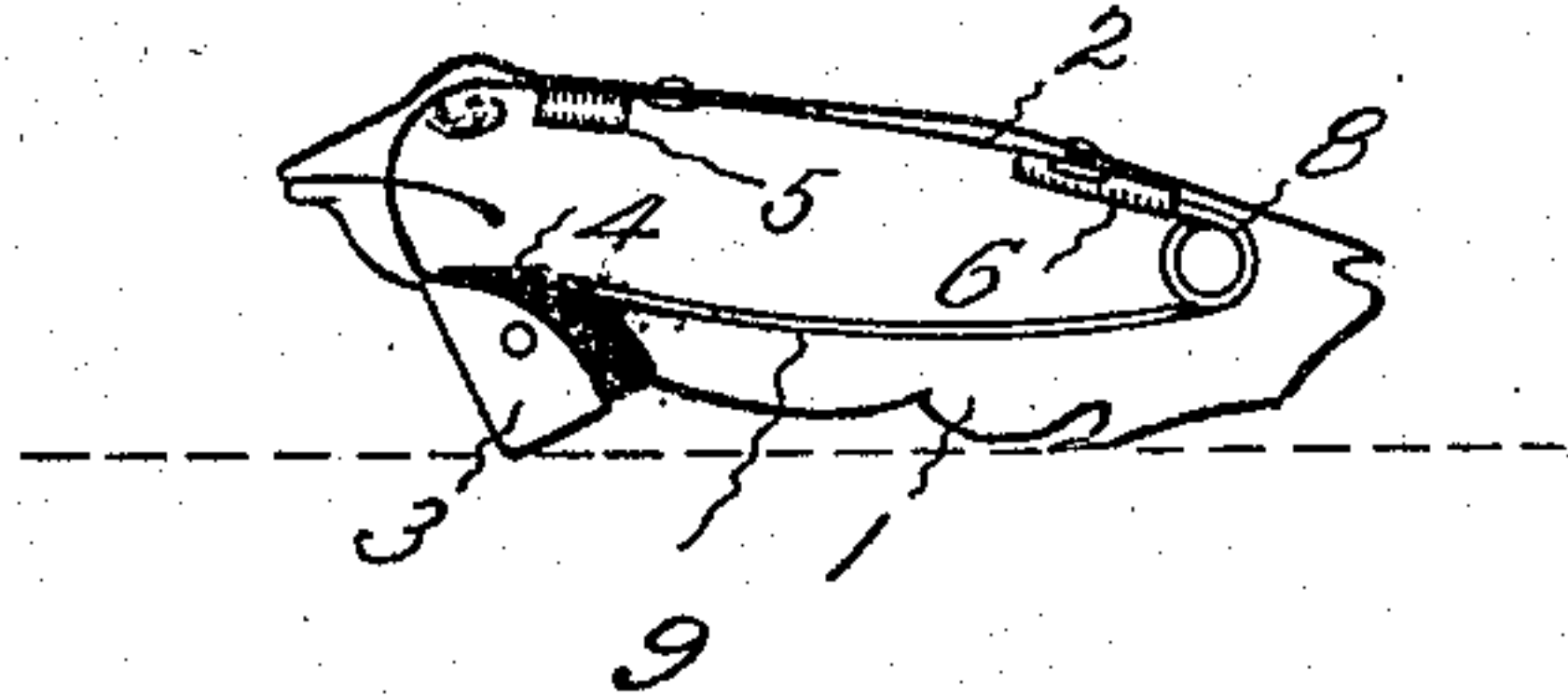
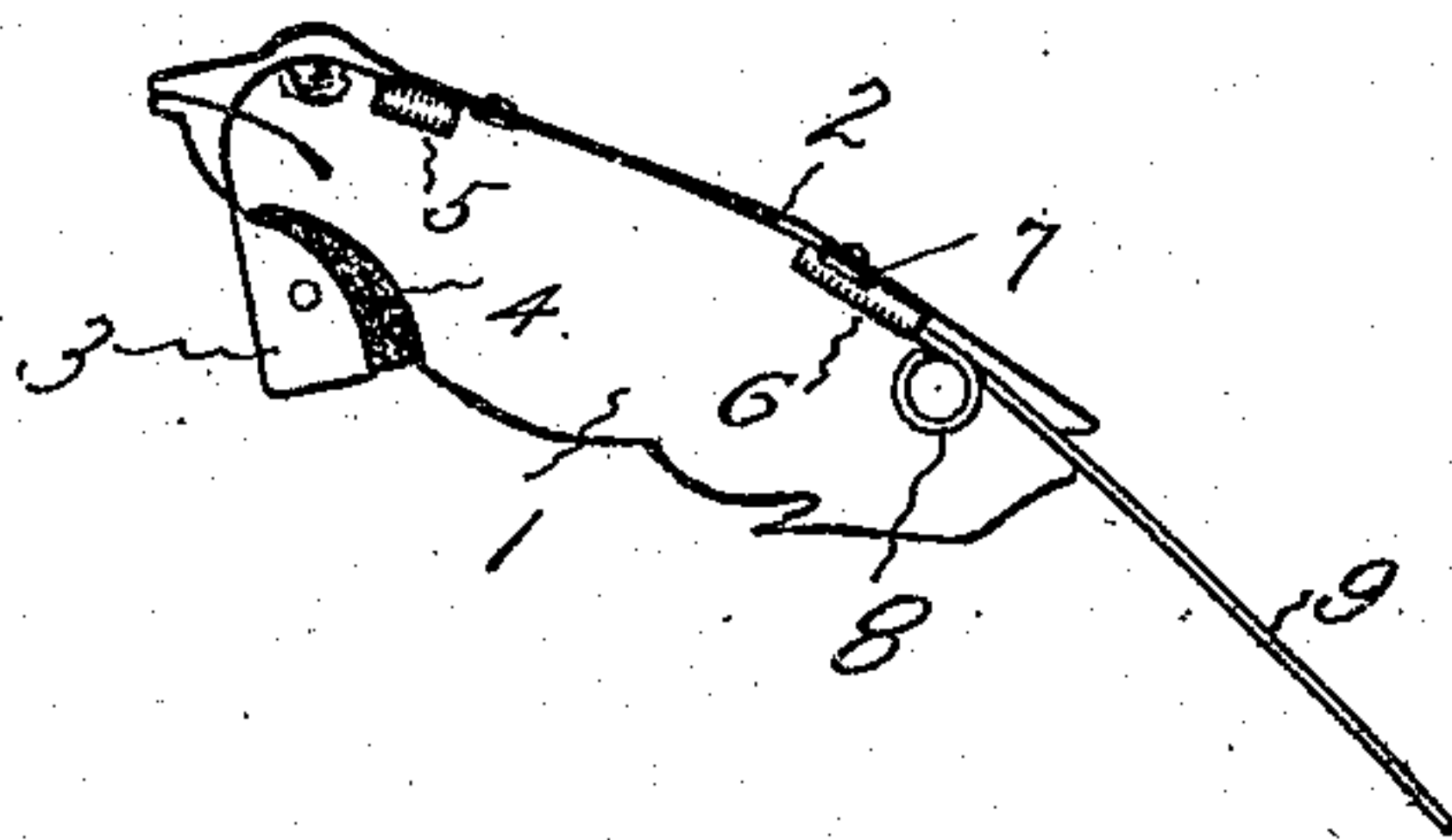


Fig. 4



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TOY.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES G. HELLSTROM, a citizen of the United States, residing at Hartford, in the county of Hartford and State of Connecticut, have invented a new and useful Toy, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a toy made in the form of an animal which is provided with means for causing it to leap from the floor.

The object of the invention is to provide a toy of this nature which is very cheap to make, simple to set and which leaps vigorously immediately after or at some time after it has been set, depending upon the adjustment of the parts, whereby it will cause surprise and create amusement.

The embodiment of the invention illustrated by the drawings has a light shell made in the form of a frog and provided with a jumping spring which is temporarily engaged with a cushioned spring-catch that releases the jumping spring slowly and thereby prolongs the interval between the time the jumping spring is set and is released by the yielding of the spring catch and causes the frog to jump.

Figure 1 of the accompanying drawings shows a plan of the frog with the spring set in position to cause it to jump. Fig. 2 is a bottom view with the parts in the same relation. Fig. 3 is a central longitudinal section of the same with the spring set as before jumping, and Fig. 4 is a similar section with the parts in the positions occupied after jumping.

The body 1 of the toy which is shown is stamped in the shape of a crouched frog from thin sheet metal such as aluminum, brass, tin or iron. This shell, which may of course be made of other material, and in the form of some other animal, may be left plain or may be painted or otherwise colored and ornamented according to taste. Secured in the shell preferably by rivets is a strip 2 of steel or other spring metal which has its front end curved downwardly and backwardly. The front end of this strip which lies beneath the head is preferably folded so as to form a pocket 3 and in this pocket is placed a cushion 4 which is preferably formed of rubber, but which may be formed of other resilient or elastic material. Beneath the pocket a lug 5 is bent over from the edge of the strip to form a catch which may be used

to hold the throwing spring while the device is packed or being carried about.

The rear end of the spring beneath the tail of the animal has a pair of wings 6 folded over so as to secure the ends 7 of the throwing spring which is preferably formed of stiff steel wire, for instance such as is known as piano wire. Portions of this spring near the ends are wound to form the spiral coils 8 which are used to throw the loop 9 and cause the animal to jump. In making this device the loop is first formed from the center of the wire and then the coils are wound near the ends after which the ends are placed beneath and securely clamped by the wings on the rear end of the strip.

In using the device the loop of the spring is bent forwardly and its end bar 10 passed beneath and engaged with the underside of the cushion held in the pocket at the front end of the spring strip. This bar, owing to the force of the spring is indented into the rubber forming the cushion of the catch in such manner that it disengages itself very slowly, and when the loop does disengage itself the springs throw it down and rearwardly in such manner as to cause the body of the animal to be thrown high above the floor or other surface on which it is placed. The time interval with which the loop disengages itself from the cushioned catch depends to a large extent on the distance the end bar of the loop is engaged with the rubber cushion of the catch, that is, if it is engaged near the free end of the rubber, the loop will be disengaged almost immediately, but if it is engaged further along the rubber it takes considerably more time for the loop to disengage itself. If it is desired, the time may be varied by bending down or opening out the bend of the spring strip which holds the cushion. By this means the time with which the loop will disengage itself from the cushion may be varied from say a second to ten minutes, but when it does disengage itself and the spring throws the loop downwardly and backwardly the animal is jumped up into the air to a height of six feet.

The invention claimed is:

1. A toy having a body, a throwing spring attached to the underside of the body at one end, a loop connected with and adapted to be thrown by the spring, an adjustable finger attached to the underside of and pro-

jecting downward from the body at the other end, and an elastic catch cushion attached to the free end of the finger and adapted to be engaged by and to temporarily hold the loop, substantially as specified.

2. A toy having a shell-like body, a strip attached to the underside of the body, one end of the strip being bent to form a spring catch, an elastic cushion held by the catch, a spiral spring held by the other end of the strip and a loop extending from the spring backwardly and adapted to be bent forwardly and engaged with the elastic cushion held by the spring catch, substantially as specified.

3. A toy having a shell-like body, a strip secured to the underside of the body, the front end of the strip being shaped to form a pocket, a rubber cushion inserted into the pocket, and a coil spring secured by the other end of the strip, a portion of the spring being extended to form a rearwardly projecting loop, said loop having a cross-bar which when bent forwardly is designed to be engaged with the rubber cushion, substantially as specified.

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